

Biblical Numbers are inspired: The Word of God is divinely inspired. We can take a word, such as love and study every place in the Bible where it is found and we come to a spiritual understanding of its meaning. In the same way, we can study numbers in scripture and arrive at an understanding of their meanings. Some people say that we should not concern ourselves with numbers, but God commands those with understanding to count the number identifying the Satanic being that is to arise in the end-times: Wisdom is needed here; one who understands can calculate the number of the beast, for it is a number that stands for a person. His number is six hundred and sixty-six (Revelation 13:18)

Should not this understanding of the spiritual significance of the number 666 extend to other numbers in God's Word also? There is no biblical directive to apply a code or to give letters numerical values. Neither are there clear declarations like, "The number 7 means such and such." But by comparing scripture with scripture, word with word, number with number, and by studying related passages, we can arrive at their true meanings. The abuse of numerology must be guarded against, but not to the exclusion of a legitimate approach to this important study. Understanding basic guidelines for interpreting biblical numbers will help us guard against spiritual errors

We believe that everything in Scripture has significance and we know that everything was put there by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and therefore we should approach the symbolism of biblical numbers with a desire to understand what God is revealing through them. As God's ways, works and words are perfect, His use of numbers is also perfect. The Bible is the divine revelation of the true and living God and every jot and tittle in His Word is deemed important. Thus, it is reasonable to conclude that every word is significant--and this includes numbers. Biblical numerology is defined as the study of the spiritual significance of numbers used in the Bible. A proper understanding of numbers is possible through the application of basic guidelines for the proper interpretation of all scripture. As we study biblical numerology, as well as other scriptural truths, we ask God to reveal the meanings to us through the Holy Spirit. Jesus promised: The Advocate, the holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name—he will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you (John 14:26).

Understanding Biblical Numbers: Numbers must be studied in relation to biblical languages. There are no numbers in the Hebrew and Greek alphabets. The Hebrews, Greeks, and other ancient cultures used letters for numbers. Each letter had numerical significance, so when a word was written, it also had numerical value or meaning. In a small way, we do the same thing in English. For example, is "o" a zero or a letter of the alphabet? Does "l" indicate the number 1 or a lower case "l"? When "o" or "l" is used, the context tells us their meaning. The same is true for Hebrew and Greek. The authors knew these differences when they were writing numbers and letters. Each of the Hebrew and Greek letters have a number assigned to it.

For example, the word Jesus. In Greek, Jesus is **Iesous**. Thus, Jesus in Greek becomes the number 888. How do we arrive at this?

Jesus in Greek is spelled: **I-E-S-O-U-S** . -

The letter "I" has a numerical value of 10.

The numerical value of "E" is 8.

The numerical value of "S" is 200.

The numerical value of "O" is 70.

The numerical value of "U" is 400.

The numerical value of "S" is 200.

When the letters in the name Jesus (Iesous) are added up in the Greek, the result is $(10+8+200+70+400+200) = 888$. This means that the number 888 is a unique number for Jesus Christ.

The primary purpose of scripture is to communicate spiritual truths in a way that we can understand and apply biblical principles in our life. Thus, translating words into numbers or analyzing the significance of numbers is meaningless if we do not gain spiritual insights that affect our life and ministry. The understanding of the meaning of a number enables us to comprehend its prophetic significance so that we can prepare ourselves accordingly. The meaning of numbers can also encourage us, bless us, or warn us. The spiritual significance of biblical numbers is apparent from the beginning of time so let's go back and see how it all started.

Creation account from Genesis:

The first use of numbers in the Bible appears in the creation account. The number 1 was first in sequence. On the first day, light was created, representing unity because light cannot be subdivided. Light represents the Lord Jesus Christ and His unity with God:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:1-5)

Thus, the number 1 represents **unity** and the truth that the Lord, our God, is one (Mark 12:29). The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are one. As light, they are indivisible.

On the second day, God separated the firmament (the heavens) from the waters, thus establishing that the number 2 represents a **division** initiated by God. The number 2 also represents a double portion, as it is double the number 1. The Bible also emphasizes the power of two as **witnesses** to the truth.

On the third day, the waters were gathered together, the dry land appeared, and plant life was created. In the creative process of the third day, we see the **life-giving power of God** at work, initiating and sustaining life. The number 3 refers to the life-giving power of the Trinity of God which is also reflected in the triune nature of man and the fulfillment of God's purposes.

On the fourth day, God set the heavens in a proper relationship with the earth by creating the moon, stars, sun, other planets, and the entire solar system. Thus, the number 4 symbolizes the **universal nature of something**.

On the fifth day, God created animals, He blessed them and continues to feed and watch over them. This is provided by His grace, not because of anything these creatures do themselves. Thus, the number 5 is established to mean the **work of grace**, symbolizing God's unmerited favor.

On the sixth day, God created man in His image. The number 6, then, is a number that represents **man**. On the seventh day, God rested. He had finished creation and declared it to be complete and perfect

The number 7 refers to rest, **completion, and perfection**. So, from the beginning, we see that numbers are significant. F.W. Grant concludes: "Every law of nature...tends to express itself in terms of arithmetic. Why should not a law of number pervade scripture also, and link God's work and God's Word together?" Now let's examine some select numbers in detail to gain spiritual and prophetic insights from their meanings.

The Number 1: God created light on the first day. Since light cannot be divided, it represents unity. Thus the number 1 symbolizes unity and the fact that the Lord our God is one God. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are one. As light, they are indivisible. This concept of the number 1 denoting the unity of the one true God is expressed in the opening lines of one of the first professions of faith found in scripture: "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord" (Deuteronomy 6:4). Jesus declared that He and His Father were one: "I and my Father are one" (John 10:30). Jesus desired this same indivisible unity for His followers. He prayed that believers would become one with Him and with God, their Heavenly Father:

Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also who shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as You, Father, are in me, and I in You, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that you have sent me. And the glory which thou gave me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and You in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that you have sent me, and have loved them, as you have loved me. (John 17:20-23)

Sin entered humanity through one man Adam and that sin is removed from us by one man Jesus. Therefore, just as through one person sin entered the world, and through sin, death, and thus death came to all, inasmuch as all sinned (Romans 5:12). For if by that one person's transgression the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one person Jesus Christ overflow for the many (Roman 5:15)

There is only one name by which we can be saved--the name of Jesus (Acts 4:10-12). Only through Jesus we can be saved and declared righteous before God. Jesus declares that he is the good shepherd and only shepherd who can united the scattered sheep.

I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me.....I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, and there will be one flock, one shepherd (John 10:14-16).

Paul understood this concept of unity among God's people. He admonished:
I, then, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace: one body and one Spirit, as you were also called to the one hope of your call; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all (Ephesians 4:1-6)

Part of walking worthy of our calling is keeping the bond of unity--our oneness in God. This does not mean that we must agree in all of our opinions or convictions. Rather, we are to be one in spirit, as we are all members of one spiritual body

As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit (1 Cor 12: 12-13)

The Number 2: On the second day, God divided the firmament from the waters and established the number 2 to mean division. In the beginning, God created light (symbolizing good) and immediately divided it from darkness (symbolizing evil):

"Then God said: Let there be light, and there was light. God saw that the light was good. God then separated the light from the darkness" (Genesis 1:3-4).

In the beginning, God made a division between the light (which represented good) and the darkness (which represented evil). One of the final acts of our Lord will be to divide those who are saved from those who are lost

When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world (Matthew 25:31-34)

Spiritual Division: Spiritually, when we accept Jesus we are separated from our old life of sin and we become a new creation in Christ: So whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come (2 Corinthians 5:17)

The two thieves who were crucified with Christ were symbolic of the division of all mankind into the saved and the lost, those forgiven and those not forgiven (Matthew 27:38).

The Bible clearly indicates that we cannot serve two masters:

No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. (Matthew 6:24)

(Divine)Division Over The Word: The Word of God is the two-edged sword that divides the soul and spirit and the bones and marrow (Hebrews 4:12). The Word also divides the entire world on the basis of those who accept God's truth and those who reject it. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was called the prince of peace (Isaiah 9:6). On the occasion of Christ's birth, the angels pronounced peace on earth (Luke 2:14) and the Prophet Zacharias, under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, declared that Jesus would guide our feet into the way of peace (Luke 1:67, 79). Prior to His return to heaven, Jesus gave the gift of peace to His followers, promising "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world gives, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27).

However Jesus talks about divine division based on His word:

Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three; a father will be divided against his son and a son against his father, a mother against her daughter and a daughter against her mother, a mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law (Luke 12:51-53)

How could someone with the name "prince of peace" and who left His followers with the gift of supernatural peace possibly make such a declaration as, "I came to bring division?" It is because of the word of God. The sword of God's Word makes a division between those who embrace God's truths and those who do not. Division in families happens because of the belief in God and adherence to His word (pro life vs pro choice).

The Double-Portion Blessing: The number 2 also indicates a double-portion blessing:

The firstborn child in an Israel family received twice the inheritance as the other children (Deuteronomy 21:17).

A double-restoration was to be made of anything that was stolen (Exodus 22:7).

The children of Israel were forbidden from collecting manna on the Sabbath, but they were permitted to collect a double-portion of it on the sixth day (Exodus 16:5).

Elisha asked for and received the double-portion of Elijah's spirit (2 Kings 2:9).

Two Witnesses To The Truth: The number 2 also signifies truth. It is the numerical symbol of a truthful witness or testimony.

Numbers 35:30 declares: "Whenever someone kills another, the evidence of witnesses is required to kill the murderer. A single witness does not suffice for putting a person to death"

God mandated the principle of requiring a minimum of two witnesses to establish the truth. We see this principle illustrated in Matthew 18:16, where Jesus declared concerning offenses:

"If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that 'every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses" A minimum of two witnesses confirm the truth. Jesus reiterated this in John 8:17 when He declared: "It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true."

When Jesus Christ dispatched the seventy disciples to evangelize, He sent them out by twos (Luke 10:1). He did the same with His twelve disciples (Mark 6:7), as both groups were bearing witness to the truth of the Gospel. When Jesus ascended to heaven, there were two angels to testify to the truth of His resurrection, ascension, and future return (Acts 1:10).

Two are better than one: They get a good wage for their toil. If the one falls, the other will help the fallen one. But woe to the solitary person! If that one should fall, there is no other to help. So also, if two sleep together, they keep each other warm. How can one alone keep warm? Where one alone may be overcome, two together can resist. A three-ply cord is not easily broken (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12)

In all of the preceding examples, two witnesses were used to confirm the truth of God's Word. Jesus said that the Father bore witness of Him: "Even in your law it is written that the testimony of two men can be verified. I testify on my behalf and so does the Father who sent me." (John 8:17-18) Jesus bore witness of Himself, and the Father confirmed it. Thus, in the mouths of two witnesses, the truth was established.

When Jesus died and His side was pierced with a sword, blood and water flowed out--two witnesses to the validity of His death. Recognizing the biblical concept that truth is established by two witnesses helps us understand why it is so powerful when two or more gather in the Name of Jesus: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20). When two or more believers gather together in the Name of the Lord, they are confirming the truth of the Word, and Jesus shows up! This is why there is great power in the agreement of two or more believers in prayer: "Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father" (Matthew 18:19).

The Last Witnesses: There will be two last witnesses to the truth in the end-times. Revelation 11:1-14 describes these two witnesses and their ministries. They will wear sackcloth, which indicates that they are in mourning. They will have power to shut up the sky so that there will be no rain; ability to turn the waters into blood; and power to strike the earth with various plagues. Over the years, there have been many different views as to the identity of these two witnesses. Some believe that they will be Enoch and Elijah. This belief is usually based on the fact that they are the only two people in the Old Testament who did not physically die. Others believe that Moses and Elijah will be the witnesses. Moses represents the law, and Elijah represents the prophets. Others believe that these two witnesses are symbolic of the church, with both Jews and Gentiles working together in the end-times. There is another school of thought that claims that the witnesses will be two new prophets who will minister in the spirit and power of Elijah. The identities of these two witnesses will be made known at God's appointed time.

The Number 3 In the creative process of the third day, we see the life-giving Spirit at work, initiating and sustaining life. The waters were gathered together, the dry land appeared, and plant life was created, so the number 3 refers to the life-giving power of the Trinity of God.

The Trinity Of God: The number 3 represents the Trinity: The Father, the Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. It is evident in God's triune character. He is omniscient, omnipresent, and omnipotent. It is noted in the three major attributes of God: Goodness, graciousness, and mercy (Exodus 33:18-19).

The Triune Nature In The World: This triune nature is reflected in time, space, matter, and speech. Time is divided into past, present, and future. Space is measured in terms of height, width, and depth. Matter is described in terms of solids, liquids, and gas. Mankind also has a triune nature. Humans are composed of body, soul, and spirit. Their abilities include thought, word, and deed.

God's Purposes: The number 3 is related to God's purposes being accomplished. There are many examples of this in the Bible. Here are a few illustrations:

God sent three messengers to Abraham to tell him that Sarah would conceive in her old age (Genesis Chapter 18). God brought darkness upon Egypt for three days while His sovereign purposes were accomplished (Exodus 10:22-23). Elijah stretched his body over a dead child three times, and the child was resurrected (1 Kings 17:21). Isaiah walked around naked and barefoot for three years to illustrate God's prophetic purposes (Isaiah 20:3). Jonah was in the belly of a great fish for three days while God's purposes were accomplished (Jonah chapter 2). The Apostle Paul was blind for three days while God worked in his life (Acts 9:9). Peter's vision of the beasts let down from Heaven were symbolic of God's sovereign intent to take the gospel to the Gentiles. Peter was told three times to rise and eat (Acts 10:16).

The Life of Jesus: The Father spoke from heaven three times during Christ's ministry (Matthew 3:17; 17:5, and John 12:28). Three disciples witnessed Christ's transfiguration. Three disciples went into the garden to pray with Jesus. The Lord asked three times for the impending cup of His suffering to pass, but only if it was His Father's will. Peter denied the Lord three times. Pilate sought three times to let Jesus go. It was the third hour when they crucified Jesus. There were three crosses, three men crucified, and writing in three different languages on the cross of Jesus. Jesus was in the heart of the earth for three days and nights. After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to Peter and questioned him three times regarding his love for Him.

The Word of God declares a tri-fold witness that Jesus is the Son of God: So there are three that testify, the Spirit, the water, and the blood, and the three are of one accord (1 John 5:7-8).

We see Christ holding a three-fold office as king, prophet, and priest (Deuteronomy 17:15; 18:5,15 and Isaiah 6:3).

Prophetic Significance: Next to seven, the number 3 is the most common number in the book of Revelation:

An angel will pronounce three woes to those living on earth to warn them of trials to come (Revelation 8:13).

The murdered bodies of the two witnesses will lie openly in the streets of Jerusalem for three days before they are resurrected (Revelation 11:7-12).

Three unclean spirits will be allowed to deceive the whole world (Revelation 16:13-16).

The new Jerusalem will be square, with three gates on each side (Revelation 21:13)

The Number 4: On the fourth day of creation, God set the heavens in their proper relationship with the earth by creating the moon, stars, sun, and the entire solar system. Thus, the number 4 represents the universal nature of God's creation and symbolizes universality.

The Universe: The number 4 consistently illustrates the principle of universality. Its meaning is derived from the four compass directions which indicate the north, south, east, and west (News). In Ezekiel 7:2, the Lord declares: "... An end, the end is come upon the four corners of the earth." We see the principle of universality in the four lunar phases, the four seasons, and the four-fold biblical division of mankind into tribe, people, tongue and nation (Revelation 13:7).

This principle of universality is revealed in Peter's dramatic vision from God (Acts 10:9-16) four corners. This vision was more than a dialogue concerning clean and unclean foods. It revealed that the gospel would be extended to the Gentiles--all nations--as well as to the Jews. Universal salvation would be offered to every tribe, tongue, and nation.

The Universal Response To The Word: In the parable of the sower in Matthew chapter 13, the universal response to the Word of God is described. All men, everywhere, will respond in one of four ways to the gospel: (Matthew 13:18-23)

The Universal Resurrection: When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, it provided a prophetic preview of the endtimes when all true believers will experience the resurrection. Lazarus was in the grave four days. Why not two days? Why not six days? Because four illustrates the universality of the future resurrection. Jesus declared: Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he who believes in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this? (John 11:25-26)

The Universal Judgment: In Revelation 7:1, we see "... four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree." There are four angels, four corners, and four winds. In this vision, universal judgment is held back by the angels of God. Revelation 20:8 speaks of the Antichrist spirit that "... shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, God and Magog, to gather them together to battle". The reference to the "four quarters of the earth" means that all nations will be deceived and will gather together for the final battle between the armies of Satan and his Antichrist and the armies of God, led by Christ.

The Number 5: On the fifth day of creation, God created the animal kingdom and blessed them. By blessing them, He was promising that He would care for them. His blessing and care for His creatures are manifestations of His grace. Thus, the number 5 was initially established to mean the work of grace, God's unmerited blessing.

Symbols Of Grace: The number 5 is used repeatedly in the Old Testament to represent God's grace. There were five kinds of animals that were to be sacrificed under the Old Testament covenant: Goats, sheep, cattle, pigeons, and doves (Genesis 15:9; Exodus 29:38; Leviticus 1:1-17; 3:1,6-7,12; 4:3-4,23,32; 5:6-7). These sacrifices all reflect the grace of God in the forgiveness of our sins and/or in our worship. We cannot be forgiven or worship God without His manifested grace. The holy anointing oil had five components including myrrh, cinnamon, calamus, cassia, and olive oil.

Babylon's King Nebuchadnezzar was given a dream by God in which he saw a giant statue of a man. According to the interpretation given to Daniel, this statue represented five periods of world-ruling empires.

The statue's head of gold represented Babylon (Daniel 2:32, 38). The chest and arms of silver symbolized the Persian Empire (Daniel 2:32, 39). The belly and thighs of bronze represented the Macedonian Empire under Alexander the Great. The two legs of iron symbolized the Roman Empire (Daniel 2:33, 40-43). The ten toes of iron mixed with clay symbolize later-day kingdoms yet to come (Daniel 2:41-44). This statue represents five distinct eras of kingdoms of this world and provides a basic structure for understanding biblical prophecies and end-time events. Throughout each of these five eras of human government, God's unmerited grace is extended to mankind

The Number 6: On the sixth day, God created man, so the number 6 was established as symbolic of man and all that relates to him. Six represents a period of labor. Six days was the length of time in which God created the world and then He rested. Israel was commanded to sow their fields for six years and then allow them to remain fallow during the seventh year (Exodus 23:10). They were instructed to work six days and keep the seventh as a Sabbath. We are also instructed to work for six days and rest on the seventh day (Exodus 20:9-11).

The Number 7: Seven indicates perfection and completion. It is one of the most frequently used numbers in the Bible. It is used approximately 735 times, including its derivatives. The number is used extensively in the books of Daniel and Revelation.

Completion And Perfection: Seven is considered to be God's seal of completion. He stamped His approval on creation by resting on the seventh day and declaring it good. Creation was complete. God blessed and sanctified the seventh day and set it apart as the Sabbath, which is to be kept holy unto Him: "And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made" (Genesis 2:3).

The tabernacle was completed and dedicated on the seventh day after the start of its construction (Exodus 40:17). It took Solomon seven years to build the temple in Jerusalem (1 Kings 6:37-38). Both of these projects speak of completion and perfection.

There were seven pieces of furniture in the tabernacle, including the bronze altar and laver, the golden menorah, the table of the bread, the golden altar of incense, the ark of the covenant, and the atonement seat. These seven pieces of furniture symbolized God's plan for the complete spiritual restoration of sinful mankind.

Spiritual Victory: Seven represents complete spiritual victory secured by Jesus Christ. Seven is a representation of our total consecration.

Before Aaron and his sons began ministering as priests, they were consecrated for seven days (Leviticus 8:31-36).

Seven is a picture of our total redemption through Christ: On the Day of Atonement, the high priest sprinkled the blood of the sacrifice upon the mercy seat seven times (Leviticus 16:14). Seven represents total victory. When the children of Israel approached Jericho, God told them to march around the city for seven days. On the seventh day, when they marched around seven times, the work was completed. They shouted, the walls fell, and God gave them the city (Joshua 6:1-16).

Seven represents total deliverance: There were seven years of plenty and seven years of famine in Egypt. God revealed to Joseph what was coming in the future and gave him a strategy to prepare for it in order to save the world from starvation (Genesis 41:20-31).

Seven represents multiplication: The seventh year was considered to be the Sabbath year-- a year of rest in which Israel was directed by God not to sow or reap. God promised such an abundant blessing upon them during the sixth year that it would bring forth a harvest that was sufficient for three years!

Seven represents freedom and debt-cancellation: God directed Israel to count seven Sabbath years--seven times seven which equals forty-nine years. The fiftieth year was the year of Jubilee. On the tenth day of the seventh month, on the Day of Atonement, the trumpet sounded, heralding the day of Jubilee. It was a time of freedom and debt cancellation. Slaves were set free, the land was returned to its original owners, and debts were forgiven. They did not sow or reap that year, but ate of the increase from the previous year (Leviticus 25:11-12).

Seven represents total divine sufficiency: Jesus multiplied seven loaves and a few small fish to feed a multitude of four thousand men, besides women and children. After everyone had eaten, there were seven full baskets remaining! "And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the broken meat that was left seven baskets full" (Matthew 15:37). Not only was there enough to meet the immediate need, but there was total divine sufficiency.

Seven represents the inclusiveness of God's healing power: Jesus performed seven miracles on the Jewish Sabbath which was from Friday sunset to Saturday sunset. These miracles confirmed the sacredness of the day as well as targeted the unfounded beliefs of religious leaders who did not think such acts should be done on the Sabbath.

Complete Forgiveness: Leviticus 4:6 uses the number 7 in relation to total forgiveness. This directive said that "... the priest shall dip his finger in the blood, and sprinkle of the blood seven times before the Lord, before the veil of the sanctuary." The blood was to be sprinkled seven times, indicating that the person was totally forgiven by God and completely clean.

The number 7 also provides insight as to how we are to forgive others: When Peter asked how many times he should forgive someone, Jesus answered: "... seventy times seven" (Matthew 18:22). Jesus did not mean that the actual number of times we should forgive someone is 70x7, or a total of 490 times. What He meant is that we should forgive completely and freely as many times is necessary. We are to forgive, as we have been forgiven--totally and without reservation:

Seven Prophetic Feasts: The book of Leviticus records details of seven feasts that were instituted by God. These feasts were spread over seven months of the Jewish calendar and they symbolized God's complete prophetic plan as revealed and fulfilled through Jesus Christ.

The Passover symbolized Israel's protection by the blood of the slain lamb and their deliverance from Egypt which is symbolic of sin (Leviticus 23:5). Jesus is the Lamb of God slain for our deliverance from sins. (Revelation 13:8).

The Feast of Unleavened Bread was a time when Israel cleansed their homes from leaven and presented their offerings to the Lord for seven days (Leviticus 23:8). This feast symbolizes the Messiah's sinless life, as leaven is a picture of sin in the Bible.

The Feast of First Fruits prophetically indicated the resurrection of the Messiah as the first fruits of the resurrection of all the righteous (Leviticus 23:10-11). Jesus was resurrected on the first day of the week, which is one of the reasons that Paul refers to Him as the "first fruits from the dead" (1 Corinthians 15:20).

The Feast of Pentecost was determined by counting seven Sabbath days or forty-nine days from the day they made their wave offering to the Lord (Leviticus 23:15). This feast pointed to the great harvest of souls and the gift of the Holy Spirit that would be given to both Jewish and Gentile believers during the church age (Acts 2).

The Feast of Trumpets was on the first day of the seventh month (Leviticus 23:24). This feast points to the rapture of the church when the Messiah (Jesus) will appear in the heavens as He comes for the church. The rapture is always associated in Scripture with the blowing of a loud trumpet (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, 1 Corinthians 15:52).

The Feast of Tabernacles started on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, and the children of Israel presented their offerings to God for seven days (Leviticus 23:24). This feast symbolizes the Lord's promise that He will once again "tabernacle" with His people when He returns to reign over all the world (Micah 4:1-7). 37

The Day of Atonement was on the tenth day of the seventh month (Leviticus 23:27). This feast points to the Second Coming of Jesus when He will return to earth and the Jewish remnant will "look upon Him whom they have pierced," repent of their sins, and receive Him as their Messiah (Zechariah 12:10; Romans 11:1-6,25-36).

Seven is a number of prophetic fulfillment: The entire book of Revelation is filled with symbolism pertaining to the number 7. The book of Revelation--which unfolds God's end-time plan for the culmination of the ages--is filled with "sevens". These include the seven churches; seven Spirits of God; seven golden candlesticks; seven stars; seven lamps; seven seals; seven eyes; seven horns; seven angels; seven trumpet judgments; seven crowns; seven vials, containing the seven plagues that fill up the wrath of God; seven thunders; seven mountains; and seven kings. In each case, the number 7 indicates completion of God's purposes.

In the vision recorded in Revelation chapters 1-3. Jesus stands in the midst of seven candlesticks, symbolic of Christ standing in the midst of the seven churches of Asia. The seven stars are God's messengers to these churches. The seven churches were actual churches at the time of the writing of Revelation, but they can also be viewed in terms of the periods of church history. When God addresses these churches in Revelation chapters 1-3, He is not just speaking to them. His message is for all believers and all churches of all time, communicating blessings to the faithful and warnings to the unfaithful.

The Holy Spirit of God is symbolized by seven horns, seven spirits, and seven eyes (Revelation 3:1 and 5:6). These prophetic symbols indicate that God's rule is complete. He is over all and sees all. You have no need to fear circumstances today, in the future, or in the end-times. God is in control

The number 8 is representative of a new beginning. It is apparent in the days of the week. The eighth day actually begins a new sequence of the seven-day week. The octave in music begins again repeatedly on the eighth note. Eight people were saved on Noah's ark and given a new beginning (2 Peter 2:5). When a leper was cleansed in Old Testament times, the eighth day marked a new beginning, for on that day he was presented before the priest and declared whole before the Lord (Leviticus 14:10-11). Circumcision was to be performed on the eighth day of an infant's life, an act which represented the covenant between God and His people (Genesis 17:12).

New Life In Christ: The number 8 represents the Lord Jesus Christ, because the numerical value of His name in Greek totals 888. Jesus was given this name on the eighth day of His life: And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called Jesus, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb. (Luke 2:21)

We learned previously that in Greek, the name Jesus is **Iesous**. -The letter "I" has a numerical value of 10. -The numerical value of "E" is 8. -The numerical value of "S" is 200. -The numerical value of "O" is 70. -The numerical value of "U" is 400. -The numerical value of "S" is 200. When the letters in the name Jesus (Iesous) are added up in the Greek, the result is a compound of 8: $10+8+200+70+400+200 = 888$.

Why is the number 8 significant in the name of Jesus? Because He is the only way that you can have a new beginning. The Bible declares: Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. (2 Corinthians 5:17) The number 888 is a unique number for Jesus because He is both the beginning and ending of our faith: I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty. (Revelation 1:8)

Eight days later, when Jesus appeared to His disciples, He allowed them to touch Him: And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. (John 20:26-28)

After eight days, Jesus had received a glorified body which was symbolic of a new beginning

The number 9 is the last of the single numbers, completing the single-digit sequence. The number speaks of the believer's completion in Jesus Christ.

A confirmation of the meaning of this number is seen in the fact that the redemption of mankind from sin was completed in the ninth hour: And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice...and gave up his spirit. And the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom. (Mark 15:34,37-38) When Jesus yielded up His Spirit and died on the cross in the ninth hour, the work of redemption was completed. And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst. (Luke 23:44-45)

In the ninth hour, the veil that limited access to the holy of holies in the temple was torn apart. This opened the way for sinful mankind to once again come into God's presence through the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ.

The following lists of "nines" reflect the complete provision for believers that is available through Christ.

There are nine fruits of the Holy Spirit that are to be developed in our life: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control

There are nine spiritual gifts of the Holy Spirit to be demonstrated in ministry: The word of wisdom, word of knowledge, faith, healings, miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, tongues, and the interpretation of tongues.

There are nine "blesseds" in the beatitudes. These statements describe godly attitudes that should be exhibited by all believers: Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. (Matthew 5:3-11)

The number 10 is related to creation, restoration, and that which emanates from God and belongs to Him alone.

Creation: Genesis chapter 1 records the words "God said" ten times, a testimony to His divine creative power. God said, Let there be light. God said, Let there be a firmament. God said, Let the waters separate from the earth. God said, Let the earth bring forth living things. God said, Let there be lights in the firmament. God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly. God said, Let us make man in our image. God said, Be fruitful and multiply. God said, I have given you every herb and tree for meat. -God said, It is not good for man to be alone--I will create a helpmeet.

Restoration: The number 10 also means restoration. -Ten lepers were totally restored by Jesus:(Luke 17:11-14) -The parable of the woman having 10 coins and losing one coin and finding it and celebrating with her friends after restoring the lost coin.(Luke 15:8-10).

The Ten Commandments were given by God as an expression of His unlimited grace to mankind by providing guidelines for living in a fallen world of sin (Exodus 20).

The ten plagues in Egypt (Exodus 9:14) were expressions of His grace as, following each plague, He gave another opportunity for repentance.

The tithe is set at ten percent (Hebrews 7:4), the number 10 indicates the portion of our income that belongs to God: "And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's: it is holy unto the Lord" (Leviticus 27:30).

The number 12 represents the people of God. Let's see how this symbolic meaning was derived. In the Old Testament, God selected twelve men from whom the nation of Israel would be birthed. Likewise, in the New Testament, twelve disciples were selected to be representative of the innumerable host of true disciples who would follow down through the centuries. In both cases, the number 12 represents God's people.

Another illustration of the number 12 as it relates to God's people is the healing of the woman who had an issue of blood for twelve years (Mark 5:25). When she touched Christ's garment, she was immediately healed. The Bible was specific in saying that she had suffered for twelve years and no one could help her.

A 12 year old girl was raised by Jesus. The symbolic meaning of this miracles is this that those who are dead in sin will be raised by Jesus.

The book of Revelation has number 12 multiple times in 21:10-21 twelve gates, twelve angels, twelve tribes, twelve foundations, twelve apostles, twelve thousand furlongs. the twelfth, an amethyst, twelve pearls.

John saw twelve tribes, twelve angels, twelve foundations with twelve precious stones, and twelve gates with twelve pearls. These gates led to God's city, which measured twelve thousand furlongs

The repeated use of the number 12 is not a coincidence. The number relates to the twelve tribes and the twelve apostles, two groups that represent God's people under the old and new covenants. God's people from both Old and New Testament eras are represented symbolically through the inscription of the names of the twelve tribes of Israel and the names of the 12 disciples. The new Jerusalem described in the book of Revelation is God's city prepared for God's people. Hence, the number 12 is used symbolically and frequently.

The number 40 relates to revelation and to trials and testing.

Revelation: Moses was on the mountain for 40 days and nights when he received the revelation of God's law: But Moses entered into the midst of the cloud and went up on the mountain. He was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights(Exodus 24:18)

After His resurrection, Jesus revealed Himself to many people during 40 days: To whom also Jesus showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. (Acts 1:3)

These appearances provided concrete revelation of the validity of Christ's resurrection.

Trials And Testing: Noah and his family endured the deluge on the earth for forty days and nights (Genesis 7:4). -Moses spent 40 years in Egypt and forty years in the desert being prepared for the work that God would later call him to do--which would take another 40 years of

trials while leading a rebellious people! -Israel was tried and tested in the wilderness for 40 years (Deuteronomy 8:2-3).

The number 40 is significant in the account of the Lord's time in the wilderness prior to the commencement of His ministry: And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him. (Mark 1:13)

The number 50 signifies rest and release. The meaning of this number is derived from Israel's celebration of the year of Jubilee, which occurs every fifty years in their religious calendar. To understand the spiritual significance of the year of Jubilee and what it means to believers today, we must understand the plan that God gave to Israel concerning the observance of this important year. When Moses went up to Mount Sinai to meet with God, he was given instructions regarding specific days, times, and seasons which were to be consecrated and set apart as holy days. These special days were important to God and had specific purposes as they reflected His plan of redemption through Christ and revealed His desire to pour out blessings upon His people. Among these special observances was the year of Jubilee. This was not just a man-made Jewish tradition. It was God-ordained. God planned for Israel to observe the Jubilee throughout the generations as a testimony to His faithfulness and supernatural provision.

The word jubilee is taken from the Hebrew word "yovel" which means "to cause to bring back." Over the years, it became known as a year of liberty, freedom, and rest. Jubilee was determined in Israel by precise calculations that were given by God. The Israelites were to count seven sabbatical years (7 periods of 7 years = 49 years). During the following year (the fiftieth), the year of Jubilee was to occur (Leviticus 25:8,10). The criteria for calculating the fiftieth year was based on seven-year cycles. For six years, the Israelites would carry out a normal farming rotation. They would plant and sow and gather their harvests. They continued doing this until the seventh year, during which there was to be no sowing or harvesting. The land was to lie fallow for a Sabbath year of rest. The seven-year periods were added up until seven Sabbath cycles had occurred. This would cover a total of forty-nine years (7x7=49). Following the forty-ninth Sabbath year, the special fiftieth year occurred--the year of Jubilee. "You shall treat this fiftieth year as sacred. You shall proclaim liberty in the land for all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you, when each of you shall return to your own property, each of you to your own family. This fiftieth year is your year of jubilee; you shall not sow, nor shall you reap the after growth or pick the untrimmed vines, since this is the jubilee. It shall be sacred for you. You may only eat what the field yields of itself.

In this year of jubilee, then, each of you shall return to your own property. Therefore, when you sell any land to your neighbor or buy any from your neighbor, do not deal unfairly with one another (Leviticus 25:10-14)

God Moves In Cycles: God always works in times and seasons. He moves in cycles that have specific beginning and ending points. Within these divine cycles, various supernatural events occur--which lead us to conclude that these are God's cycles, not man-made cycles.

What Jubilee Means To You God established five essential features which characterized Jubilee in ancient Israel.

Release: Liberty was proclaimed to all who were in bondage. Those enslaved were set free (Leviticus 25:39-41). This release from bondage was not just something that God suggested Israel do, but it was commanded as the year of the Lord's release (Deuteronomy 15:2). God declared complete and total liberty for His people. Jesus has provided for our release: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised" (Luke 4:18-19)

Restoration: Lost possessions were returned. Property that had been lost through debt or poverty reverted back to its original owner. In the year of the jubilee the field shall return unto

him of whom it was bought, even to him to whom the possession of the land did belong. (Leviticus 27:24)

Debt-Cancellation: All debts were canceled. At the end of every seven-year period* you shall have a remission of debts, and this is the manner of the remission. Creditors shall remit all claims on loans made to a neighbor, not pressing the neighbor, one who is kin, because the LORD's remission has been proclaimed (Deuteronomy 15:1-2).

Jesus cancelled our spiritual debt at the cross by forgiving all of our iniquities (Psalm 103:3).

Protection: The people would dwell in the land safely because the enemy--who came to rob, steal, and destroy would be defeated (Leviticus 26:5-8) As believers, we need not fear evil because the Lord is with us (Psalm 23:4) No evil can threaten our position in God (Psalm 91:10).

Increase: There would be divine sufficiency, a supernatural cycle of God's provision. (Leviticus 25:20-22)

Spiritual meaning of Jubilee: It is a time for us to reclaim everything that the enemy has stolen from us! Reclaim our health! Reclaim our family! Reclaim our ministry! Reclaim our finances! Reclaim it all! A loud blast of the trumpet proclaimed the beginning of the year of Jubilee in Israel. God wants us to have liberty in every area of our life--physically, mentally, spiritually, and financially. He wants us to experience total freedom from every bondage of the enemy including sinful habits, wrong attitudes and emotions, and our sinful past. This is the time for taking back all that was stolen from us. It is time to reclaim our lost property, finances, ministries, dreams, unsaved loved ones, and anything else that Satan has stolen from us. That is what the number 50 means to us.

The number 666: The number 6 symbolizes man. There is a compound of the number 6--the number 666--that will have immense spiritual significance in the end-times. It is the mark of the Satanic beast known as the Antichrist

Three men stand out in scripture as types of the Antichrist, meaning they were enemies of God and His purposes as fulfilled through Jesus Christ. The number 6 is related to all of them. The first is Goliath, the giant of Gath, who was six cubits tall (1 Samuel 17:4-7). The second is King Nebuchadnezzar who erected an image of gold sixty cubits high and six cubits broad and demanded that it be worshipped. In Revelation 13:18, we are commanded to count the number of a third significant being with an Antichrist spirit who will arise in the end-times:

Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six. (Revelation 13:18)

There is no doubt as to the meaning of the number 666. This passage clearly explains that it is the number of a man. This number is the numerical value of the Antichrist's name in Greek.

Of all of the numbers in the Bible, this one is just begging for mathematical speculation. And over the centuries, there have been endless attempts to use gematria and isopsephy (Hebrew and Greek number values) to calculate the true name of the "beast," also known as the "Antichrist." The standard explanation is that the author of Revelation was throwing shade on Nero, a ruthless Roman emperor who liked to martyr Christians. If we add up the values of "Caesar Nero" in Greek, we will get 666. The same thing happens if we translate Caesar Nero to Hebrew as "Neron Kesar," where it also adds up to 666.

Knowing this will enable believers to identify him before he is publicly revealed. John saw this end-time False Prophet in the form of a second beast. This beast looked like a lamb, had two horns, and a voice like a dragon. But lambs do not have horns, nor do they roar like a dragon! Jesus is the true Lamb of God and He warned of false prophets who would come in sheep's clothing (acting as believers) but who were ravenous wolves inwardly (deceivers). He said: "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves" (Matthew 7:15). This end-time False Prophet and the counterfeit religion he represents

will appear harmless as a lamb, but will be based upon lies from the pits of hell. His message will bring destruction on those who accept it.

The Holy Spirit testifies to Christ, likewise the False Prophet will speak of the Antichrist. He will cause those whose names are not written in the Lamb's Book Of Life to worship the Antichrist. Empowered by Satan, he will be able to perform counterfeit signs and wonders. Through these counterfeit miracles, the False Prophet will persuade unbelievers to make an image of the Antichrist. This image will be placed in the rebuilt temple in Jerusalem, where the Antichrist will set up his headquarters: It performed great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in the sight of everyone. "It deceived the inhabitants of the earth with the signs it was allowed to perform in the sight of the first beast, telling them to make an image for the beast who had been wounded by the sword and revived. It was then permitted to breathe life into the beast's image, so that the beast's image could speak and [could] have anyone who did not worship it put to death" (Rev 13:13-15).

Using his satanic powers, the False Prophet will cause this image to come to life, and it will be able to speak. All who are living upon the earth will be required to worship this image or face death. By worshiping the beast and its image, people will give their allegiance to Satan and his counterfeit religious system. Those who choose to do this will receive an identifying mark:

It forced all the people, small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to be given a stamped image on their right hands or their foreheads, so that no one could buy or sell except one who had the stamped image of the beast's name or the number that stood for its name. Wisdom is needed here; one who understands can calculate the number of the beast, for it is a number that stands for a person. His number is six hundred and sixty-six (Rev 13:16-18)

The redeemed will have Christ's Name, the Name of God, and the name of the New Jerusalem written in their foreheads (Revelation 3:12, 14:1, 22:4). These names will identify them as His possession and protect them. The mark of the Antichrist is 666 which is the numerical equivalent of his name. This mark will identify those who belong to Satan.

The Number 144,000: In a previous chapter, the prophetic significance of the number 12 was noted in terms of how it related to the leaders of the twelve tribes of Israel and the twelve disciples which illustrated all of God's people. In the end-times, God will have an army of 12 times 12,000--a total of 144,000 witnesses--special disciples who will prepare the world for Christ's final return.

John saw an angel carrying the official seal of the living God that is used as a mark of ownership. The seal was placed upon 144,000 people to identify them as the redeemed and true servants of God. These people will be secure from the mark and actions of the beast, as well as exempt from the judgments of God that will come upon the earth. The purpose of this mark is to protect the servants of God when the trumpet judgments are released on earth.

God protected His people from the plagues that came upon Egypt--including the final plague of death, from which they were delivered by the blood of the lamb. Not only did God have a plan for delivering His people from Egypt, He also protected them while they were living there. Just as God's protection was upon the Israelites, protecting them from the terrible plagues that He sent upon the Egyptians, He will also protect those who are sealed during the Great Tribulation.

Revelation chapter 14 opens with an amazing scene described by Apostle John:

And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I

heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God. (Revelation 14:1-5)

In this vision, John witnessed the triumph of the Lamb following His second coming. He also saw the 144,000, who had been preserved by God's power, standing on Mount Zion. The 144,000 are redeemed from among men (Revelation 14:3). They have been bought with a great price and redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. The 144,000 are followers of the Lamb who have kept His Word and followed His example and direction (Revelation 14:4).

John records that the 144,000 have the Names of Christ and of God the Father written on their foreheads. God's name rests upon us also if we are true believers. In the letter to the faithful church in Philadelphia, Jesus promised to write the Name of God on all who overcame. He said: "...and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and, I Will write upon him my new name" (Revelation 3:12). In Revelation chapter 22, we see the redeemed of the Lord in the new Jerusalem with God's Name written in their foreheads: "...and his servants shall serve him: And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads" (Revelation 22:3-4). God drew a line between His people and the Egyptians (Exodus 8:22). His seal of protection on the doorposts enabled His people to overcome the enemy by the blood of the Lamb. The blood of the Lamb is our protection and the enemy cannot cross that bloodline! We are already sealed by the Holy Spirit and preserved for the day of redemption (Ephesians 4:30).

Conclusion: Numbers in the Word of God are significant and instrumental for understanding biblical truths. Biblical numbers do not merely hold numerical value, they also convey important spiritual concepts. The examination of every number in the Bible is beyond the scope of this analysis. The primary purpose of this study has been to provide us with tools for interpreting the significance of biblical numbers and demonstrate the importance of applying the truths we learn from their meanings. Using what you have learned in this study will prevent us from erring doctrinally in the study of biblical numerology
