

PUBLISHER'S COMMENT

Victory or Judgment?

America's 400 Year Covenant With God

By Ray Boetcher

It is the glory of God to conceal a thing; but the honor of kings is to search out a matter. Proverbs 25:2

As you read your Bible, have you ever considered the significance of the numbers used and their spiritual meaning?

Biblical numerology has been studied by many wise men of God searching to understand both the literal connotations and symbolic associations of specific numbers.

Since God is consistent, the meaning of a number in the Book of Genesis remains the same all the way to Revelations. Sometimes the spiritual significance of a number is not always stated; it may be hidden or seen by comparison with other scriptures.

The purpose of this commentary is to understand the significance of "400!"

First understand that the simple numbers of 1 through 13 have spiritual significance throughout the Bible. Multiples of these numbers (i.e. doubling and tripling), carry basically the same meaning, only intensifying the truth.

For example, the number 4 is 3+1. Let's examine its significance and use.

THREE denotes *completeness*. It represents that which is *solid, substantial, real, complete, and entire*. It symbolizes the divine. It is the Trinity, the Godhead. God's attributes are *three*: omniscience, omnipresence, and omnipotence. Three also represents the resurrection, which in itself is completion. Jesus rose from the dead on the third day.

By adding "one" to three, we get four, and four is the number of creation. **FOUR** suggest beyond the fullness of God, or of the world or creation, as in 4 winds (north, south, east, west). It denotes that which follows the revelation of the three in one God, namely His creative works. The fourth commandment is the first that refers to the earth. It is the work of God's hands.

FORTY is a multiple of four, and could either be 5x8 or 4x10. **FIVE** denotes divine *grace*. It is 4+1. It is God adding His gifts and blessing to the works of His hands.

EIGHT denotes *resurrection, regeneration*; a new beginning or commencement. The eighth is a new first. **TEN** signifies rulership and authority. The Ten Commandments were given to be an authoritative guide to God's Law. You tithe one/tenth of your income; there were 10 plaques on Egypt.

The numbers ten and it's multiples, one hundred (10 times 10), and one thousand, often illustrate the fullness and completion of

whatever is in view, without it necessarily being the totality of it. Multiples of ten are normally times given to a person, and multiples of one hundred are times given to a nation. So forty can be a combination of the meanings of five and eight, four and ten, and so forth.

FORTY is often understood as the "number of probation or trial."

For example: the Israelites wandered for 40 years (Deuteronomy 8:2-5); Moses was on the mount for 40 days (Exodus 24:18); 40 days were involved in the story of Jonah and Nineveh (Jonah 3:4); Jesus was tempted for 40 days (Matthew 4:2); there were 40 days between Jesus' resurrection and ascension (Acts 1:3). Forty is often considered a trial and testing period for a person, closing in victory or judgment. Forty years is considered a generation, so sometimes it would take a generation of trial and testing before closing in victory or judgment.

FOUR HUNDRED is the trial or testing period for a nation. Whenever God prepared a nation for His purpose, it took 400 years.

The Israelites (descendants of Abraham) were in bondage in Egypt for 400 years (Genesis 15:13, Acts 7:6). The time span for the 7 Judges of Israel covered approximately 400 years (Judges 1-21). The divided kingdom lasted 400 years (1 Kings 12, 2 Kings 25). The ministry of the prophets spans 400 years. There is silence for 400 years between the Old Testament (Malachi) and the New Testament. The period of New Testament revelation began with the appearance of John the Baptist and the birth of Jesus.

So why is four hundred important to us?

This coming April, we will commemorate the Christian foundation of our country. It all began when a handful of English settlers with the purpose of spreading the Gospel of Christ, set sail to the "new world." The expedition was chartered, approved by King James, and its Christian purpose legally documented in what is known as the Virginia Charter.

Four hundred years ago, three ships carrying these weary travelers dropped anchor in the Chesapeake Bay. These courageous explorers braved the long voyage across the Atlantic in pursuit of a new beginning. However, before these settlers were allowed to step foot on this new land, the Reverend Robert Hunt (the expedition's pastor) demanded that they observe three days of prayer and fasting in repentance for their sins and in preparation for the dedication of this land.

On April 29, 1607, crewmembers constructed a cross from the timbers of the ship Godsend. They brought the cross ashore and then planted it firmly in the sand. Kneeling in humility, Pastor Robert Hunt prayed and dedicated the new world to God. His prayer that the Gospel be preached from these shores to the uttermost parts of the earth, established a monumental covenant with God that laid the foundation for the birth of our nation - a nation founded under Christ.

Our country has been tried and tested over the last four hundred years. It is now a time for victory or judgment.

I don't know about you, but I'm concerned. Our country has turned away from God in recent years. I think we need to do what we can to avoid God's judgment.

We need to renew our four hundred year old covenant with God.

The Assembly 2007 will rededicate America back to God in prayer exactly four hundred years after her original dedication. Recognizing the covenant that was established through the planting of the cross at Cape Henry, and the first dedication of this land to God by Robert Hunt, the vision of The Assembly 2007 is to see America restored to her original purpose, the propagation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

To effectively rededicate America back to God, we must begin locally, inviting Jesus Christ to be Lord of our lives, families, businesses, churches, schools, and government.



We will share more info
about The Assembly 2007
in our next two issues.

Learn more about this event by
visiting their official website:
TheAssembly2007.org.