

## Revelation 10 Part 1

Hi, this is Richard Oliver, and we are looking at unit twenty-one, we're in Revelation chapter ten, and we're going to start reading from verse one.

*'And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon His head, and His face was as it were the sun, and His feet as pillars of fire:'*

Now, a quick look back at Revelation chapter one, that is a description of Jesus Christ. This angel is none other than the Lord Himself. And He's coming down to set on the earth.

Verse two, *'And He had in His hand a little book open: and He set His right foot upon the sea, and His left foot on the earth,'*

He's taking all of the earth under His control, a foot on the sea and on the land. And in His hand is the book. The book that was opened from the seven seals, the open book, the book of salvation if you like, the Lamb's Book of Life.

Verse three, *'And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when He had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.'*

So Christ is coming down as an angel and He's roaring with a loud voice, He's proclaiming a message, He's bringing with Him the opened seven sealed book which is the, as I said, Lamb's Book of Life, and seven thunders utter their voices.

*'And when the seven thunders', in verse four, 'had uttered their voices, I was about to write:'* said John, *'and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.'*

So the thunders are a secret. We don't understand what they are. Or do we?

We believe that God has come down in these days. This is the time of the opening of the seven seals. Christ is to return in a secret form, a quiet form, to call out His Bride. There's lots of types and patterns here, as in the wedding supper when the people who were invited originally to the wedding supper found themselves too busy, they couldn't – they'd bought a farm, they'd married a wife, they'd got a new oxen or whatever it was. But it was always a reason why they couldn't attend to the wedding supper of the Lamb. And so the King, of course, got very upset that all those guests that He'd originally bidden weren't going to come, so He sent out His servants into the highways and the byways to bring people in, and even compel them to come in. How does He do that? He calls them. His messengers come with the message for the time, for the people of that time, that the wedding supper is on, please come and join. Be a part of it. And it's a rather raggle-taggle group, it's not the sophisticated group, the churches or the denominations or the religions that originally apparently God tried to call. So there is a message that's going out, being brought by people to call people to the wedding supper of the Lamb.

Now, the other thing about all this, is that the key time for this end thing to happen is when the Angel, when Christ Himself comes with the open book. The seven seals have to be open.

The only area I know, or the only person I know that has preached a series of sermons on the seven seals which made sense was William Branham. There are lots of teachings on the seals, and they have everything from the white horse rider, for example, being Christ, and lots of other ideas too. The key thing about William Branham is that when he felt he was called by God to go and preach the

seven seals, he spent a lot of time studying and praying and nothing seemed to happen. Nothing occurred, he was lost, he didn't know what the seals were. In desperation as the time approached for the first service on the first seal, he was in his room praying and thinking, 'No, I'm just going to have to go back and look at what I said in the past, and I'll read the books that other people have said and that's what I'll preach.' And then the Angel of the Lord, Jesus Christ Himself, descended, and told him what the first seal was.

So it's not William Branham who opens the seals. It is, of course, Christ, the Lamb of God.

And this happened over the next proceeding nights, evenings, whatever, when Bro. Branham preached the seven seals.

Now, that could just be a story. That could just be an interesting side-line, someone has made up a story to make themselves famous and make themselves important, but there's one big difference and I've never come across in my years of bible study and listening to other people and so on. When he had finished the seven seals Bro. Branham said 'And here they are in Matthew chapter twenty-four.'

The seals were there but they were hidden. Matthew chapter twenty-four gives us the seven seals, and it also tells us that when this message, or this gospel, of the seven seals, is preached throughout the world, then will the end come.

So, it wasn't until the seven seals were opened that the end could be close, and it wasn't until Christ came down to open the book, to reveal the insides of the book that the end of times could start really to winding up.

The issue of the seven thunders though, is something that confused Bro. Branham for a while. He didn't quite understand. What were they? What were they? He wanted to preach on the seven thunders. He prayed about it. And he believed that the Lord God told him 'the seven thunders are the message or the voice in the opening of the seals, the revelation of the seals themselves.' Often in the bible when it said it thundered that was God speaking. And the seven thunders are God speaking through the teachings of a man on the seven seals. So, the seven thunders are revealed, for this time because it's the end.

God bless you.