Revelation 10

Verses 1-2

The perspective seems to change for John as he witnesses the angel "come down" to the earth.

John, so far, has been in Heaven watching the judgments being poured out, here he will have a first-hand view of what is or will be happening on the earth.

Verses 1-2

Clouds are normal representative of the presence or glory of God, which is probably where this angel stays.

The fact that a "rainbow was upon his head" as speaks of God's throne which is enveloped or circled by a rainbow. (Revelation 4:3)

Verses 1-2

The rainbow also reminds us of God's promises, but "the feet like pillars of fire", of God's judgment.

The angel stands on land and sea signifying that his message of judgment is coming on all creation.

The scroll or book that he holds is different from any book or scroll mentioned by John before. In the Greek the word is *biblaridion*, which indicates a small book.

³ and he shouted with a loud voice, like the roaring of a lion [compelling attention and inspiring awe]; and when he had shouted out, the seven peals of thunder spoke with their own voices [uttering their message in distinct words]. (AMP)

Amos 3:8 & Hosea 11:10 compares God's voice to a lion.

Psalm 29:3 compares God's voice to thunder.

Again, this is not to say this angel is Jesus or God, but his message is of divine origins and he is speaking that which God desires him to speak.

The thunders speak with an intelligent voice; this is no mere rumblings. Man will be able to decipher what is said. Obviously, John was able to hear it.

We do not know if John is told by an angel or Jesus Himself, but the fact that a "voice came from heaven" shows that the authority and direction come from Jesus.

We must realize, that if everything John sees is indeed going to happen, then those of this world going through the Tribulation, will be able to hear and know what was said.

The message is for them, not for us. What God wanted us to know and understand; He gave to us. Where God wanted us to walk by faith and not clearly seeing or understanding, but totally trusting in Him, He purposely left ambiguous.

We know enough about the Book of Revelation that it should spur us to preach the Gospel and keep ourselves ready for Jesus' return.

Matthew 5:33-37 - ³³ "Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your oaths to the Lord.' ³⁴ But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is God's throne; ³⁵ nor by the earth, for it is His footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.

Hebrews 6:13 - ¹³ For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself

⁶ He swore an oath in the name of the one who lives forever and ever, who created the heavens and everything in them, the earth and everything in it, and the sea and everything in it. He said, "There will be no more delay.

⁷ When the seventh angel blows his trumpet, God's mysterious plan will be fulfilled. It will happen just as he announced it to his servants the prophets." (NLT)

"The sounding of this trumpet will continue for a time, which will probably include the outpouring of the seven bowls of God's wrath, the final defeat of the Antichrist, the initiating of the millennial kingdom, that is, all the events through chapter 20".

Stanley Horton

Some see the word *mystery* as referring to salvation. That word does not appear until the New Testament.

Ephesians 3:1-7

1 Timothy 3:16

Mystery is often used in the Bible of something only partially revealed in the Old Testament, then fully revealed in the New Testament. – Stanley Horton

The "mystery" here would seem to be the final judgment of the world and the restoration of Israel by the Messiah and finally the New Heavens and New Earth which the Messiah will usher in once Satan and sin is defeated once and for all time.

Ezekiel 2:8-3:3

⁸ But you, son of man, hear what I say to you. Do not be rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you." ⁹ Now when I looked, there was a hand stretched out to me; and behold, a scroll of a book *was* in it. ¹⁰ Then He spread it before me; and *there was* writing on the inside and on the outside, and written on it *were* lamentations and mourning and woe.

Ezekiel 2:8-3:3

3 Moreover He said to me, "Son of man, eat what you find; eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel." ² So I opened my mouth, and He caused me to eat that scroll. ³ And He said to me, "Son of man, feed your belly, and fill your stomach with this scroll that I give you." So, I ate, and it was in my mouth like honey in sweetness.

I believe that the scroll John eats is similar in nature; "there was writing on the inside and on the outside, and written on it were lamentations and mourning and woe."

Jeremiah 15:16 - ¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, O Lord God of hosts.

Any word from our Heavenly Father is good to hear and spiritually digest, even when He rebukes us, but His promises, what can compare to those? Revelation is a book of promises.

Jesus returning and setting up both His millennial kingdom and finally the New Heavens and New earth is sweet to us.

However, much of what we read in Revelation, though just, righteous, holy and necessary, are not pleasant. Judgment should never make us joyful. Justice, yes, judgment, no.

What the earth and those left on the earth will be bitter.

Luke 19:41-44 - 41 Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, 42 saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. 43 For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, 44 and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation."

Verse 11

John's work is not done. He must finish writing his book and he is later freed and dies in Ephesus.