

SEVEN YEARS IN THE HANDS OF MIDIAN (Judges 6)



“Then the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD. So the LORD delivered them into the hands of Midian for seven years.” (Judges 6 v 1)

INTRODUCTION

Judges 6 is richly prophetic of the history of the Jews from the fall of Jerusalem in 587 BC to the fall of Jerusalem in 70 AD and the Diaspora. It was a time of life and death struggle for Israel – a tiny enclave of the faithful – who resisted Hellenic influence, foreign armies, factionalism and corruption of the priesthood.

This period features:

- three Jewish temples: Solomon, Zerubbabel, Herod
- desecration of the Temple by Antiochus Epiphanes
- revolt of the Maccabees
- first Jewish King of Judah since the Exile
- birth and ministry of the Messiah, Jesus of Nazareth
- Great revolt, war with Rome, destruction of Jerusalem.

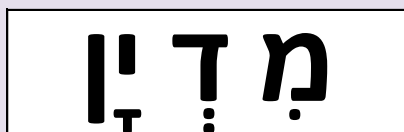
Judges 6 accurately predicts the time period each of the Jewish temples is built and the coming of the Messiah. Judges 6 accurately predicts many other secular and sacred events in this period.

METHODOLOGY

We use [Gematria Analysis](#) to [parse the verses of Judges 6](#) and instruct us. Gematria is [the numerical value of Hebrew letters](#). This allows us to calculate the numerical value of Hebrew words and whole verses. Using [Bible Numbers](#) we can [connect the numerical value of verses to Bible chapters](#) and to a unique meaning for each number. [For those unfamiliar](#) these topics are covered in depth on our site. (Click links in blue.)

THE MIDIANITES

Israel sinned so they were delivered into the hands of Midian. The Midianites were children of Abraham through his concubine Keturah. Moses lived among the Midianites in the desert regions East of the Red Sea. He honored his father-in-law, a priest of Midian, broke bread with him, and took advice from him. Possibly some enlightened Midianites professed worship of Jahweh. Most of them would have worshipped idols as it was common in those times. As counsellors they were knowledgeable. The Hebrew word 'Midian':



	Nun	Yod	Dalet	Mem	Gematria
Standard	50	10	4	40	104
Sophit	700	10	4	40	754

	Meaning of Bible Numbers
104	WORKERS DIVIDED
754	DECEIVING BROTHERS

Since Nun is at the end of the word its shape changes and it may assume a different value, called a Sophit value. Both the Standard and the Sophit Gematria have spiritual meaning. (Dots are irrelevant to Gematria)

We conclude that the prophetic identity of 'Midian' is a **SECT** [*Workers Divided*] of **MAN'S RELIGION** [*Deceiving Brothers*] that has wandered from the truth, invented doctrines, and created a community around its distinct beliefs that is separate from the rest of the body of believers.

The 104th chapter of the Bible is Leviticus 14. This is the account of the cleansing of infectious skin diseases on persons and the cleansing of spreading mildew in a house. Both of these maladies cause uncleanness. Treatment involves inspection by a priest, sacrifice of a live clean bird, shaving the head, washing the clothes, bathing, and isolation outside the camp. Birds in the Bible are symbolic of teachers. A clean live bird would be symbolic of the High Priest, who is the teacher of Israel. For Christians the High Priest is Jesus Christ.

A Sect of Man's Religion sets up for itself a Teacher, representing a distinct set of doctrines or interpretations of Scripture, which become mandatory for the members of the Sect to uphold. We will see this unfold in an intense fashion in the period of history from 587 BC to 87 AD that is prophesied in Judges 6.

The 754th chapter of the Bible is Jeremiah 9: "Oh, that I had a lodging place in the desert for travelers, so that I might leave my people... for they are adulterers... They make ready their tongue [TEACHER] like a bow to shoot lies [MIDIANITES]; it is not by truth that they triumph in the land... Beware your friends, do not trust your brothers. For every brother is a deceiver, and every friend is a slanderer [SKIN DISEASE]." (v 1-4)

TEMPLE PROPHECY

A key phrase in Judges 6 is **'Sons of Israel'**:

	בְּנֵי			יִשְׂרָאֵל				
	Yod	Nun	Beth	Lamed	Aleph	Resh	Sheen	Yod
Standard	10	50	2	30	1	200	300	10

	Meaning of Bible Numbers	Bible Chapter
62	JERUSALEM ROYAL CITY	Exo 12
541	I WILL SEE THE WICKED FALL	Psa 63
603	COVENANT PEOPLES GATHERED	Psa 125

The arrangement of the numbers in 603 suggests an altar or a temple:

6	0	3
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The number 6 means MAN and the number 3 means TRUTH or GOD. The number 0 means OPEN MOUTH.

Does the number 603 not suggest to you a place, a 'circle' or a 'tent' or a 'table', where MAN meets GOD?

The prophetic sequence begins in 587 BC and continues on a one-verse equals 100 years basis.

The Gematria 603 occurs three times in the first six verses of Judges 6. Each occurrence lines up with a Temple of the Jews:

- Verse 1 – (587 BC to 488 BC) - Temple of Solomon
- Verse 2 – (487 BC to 388 BC) - Temple of Zerubbabel
- Verse 6 – (87 BC to 87 AD) - Temple of Herod

The 603rd chapter of the Bible is Psalm 125:

"As the mountains surround Jerusalem so the LORD surrounds His People" (v. 2)

Reading 603 from right to left: The LORD (3) Surrounds (0) His People (6). The Jews would continue to be God's people until they rejected the Messiah. They would be scattered to the four winds (Diaspora). Jesus would be raised from the dead, ascend to Heaven, and minister as High Priest in the Temple there.

PROPHETIC PERIOD: 587 BC – 488 AD

In 587 Jerusalem fell and a remnant of the Jews was exiled to Babylon. What was happening in Babylon during this prophetic period?

1. DECEPTION

Jeremiah wrote a letter to the captives saying:

“Ahab... and Zedekiah... prophesy a lie to you in My Name” (Jer 29 v 21)

“Because Shemaiah... has prophesied to you and I have not sent him and he has caused you to trust in a lie... behold I will punish Shemaiah...” (Jer 29 v 31-32)

2. INVENTION

With the Temple destroyed in Jerusalem the festivals and daily sacrifices could not be observed. The exiles invented three new houses of religious activity:

- (a) Beit Knesset – House of Assembly – called a ‘Synagogue’ in Greek
- (b) Beit Tefilah – House of Prayer
- (c) Beit Midrash – House of Study

A new set of directions for spiritual activity was replacing the Law of Moses.

A new class of teachers, from a party of scribes and sages later called Rabbis, dominated study of the Torah. In the Law of Moses it was the duty of priests to teach. This was not observed in the exile period.

3. FORMATION OF SECTS

The Pharisees emerged as a recognized sect in the 2nd Century B.C. after the exile. But their oral history traces its roots to the debate of learned scholars of their school during the exile. The word Pharisee comes from the Greek word ‘Pharisaioi’ meaning separate or separated.

The Pharisees created many rules for living that were in addition to the Torah.

The Pharisees also interpreted the Law of Moses differently than the priests.

PROPHETIC FULFILLMENT

During the exile sects of learned men adopted distinctive doctrines and practices that separated their movement from the standards established by priests.

Being legalistic religionists these groups laid an extra burden on God’s people. In every way they fulfilled the prophetic typology of Judges 6 v 1 **“He gave them into the hands of Midian”**.

INSIGHT FROM THE GEMATRIA

Judges 6 v 1 says **“The Sons of Israel did evil in the eyes of the LORD”**

Who are the **‘eyes of the LORD’**? Are they not His watchmen? His prophets?

The Gematria of ‘eyes of the LORD’ is 142. Spiritual number 142 means RASH DECISION.

Jeremiah was the prophet on duty in the Last Days of Jerusalem before its fall. He warned King Jehoiakim:

“But the nations that bring their necks under the yoke of the King of Babylon and serve him, I will let them remain in their land.” (Jer 27 v 11)

The people, the priests, and the King did not listen to Jeremiah. This was a RASH DECISION. Neither did King Zedekiah listen to the ‘eyes of the LORD’ so when Jerusalem fell:

“the King of Babylon killed the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes in Riblah. The King also killed all the nobles of Judah. Moreover he put out the Zedekiah’s eyes and bound him... to carry him off to Babylon” (Jer 39 v 6-7)

Judges 6 v 1 says **“and the LORD gave them into the hands of Midian seven years”**

The gematria of **‘years’** is 960. Spiritual number 960 means HEALING IN SYNAGOGUE IS FORBIDDEN.

The learned scholars and scribes in Babylon concocted an interpretation of the Torah and invented numerous rules. The result formed the basis of a legalistic sect later known as the Pharisees.

Legalism kills the Spirit. This is a truism.

The devotees to Pharisaism would become a pack of religious zealots and lose the tender-heartedness the LORD desires. They became incapable of even basic human sympathy for the sick and the suffering. So when Jesus healed a man with a withered hand in a synagogue on the Sabbath – which was not forbidden in the Law of Moses – but which contravened one of the man-made laws of the Pharisees the Bible says:

“Then the Pharisees went out and immediately plotted with the Herodians against Him, how they might destroy Him.” (Mark 3 v 6)

INSIDIOUS SECTS

We see the gravity of being **‘in the hands of Midian’**. Man’s religion makes up its own rules. When believers who are not in the Sect break their rules they hate them to death.

History records countless religious wars. Literally millions of believers have died in them. Jesus Christ died at the hands of legalistic religionists. Beware of Man’s Religion. Do not join them. Avoid them.

JUDGES 6 V 2

“and the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel. Because of the Midianites the Sons of Israel made for themselves dens, caves, and strongholds in the mountains.”

Verse 2 corresponds to the prophetic period 487 BC – 388 BC, the second hundred years ‘under the hand of Midian’. The phrase ‘Sons of Israel’ occurs for the second time in Judges 6 and we see the second Temple of the Jews constructed in this time frame.

SACRED EVENTS

BC 461	Rebuilding Jerusalem stops due to legal challenges
BC 458	<u>Ezra arrives</u> in 7 th year of Artaxerxes I of Persia [reign 465 – 424 BC]
BC 445	Nehemiah leaves Susa – 20 th year of Artaxerxes I of Persia (Neh. 2 v 1)
BC 422	Decree of Darius II – nullifying legal challenge to rebuilding
BC 421	Prophecy of Haggai
BC 421	Construction of Zerubbabel’s Temple begins (Hag. 1 v 15)
BC 417	<u>Zerubbabel’s Temple completed</u> [6 th year of Darius II]

How is the ‘**hand of Midian**’ prevailing against Israel in the second 100 years of the Judges 6 prophecy?

What is a ‘hand’? Is it not a human agency, a real person? The ‘hand of Midian’ at this time was **Ezra**.

BIOGRAPHY OF EZRA

He was a priest, descended from Aaron. Not the High Priest.

He was not the Governor of Judea nor did he hold any office in the Persian administration.

He was a scribe, knowledgeable in the Torah.

He was a rich man and arrived with much silver and gold.

He was held in high favor by the King of Persia, therefore his station in society was high.

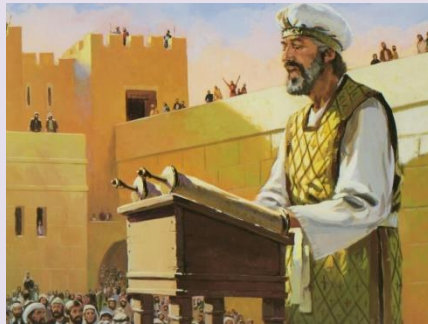
LEGACY OF EZRA

He founded the Great Assembly of Scholars, forerunner of the Sanhedrin, an ecclesiastical council to publish doctrinal decisions and render decisions on legal cases brought before it.

He established the reading of the Torah at certain times during the week in specific places.

He established 10 Rules for Jewish Life such as 'a woman must not wait beyond Thursday to wash clothes'.

Ezra was the prototype of a leader of Man's Religion for Jews and later for Christians.



Ezra the Scribe

MINISTRY OF EZRA

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| Neh. ch. 1-3 | He was a Teacher of the Torah |
| Neh. 1 v 4 | He spoke on a raised platform |
| Neh. 1 v 5 | People stood and gave him full attention |
| Neh. 1 v 6 | He blessed the LORD and the people said 'Amen' |
| Neh. 1 v 7-8 | He 'gave the sense' and interpreted the Torah. This was not a suggestion. This was an authoritative dictation. No one else could speak up to dispute him. |
| Neh. 1 v 9 | He created 'Holy Days' out of nothing. No Scriptural basis whatsoever. |
| Neh. 1 v 10 | He commanded the people not to mourn or weep when the Holy Spirit was convicting them. By doing this he quenched the work of the Holy Spirit. |
| Neh. 1 v 11 | He commanded the people what they should eat on the 'Holy Day' he invented |
| Neh. 1 v 12 | He observed a Biblical feast and taught the people to follow him but the observance period started on a different day than mandated in the Torah (2 nd vs 15 th). |

Thus, Ezra erred in doctrine and practice. He was a **False Teacher**, a legalist, and a religionist. Ezra founded a Sect of Man's Religion. He was the full blow fulfilment of the 'Midian' prophetic type which oppressed Israel.

SIX MARKS OF A MAN MADE RELIGION

The Gematria (G) of Judges 6 v 2 provides powerful insight into Man's Religion. We will divide the 13 words of the verse into six phrases of two to three words each as follows:

Part 1 RELIGIOUS CONTROL

"and prevailed the hand of Midian"

G = 1251 LIVESTOCK GATHERED IN PEN FOR SLAUGHTER

Believers belong to Man's Religion. Believers are only free to worship in a prescribed place, time, and way.

Part 2 RELIGIOUS AFFECTION

"on Israel because of"

G = 821 MOTHER GODDESS

Believers will begin to 'love' their church, the rituals, the songs, the festivals, and the love of Jesus will likewise diminish.

Part 3 LOCAL RELIGIOUS LEADERS

"Midian they made"

G = 1130 APPOINT A RULER IN EVERY TOWN

Believers come under the authority of local religious leaders. This suppresses free speech, free meetings, free ministry. Laity will not exercise spiritual gifts, or it will be tightly controlled.

Part 4 ENMITY BETWEEN DIFFERENT SECTS

"for them Sons of Israel"

G = 1238 SONS OF FATHER CURSED SONS OF DEVIL BLESSED

Religious pride plus Religious blindness plus Religious zeal will inevitably lead to angry contentions.

Part 5 TRADITIONS OF MEN

"the dens which are"

G = 1610 SILENCE OF LAMBS: LEVITES FORBID PROPHETS

No forum, no time, no place for ecstatic utterance or prophetic announcement to reach the ears of the people.

Part 6 MONEY AT THE ROOT OF THE EVIL

"in the mountains, caves, strongholds"

G = 2117 REFINER'S FIRE BRINGS FORTH SILVER & GOLD

Believers generate income for their shepherd. Like livestock.

CHRISTIAN EXAMPLES OF MAN MADE RELIGION

- Paul
 - By his own authority Paul selected men loyal to him to over-rule the saints. (E.g. Timothy, Titus)
 - Paul's appointed men in turn appointed handpicked elders to serve beneath them.
 - Paul invented a set of standards for acceptable candidates for church offices.
- Pope
 - Appoints cardinals, who appoint arch-bishops, who appoint bishops, who appoint priests
 - Pope will define acceptable doctrine and practice for all members of the sect
- Protestant Denominations
 - One professional pastor in each parish or local church who monopolizes teaching
 - Acceptable doctrine and practice must meet Denomination standards
 - Perpetuates a religious model of tithing, holy buildings, festivals and rituals
 - Pastoral candidates must meet Denomination selection criteria

NEHEMIAH – SHINING EXAMPLE OF A SERVANT OF THE LORD

- He worked at his own expense. Not interested in this world's riches. 100% opposite of Ezra.
- Took a leave of absence from his job to serve the LORD in an hour when his service was needed.
- Worked for the betterment of the lives of common people not for his own aggrandisement or reward
- Diligently executed his civic office of Governor of Judea
 - Masterfully coordinated the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem
- Did not dictate to priest or to believers how to worship the LORD
- Did not teach. Made himself the embodiment of a servant.
- Did not rule through domination or intimidation.
- Resolved issues through dialogue and mutual respect.
 - Example: convinced the nobles and rulers to reduce taxes

When we look at the life of Jesus we realise his words were few. He did not author any books or write any letters. His public sermons run to only a handful of pages.

What we see Jesus doing was caring for the sick, the lame, the blind, the diseased, the socially outcast. A great deal of his ministry was conducted in private homes and in public spaces not in religious buildings.

Jesus did not seek to be the center of attention. In fact He often retreated from the public spotlight. So much so it was a challenge for people to find Jesus to hear what He might say.

The life of Jesus with his disciples is in stark contrast to the pulpit pastor building-centered religion that most Christians patronize. We have been conditioned to believe that belonging to a religious Sect is the way to live the Christian life. The Midianites deceive us right up to the present day.

JUDGES 6 V 3

“So it was, whenever Israel had sown, Midianites would come up; Amalekites and the people of the East would come up against them.”

Verse 3 corresponds to the period 387 BC – 288 BC, the 3rd hundred years ‘under the hand of Midian’.

SECULAR EVENTS

BC 356	Alexander the Great is born, son of Philip II of Macedon (so it was believed ¹)
BC 338	Philip II becomes military leader of the League of Corinth – unifying Greece
BC 336	Philip II is assassinated – stabbed by a body guard
BC 334	Alexander crosses the Hellespont to invade the Persian Empire
BC 332	Siege of Tyre: 2,000 defeated Tyrians crucified on the beach; 10,000 enslaved
BC 323	Alexander dies. His Empire is partitioned among the Diadochi, the ‘companions’
BC 321	2 nd Partition of the Empire: Ptolemy given Egypt

THE AMALEKITES

‘Amalek’ means ‘people of blood’: a people never at peace with their neighbors. A people whose chief is a ‘Man of Blood’ – an insatiable warrior.

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	Qof	Lamed	Mem	Ayin	Gematria
Standard	100	30	40	70	240
	Meaning of Bible Numbers				Bible Chapter
240	HOLY THINGS LOST				1 Sam 4

Eliphaz, the father of Amalek, was the first son of Esau by Adah. Eliphaz fathered a daughter Timna adulterously. The Law of Moses says an adulterer must die and a man who commits incest must die. Amalek therefore rejected the Law of Moses and turned the table back on Israel saying ‘No – it is you who must die.’ Amalek is a lethal combination of a Man of Lawlessness and a Man of Blood. Like a rabid creature he is unredeemable, a constant threat and must be destroyed.

¹ The Persians believed Alexander was from their royal line.

ALEXANDER THE GREAT

Was Alexander the Great a fulfilment of Amalek? Absolutely.

1. Alexander was a 'Man of Blood' – an insatiable warrior who fought non-stop
2. Alexander was a 'Man of Lawlessness' – he made his own rules – he was supreme dictator – under no law – accountable to no man

According to the account of Josephus, after conquering Tyre Alexander demanded the submission of the Jews but they refused. He marched on Jerusalem but encouraged by a dream the High Priest Jaddus and the Jews greeted Alexander outside the city. The conqueror of the world bowed down and declared it was a vision of Jaddus three years earlier that inspired him to launch a campaign against Persia. Alexander entered the Temple, made sacrifice to the God of Israel, and bestowed gifts on the Jews.



During his visit Alexander was shown the prophecies of Daniel regarding Greece.

Alexander's interaction with the High Priest was miraculous. Each party showed deference and respect. (The companions of Alexander were shocked by this.) It was as if the Supreme Warrior Spirit and the Supreme Religious Spirit came to a mutual understanding: an alliance advantageous to both parties.

The Gematria explains what happened. We will parse the verse into couplets and triplets as before.

(P1) "and so when sowed"	G = 904	WILD DOGS EAT UP THE EARTH
(P2) "Israel up came Midian"	G = 1406	GRASPING WIFE: CHILDREN AND CATTLE ALL MINE
(P1+P2)	G = 2310	QUIET WOMAN FULLY SUBMITS TO HER HUSBAND
(P3) "and Amalek"	G = 246	FALSE MESSIAH REIGNS
(P4) "and sons of the East they came up against them"	G = 1000	TRIBE: BRIDE OF THE BRIDEGROOM
(P3+P4)	G = 1246	TEMPLE HARLOT: SHE GIVES AND GIVES, GETS NO LOVE

The first half (P1+P2) is a legal transaction, a 'deal'. The heathen invaders [**Dogs**] take control of the land and the religious leader [**Wife**] takes the people and the chattels. The religious leader pledges allegiance to the King in return for the right of the people to practice their religion and carry on their business.

The second half (P3+P4) is the life of misery for Jews under Greek control. Their husband is a heathen unbeliever [**False Messiah Reigns**]. Jews perform their part of the bargain but it is a marriage of convenience. There is no delight in her soul from this union [**Temple Harlot: She Gives and Gives but Get No Love**].

As a result of this policy, Greek culture, Greek language, Greek architecture spread throughout the Empire. There were few rebellions and insurrections. However, Alexander died shortly after these events.

As we will see in the following verses – once Greek rulers partitioned the Empire they became more faithful to the Amalek spirit than Alexander in that moment. They were filled with enmity and violence toward Israel.

The main outcome was no spiritual sowing was allowed. Judaism could not preach the Law of God to Greeks. To save their skin they submitted. The Greeks would also ‘save their skin’ – not be circumcised.

JUDGES 6 V 4

“Then they would encamp against them and destroy the produce of the earth as far as Gaza and leave no sustenance for Israel, neither sheep nor ox nor donkey.”

Verse 4 corresponds to the period 287 BC – 188 BC, the 4th hundred years ‘under the hand of Midian’.

The Greek Empire founded by Alexander the Great has been partitioned into four kingdoms. Palestine was a border state between two of those kingdoms: Seleucid Empire (Asia Minor, Mesopotamia, Syria, Iranian plateau, and Judea), and the Ptolemaic Kingdom (Egypt, Cyrene).

SECULAR EVENTS

BC 285	Ptolemy II succeeded Ptolemy I
BC 278	Gauls invaded Macedonia then later Anatolia
BC 275	Gauls defeated by Antiochus I, Seleucid King, hereafter known as ‘Soter’ (Savior)
BC 247	Ptolemy III succeeded Ptolemy II
BC 246	Seleucus II becomes King: makes war in Syria with Ptolemy III
BC 241	Antiochus III becomes King. Expanded the Empire greatly. Known as ‘The Great’
BC 192	Antiochus III decisively defeated by Romans at the Battle of Magnesia

SACRED EVENTS

Ptolemy II ordered a Greek-English translation of Hebrew Scriptures and letters, including texts which were not canonical, known as the ‘Septuagint’: all the Old Testament books plus apocryphal letters of the Jews.

Seventy scholars from Jerusalem moved to Alexandria for this task. A Greek historian, wrote: ‘many [of the Jews] when they heard of Ptolemy’s moderation and humanity went to Egypt... invited by the goodness of the soil and by the liberality of Ptolemy’.

EZRA’S SECT OF SCRIBES - EXTENDS ITS REACH ABROAD

Like all nomadic tribes, Midianites are ceaselessly on the move. They are always on the lookout for better pasture or vulnerable neighbors to raid. It is a fact that most Sects of Man’s Religion have a natural bent towards missionary ventures (similar to the natural tendency of skin disease to spread). Jesus said of them:

“Woe to you, teachers of the Law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You travel over land and sea to win a single convert, and when you have succeeded, you make them twice as much a child of hell as you are.” (Matt. 23 v 15)

For a number of reasons the LORD did not favor Ezra’s Sect of Scribes venturing out of Jerusalem and establishing centers of scholarship in the capital of the Ptolemaic Kingdom.

- Reason 1** Currying favor with Ptolemaic Kings would be seen as rebellious to Seleucid Kings, under whose sovereignty Judea was officially a vassal.
- Reason 2** The LORD’s intention was to spread the Gospel to the Greeks. Ezra’s Sect of Scribes, also known as the ‘Circumcision’ would later resist the Gospel and use their influence with authorities to persecute believers in Jesus
- Reason 3** Ezra’s Sect of Scribes would promote mistaken ideas of the Hebrew God in the minds of Greeks and lead them astray: apocryphal letters being one example.
- Reason 4** Ezra’s Sect of Scribes would convert some Greeks to their Sect and advise them to circumcise. Circumcision was a rite of the physical descendants of Abraham and was never intended nor commanded by God as a rite for Gentiles. This was outright false teaching.
- Reason 5** In time the influence of Ezra’s Sect and its confusion of God’s Holy Books with non-canonical Jewish writings would lead to the formation of Christian Sects with corrupt Bibles. The Septuagint plus Apocrypha was used as the basis for translations of the Old Testament for Coptic, Slavonic, Syriac, Old Armenian, and Old Georgian religions.

WARNING AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM

A Sect of the Jews caused trouble for Israel and pain to the LORD. Don’t let this history stoke hatred for Jews. Don’t harm Jews or their property or their meeting places. Ezra’s rabbis were in error. So avoid rabbis. As Christians, don’t celebrate Jewish feasts. Stay away from Judaism. But love the Jews. This is your Christian duty. God knows the Jews were the greatest victims of Ezra’s Sect of Scribes.

GEMATRIA INSIGHTS

We will divide the 14 words in Judges 6 v 4 into 5 sections of couplets and triplets and seek insight from them:

(P1) “ they encamped against them ”	G = 795	FLEE OUT OF BABYLON
(P2) “ they ruined crop of the land ”	G = 2295	SCHISM: LEAH UNLOVED, RACHEL BARREN
(P1+P2)	G = 3090 [root 712]	LAND DRIES UP
(P3) “ as far as come Gaza ”	G = 665	HONORED BY MEN
Central Section		
(P4) “ until none remained livelihood in Israel ”	G = 1170	OUTCRY OF CITY UP TO HEAVEN
(P5) “ neither flocks nor bull nor donkey ”	G = 1083	WE KNOW THE FEAR OF THE LORD SO WE EMPLORE YOU
(P4+P5)	G = 2253 [root 1064]	FLESH TREMBLES: DEATH TO CHRIST KILLERS

Let's unpack the insight from the Sections:

- P1) FLEE OUT OF BABYLON: What is a Camp? Does it not picture a Sect? Camps oppose the Word of God which teaches “**There is One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism**”. Camps so strongly deny the Faith it drives believers away. There is no love of God / no demonstration of His goodness. Only lip service.
- P2) SCHISM: LEAH UNLOVED, RACHEL BARREN: The rivalry of the two wives brought endless sorrow and strife to the Israelites. This will “**ruin the crop of the land**”. Children born in this household will not love God. Children born in this house will internalize those enmities and hate one another.
- P1+P2) LAND DRIES UP: Finally the result will be apostasy. Thank you sons of Man's Religion! You will destroy Christianity and leave us formerly Christianized nations full of atheism, such as we have today.
- P3) HONORED BY MEN: Jesus pinpoints the social dynamic within Sects as rivalry for reputation: “**as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets to be honored by men**” (Matt 6 v 2). Jesus made it clear to His disciples their duty was to seek to please the Father in Heaven.
- P4) OUTCRY OF CITY UP TO HEAVEN: The 1170th chapter in the Bible is Revelation 3 which is the account of the sins of two reprobate cities in Asia Minor: Sardis – Faith is Dead; and Laodicea - Hypocrites / lukewarm and well-to-do, spiritually blind and naked. These Christian communities are so devoid of the Holy Spirit they can't sustain belief. The witness of God is snuffed out.

P5) WE KNOW THE FEAR OF THE LORD SO WE EMPLORE YOU: There are no believers gathering “**neither flocks**”, no believers in positions of authority “**nor bull**”, no dedicated workers serving “**nor donkey**”. Without Christians at large in society there is nothing to restrain chaos, the inevitable condemnation and judgment of God on ungodliness.

P4+P5) DEATH TO THE CHRIST KILLERS: When we take the Gematria of 2253 and subtract 1189 (one full rotation of Bible chapters) the remainder is 1064. The 1064th Bible Chapter is 1 Cor. 2 which says: “**The rulers of this age are coming to nothing**”. After the Crucifixion of Christ we saw the fall of Rome in short order. God keeps score. The wheels of justice keep rolling until all accounts are settled.

WARNING AGAINST RIGHTEOUS FURY

We have spoken against antisemitism. What should our attitude be towards Man-made Religions in the Christian sphere? What should our attitude be towards Copts, Catholics, Orthodox, or Protestant Denominations? As injurious to the One Faith as they are, our attitude must be the same. Detest sectarianism. But don't hate or harm the devotees. Don't argue with them. Don't visit their chapels and cathedrals. Don't listen to their ministries. But never resort to violence or personal attacks. God will be the Judge. As the Book of Jude says:

“**But you beloved, build yourselves up in your most holy faith,**

praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God,

looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

And on some have compassion... but others save with fear

pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment [SECT] **defiled by the flesh**” (v 20 – 23)

PROPHETIC FULFILMENT

The prophecies of Judges 6 did not wait for centuries and millennia for fulfilment. Only a short time after the scholars from Ezra's Sect of Scribes set up shop in the Ptolemaic Kingdom the rival Seleucid Empire led by Antiochus IV 'Epiphanes' came in a rage against Jerusalem. He desecrated the Temple and massacred young and old. In the space of three days 40,000 died and 40,000 were enslaved.

Jews are the greatest victims of Ezra's Sect of Scribes. It is so sad.

Christians should be so much the wiser. But alas: not to be.

JUDGES 6 V 5

“For they came up with their cattle and their tents, and they came as grasshoppers for multitude; [for] both they and their camels were without number: and they entered into the land to destroy it.”

Verse 5 corresponds to the period 187 BC – 88 BC, the 5th hundred years ‘under the hand of Midian’. It is a time of calamity and near constant conflict of arms in the tiny territory of Judea.

There were four major events (*) during this period of time. All of them were predicted in the Gematria of this verse as we will show.

SECULAR EVENTS & SACRED EVENTS (Very Intertwined)

- | | |
|--------|---|
| BC 175 | Antiochus IV takes the throne of the Seleucid Empire, suzerain of Judea. Like his father he does not antagonize Jews. Antiochus IV accepts a large bribe and the High Priest to Jason. Three years later Antiochus IV accepts another bribe and changes the High Priest to Menelaus. Jason spreads rumors Menelaus sold articles from the Temple to raise the money for the bribe. |
| BC 170 | Sixth Syrian war begins between the Ptolemaic Kingdom and the Seleucids. Antiochus IV attacks Egypt and has success. On his return journey he stops in Jerusalem and raids the Treasury for 1800 talents. |
| BC 168 | <p>Jason heard a rumor Antiochus IV died so he attempts a coup against Menelaus. Antiochus IV believes Judea has revolted.</p> <p><u>Antiochus IV sacks Jerusalem</u> (*) killing and enslaving tens of thousands. Worse, he <u>imposes Hellenization</u> (*): forbids Jewish custom, required Jews to eat pork, work on the Sabbath, cease circumcising boys, etc.</p> <p>Antiochus IV confiscated lands and set up a new citadel in Jerusalem. He established a new syncretic Jewish-Greek religion. He returned a second time and <u>sacked Jerusalem again</u> (*).</p> |
| BC 167 | Mattathias, a Jew in the countryside refused to make the mandated offering to Greek gods, killed a fellow Jew for doing so, and a Greek official presiding on the occasion. |
| BC 166 | <u>Mattathias begins a guerilla campaign</u> (*): attacks Hellenized Jews, destroys Greek altars, & forcibly circumcises Jewish boys. His nickname: ‘The Hammer’ or ‘Maccabee’. |
| BC 164 | Antiochus IV dies and the regent ruling in his place unbans the Jews. Mattathias captures Jerusalem and re-establishes Jewish practices in the Temple. |

- BC 160 Mattathias dies in battle. Seleucids reassert control of Jerusalem. Take hostages of prominent families.
- BC 153-2 Jonathon, brother of Mattathias, makes agreement with Demetrius I. The Seleucids withdraw and release the hostages. Jonathon then betrays Demetrius I and makes a deal with his rival. Jonathon becomes the High Priest in return for supplying troops to fight in Seleucid wars.
- BC 143 Jonathon is invited by the Greeks to a meeting. He is captured and executed. Simon Thassi succeeds Jonathon.
- BC 141 Simon drives the Greeks out of the citadel in Jerusalem (*).
- BC 139 Rome recognizes the Hasmonean Dynasty founded by Mattathias and his brothers. Simon calls himself 'Nasi' (Prince) and 'Ethnarch' (Ruler) not king.
- BC 135 Simon and his two sons are murdered. Third son John Hyrcanus becomes High Priest.
- BC 129 Hasmoneans stop paying tribute to Seleucids.
- BC 104 Aristobulus I, son of John Hyrcanus, becomes King of Judea and High Priest.
- BC 103 Alexander Janneus becomes King and High Priest. He favored the aristocratic Sadducees. The Pharisees were critical saying it was against God's law for a King to be High Priest. They also insisted a valid King must descend from David.
- BC 99 Alexander Janneus, performing duties as High Priest, insulted the Pharisees by pouring their water libation not on the altar but on his feet. The crowd was shocked. They hurled insults and threw fruits at him. Outraged, he killed 6,000 people.
- A Judean Civil War broke out. (*) The rebels called on the Seleucids for help which they sent. Demetrius III won a battle against King Janneus. The rebels then switched sides in sympathy. On this news Demetrius III retreated. War broke out again and the rebels lost. Most were killed.
- King Janneus had 800 Jews, mostly Pharisees, crucified. He killed their wives and children before their eyes. Alexander Janneus increased the size of his kingdom considerably being almost constantly on campaign.
- He died in BC 76. Other than the Pharisees he was popular with the people. Zealous as he was to impose Jewish laws and practices to a wider circle of the region.

GEMATRIA ANALYSIS

In Judges 6 v 5 there are 15 Hebrew words. We will divide the verse into five sets of 3 words each.

- | | | | |
|-----|--|----------|---|
| P1) | "For they and their cattle" | G = 1446 | O KING ON THE THRONE! WE ADORE YOU |
| P2) | "they came up and their tents they came" | G = 792 | SWORD CUTS OFF ALL FLESH |
| P3) | "as a swarm of locusts a multitude and to them" | G = 1115 | TRUMPET CALL OF GOD:
DEAD RISE TO MEET HIM |
| P4) | "and their camels is no number" | G = 1816 | BLOODY WARRIOR BELIEVES
GOD IS ON HIS SIDE |
| P5) | "and they invaded the land to ruin" | G = 1871 | HAUGHTY QUEEN TREMBLES: WILL SPEARS
PIERCE ME ALSO |

We will now drill down into each word in the five parts (P1) to (P5) of the verse.

Part 1 (Judges 6 v 5)

The words in this portion of the verse point to the chief sin of the nation at the time: Temple desecration.

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---------|--|
| 1 | "For" | G = 30 | BLOOD |
| | | | Properly offered sacrificial blood was able to cover sin. Improperly offered sacrificial blood was damning. Priestly ministry was corrupt. |
| 2 | "They" | G = 605 | CITY DOOMED |
| | | | Sin's stench reeked more with each passing year. It was inevitable God would have to stop it. The 605 th chapter of the Bible is Psalm 127 "Unless the LORD guards the city the watchman stays awake in vain." |
| 3 | "And their cattle" | G = 811 | FILL THE TEMPLE WITH THE SLAIN, SAVE THOSE GRIEVING ITS SIN |
| | | | Torah is clear: the High Priest must descend from Aaron. Priests must be of the tribe of Levi. But at this time kings and emperors were appointing unqualified men for large bribes or appointing themselves |

Phrase: **"For they and their cattle"** G = 1446 O KING ON THE THRONE! WE ADORE YOU

When we subtract one full rotation of Bible Chapters (1189) the remainder is 257 WORSHIP IS AN ABOMINATION. The 257th Bible chapter is 1 Sam. 21 where David who was neither King nor High Priest at the

time took the showbread, which was MOST HOLY, only to be eaten by the High Priest in a Holy Place, and he distributed it to common soldiers.

Needless to say sins against MOST HOLY things are grievous matters.

Why did the High Priest agree to hand over the showbread? He was awed by David as if he were already resplendent royalty. He readily transgressed his official duties because he did not serve Yahweh. He lived to serve whoever was the latest strongman, overlord, or ruler in power.

Priests were just “cattle”. Another possession to be traded and trafficked controlled and consumed by the rich and powerful.

Soon all the Jews would be shocked by Antiochus’ desecration of the Temple. They should have been shocked by the desecration of the Temple by the corrupt and illegitimate priesthood.

Part 2 (Judges 6 v 5)

The words in this portion of the verse point to God’s judgment for sin.

1 “They came up” G = 116 PRAYER OF CONFESSION

116th Bible chapter is Lev. 26 where it says “If you walk contrary to Me and do not obey Me I will bring on you seven times more plagues according to your sins” (v 21) Only one place in the Bible does it say visitors ‘come up’ – that is to Jerusalem. So the prophecy is a judgment on Jerusalem.

2 “and their tents” G = 657 SUDDEN DESTRUCTION

657TH Bible chapter is Prov. 29 where it says “He who hardens his neck will be destroyed.” You will be living in tents because your city will be devastated.

3 “they came” G = 19 FAITH

The phrase ‘they came’ is repeated. The destruction will be double. Genesis 19 is the account of a visitation of two angels and the destruction of two cities: Sodom and Gomorrah.

Phrase: “They came up and their tents – they came” G = 792 SWORD CUTS OF ALL FLESH

The 792nd Bible chapter is Jer. 47: “Behold waters will rise out of the North and shall be an overwhelming flood... the land and all that is in it” (v 2). **Prophecy fulfilled:** Within the time frame of the verse: BC 187 – 88 Jerusalem is attacked and suffers a great slaughter, twice, in the hands of the Empire to its North.

Part 3 (Judges 6 v 5)

The words in this portion of the verse point to a Great Falling Away from the faith resulting from enforced Hellenization, syncretic religion, and bans on Jewish practices.

1 “as a swarm of locusts” G = 242 SAINTS GO TO HEAVEN

242nd Bible chapter is 1 Sam. 6 where 50,000 Israelites die in Beth Shemesh for the sin of looking into the Ark. Again, the Scripture points to sins and transgressions of the Temple and its furniture. The Ark was a Most Holy object. Even Levites did not touch it but inserted poles in rings to transport it.

2 “a multitude” G = 232 REPULSIVE PEOPLE

232nd Bible chapter is Judges 21 where a city in Israel was massacred to retrieve virgins for Benjamin. That city did not heed the call to come to the sacred assembly at Mitzpah. Why? They had fallen away from the faith. They no longer paid respect to the sacred things of God.

3 “and to them” G = 641 ACCEPT DISCIPLINE

641st Bible chapter is Prov. 13 where it says “the lamp of the wicked will be put out” (v 9) and “he who despises the Word will be destroyed” (v 13).

Phrase: “As a swarm of locusts, a multitude, and to them” G = 1115 TRUMPET CALL OF GOD:
DEAD RISE TO MEET HIM.

What does a swarm of locust do? They eat everything that lives and leave devastation behind them. It is a scientific fact that a plague of locusts is triggered by drought. A drought is a lack of life supplying water. Water is a Bible type of belief. A drought is a lack of belief: a great falling away.

Prophecy fulfilled: The ‘swarm of locusts’ were the Hellenizing policies of Antiochus IV which aimed to strip Palestine of all Jewish practices and deny the exercise of their faith. The great majority of Jews chose to change religions rather than to suffer the consequences.

Trumpets were used in Israelite times to gather the people. But if the people change their religion they change their God and gather in the wrong place. In this case their God to be obeyed became the secular ruler – the Seleucid King. They rose to attention when he called. They signed up to his syncretic religion. They were ‘dead’ insofar as faith in Jehovah was concerned.

Part 4 (Judges 6 v 5)

The words in this portion of the verse point to the Maccabee resistance movement: the struggle of a small remnant of Jews within a small province against a vast Empire. They persisted in the struggle because they were justified. After many years they kicked the Greeks out.

1 “and their camels” G = 725 BEASTS OF BABYLON CARRY OFF IDOLS

725th Bible chapter is Isaiah 46 which says “**Even to your grey hairs I will carry you... I will carry you and deliver you.**” (v 4) A camel is a creature that can survive in a parched land. The Maccabees were cut from this cloth – they did not lose their faith when all around them fell away – they put their faith in God to carry them to victory.

2 “is no” G = 711 DEATH TO THE HOUSE OF FOOLS

Greeks are portrayed in Scripture as fools. The resistance did not seek a better social contract with the Greek overlords – they wanted them out of Jewish life entirely. The 711th Bible chapter is Isa. 32 where it says: “**Behold a King will reign in righteousness**” (v 1). **Prophecy fulfilled:** Aristobulus, a Hebrew, became King of Judea in BC 104. Isa. 32 also says “**The stammering tongue will speak plainly**” (v 4). Because of the Babylonian captivity and enforced Hellenization Jews spoke Greek or Aramaic. Few knew Hebrew or could speak it. Under the Maccabees this would begin to be reversed.

3 “number” G = 6380 PRIESTS CAST OUT

Unfortunately the Maccabees had an Achilles’ heel. They did not discern the chief nation sin of the time which was corruption of the priesthood. They persisted in the practice of appointing the High Priest, usually themselves. This was the sin of the Northern Kingdom of Israel who established its own priests and worship system long ago. At one point a Maccabee ruler even moved the capital to Shechem – the old haunts of Samaria. For this reason trouble and instability plagued the affairs of Maccabee rulers. Their dynasty lasted roughly from BC 129 to BC 76 – less than 70 years. Their days were a ‘**number**’ – not many. God would cast them out as unworthy of the priesthood.

Prophecy Fulfilled: A rebellion of God inspired zealots rose up and fought the Greek masters of Judea.
This is the third major event in the prophetic period, predicted in chronological order.

Phrase: **“and their camels is no number”** G = 1816 BLOODY WARRIOR BELIEVES
GOD IS ON HIS SIDE

When we subtract one rotation of Bible chapters (1189) from 1816 the remainder is 627. The 627th Bible chapter is Psalm 149 where it says: **“Let the high praises of God be in their mouth and a two edged sword in their hand to execute vengeance on the nations”** (v 6). Truly the Maccabee rebellion was God inspired. Unfortunately, their sword was double edged: they killed Israelites as easily as they killed Greeks.

Part 5 (Judges 6 v 5)

The Maccabees ruin the land they have just liberated.

1 **“and they invaded”** G = 25 PAYMENT FOR SIN

25th Bible chapter is Gen. 25 where it says: **“Two nations are in your womb”** (v 23). The Maccabee rebellion caused on and off violence and warfare across the countryside and in the cities from BC 166 to BC 139.

2 **“the land”** G = 1103 WHOLEHEARTED SERVANTS OF EARTHLY MASTERS

The Maccabee rebellion may have been God inspired but it quickly turned to Man inspired. Military troops follow their earthly commander and do whatever he asks, however brutal.

3 **“to ruin”** G = 743 LUCIFER GOD OF THIS WORLD

743rd Bible chapter is Isa. 3 which says: **“We are all like an unclean thing. Our righteousness is filthy rags... No one calls on your Name. For You have hidden Your Face from us and have consumed us”**. Fights between trained soldiers in set piece battles are bloody but infrequent and localized. Guerilla wars cover a larger area and are persistent - causing devastation of the land, ruin of buildings, death and displacement of civilians.

Phrase: **“and they invaded the land to ruin”** G = 1871 HAUGHTY QUEEN TREMBLES:
WILL SPEARS PIERCE ME ALSO?

When we subtract one rotation of Bible chapters (1189) from 1871 the remainder is 682. The 682nd Bible chapter is Isa. 3 where it says: **“Behold, the LORD will take away from Jerusalem”** (v 1) **“the whole supply of bread... His Princes have eaten up the vineyard”** (v 14) **“They declare their sin like Sodom”** (v 9).

Prophecy Fulfilled: Amazingly, all these things come true. Maccabees massacred fellow Jews. Alexander Jannaeus ordered a slaughter and 6,000 were killed. The Pharisees revolted. He defeated them and crucified 800 while he feasted with concubines. The Pharisees ‘supplied bread’ – sole providers of Torah teaching.

JUDGES 6 V 6

“And Israel was greatly impoverished because of the Midianites; and the children of Israel cried out to the LORD.”

Verse 6 corresponds to the period 87 BC – 87 AD, the 6th hundred years ‘under the hand of Midian’. The last King of Judea dies, the territory becomes a Roman province governed by a prefect, and the Messiah is born. There were four kings and one queen in this period – all described in chronological order in the verse.

SACRED AND SECULAR EVENTS (Very Intertwined)

1. The priesthood continued to be corrupt. Descendants of the Maccabee Dynasty fought over the High Priesthood and paid bribes to Rome to sway the appointment.
2. Sanhedrin became the Supreme Court in Israel.
3. Roman Civil War. Political order and power was shaken when Caesar defeated Pompey.
4. Herod was given the title ‘King of the Jews’ by the Roman Senate. He supported Caesar in the war.
5. Herod constructed the 3rd Temple – a palace – many fortifications – and a harbor.
6. Herod dies – the Romans would not permit another King of Judea.
7. Herod’s sons served briefly as governors then Rome appointed a Roman prefect.

GEMATRIA ANALYSIS

There are 10 Hebrew words in the verse. We will divide them into two sections:

Part 1 Related to Secular Events **“And impoverished Israel exceedingly because of Midian”**

Prophetic of King Jannaeus, Queen Salome, King Hyrcannus II, King Antigonas II, King Herod.

Part 2 Related to Spiritual Events **“And cried out Sons of Isreal to Jahweh”**

Prophetic of the Savior Jesus Christ and His ministry in the Holy Land. Jesus did not enlist soldiers to fight Rome as the people expected the Messiah to do. Whether they accepted Him or not, the true King of the Jews walked among them.

Part 1 SECULAR EVENTS

1 **“And impoverished”** G = 50 FIRE: PURIFICATION, PERSECUTION

This description perfectly fits the man reigning as King at the beginning of the time frame in BC 87: King Alexander Jannaeus. He was a warrior zealot: continually on campaign in Judea and the surrounding region to *purify* it from Greek altars, foreign occupiers, and Hellenistic influence. But he also *persecuted* perceived rivals from among his own people.

How was Judea impoverished? Violence and bloodshed quench humility and the tender heart the LORD desires.

2 “Israel”

G = 541 I WILL SEE THE WICKED FALL

In BC 76 King Jannaeus died and was succeeded by his wife. Queen Salome Alexandra was a pious woman who fulfilled her wifely duty to King Jannaeus but loathed his mistreatment of the Pharisees. She hid some of them from her husband’s wrath. As Queen she restored the Pharisees to good grace. She assented to their request for the Sanhedrin to become a Supreme Court in matters of justice and religion. In return she obtained recognition of the Hasmonean Dynasty. She accomplished all this peacefully, through diplomacy and persuasion. During her reign Judea enjoyed prosperity.

3 “exceedingly”

G = 45 PRESERVED LIFE, BARELY SURVIVED

Jerusalem was attacked four times by foreign powers in this period.

In BC 67 Hyrchanus II became King. He was already the High Priest. His brother Aristobulus II rose in rebellion and prevailed. Hyrcanus II took refuge in Nabatea. King Aretas besieged Jerusalem on behalf of Hyrcanus II. Aristobulus II bribed the Romans with 400 talents. Rome advised King Aretas to retreat. While retreating Aristobulus II attacked and defeated them. But Pompey deemed Hyrcanus II more loyal than Aristobulus II. In BC 63 Rome besieged Jerusalem and took Aristobulus II prisoner to Rome with his son Antigonus II. Hyrcanus II was restored as High Priest but not as King. Judea came under Roman jurisdiction. Antigonus II gained the support of Pharisees and Sadducees to resist Rome because the taxation of Rome was onerous and the members of both those parties were wealthy. With Parthian help Antigonus II conquered Jerusalem. Herod fled quickly to Rome where in 40 BC he was given the title ‘King of the Jews’. In BC 39 Herod laid siege to Jerusalem. In BC 38 Herod wrested control of Galilee and all of Judea except Jerusalem. In BC 36 or 37 Herod captured Antigonus II. He was taken to Antioch and executed.

4 “because of”

G = 180 SIN BRINGS A CURSE

BC 35 King Herod orders Aristobulus III assassinated ending the Hasmonean Dynasty.

BC 30 King Herod accuses Hyrcanus of plotting. So he put to death the former High Priest.

BC 23 King Herod built himself a palace in Jerusalem

BC 19 King Herod begins a Temple restoration.

King Herod erects a Golden Eagle at the entrance to the Temple.

BC 10 King Herod's Temple is inaugurated.

BC 4 Two teachers and forty students of the Law lay axe to the Golden Eagle. King Herod burns them to death. Then he dies.

The 180th Bible chapter is Deuteronomy 27 where it is written: “**Cursed is the one who makes a carved or moulded image, the work of the hands of a craftsman**” (v 15). King Herod did some good in his reign: he brought grain from Egypt to aid the people in a famine. He renovated the Temple. But he nullified any credit he might have deserved by offending the LORD grievously when he erected the image of an eagle on the LORD's House.

5 “Midian”

G = 754 DECEIVING BROTHERS

King Herod's son Archelaus inherited Judea, Samaria, and Idumea. He presented himself to the people and they complained loudly to him: demanding a pure High Priest and mourning the two teachers and forty students. He appealed for calm. A demonstration of Pharisees formed in the Temple. Archelaus sent deputies into the Temple to disperse the demonstration. They were stoned and fled. Archelaus sent in troops and 3,000 were killed.

Archelaus went to Rome and pleaded with Caesar for the rule of the Jews. Caesar gave him the title 'Ethnarch'. Only a short time later in AD 6 Pharisees complained to Caesar and Archelaus was deposed.

The Pharisees would repeat their schemes in denouncing Jesus Christ and appealing to Roman authorities to have him sentenced to death.

Sects of Man's Religion do irreparable harm to the Kingdom of God. Blinded by zeal for their Man Made rules and fabricated doctrines they kill the prophets and foment insurrection against kings and those in authority. They are venomous snakes. So said John the Baptist.

Part 2 SPIRITUAL EVENTS

The last five words of the verse: “**and cried out the Sons of Israel to Jahweh**”. These words are prophetic of the time after Herod's death in BC 4 until the end of the time frame in AD 87. Dates below are estimates – none definitive – open for discussion.

BC 7 Jesus is born

BC 6 Magi set out on their journey

BC 5 Magi arrive – worship the Christ child

BC 4 Slaughter of the innocents – flight to Egypt by Joseph and Mary

BC 3 Holy family returns

AD 9 Jesus appears in the Temple

AD 30 Christ is crucified

AD 31 Saul converted

AD 39 Congregation in Antioch

AD 41 James is martyred

AD 44 Paul and Barnabus in Asia Minor

AD 51 Council in Jerusalem

AD 52 Paul and Silas in Greece

AD 53 Paul in Corinth

AD 61 Paul in Rome

AD 66 Great Revolt: Roman – Jew War

AD 70 Fall of Jerusalem

AD 80 Center of Christianity is Ephesus

GEMATRIA ANALYSIS

1 “and cried out”

G = 199

DRAMATIC DELIVERANCE

The 199th Bible chapter is Joshua 12 – account of the possession of the Promised Land by the armies of the LORD led by Moses and Joshua and the dispossession of two kings East of the Jordan and 31 kings West of the Jordan. It is a picture of the total defeat of the enemies of God. On the Cross Jesus “cried out” and three days later rose from the dead – a total defeat of the enemies of God.

Christ’s victory provided a new way for sin to be forgiven, by faith alone in the merits of His sinless sacrifice. We who believe have entered into a Dramatic Deliverance: our eternal destiny – punishment with the enemies of God – is changed. Now we are going to Heaven to be with Jesus. 199 is the 46th prime number. The Bible number 46 means RESURRECTION.

2 “Sons of Israel”

G = 603

COVENANT PEOPLES GATHERED

On the Day of Pentecost Peter preached and 3,000 Jews and visitors from far off lands believed in Jesus. A community of believers in Jesus came into existence for the first time. They gathered in homes, broke bread together, and learned from the apostles. There was love, joy, and miraculous healings. After the martyrdom of Stephen believers left Jerusalem and new fellowships sprung up, first in Antioch, then Asia Minor, then Greece, then in the whole Roman world.

3 “to Jahweh”

G = 57

DEPART THE FAITH

The 57th Bible chapter is Exodus 7 where Pharaoh hardened his heart and the Nile River turned to blood. Blood is very unclean. The people could not drink the water. Pharaoh is a type of a religious leader – being considered holy in the Egyptian belief system – descended from the gods – and object of faith to all the acolytes of Egypt.

Religious leaders of the Jews – the High Priest and the Sanhedrin – condemned Jesus to death and the Jewish people were punished for the sin of their leaders. They ceased to be God’s people: they couldn’t drink the water. God removed His protection of them. The Holy Spirit departed from Herod’s Temple and after a short time re-entered a new Temple – the body of Christ – the fellowship and community of believers worldwide.

4 “<silence>”

G = 80

PRAYER

The 80th Bible chapter is Exodus 30. It contains the instructions for the altar of incense, the laver, and the holy anointing oil. The altar of incense is in the Holy Place directly in front of the veil and therefore in close proximity to the Ark of the Covenant. When the Priest offers incense on this altar he participates in an intimate act of worship: the flame and scented smoke are symbolic of his prayers ascending to God on behalf of the worshipers in the courtyard.

Our High Priest Jesus Christ ministers in the “**true Tabernacle which the LORD erected – not man**” (Heb. 8 v 2), where He “**ever lives to intercede for us**” – being mediator of a New Covenant between man and God.

LAST FIVE WORDS IN JUDGES 6 V 6

“and cried out the Sons of Israel to Jahweh”

G = 939

GO TO THE LOST SHEEP OF ISRAEL

The Gematria of the last five words in the verse is 939. The 939th Bible chapter is Matthew 10 where Jesus says: “**Behold – I am sending you out as sheep among wolves**” (v 6) “**And you will be hated by all men for My Name’s sake.**” (v 22).

This prophetic time frame was full of martyr’s deaths, including almost all the apostles. Missionaries like Paul were routinely beaten, stoned, dragged into court, ridiculed, vilified, and condemned.

TEN WORDS OF JUDGES 6 V 6

“**And impoverished Israel exceedingly because of Midian and cried out the Sons of Israel to Jahweh**”

G = 2509

FOR THE HOPE SET BEFORE HIM
HE ENDURED THE CROSS

Jesus was sent to a cruel death by a committee of religious men. Midianites.

