

AN EXAMPLE OF THE SYMBOLIC SIGNIFICANCE OF NUMBERS IN ST. MARK'S GOSPEL

In St. Mark's Gospel Jesus is the authoritative Son of God and God's triumphant envoy come to suffer and die in order to claim victory over sin and death. Mark continually focuses on the immediacy of the proclamation of Jesus' message of salvation and his accounts of Jesus' teachings are often presented in a central theme sandwiched between two related or concurrent events. An example of Mark's skillful telling of the events of Jesus' teaching coupled with word repetition and the symbolism of numbers is found in the account of the healing of Jarius' daughter and the woman with an issue of blood in Mark 5:21-43. The account begins with the petition of Jarius, the president of the local synagogue. Jarius' **12 year** old daughter (Mk 5:42) is at the point of death and he pleads with Jesus to come to his house to heal his **daughter** (Mk 5:23; 35) before it is too late. As Jarius leads the way, Jesus follows with a large crowd pressing upon Him. Suddenly Jesus feels a surge of His healing power pass from Him. He stops, turns to the crowd and demands: *Who has touched my clothes?* A woman in the crowd has suffered from an issue of blood which has rendered her ritually unclean for **12 years**. She confesses that she has touched Jesus' garment—probably touching one of the tassels of his prayer shawl, one of the *tzitziyoth* of His talit (Num 15:37-39)]—believing if only she could touch Him she would be healed. Jesus replies to the woman: *My **daughter**, ...your **faith** has restored you to health; go in peace and be free of your complaint* (Mk 5:34).

While Jesus was speaking to the woman some people from Jarius' house arrive with the distressing news that the child has died, but Jesus urges Jarius to have **faith**. Arriving at Jarius' home, Jesus only allows **3** Apostles to accompany Him: Peter, James and John Zebedee. Addressing the weeping relatives Jesus insists that the child is not dead but only asleep. When the assembled relatives ridicule Jesus He turns them out of the house, only permitting the 2 parents and His 3 Apostles—**5** people, to remain with Him. Together with the child and Jesus there are **7** in the room when Jesus commands the child to “get up!” Mark records *The little girl got up at once and began to walk about, for she was **12 years old**.*

Do not miss the other significant repetitions. In addition to the number “12”, and the word “daughter” applied to both the child and the woman; the words “**may be saved [cured]**” are applied to the daughter in Mark 5:24 and in are spoken by the woman in Mark 5:28, and the word “**faith**” is spoken by Jesus to the woman in Mark 5:34 and to Jarius in Mark 5:36.

The central theme which unites both these stories is healing, purification, restoration, and new life—not just of these two **daughters** of Israel but of the healing and restoration Jesus is bringing to all of Old Covenant Israel. **12** is the number of perfection in government and, therefore, the number which signifies the Church. Just as Jesus raised the child of Jarius to new life, so will He raise up the faithful remnant of Old Covenant Israel to become the faithful New Covenant people of God. The selection of the **3** Apostles is a sign that what is about to happen is of theological significance; the **5** people invited by Jesus to come into the room when the child is healed signifies the gift of God's

grace applied through the faith of the believers, and the 7 gathered together, including Jesus and the child, signifies the healing and regenerative power of God the Holy Spirit—7 is the number of spiritual perfection. In St. Mark's Gospel the healing and restoration of these two daughters of Israel signified the healing and restoration of the faithful covenant people of God who embraced Jesus as the promised Messiah. It is through this faithful remnant that Jesus will establish the New Israel of the New Covenant and the Universal Church through will the whole world "may be saved".

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FOCUS OF THE FOUR GOSPELS

GOSPEL	MATTHEW	MARK	LUKE	JOHN
AUDIENCE	Jews	Romans	Hellenists	Greco-Roman World
FOCUS ON JESUS	Jesus is the Messianic Davidic King who fulfills the Old Covenant prophesies and expectations	Jesus is the authoritative Son of God—God’s triumphant envoy come to suffer and die in order to claim victory over sin and death	Jesus is the perfect Son of Man, the Messiah prophesized by the prophets, who came to save and to minister to all people through the power of God the Holy Spirit	Jesus Christ is the fully divine Son of God who existed before Creation. He is the true Lamb of sacrifice through whom we receive the gift of eternal life.
KEY VERSES	<p>-Mathew 1:1 <i>“The roll of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, son of David, son of Abraham.”</i></p> <p>- Matthew 16:16-18 <i>“Simon, son of Jonah, you are a blessed man! Because it was not human agency that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church.”</i></p> <p>-Matthew 28:18-20 <i>“Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore, make disciples of all nations; baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And look, I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.’”</i></p>	<p>-Mark 1:1 <i>“The beginning of the gospel about Jesus Christ; the Son of God.”</i></p> <p>-Mark 8:28-30 <i>“On the way he put this question to his disciples, ‘Who do people say I am?’ [...] ‘But you’, he asked them, ‘who do you say I am?’ Peter spoke up and said to him, ‘You are the Christ.’”</i></p> <p>-Mark 10:45 <i>“For the Son of man himself came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”</i></p> <p>-Mark 16:15-16 <i>“And he said to them, ‘Go out to the whole world; proclaim the gospel to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned.”</i></p>	<p>-Luke 2:34 <i>“Look he is destined for the fall and for the rise of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is opposed...”</i></p> <p>-Luke 11:9-10 <i>“So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; everyone who searches finds; everyone who knocks will have the door opened.”</i></p> <p>-Luke 24:25-27 <i>“Then he said to them, ‘You foolish men! So slow to believe all that the prophets have said! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer before entering into his glory? Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout Scripture that were about himself.”</i></p>	<p>-John 1:1 <i>“In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.”</i></p> <p>-John 1:29 <i>“..he saw Jesus coming towards him and said, ‘Look, there is the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.”</i></p> <p>-John 6:53-56 <i>“In all truth I tell you, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise that person up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in that person.”</i></p>
KEY WORDS	Kingdom of Heaven, fulfilled	Immediately /Now	Son of Man	Believe, eternal life

THE VIRGIN MARY AS THE ARK OF THE NEW COVENANT

Mary, in whom the Lord himself has just made his dwelling, is the daughter of Zion in person, the Ark of the Covenant, the place where the glory of God dwells. She is 'the dwelling of God [...] with men.' CCC#2676

God the Holy Spirit overshadowed and then indwelt the Ark. The Ark became the dwelling place of the presence of God. Exodus 40:34-35	God the Holy Spirit overshadowed and then indwelt Mary. At that time Mary's womb became the dwelling place of the presence of God. Luke 1:35
The Ark contained the 10 Commandments (the words of God in stone), a pot of manna, and Aaron's rod that came back to life. Deuteronomy 10:3-5; Hebrews 9:4	The womb of the Virgin contained Jesus: the living Word of God enfleshed, the living bread from heaven, "the Branch" (Messianic title) who would die but come back to life. Luke 1:35
The Ark traveled to the hill country of Judah to rest in the house of Obed-edom. 2 Samuel 6:1-11	Mary traveled to the hill country of Judah (Judea) to the home of Elizabeth. Luke 1:39
Dressed in a priestly ephod, King David approached the Ark and danced and leapt for joy. 2 Samuel 6:14	John the Baptist, son of a priest who would himself become a priest, leapt for joy in Elizabeth's womb at the approach of Mary. Luke 1:43
David shouted for joy in the presence of God and the holy Ark. 2 Samuel 6:15	Elizabeth exclaimed with a loud cry of joy in the presence of God within Mary. Luke 1:42
David asked, "How is it that the Ark of the Lord comes to me?" 2 Samuel 6:9	Elizabeth asks, "Why is this granted unto me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" Luke 1:43
The Ark remained in the house of Obed-edom for 3 months. 2 Samuel 6:11	Mary remained in the house of her cousin Elizabeth for 3 months. Luke 1:56
The house of Obed-edom was blessed by the presence of the Ark. 2 Samuel 6:11	The word "blessed" is used 3 times in Luke 1:39-45 concerning Mary at Elizabeth's house.
The Ark returned to its sanctuary and eventually ends up in Jerusalem where the presence and glory of God is revealed in the newly built Temple. 2 Samuel 6:12; 1 Kings 8:9-11	Mary returned home from visiting Elizabeth and eventually comes to Jerusalem, where she presents God the Son in the Temple. Luke 1:56; 2:21-22
God made Aaron's rod (which would be kept in the Ark) return to life and bud to prove he was the legitimate High Priest. Numbers 17:8	God would resurrect His Son, who had become enfleshed in Mary's womb and born to bring salvation to all mankind, to prove He is the eternal High Priest. Hebrews 4:14

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A COMPARISON OF ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE BIRTHS OF JOHN AND JESUS WITH
THE PROMISES MADE TO KING DAVID AND MARY

The Announcement of John's Birth	The Announcement of Jesus' birth
The angel Gabriel appeared to Zechariah to tell of a miraculous birth: Luke 1:11	The angel Gabriel appears to Mary to tell of a miraculous birth: Luke 1:26-27
Gabriel tells Zechariah, " <i>Zechariah, do not be afraid, for your prayer has been heard.</i> " Luke 1:13	Gabriel tells Mary, " <i>Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favor.</i> " Luke 1:30
Gabriel announces the name of the child, " <i>...and you shall name him John</i> " Luke 1:13	Gabriel announces the name of the child, " <i>..and you must name him Jesus</i> " Luke 1:31
Gabriel announces the mission of the child, " <i>even from his mother's womb he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, and he will bring back many of the Israelites to the Lord their God...preparing for the Lord a people fit for him.</i> " Luke 1:15-17	Gabriel announces the mission of the child, " <i>He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob forever and his reign will have no end.</i> " Luke 1:32-33
Zechariah expresses disbelief and is rebuked, " <i>Zechariah said to the angel, 'How can I know this? I am an old man...The angle replied...'Look, since you do not believe my words....you will be silenced..'</i> " Luke 1:18-20	Mary expresses concern and is assured, " <i>'But how can this come about, since I have no knowledge of man?' The angel answered, 'The Holy Spirit will com upon you, and th4e power of the Most High will over you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God.'</i> " Luke 1:34-36
John is born: " <i>The time came for Elizabeth to have her child, and she gave birth to a son..</i> " Luke 1:57	Jesus is born: " <i>...the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth of a son, her first-born.</i> " Luke 2:6
John is circumcised and named on the 8 th day: " <i>Now it happened that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; ... 'he is to be called John.'</i> " Luke 1:59-60	Jesus is circumcised on the 8 th day: " <i>When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.</i> " Luke 2:21
Zechariah speaks the prophecy of the Benedictus in Luke 1:67-79	Mary speaks the prophecy of the Magnificat in Luke 1:47-55
John's birth story conclusion: " <i>...the child grew up and his spirit grew strong.</i> " Luke 1:80	Jesus' birth story conclusion: " <i>And as the child grew to maturity, he was filled with wisdom, and God's favor was with him.</i> " Luke 2:40

Promises made to David	Promises made to Mary
" <i>I am going to make your fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth.</i> " 2 Samuel 7:9	Luke 1:32 " <i>...and you will name him Jesus. He will be great...</i> "
" <i>Yahweh furthermore tells you he will make you a dynasty. And when your days are over and you fall asleep with your ancestors, I shall appoint your heir, your own son to succeed you and I shall make his sovereignty secure.</i> " 2 Samuel 7:11-13	" <i>The Lord will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.</i> " Luke 1:32-33
" <i>I shall be a father to him and he a son to me..</i> " 2 Samuel 7:14	" <i>And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God.</i> " Luke 1:32

JESUS, THE PROPHET GREATER THAN MOSES

Jesus is the new law giver and new covenant mediator who is leading the new Exodus:

- Moses told the people: *“From among yourselves, from among your own brothers, Yahweh your God will raise up a prophet like me; you will listen to him. This is exactly what you asked Yahweh your God to do—at Horeb, on the day of the Assembly, when you said, ‘Never let me hear the voice of Yahweh my God or see this great fire again, or I shall die.’ Then Yahweh said to me, ‘What they have said is well said. From their own brothers I shall raise up a prophet like yourself; I shall put my words into his mouth and he will tell them everything I command him. Anyone who refuses to listen to my words, spoken by him in my name, will have to render an account to me’”* (Deuteronomy 18:14b-19).
- *...but he deserves a greater glory than Moses, just as the builder of a house is more honored than the house itself. Every house is built by someone, of course, but God built everything that exists. It is true that Moses was trustworthy in the household of God, as a servant is, acting as witness to the things which were yet to be revealed, but Christ is trustworthy as a son is, over his household. And we are his household, as long as we fearlessly maintain the hope in which we glory* (Hebrews 3:3-6).

Jesus the Prophet Greater Than Moses

Sign prefigured by Moses	Jesus the Greater than Moses
1. The “sign” of the first plague: Changing the Nile River water into blood (Ex 7:14-25)	1. At Cana Jesus, using the holy water from stone vessels , transforms water into wine, the “blood of the grape.” This first “sign” is prefigured by Moses’ first “sign:” turning the Nile river water into blood, even the water in stone vessels . [John chapter 2 and Exodus 7:8-25; note verse 20 = <i>even in vessels of wood and stone</i>].
2. The Passover in Egypt: the firstborn saved under the sign of blood (Ex 12:1-34)	2. Moses was the first prophet to experience the Passover in Exodus 12 by redeeming the firstborn sons of Israel, but Jesus is the true Firstborn Son, and He is the true Passover victim. In order to save the firstborn sons Moses instructed the people to put the blood of the lamb on their door posts and to eat its roasted flesh at the first Passover. But it is Jesus who is the sacrificial firstborn Son, identified by John the Baptist as the true <i>Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world</i> [1:29].
3. The signs of miraculous feeding of the manna and quail when Moses implored God to provide nourishment for the people	3. In the miracle of the Loaves and Fishes in chapter 6:1-18 Jesus is the new Moses who feeds the crowd of over 5,000 people

<p>(Ex 16:1-36; Num 11:4-9; 31-32)</p>	<p>with five barley loaves [the 5 books of Moses] and two fishes [symbols of the Old and New Covenant Church] with 12 baskets left over prefigured by Moses and the miracle of the manna from heaven feeding the 12 tribes of Israel but in the New Covenant Jesus will provide a superabundance of grace. The 12 baskets left over are often misinterpreted as representing the 12 Apostles. This is missing the point that Israel began as a nation of 12 tribes descended from 12 men and now the new Israel, the Catholic-universal Church, will trace her descent from 12 spiritual fathers, the Apostles who are the first bishops of the New Covenant Church. In the New Covenant there will be an abundance of spiritual gifts not like the limited manna and quail of the Old Covenant.</p>
<p>4. The manna, the “bread from heaven,” God provided during the Exodus journey (Ex 16:1-36; Num 11:4-9; 31-32; Deut 8:3, 16; Josh 5:12)</p>	<p>4. In the time of Moses the covenant people received manna, bread from heaven, to nourish them on their journey to the Promised Land for 40 years. In John 6:1-15 Jesus also miraculously feeds the multitude like Moses but then in John 6:32-58 Jesus identifies His flesh as the true bread from heaven and the means to salvation; it is His flesh we must eat to be saved, and His blood we must drink to nourish us on our journey to the Promise Land of heaven. His flesh is the bread from heaven that is greater than the manna of Moses.</p>
<p>5. The Tabernacle: The Sanctuary built by Moses becomes the place of God’s presence among the people (Ex 25:8; 40:34-35)</p>	<p>5. Jesus is the God who is present: In Exodus 25:1-31:11 and 35:1-40:33 Moses received instruction on how to build the Sanctuary in which God’s presence would dwell. Centuries Later, King Solomon would build the Temple, God’s Dwelling Place, in Jerusalem. At the beginning of His ministry in chapter 2 at the Feast of Passover Jesus cleanses the Temple [John 2:13-22], a Temple which is prefigured by the Tabernacle of Moses where the presence of God resided. When Jesus</p>

	<p>cleansed the Temple, God was indeed present in His Dwelling Place. Jesus' cleansing of the Temple was to call Israel to repentance and to prepare the Old Covenant Church to be transformed into a fully redeemed New Covenant people. Moses built the first Tabernacle which housed the presence of God but Jesus' human body is the dwelling place of God and He will build the New Covenant Church, which after the coming of the Holy Spirit at the second great Pentecost, will be every covenant believer who becomes through the miracle of baptism by water and the Spirit, the dwelling place of God.</p>
<p>6. The Bronze Serpent Moses made which was "lifted up" to heal the people (Num 21:6-9)</p>	<p>6. In John 3:14 Jesus tells the people: <i>As Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so must the Son of man be lifted up so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.</i> Moses, at God's command, lifted up an image of a bronze serpent on a pole to heal the people. Jesus, lifted up on the Cross as God's holy sacrifice, will give life to whomever looks up to Him and believes. Moses saved the children of Israel; Jesus will save the world. In the sacrifice of the Mass, it is Jesus' image on the Crucifix to which we look to remind us that through Him we are spiritually healed.</p>
<p>7. Moses the Prophet, Lawgiver, and covenant mediator (Ex 3:10-12; 24:4;33:7-17; Deut 18:18-20)</p>	<p>7. Jesus is the promised prophet of Deuteronomy 18:14-22, He is the giver of the New Law, and He is the mediator of the New and more perfect Covenant [John 4:19; 7:40; James 1:25; Romans 8:1-2; Hebrews 3:3; Hebrews 8:6; 9:15; 12:24].</p>
<p>8. Moses leads the children of Israel in the desert wandering—the Exodus generation of Israel is paralyzed with unbelief and cannot take possession of the Promised Land. 38 years later the old generation is dead and the new generation will complete Israel's destiny (Deut 2:14).</p>	<p>8. In John 5: 5-9 Jesus heals a man paralyzed for 38 years. The man's paralysis signified Israel's paralysis after her rejection of God's plan at Kadesh Barnes—the plan to bring the people to salvation in the Promise Land by the conquest of Canaan. At God's command the people were be barred from entering the Promised Land until every member of that "accursed generation" had died [Numbers 13-14]. For 38 years Israel was paralyzed</p>

	<p>before she was restored and led by Joshua [Yehosua] and given salvation in the Promised Land. Jesus [also named in Hebrew, Yehosua] has come to heal a paralyzed nation, to restore her and to lead her to the “Promised Land,” heaven.</p>
<p>9. Moses and the water miracles. Moses performed five water miracles that prefigured Christ:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moses turned the water of the Nile River into blood (Ex 7:14-24); even the water which was being stored in stone vessels (Ex 7:19). • Moses controlled the forces of nature when he parted the Sea of Reeds [Red Sea] so the people could pass safely to the other side (Ex 14:15-31). • Moses struck a rock in the wilderness to give the people water to drink on their journey through the wilderness (Ex 17:1-7). • Moses was instructed by God to “speak” to the rock in order to receive life-giving water (Num 20:10) • Moses turned bitter water sweet with the wood of a tree (Ex 15:22-25). 	<p>9. Jesus reenacts Moses’ water miracles and surpasses them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Cana Jesus turned the water in stone vessels into the blood of the grape (Jn 2:6-9). • Jesus demonstrates His divinity for the Apostles in a private sign only for them when He overcame the power of nature to walk on the water (Jn 6:16-21). • He walked on water and controlled nature to calm the sea (Jn 6:16-21). • Jesus identified Himself as the source of “living Water” [Holy Spirit] to the Samaritan woman (Jn 4:10-14). • Jesus announced to the covenant people that He is the source of the “living water” promised by the prophets at the celebration of the Feast of Tabernacles. His is the Rock from whom living water flows (1 Cor10:1-5). He was struck down once for our sins and now all we have to do is call out to Him and He comes to us in the Eucharist (Jn 7:37-39). • Jesus will give up His life on a tree [the cross]. His sacrifice will bring the sweet gift of salvation to mankind when water and blood flow from the side of the “Rock” of our salvation. The Resurrection will be His 7th and final public sign (Jn 19:16; 34).
<p>10. The Feast of Tabernacles commemorated the events of the Exodus</p>	<p>10. At the Feast of Tabernacles Jesus announces in John chapter 8 that He is the</p>

<p>experience in the time of the great prophet Moses and the building of the Tabernacle and its dedication to Yahweh. In the Exodus experience God led the people in the Pillar of Fire and there were the water miracles on the journey to Mt. Sinai. It was at Sinai that Moses returned from the Mountain of God with the Law as their “light” to guide the covenant people in their lives. In the dedication of the desert Sanctuary God took possession of His Tabernacle (and later the Temple of Solomon in Jerusalem) by supernaturally lighting the altar of sacrifice.</p>	<p>Light and those who follow Him will have the light of life. The Tabernacle that Moses instructed the people to build led them in the wilderness journey and symbolized God’s presence with them. Now Jesus’ body is the true Tabernacle for now God is truly present among His people (Jn 2: 19-22). Moses led the people in the Exodus from political slavery but Jesus, the New Moses, will give them greater than what the prophet Moses could give: He will free them from the death grip of sin and will give them the true freedom of eternal life in the Promised Land of heaven.</p>
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- Deuteronomy 18:19: *I shall put my words into his mouth and he will tell them everything I command him. Anyone who refuses to listen to my words, spoken by him in my name, will have to render an account to me.*
- Luke 9:35: *And a voice came from the cloud saying, ‘This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.’*

TYPOLOGY OF MOSES AND JESUS “THE GREATER THAN MOSES”

An evil king tried to kill him as a baby (Ex 1:22).	King Herod tired to kill baby Jesus (Mat 2:16).
He was hidden from the evil king (Ex 2:2).	An angel said to hide the child (Mat 2:13).
Moses was sent into Egypt to preserve his life (Ex 2:3-4).	Jesus was taken into Egypt to preserve His life (Mat 2:13-15).
Women were important in his life: his mother (Ex 2:3); his sister Miriam (Ex 2:4); Pharaoh's daughter (Ex 2:5-10). His sister Miriam loved supported him during his ministry.	Women were important in Jesus' life: Mary (Miriam), His mother loved and supported Him during His ministry and was with Him at the cross. Women like Salome, Susannah, Joanna, Mary Magdalene and Mary and Martha of Bethany were His disciples.
Pharaoh's daughter adopted him (Ex 2:10).	Joseph adopted Jesus (Mat 1:25).
Moses became a prince of Egypt (Ex 2:10).	Jesus is the Prince of Peace
There was a long period of silence from childhood to adulthood	There was a long period of silence from childhood to adulthood.
Moses had a secret identity growing up. He was the son of a Hebrew slave.	Jesus had a secret identity growing up. He was the Son of God.
He tired to save a Hebrew kinsman (Ex 2:11-12)	Jesus came to save His Hebrew kinsman first (Mk 7:26-28).
Moses went from being a prince to a pauper (Ex 2:15-19).	Jesus went from being God to being man (Jn 1:1-3; Mk 6:3).
He saved women at a well (Ex 2:15-19).	He saved a woman at a well (Jn 4).
Moses became a shepherd (Ex 3:1).	Jesus is the Good Shepherd (Jn 10:11).
Moses' mission was to redeem Israel from slavery to Egypt.	Jesus' mission is to redeem mankind from slavery to sin.
He was often rejected by his own people	Jesus was rejected by His own people.
Moses gave God's law on Mt. Sinai (Ex 20-33).	Jesus gave the new law from the Mt. of Beatitudes (Mat 5-7).
Moses was the prophet of the Old Covenant Church (Dt 18:15,17)	Jesus is the prophet, priest, and King of a New and everlasting Covenant = the Universal [Catholic] Church (Dt 18:17-19; Jn 4:18; Heb 6:20-8:13; 2 Sam 7:16; 1 Tim 1:16-17; 6:14-15; Rev 17:14).
Moses offered to sacrifice his life for the	Jesus sacrificed His life for the redemption

lives of the Covenant people (Ex 32:31-33).	of mankind (Mk 10:45; Rom 6:20-23; 1Cor 5:7-8).
Moses was the leader of the old Exodus out of bondage in Egypt to redemption from slavery and through him God formed Israel into a holy covenant people—the Old Covenant Church	Jesus is the leader of the new exodus out of bondage to sin and redemption from the power of death. Through Him a new covenant people were formed—a new Israel that is the New Covenant Universal [Catholic] Church.
Moses led the children of Israel out of slavery in Egypt the day after the Passover sacrifice and promised them freedom in the Promised land (Ex 12ff).	In the Last Passover, God's Son led the New Covenant people out of slavery to sin through His sacrificial death & Resurrection so they could receive the promise of eternal life, the real Promised Land = heaven.

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THE SIGNIFICANCE OF MATTHEW'S TOLEDOTH (Generations)

Matthew chapter 1: 17

Abraham's name is mentioned 7 times in Matthew's Gospel (7 = spiritual perfection) and 3 times in Matthew's toledoth (3 symbolizes fullness and completion, especially in association with God's divine will and in the New Testament it is the number of the Most Holy Trinity). David's name is mentioned 5 times in Matthew's toledoth (5 is the number of grace).

Matthew manipulates the names of Abraham's descendants into 3 sets of 14 individual male descendants or as he tells us in Matthew 1:17 : *The sum of generations is therefore: fourteen from Abraham to David; fourteen from David to the Babylonian deportation; and fourteen from the Babylonian deportation to Christ.* He manipulates the list to get 3 sets of **14 generations** each to create **42** names in the list of the descendants of Abraham to bring attention to the link between the names and the covenant promise to Abraham and David by Yahweh. David's name is # **14** in the list and the gematria of his name (by adding Hebrew letter to number equivalent) is the number **14**. The number **42** also has significance. **42** divided by **12**, the number of Israel, yields **3 ½**. This is a prophetic number in both Daniel chapter 12 and in Revelation. See Daniel 12: 1-13 (focus on verse 7 which adds up to 3 ½). 3 ½ is half of 7; it is an imperfect number and can never achieve the perfection of 7. [Note: both St. Jerome and Pope St Gregory the Great wrote extensively about and gematria and its significance in Scripture. Sir Isaac Newton wrote more about gematria and numbers in Scripture than he did about the theory of gravity!]

Set #1 List of generations in the Gospel of Matthew chapter 1's genealogy of Jesus of Nazareth:

1. Abraham	fathered	Isaac	
2. Isaac	fathered	Jacob	
3. Jacob	fathered	Judah	
4. Judah	fathered	Perez	
			additional names of Zerah and Tamar (woman #1)
5. Perez	fathered	Hezron	
6. Hezron	fathered	Ram	
7. Ram	fathered	Amminadab	
8. Amminadab	fathered	Nahshon	
9. Nahshon	fathered	Salmon	
10. Salmon	fathered	Boaz	
			Rahab (woman #2)
11. Boaz	fathered	Obed	
			Ruth (woman #3)
12. Obed	fathered	Jesse	
13. Jesse	fathered		
14. David			

There are 14 generations

There are 27 total male names (repeats and counting Zerah's name)

There are 3 names of Gentile women

Total names: 30 names (note: it was necessary to add Zerah's name to make 30 names)

Set #2

David	fathered	Solomon	Uriah's wife (note: David's name is repeated)
1. Solomon	fathered	Rehoboam	
2. Rehoboam	fathered	Abijah	
3. Abijah	fathered	Asa	
4. Asa	fathered	Jehoshaphat	
5. Jehoshaphat	fathered	Joram	
6. Joram	fathered	Uzziah	(3 missing kings)
7. Uzziah	fathered	Jotham	
8. Jotham	fathered	Ahaz	
9. Ahaz	fathered	Hezekiah	
10. Hezekiah	fathered	Manasseh	
11. Manasseh	fathered	Amon	
12. Amon	fathered	Josiah	
13. Josiah	fathered	[see #14]	
14. Jechoniah			(deportation of Judah to Babylon)

There are 14 generations (no repeats)

There are 29 names of males total if you include Uriah

There is 1 female mentioned but not counted because unnamed (the wife of Uriah- 4th gentile woman. 4 is the number of the earth)

Set #3 (after the deportation to Babylon; notice no **restoration** is mentioned)

1. Jechoniah	fathered	Shealtiel	
2. Shealtiel	fathered	Zerubbabel	
3. Zerubbabel	fathered	Abiud	
4. Abiud	fathered	Eliakim	
5. Eliakim	fathered	Azor	
6. Azor	fathered	Zadok	
7. Zadok	fathered	Achim	
8. Achim	fathered	Eliud	
9. Eliud	fathered	Eleazar	
10. Eleazar	fathered	Matthan	
11. Matthan	fathered	Jacob	
12. Jacob	fathered	Joseph	
13. Joseph	husband of	Mary	(the 5 th women) mother of
14. Jesus the Christ			(bringing true restoration to Israel)

Matthew manipulates the list by counting Jechoniah twice in order to get 14 generations in the final set. Jesus' name is the 14th generation but if you count all the names without repeats Mary's name is the 14th name with Jesus name coming after 6 sets of 7 as the 7th 7. There are 27 names total in this set.

The total of all the names given in each set is 86. 8 is the number of salvation, 80 the number of salvation times divine order (10), and 6 is the number of man. Matthew's message is that Jesus is the Messiah, the son of David and the King of Kings who has come to bring salvation to Israel and to mankind.

Note: The study of the numbers formed by the letters of words is known as *gematria*. *Gematria* can be determined when there is the use of the letters of the alphabet instead of figures. The Hebrews, Greeks, Romans, and many other ancient peoples used their alphabets for numbers. In Sacred Scripture gematria is often used to convey a hidden meaning within the text. Matthew's genealogy of Jesus is one such example. Each number in Hebrew also had a symbolic value [see the Resource "The Significance of Numbers in Scripture" in the Agape Bible Study Documents section].

Michal Hunt 1998/ revised 2003

THE HISTORICAL FULFILLMENT OF MATTHEW CHAPTER 24

Prophecy from Matthew 24	Fulfillment historically
The Jerusalem Temple will be completely destroyed	The Jerusalem Temple was utterly destroyed by the Roman army in 70AD
Many will come claiming to be the Christ	In the revolt against Rome that began in 66AD, three different men claimed to be the Messiah
There will be wars	In 64AD the Roman Empire became unstable. A number of Roman provinces began revolts against the Empire
There will be famines	Acts 11:27-28 refers to a world-wide famine at the time of the Emperor Claudius. Aid was sent to Jerusalem by Christians in the Roman Empire
There will be earthquakes *	There was a massive earthquake when Jesus died on the cross and at His Resurrection. Earthquakes are frequent in the Holy Land due to a fault line that runs through the Jordan River Valley.
Christians will be handed over and tortured and killed	Stephen was martyred c. 34AD and St. James in c. 62. In 64AD the Roman Empire authorized persecution of Christians. Many Christians across the Empire were martyred including Sts. Peter and Paul.
Many will fall away from the faith because of the perilous times	The Jews who refused to believe in the Messiah in effect “fell away” from the faith and so did many Christians who faced martyrdom
False prophets will arise	Many false prophets urged the revolt against Rome in 66AD
Lawlessness will increase	Prior to the revolt the Roman authority acted with brutal disregard for the safety of the people; Jewish gangs known as the Scaraii murdered people at will
The Gospel will be proclaimed to the inhabited world [<i>oikoumene</i>]; meaning the Roman world before the “end” will come.	By the time of the Revolt in 66AD the Gospel had spread from Britain to the Black Sea, from Gaul to Galatia, and from Egypt to the banks of the Euphrates River—covering the boundaries of the Roman Empire and beyond into India where St. Thomas was martyred.
The Temple will be profaned	The Emperor Nero planned to put his statue in the Holy of Holies of the Temple but died before the plan could be initiated.

	Roman General Titus set up Roman standards, which depicted Roman deities, in the Temple in 70AD
Those in Judea must recognize the signs and escape.	Simon, the Christian Bishop of Jerusalem led the Christian community out of Judea, across the Jordan River into Perea c. 66AD
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In the Old Testament account of the Sinai experience earthquakes are associated with covenant-making and in Jesus' apocalyptic messages in the Synoptic Gospels and in the Book of Revelation earthquakes are one of the phenomena associated with the coming Day of Judgment. In the Book of Revelation it is not a coincidence that St. John mentions earthquakes 7 times in 6:12; 8:5; 11:13 (twice); 11:19; 16:18 (twice). In the Book of Revelation earthquakes are one of the signs of God's divine interactions with man in both covenant-making and in rendering divine judgment. The seven times repetition of the mention of earthquakes in Revelation emphasizes the covenantal dimensions of the sign—the number 7 figures predominately in salvation history in association with covenant formation [see i.e. Genesis 1:1-31 where the Holy Spirit, the divine wind [*ruah*] pronounces creation "good" in the formation of the first covenant with man and man's day of communion with God is established on the 7th day; in the covenant with Noah in Genesis 7:4, 10; 8:10, 12, 14; and in the covenant formation at Sinai in Exodus 24:16]. 7 is also the number of spiritual perfection; it is the number of the Holy Spirit [Isaiah 11:1 = 7 gifts; Revelation 1:4; 4:5]. So what is the significance of Jesus' prophecy of earthquakes? Jesus of Nazareth, the promised Davidic Messiah came to bring the definitive "earth shaking" covenant forming, promised final judgment event.

The inspired writer of Revelation understood this "earth shaking" event in this context when he wrote: *Make sure that you never refuse to listen when he speaks. If the people who on earth refused to listen to a warning could not escape their punishment, how shall we possibly escape if we turn away from a voice that warns us from heaven? That time his voice made the earth shake, but now he has given us this promise: I am going to shake the earth once more and not only the earth but heaven as well. The words once more indicate the removal of what is shaken, since these are created things, so that what is not shaken remains. We have been given possession of an unshakable kingdom. Let us therefore be grateful and use our gratitude to worship God in the way that pleases him, in reverence and fear. For our God is a consuming fire.* Hebrews 12:25-29

Jesus Christ came to establish the cosmic earthquake of the New Covenant which would transform not only man's role in salvation history but the entire cosmos in the eschatological event of the promised creation of the new heavens and the new earth [2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:1-2]. The rebirth of the human family in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and the establishment of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth, the re-born Israel which is the New Covenant Church, is the first stage in that new creation, just as the King of King declared in victory: *Behold, I make all things new*" Revelation 21:5.

Roman Emperor		Ruler in Judea	High Priest *Boethus Family +Ananus Family	Date of High Priest
Augustus 27 BC-14 AD	H E R O D I A N	Herod the Great 37BC – 4/1BC	-Ananelus -Aristobulus (Hasmon prince and brother-in-law of Herod -Jesus, son of Phabi -Simon son of Boethus* -Matthias son of Theophilus* -Joseph son of Elam -Joazar son (?) of Boethus* -Eleazar brother of Joazar*	37BC 36BC ? ? ? 4BC? 4BC?
	M O N A R C H Y	Archelaus, son of Herod Ruled 4/1BC deposed by Romans after 2 years. Herod's heirs Antipas, Agrippa I*, Herod of Chalcis, ruled the Galilee, & other territories	(Romans appoint High Priests)	
<u>ROMAN</u>		<u>ANNEXATION OF</u>	<u>JUDEA</u>	
Tiberius 14-37 AD	R O M A N	-Coponius (Prefect) 6-9AD -Ambibulus (Prefect) 9-11AD -Rufus (Prefect) 12-14AD -Gratus (Prefect) 15-26AD -Pilate (Prefect) 26-36AD -Marcellus (Prefect) 36-37AD	-Joazar (reappointed)* - Annas son of Seth + (in Greek = Ananus) -Ishmael son of Phabi -Eleazar & Simon sons of Annas+ -Caiaphas son-in-law of Annas+	5/6AD 6AD 15AD 17AD 18-36AD
Caligula 37-41 AD	C A L I G U L A	-Marullus (Prefect) 37-41AD	-Johathan, son of Annas+ -Theophilus, son of Annas+ -Matthias son of Annas+	37AD 37-41AD 41-48AD
Claudius 41-54 AD		-Herod Agrippa I 41-44AD	(Matthias continues as High Priest)	
Nero 54-69 AD	R. P R E F E C T S	-Cuspius Fadus (Prefect) 44-46AD -Tiberius-Alexander (P) 46-48AD -Ventidius Cumanus (P) 48-52AD -Marcus Antonius Felix (Prefect) 52-60AD -Porcius Festus (Prefect) 61-62AD -Albinus (Prefect) 62-64 -Gessius Florus (Prefect) 64-66AD	-Ananias son of Nebedaeus -Ishmael son of Phabi -Annas son of Annas+	48-59AD 59-61AD 62-70AD

SUMMARY OF THE GOSPEL OF ST. LUKE

Biblical Period	# 11 Jesus the Messiah			
Focus	Announcement & First Advent of the Son of Man	Presentation of the Son of Man The Ministry of the Son of Man	Rejection of the Son of Man	Perfect Sacrifice of the Son of Man is offered and accepted
Covenant	The Sinai Covenant – New Covenant in Christ			
Scripture	1:1-----2:59-----4:1-----8:16-----9:51-----19:28-----24:53			
Division of the Text	Birth of John Annunciation, Incarnation & early life of Jesus	Ministry of John Baptism of Jesus Temptation of the second Adam	Galilean Ministry Calling the disciples and Apostles Judean Ministry Ministry in Samaria Confrontation with Old Covenant Authorities	Trial, Crucifixion, and Resurrection of the Son of man
Topic	Seeking the Lost Sheep of the House of Israel			Harvest of the Faithful Remnant
	Miracles & Teachings		Miracles & Parables	
Location	Galilee - Judea	Galilee	Samaria - Judea	Jerusalem
Time	September 3/2 BC – May 30 AD			

TIME LINE BC – AD

World Empire: Roman Empire

30BC	3/2BC	14AD	28AD	30AD
Julius Caesar's g. nephew defeats Marc Antony and Cleopatra VII at the Battle of Actium. Octavian will become Caesar Augustus 28BC, the first Roman Emperor	Birth of Jesus in Bethlehem in the Roman Province of Judea	death of Caesar Augustus/Reign of Tiberius Caesar	beginning of Jesus' ministry. Jesus is 30 yrs old	Crucifixion Resurrection Ascension 2 nd Great Pentecost=Birth of the New Covenant Church

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