



– Just as there was a heavenly interlude of reassurance between the 6th and 7th seals, there is a reassuring heavenly interlude here between the 6th and 7th trumpets.

– How do we hold on to the whole truth of God in a hostile world?

1.) We serve an **AWESOME** God (v. 1-5).

- This angel is no ordinary angel, but Christ Himself.
- The image here is one of Christ the Son swearing an oath to God the Father.
- When God wants to give us confidence, he simply shows us a bigger and clear picture of **HIMSELF**
- Stand fast upon the whole truth of God because God is with us, and He is awesome beyond measure.

2.) God alone holds the **FUTURE** (v. 3-4).

- God has chosen to keep these seven thunders mysterious.
- Much has been revealed to us in Revelation, but not everything.

3.) The Word of God will **COME TO PASS** (v. 6-7).

- We are living in an age in which the beginning of the end has been ushered in, but there remain events that must still occur.
- Once human history progresses past the sixth seal, the completion of God's work will be immediately at hand.
- The phrase “the mystery of God” almost certainly refers to the **GOSPEL** of Jesus Christ.
- In the very last days of the seventh trumpet, the announcement of the gospel will be complete (Matthew 24:14).
- Hold on tightly to the Word of God, because it will not fail.

4.) The word of God is **SWEET** (v. 8-10).

- This little scroll is the same scroll from chapter 5.
- The scroll in this angel's hand is the plan of God's judgment.
- John consumes the scroll and testifies that it is sweet (Psalm 19:10, 119:103).
- We stand little chance of standing upon the **WHOLE** truth of God until we have learned to taste how sweet it truly is.
- If we routinely dislike what we find in God's Word, there's little chance that we will stand firmly upon it in the face of trouble.
- Even when we encounter hard teachings in the Bible, we can and should still learn how to taste God's goodness in them.

5.) God's truth can bring **BITTER** consequences (v. 9-10).

- The bitterness John experiences here has its basis in the fact that this is a scroll of judgment.
- Like all the prophets of God, John was called to tell people what they needed to hear even when they hated him for saying it.
- Even though we are called to hold to and proclaim the whole truth of God to a world that hates it, we must never take this calling to mean we should preach it in a **HATEFUL** way.
- We must stand upon the whole truth of God, in spite of the fact that doing so can bring bitter consequences (Acts 20:27).
- Let us choose to stand upon His truth, His whole truth, and nothing but His truth, so help us God.