

THE TRUTH

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Lesson 16 - The Truth About 666

For many people, just saying the number 666 sends shivers up their spines, as it conjures up ominous images of secret occult ceremonies and the cataclysmic final days of Bible prophecy. Some have even refused to accept phone numbers, license plates, and credit cards containing "666."

Today, millions are wondering about the mysterious number 666 and its connection with the end of the world. Indeed, it's one of the most searched religious topics online! And with so many theories surrounding 666 and the myths leading seekers astray it is vital that God's people offer biblical answers on this important subject.

1. What number is connected with the "Man of Sin?" [Revelation 13:18] Ans. _____

THE HISTORY OF 666

2. How long did Noah preach for, and how many were saved in the ark? [1 Peter 3:20; Genesis 6:2] Ans. a. _____ years b. _____ souls.

NOTE: If this mystic number is to arise, it must arise from one these eight people.

3. How many sons did Noah have? [Genesis 9:18, 19] Ans. Noah had _____ sons.

Shem: He was the eldest of Noah's sons, according to the usual chronology the Israelite nation sprang from him. [Genesis 11:10-26; 1 Ch. 1:24-27]

Japheth: Wide spreading; "God shall enlarge Japheth to be white." He was the progenitor of many tribes inhabiting the east of Europe and the north of Asia. [Genesis 10:2-5]

Ham: Warm, hot, and hence the south; also meaning "black." He was the youngest son of Noah. [Genesis 5:32] The race of Ham were the most energetic of all the descendants of Noah.

NIMROD

4. Which mighty hunter came from the lineage of Ham? [Genesis 10:6-9] Ans. _____

According to Josephus the name Nimrod, comes from the Hebrew verb "marad," meaning "rebel." The meaning then is "The Rebel."

5. Where did Nimrod choose to establish his kingdom and what did he build? [Genesis 11:1-4] Ans. a. The _____ of _____ b. He built a _____ called _____

NOTE: When Nebuchadnezzar invaded Jerusalem he took The Israelites captive to the Land of Shinar. [Daniel 1:1, 2]

In the Babylonian and Assyrian legend Nimrod died in his prime leaving a queen named Semiramis. At his death, Nimrod according to legend became immortal, and his spirit flew up to the sun and took possession of it. Hence, he became Beel-saman, "Lord of Heaven".

After Nimrod had died and became the Sun God, Semiramis his wife became pregnant, she claimed to be a virgin, and after Nimrod's death according to legend, she begot a child by Nimrod coming down on her from the sun. She proclaimed to subjects that her husband's spirit entered into her womb through a sunbeam and begot the legendary godchild Tammuz. [Ezekiel 8:14] He was born on December 25th.

Now heathen philosophy says when Semiramis died, her spirit, like her husband's Nimrod became immortal and flew up to the moon and took possession of it, she became the Moon goddess, The mother of gods, the queen of heaven. When her godchild Tammuz died, the pagans claimed his spirit became immortal and took possession of the East Star (Venus.) Tammuz was slain by a wild boar at the age of 40 and afterwards brought back to life. Thus the Babylonians would weep for Tammuz for a period of 40 days prior to the great festival of Easter (who was said to have received her son back from the dead. [The Two Babylon's, by Alexander Hislop, 115, 305]

THE MYSTERY RELIGION

6. What three elements comprise "The Mystery Religion"?

- a. The _____ of _____ [2 Kings 17:16; 21:3]
- _____
 - _____
 - _____
- b. _____

NOTE: Numerology is the study of numbers, such as the figures in a birth date and of their supposed influence on human affairs.

- c. _____

"Astrology is the study of the movements and relative positions of celestial bodies interpreted as having an influence on human affairs and the natural world. In the Babylonian astrological system, all the gods of heaven were considered offspring of the sun god. Now astrology claims to interpret the will of the star gods that control the fate of mankind by the position of chief star gods in the zodiac. The chief gods of the zodiac were seven planets who serpentine their way through the narrow band of the zodiac. According to astrology, the zodiacal band was divided into twelve houses, one for each month of the year and each house was divided into three rooms making thirty-six rooms in all, one

for each ten degrees of the Zodiacal circle.” [Encyclopedia of Religions and Ethics, vol. 12, 49]

7. What did God eventually do to the language, and the people at the tower of Babel? [Genesis 11:1-9] Ans. He _____ the language and _____ them.

Here are just a few names that identify with the original pagan trio of

NIMROD, SEMIRAMIS AND TAMMUZ:

	<u>NIMROD THE LORD OF HEAVEN</u>	<u>TAMMUZ THE PAGAN MESSIAH</u>	<u>SEMIRAMIS THE QUEEN OF HEAVEN</u>
ISRAELITES	Baal	Tammuz	Ashtoreth
PHOENICIANS	EI	Bacchus	Astarte
BABYLON	Belus	Tammuz	Rhea, Ishtar
ASSYRIA	Ninus	Hercules	Beltis
GREECE	Zeus	Dionysus	Aphrodite
ROME	Jupiter	Attis	Cybele, Diana
EGYPT	Ra	Osiris, Horn	Isis, Hathor
INDIA	Vishnu	Krishna	Isi, Devaki
CHINA	Pan-Ku	Yi	Heng-O, Ma Tsoopo
MEXICO	Teotl	Quetzalcoatl	Coatlucue
SCANDINAVIA	Odin	Balder	Frigg, Freyia

8. Who did the prophet Ezekiel see God’s people weeping for? [Ezekiel 8:13-14] Ans.

This New Year Festival also known as Holy Week, was started by weeping and fasting. This 40 days of fasting and weeping was to bring Tammuz from the grave. It was very necessary because the great vegetation god, Tammuz, had control over the seasons, and it was he that brought the spring (the regeneration of life.)

This Sunday was the Holiest of Holy to the pagan. This pagan observance was called "Easter," and on this special day the followers of *the* gods would hold what modern Christian Churches call today "Sunrise Services," The same New Year Festival that was held in, Mesopotamia, was also held in Western Asia and Greece under the name of "Adonis."

He too was mourned, with bitter wailing, and the East Star was his symbol. Have you ever wondered what the Easter bunny or Easter cake has to do with the Resurrection of Christ? Or the Easter egg? Like the Festival of Christmas and the Christmas tree, they have nothing whatsoever to do with the Gospel of Christ. The Queen of Heaven was also a goddess of Fertility, and because the rabbit and the hen were noted for their many offsprings, they were her symbols. Even the word "Easter" is of pagan origin. [Mythology and Legend, p. 1087 by Sir James George Frazer] [See Jeremiah 17:18; 44:19]

9. What about the number 666? [Revelation 13:13]

In the mystery religion the pagan High Priest used the astrologic charts to predict certain future events. Any direction the columns are added they will add to 111, there are 6 spaces, 6 times 111 is 666. So what John is telling us about the "Man of Sin / Son of Perdition," is that gets his religion from the Tower of Babel.

In the Scriptures, certain numbers have symbolic significance. The number seven, for example, is often used to symbolize that which is complete, or perfect, in God's eyes. For instance, God's creative week comprises seven 'days,' or extended time periods, during which God completely accomplishes his creative purpose regarding the earth.

Six is one short of seven. Would it not be a fitting symbol of something imperfect, or defective, in God's eyes? Yes, indeed! **[1 Chronicles 20:6, 7]** Moreover, six repeated three times, as 666, powerfully stresses that imperfection.

MYSTERY MODERN BABYLON

10. Whom does the term "Mystery Babylon" apply to in Scripture? [Revelation 17:5] Ans. The

"I acknowledge the holy roman catholic and apostolic church to be the mother and mistress of all churches" **[Pope Pius 1V]**

The Vatican spokesman, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, said in the paper The Daily Telegraph, September 4th 2000, "Ours is the mother of churches."

The Catholic Church has long styled herself the "Mother Church." In a sense, she has been right in doing this, for she has given birth too many daughter churches. Sad to say, when viewed from their very worst aspects, the daughter churches have also shown a tendency to become 'harlots.' Daughters are not born harlots. They become such by choosing to. Babylon is said to be "The Mother of Harlots." By her daughters must be symbolized churches that cling to her doctrines and traditions, and follow her example of sacrificing the truth and the approval of God, in order to form an unlawful alliance with the world. **[The Great Controversy, 383]**

GODS FINAL APPEAL

11. Where does God want His people to come out of? [Revelation 18:1, 2; 4] Ans.

There is no word, no hint in the New Testament about abstaining from work on Sunday, the observance of Ash Wednesday, Lent and Easter stands exactly on the same footing as does the observance of Sunday. **[Canon Eyton, The Ten Commandments]**

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