

Brazil School of the Prophets: January-February 2019

35. Repeat and Enlarge - (12-02-19).

Recap

Parables are really about how to understand structures. The way we normally think is symbols and how to define them. If I say lion = (and then we know that it's a parable),

lion = Christ or Babylon/Assyria or Satan or us/Judah

That is not incorrect, not error. But is a very basic understanding on how parables work. In addition to that, I want us to think about them as structures. Let's say:

lion devours = Satan brings spiritual death

Repeat and enlarge: you start with Satan and then you repeat Satan: S = S. The problem is that you don't get any additional information, it doesn't help you. Then you do the enlargement: S = L. Amplify = to give additional information.

Now explain some characteristics of Satan using this parable. We're not saying that Satan's got a big beard. What characteristic we're going to pick up? Pray, his methodology of hunting (stalking technique). He observes, he circles around us, how comes the prey doesn't notice? He makes sure you can't detect him as he approaches you, uses camouflage. We can use all the characteristics we know about lions. Once he got to you, you can't escape. If you study this animals, sometimes they just kill for the sake of killing and they just keep eating and eating. They target the weak animal, not paying attention, not the strongest male. He is a good strategist.

Your understanding of Satan is as good as your understanding of lion is. If you think a lion is a good pet, then it doesn't serve its purpose.

This case is simple but it could get more complex, and that's when practice and team work enters into the scene.

Dan 11:40

We see it as part a and b, so it's not a progression, it's a repeat and enlargement (even though it's a progressive history). But this is a special R&E: Chiasm (mirror). Why are these so useful compared to a normal R&E? It gives us the missing information.

Balance method. We know 3 fruits with their weights, and if the balance is in balance, we know

what fruit is on the box. Unlike the word association (Satan = lion): there's no information on the name itself, then you give it a symbol, and then you understand the missing information (Satan is a strategists that plans to kill you for eternity). But in Chiasm approaches the problem differently. The distance to the mirror gives you the info you need. In our example we have KS, him, KN, him. If we did a word study on the word 'him' we wouldn't get so far. We don't do it trying to understand what a symbol is. It's the structure that gives us that. Note: it's the same methodology but subtilty different. It's still repeat and enlarge. We balance Satan against a lion, but we're just taking the natural characteristics of a lion and apply them to Satan. But when we deal with a chiasm, we can't do the same thing, at least not that easily. There's not enough information on the 'him' for us. So we use this structure to prove what the him is: one is the KN and the other the KS. So we don't do a study on what the south is, that would be the second step. This is not guess work, but it's a proper literary methodology.

There's a person named Warning, he is German. We use the chiasms to prove things. Then it says 'at the ToE'. And thus we put them line upon line, they both have to begin at the ToE. There's a deadly wound in part 1, there's has to be a deadly wound in part 2. There can be some differences: when the KS attacks he does it by himself, and the KN does it with chariots and ships. And since we understand who they are, we can know why the differences.

Then we went to see how the Millerites and saw how their approached the verse. The philosophical problem is that we attribute this understanding to U. Smith. And because EGW praises that book, people say everything in it is correct. We didn't go there because I think it's not a profitable discussion. But Smith cut and paste from Josiah Litch. In the year 42 he explains verse 40. And his answer which we have said it's completely wrong, crazy people that make the countries literal. Hopefully we're more comfortable that they're using sound information. What's my launching pad to say they're correct? That they connect 1798 with 1844 with a thread of history. We've been using that for a long time, but we didn't understand what we're saying. Is 28:17 says that the line is a symbol of judgment, and every single one of this waymarks is a symbol of justice. We've been mentioning this for 2 or 3 years, if I say justice, justice, justice, they're same word, so I can put an equal between them. Every single time you see a waymark you are obliged to find justice. If I went to 1989 you should be able to develop a story that talks about justice.

(Christ coming in their time is the foundation of this study)

1798 to 1840 = 1840 42 years (1260)