

HEBREW: SORROW OF DEATH (400) – Letter ‘Tav’

TAV

The twenty-second Hebrew letter ‘Tav’ is pictured at right:

The spiritual number **22** means ‘Spiritual Light’.

The root numbers of **22** are ‘Division’ (2) (of) ‘Mystery’ (11)

In Hebrew the character **Tav** is used to represent the number 400.

The spiritual number **400** means a ‘**Lament**’.

The root numbers of **400** are ‘Message’ (4) of ‘Holy Flock’ (100)

The rabbis picture **Tav** as ‘Truth’. (No clue how they see that)

Christians picture **Tav** as ‘**Sorrow of Death**’. The character **Tav** looks like a Head (**Resh**) blowing a **Shofar** (inverted **Vav**) symbolizing a dead Man.

The first occurrence of the number **400** written in Scripture concerns a prophecy of the misery of bondage in Egypt:

“**Thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years**” (Gen. 15:13)

The second occurrence of the number **400** written in Scripture in which a grieving Abraham bartered a grave site for Sarah: (Gen. 23:15)

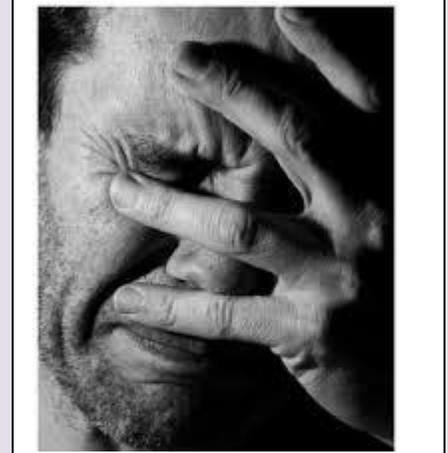
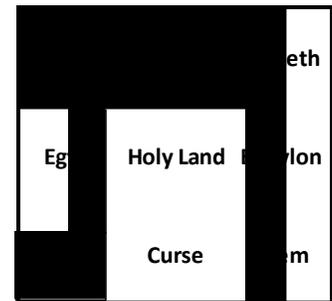
“**My lord, hearken unto me: the land is worth four hundred shekels of silver; what is that between me and you? Bury therefore thy dead.**”

In Ezekiel 9:4-5 the glory of God was about to depart from the Temple:

“**Go throughout Jerusalem and put a mark [tav] on the foreheads of those who grieve and lament over the detestable things done in it.**”

“**Follow him through the city and kill, without showing pity or compassion. Slaughter old men, young men, and maidens, women, and children, but do not touch anyone who has the mark [tav].**”

In Judges 21 the Israelites “grieved for Benjamin because the Lord had made a gap in the tribes of Israel.” And so **400** virgins who had



never slept with a man were stolen from Jabesh Gilead to provide wives. Thus Israel mourned and no doubt the virgins did as well.

ANALYSIS OF TAV – IN GOD’S TRUTH SQUARE (Appendix on last page explains the Truth-square)

The hidden message written in the names on the stones of the Truth-Square for the letter **Tav**:

The three stones that are completely covered by the strokes of the letter: (read right to left, top down)

BLESSING NOAH (Savior) **HAM** (Burnt)

Translation: (Outpouring of Grief) The Blessed Savior is Gone!

The four stones that are touched but not covered by the strokes of the letter:

JAPHETH (Open Mouth) **BABYLON** (King of World)

EGYPT (Bondage) **SHEM** (Name)

Translation: The King of the World (Messiah) is Dead (Open Mouth)

(His Glorious) Name is Locked Up (Out of Sight)

The hidden message written in the numbers on the stones of the Truth-Square for the letter **Tav**:

The sum of the numbers on the three covered stones: **14** 'Righteousness' [14 = 2 + 3 + 9]

The sum of the numbers on the four partly covered stones: **18** 'Bondage' [18 = 1 + 4 + 6 + 7]

The total sum of all the numbers on the stones in **Tav**: **32** 'Fellowship' [32 = 14 + 18]

The number 32 can also mean: 'Division' (2) of the 'Sacrifice' (16) [32 = 2 x 16]

The sum of the numbers on the two untouched stones: **13** 'Rebellion' [13 = 5 + 8]

When we meditate on the death of Christ we are faced with the profound injustice: a 'Righteous' (14) man was placed in the 'Bondage' (18) of death. Where is the justice in that? This is when the truth hits us: it was our 'Rebellion' (13) that put Christ in the chains of suffering and death. Israel rejected Christ, true! But the whole world is guilty of rejecting Christ until they realize that their sin put him there.

Those who share this **Sorrow of Death** are joined in 'Fellowship' (32): this is the celebration of the LORD's Supper: the 'Division' (2) of the 'Sacrifice' (16), that is the memorial that sets forth the meaning of Christ's death.

APPENDIX – GOD’S TRUTH SQUARE

The Truth-Square is a set of blocks or stones arranged in a 3 x 3 square. The spiritual **number 3** means ‘**God**’ and ‘**Truth**’. The number 9 = 3 x 3 means **God’s (3) Truth (3): ‘Judgment’ (9)**. The LORD is “*Judge of all the Earth*” (Gen. 18:25).

In the **Truth-Square** we see the **four corners of the Earth**, each one in the direction it belongs relative to the Holy Land: **Europe** is North; **Americas** are West, **Africa** is South, and **Asia** is East. (Note: The North side of the 3-square is not a corner, that is why the North must appear in the North-East quadrant of the 3-square). The four corners of the Earth also correspond to the fathers of all peoples. Japheth is the father of Europeans. Noah is the spiritual father of Americas.

<p>NOAH (Americas)</p> <p>3</p>	<p>BLESSING</p> <p>2</p>	<p>JAPHETH (Europe)</p> <p>1</p>
<p>EGYPT (Slavery)</p> <p>6</p>	<p>HOLY LAND (Israel)</p> <p>5</p>	<p>BABYLON (City of Cain)</p> <p>4</p>
<p>HAM (Africa)</p> <p>9</p>	<p>CURSE</p> <p>8</p>	<p>SHEM (Asia)</p> <p>7</p>

The **Holy Land (5)** also stands for **Israel** the people God called to dwell there and it stands for **Messiah** who was born there and will rule there. God put a **Blessing (2)** and a **Curse (8)** before **Israel**. To the east is **Babylon (4)**, which also signifies **Kingdom** or **World Rule**. To the west is **Egypt (6)**, which is the land of **Slavery** and **Bondage**. **Shem (7)** can also mean **Name**, and **Ham (9)** can also mean **Burnt**.

Each stone in the Truth-Square also signifies a number: 1 to 9. Of course, numbers have their own spiritual meanings. For more information on that, please see the Number Maps on our site.