BIBLICAL GENERATIONS

BIBLICAL ANALYSIS RESEARCH PROJECT

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Matt 1:17: So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David until the carrying away into Babylon are fourteen generations; and from the carrying away into Babylon unto Christ are fourteen generations. (KJV)

Rev 11:3: And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. **(KJV)**

While applying hermeneutics¹ is challenging, especially avoiding eisegesis² while establishing exegesis³, there is always some degree of bias applied when looking for patterns in numerology. Acknowledging that this is the case in this analysis, I would like to point out some items that may or may not be of interest. Biblical generations are debated as to how to be measured. Some say thirty years, others say forty, and even more say seventy years (Bible Ask, 2015). For this analysis, we are looking at a thirty-year measurement for generations. This might be to tailor fit a certain theory but let's proceed with that in mind.

The fourteen generations outlined in in the book of Matthew are aligned in a trinitarian fashion, as many important texts are in the biblical narrative. Fourteen multiplied by three renders a result of forty-two. This is a very important number in the Bible as well, such as the she-bears that mauled the children for making fun of Elisha (2 Kings 2:24), the Book of Job having forty-two chapters, and the forty-two months the two witnesses prophesy in the Book of Revelation during the great tribulation. According to Bible Ask:

"The forty-two months are referenced in seven places in the books of Daniel and Revelation in the Bible (Daniel 7:25; 12:7; Revelation 11:2, 3; 12:6, 14; 13:5). The phrases appear three times as a time, times, and half a time, twice as 42 months, and twice as 1,260 days."

These patterns could be viewed as an interpretation of the manifestation of the Holy Spirit rising throughout the generations, three-fold, aligning in perfect union after the second coming of Jesus Christ. This is an observation being made to see those things that are hidden within the text that further elaborate very important details of the Trinitarian concept. The ongoing debate of exactly when the second coming occurs is one that will remain an enigma until that day arrives. What we are supposed to do until then varies but I must emphasize that we are definitely supposed to be doing something, other than remaining observant and in prayer.

No matter how long it takes, when the time arrives, we are supposed to be serving the Kingdom of God. Is studying the scriptures, going to church, loving one another, and living the best life we could really enough? Our works are a direct reflection of our beliefs and actions do speak louder than words. Those thoughts and troubling concepts that do not allow you to sleep,

¹ hermeneutics, the study of the general principles of biblical interpretation. For both Jews and Christians throughout their histories, the primary purpose of hermeneutics, and of the exegetical methods employed in interpretation, has been to discover the truths and values expressed in the Bible (Brittanica, 2024).

² he interpretation of a text (as of the Bible) by reading into it one's own ideas (Merriam-Webster).

³ exegesis, the critical interpretation of the biblical text to discover its intended meaning (Britannica, 2024).

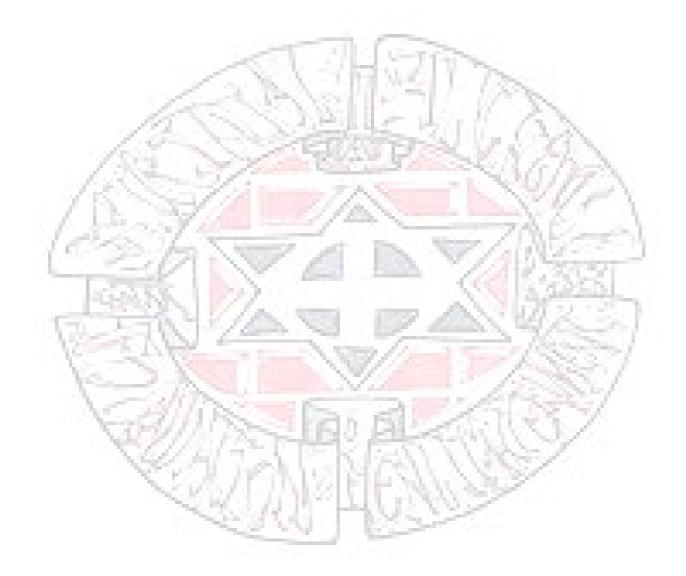
that is one indication that might be your calling. Whatever keep you up at night is that thing that you are supposed to be working on. Beneath the surface layer(s) of what that thing is, that is where the gold lies (the alchemy). That is the treasure we should be pursuing on an individual basis and collectively. The tolerance of worldly acceptance of evil is far beyond acceptable. This tolerance should never be reflected by believers, those who believe in a benevolent and good God.

The law of love is to hate evil (Toledo, 2023) and we are called to hate evil and love the law and righteousness (Psalm 45:7, Psalm 101:3, Psalm 119:128, Psalm 119:163, Proverbs 13:5, Proverbs 15:27), so what are we doing to reflect that? Faith without works is dead (James 2:14-17) and this concept alone should be one to motivate believers to do something meaningful and good. To what extent that good works should extend to is between God and the believer, but this should never end, not while we are here on this earth. The generations of Abraham were blessed, the generations were later exiled to Babylon, then the generations were reconstituted by Jesus Christ. The three-fold path leads to the Generation of Judgement, at the foot of the cross, the fourth generation.

So, considering Jesus Christ's ministry began at the approximate age of thirty and lasted three years, how long are we to continue His ministry while on this pale blue dot? The debate of who the two witnesses are is yet another ongoing issue that is left up to the observer what to believe. If there is no explicit explanation to certain concepts and events in the Holy Bible, then we are left to discern and judge what we believe. We are called to bear witness (Acts 1:8), yet we are also called to action as well. Let us not simply rely on the comfort of the promises of God for our salvation be enough. Let us not only rely on professing our Master, Jesus Christ, and the wonders that the Word of God offers us and to everyone who believes. We need to work, not for our salvation but reflecting the God we know, love, and serve. Our service should also be an extension of that which is righteous, and our testimony should also be that of our actions.

It has been said that the third time is a charm and, if that is the case, let that third time be after we are born again, a birth after birth. After that birth, the spiritual reconstitution by faith in Christ Jesus, let our actions be born again, as to reflect that of His actions. This three-fold birth (worldly, spiritually, and worldly/spiritual actions) should reflect the Holy Spirit's conviction in us to manifest that righteous judgement that Jesus Christ will bring with his second coming. As we are born again, our actions now need an in-depth evaluation of what we did, what we are doing, and what will be done.

This generation of vipers shall be judged by not only their actions but by their words (Matt 12:34-17). Our words need to be expressed through our actions, and our actions should be expressed by our words. The generation of the fallen shall be stood up for judgement by the generations of the witnesses. For *forty* years the Hebrews wandered the desert with Moses, *forty* days were spent fasting by Moses and Jesus Christ to get closer to God and the Holy Spirit. The *two* witnesses preach during the apocalyptic times for *forty-two* months (*forty* and *two*). Let our testimony be that of the Truth, the whole Truth, and nothing but the Truth, so help us God Most High.



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