

JESUS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON 3 – NUMEROLOGY AND THE GREAT FLOOD

THE BIBLE DEVOTES A LOT OF SPACE TO THE FLOOD STORY

It is rare when the Bible gives up more than a few verses to any specific topic. The Flood warrants three full *chapters*; comment by the Prophets'; the Apostle Peter'; the writer of Hebrews; and, it is on the mind of Jesus as He faces the cross. (remember Matthew 24?)

The flood story is not about geology (although geological events certainly support the flood). The Flood is really about **the "He" of Genesis 3:15** and how GOD is going to rescue mankind from sin, a continuation of the message of Eden story, but with a very interesting addition.

Genesis 6: 13, "I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth."

THE MESSAGE OF THE FLOOD goes beyond the single Flood event.

GOD is going to destroy "**them**", the evil ones and, the earth of its evil state.

He has already told us **Who** will bring about this destruction. He is now going to tell us a bit more, including **When**.

GOD lays it out beautifully for anyone to understand who is willing to look closely at what He is saying.

The Flood story tells us the future ... even our future.

WHAT DO ALL THOSE NUMBERS MEAN?

Even a casual read of the Flood narrative reveals many numbers and more specifically days and dates certain events occur. (2x2, 7's, 40 days, 40 nights, on this specific date, a specific event occurred).

To begin our study of Symbols in the Flood story, it would be good to explain a bit about numerology in the Bible because this will help better understand the various symbols.

Later we will see that the numbers in the Flood story point to **Christ** and tell us "**when**" the "He" of Genesis 3:15 is going to "**open the doors of the new Covenant**" (ark) to begin the spiritual transformation of both the earth and mankind. Amazingly, it actually gives the exact date!

BIBLE NUMBERS AND SYMBOLISM

Both the Old and New Testaments use numbers to reveal hidden concepts that completely escape the casual reader.

Once Jesus was asked why he spoke in parables. His answer was that those who truly want to understand GOD's message will ponder the hidden meanings. (see Matthew 13:11)

NUMBERS IN THE BIBLE

It seems quite obvious that the Bible uses numbers in patterns. **7** and **40** are used especially often. We will see both used in the Flood Narrative.

Below I will give a quick summary of the numbers however in brief, the number 7 signifies completion or perfection (Genesis 7:2-4; Revelation 1:20). In early Christian literature it is often called "**GOD's number**" since He is the only ONE who is perfect and complete (Revelation 4:5; 5:1, 5-6).

40 is often understood as the "number of trial or testing." For example:

- The rains come 40 days and 40 nights. (Genesis 6)
- The Israelites wander for 40 years (Deuteronomy 8:2-5)
- Moses is on the mount for 40 days (Exodus 24:18)
- 40 days are involved in the story of Jonah (Jonah 3:4)
- Jesus is tempted for 40 days (Matthew 4:2)
- There are 40 days between Jesus' resurrection and ascension (Acts 1:3)

NO NUMBERS IN GREEK OR HEBREW

(Note: Much of the following material appears in *Numerology: and The Divine Triangle* by Faith Javane and Dusty Bunker. Although unsubstantiated the information is supported from numerous sources including rabbinic studies)

You may be aware that one of the interesting features of Hebrew and Greek is that in both written languages there are no numeric characters.

Where we have numbers and letters, Greek and Hebrew have only **letters**.

So, in both languages, the letters are also used as numbers. Maybe something like the way we use "O" or zero as a letter and meaning in our alphabet.

The same goes words. When a word is written, it has a numeric equivalent. For example, the word "Jesus" in Greek is "**iasous**."

Since each letter has a numeric equivalent, we can add up each number and get its value. The value is the **gammatria**. Therefore, the gammatria of "Jesus" in Greek is **888** because i = 10; a = 8; s = 200; o = 70; u = 400; s = 200 total = **888**.

Think about that for a moment. It's kind of fascinating. Then, as we will see, 888 has it's own meaning. Now think about the fact that the entire Bible is filled with this precise numerology.

In many cases numbers are used deliberately to convey a meaning. Almost everyone is familiar with the **666** of Revelation 13:18. 666 has a meaning in Hebrew just as 888 can be read in Hebrew as lasous.

NAMES AND PLACES IN THE BIBLE

Based on what we have seen above, it is therefore possible that every name in the Bible describes a deeper meaning regarding the person or place to which it applies. Further, certain words have deeper meaning and are not simply chosen by coincidence.

This of course, is a study all it's own, but for example.

Aleph (A) means "life-breath, power, Source".
Beth ((B) means "house, shelter" etc..

For example, the story of Cain slaying Abel is about fraternal rivalry but symbolically, the name **Cain** means **body, materialism or human desire**, while **Abel** means in Hebrew **the soul** or **GOD created human nature**.

Therefore, the story also has a hidden meaning suggesting that "materialism kills spirituality". Cain slew Abel (Genesis 4:8).

Abram becomes **Abra ham** (Genesis 17:5) and Sara becomes **Sara h** (Genesis 17:15).

In both cases, the Hebrew Heh (H), a letter meaning "light" or "spirit" is added to the name to denote the attainment of the Holy Spirit. (GOD breathes the Heh into man to give him life. Jesus breathed on the disciples after his ascension. Jesus tells Nicodemus that no one knows where the Heh comes from and uses the wind as an example which is the same word for breath, etc..)

SPIRITUAL PROGRESS

Another example is how a character's spiritual progress is indicated by change of name.

Saul becomes Paul after his conversion to Christianity (Acts 9:1-22 and 13:9).

This symbolizes the removal of the Hebrew "Shin" (S) and its replacement with the Hebrew "Peh" (P). Shin means "tooth" or fang of a serpent. (Saul killed Christians thinking he was doing it for GOD) Peh means, "mouth." Paul is changed therefore to become the spokesman (or mouthpiece) for Christ. (Acts 13:9).

COMBINING NAMES AND NUMBERS

Perhaps one of the more interesting examples of how names, numbers and scenes have deeper meaning can be seen in the number 153.

In John 21:11, **after the resurrection the disciples catch 153 fish.**

I always thought it was odd that the disciples made a point of counting and recording exactly 153 fish.

The word fish in Greek is '*ixthus*' which has a numerical equivalent of **1224**, or **8 x 153**.

Remember, **Jesus Christ is 888**. (This is going to have special meaning when you see how it relates to the Flood. For now just be aware that 8 means "new beginnings")

Therefore, the disciples counted 153. These are Jews. The number jumped out at them. 153...153. Wait a minute, the number is the word "fish" and the numerical value is "new beginnings". The actual number they caught was a miracle in itself.

Of course, non-believers would say the number was given intentionally and it was not a real event. But the non-believers are wrong.

FLOOD NUMBERS

What we are going to see in the flood story is a combination of numbers and names which have meaning far beyond what most are taught in Sunday school.

#1 UNITY

- Father. Deuteronomy 6:4 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our GOD, the LORD is one.
- Ephesians 4:5 "one Lord, one faith, one baptism."

#2 DIVISION.

- The Son who has two natures: human and divine.
- There are 2 Testaments: the Old and New.
- Man is Male and Female.
- Rom. 9 speaks of two vessels: one for honorable use and the other for dishonorable use.
- Two types of people: Sheep and Goats.
- There are two ages, this age and the age to come: Matt. 12:32; 13:39,40,49; Mark 10:30

#3 DIVINE PERFECTION.

- The Trinity consists of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- There are three qualities of the universe: Time, Space, and Matter.
- To exist (except for GOD), all three are required.
- Each quality consists of three elements. Therefore, we live in a trinity of trinities

#4 CREATION

- North, South, East, West;
- 4 Seasons.
- The 4th commandment is the first that refers to the earth.
- The 4th clause of the Lord's Prayer is the first that mentions the earth.
- The materials of the tabernacle were four and so were the coverings and the ornamentation's

#5 GRACE.

- Redemption.
- Israel came out of Egypt 5 in rank (Ex 13:18).
- David picked up 5 smooth stone to fight Goliath (1 Sam. 17:40).
- The Holy Anointing Oil was pure and composed of 5 parts (Ex. 30:23-25)

#6 MAN:

- Man was created on the 6th day.
- Man labors 6 days only.
- The Serpent was created on the 6th day.
- The 6th commandment is "Thou shalt not murder."
- Six words are used for man: Adam, ish, Enosh, gehver, anthropos, anar.
- $6 \times 6 = 36$. $36 + 35 + 34 + 33 + 32 \dots 5 + 4 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 666$.
- 666 is the number of the antichrist.
- This means that the name of the antichrist in Greek adds up to 666.
- (Incidentally, Satan worshipers use this as their Trinity, so the same story in the Garden is being played out today...to worship Satan rather than GOD)

#7 SPIRITUAL PERFECTION.

- Seven days in a week.
- Seven colors in the spectrum.
- Seven of the 10 commandments begin with the word "not."
- There are 7 seals, 7 trumpets,
- 7 parables in Matthew, and 7 promises to the churches.
- There are 7 "eternals" in Hebrews which are: A priest for ever (1:6); Eternal salvation (1:9); Eternal judgment (6:2); eternal redemption (9:12); eternal spirit (9:14); eternal inheritance (9:15); and everlasting covenant (13:20).

- Jesus said 7 things on the cross: 1) Luke 23:34 "Jesus said, *"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."* And they divided up his clothes by casting lots; 2) Luke 23:43 Jesus answered him, *"I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise"*; 3) Matthew 27:46 About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, *"Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" -- which means, "My GOD, my GOD, why have you forsaken me?"*; 4) John 19:26 *"When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son";* 5) John 19:28 *"Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty."* 6) John 19:30 *"When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit";* and 7) Luke 23:46 *"Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit."* When he had said this, he breathed his last."
- "Hallelujah" occurs 28 times or 4 x 7.
- "Hosanna" occurs 7 times.
- "Milk" occurs 49 times or 7 x 7.
- "Abaddon" occurs 7 times.
- "After the order of Melchizedek" occurs 7 times.

#8 NEW BEGINNINGS.

- 8 people on Noah's Ark (2 Pet. 2:5);
- circumcision on 8th day (Gen. 17:12);
- GOD made 8 covenants with Abraham

#9 JUDGMENT.

- There are 9 Greek words derived from the root word meaning judgment = dikay.
- The following words each occur 9 times in the Bible: abussos (bottomless pit); asebee (unGODly); aselgeia (lasciviousness); and astrapee (lightning).
- The gifts of the spirit are 9 in number (1 Cor. 12:8-10): They are, the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, tongues, and interpretation of tongues

#10 DIVINE PERFECTION.

- There are 10 commandments (Ex. 20);
- 1/10 of your income is a tithe;
- 10 plagues on Egypt (Ex. 9:14ff);
- 10 x 10 silver sockets formed the foundation of the Tabernacle (Ex 38:27);
- 10 "I AM's spoken by Jesus in John: 1) I am the Bread of Life (6:35); 2) I am the Bread of Life which came down from heaven (6:41); 3) I am the Living Bread (6:51); 4) I am the Light of the world (8:12); 5) I am One that bears witness of Myself (8:18); 6) I am the Door of the sheep (10:7,9); 7) I am the Good Shepherd (10:14); 8) I am the Resurrection and the Life (14:6); 9) I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life (11:25); and 10) I am the True Vine (15:1,5)

#12 GOVERNMENTAL PERFECTION.

- 12 tribes of Israel;
- 12 Apostles,
- 12 foundations in the heavenly Jerusalem;
- 12 gates;
- 12 pearls;
- 12 angels.
- The measurements of New Jerusalem are 12,000 furlongs or stadia, while the wall will be 144 (12 x 12) cubits (Rev. 21:16-17)

#40 PROBATION OR TRIAL.

- The Israelites wandered for 40 years (Deut. 8:2-5).

- Moses was on the mount for 40 days (Exodus 24:18);
- 40 days of Jonah and Nineveh (Jonah 3:4).
- Jesus was tempted for 40 days (Matt. 4:2)

Other combinations such as 153 or 666 mentioned above also are found through multipliers.