

## INTRODUCTION

1. Importance of the literary structure of Revelation. Rv 1:3. *He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.*
2. Material for a "classroom"? Worship of "disciples".

## 1st: A Parenthesis for Our Encouragement

1. "Progressive parallelism": rehearse Church-Age in 7 cycles while progressing forward to the complex of events associated w/ 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ.
2. We are in 3rd cycle [trumpets] overlaps 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>. We see the church on earth living in relation to heavenly realities.
  - i. Threat of idolatry: internal compromise or capitulate to external pressure
  - ii. Serve King Jesus on battlefield: Rv = manual for warfare: worship & witness - persevere by faith & overcome even as the Lamb overcame.
3. We are *blessed* & experience the joy of heaven: Jesus' joy - Lk 10:17-24
4. Between 6th & 7th seal - parenthesis: chpt 7.
  - i. Earthly realities: 144K sealed: protected to persevere victorious in spiritual conflict.
  - ii. Heavenly realities: overcomers arriving in heaven
  - iii. 8:1 - 7th seal & Final Jdgmnt interlocks w/ 7 trmpts - resumption of wrath on earth-dwellers. Thankful for parenthesis.
5. Same structure in 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle: parenthesis tw/ 6th & 7th trmpt. 2 visions:
  - i. 1<sup>st</sup> - 10:1-11 - Jn is re-commissioned as prophet
  - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> - 11:1-14 - measure temple & 2 witnesses
6. Final Jdgmnt depicted w/ 7th trmpt - 11:15f. The pace quickens - 10:6e-7; 11:7 the church's witness will be *finished* [Jn 19:30]; 11:14-15a. *quickly*.
7. Chpt 10-11's parenthesis: stay the course; we're moving forward in victory.

2nd: The Posture of Conquest and Dominion - 10:1-3a

1. Recall 5:2 *strong angel: who is worthy?* Throne-room allusions in chpt 10.
2. Is this an angel or Jesus?
3. *Clothed w/ a cloud*. OT: theophany - pillar of cloud by day; NT: Jesus ascends into cloud; Dan 7:13; Rv 1:7 [1Th 4:16-18].
4. *rainbow on head*: Rv 4:3 *the throne* [Ezek 1:26-28]
  - i. *rainbow* = Noahic Cov - God of jdgmnt & deliverance [2Ptr 3:5-7].
5. *face like sun* - Rv 1:16; [Mat 17:2].
6. *feet like pillars of fire - pillar of fire* by nite - Rv 1:15
7. 10:3a - *voice like roar of lion* - who is Lamb? *the Lion of Judah* [5:5].
8. Is this Jesus; the NT version of OT's *Angel of the Lord*? Visited Abraham; The I AM [YHWH] of burning bush - Exo 3:2, 6, 13-14
9. This strong angel is identified w/ Jesus - come to speak w/ Jn - encouraged!
10. *he had in his hand a little bk [scroll] that was open*. Not scroll of Rv 5, but effects Jn's on-going prophetic ministry. Yet symbolic correspondence.
  - i. *little book* = symbolizes God's purpose
  - ii. *open* - attracts Jn: content concerning Jn's prophesy [Rv 11-22].
  - iii. See parallel: Jesus overcame & given scroll [Rv]; now Jn given scroll as he too, w/ church, must overcome in the say way. Realistic hope.
11. Rv 10:2b *Angel placed his foot on... & straddles sea & land*:
  - i. posture of victorious general: Josh 10:24; Ps 110:1; 1C15:25-27a
  - ii. *sea & land* = entire creation: Jonah 1:9; Job 11:9; 146:6; reign of Davidic King - Ps 89:25. Cf. Colossus of Rhodes [Statue of Liberty]
  - iii. Heavenly colossus: feet on creation: posture of conquest & dominion

**Applic #1: See Who Speaks to You**

1. Rv 1:12 see the voice: *he who has an ear, let him hear* - see the voice.
2. Rv 10 = one who looks like Jesus in Rv 1: assumes posture of conquest as He readies Himself to speak to John. Who is speaking to us?

**Applic #2: See The Dominions Conquered by This Strong Angel**

1. Anticipate yet more evil - to emerge from sea - Rv 13:1 & land - 13:11.
2. What do we already know about the sea & land from 10:1?
3. Before we head back to the battlefield, we see our victorious King postured as the Conqueror! How's that for encouragement, soldier!?