

Reflection - Let's Do The Math

- Here's a quote from Galileo Galilei, who was born in Pisa, Italy, on February 15, 1564: "Mathematics is the language with which God wrote the universe." With that thought in mind, let me head over to the *blackboard* [➤]. Let's do the math.

$$\text{[Prints]} \quad \text{➤} \quad 144$$

- See this number? It is found twice in the earthly sanctuary. Here's what God told Moses, "*And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.*" (Exodus 25:8) He also gave Moses specific instructions on how to build the sanctuary. When we dig into those instructions, we find this number twice. Here's how. The sanctuary consisted of 20 boards on the south side, 20 boards on the north side, and to the west, which was the back of it, there were 6 boards plus 2 more boards, one at each corner. (Exodus 26:18-25) That made it 8 boards to the west. So in total, the sanctuary consisted of, let's see...

$$\text{➤} \quad 20 + 20 + 8 = 48$$

- ... 48 boards. And, additionally, each board was to rest upon two silver sockets, or bases. (*Ibid.*) And 2 bases per board makes that, let's see...

$$\text{➤} \quad 48 \times 2 = 96$$

◇ ◇ *Boring...*

- ... 96 bases in total. Now the boards plus the bases comprised the skeletal part of the sanctuary. The rest were the pieces to hold them in place, and, of course, there were also curtains for the partition inside, the entrance and overall coverings. But the total parts for the skeleton were...

$$\text{➤} \quad 48 + 96 = 144$$

- ... 144 parts.

◇ ◇ *Are we done?*

- No. The number comes up again. The second compartment of the sanctuary, which was called the Most Holy Place, was square, just like the Holy City, the New Jerusalem. And the back wall of the Most Holy Place was that same back wall of the sanctuary which was to the west. And how many boards comprised that western wall? Do you remember? ...Hello?

◇ ◇ 8

- Louder please.

◇ ◇ 8

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- 8 boards. That's correct. Let me read something to you, "*The length of each board was ten cubits, and the width of each board a cubit and a half.* (Exodus 36:21) Now, if the width is 1.5 and there are 8 boards, then the back wall is...

$$\text{> } 1.5 \times 8 = 12$$

- ... 12 cubits. And that means that if the room called the Most Holy Place is square, then the room is...

$$\text{> } 12 \times 12 = 144$$

- ... 144 cubits square. There's that number again. Further, if the other place where we also see God dwelling with His people is the New Jerusalem, which is also square, then that number should also come up in the Holy City. So let's check it out... Would you read for me Revelation 21:17? ...I'm waiting.

◇◇ *"And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel."* Oh wow, it says 144.

- That's right. The thickness of the wall which is around the Holy City is 144 cubits. Would you also read for me Revelation 11:19?

◇◇ *Sure. "Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His Temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail."*

- What would you say John was looking at when he penned that verse?

◇◇ *Uh, because he saw the ark of God's covenant, which we know is the ark where Moses was instructed to deposit the Ten Commandments, I would say John was looking into the Most Holy Place compartment of the temple of God.*

- Exactly. That verse takes us into the Most Holy Place. Now read for me the very next verse which is Revelation 12:1.

◇◇ *Okay. "Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars."*

- These two verses you just read are back to back. One ends chapter 11 and the other starts chapter 12. Reading them we find that John is guided to take a look into the Most Holy Place, and then he is shown the history of God's people relayed in chapter 12, and portrayed by a woman. But reference to a woman is yet to be shown again to John. Would you mind reading Revelation 21:2?

◇◇ *"Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."*

- Now let's put this together. The skeletal part of the sanctuary had 144 parts. The Most Holy Place is 144 square cubits. When John is introduced in vision into the Most Holy Place, he

is recounted the story of God's people embodied as a woman. Then he sees the Holy City, where God will have His throne, and the city is so beautiful that John says it looks like a bride adorned for her husband. We know the Husband is Christ. Yet, there's more, the Holy City itself, beautiful as a bride, also holds the number 144. Remember that a husband wants to be in his bride, and likewise God is in the Sanctuary and in the Holy City. What do you make of all of that?

◇ ◇ 144 is the number of the bride?

● I think so too. And there's more. You wanna hear it?

◇ ◇ Go.

● There are numbers that stand out in the Bible. In the Old Testament, for example, the number 12 is prominent and is derived from the number of male children that Israel had, as well as the twelve tribes. They worshipped God, Who made Himself known to His people as their Father in Heaven. Jesus was yet to visit them. However, a sacrificial lamb would be brought and slain in the courtyard area of the sanctuary, representative of Him. The animal sacrifices may have been literal, but symbolically it was Jesus in the courtyard, as a shadow of things to come. Those whom God the Father designated as His priests to serve in the temple were strictly Levites. Let us chart it out:



| <i>Authority</i> | <i>Ministry</i> | <i>Number</i> | <i>Jesus In</i> |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Father</i> | <i>Levites</i> | <i>12</i> | <i>Courtyard Symbolically</i> |

● When we come to the New Testament, again number 12 stands out, but it applies to the number of apostles chosen by Christ, Who is God's Son. These apostles were not necessarily from the tribe of Levi, yet they were all Israelites. However, none were Gentiles. So now the ministry for God expanded out from the Levites to include Israelites. During this time, Jesus was literally fulfilling the requirements of the law, which for centuries had been ritualized in the courtyard. So let us add this information to our chart:



| <i>Authority</i> | <i>Ministry</i> | <i>Number</i> | <i>Jesus In</i> |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Father</i> | <i>Levites</i> | <i>12</i> | <i>Courtyard Symbolically</i> |
| <i>Son</i> | <i>Israelites</i> | <i>12</i> | <i>Courtyard Literally</i> |

● Time passed, and we come to a point where we see that the apostle John is now an old man. He is on the island that is called Patmos and receives, "*The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him.*" And John testifies, "*Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lamp stands.*" Further, John describes, "*Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. And*

from the throne proceeded lightings, thunderings and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God." (Revelation 1:1, 9, 12-13; 4:4-5, NKJ)

- From these verses, could you answer two things? First, where do you suppose these scenes occurred and how do you know? And second, what number stands out?

◇ ◇ Well, I know that in the first compartment of the sanctuary there are seven candles, ah... no, one candlestick with seven arms or something like that. Yeah, the Holy Place, that's where the scene occurs because that's where the candlestick was, right? John is looking into the Holy Place. And the number is 24 which is odd. Shouldn't it be 12 still?

- We did see 12 tribes in the Old Testament. They were God's people, the bearers of God's law, the ones prophet after prophet admonished that they be faithful and obedient to all that God required. In essence, they were the people that kept the Commandments of God. But then we move on to the New Testament and we see 12 apostles. They represent all of those who have faith in Jesus. But you see, what God requires of us nowadays must fulfill both characteristics. *"Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."* (Ibid., 14:12, NKJ)

➤ $12 + 12 = 24$

- We, His people living in the Judeo-Christian era, cannot be merely a 12, meaning that we are either keeping His Commandments but not believe in Jesus, or do believe in Jesus but do not keep His Commandments. No. We are to be both. So now that Jesus is in the Holy Place which, as you mentioned, was the compartment John was looking into, the number 24 takes the foreground. Furthermore, at the time John received the many visions he recorded in Revelation, Jesus had already ascended to heaven; the Holy Spirit had been poured out at the home of Cornelius, a centurion of a band called "the Italians," and he was a Gentile; and the Gospel had already gone to the Gentiles, for Jesus had said, *"Other sheep I have which are not of this fold, them I must call and they shall hear my voice, and there will be one flock and one shepherd."* (John 10:16)

◇ ◇ So what about the chart?

- Yes, let's add to it. When Jesus is in the Holy Place, John saw the 24 thrones. At this time the Gentiles had already joined in ministry alongside the Jews because they had been personally called by the Holy Spirit. So here's the next entry in our chart:



| <i>Authority</i> | <i>Ministry</i> | <i>Number</i> | <i>Jesus In</i> |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Father</i> | <i>Levites</i> | <i>12</i> | <i>Courtyard Symbolically</i> |
| <i>Son</i> | <i>Israelites</i> | <i>12</i> | <i>Courtyard Literally</i> |
| <i>Holy Spirit</i> | <i>Gentiles</i> | <i>24</i> | <i>Holy Place</i> |

◇◇ *That looks cool. Maybe it was worth the torture.*

- Math is cool. You just have to give it a chance. But let's continue.

◇◇ *There's more?!!*

- We're almost done. Chill. 24 is going to disappear and another number is going to replace it. Can you guess what number that is?

◇◇ *144?*

- Yes. 144.

◇◇ *How'd you gonna do that?*

- Watch. Jesus is now in the Most Holy Place. It is the time of the cleansing of the sanctuary, the time of the judgment. It's been like that since October 22, 1844. And you know what the Holy Spirit did that year? It called a woman to be God's prophet and steer the course of God's end-time people. And do you know what the Biblical number for a woman is? It's the same number as the number of a man. And that number is 6.

◇◇ *How'd you come up with that?*

- We see it a number of times. For example, both the man and the woman were created on day 6 of creation week. Out of the Ten Commandments, 6 of them express to both men and women what is their legal, divine responsibility towards other humans. And further, according to God's Fourth Commandment, 6 is the number of days in which men and women are to labor during a week. So 6 has been determined to be the number for man and for woman.

◇◇ *And?*

- We combine the number we already have, 24, and this new number, 6.

◇◇ *Duh. 24 plus 6 is 30.*

- True. But hear me out. The reason we added 12 plus 12 was because the literal persons which represented those numbers were males. However, this 6 that comes to light in 1844 represents a woman. And when we deal with male and female, we do not add, we multiply. So that's...

$$\text{> } \mathbf{24 \times 6 = 144}$$

- ... 144. This number...

◇◇ *Wait a minute. I lost you on the multiply.*

- God told Adam and Eve, "*be fruitful and multiply.*" (Genesis 1:22, 28)

◇◇ *But that's for people. Numbers are not people.*

- True. But we are making a spiritual application out of something that is literal in the physical world.
- ◇◇ *Why?*
- Because when Jesus claims to be our Husband, the intimacy He wants to have with us is a spiritual one, so He applies the literal physical union of a husband and his bride to allow us to understand how much God wants to live inside of us in our heart. And likewise, we multiply 6 and 24 because the spiritual application must parallel the literal event.
- ◇◇ *You're just following the pattern.*
- Exactly. That's what I'm doing. Let's finish it up.



| <i>Authority</i> | <i>Ministry</i> | <i>Number</i> | <i>Jesus In</i> |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Father</i> | <i>Levites</i> | <i>12</i> | <i>Courtyard Symbolically</i> |
| <i>Son</i> | <i>Israelites</i> | <i>12</i> | <i>Courtyard Literally</i> |
| <i>Holy Spirit</i> | <i>Gentiles</i> | <i>24</i> | <i>Holy Place</i> |
| <i>Holy Spirit</i> | <i>Women</i> | <i>144</i> | <i>Most Holy Place</i> |

- In the final days the Shepherd keeps calling that all may be one.
- ◇◇ *Why do you have the Holy Spirit listed twice?*
- *Biblemath* studies must keep true to Biblical patterns, remember that. And the Holy Spirit is prophesied to be poured out twice.
- ◇◇ *You're talking about the early rain and the latter rain?*
- I am. Therefore, the presence of God's Spirit should also come up twice even right here in our chart. And it does. That is why the Holy Spirit is emphasized once again at the time of the end when Jesus is ministering in the Most Holy Place.
- ◇◇ *That is really cool.*
- From your observation of the chart, what do you decipher?
- ◇◇ *That the bride of Jesus is represented by all different people and I didn't need math to tell me that. I already knew it.*
- Cute. Maybe this will help. Read Galatians 3:28.
- ◇◇ *"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."*
- You know what? Read also 1 Peter 2:9.

- ◇ ◇ “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.”
- Now to what conclusion do you come?
- ◇ ◇ *Same conclusion. There’s no need for the math thingy.*
- Okay. Let me ask you this. If a person only speaks their mother tongue, in what language should that person be addressed?
- ◇ ◇ *Their native language of course, the one they understand.*
- Exactly. But what if there’s a person who only understands science because their intellect has been so captured by the knowledge taught in the universities of the world that when you speak in their native tongue about spiritual concepts, they still don’t get it? Or what if a person is just naturally an eccentric? How would you reach those?
- ◇ ◇ *Well, I would try to analyze what notions they respond positively to, and then I would use a language concept down that route. I would reach them expressing words that trigger their interest and which are familiar to them in their comfort zone.*
- Like the math thingy?
- ◇ ◇ *I guess. Well, yeah. I suppose God really wants everybody, even them.*
- You suppose? I thought you already knew that.
- ◇ ◇ *Cute. Okay, this is what I see. The bride of Jesus is represented by all different people and God sends His messengers to speak to each mind according to their understanding, and in order to win their heart for Jesus.*
- As a fisherman lures different fish via a unique bait and uses the appropriate gear to catch its target, likewise we are to win each heart for God via methods that are in accordance to each person’s interests and understanding. Besides, seeing the same message presented in different forms serves to also strengthen the faith of those who already believe in the soon coming of Christ.
- ◇ ◇ *And the time is ripe for that to happen. Jesus is in the Most Holy Place. God is now gathering the bride, for the Groom is at the door. This can only mean one thing: Indeed the Lord is coming soon.*
- Maranatha. Even so come, Lord Jesus.