

# Revelation

**Lessons 12,13**

**Covering Chapters 10,11**

**Arlington Church of Christ**

**At this point six of the seven trumpets have sounded and the power of Rome is being destroyed by both physical disasters (famines, plagues, volcanic eruptions) as well as invasions by foreign powers (directed by God, but under the control of Satan). There is now a period of time when those on the earth are given a final chance to hear the Word of God and repent of their wickedness before the seventh trumpet sounds.**

## ***Revelation 10***

***Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven. He was robed in a cloud, with a rainbow above his head; his face was like the sun, and his legs were like fiery pillars. <sup>2</sup> He was holding a little scroll, which lay open in his hand. He planted his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land, <sup>3</sup> and he gave a loud shout like the roar of a lion. When he shouted, the voices of the seven thunders spoke.***

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***The right foot on the sea and the left on the land is symbolic of his message being given to the whole world. Everyone and everything is to be affected by what is about to be said.***

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***The rainbow above his head was seen in Rev 4:3 around the throne of God and so symbolizes that the message is from the throne of God. The rainbow was the symbol of the covenant between God and all on the earth -***



**Genesis 9:13 I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth.**

## **Revelation 10:4**

***And when the seven thunders spoke, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven say, “Seal up what the seven thunders have said and do not write it down.”***

***‘Thunders’ are said to come from the throne of God (Rev 4:5) and ‘seven’ thunders is symbolic of the complete voice of God.***

***John being told not to write down what they said indicates that there are some things we are not told about in the book, some symbols and things that will happen that are not totally revealed. This indicates that Revelation does NOT tell us all the events until the end of time – but was given for encouragement to those suffering persecution at THAT time.***

## ***Revelation 10:5-7***

***Then the angel I had seen standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven. <sup>6</sup> And he swore by him who lives for ever and ever, who created the heavens and all that is in them, the earth and all that is in it, and the sea and all that is in it, and said, “There will be no more delay!” <sup>7</sup> But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet, the mystery of God will be accomplished, just as he announced to his servants the prophets.”***

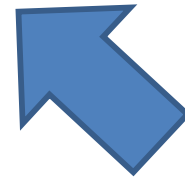
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***The angel (messenger) swears by Him who created all things – since the scripture says that Jesus created all things, the angel cannot be Jesus.***

## **Colossians 1:15-17**

**The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup> For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.**





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***The angel announces that there will be no more delay – that the mystery of God will be accomplished at this time as the prophets had said.***

***So what is the ‘mystery of God’?***

**Romans 11:25** I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in,

**Romans 16:25-26** Now to him who is able to establish you in accordance with my gospel, the message I proclaim about Jesus Christ, in keeping with the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, <sup>26</sup> but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all the Gentiles might come to the obedience that comes from faith—

**Ephesians 1:9-10** he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, <sup>10</sup> to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

### **Ephesians 3:4-9**

**In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,<sup>5</sup> which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets.<sup>6</sup> This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.**

**<sup>7</sup> I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. <sup>8</sup> Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ,<sup>9</sup> and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.**

### **Ephesians 6:19**

**Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel,**

### **Colossians 1:27**

**To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.**

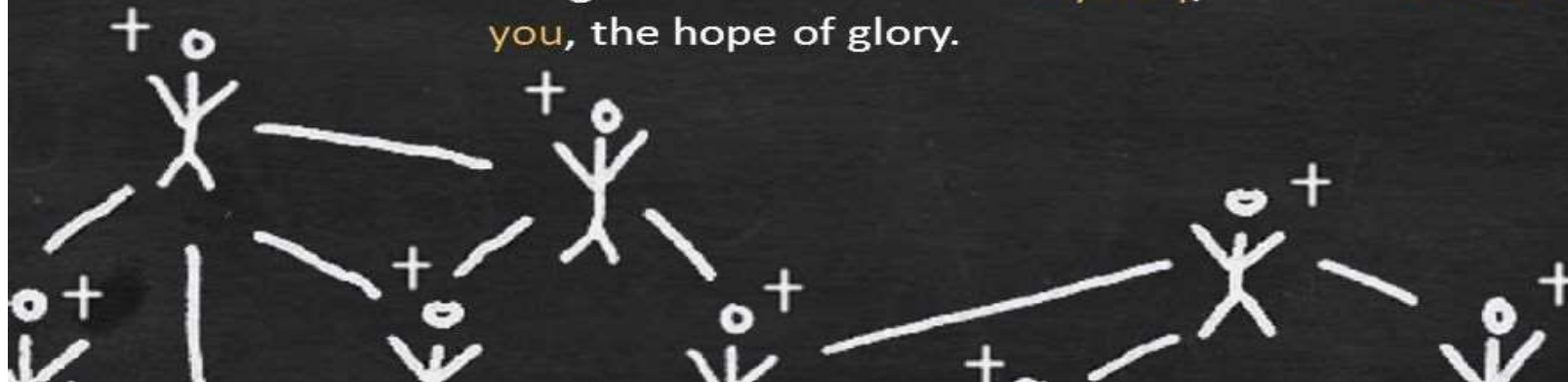
So the 'mystery of God' according to the scriptures is the fact that in Jesus both Jew and Gentile are made one body and are acceptable to God as His children. In fact, all things in heaven and on earth are brought together in Christ.

Eph 3:6

This *mystery* is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the *promise* in Christ Jesus.

Col 1:27

God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this *mystery*, which is *Christ in you*, the hope of glory.



## ***Revelation 10:8-11***

***Then the voice that I had heard from heaven spoke to me once more: “Go, take the scroll that lies open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land.”***

***<sup>9</sup> So I went to the angel and asked him to give me the little scroll. He said to me, “Take it and eat it. It will turn your stomach sour, but ‘in your mouth it will be as sweet as honey.’” <sup>10</sup> I took the little scroll from the angel’s hand and ate it. It tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I had eaten it, my stomach turned sour. <sup>11</sup> Then I was told, “You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, languages and kings.”***

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**The fact that John had to ask for and take the scroll indicates that in order to know what God wants to reveal to us, we need to actively seek out His word and will. (go and take it)**

## **Matthew 5:6**

***Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.***

## **2 Timothy 2:15**

***Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.***

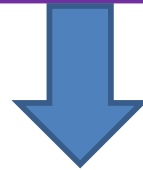
## **Acts 17:11**

***Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.***

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***Eating the scroll means taking the words into your life – living them out , following them . The sweet taste is the truth of those words to those who obey them.***



***Psalm 19:9-11 The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever. The decrees of the LORD are firm, and all of them are righteous. <sup>10</sup> They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb. By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is reward.***



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***Eating the scroll means taking the words into your life – living them out , following them . The sour is realization of the consequences of sin which makes us upset.***



***Jeremiah 15:16-17 When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart’s delight, for I bear your name, LORD God Almighty. <sup>17</sup> I never sat in the company of revelers, never made merry with them; I sat alone because your hand was on me and you had filled me with indignation.***

**Compare to Ezekiel:**

## **Ezekiel 3:1-7**

**And he said to me, “Son of man, eat what is before you, eat this scroll; then go and speak to the people of Israel.”<sup>2</sup> So I opened my mouth, and he gave me the scroll to eat.**

**<sup>3</sup> Then he said to me, “Son of man, eat this scroll I am giving you and fill your stomach with it.” So I ate it, and it tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth.**

**<sup>4</sup> He then said to me: “Son of man, go now to the people of Israel and speak my words to them.**<sup>5</sup> You are not being sent to a people of

**obscure speech and strange language, but to the people of Israel—**

**<sup>6</sup> not to many peoples of obscure speech and strange language, whose words you cannot understand. Surely if I had sent you to them, they would have listened to you.**<sup>7</sup> But the people of Israel are not willing to

**listen to you because they are not willing to listen to me, for all the Israelites are hardened and obstinate.**

***The words were sweet to Ezekiel, but sour to those who heard him!***

So John is told some things that will happen during this time period between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet, but was told not to write down everything he heard. We are told that during this time, the gospel will go to the Gentiles and those who accept it will be brought into the fellowship of God. And that John would play a part in the Gentiles hearing the gospel.

In the next chapter more details are given about the events of this time period.