



Park Community Church

GENESIS ————— //

BOOKENDS

// ————— REVELATION

The Sweet & Bitter Scroll
Revelation 10:1-11

Summary

This week, Pastor Mike opened Revelation 10, which focuses on God's faithfulness to protect His people during the end times. He looked at the vision of a mighty angel with a scroll, emphasizing three key elements: the angel (showing God is up to something), the scroll (revealing God has a purpose), and God's presence (demonstrating His faithful protection). This text emphasizes that Christians will likely be present during tribulation, but that God will faithfully protect His people through suffering, not necessarily from it. Mike reminded us that the goal of the book of Revelation is to strengthen faith rather than provoke fear, showing that Revelation is meant to encourage believers with the assurance of God's ultimate victory and their security in Christ.

Questions

1. What stands out to you most about the description of the mighty angel in Revelation 10? What does this tell us about God's power and authority?
2. The angel's scroll was described as sweet in the mouth but bitter in the stomach. What do you think this represents about God's message to His people?
3. How does the concept that 'God is up to something' when angels appear change your perspective on current world events?
4. The sermon suggested that Christians may be present during tribulation rather than raptured beforehand. How does this challenge or confirm your previous understanding?
5. What does it mean that God will 'faithfully and unfailingly protect His people'? How might this protection look different than we expect?
6. How can the book of Revelation strengthen our faith rather than create fear? What practical steps can we take to approach difficult biblical passages with the right heart?
7. The pastor mentioned that Revelation is meant to make us say 'Even so, come Lord Jesus.' What would need to change in your life for you to genuinely long for Christ's return?
8. How can we live with hope and confidence in God's ultimate victory while still acknowledging the reality of present suffering?

Application

This week, when you face uncertainty or difficulty, remind yourself that 'God is up to something' and that He has a purpose. Choose one area of worry or fear in your life and intentionally surrender it to God's faithful protection, trusting that He will accomplish His purposes through whatever circumstances you face.

Key Takeaways

1. When angels appear in Scripture, it signals that God is actively working and has a specific purpose
2. God has a clear plan for His people that includes both suffering (bitter) and ultimate victory (sweet)
3. Revelation was written to strengthen believers' faith, not to create fear about the future
4. God will faithfully protect His people through tribulation, even if not from all suffering
5. Christians can live with confidence and hope because our ultimate outcome in Christ is secure