



The Book Of Exodus

Numbers in the Bible

St. Mary Coptic Orthodox Church,
East Brunswick, NJ. USA



Numbers in the Bible

- There are different ways to see the numbers in the Bible
- There is an assumed significance of when the Lord uses a certain number of represent a specific event
- How often a certain thing mentioned in the Bible
- What is the value of every letter in the Bible.



Why care about the numbers

- There is some value of viewing the numbers and what they means
- Specifically in the Tabernacle and the book of Revelation, Numbers are used for a purpose and to imply something specific (example 666)



General over view of the value numbers and what they mean



One

- Represents unity
- Whole
- Not divided
- Represents:
 - God (we believe in One God)
 - Represents the Father



Two

- Beginning of division
- Appearance of the “other”
- Can Represent:
 - Christ, the second person of the divinity
 - Christ with His Human and Divine natures
- Or
 - Represents Adam’s fall for seeking another next to God in his life.



Three

- Odd number not easily divided
- Provides all dimensions needed to describe any real body
- Represents:
 - The Holy Spirit
 - The trinity
 - The resurrection
 - Completeness
- Light have 3 categories of waves Visible, Infra-red (felt only), Ultra-violet (felt by its Chemical effect)



Four

- Represents God's creation and His creation of substance
- Creation: $4 = 3 + 1$, The Trinity existed and then God added Man
- Stands for the 4 corners of the world
- Represents
 - Creation
 - The world



Five

- $5 = 4 + 1$, The creation (4) when it is blessed by God (1)
- Five senses
- Five wise virgins
- Five loaves
- Represents:
 - God's Blessing
 - Sanctified for God



Six

- Man was created on the Six day
- $6=5+1$, When man tries to add to God's grace.
- Christ was crucified on the sixth day at the sixth hour.
- Represents
 - Man
 - Sin



Seven

- The world is created in 7 days
- We are still living the 7th day of creation
- God rested in the seventh day
- A unique number that appears constantly in the Bible ($672 = 7 \times 4 \times 3 \times 8$)
- $7 = 6 + 1$, if God (1) is added to Man (6), man becomes complete
- Jericho fell after 7 turns



Eight

- New beginning of the week
- Resurrection
- Eight miracles of resurrection
- Circumcision in the eighth day



Nine

- The last of the single digits,
- Represents the end of Man and judgment
- Amen mentioned 180 times ($9 \times 10 \times 2$)



Ten

- God's commandments
- Ten fingers, best of our ability
- The ten virgins represents humanity
- $10 = 7 + 3$, Perfect man (7) united with the trinity (3) lead to Complete of perfection.
- Repeated multiple times in the tabernacle



Twelve

- God People: Twelve tribes, twelve disciples
- $12 = 4 \times 3 =$ Creation blessed by the trinity.



Half (1/2)

- First time mentioned to talk about the money paid for Isaac's engagement.
 - Gen 24:22 And it happened, when the camels had finished drinking, that the man took a golden earring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hand, weighing ten shekels of gold.



Half

- $\frac{1}{2}$ Shekel Paid as a ransom
 - Exo 30:13 They shall give this, every one that passes among those who are counted, half a shekel after the shekel of the sanctuary (a shekel *is* twenty gerahs); a half shekel *shall be* the offering of Jehovah.



Other views of the numbers



Numbers

- Indian and Arabic numbers are a modern invention
- In the old days people used letters to represent numbers.
- Example $A=1$, $B=2, \dots$
- Others see the numbers in the Bible in a more significant way.



Gematria

- Within the earliest Jewish traditions, groups of Jewish scholars counted the number of times each letter appeared in the Scriptures (as well as the number of words, verses, paragraphs, etc.). These textual specialists were called **Soferim** (counters). The Soferim ensured that every Torah scroll (and the other books of the Tanakh) were identical, noting any unusual words and spellings and replicating them exactly through their scribal arts. Many Jews believe that Ezra the Scribe instituted many of the practices of the Soferim.



Value of Hebrew Letters

100 = ק

200 = ר

300 = ש

400 = ת

10 = י

20 = נ

30 = ל

40 = מ

50 = ו

60 = ס

70 = ע

80 = פ

90 = צ

1 = א

2 = ב

3 = ג

4 = ד

5 = ה

6 = ו

7 = ז

8 = ח

9 = ט



Example

- Did Solomon know the value of Pi?
- 1Ki 7:23 Describes the relationship between the diameter and circumference of the sea (10 -> 30)
- Which means that the assumed value of $\text{Pi} = 3$
- The way the Hebrew text is written by using 2 spelling



Solomon and the π

- Ktiv (Kthib) which is only Consonant
- Kri (Qere) which is a marginal commentary that adds the vowels what changes the meaning.
- The ratio Ktiv to the Kri is $111/106 = 1.047169$ closely approximates the ratio between Pi and 3 (1.047197),
- giving an assumed value of 3.141507 for Pi, which is approximately 99.997% of the known value.