

When Eating a Book Is Good for You

Will Douglas March 9, 2025

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Revelation 10 Douglas Translation

¹Then I saw another mighty messenger, clothed in a cloud, come down out of heaven. He had a halo on his head, his face was like the sun, and his feet were like fiery pillars. ²In his hand he was holding a small book that had been opened. He placed his right foot upon the sea, but put his left upon the land. ³Then he cried out in a booming voice. It was just like a lion roaring. When he cried out, rumblings from the seven thunders themselves resounded. 4When the seven thunders resounded. I was about to write. But I heard a voice from heaven saying, "You must seal up what the seven thunders have declared, and do not record these things!" 5Then the messenger, the one I saw standing upon the sea and the land, raised his right hand toward heaven. ⁶He swore by the One living for ever and ever, who created heaven and the things in it, the earth and the things in it, as well as the sea and the things in it, that there would no longer be any delay! ⁷Rather, in the days brought about by the sound of the seventh angel, when he surely trumpets, then the mystery of God is finally cleared up just as He gospeled to His slaves, the prophets. 8Then the voice which I heard from heaven began speaking with me again, declaring, "Go! Take the book that's been opened, the one in the hand of the messenger who stands upon the sea and the land." 9So, I went to the messenger and instructed him to give me the little book. He said to me, "Take it! Eat it! It will make your stomach sour, but it will be as sweet as honey in your mouth." 10 took the little book from the messenger's hand and devoured it. It was sweet as honey in my mouth and made my stomach sour when I consumed it. 11Then, they said to me, "It is binding upon you to proclaim God's word, once again, against many people groups, nations, linguistic communities, and kings."

QUESTIONS...

What is this little book exactly?

Why did God feed it to him?

How is this even relevant for us today?

The duality of joy and pain applies equally to the word for the Church as it does to the word for the world. For the Church must learn the weight of the cross before she participates in the glory of the kingdom, and the world must learn the reality of judgment before it experiences the grace of the kingdom.

George Beasley-Murray