

A Bittersweet Message

Revelation 10

Big Idea: Life is bittersweet—joy mixed with sorrow. But God offers sweet grace in the midst of bitter judgment. The world pushes God away, storing up wrath, yet He still calls: "Come to me, all who are weary." By grace through faith, we find rest. Choose the sweetness of salvation today.

Day 1: The Sweetness of
God's Presence

Reading:
Psalm 29:1-11

The psalmist invites us to ascribe glory to the Lord, recognizing His voice thundering over creation. Just as the angels continuously worship God, we are created for this same purpose—to give Him glory. When we align our lives with worship, we discover meaning, joy, and purpose. Today's world offers countless distractions and false sources of fulfillment, but true satisfaction comes only from acknowledging God's majesty. Take time today to reflect on God's fingerprints in creation around you. Let worship become your response to His glory. When you cry out to Him in genuine worship, you'll find the purpose for which you were created—to glorify the King who reigns forever.

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Day 2: The Reality of
God's Judgment

Reading:
Romans 1:18-32

Scripture reveals an uncomfortable truth: God's wrath is real and righteous. Humanity has consistently suppressed the truth about God, choosing to worship creation rather than the Creator. Yet God's judgment isn't arbitrary cruelty—it's the loving boundary of a holy God who gives people what they persistently demand. When we push God away repeatedly, He eventually says, "You may have what you've chosen." This is the bitter reality of rebellion. But here's hope: God's kindness is meant to lead us to repentance. Today, examine your heart honestly. Are there areas where you've been pushing God away? His judgment is real, but His arms remain open to those who turn back to Him in humility and faith.

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Day 3: Warning With
Love

Reading:
Matthew 24:3-14

Jesus warned His disciples about coming tribulation—not to frighten them, but to prepare them. Like someone holding a sign warning "Bridge Out," speaking truth about judgment isn't hatred; it's the highest form of love. The birth pains Jesus describes will intensify as history moves toward His return. We live in the tension of longing for Christ's return while desperately wanting loved ones to be saved. This tension should drive us to compassionate urgency. Who in your life needs to hear the warning? Today, pray for courage to speak truth in love. Ask God to give you opportunities to share both the reality of judgment and the sweetness of salvation. Love compels us to warn, even when it's uncomfortable.

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Day 4: Dead in Sin,
Alive in Christ

Reading:
Ephesians 2:1-10

"But God"—two of the most powerful words in Scripture. We were dead, walking in darkness, children of wrath. This is the bitter reality of our condition apart from Christ.

But God, rich in mercy and great in love, made us alive! This transformation isn't something we earned or achieved through religious effort. It's pure grace, a gift we receive through faith. Salvation is sweet precisely because we understand how bitter our condition was without it. Today, reflect on your own "but God" moment.

Remember where you were when Christ found you. Let gratitude overflow into worship. Then share your story with someone who needs to hear that God's grace is available to them too. By grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.

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Day 5: Living in
Bittersweet Reality

Reading:
Revelation 10:1-11

John experienced the bittersweet nature of God's message—sweet as honey in his mouth, bitter in his stomach. This captures the Christian experience: joy in salvation mixed with sorrow over judgment; excitement for Christ's return tempered by concern for the lost. We live between two realities, embracing both the wonder of God's grace and the weight of humanity's rebellion. This tension shouldn't paralyze us but mobilize us. The scroll John ate became his message to proclaim. What has God revealed to you? How is He calling you to share His truth? Today, embrace the full reality of the gospel—both its sweetness and its bitterness. Let it drive you to worship, to repentance, and to compassionate witness. Come quickly, Lord Jesus, but until then, help us faithfully proclaim Your message.

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