**The Purpose of Prophecy October 11, 2020**

Revelation 10:1-11

The Strong Angel Revelation 10:1-4

* “Clothed with a cloud”
	+ Symbolizes the **power** of the angel (Israel was led by a pillar of cloud by day
* “Rainbow on his head”
	+ Symbol of God’s **faithfulness** as in what followed after the flood
* “Face like the sun”
	+ Reflects the **glory of God**
* “Feet like pillars of fire”
	+ Represents the **presence of God** as Moses saw the burning bush or as the pillar of fire went before the Israelites

The Little Book or Scroll

* Symbolic of the **nature** of the words given to John
	+ Its contents were the prophecies that John would record in Revelation

“Right Foot on the Sea Left Foot on the Land”

* Indication of the **universal** nature of God’s prophecy
	+ It applies to the whole world

Loud Cry with 7 Peals of Thunder

* These are indications of additional **judgments** to come from God
	+ The volume (loudness) indicates dominance
	+ The lion’s roar symbolizes power & strength
	+ Words of the thunder were not to be recorded but kept secret until the right time

Oath of the Strong Angel Revelation 10:5-7

* The blast of the 7th trumpet (yet to come) will usher in the **final judgments** of God that have been prophesied for centuries
	+ There will be no further delay after the 7th trumpet sounds

Based Upon the Lord

* “By Him who lives forever”
	+ His **eternal nature**
* “Who created heaven and the things in it” the earth and all the things in it the sea and the things in it”
	+ His **sovereign acts** as creator-God

Will have no More Delay

* For now, God’s people often pray to Him, “How long O Lord…?”
	+ As this angel declares, once the judgments of God begin, nothing can stop them based upon the authority of power of God Himself

More About the Little Book Revelation 10:8-11

* John takes the book from the strong angel as commanded and eats it
	+ Its sweetness reminds us of the **goodness** of God’s Word to His people
	+ The joy of eternal rewards is sweet to savor, regardless of life’s circumstances
* John takes the book from the strong angel as commanded
	+ The bitterness reminds us of many of the “**hard sayings**” of the Bible
	+ Indeed, the succeeding judgments of Revelation are difficult to hear

Future Prophecy to Come

* “You must prophesy again concerning many peoples and nations and tongues and kings” (verse 11)
	+ There will be much more to learn about the End of Times that John would shortly be given

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