



Revelation 10:8-10 – God's Word is Both Sweet and Sour

Chris looked at three verses from John's vision in Revelation 10, where John eats a scroll which is both sweet and sour.

John's original audience would've been reminded of Ezekiel 2:9 – 3:3, where in a vision Ezekiel is given a scroll to eat. The message God gave Ezekiel was a warning of coming judgment – those hearing Revelation for the first time would've realised that this was a similar message.

The scroll is sweet and sour – sweet, because one day God will right every wrong. Sour, because there's a time of tribulation first. Also, for those not following Jesus, the scroll is sweet because there is an offer of redemption, but sour because this is a warning of coming judgment.

Like John we should eat and digest God's word, experiencing both its sweetness and sourness.

Chris finished by looking at Jesus, who like John and Ezekiel received the word from his father. He experienced its bitterness, obediently suffering and dying on the cross, and its sweetness, rising from the grave in glory. Because Jesus has rescued us, we don't receive God's word as a religious duty, but as a joy and delight to feed on.

Questions

1. How do you think the people that Revelation was originally written to would have felt when they heard the warnings of God's judgment?
2. Have you experienced the sourness of God's word recently? Share any examples you can think of.
3. Have you experienced the sweetness of God's word recently? Again, share any examples you can think of.
4. How does the fact that Jesus has rescued us and brought us into God's family encourage us to feed on God's word?
5. Share any habits/advice you've found helpful for feeding on God's word regularly.

Resources

1. Sam is hosting a regular Monday morning session, 7.30-8.00 am, with the aim to "begin your week by learning to meditate on scripture, pray contemplatively, and rid yourself of hurry, in order to take God's presence into your week." You can join using this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82612958402>. Bring a bible, pen and pad.
2. The YouVersion bible app provides reading plans, devotionals and other help for reading the bible - <https://www.youversion.com/the-bible-app/>.