

Video Sharing: Knowing God's Secrets

By Yirmeyah Tan, Shabbat, 16 May 2020

Text

Deu 29:29 The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: *but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.*

I. **The Secret Things belong to YAHWEH**

H5641: sâthar

A primitive root; to hide (by covering), literally or figuratively: - be absent, keep close, **conceal, hide** (self), **(keep) secret**, X surely.

- a. **YAHWEH has kept many things secret from us. He does not intend that we should try to find out**
- b. **He has revealed things in the Bible to us**
- c. **The purpose of revelation: so that we may obey Him [His Torah]**
- d. **However, over the millennia many people have sought to uncover YAHWEH's secrets by subjecting the study of the Bible via mystical methods as well as numerology**

II. **Example 1: Jewish Kabbala**

According to the Zohar, a foundational text for Kabbalah, Torah can be studied at four levels:

- a. *Peshat "simple": the direct [surface] meaning of words.*
- b. *Remez "hint[s]": the allegoric meanings (through allusion).*
- c. *Derash "inquire" or "seek": midrashic (rabbinic) meanings, often with imaginative comparisons with similar words or verses.*
- d. *Sod "secret" or "mystery": the inner, esoteric (metaphysical) meanings, expressed in kabbalah.*

According to Kabbalah, the most famous form of Jewish mysticism, God, also known as Ein Sof or "the Infinite"—cannot be comprehended by humans. However, God can be understood and described as revealed in ten mystical attributes, or sefirot.

III. **Example 2: Bible Codes**

In 1997, popular author Michael Drosnin (who wrote a book on the subject) challenged critics to find the same "prophecy" regarding the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin in "Moby Dick" as Bible Codes folks had found in the Bible, Australian computer scientist Brendan McKay did just that, and for good measure he found letter arrangements predicting the assassinations of Trotsky, Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr.

Barry Simon of the Caltech mathematics department has shown that any sufficiently large text will have similar letter patterns in it. Famously, the same algorithms used in the Bible Codes yielded similarly “prophetic” results when used on Hebrew translations of “War and Peace.” - Jay Michaelson “Bible Codes a Lie That Won’t Die” May 31, 2012. <https://forward.com/culture/157033/bible-codes-a-lie-that-won-t-die/>

IV. Example 3: The Divine Code [Steve Cioccolanti-Discover Media, 2019]

Steve has got some good commentary on the use of certain numbers in the Bible, but I feel he has gone overboard in trying to find explanations for multiples of numbers. Though he renounced using numbers for predictions, he ventured at least 2 predictions himself. I found two errors [misapplications]:

a. Predicting Yeshua’s Return

On p.74, Vol 2, Steve calculated Yeshua’s first coming 69 weeks of years [**483 lunar years**] from the command of King Artaxerxes to rebuild Jerusalem’s walls [445 BC]-Neh 2:5-18] and arrived at 32 AD when Yeshua was crucified.

However, in postulating the possible dates of Yeshua’s Return, he added **483 solar years** to 1537 AD when Sultan Suleiman ordered the rebuilding of Jerusalem’s walls. Hence Steve came to 2020 + 7 years of Tribulation = 2027!

To be consistent, if he had added 483 lunar years, he should have arrived at 2013 + 7 = 2020!

b. Predicting President Trump’s Re-election on 3 Nov 2020 [Vol 1: p242]

Steve stated that Noah’s flood began on 17 Cheshvan which would coincide with 3 November 2020. However, in Gen 7:11 says:

“In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.”

In Gen 7:11, the Bible is using YAHWEH’s calendar: the second month is Iyyar {April-May}. Steve is using the Jewish Civil Calendar where the second month is Cheshvan [Marcheshvan] [Oct-November]!

Note: astronomy is the science of the visible Universe, but the same heavenly bodies are used for predictions in astrology. Studying Biblical numbers help us to understand YAHWEH’s plan of redemption, but it can easily lapse into numerology [numerology is a study of numbers to uncover information and predictions about the world and each individual.]

V. Understanding YAHWEH’s Revealed Word

Psa 25:1 A Psalm of David. Unto thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul.

Psa 25:2 O my God, **I trust in thee**: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me.

Psa 25:3 Yea, let none that **wait on thee** be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause.

Psa 25:4 **Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths.**

Psa 25:5 **Lead me in thy truth** and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all day.

Psa 25:6 Remember, O LORD, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindnesses; for they have been ever of old.

Psa 25:7 Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O LORD.

Psa 25:8 Good and upright is the LORD: therefore, will He teach sinners in the way.

Psa 25:9 **The meek** will He guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.

Psa 25:10 All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Psa 25:11 For thy name's sake, O LORD, pardon mine iniquity; for it is great.

Psa 25:12 **What man is he that feareth the LORD?** him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose.

Psa 25:13 His soul shall dwell at ease; and his seed shall inherit the earth.

Psa 25:14 **The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.**

The Bible is the Logos, the Word given to us that we might understand and know God and His ways, His plan of redemption for fallen mankind, so that we can enter into His Kingdom. However, everybody who reads the Bible will come away with different takeaways. I know of people who are impressed with the poetic beauty of Scripture; others find interesting stories like Jonah and the great fish which swallowed him. Noah's Ark with its animals fascinates children. Churches do not agree on doctrines: each emphasize certain ones, deny others and contradict yet others. Why should this be so?

Ps 25 provides us with vital clues to Biblical understanding of what YAHWEH has revealed to us:

- a. Trust is required [v.2]. Most Christians understand faith or believing to mean simply intellectual agreement.

Pro 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

Pro 3:6 **In all thy ways acknowledge him**, and he shall direct thy paths.

- b. Wait on Him [v.3]

- c. We need Him to show us His ways, but we must walk in them [v.4]

- d. We need Him to lead us into all truth:

Joh 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, **He will guide you into all truth**: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

- e. We need to be meek [v.9]
- f. We need to learn to fear Him. This fear refers to reverential awe and respect for Him.
- g. He will reveal His secret to us. Here the Hebrew word is “sod” which has several important meanings [not the mystical one that Kabbalah teaches]:

H5475: sod primarily means confidential conversation, speech or talk. Compare the Arabic word sa'wada which means to speak secretly. Sod emphasizes confidentiality in contrast to more general advice or counsel. Sod can refer to the close friendship which exists between people (Ps 55:14) or to the intimate knowledge that friendship brings, especially their secrets (Pr 25:9)

Septuagint: Psa 55:13 *But thou, O man like minded, my guide, and my acquaintance,*
Psa 55:14 who in companionship with me sweetened our food: we walked in the house of God in concord.

Pro 25:9 *Debate thy cause with thy neighbour himself; and discover not a secret to another:*

VI. Friend of Yeshua

Joh 15:14 *Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.*

Joh 15:15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

- a. We become His friends if we obey Him
- b. Friends become privy to revelation knowledge

VII. Love & Manifestation

Joh 14:21 *He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.*

Very early in my Christian walk, I found this verse and learned that if I obey His commandments, I show Him that I love Him. In return The Father & Yeshua will love me and reveal Himself to me! This revelation includes deep understanding of His Word. I never went to Bible School. All that I have learnt and continue to learn came from the Holy Spirit.

VIII. His Prophets

Amo 3:7 *Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but He revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.*

We are living in the last days. The birth pangs have increased in frequency and intensity. We need to hear from the Holy Spirit urgently. Now is the time for teaches

of prophecy to arise to sound the trumpet call for repentance, fasting and prayer. Now is the hour that the hidden things of Daniel will be revealed. Likewise, the hidden things of John.

Dan 12:8 *And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things?*

Dan 12:9 *And he said, go thy way, Daniel: for **the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.***

Dan 12:10 *Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but **the wise shall understand.***

Rev 10:10 *And I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter.*

Rev 10:11 *And he said unto me, **thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.***