

SEVEN WONDERS OF THE WORD

by Bruce Woolard



WONDER 4: NUMBERS

Another wonder of the Word is the usage of numbers in the Bible. Numerology is the study of numbers. Ancient Jewish mystics propagated the teaching as a means to determine the future. Jewish Kabbalism uses the phenomenon of numbers to establish the future in terms of fortune telling and predictions as a form of spirit channelling. While we do not condone or embrace this form of Bible interpretation there are significant incidents and records in the Scriptures that clearly indicate that God is a God of order.

GOD'S WARNING

Leviticus 19:31 *"Do not turn to mediums or seek out spiritists, for you will be defiled by them. I am the Lord your God."*

Deuteronomy 18:10-12 *"Let no one be found among you who sacrifices their son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. Anyone who does these things is detestable to the Lord; because of these same detestable practices the Lord your God will drive out those nations before you."*

CONFUSION

Every thinking Christian recognises the fact that believers worldwide are confused and just don't know who or what to believe anymore. Confusion reigns! This ought not to be so. The God of the Christian is a God of order and not confusion – **1 Cor. 14:33**.

"For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints,"
1 Cor.14:33.

"But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men," Acts 5:29.

Why are so many believers confused? Because our leaders and clergy are confused. What is the reason for this sad state of affairs? When our pastors and leaders seek to please man and not God, then the people are led into error and confusion. Modern churches advocate spiritism in ignorance.

Revelation 3:14-20 warns of people power.

The sheep don't lead the shepherd; the shepherd is called to lead the sheep. Therefore shepherds (pastors) have a great responsibility to feed the sheep with wholesome food – the fruits of truth – **Acts 20:28-31**.

"Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also, from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears" Acts 20:28-31.

“... for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit” 2 Peter 1:21.

In the first chapter of the book of the Bible we are told about the seven days of creation or restoration of life to the planet. The number **SEVEN** is a number that stands for completeness – **SEVEN** is the perfect number. It is, therefore, not by coincidence that the number seven is so frequently used in the Bible. **SEVEN** is indeed the seal of God on His creation.

I REMIND YOU THAT GOD’S THUMBPRINT IS FOUND IN NATURE

Did you know that the development of the human embryo is in exact periods of seven. You will be amazed at the accuracy of this law. The full gestation period is 280 days (40 x 7).

With animals, the period of gestation of a;

- mouse is 21 days (7 x 3),
- the hare and rat is 28 days (7 x 4),
- the cat is 56 days (7 x 8),
- the dog 63 days (7 x 9),
- the lion 98 days (7 x 14)
- the sheep - 147 days (7 x 21).
- With birds, the incubation of the common hen is 21 days (7 x 3) and the duck is 28 days (7 x 4).

Furthermore, the light from the sun is made up of seven distinctive colours; red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet. The rainbow is a demonstration of light split into its seven colours. Would you say this was design or accident?

SIGNIFICANT SEVENS

Remember, that God’s dealings with mankind was in sevens. There are seven dispensations, seven days in the week and seven millennia. Grace is the sixth dispensation and then comes the seventh dispensation of the Kingdom. (**Daniel 2:35** speaks of the stone that will smite the image and will grow into a mountain and eventually fill the earth. This tiny stone represents God’s Kingdom on earth that will last 1000 years – **Revelation 20**).

God has woven the number seven into the fabric of humanity. Consider the three cycles of seven in the development of an infant to adulthood. The first seven years are the formative years; the next seven prepares the child for puberty followed by the next seven years that takes the teenager to 21. A significant year is the 21st birthday because the three cycles of development of the body are fulfilled and thereby celebrated as full adulthood. The fullness of a person’s life is seventy years (7 x 10). Years granted to us after that are bonus years.

SEVENS IN REVELATION

Just look at the last book, Revelation, which is God’s book of climaxes, judgements and consummations. This is what we find: seven churches, seven Spirits of God, seven candlesticks, seven stars, seven seals, seven angels, seven trumpets, seven thunders, 42 months (6 x 7), 7000 men killed by earthquake, seven crowns, beasts with seven heads, seven plagues, seven mountains and seven kings. This is just an example of seven on the surface, all in Revelation. There are, in fact over 50 occurrences of the number seven in Revelation alone.

SEVEN IN SCIENCE

Professor E. Slossen, an analytical chemist said that the amazing accuracy of detail in the Bible, even in chemistry, drove him to render homage to the Bible as the Word of God.

The second chapter of Genesis states that God formed man from the dust of the ground. Declaring these simple words are charged with the deepest scientific meaning, the professor explained that the dust of the ground on earth contains only 14 (2 x 7) of the 92 chemical elements known to science. The flesh of man is composed of precisely the same 14 elements.



REMEMBER - THE SEVEN DAY PRINCIPLE

Medical science today tells us that the human body is renewed in every cell every seven years. In various diseases the 7th, 14th and 21st are critical days. Man's pulse beats on the seven day principle. A Dr Stratten has pointed out that for six days out of the seven, the heart beats faster in the morning than in the evening while on the seventh day it beats slower. The number 7 is stamped upon physiology. God has instructed the Hebrew people to work 6 days and on the 7th day to rest.

NUMBER SIX

Having considered the significance of 7's we turn now to the number six (6). This is a prominent number in the Scriptures and most are familiar with the mark of the anti-Christ - 666. If the number seven speaks of perfection, anti-Christ may claim to be god on earth, but his life and purpose will never equal perfection. The reoccurring number of 6's is an indication that anti-Christ is a man and will face the same fate as all of us - he will die.

- ✧ On the 6th day mankind was created and he has been governed by the sequence of 6's throughout his life.
- ✧ There are 24 hours (4 x 6). There are 60 seconds in a minute and 60 minutes in an hour.
- ✧ Man was commanded to work 6 days. This is the number of labour.
- ✧ The 6th commandment is the worst sin – murder!
- ✧ The old imperial system and Stirling was based on the number 6 – 12 pennies in a shilling, 12 inches in a foot and 36 inches in a yard.
- ✧ A revolution has 360°.
- ✧ Solomon's throne has 6 steps – **1 Kings 10:19**.
- ✧ The 12 loaves of the show bread in the Tabernacle were divided into 2 x 6's – **Leviticus 24:6**
- ✧ There were 12 tribes of Israel.

NUMBER FIVE

Five is the number of Grace. The word Grace means "favour." The number 5 is stamped upon the sacrifices that Israel had to make. These five sacrifices were a heifer (a young cow), a goat, a ram, a dove and a pigeon – **Genesis 15:9**.

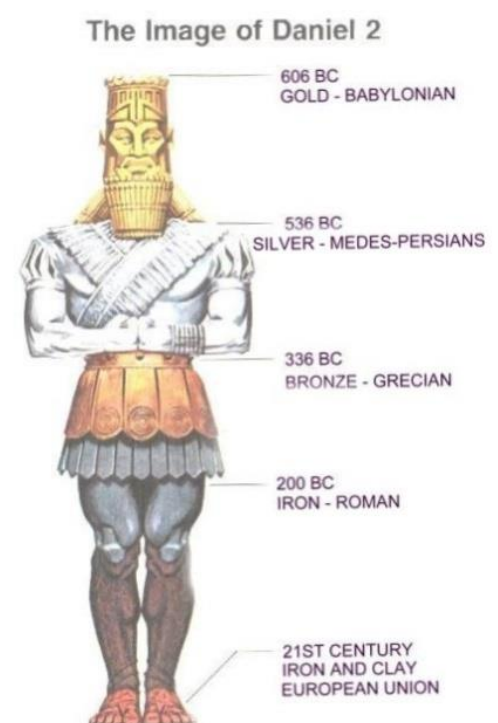
"So He said to him, "Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon."

THE STONE KINGDOM

The kingdoms that are mentioned in the book of Daniel are portrayed in an image. The first is the head of gold, the second is the chest of silver, the third is the abdomen of bronze and the fifth, legs of iron. The fifth kingdom is represented by the ten toes of iron and clay. The Lord will return to destroy the fifth kingdom. The number 5 will introduce mankind to God's amazing favour.

Other interesting facts about the number 5 are that David took 5 stones when he went against Goliath. The measurements of the Tabernacle in terms of the pillars and curtains are recorded in 5 cubit sequences. It is significant that the number 5 plays a significant role representing God's grace in the following:

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, creation and redemption. It is for this reason that most theologians see this number representing God's Grace.



NUMBER FOUR

- ✧ The number 4 appears to represent elements relating to earth - ground, air, fire and water.
- ✧ We have the 4 regions of the earth, north, south, east and west.
- ✧ There are 4 seasons in the year, spring, summer, autumn and winter.
- ✧ Even the 4 Gospels relate to Jesus' earthly ministry.

NUMBER THREE

- ✧ There are 3 dimensions of length, breadth and height.
- ✧ The number 3 represents the Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- ✧ The 3 main attributes of God are omniscience, omnipresence and omnipotence.
- ✧ There are 3 great divisions in time; past, present and future; morning, afternoon and evening.
- ✧ Thought, word and deed complete the capability of man.
- ✧ There are 3 natural categories that embrace the idea of physical matter; mineral, vegetable and animal. Mankind is also made up of 3 parts - body, soul and spirit, with 3 components to the personality (soul) consisting of emotions, intellect and will.
- ✧ The God of the Bible is referred to as the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.
- ✧ When Jesus rose from the grave He rose on the 3rd day after His burial.
- ✧ The first occurrence of the number 3 in the Bible was on the 3rd day of creation or restoration when the earth started to rise up out of the water, symbolic of resurrection life.
- ✧ It is significant that the inscriptions on the cross were written in 3 languages to show the complete rejection of Christ by man.
- ✧ Mankind faces 3 great enemies - the world, the flesh and the devil.
- ✧ We know that the offices of Jesus were as Prophet, Priest and King.
- ✧ There are 3 heavens - the atmosphere, the universe and the place where God's reign.

CONCLUSION

In this study we have only skimmed the surface on the significance of numbers as a wonder of the Word. One can study the Scriptures and observe the significance of numbers in terms of prophecy and doctrine.

- The number seven which is a perfect number also gives the seven wonders of unity as contained in **Ephesians 4**.
- The number 12 speaks of governance and the 12 disciples were called by God to be seated on 12 thrones in rulership over Israel and the world.

What a remarkable God we serve. And remember He knows your number, your name and your destiny.



QUESTION & ANSWER

1. Five is the number of _____
2. What is the Stone Kingdom? _____
3. What does the No 7 stand for? _____
4. What is numerology? _____