

Fulfilled Prophecies

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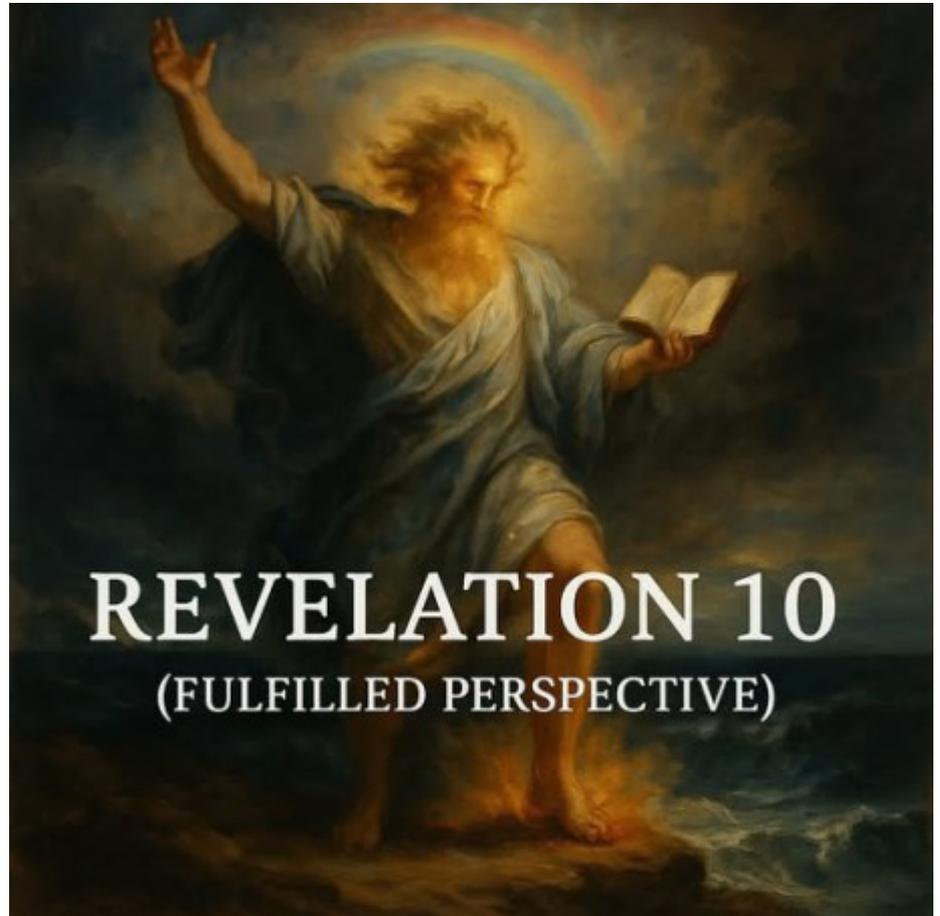
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REVELATION 10 (FULFILLED PERSPECTIVE)



By Dan Maines

REVELATION 10 (FULFILLED PERSPECTIVE)

Revelation 10:1 "I saw another strong angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud, and the rainbow was on his head, and his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire."

This angel reflects Christ Himself, or at minimum represents His authority. Clothed with a cloud recalls Daniel 7:13 where the Son of Man comes on the clouds of heaven, a symbol of judgment and authority.

The rainbow on His head recalls God's covenant mercy in Genesis 9:13, showing that even in judgment there is covenant faithfulness.

His face like the sun and His feet like pillars of fire echo Revelation 1:15-16, tying Him directly to the description of Christ in chapter 1.

Revelation 10:2 "And he had in his hand a little scroll, which was open. He placed his right foot on the sea and his left on the land."

The little scroll contrasts with the larger scroll of chapter 5. This one is opened, symbolizing that the mystery is revealed and ready to be declared.

His stance over sea and land shows universal dominion. Both Israel (land) and the nations (sea) fall under His authority.

Revelation 10:3 "And he cried out with a loud voice, as when a lion roars; and when he had cried out, the seven peals of thunder uttered their voices."

His voice like a lion's roar reflects Amos 1:2 where the Lord roars from Zion in judgment.

The seven thunders symbolize complete testimony and the fullness of God's voice in judgment.

Revelation 10:4 "When the seven peals of thunder had spoken, I was about to write; and I heard a voice from heaven saying, Seal up the things which the seven peals of thunder have spoken, and do not write them."

John is told not to reveal what was spoken. This shows there are aspects of judgment that remain hidden. It echoes Daniel

12:4, where some things were sealed until the time of the end.

The difference is crucial. Daniel was told to seal until the end, but John is later told, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near" (Revelation 22:10). Daniel pointed forward, John announces arrival.

Revelation 10:5-6 "Then the angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things in it, and the earth and the things in it, and the sea and the things in it, that there will no longer be a delay."

This is a solemn oath, affirming that the time of fulfillment has arrived.

God, as Creator, is the witness to this oath.

The statement that there will be no more delay confirms the nearness of the events in the first century. The Greek phrase *chronos ouketi estai* means no more delay, not the end of time.

Revelation 10:7 "but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, then the mystery of God is finished, as He announced to His servants, the prophets."

The mystery of God refers to the gospel and the covenant transition. Paul speaks of this mystery in Ephesians 3:4-6, that Gentiles are fellow heirs.

By the sounding of the seventh trumpet, the Old Covenant order would be finished and the New Covenant fully established. This was fulfilled in AD 70 with the destruction of Jerusalem.

Revelation 11:15 confirms this, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ."

Revelation 10:8-9 "Then the voice which I heard from heaven, I heard again speaking with me, and saying, Go, take the scroll which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the land. And I went to the angel, telling him to give me the little scroll. And he said to me, Take it and eat it; it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey."

Eating the scroll recalls Ezekiel 3:1-3, where the prophet ate the scroll of lamentations and woes.

Sweet to the mouth because God's word is true and glorious. Bitter to the stomach because the message involves judgment and destruction.

Revelation 10:10 "I took the little scroll from the angel's hand and ate it, and in my mouth it was sweet as honey; and when I had eaten it, my stomach was made bitter."

The sweetness reflects the joy of revelation and the fulfillment of God's promises.

The bitterness reflects the sorrow of seeing Jerusalem judged and covenant curses fall on those who rejected Christ.

Revelation 10:11 "And they said to me, You must prophesy again concerning many peoples, nations, languages, and kings."

John is commissioned to continue prophesying about the nations.

The judgment of Jerusalem is not the end of God's work. The gospel would spread to all nations and the kings of the earth would be confronted with the authority of Christ.

SCRIPTURAL AND HISTORICAL SUPPORT

Revelation itself anchors the timing

Revelation 1:1, 3 says "things which must soon take place" and "the time is near."

Revelation 22:6, 10 repeats "things which must soon take place" and "do not seal up the words of the prophecy, for the time is near."

Revelation 10:6 seals it, "there will be delay no longer." The countdown ended in that generation.

The seventh trumpet aligns with covenant transition

Revelation 10:7 declares, "the mystery of God is finished."

Revelation 11:15 shows the result at the seventh trumpet, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ."

Paul confirms in 1 Corinthians 15:52 that resurrection is at the last trumpet, which ties directly into the covenantal shift.

The immediate context targets Jerusalem's temple

Revelation 11:1-2 describes the temple and "the holy city" being trampled for forty-two months, just as Jesus said in Luke 21:24, "Jerusalem will be trampled under foot by the Gentiles."

History confirms the temple and Jerusalem were destroyed in AD 70, exactly within the framework John describes.

The imagery fits Christ and covenant judgment

Cloud-coming matches Daniel 7:13 and Matthew 24:30.

The rainbow shows covenant mercy amid judgment.

The little scroll, sweet and bitter, recalls Ezekiel's commission and mirrors the joy of fulfillment mixed with the grief of covenant wrath.

The sealed thunders confirm that some details remain hidden, but the revealed words are unsealed and fulfilled in John's time, not centuries later.

CONCLUSION Revelation 10 is not a vague prophecy about the distant future. It is a clear declaration that the mystery of God would be finished soon, with no more delay. The context leads straight into the trampling of Jerusalem and the fall of the temple in AD 70. The sweetness and bitterness of the scroll reflect the joy of the gospel and the sorrow of judgment. The seventh trumpet marked the end of the Old Covenant and the establishment of the kingdom of Christ. Scripture, history, and covenant context together prove first century fulfillment.

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