

## **The Mystery of the Hebrew Language**

### **Appendix**

The beginning of language on earth can be traced back to John 1:1, which states:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (NRSV)

When Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden, God revealed to them the basic structure of the original language. At that time man lacked direct experience so he needed to be taught how to think and function in order to deal with his environment. His mind was in some ways like that of a newborn baby.

The creative process of developing the human mind was not finalized in the Garden. It will continue throughout the cycles of human habitation of the earth. The finished product (a human being from God's perspective) can only come to his full potential by being born on the other side of reality after his earthly life is through.

After programming, for example, a computer usually must be shut down and restarted. Similarly, people must die and then be resurrected in order to become a finished product in accordance with God's full pleasure and intent.

However, because God does not want preprogrammed robots, He gave us free will. Many human beings will reject eternal life by rejecting God. Since they do not choose to conform to His image, they will remain dead and eventually be eliminated in the lake of fire. Only those made holy and clean by the blood of Jesus Christ will remain to live forever.

### **The Symbolism of the Hebrew Language<sup>1</sup>**

The written Hebrew language captures the original concept of God's program. It is the only language that survived after the confusion of Babel to retain some of its original design. The structure of the ancient Hebrew language reflected the structure of the human brain. After all, God designed both of them. The language (software) was purposefully compatible with the brain (hardware).

In chapter 10 of my second book, *Mystery of Tammuz 17*, I cite an article written by scientists who demonstrated that the brain operates

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<sup>1</sup> Hebrew Word Picture, by Dr. Danny Ben-Gigi

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in two modes: reading text and manipulating symbols, which is what math is all about. Our brains can find solutions by processing either text (left hemisphere) or mathematic symbols (right hemisphere). Some problems we solve with mostly one side of our brain while others are solved predominantly with the other side. Why should we be surprised that God gave a language structured to reflect how the brain operates?

Many Bible verses contain confirming messages buried within the text that are revealed when overlaid or analyzed with what I call the Hebrew Alphabet Number System. As stated elsewhere, each letter of the Hebrew alphabet contains three dimensions:

1. They are simply common letters that make up words.
2. Each letter also expresses a symbolic concept.
3. Each letter represents a mathematical value.

After the destruction of the First Temple in ancient Israel the use of the Hebrew language declined. During their exile in Babylon, most Jews learned and spoke Aramaic. With the rise of Hellenism Greek became the popular language of philosophy, science and commerce. Although Greek and Aramaic letters also have numeric values, those languages do not incorporate all of the above three linguistic dimensions that were embodied in the original Hebrew text. Therefore, we must study some details of the original Hebrew Alphabet Number System in order to determine the dating of biblical prophecy.

The original Hebrew alphabet contained foundational knowledge from God that men could never discover. In it was buried the concept of creation, the source of the beginning of the universe and the first step toward diversity. Ancient Hebrew did not have numerals, and the Bible spells out numbers in words rather than using the letters as numerals like the Latin of ancient Rome did.

The first documented use of Hebrew letters as numerals occurs during the Hellenistic period around 200 BC, which means that the discovery of the letters' numeric values occurred before the Hellenistic age. I believe that discovery was made by Daniel and the other Jewish scholars during the Babylonian captivity. This should not surprise us given Daniel's crucial role as God's messenger of dated end time prophecies. Daniel probably discovered the numeric structure built into ancient Hebrew during his repeated and in-depth study of the biblical scrolls. Confirming the existence of such concepts at that time, we find the concept of a kingdom's days being "numbered" in Daniel 5:25.

The ancient Hebrew speakers organized things by assigning numbers for levels of priority. For instance, in our bodies the most important

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organ is the brain; therefore, we might assign the number one (1) to it. For two (2), we may choose the heart. The Hebrews used tables to show how they prioritized things like metals, fruits, vegetables, planets and even our weekly cycle: the first day, Sunday (the sun), is followed by Monday (the moon). These concepts connect to the spiritual-physical side of man and are interwoven into the fabric of human history.

Similarly, the Hebrew Alphabet Number System combines numbers and symbols to explain the universe, the earth and our existence. This system can be used to understand important concepts and philosophies. Here are some examples:

| <b>Hebrew Alphabet Number System Correlations</b> |                      |               |              |                          |                        |
|---|----------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Creation Day</b>                               | <b>Double Letter</b> | <b>Planet</b> | <b>Metal</b> | <b>Fruits/Vegetables</b> | <b>Day of the Week</b> |
| 1   | <i>Beth</i> (2)      | Sun           | Gold         | Wheat                    | Sunday                 |
| 2   | <i>Gimel</i> (3)     | Moon          | Silver       | Barley                   | Monday                 |
| 3   | <i>Daleth</i> (4)    | Mars          | Iron         | Grapes                   | Tuesday                |
| 4   | <i>Kaph</i> (20)     | Mercury       | Quicksilver  | Figs                     | Wednesday              |
| 5   | <i>Pe</i> (80)       | Jupiter       | Tin          | Pomegranates             | Thursday               |
| 6   | <i>Resch</i> (200)   | Venus         | Copper       | Olives                   | Friday                 |
| 7   | <i>Taw</i> (400)     | Saturn        | Lead         | Date Palms               | Saturday               |

### **Not a Secret Code**

I do not claim that there is some secret code locked up in the text of the Bible that goes contrary to the literal reading of the text. "Literal" does not mean that I ignore analogies, figures of speech and/or other obvious symbolism supported by appropriate biblical references. Numeric confirmation of meanings and overlays or alignments is not the same methodology as used by mystics.

Any correlation of my use of the Hebrew Alphabet Number System to the Cabala or some other mystical system of religious meditation and/or union with the divine is strictly superficial and lacks substance. Some concepts are shared, of course, because the same ancient language is used and the correlation with numeric values is a fact that can be analyzed properly or improperly. All must be judged against the plain reading of the Scripture taken as a whole as well as by logical context.

Following is a list of the twenty-two Hebrew numbers with their corresponding letters. The assigned meanings have come about from human scholarship into how these different alphanumeric symbols

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have been used in the Bible and other ancient Hebrew literature. Due to the fact that the scholars must interpret the significance of where and how the letters are used, you will find some variation in the assigned significance attached to each letter depending on the reference sources you research. I tried to capture the meanings of these numbers and letters as I understand them as an engineer and inventor. I am not a Jewish scholar, and I do not speak Hebrew.

I have organized into table format a brief conceptual presentation of what I learned in order to give you a glimpse into the flexible complexity of the Hebrew Alphabet Number System. With this table it can be applied to confirm contextual literal reading of difficult Bible texts, especially those that relate to the Apocalypse.

| <b>The Table of the Hebrew Alphabet</b> |                   |  |
|---|-------------------|--|
| <b>#</b>                                | <b>Letter</b>     | <b>Meaning</b>   |
| 1                                       | <i>Aleph</i>      | Steer Head, Beginning, Eternal God                     |
| 2                                       | <i>Beth, Veth</i> | House, Duality, or Division                            |
| 3                                       | <i>Gimel</i>      | Camel, Important Ideas, Divine Purpose                 |
| 4                                       | <i>Daleth</i>     | Door, Creation, This World in this Time                |
| 5                                       | <i>Heh</i>        | Window, Eternity, The Other Side                       |
| 6                                       | <i>Waw</i>        | Hook, Connect, Sin, Flesh                              |
| 7                                       | <i>Zayin</i>      | Sword, Strife, Completeness/Perfection                 |
| 8                                       | <i>Cheth</i>      | Fenced In, A New Beginning, New Creation               |
| 9                                       | <i>Teth</i>       | New Life, A New Civilization, Fruit                    |
| 10                                      | <i>Jod</i>        | Hand, Higher Level of Activity, Law/Responsibility     |
| 11                                      | *No letter        | Judgment , Disorder                                    |
| 12                                      | *No letter        | Perfect Government                                     |
| 20                                      | <i>Kaf, Khaf</i>  | Holding, – Reaching Hand                               |
| 30                                      | <i>Lamed</i>      | Ox, Prodding Stick                                     |
| 40                                      | <i>Mem</i>        | Probation, Water With No Boundaries                    |
| 50                                      | <i>Nun</i>        | Snake, Individual in the Time Dimension, Pentecost     |
| 60                                      | <i>Samech</i>     | Satan/snake  |
| 70                                      | <i>Ayin</i>       | Eyes, Spring, The Sum Total of this World, Restoration |
| 80                                      | <i>Peh, Peh</i>   | Mouth  |
| 90                                      | <i>Tzadi</i>      | Fish Hook  |
| 100                                     | <i>Kof</i>        | Eye of the Needle                                      |
| 200                                     | <i>Resh</i>       | Emerging Head, Insufficient,                           |
| 300                                     | <i>Shin, Sin</i>  | Tooth  |
| 400                                     | <i>Tav, Thav</i>  | Cross, Sign, Eternity, End of Existence                |

### **1 = Aleph**

The first letter of the Hebrew alphabet is *Aleph*. *Aleph* symbolizes the beginning of everything in the universe. All had its origin within and from God.

Thus, it represents God the Creator, a profound mystery of unity and harmony. *Aleph* has a numerical value of one (1). It is the first prime number, which signifies a beginning.

*Aleph* is one of two consonants in the Hebrew language that cannot be pronounced. It is always silent, indicating the qualities of being hidden, incomprehensible, unexplainable and infinite.

In the Hebrew language, the word *Aleph* means "head of a bull" or the head of royalty (king). In Exodus 32 when Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the carved stone tables of the Ten Commandments, he saw that the children of Israel had made a golden calf. They wanted to symbolize God with the bull's head. By covering their idol with gold they tried to legitimize their fraudulent religious expressions. Humanity often borrows ideas from the Creator God in order to give our enterprises an image of legitimacy.

Ezekiel saw four creatures before the throne of God in a vision. One creature had a steer head, representing the physical world coming from a world of light.

### **2 = Beth**

*Beth* means "house." Its mathematical value is two (2). It symbolizes our world, which is an enclosure within the universe.

Inside a house are many rooms and objects. The world contains governments, people, civilizations and thousands of life forms. These concepts are reflections of realities that are found in Heaven. Jesus tells us that there are houses prepared in Heaven for those who will join Him. This indicates that Heaven will be a familiar place where we will feel at home. A house has doors, windows and a roof. People are locked inside this world, like being in a house. However, there are other worlds outside our own.

In the Hebrew language Genesis 1:1 starts with "*B'ree(i)shit Barah Elohee(i)m*," which is translated in English as "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Notice the first word in the Bible starts with the letter *Beth*. It is the outward expression of the "I AM," the eternal God.

Two (2) is the first number that can be divided; hence, it can also mean "duality" or "division." There are two genders: male and female.

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There are two parts of the Bible: the Old and New Testaments. Then there are the opposing forces of good and evil, life and death, right and wrong. These concepts can only be understood when *Beth* (the house) is connected with *Aleph* (God the Creator).

### **3 = Gimel**

*Gimel* means "camel." As a concept it indicates the physical (animal) side of man. Its numerical value is three (3). This is another prime number that cannot be divided.

*Gimel* expresses important ideas, thoughts or things. It is graphically represented by a triangle. The Jewish star is comprised of two interlaced triangles. The triangle pointing up means "perfect manifestation on the physical side of man"; the one pointing down indicates the "perfect manifestation of the spiritual."

*Gimel* also stands for "divine completeness or perfection." In the Trinity God is one (*Aleph*) but His attributes are expressed in the time dimension as three aspects of the One: GodFather, GodSon and GodSpirit.

### **4 = Daleth**

*Daleth* means "door." It has a mathematical value of four (4).

The house (*Beth*) has a door (*Daleth*) by which you can go out or come in. The door can be closed or open. If the door is open, we can see into another world. God designed us to live with the door open, which means that we will experience strife in our lives, rather than closing the door to avoid conflict. People live in a world of warfare and conflict, both within ourselves and against nature. *Daleth* symbolizes a world of opposition between good and evil, life and death, justice and injustice.

*Daleth* represents "this world in this time." It covers the physical side of our world, which exists within the time dimension. There are many examples of this four-dimension concept:

- Four directions (north, south, east, west)
- Four elements (earth, air, fire, water)
- Four kingdoms (animal, vegetable, mineral, spiritual)
- Four seasons (spring, summer, autumn, winter)
- Four DNA genomes (A, G, T, C)
- Four gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)

### **5 = Heh**

The fifth letter is *Heh*, which means "window." Its numerical value is five (5).

Through the window, the world comes into the house, just as it does by the door, but on a higher level. Light comes in through the window, and you can see what is outside. If you shut the window, your soul will become dark; you will lose hope. You will become ignorant and evil. There is no tomorrow for you, and your soul will slowly die. *Heh* also means "the other side." This can refer to Heaven, the spiritual world, the immortal side of man or angels and other spiritual beings.

Another meaning for *Heh* is "grace." In Hebrews 10:29 the Holy Spirit is called "the Spirit of grace." Isaiah 9:6 (KJV) uses five names for Jesus Christ:

- (1) Wonderful,
- (2) Counselor,
- (3) Mighty God,
- (4) The Everlasting Father,
- (5) The Prince of Peace.

### **6 = Waw**

*Waw* means "hook." Its numerical value is six (6). *Waw* connects one thing with another.

God made the earth in six days and *connected* man to the seventh day. The time before creation was then joined (*connected*) with man after creation. A supplementary meaning of *Waw* is "man in his sinful nature," which denotes Satan's influence over man.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. (Ephesians 6:10-12 NRSV)

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The above passage describes six manifestations of Satan's influence over man: "the devil's schemes," "flesh and blood," "rulers," "authorities," "powers of this dark world," and "spiritual forces of evil." It also contains three admonitions ("be strong," "put on," and "take your stand"). If you add three (*Gimel*, "important ideas") to six (*Waw*, "man in his sinful nature"), you get nine (*Teth*, "new life").

### 7 = *Zayin*

*Zayin* means "sword/strife" or "completeness/perfection."

The meaning that applies to any given context depends on whether we are viewing events on earth or in Heaven. The numeric value of *Zayin* is seven (7). The number forty-nine (7 x 7) represents a double portion of trials, tribulations, struggles, or weapons (if we are looking at earthly things). The seventh tribe of Israel, Gad, was the first to engage the enemy to enter the Promised Land.

When examining the eternal dimension, *Zayin* means "divine completeness or perfection." It refers to something that is complete or set aside. The book of Revelation describes seven churches, seven spirits, seven stars, seven trumpets, seven bowls and seven candlesticks.

An old Hebrew tradition says that we are now living in "the seventh day." The six-day creation story repeats the phrase "And there was evening and there was morning" six times. On the seventh day, however, this phrase is omitted. The seventh is our present age, which is still in the making. Unlike God's rest, it is full of strife, swords, weapons, killing and conflict.

"God's peace I leave to you," Jesus told His disciples. But when a person is at peace with God, the world is at war with him or her. Because it hated Jesus, it will hate His disciples. Thus, Jesus said:

"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household." (Matthew 10:34-36 NRSV)



### **8 = Cheth**

*Cheth* has a numerical value of eight (8). It means "fenced in," like in a cage, "being surrounded" or "a new beginning."

The difference depends on whether we are looking at earthly or heavenly things. We can have a new beginning if we direct our view into Heaven. But we will be encircled by evil if we pursue earthly things.

Eight people were saved from the Flood (Noah, his wife, his three sons and their wives). These eight people represented a new beginning for mankind after the world was destroyed by water. The root number is still four (4), meaning "this world in this time" (*Daleth*). Four males and four females came from the old world into the new, progressing into the *Cheth* (8), a new beginning on a higher level.

### **9 = Teth**

The ninth letter, *Teth*, is not actually a word, but more of a concept. It indicates "new life."

Hebrew tradition says that *Teth* represents a woman giving birth or a place where something new is brought forth. The picture is one of something hidden in the darkness that comes forth into light like a seed bursting from the earth.

Another meaning for *Teth* is "fruit" or "spirit." Paul mentioned nine fruits of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. There are nine gifts of the Spirit (1Corinthians 12:8-10) and nine Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12).

### **10 = Jod**

*Jod* means "hand." It specifically symbolizes "the hand at rest" because God has provided and prepared everything we need.

*Jod* (pronounced Yod), like a new birth, is born out of *Teth*. Life is transformed and continues on to a higher level becoming *Jod*. Another meaning of *Jod* is "law and responsibility." The Ten Commandments made up the Law of God. There were ten plagues in Egypt. The tithe represents a tenth of our earnings. (Malachi 3:10) Genesis contains the phrase "God said" ten times concerning His creation.

The first letter of God's ancient name in Hebrew, YHVH, *Jod-Heh-Waw-Heh*, begins with *Jod*. Called the tetragrammatron, this four letter Hebrew name for the Almighty is the one used in His covenant with Israel. Since God is the Eternal, it is not surprising that His covenant

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name is made up of the tree tenses (past, present, future) of the Hebrew verb, "to be." It is the name by which all believers are grafted into the Kingdom of God. (Ephesians 2:12)

### 20 = *Kaf*

The higher level of *Jod* continues with the eleventh letter, *Kaf*, meaning "holding or reaching hand," extended in an expression of purpose or redemption.

*Kaf* is connected with the physical side of our bodies indicating our earthly existence. The corresponding Zodiac sign is Mercury (*Kochab*), where redemption is possible. Redemption leads us beyond our earthly existence.

According to ancient Hebrew law, a person had to be twenty (20) years old to become an adult citizen who was fully accountable to the law. (Exodus 30:14; Numbers 26:2-4, 32:11)

### 30 = *Lamed*

*Lamed* means "an ox-prodding stick."

The ox is controlled when a "holding hand" (*Kaph*) starts an activity, and *Lamed* (the stick) gets the ox moving. *Lamed* guided the "bull" of first things (*Aleph*) that started the world.

The other meaning of *Lamed* is "dedication." It is connected with the blood and life of Jesus. He started His public ministry at the age of thirty (30) years. (Luke 3:23) According to the Old Testament, a man had to be thirty years old to fulfill the duties of a tabernacle/temple priest. (Numbers 4:23ff)

Jesus was betrayed for thirty pieces of silver, which was prophesied centuries before the event. (Matthew 26:15; Zechariah 11:12)

The curtain in the Jewish temple was thirty cubits long. It veiled the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place where the priests performed daily rituals. The High Priest entered the Holy of Holies only one time each year – at the Fast of Atonement. (Leviticus 16) Jesus is the Melchizedek High Priest for all peoples. At the time of His death this curtain was split in two, which symbolized that His atoning sacrifice provided believers allowing people direct access to God.

### 40 = *Mem*

*Mem* is more than just a letter of the alphabet. It has a built-in word structure similar to *Majim*, which means "water."

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When applied to days, months or years, the number forty (40) does not necessarily mean an actual measurable amount of time. Rather, it conveys something related to the time-life dimension like a "generation." These concepts can be compared to water, which is an indefinable expanse without borders, a condition in which people could drown and die.

*Mem* also means that there is a purpose to the "trials," "testing" or "probation" of life on this side. Israel spent forty years in the wilderness being tested by God before they crossed over Jordan to inherit the Promised Land. (Deuteronomy 8:2-5) Jesus was tempted by the devil for forty days. (Luke 4:1) Forty days after His resurrection, Jesus ascended into Heaven. (Acts 1:3)

### 50 = Nun

*Nun* pictures a *nahash* or "snake." It also expresses man's individuality in the time dimension. It indicates "life with a purpose on the other side."

In Moses' day the people of Israel were told to make a bronze snake and lift it up on a pole. (Numbers 21:4-9) Whoever looked upon that snake was saved from the poison and did not die. The image of that serpent not only symbolically reminded them of the original problem of sin, but it will also assured them that God had provided a means of salvation and restoration to live in the midst of a desert experience. As such, it is a prophetic type of Jesus on the cross. (John 3:14; 12:32-34)

Joshua, the son of Nun (50), led the children of Israel through water (*Mem* = 40) to the Promised Land (50 = 5x10, *Heh* = 5, "the other side"). Joshua is a type of Jesus who will lead us into the eternal rest of the Kingdom of God. (Hebrews 4:8-11)

The Torah required Israel to celebrate a special year-long holiday every fifty years called the Jubilee. All debts were forgiven on that day, all property returned to the original owners, all slaves freed, the high priest changed to another family, political ties were cut and money reevaluated to its original worth.

On the fiftieth day after the Lord's resurrection, Christians celebrate the holiday of Pentecost commemorating the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The number fifty (50) is also connected with Israel's future return and restoration to the land God gave them (1968-2018).

### **60 = Samech**

*Samech* represents Satan, and it also means "snake" because Satan appeared as a serpent when he originally tempted man to sin.

Adam had been commanded by God to multiply and subdue the earth, but was forbidden to eat from the tree of knowing good and evil. The serpent convinced Adam and Eve to question this command. It seemed a paradox that God would tell the first couple to be fruitful and populate the earth, yet forbid them to eat the fruit that would give them the knowledge they needed for survival. So Adam and Eve used their own judgment, basing their decision on what seemed good to them at the time, rather than depending on God's provision for life.

At the moment man took that first step of disobedience, he began a journey away from the Lord. Humanity still strives to be independent from God, and thus we experience strife and difficulties in the midst of an evil world governed by Satan.

The first act of disobedience to God in the Garden of Eden brought sin into the world. All of the descendants of Adam and Eve now carry the disease of being sinful. We are compelled to ask, "*Why I am here on this planet? Where am I going? Will life ever make sense?*"

Despite life's difficulties, we can still find God. He has made provision for His children's salvation so we can return to a state of conformity with God's holy nature.

*Samech* also refers to idol worship. The image of Nebuchadnezzar, which he erected and then commanded to be worshiped, stood sixty cubits high and six cubits wide. (Daniel 3:1)

### **70 = Ayin**

*Ayin* means "eyes" or "spring."

This letter, like *Aleph*, is silent and can only be verbalized with vowels. The number seventy (70) is an expression of "the sum total of this world." Ancient Hebrew tradition says that the earth has seventy nations, seventy languages, seventy words of wisdom and seventy elders to guide people. (Exodus 24; Numbers 11) This does not always represent a literal number, but a connotation of something complete.

The inner eye sees the world in its proper place. When we understand a problem, we often say "I see," meaning that we understand what is hidden. The blueprint of God's plan for this earth is understood with the eyes of *Ayin*.

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The second meaning of *Ayin* refers to spring water that comes out of a mountain. This refreshing life-giving water, which comes from hidden places, can sustain us on our journey.

Seventy (70) is the number of God's punishment for Israel because of their disobedience. Many Bible stories are connected with *Ayin* (70). For seventy years Judah lived in exile before they were restored. (Jeremiah 25:11; 29:10) Daniel 9:24 prophesied that seventy (70) weeks would be allowed to put an end to sin. Israel's final restoration will be seventy years long (1948-2018).

Jesus appointed seventy disciples to go out in His name and preach the good news. (Luke 10) In Matthew 18:21-22 Jesus said to forgive those who sin against you seventy times seven (490 times).

### 80 = *Peh*

*Peh* means "mouth." With the mouth, one can talk, question and communicate with God and other people. We can also feed our physical bodies.

After the encounter with the serpent Adam's eyes were opened, and he saw that he was naked. When he hid from God, God asked, "*Ajakah?*" (Where are you?). God knew where Adam was hiding, but He wanted Adam to communicate with Him, to express his inner thoughts and answer back with his mouth (*Peh*). (See Genesis 3:9-19.)

In the Garden God resided with Adam and Eve in a separated environment, fenced in from the processes of life and death on this earth. When the first couple lost this paradise, an uncertain future awaited them. Their experience typifies the universal human condition of unhappy and unsettled lives lived in turmoil. Out of it each of us ask God with his or her mouth, "Why do I have to be subject to the laws of life and death?" The answer is found in the next number, *Tzadi*.

### 90 = *Tzadi*

*Tzadi* means "fishhook." To get a fish from water onto dry land, you need a hook.

We live in the time dimension (*Mem* = "water"), but someone with a hook (*Tzadi*) pulls us out as soon as the mouth (*Peh*) has spoken. The gospel of Jesus Christ (*Tzadi* = "fishhook") is preached inspiring the confession of sin with the mouth (*Peh*) by those who believe the good news. In this way eternal life is received by faith.

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People were spiritually designed to live forever because we are made in the image of God, but because of sin, we must take a detour. Similarly, the Israelites did not enter the Promised Land directly from their deliverance out of the Egyptian bondage. Instead they wandered for a total of 40 years in the deserts between Egypt and the Promised Land. Most of the adults died on the journey; the new generation survived to enter the land they longed for.

Jesus chose fishermen as His disciples—men who would "fish" for people to add to the kingdom of God.

### 100 = *Kof*

*Kof* means "eye of a needle." Jesus used an illustration of a camel going through the eye of a needle.

Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?"

Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible." (Mark 10:24-27 NRSV)

It is just as impossible for sinful man to go through to the other side (Heaven) as for a camel to go through the eye of a needle. Jesus said that He alone can make this happen.

Abraham was promised a son when he was one hundred (100) years of age, and his wife Sarah was eighty years old. God told him that from the two of them would be born descendants as numerous as the stars in the heavens including royalty and the Redeemer. This seemed an impossible proposition, but the Lord assured Abraham that nothing is impossible with Him. Abraham believed, but Sarah laughed. She knew her body was wilted. When in the due course of time Sarah gave birth to this promised child, Abraham named the boy Isaac, which means "laughter."

*Kof* also means "children of promise" and "God's election of grace." Galatians 4:28 and Romans 9:7-8 say that believers in Jesus Christ are "children of promise."

The number 100 can be expressed in the Hebrew system as one (1) in three dimensions or domains. The domains could represent, for

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example, Heaven, earth and under the earth with God as the head (1 = *Aleph*) over all.

One hundred is also written as one (1) with two zeros. Zero (0) represents a circle. The circle indicates something infinite, with no beginning or end. The number one hundred (100) could represent someone (1) being inside or outside a circle (0). Jesus illustrates this in a story about one hundred sheep:

What do you think? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of your Father in Heaven that one of these little ones should be lost. (Matthew 18:12-14 NRSV)

### 200 = *Resh*

*Resh* means an "emerging head."

The head comes out first during birth. *Aleph* is the head of the bull, but *Resh* is the head of man. It has a mouth and can talk to God, so *Resh* can also mean the brain where all bodily functions are anchored and connected.

Another meaning of *Resh* is "insufficiency" suggesting that something is "not enough." Human beings born in sin are insufficient to live in another dimension. We need something added from outside ourselves to make us "good enough" to enter Heaven.

When Jesus asked the disciples to feed the five thousand men (plus women and children) who had followed them to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee, Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, for everyone to receive a little." (John 6:7 NASB) Even two hundred denarii (200) would not have been enough to feed the multitude. Only Jesus Christ is sufficient to meet all our needs.

### 300 = *Shin*

*Shin* means "tooth" and refers to eating (*achol*).

Teeth are required for eating so they are involved in the process of life and death. When food is crushed by the teeth, its components - fruits, vegetables and meats - lose their individual identities. In a philosophically similar way, when specific experiences in our past are

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mixed together, we can begin to see meaning and purpose for our lives, which can be expressed as a sense of general well-being.

All the senses (taste, smell, touch, and even sound) are involved in eating or to judge if the food is palatable. *Shin* is connected with the head and is coupled with what makes sense in this life.

### 400 = Tav

The last letter of the Hebrew alphabet is *Tav*, which means a "cross" or a "sign."

It encompasses the outer region of existence or the material world. *Tav* can also mean "eternity." The number four hundred (400) can be broken down to  $100 \times 4$ . God in three dimensions or domains (100) is in control of "this world in this time" (4).

### Combining Numbers

All numbers besides these twenty-two are written as combinations of the above numbers. For example, "teen" numbers (12, 13, etc.) do not exist in the Hebrew numbering system. They are expressed as  $10 + 1$ ,  $10 + 2$ ,  $10 + 3$ , etc. Adding ten (*Jod*) to another number brings the meaning of that number up to a higher level.

The Hebrew alphabet is composed of twenty-two letters. The last book of the Bible (Revelation) has twenty-two chapters. Combining twenty (*Kaf*, which means "holding or reaching hand" or "redemption") with two (*Beth*, which means "house"), we get twenty-two (22), which represents "an active hand with purpose in my house." The number twenty-two (22) can also mean "banned or exiled to another world." Jacob was separated from Isaac for twenty-two years. Joseph was separated from his father for twenty-two years.

A large number may be expressed by multiplying a base number by itself. For example, forty-nine (49) could be expressed as  $7 \times 7$ . Seven (*Zayin*) means "strife/sword"; therefore, 49 (seven squared) indicates seven times more trouble than seven.

To decide whether the proper meaning of a number in a particular instance can be determined by adding or multiplying other component numbers, we must examine the biblical contexts and compare several Bible verses that use that number. If many references indicate the same or similar meanings, we can be reasonably assured that a true interpretation has been established.



## God in Everything

A thorough study of the **Hebrew Alphabet Number System** reveals that God has imbedded His complete plan for humankind in it.

1 = *Aleph*: "I am the *Alpha* and the *Omega*, the first and the last." (Revelation 22:13 NRSV)

2 = *Beth*: "I am in the Father and the Father is in me." (John 14:10 NRSV)

3 = *Gimel*: GodFather, GodSon, and GodSpirit (Matthew 28:19)

4 = *Daleth*: "And the Word became flesh." (John 1:14 NRSV)

5 = *Heh*: Jesus rose from death. (Luke 24:7 and Mark 16:6)

We could continue through the whole alphabet and still not fully capture the meaning of God. He is hidden in every level of human speech and thoughts that are expressed in the alphabet, yet we could never fully define Him with mere symbols like letters of the alphabet.

The Hebrew Alphabet Number System helped me to understand and date the Apocalypse. Whenever you read prophecy in the Bible, just remember these numbers and their meanings.

|    |               |  |
|----|---------------|--|
| 4  | <i>Daleth</i> | Door, This World in This Time            |
| 5  | <i>Heh</i>    | Window, The Other Side                   |
| 6  | <i>Waw</i>    | Hook, Connect                            |
| 7  | <i>Zayin</i>  | Strife, Completeness/Perfection          |
| 8  | <i>Cheth</i>  | Fenced in, A New Beginning               |
| 9  | <i>Teth</i>   | New Life                                 |
| 10 | <i>Jod</i>    | Hand, Higher level of Law/Responsibility |