

## 20230827 UNDERSTANDING THE DAY OF THE LORD

(Revelation 8:1-6)

Back to the Future Part 17

<sup>1</sup> When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.

<sup>2</sup> And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.

<sup>3</sup> Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all God's people, on the golden altar in front of the throne.

<sup>4</sup> The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of God's people, went up before God from the angel's hand.

<sup>5</sup> Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it on the earth; and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake.

<sup>6</sup> Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to sound them.

### Revelation 1:1

<sup>1</sup> The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants **what must soon take place. He made it known** by sending his angel to his servant John.

**One: It must soon take place.**

**Two. It was made known.**

Revelation: apocalypse - laying bare, making naked, disclosure of things before unknown.

Soon: In Greek "tachos" - a short duration of time the duration of time.

The Book of Revelation - three literature characteristics for being made known

**First, the flow of the content has to be logical.** This means that the flow of the message needs to follow the normal pattern of general human thinking.

**Second, the writing or the literature format has to be understandable to the target readers.** If it's too puzzling or enigmatic to them, then it's going to be very difficult to understand the message.

**And lastly, the method of repetition can be very useful to help the readers to get the point.** Right?

### 1. The flow of the plot being logical

#### Revelation 1:19

<sup>19</sup> "Write, therefore, **what you have seen, what is now** and **what will take place later.**

Three sections:

- **What John has seen.**
- **What is now.**
- **What will take place later.**

John saw the glorified Jesus in His full glory

#### Revelation 1:13-17

<sup>13</sup> And among the lampstands was someone like a son of man, dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest.

<sup>14</sup> The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire.

<sup>15</sup> His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters.

<sup>16</sup> In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

<sup>17</sup> When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead.

## 2. The literature form as being easily understood

### Revelation 2:1

<sup>1</sup> To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands.

### Revelation 2:12

<sup>12</sup> “To the angel of the church in Pergamum write: These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword.

### Revelation 3:7

<sup>7</sup> “To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open.

As we get used to the literature form, that much so, the message becomes clearer to us as it did to the original readers.

## 3. The method of repetition

### Matthew 24:21

<sup>21</sup> For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again.

### Daniel 9:24-27

<sup>24</sup> “Seventy sevens” are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the Most Holy Place.

<sup>25</sup> “Know and understand this: From the time the word goes out to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes, there will be seven

‘sevens,’ and sixty-two ‘sevens.’ It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble.

<sup>26</sup> After the sixty-two ‘sevens,’ the Anointed One will be put to death and will have nothing. The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed.

<sup>27</sup> He will confirm a covenant with many for one seven. In the middle of the seven he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And at the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.