

Revelation "NUMBERS"

Numbers, in ancient times came to have special meaning in their conversations. They would be added for emphasis, and bring special meaning to the conversation. For ex. the dragon **Rev. 12:3**.....this dragon didn't have just "one" head, but "7 heads!!!!" Notice how this impacts how horrible this dragon is.....HE HAS 7 HEADS!!!! A lot more drama than just having one head.....

Over time, certain numbers came to suggest certain moral and spiritual concepts. Certain numbers became "symbols" of an idea, and they began to associate a certain number with particular moral or spiritual concept. Some examples of such are these which follow, were common not only to the book of Revelation, but to Jewish life in general.

- **One**- came to symbolize "Unity"many united into one.....
- **Two**- came to symbolize "Strength" ...as in strength in numbers...two is better than one.....
- **Three**- came to symbolize "the divine"the Godhead....the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.....
- **Four**- came to symbolize the "Physical World"the earth in which man lives, works and dies....**see Acts 10:9-12**.....
- **Five**- came to symbolize "completeness"as in 5 fingers or 5 toes.....if you double those 10 fingers....10 toes, this stood for human completeness.....you had all your fingers and toes.....somewhat uncommon in those days due to various diseases, or accidents that would damage one or more of these.....
- **Seven**- came to symbolize "perfection"most sacred number.....stands for the union of Heaven (#3) with the earth (#4)imagine Heaven and earth in complete unity with each other.....all earth in harmony with the will of God as it is in Heaven.....
- **Six**- symbolizes "evil"it falls short of perfection....wicked....evil....kind of like our #13.....many hotels omit #13 in their room numbers....who would want to stay in room #13?????
- **Twelve**- came to symbolize "organized religion"12 Tribes of Israel.....12 Apostles.....
- **Three and a half**- came to symbolize "imperfection"1/2 of 7.....this number shows up in a variety of forms in Revelation.....time, times and a half (**12:14**)...42 months (**11:2; 13:5**)....1,260 days (**11:3; 12:6**)

Many forms of these numbers will also show up from time to time....144,000 (12 X 12 X 1,000).....1,000 (10 X 10 X 10) 70 (10 X 7).....

***REMEMBER THESE NUMBERS ARE PURELY SYMBOLIC!!!! And must **Not** be taken literally!!!! Remember these numbers were added for emphasis.....to suggest as certain moral or spiritual concept.....and must not be taken as literal.....the dragon did not have 7 **literal** heads!!!!

Questions

1. See if you can find examples of each of these numbers in the book of Revelation.