Have No Fear, The End is Near

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A Practical Discussion on the Book of Revelation

Revelation 10:1 Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven, wrapped in a cloud, with a rainbow over his head, and his face was like the sun, and his legs like pillars of fire. 2 He had a little scroll open in his hand. And he set his right foot on the sea, and his left foot on the land, 3 and called out with a loud voice, like a lion roaring. When he called out, the seven thunders sounded. 4 And when the seven thunders had sounded, I was about to write, but I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Seal up what the seven thunders have said, and do not write it down." 5 And the angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven 6 and swore by him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and what is in it, the earth and what is in it, and the sea and what is in it, that there would be no more delay, 7 but that in the days of the trumpet call to be sounded by the seventh angel, the mystery of God would be fulfilled, just as he announced to his servants the prophets. 8 Then the voice that I had heard from heaven spoke to me again, saying, "Go, take the scroll that is open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land." 9 So I went to the angel and told him to give me the little scroll. And he said to me, "Take and eat it; it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey." 10 And I took the little scroll from the hand of the angel and ate it. It was sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I had eaten it my stomach was made bitter. 11 And I was told, "You must again prophesy about many peoples and nations and languages and kings."

The Little Scroll

- Interlude before the 7th trumpet
  - Just as there was an interlude before the 7th seal
  - Sets the 7th apart from the rest
  - Both interludes detail the role of God's people during this time
- The angel
  - Reflects many of God's qualities
  - A not-so-subtle reminder that the church is on the winning side. This guy is huge!
- "Seven thunders"
  - We can't know everything.
- "no more delay"
  - consummation of God's plan, 2nd coming

The Little Scroll

- The Little Scroll
  - A prophetic message (see Ezek. 2:3-3:9)
  - Special meaning for John
  - More general meaning for the church – we have a message to digest and proclaim
- Sweet as honey
  - God's Word is always sweet.
- Sour stomach
  - Contains news of suffering/ judgment.
- It is not simply given. Twice John is told to "take and eat".
  - He and the church have a responsibility.
  - This is a charge against passivity.
  - It must affect us first. We must consume His Word.