

In our last podcast we studied the infamous mark of the beast: 666. It was a bit shocking to learn that this is not a future event, but it is happening now. Every moment of now since the time of John, the second beast has been marking people and giving them their personalized mark, which is either the name of the Beast or the number of his name. Yes, it is happening even now.

How terrifying is that? Most people have no clue that “being marked” is rendered in the present active indicative. It is happening now (the *present* tense), and that is a statement of fact (the *indicative*). Sadly, those bearers of fiction have blinded themselves to this reality because they do not translate the scriptures according to how the Spirit gave it to John, according to the specific Greek tense, voice, mood, and case.

With that said, we closed the last podcast on a cliffhanger, and that is how are we to understand what 666 means? After all, we are commanded to calculate the number.

## Here Now Is Wisdom

### *Revelation 13:18*

Here **now** is wisdom. He who is **now** having understanding has been commanded to calculate the number of the beast, for it **now** is man’s number; and his number, six hundred and sixty-six.

We are given the number of the Beast, 666, so you might be thinking, what is there to calculate? Rendered as an *imperative*, this is a command, but the Spirit gives this command only to those who are now having understanding. Apparently, He does not intend that everyone calculate the number, which is why He prefaces it all with “*Here now is wisdom.*” He does not want a lot of people running around attempting to calculate the number and possibly misleading many. In His wisdom, He only wants those with understanding, literally those with a mind, to calculate this number 666.

This is a common approach in the book of *Revelation*. In the letters to the seven Churches, Jesus made a point that though all may hear His words, not everyone has the spiritual attunement to understand what He means. Each letter was closed with the phrase, “*He who is now having an ear, is commanded to hear what the Spirit now says to the churches.*” This implies that not everyone is now having an ear to hear, or to understand.

If you ever wondered about the title of this podcast, “*when you’re ready to listen,*” it is a play on this truth. The invitation, “*when you’re ready to listen, please tune in,*” is about obtaining the spiritual attunement to hear what the Spirit now says to the churches.

## Wisdom

As used across the scriptures, wisdom is not just about possessing knowledge of facts or figures, nor is it necessarily about application of that knowledge. Rather, it is about obtaining a spiritual awakening to what the Spirit of God is communicating about a matter. This is not something we can naturally possess; the Spirit of God must unfold His wisdom into our hearts and minds.

In this matter, His wisdom is all about limiting those who can obey this command to those who are now having understanding to those who are now sharing His mind. (rendered in the *present* tense and as

a *participle*).

## The Command

The command is to calculate the number of the Beast. Since we are given 666, this is best understood as a command to figure out what are the components which make up each “6” in the collective 666.

## The Numbers: Six, Seven, Three

As for the number six, we are told that it is the number of “man,” or “it is man’s number” (not the number of a man, as it is rendered in many translations – there is no pronoun used). The number six is man’s number because he was created on the 6<sup>th</sup> day.

This plays out in many scenarios. For instance, man was permitted to work for six days but the seventh was to be a Sabbath. Crops were grown for six years, but in the seventh year the land was laid to rest. Hence, the number six is attached to the affairs of mankind.

The number seven is the Biblical number indicating completion, as creation was completed in seven days. Consequently, the number six always falls short of completion, it is never quite enough to stop and rest (as God did on the seventh day). The number three is the number indicating perfection, as in the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit (the perfect trinity).

Therefore, the use of six, three times is a picture of man’s attempt to rise about his limitations to be like God, to achieve perfection. Ironically, 666 just affirms that since man is not complete in-and-of himself, no matter how many times it is used, man will never be like God, he will never be perfect.

As such, the number 666 is used by the Spirit to communicate something to us about the character and nature of the Beast, and how this spiritual entity functions in our physical realm, in the realm of mankind. From the *Revelation* narrative, we know he wants to be like God and worshipped as God by mankind and by those spirits on the earth. But since his number is that of man, the Beast will never attain to his aspirations.

## The Calculation

We are commanded to calculate, or to figure out, what is pictured by this number, or the attributes of each six used in this number. The tools to calculate this number are given to us in the scriptures, we just need to search them out and analyze how 666 is used and therefore what it might mean as a collective calculation.

## Old Testament Analysis

In the scriptures, there are two distinct and explicit uses of the number 666, which establishes the pattern for calculating the meaning of the number 666.

### *First: The Gold Statute*

The first instance comes from the book of *Daniel* and the abomination, or the gold statue, which King Nebuchadnezzar built to honor himself and his kingdom. This statue was sixty cubits high and six cubits wide. In addition, there are six instruments specifically called out by name that are to be involved in the

worship of the king (666).<sup>1</sup>

This abomination was built to elicit the worship of a man as a god, or even more specifically, to worship the demonic power behind the man, the true King of Babylon (one of the Kings of the Earth, as these types are referred to in the book of *Revelation*).

The statute provides us a picture the three tenants comprising “666.”

The first 6 captures the desire of man (and the spirits behind mankind) to be like God, to be complete, to be perfect. And the vehicle for this attempt is the tool of religion. Nebuchadnezzar’s subjects were forced to bow down before this statute and to worship, whenever they heard the instruments play. In addition, “gold” is used throughout the Bible as a picture, a metaphor, of that which is divine.

The second 6 relates to the gold which covered the statute, and it pictures the abundant riches or wealth that are associated with religion.

The third 6 is derived from the six instruments used for worship and the governmental mandate, issued under the threat of death for non-compliance, that when you heard the instruments play, you must bow and worship or suffer death.

The image of the statute in Daniel communicates that 666 is a picture of the combination of religion, wealth, and dictatorial governmental authority.

### **The Jude Connection**

In our prelude to the book of *Revelation*, we studied the book of *Jude*. The center of this one-chapter book is *Jude 11* which addresses the “way of Cain, the error of Balaam, and the rebellion or apostasy of Korah.” We found that each of these corresponded to the elements of *1 John 2:16*: the “lusts of the flesh, the lusts of the eyes, and the boastful pride of life.”

The lust of the flesh, the desire to be good like God corresponds to the Cain’s desire to be good like God, to have his sacrifice, the work of his own hands, to be approved by God as acceptable.

The lust of the eyes relates to Balaam’s desire for wealth and riches, for the gold.

The boastful pride of life is associated with Korah’s desire to rule over others, to be the boss, the king, the one in absolute authority over the masses.

### ***Second: King Solomon***

The second explicit use of “666” comes from a discussion about Solomon’s kingdom. Solomon was the 3<sup>rd</sup> king of Israel and was the son of David. It would be somewhat of an understatement to simply say that Solomon’s kingdom was great and glorious, for it was magnificent, the golden age of the nation of Israel. Being the 3<sup>rd</sup> king, his kingdom is talked about as the image of a perfect kingdom, heaven on earth.

### ***1 Kings 10:23-25***

So, King Solomon became greater than all the kings of the earth in riches and in wisdom. All the earth was seeking the presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom which God had put in his heart. They brought

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<sup>1</sup> *Daniel 3*

every man his gift, articles of silver and gold, garments, weapons, spices, horses, and mules, so much year by year.

### **2 Chronicles 9:13**

Now the weight of gold which came to Solomon in one year was 666 talents of gold.

Well, that is odd, and not what we expected. With the use of 666, is the Spirit indicating that the kingdom of Solomon is a precursor to the kingdom of the Beast? Let's examine further to see if all the three tenants are present: religion, i.e., the exaltation of man, money, and abject governmental authority.

It is revealed in the scriptures that among other things, a king was not to accumulate unto himself wives, gold, or silver, as it would corrupt his heart.<sup>2</sup> Yet, that is exactly what happened with Solomon. This man who ruled the nation of Israel with such "wisdom" (sarcasm noted) became an idolater, and along with his many foreign wives worshiped in the temples of their foreign gods, which he funded and built with the wealth of the nations that was handed over to him.

It is beyond ironic that king Solomon, who is traditionally known as a great king of Israel, became a super apostate and a servant of the Beast. Solomon was literally a servant of the spirit named the Destroyer. This man of "wisdom" built a temple to the Beast, back in the day when the Beast manifested himself to humanity as the god "Chemosh" (whose name means "Destroyer" or "Destruction").

To seal the deal on his apostasy, Solomon used his governmental authority, to build this abomination adjacent to the temple of God.<sup>3</sup> He forsakes **Yahweh** His God and prostituted himself with demons.

### **This is Wisdom!**

The calculation of the number of the Beast is the sick and twisted combination of religion (the exaltation of man and spirit to that of a god), abundant wealth, and dictatorial governmental authority.

666 is represented in the apostasies of Cain (the lust of the flesh), the error of Balaam (the lust of the eyes) and the rebellion of Korah (the boastful pride of life).

Solomon set the typology as he brought a synchronistic union between religion (**6**), a ridiculous amount of wealth (**6**), and absolute governmental authority to do what he wanted when he wanted (**6**). This is the same pattern that will be present in the kingdom of the Beast, for **666** is the number of his name.

The Beast even now works through religion, through government, and through riches or wealth. When the Beast comes to possess the man we call the Antichrist, these three attributes will be attached to the activities of the man as he rises to power and authority in the earth.

### **New Testament Analysis**

Out of the 3,000 nouns in the Greek New Testament, only two calculate to the number **666**. Since the New Testament was written in Greek, there does not have to be any weird jumps back and forth between

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<sup>2</sup> *Deuteronomy 17:17*

<sup>3</sup> *1 Kings 11:7, 33; 2 Kings 23:13*

languages or cultures to calculate the number of these nouns.

As with Hebrew and Aramaic, in Greek, they did not have numbers per se; rather, numerals were based on the alpha letters. The numeric construct goes from 1-10 and then increases from 10 to 100 by tens, then from 100 to 1,000 by 100's. This is what is called the Greek gematria.

In the transcript to this podcast, which can be found at [www.thrershermediagroup.com](http://www.thrershermediagroup.com), I have included a table that illustrates this for you.

**Illustration: Greek Gematria**

number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Greek number	α	β	γ	δ	ε	Ϝ	ζ	η	θ
Greek name	alpha	beta	gamma	delta	epsilon	digamma	zeta	eta	theta
number	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90
Greek number	ι	κ	λ	μ	ν	ξ	ο	π	ρ
Greek name	iota	kap pa	lam bda	mu	nu	xi	omic ron	pi	rho
number	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900
Greek number	Ϟ	σ	τ	υ	φ	χ	ψ	ω	πϞ
Greek name	rho	sigma	tau	upsilon	phi	chi	psi	omega	thousand

Using this table, we can calculate the number of names. For instance, the name Jesus calculates to the number 888. In Greek, Jesus' name is spelled: IESOUS: Iota (10), Eta (8); Sigma (200), Omicron (70), Upsilon (400), Sigma (200).  $10 + 8 + 200 + 70 + 400 + 200 = 888$ .

And according to use of eight in the Bible, the number 8 is the number of new beginnings, and in the name of Jesus it is used three times, with three being the number of "perfection" (attributable to the perfection of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit). Therefore, Jesus' name, in the Gematria, means a perfect new beginning.

Using this same methodology, the first word that calculates to **666** in the New Testament is "*paradosis*" which is translated as "**tradition**." This word is used in connection with *religious traditions* of men. For example, the religious traditions and oral law taught by the rabbis, as well as the tradition, the doctrine or instruction that was handed down by the apostles to the church.<sup>4</sup>

The second word that calculates to **666** is "*eupria*" which is translated as "**wealth**." This word is used when speaking about the economic trade in Ephesus, and of the financial means of the disciples which they used to aid those in Jerusalem.<sup>5</sup>

Putting together these two calculations, we can confirm two of the three tenets previously revealed in the Old Testament: 1) the number of the Beast is tied to **religion** (the traditions of men versus the commands of God); and 2) the number of the Beast is tied to **wealth**—the wealth of the nations which is brought into this religious construct.

## ***Buy and Sell***

In the world of religion, it has always been true that those who control the religious rules have the power, and those who have the power always find ways to demand the money. Sadly, in the realm of religion, like the realm of the world, we tend to believe that those who are successful and have big and well-funded ministries are, by definition, blessed by God. And while that may be, God may have blessed them, that is a huge presumption.

In truth, it could very well be a sign that those who are in control and who have garnished the wealth of the people are participants in the system of the Beast—the system of religious tradition and wealth in which they have been allowed to buy and sell because they bear the mark.

## ***Rooted in Babylon***

The number **666** and all its attributes of governmental authority, religion, and wealth are all rooted in ancient Babylon, which is why Babylon is used as **Code** for a corrupt, but extremely powerful, apostate religious system. Babylon is believed to be the source of all idolatry, which is why in **Revelation** the woman of religious apostasy is called Mystery Babylon, the mother of all harlots and abominations of the earth.<sup>6</sup>

With that said, it is interesting to note that the method of giving numbers to alpha characters was passed down from the days of ancient Babylon. The Babylonians created the system.

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<sup>4</sup> **Matthew 15:2; Galatians 1:14; Colossians 2:8; 1 Corinthians 11:12; 2 Thessalonians 2:15**

<sup>5</sup> **Acts 19:25; 11:29**

<sup>6</sup> **Revelation 17:5**

The Babylonians used a mathematical system that was based on the number 60; hence, 60 seconds in a minute, 60 minutes in an hour, 360 degrees (60x6) in a circle, and 60 degrees in an angle of a unilateral triangle. 360 is also calculated as follows: 6x6x10 or 36x10.

What is important to note is that this whole system was not just mathematical, but to them it was spiritual. In their system of worship, the Babylonians had 36 supreme Gods, which included the sun god who was believed to be the father of all gods. They also believed that numbers had power over the gods, so they assigned their 36 gods numbers, with the sun god being number 1. And if you add up the numbers of their gods (36) sequentially, you get the magic 666.

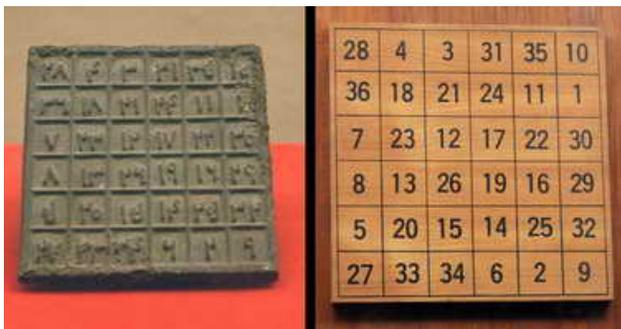
$$1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9+10+11+12+13+14+15+16+17+18+19+20+21+22+23+24+25 \\ +26+27+28+29+30+31+32+33+34+35+36 = 666$$

Where some might see coincidence, I see a pre-determined pattern revealing spiritual apostasy.

And because they saw their gods as predominately evil, they feared them and therefore sought protection through the numbers. Thus, they made amulets with a 6 x 6 matrix with the numbers 1-36 on them.



The numbers were arranged such that the sum of any given row, column, or diagonal was 111 since some good qualities were attributed to the sun god (represented by the number 1), and this is how they sought his favor over the other gods, who were deemed to be significantly more prone to evil than the sun god. As indicated by the calculation above, the sum of all 6 rows of 111 and all 6 columns of 111 is 666.



The point is that the number 666 came from the religious and astrological practices of the Babylonians. And since “Babylon” is the ultimate Biblical symbol of apostate religion, we can be assured that its influence has been passed down through the ages and still is alive and well in our day-and-age of religious

apostasy. And this is why the Spirit, in *Revelation 18:4*, commands the people of God to **now** come out of Babylon, to flee her and not to participate in her sins.

The number **666** is rooted in religious tradition which peddles its power and influence to gain vast amounts of wealth from the peoples of the world, and when mixed with a king or with great governmental power and authority, its combination is toxic and deathly. This is true whether it comes in the form of Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon, Solomon's kingdom, the cultic emperor worship of Caesars, or the empire of the Beast.

Sadly, modern-day Christendom functions much in the same manner as these historical centers of power, wealth, and influence. And many who hold to the religion of Christianity are simply waiting for a king, their messiah, to arise and give them even greater power and authority over the people and a life of abundance and blessing.

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I'm glad you tuned in and have been ready to listen.