

# SALVATION IN SYMBOLS & SIGNS

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Corresponds to Program 41

## THE LITTLE BOOK STUDY GUIDE

### Revelation 10:1-10

**A**t this time in our prophetic study, we are moving through the Dark Ages into a time of increasing light. The Protestant reformation has been ongoing, and greater light from the Bible is now shining forth. The Bible is now in the hands of the people, and many are hearing the gospel for the first time.

Jesus and His righteousness are being proclaimed. How do we know this? The angel in verse one helps us understand.

**Who is the mighty Angel?** – The angel, as John describes him, is Jesus Himself. He comes from bearing the authority of His Father's throne, as symbolized by the rainbow, which is over the throne of God. This description is like others found in Daniel, as well as Revelation. (Daniel 10:5, 6; Daniel 12:4, 5; Revelation 1:12-16) Revelation tells us that this being is the "Son of Man." This name, as well as "Son of God," is the term Jesus used to speak of Himself (Revelation 2:18). He may appear as a mighty angelic messenger, but He is no less God that when He appeared as a man (John 1:1, 2).

**Seven thunders** – As we have noted in past studies, seven in the Bible depicts fullness and perfection, and thunder represents the voice of God. Putting them together, this simply indicates the communication of the full and perfect voice of God.

**Do Not Write Them** – John is excited to see that the book of Daniel is to be opened, and is about to write about the seven thunder message of God contained in the book

when he is instructed not to write, but to seal up the message. Again? Isn't it supposed to be opened? There are two reasons for this command. The first has to do with the fulfillment of the prophecy contained in the little book of Daniel. It contained an element of surprise that would test God's people who were to see its fulfillment. We will discuss this test in our next study. The second reason John is told not to write is because the 7 thunders are already written by Daniel.

**Time No Longer** – This key phrase points us to a vital connection between the book of Revelation and Daniel. There are two places where these prophetic books connect so closely that many scholars have called them prophetic twins. The following is one of those two places:



"I saw still another mighty angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud."

**REVELATION 10:1**

**Revelation 10:5, 6** – "And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, and swore by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer."

**Daniel 12:5-7** – Then I, Daniel, looked; and there stood two others, one on this riverbank and the other on that riverbank. And one said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, 'How long shall the fulfillment of these wonders be?' Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever, that it shall be for a time, times, and half a time; and when the power of the holy people has been completely

### KEY SCRIPTURES

**Revelation 12:14** SON OF MAN

**Revelation 10:9** SWEET AS HONEY

**Daniel 12:4** SEAL THE BOOK

**Revelation 10:2** LITTLE BOOK OPEN

shattered, all these things shall be finished.”

Here is a brief summary of the overall connection:

Daniel 10:5, 6 = Jesus appears to Daniel glorified

Revelation 10:1 = Jesus appears to John glorified

Daniel 12:4, 9 = Book of Daniel “sealed” or closed

Revelation 10:2 = Book of Daniel unsealed or “opened”

Daniel 12:6 = Jesus stands on “waters of the river”

Revelation 10:2 = Jesus stands on “sea” and “earth”

Daniel 12:7 = Jesus lifts up hands “unto heaven”

Revelation 10:5 = Jesus lifts up “hand to heaven”

Daniel 12:7 = Jesus “sware by him that liveth forever”

Revelation 10:6 = Jesus “sware by him that liveth forever”

Daniel 12:7, 11, 12 = Jesus says there shall be “time”

Revelation 10:6 = Jesus says “that there shall be time no longer”

This comparison shows that the “time no longer” refers directly to the time Daniel’s book was to be sealed up. That time has ended and now the book of Daniel is open and can be read and understood. Yet what was sealed up in the first place and why? How are we to understand it if it has been sealed up again?

**What Was Sealed?** – Sealed does not mean the pages of Daniel were somehow glued shut. Daniel’s prophecies were sealed in the sense that Daniel could not fully understand them. They were sealed to his understanding as he himself testified:

“The vision of the evenings and the mornings that has been told is true. As for you, seal up the vision, for it refers to many days from now.” So I, Daniel, was overcome and lay sick for some days; then I arose and went about the king’s business. But I was dismayed by the vision and did not understand it” (Daniel 8:26, 27 NRSV).

What was sealed was a vision given to Daniel in chapter eight and known as the 2,300-day prophecy—the longest time prophecy in the Bible (Daniel 8:14). Daniel did not get it because it talked about the sanctuary being cleansed in 2,300 days. At the time Daniel’s people had no sanctuary. Daniel tried his best to study the time prophecies of Jeremiah, then he prayed, confessed his sin and the sins of his people and God gave Daniel an amazing answer delivered by the angel Gabriel (Daniel 9). This answer was still a little too much for Daniel to understand, so he was told that God’s people in the end of time would be able to grasp it as they studied his unsealed book and digested the meaning (Daniel 12).

**Eat the Book** – This is why the voice from heaven told John not to write. There is no need to write more, as the book of Daniel is already written. Instead of writing the message contained in the open book of Daniel, John is bidden to take the book and eat it. No more writing, John. Daniel’s words are now unsealed. Take them. Eat them. Understand now what Daniel himself did not fully understand. And that is the message God is communicating to us in these verses of Revelation 10. Take the little book of Daniel and eat it up. Understand the prophecies of this book and how they relate to God’s people in the end of time. That is exactly what we will attempt to do as we continue this study. ★

