

BE LIKE A GAZELLE... ON THE MOUNTAINS OF SPICE



A severe test for gazelle...

**"Come away, my lover, and be like a gazelle
or a young stag on the spice-laden mountains."** (Songs 8 v 4)

INTRODUCTION

The gazelle is a graceful creature, a wild animal, yet clean according to the Law, and suitable for eating. In this paper we will consider the survival of the Christian faith in the days after the crucifixion of Christ.

We will discover how the first days of the new faith survived the darkness of doubt in the loss of their leader. It will come to light how spiritual numbers help the reader grasp the depths of truth in the Scripture.

THE ASCENSION VERSE

Those who doubted, the Jews, said:

"Forty and six years was this Temple in building, will ye raise it up in three days?" (John 2 v 19)

As we follow in the footsteps of our Savior, the sweet scent of his timeless perfection envelopes us, and we are love struck. The air we breathe is like the scent of the richest spices set out on a table before us.

The love song of the Bible is the Song of Solomon. The last verse is the **4,785**th verse of the Books of Wisdom:

**"Come away, my lover, and be like a gazelle or like a young stag
on the spice-laden mountains"** (ch. 8 v 14)

This verse corresponds prophetically to the Ascension of Christ into Heaven. The life of Jesus Christ begins in the Annunciation to Mary (Songs 6 v 9) {8 BC} and continues on a one-verse is one-year basis to the beginning of the ministry of Christ (Songs 8 v 12) {22 AD} followed by an interregnum until the death of Christ (Songs 8 v 13) {30 AD} and the Ascension of Christ (Songs 8 v 14) {31 AD}. See our paper [Come Away My Beloved](#).

THE FORTY AND SIX YEARS

The spiritual number for TEMPLE is **100**¹. We usually translate **100** as HOLY FLOCK. But who is in the midst of the HOLY FLOCK? The GOOD SHEPHERD! For Christians, Christ is in us, in our hearts. We are HOLY FLOCK, which is the TEMPLE of the Holy Spirit. HOLY FLOCK and TEMPLE are identical in typology to Christians.

The spiritual meaning of number **46** is RESURRECTION. Specifically, bodily resurrection.

If it took **46** years to "**build the Temple**" ~ i.e. for Christ to appear on earth bodily. The Spirit is saying the numerical key pointing to Christ's incarnation is **46 x 100** (46 to build 100) or **4600**.

Spiritual math:

4,785 [number of the Ascension Verse in Songs]

subtract **4,600** [time to build the Temple]

equals **185**.

The **185**th verse of the Bible:

"And God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and the livestock that were with him on the Ark, and he sent a wind over the earth and the waters receded" (Genesis 8 v 1)

Upon his resurrection, Jesus appeared first to Mary Magdalene, then to the rest of his disciples. But Jesus did not immediately go to Heaven. He tarried for forty days.

The spiritual meaning of number **40** is SEVERE TEST. This was a period of severe testing for the disciples.

Following along in the Genesis account:

"Now the springs of the deep and the floodgates of heaven had been closed, and the rain had stopped falling from the sky" (Genesis 8 v 2)

The disciples were huddling in fear behind closed doors. The death of Christ on the Cross had struck them with shock. The Holy Spirit was not yet given: "**the springs of the deep and the floodgates of heaven were closed**": their hearts were flinty hard.

Jesus comforted his disciples by personally manifesting among them. Evidently, this was small comfort to them. Not even enough of a comfort to keep them in the faith.

¹ The LORD '1' is in His Holy Temple: let all keep Silence '00' before Him. '0' means 'MOUTH' or 'VOICE' so '00' means 'VOICE DIVIDED' or 'SILENCE'. 1 (meets) 00 = 100 = TEMPLE.

"The water receded steadily from the earth. At the end of the hundred and fifty days the water had gone down." (Genesis 8 v 3)

In spite of seeing the resurrected person Jesus Christ in the flesh, the faith of the disciples waned "**the waters receded steadily**": they all left their calling and went back to their occupations prior to following Christ.

MIRACLE OF THE FISHES

The ex-apostles spent all night on the Sea of Tiberias and caught nothing. Jesus appeared on the shore and told the fishermen to throw their nets on the right side of their boats for a catch.

"Jesus said to them 'Bring some of the fish you have now caught' Simon Peter... dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn" (John 21 v 11)

The spiritual number **150** means CURSE ON EVIL SONS. After **150** days "**the waters went down**". Faith was dead in the Ark of Noah. They were all just waiting to die. Out of (spiritual) food. Catching nothing (to encourage their hearts in the faith). Hungry (for God).

Faith was dead in the Ark of Noah. Faith was dead in the fishing boat of ex-apostles on the Sea of Tiberias! Out of food. Catching nothing. Hungry.

Then Jesus did a miracle of a great harvest. And while the disciples were gathered around the fire they watched fat dead fish being fried on the fire.

What thoughts were going through the minds of the apostles while they watched the fat dead fish being roasted on the fire?

That's me! CURSE ON EVIL SONS! I am apostate!

All the Apostles had forsaken the LORD. This could only mean hell fire.

"and on the seventeenth day of the seventh month the Ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat" (Genesis 8 v 4)

But they counted and saw there was **153** fish. So, it wasn't CURSE ON EVIL SONS (**150**) after all. It was TRIBE OF BELIEVERS (**153**)!

This time the Apostles took heart. They ate the fish. They believed in Jesus.

"On one occasion, while he was eating with them [MIRACLE OF FISHES] he gave them this command: 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait until the gift my Father promised... For John baptized with water [FLOOD OF NOAH], but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 1 v 4)

How many is "A FEW DAYS"? Is that not THREE?

150 + 3 = 153.

"The Ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat"

The Apostles heard the testimony of Jesus and believed. Their faith was sealed. They would none of them ever turn back from following the LORD. The Apostles became the "**mountains of Ararat**" - holding up the faith of the early church.

"On the seventeenth day of the seventh month"

The fifteenth day of the seventh month is the beginning of the Feast of Tabernacles, or the feast of booths.

Jacob fled Esau and hid his livestock in booths. The people of Israel fled Pharaoh and lived in booths. The Feast of Booths commemorates God's protection of His People from a violent estranged relative.

Jesus is saying to the apostles, an enemy is close at hand that wants to destroy you. Until the Holy Spirit is given, lay low, commune in your rooms.

And it was on that occasion that the disciples saw the Ascension of the Lord Jesus up to Heaven:

"After he said this, he was taken up before their eyes and a cloud hid Him from their sight" (Acts 1 v 9)

Acts says Jesus appeared "**to them over a period of forty days and gave convincing proofs that he was alive**".

That means when Jesus ascended after the Miracle of the Fishes, there were ten days to Pentecost. Since Pentecost occurs fifty days after Passover:

50 - 40 = 10

Returning to the account of Genesis:

"The waters continued to recede until the tenth month, and on the first day of the tenth month the **tops of the mountains became visible**" (ch. 8 v 5)

The spiritual meaning of the number **10** is TESTIMONY.

10 days after the Miracle of the Fishes the Apostles gave TESTIMONY on the Day of Pentecost that Christ had risen from the dead.

"the tops of the mountains became visible"

People from many different tribes and tongues heard the gospel of Jesus in their own language.

The first beginnings of faith of all the different mountains of people in the world appeared!

"on the first day of the tenth month"

At Pentecost God stopped measuring chronological time according to the Law of Moses. (Most important for students of prophecy!)²

The body of Christ was born on the Day of Pentecost. It became the "first day" of the "tenth month"
TESTIMONY OF CHRIST: AGE OF GRACE.

Just as the Ark of Moses came to rest and began a new covenant for all races of humans on earth, the Ark, the Band of Faith, the First Apostles, came to rest (stopped legalistically obeying the works of the Law), and began to preach saving faith in Christ, which began a new covenant for all races of humans on earth.

SPIRITUAL NUMBERS MATTER

How did we ever find the connection between Genesis 8 and all these things?

By counting our verses in the Bible, by discovering the Ascension verse is **4,785** and subtracting **4,600**.

Counting Bible verses and knowing spiritual numbers opens the Scripture to clearer understanding!

DESTROY THIS TEMPLE... AND IN THREE DAYS I WILL RAISE IT AGAIN

Jesus was crucified. Temple destroyed.

153 fish. **3** more than **150**. TRIBE OF BELIEVERS.

"John baptised with water but in a few days (**3**) you will be baptised in the Holy Spirit"

Day of Pentecost. BODY OF CHRIST RAISED AGAIN!

As a HOLY FLOCK. A TEMPLE (of faith in Christ).

KEEP WATCH – I AM COMING SOON

Don't look now, but Christians are about to go through a severe test again.

Shortly we will be in the third day since Christ: 2,000 years or two days will pass at 2030 AD. [Christ was crucified in 30 AD]. Christ rose "early in the morning". Likewise: the Rapture will occur not long after 2030.

... I WILL RAISE IT AGAIN ON THE THIRD DAY!

² The [Sabbath](#) is prophetic of the entire Age of Grace. The [Feast of Pentecost](#) is prophetic of the Day of Pentecost. The [Feast of Unleavened Bread](#) is prophetic of the celebration of the Lord's Supper. The [Feast of Passover](#) is prophetic of the death of Christ, the lamb of God, which brings salvation to a nation. After Pentecost, the rest of the feasts take place during the Great Tribulation. See our paper [The Seven Seals](#). Specifically, the [Feast of Trumpets](#) is prophetic of the mid-point of the Great Tribulation. [The Feast of Tabernacles](#) is prophetic of the entire Great Tribulation. The Feast of Tabernacles will be celebrated during the Millennium. It will look back at the events that brought the renewal of all creation and the deliverance of the world from the Beast and the False Prophet, much the way the celebration of the Lord's Supper draws the minds and hearts of Christians back to the Cross of Christ.