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BACK IN THE FUTURE

(RE-READING THE APOCALYPSE)

To try to explain the book **Revelation** it is possible only in the spirit of devout **humility, impartiality and objectivity**. The rational thinking here is the insufficient tool as the book contains many abstract things which are outside of logic.

The understanding comes **from God to everyone individually**: *“If any of you is deficient in wisdom, let him ask of the giving God [Who gives] to everyone liberally and ungrudgingly, without reproaching or faultfinding, and it will be given him” (James 1:5).*

That can be today clear for one, for **another** while it is closed: *“He who is able to hear, let him listen to and heed what the [Holy] Spirit says to the assemblies (churches)” (Revelation 3:6).*

Therefore **Revelation** remains till now heavy for **detailed** interpretation and any clarification is the merely **temporary version**.

Creating the **“heaven”** and the **“earth”** (*Genesis 1:1*), God created two realities - spiritual and material (*Ps.113:24*). Unlike physical, spiritual sphere is not limited temporal or spatial limits.

Since *“God is love ...” (1John 4:8)*, **all** created by him *“...it was **very good**” (Genesis 1:31).*

The welfare of all creatures provides a **theocracy** - the rule of law of love established by the Father.

Rejecting the guidance of God, human fell under the spiritual influence of the enemy of God.

Thus began the **false theocracy**.

Were formed two opposing **“worlds”**. *“He said to them, You are from below; I am from above. You are of **this** world (of this earthly order); I am not of this world” (John.8 23).*

The book describes world events in the light of total battle these two worlds - Divine and satanic.

This struggle is still does not stop in **the skies** (*Eph.6:12*) reflected **on the earth** as a continuous persecution of God's people by demonic empires (*Dan.10:13,20*).

However, it is also a shattering competition of sinful flesh and spiritual principle in human himself.

While **on the earth** evil with varying success beats good, but the vision **of the celestial** sphere assure the reader in celebration Kingdom of God **in the new heaven and the new earth in the new man** (*Rom.14:17*).

God and the Son by the Holy Spirit already lay the dwelling - the holy theocracy in the heart of Christian.

*“Jesus answered, If a person [really] loves Me, he will keep My word [obey My teaching]; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home (abode, special **dwelling** place) with him” (John.14:23).*

Ignoring the chronological sequence together are interwoven earthly and celestial events - those that **have already taken place among those that have to happen**.

Since almost all of these phenomena relate invisible to the human eye processes, they outlined no specifics generalizing language of symbols and visions, because otherwise it is impossible to describe.

God gives people only the information about the world of spirits, which relates to the human world.

When prophecy are carried out all the invisible becomes visible - the earthly troubles, the return of Christ, the resurrection, the Court.

(Most of references to the Amplified Bible)

1. Reading Revelation should always remember that the events described may **simultaneously apply what happened, happens and going to happen (19).**

As a descendant of Adam and Eve, everybody is branded by sin and condemned to death.

Jesus Christ at the expense of his blood **redeemed** us from this curse. He acquired all of us **for Himself** to do the heir of eternal life.

The legal status of his teaching is much higher than the state constitutions. A **“Son of Man”** is *«the Prince of the kings...” (5).*

There was a recovery of **God's theocracy** as a single form of government which is the key to successful human existence.

His representatives - those who "...freed...from... sins by His own blood, and formed...into a kingdom (a royal race), priests..." (5,6).

Instead of false satanic theocracy depicted by Babylonian idols (*Dan.1:13-16*) comes the reign of "... the Son of Man ..." (7,13-16).

By the time of His return to earth will exist various Christian denominations (7,11).

2-3. Jesus appreciates a spiritual condition of each of seven Christian churches, which always go bad under influence of mistakes of their leaders.

4. 24 Elders - patriarchs of the Divine Church from the beginning of creation of the world (12 ancestors of Church of Israel + 12 apostles - founders of Church Christ's) are shown.

5. The book of divine secrets (1) about "the time of the end" (*Dan.12:9*) got awaited for Him Who "... can open the scroll and break its seven seals!" (5).

24 Elders also confirmed **property right** "the Lamb" on the Church "for...with Your blood You purchased men unto God from every tribe and language and people and nation" (6,9).

6. The progress of human civilization driven by Satan accompanied headstrong invasion of imperfect humans in complicated social and natural processes of the universe. Hereby creature of God is destroyed.

Consequently the intervention of God in rebel activity "earth" is causing colossal trouble for its inhabitants.

The "Lamb" opens the book seal (1).

Leading by victorious first rider begin their march deadly horsemen of the apocalypse - war, economic problems, hunger, epidemics... For this the wicked men persecuted witnesses of God's Word unto death.

Killed martyrs bring by his **blood**, that is shed "at the foot of the altar the **souls**" (9) loyalty to the end.

In reply to prays executed these saints heavenly elements show anger of the Lamb. Their enemies show their fault by fear for Him (15,16). There is looming "day of His wrath" (17).

7. After fall into sin the human is no longer the owner of nature, it has lost control over the natural processes, which are controlled by angels.

One of heavenly angels restrains the angels of elements **on earth** until "have sealed the bond servants of our God upon their foreheads" (3).

Symbolic number 144000 (12 descendants x 12,000 ancestors) depicts **God's people** (4), (*Ex.19:6; 1Peter2:9*).

In the early (5-8) are talking about **literal** earthly Israel (12 patriarchs x 12000), people of faith (*Hebrews 11*), who faithfully awaited Messiah-Christ (*1Peter 1:11*).

They are among the "**great crowd**" (9) those "who came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb" (14) "... and serve Him day and night in His sanctuary (**temple**)" (15).

8. The terrible calm comes before bringing to the God of prays from **these** sainted. After the ascension of prays the angels of **celestial** elements recite with their trumpets and **execute** similar to the Egyptian plagues upon humanity, including fallen star "Wormwood" (10,11).

9. The star dumped from the sky, that is a Satan (*Is.14:12; Lk.10:18*) and the released demons extend fatal poisonous spiritism (18,19).

Father in all ways encourages people to repentance.

However fierce people do not leave demonic idolatry and do not repent (21).

10. The "*time*" of limited relationship of God and Israel (the old "*heaven*" and "*earth*" (6)), notified the prophets (7) has expired.

It will be pertinent to recollect ancient history of mankind.

Seduced by devilish spirit of rebelliousness against the God angels became demons, and on the earth there was a civilization which had no right to existence because of distribution "*the wickedness and the evil*" (Gen.6:5).

Therefore the demonic mankind was lost in the Flood, except a family the righteous Noah (2Pet.2:5). However, one of descendants Noah, Nimrod conducted by spirit of apostasy (2Thess.2:4), united the inhabitants of Babylon for building independent of the Creator, awkward structure - religious and political symbiosis like an "*a tower whose top reaches into the sky*" (Gen.11:4).

His ultimate goal was to build the godless "paradise" on earth. Had not the Lord confused the language of Babylon, and not scattered people throughout the earth, then, upon completion of construction, would need a second flood, or some other mass extermination of rebellious people.

Since then this hybrid **false theocracy** - **imbued with the ancient Babylonian mysticism world religions and led by them states** were and are fierce enemies of **the reign** of the true God and His Son.

Approaching a time to prophesy the book of contemporary history (2,8-11).

11. The existence of **terrestrial theocracy** - the state of Israel with Jerusalem's temple structure, completes (1,2).

God's people are often swayed between Jehovah and Baal, pursuing the prophets and apostles (Lk.11:50,51).

Eventually, having crucified the Christ, Jerusalem has drawn upon itself anger of heavenly forces, like the Sodom and Egypt (Matthew 27:51; 28:2).

The true prophets of Israel symbolized by Moses and Elias (Lk.9:30), adequately having stood tests, receive a place in the sky (12). After that there is an earthquake, "*the second woe*" (13,14) and some people, having come to their senses "*gave glory to the God of heaven*" (13), (Mat.27:54).

World domination **lawfully** transferred "to our Lord and of His Christ" (15).

Jesus Christ in a totally new way, **by the Holy Spirit** affects the hearts of loyal to Him people (Rom.14,17), which Father **already** "*has transferred...into the kingdom of the Son of His love*" (Col.1:13).

There was born a young **spiritual** theocracy, which is not built by people on frozen dogmatism of religious leaders but as well as a living organism, "*grows to full maturity, building itself up in love*" (Eph.4:16).

Jehovah's first covenant with the earth "*wife*" Israel (Is.54:6), replaced by a new covenant with the earth's Church of Christ, forthcoming heavenly "*wife of the Lamb*", "*New Jerusalem*" (21:2,9).

However for «earth» destruction it is necessary to disbelievers to answer (18).

There is a transition ark of the covenant of God from the earthly to the heavenly sanctuary (19).

12. God's "*wife*" (Ezek.16) - 12-stars Israeli theocracy is corporeal, because gives birth in excruciating agony (2) the Founder of a new Church. He is taken on the sky. **This terrestrial theocracy breaks by symbolical escape of the woman in "desert"**.

Angels, defending heavenly "*man child*", dumps "*dragon*" (devil) and seduced by it army of "*angels*" (*demons*) from heavens. The furious Satan (9) begins persecution on "*remnant of her seed*", on terrestrial "*the body of Christ*" - his Church (1Cor.12:27). Issued by the devil "*the stream of water*" - occult Babylon's doctrine, theory, philosophies are absorbed **by his subject** that is "*the ground*" (16).

13. Mankind, stubbornly rejecting the Creator's management and holding pagan religion tries to get back the lost paradise, experimenting with different forms of government.

Jesus shows directly in the vision that the true leader of the earthly governments is the ancient "*dragon*" that is Satan the Devil. It seeks manic to be god on earth, bring back a lost position in Eden (Ezekiel 28:13,14; Isaiah 14:14).

With the human masses like stormy sea comes authorized by "dragon" (2) pagan "beast" symbolizing the warlike empire through which Satan over human history sought to embody unsuccessful Nimrod project.

Of particular note is the fact that its characteristic feature, its **name** is **blasphemy** (1).

This predatory hybrid monster was dying, then came to life by the "dragon power" (2) and over the centuries attacked the **true theocracy**, changing from Egypt to Rome.

*"And one of his heads seemed to have a deadly wound. But his death stroke was healed; and the whole earth went after the beast in amazement and admiration. They **fell down** and paid homage to the dragon, because he had bestowed on the beast all his dominion and authority; they also praised and **worshiped the beast**, exclaiming, Who is a match for the beast, and, Who can make war against him?" (3,4).*

The pagan religion gained total scale.

Finally, after the demise of the Israeli theocracy, Rome pounces on Christ Church.

We know how terrible persecution exposed to Christianity in the first century. Ultimately by violence and lies and flattery, Satan achieved that he wanted to (7).

Most inhabitants of Earth have lost the chance to be recorded in the Book of life of the Lamb (8) by adopting a pseudo Christian worshiping "dragon" and "the beast".

On the **territory** mains of pagan Rome again is formed a state-religious structure that is false theocracy - the Catholic Church. It boldly claims to be the earthly embodiment of God's kingdom through the **reign of Pope of the Holy See in the Vatican**.

"Then I saw another beast rising up out of the land [itself]; he had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke (roared) like a dragon" (11).

By fire and sword of state tyranny (12) **this false prophet** in all the land introduces Catholicism (14).

The evidence of spiritual degradation is dominance of false symbolic values and destroying those who worship the **living** Creator (15).

Proving absolute devotion to similar a flock of criminals Satan's system, people are cynical disregard conscience and, destroying the moral principles of God's creation, they brand itself a sign of **impudent blasphemies** (16).

The global economy of **this system** is built in such a way that the devout, **simple** man barely survives in a world where everything is bought and sold (17).

"Herein is [the call for] the patience and the faith and fidelity of the saints (God's people)" - in critical situations for life to be faithful to the Father rather than to compromise with the wicked world of the devil (10).

With the God's point of view, the progress of "free" personality to a "new world order" is nothing but a demonstration of the pitiful number **666** - signs of imperfection sinful man (18).

History shows that the top achievements of man is the bottom of the grave.

Briefly it can transmit system of algebraic equations:

Whom would not take a man as allies without God its efforts are useless $x A - B = 0$

The man who is with God receives an eternity $A + B = \infty$

14. In the meantime, collected **on the earth** "church of the firstborn" (Hebrews.12:23) (first fruits - the best selected fruits) depicted symbolic number 144000 (12 apostles x 12 thousands) we see with a Lamb on Mount Zion (3) out of reach for "the beast".

Part of the angels, **heavenly** sons of God **for the sake the daughters of men** (Gen.6:2) "... did not keep their own first place of power but abandoned their proper dwelling place" (Jud.1:6).

Jesus had "make ready" (John.14:3) these **abandoned "homes"** for the symbolic 144,000 people "*who have not defiled themselves by relations with women*" "redeemed from the **earth**" and "from among men" (3,4), which should "be away from home out of the body and be at home with the Lord" (2Cor.5:8) and who will "...to judge the angels..." (1Cor.6:3).

"The city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem" (Heb.12:22) took over the baton from the earthly Jerusalem.

Since then no earthly theocracy is empowered by God.

"These...virgins" and "...blameless" (4,5), are opposed the capital a false religion which has fallen in the Divine eyes that is – "*Babylon, that great city*" (8).

Three angels by turns announce the triple eternal Gospel (6):

- of glorification of the God, the onset of his judgment and the call **to worship** the Creator;
- falling of "*Babylon*" which spiritual debauchery has given to drink the people;
- deadly condemnation by that, "*whoever pays homage to the beast and his statue and permits the [beast's] stamp (mark, inscription) to be put on his forehead or on his hand*" instead of the God's name (1).

Those who die in the Lord are happy "...for their works (deeds) do follow (attend, accompany) them!" (13)

In contrast, the works of sinners go ahead as attracting them to the court of God when He "will render to each according to his works" (Rym.2: 6).

Time of a terrestrial harvest has come.

"A Son of Man" (14-16) reaps "his elect" (Mat.24:31). And other angel reaps who made dizzy by the Babylon wine and as if the ripened grapes, throw into the "*winepress of the wrath of God*" on destruction (14-16).

15. Saving the Israelis withdrawn from Egypt by Moses God separated them from pursuers by devastating waters of the sea.

Those who won the "*beast*" with its symbols of the destruction were rescued by Lamb, Which separated them from the enemy's land like "*the glassy sea*", mixed with a devastating fire.

That's why "*they sang the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb*" (1-3).

Mergence angels of the seven last plagues, like the Egyptians, glorified God's justice.

16. Angels of elements is involved in these troubles, therefore the nature revenges people. Blood of prophets as if was reflected from the glass sea, "*mingled with fire*"(15:2) and has returned to those who has spilt it.

Having grown together with a policy, the papal Sacred throne pretending for the position of the God has appeared was occupied by apostatical from God "*man of sin*" (2Thess.2:3) soiled by immorality, blood of victims of inquisition and of the Crusades.

On it the bowl of the Divine anger, as on «*the seat of the beast*» (10) obtained from the "*dragon*" (13:2) pours out.

But admirers of a beast do not recognize "*Almighty*". Like ancient Egyptians, they become hardened against the God even more.

Eliminating saints and prophets (6) the three demonic spirits (13) in contrast to the Gospel of 3 angels saturate world with colossal achievements of militarized human civilization, religious ecumenism, and patriotic feats. Equating thereby infected philosophy of humanism man to God - "...you will be like God" (Genesis 3:5) they collect earthly rulers in God's culminating battle in the war of Armageddon (14,16).

All achievements Devil's system of things destroyed (18) and is suitable to turn the guilty of these troubles survived "Babylon" (19).

17. The history of symbolical "Babylon" moves. In "desert" where has hidden a genuine terrestrial theocracy, has arisen a parody - false theocracy, sitting on political "beast" (3).

7 churches in Asia Minor gradually, having adopted the Babylon doctrines sated with mysticism, have come to spiritual debauchery with a city based on 7 hills namely with imperial Rome. Fornication false Christianity with political beast spawned a corrupted with all ulcers of seven churches (1:4) Rome-Catholicism - a political-religious monster in the territory of a theocratic city-state of Vatican.

This alliance only seems successful. Involuntarily, executing will of the God, the political animal will destroy incapable to operate the lascivious religious rider (16).

18. The divine people get acquainted with sentences to "Babylon" and they are urged to leave this center of demonic religion not to find full destruction a formerly majestic and magnificent megacity.

19. After liquidation impudent false church the power of God has triumphed. In the sky happens a wedding - with the Christ is combined His pure, unblemished Church.

To this "marriage supper" (9) are invited the "great crowd" (1) of the righteous (Matth.22:10; 25:33-35; 40,46; Zech.8:23; 1Pet.3:1).

These are all people of good heart (Matth.5:8; Rom.2:15; Lk.18:17).

It is the basic criterion of selection to the Kingdom (Prov.23:26; 1John 3:20; Is.42:3; Mat.15:8; Lk.23:43).

Further the attention is transferred on the Christ who at the head of a heavenly army is ready to finish all devilish hordes.

Without any way to avoid this as driven with "rod of iron" (15), terrestrial swarms are "gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army" (19). Their political and propaganda resources are definitively destroyed in a "lake of fire" (20) (eternal fire for "heroes" conducted by a devil).

The history of disobedient mankind started with the Divine Word and with the same Word finished in the Armageddon (13).

20. The source of evil – a "dragon" (2), is bounded.

Those who have kept fidelity to the Christ to a **martyr's** death "take part (shares) in the first resurrection! Over them the second death exerts no power or authority, but they shall be ministers of God and of Christ (the Messiah), and they shall rule along with Him a thousand years" (6).

For the tired earth is a 7-year of the rest and recovery (Lev.25: 4).

After a thousand-year Kingdom "Satan will be released from his place of confinement" and again will go to tempt "the...restored to life again" after "the thousand years were completed" (5,7,8).

"And they...encircled the fortress (camp) of God's people (the saints) and the beloved city; but fire descended from heaven and consumed them" (9).

Finally, comes the Judgment of the Dead (Hebr.9:27).

They will receive their **personal** or reward, or a sentence, depending on the entries in the books of their works (12).

No matter how many historical times elapsed from the death to this event - tens, hundreds, thousands of years.

Dying man at the same moment appears on Last Judgment of God for dead already out of time.

The natural death and the grave will be thrown to where the place of spiritual opponents.

The devil also will be thrown “*into the fiery lake of burning brimstone, where the beast and false prophet were*” (10). “*This is the second death, the lake of fire*” (14).

Consequently shall be saved man who will be “*recorded in the Book of Life*” (15).

The **Revelation** does not say that you need a lot of records. The main thing that a person had anything good, although one line, introduced in the book of life.

21. As the Creator of **all things**, God **knows best** what is good for the creation. **He does not need to choose. He is out of choice.**

Limited with body the creature can not accommodate unboundedness of Creator.

By virtue of His omnipotence He sees and knows everything in advance. He knows who and how will do something. But God **does not influence the deciding** giving people complete freedom of choice.

Freedom - is always a choice.

At first earth created by God the tree of choice has become for people obstacle to the tree of life (Gen.2:9).

At upcoming blessed Eternity God will not allow anyone has any riots “*there no longer existed any sea*” (1).

Reminder of the rebels will be “*the smoke of their torment*” that “*ascends forever and ever*” (14:11). This will give the right and authority for the Almighty finally take the life of those who will try to rebel against the Father.

As “*the former heaven and the former earth had passed away*”, a following stage of the Divine intention is “*a new heaven and a new earth*” (1).

This - the earthly blessings of the Kingdom of heaven, which is “*the holy city, new Jerusalem*” on which gates names of 12 tribes of Israel (12) are written, and on 12 bases of a city wall - 12 names of apostles (14). The width, length and height are identical = 12000 stages (16). Gold and brilliants indicate the true value of the Divine Kingdom (18-21), unlike false beauty of the disappeared Babylon.

The new earth, (Christians, “*a new creature*”) (2Cor.5:17), **already** are in the spiritual blessings of a sacred city. “*If a person [really] loves Me, he will keep My word [obey My teaching]; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home (abode, special **dwelling place**) with him*” (John 14:23).

Maybe in the future “*our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved*” (2Cor.5:1), and there will be “*our conversation in heaven*” (Philip.3:20).

As the “*new Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God*” (3,2) became “*the abode of God with men*”, the person will not be limited only by a terrestrial Kingdom of the God. God “*give us all things*”(Rom.8:32), all “*the world*”(1Cor.3:22).

With the creation of a new heaven and a new earth began a new history of mankind, the sons of God (7).

22. The divine new person will see the Father, and will live eternally in the light of Him (2,4,5).

The book still definitively is not sealed, but a time to change already is limited (10). Therefore “*he who is unrighteous (unjust, wicked), let him be unrighteous still; and he who is filthy (vile, impure), let him be filthy still; and he who is righteous (just, upright, in right standing with God), let him do right still; and he who is holy, let him be holy still*” (11).

The modern prearmageddonic world is very similar on the ancient preflood one. The civilization promptly rushes to destruction. However for some people there is a chance.

You hear the last appeal, warnings and assurances.

“*Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears and listens to and heeds My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will eat with him, and he [will eat] with Me*”.

“*He who is able to hear, let him listen to and heed what the [Holy] Spirit says to the assemblies (churches)*” (3:20,22).

“The [Holy] Spirit and the bride (the church, the true Christians) say, Come! And let him who is listening say, Come! And let everyone come who is thirsty [who is painfully conscious of his need [d]of those things by which the soul is refreshed, supported, and strengthened]; and whoever [earnestly] desires to do it, let him come, take, appropriate, and drink the water of Life without cost” (17).