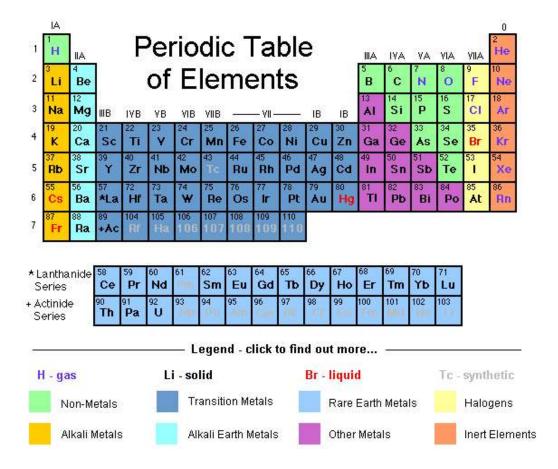
Gospel Chemistry Joseph Herrin (07-25-08)



I have had it upon my mind to write this article for a number of years. The thoughts expressed here first began to take seed in my mind back in 2003 as I was writing the book *The Mark of the Beast*. Of all the books I have written thus far, this one was the one most marked by a spirit of revelation as I wrote. The book followed the most severe spiritual trial of my life, one that was attended by great pain, a pain that was exacerbated by the perplexity of not understanding what God was doing in many events.

After a season of great fiery trials, I was left without any desire to return to the ministry of writing. I was numb from what I had just passed through, but after a season of rest the Father came to me and asked me if I wanted to re-join the walk He had called me unto. As I accepted His invitation He led me to begin writing the book *The Mark of the Beast*. Most of what is written in the book I had no perception of until I sat down and began writing. Revelation after revelation flowed forth, and understanding came into my mind, and I have

been able to understand various types and symbols much more clearly from that day forth.

As I wrote, the Lord opened my understanding to the symbolism of the number 666. I will quote from this writing:

Throughout this book I have endeavored to focus on the spiritual understanding of the abundant symbolism relating to the beast. There has been much debate about the significance of the number which is given to represent the beast, and I believe God would have us to understand this number and not be in doubt about it. That God desires that we should have understanding is revealed in the following Scripture:

Revelation 13:18

Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six.

John declares that it is possible to understand this symbolism. This is not one of those things that God told John to seal up. Instead, we are told that those who have understanding can arrive at the meaning of this number. The number is specifically related to a man, and the number of this man is 666.

Many have set out to decipher this riddle, and they have used various means to do so. One of the most common methods in days past and present is through the study of Gematria. In Hebrew and Greek, as well as some other languages, each alphabetic character has a corresponding numeric value. By summing up the value of each alphabetic character in a name, or title, one can arrive at a numeric value. In this manner many have demonstrated that various persons throughout history, from ancient Nimrod to present day Popes, as well as various world political figures, have borne names and titles whose corresponding numerical value has added up to the number 666.

It is not my intent to disprove any of these associations between individuals and the number 666. In fact, I believe that many of them are valid and correct. Yet, just because we can say that the Roman Pontiffs have borne this number, or we can link it to some other figure past or present, we cannot declare that this is sufficient proof that they are THE Beast. These individuals may be ones who have manifested the beast nature, as have multitudes of men and women down through the ages, they may have even been key instruments of Satan in

his warfare against the elect of God, but in this book we want to delve down deeper to the fullest understanding of this symbolism and, with the help of God and the anointing that He has given to His elect, we hope to do so.

One problem I see in declaring that the Popes, or some other individual(s), are the person to whom this number points is that the influence of these men upon mankind has not been universal. I believe that John is speaking of that which is a threat to all men, and which all saints have an opportunity to overcome. There have been ages when the Popes held tremendous power over a large portion of the "civilized world", but even at their zenith they did not have power over all men. With the advent of the Reformation the power of the Popes began to wane, and though they still have considerable influence in the world today, they are not someone, or something, that all men universally strive with.

We have already seen that from the very first chapter of the Bible, both the man and the woman were commanded to subdue and rule over all the beasts. Since Adam and Eve were at the head of the race of mankind, this command was universal and has applied to all those who have been born of woman. Ruling over the beasts is a universal injunction, and no man, woman, or child is exempted from this command of God. Therefore, when we read of the beast, his image, and the number of his name in the book of Revelations, and when we also read that there is a group of overcomers who have achieved victory over these things, what is being declared is something that is universal and in which all the saints must enter into battle and seek the victory.

The struggle against the beast nature began with Adam and Eve when they were met by the serpent, the most cunning of all beasts, while still in the Garden of Eden. This struggle has continued throughout all the ages of man. Because of the universality of this struggle, and in light of God's injunction for all mankind to subdue and rule over the beasts, I believe that those who are seeking to identify a particular man as the beast are on the wrong track.

You may ask, "Didn't we read that the number of the beast is the number of a man?" Yes, we did. But we must ask, "What man?" The Scriptures tell us that there have only been two men who have ever lived. These are the first Adam, and the Second Adam, who is also called the Last Adam. The name Adam literally means "man" and it occurs 552 times in the Old Testament. In the majority of instances it is translated as "man," and only when it is used as a name of a person or town is it rendered as "Adam." The corresponding word

in the New Testament is the Greek word "anthropos" and we find this word occurring 561 times.

It is in the following Bible passage that we read of these two men:

I Corinthians 15:45-49

So also it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living soul." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural; then the spiritual. The first man is from the earth, earthy; the second man is from heaven. As is the earthy, so also are those who are earthy; and as is the heavenly, so also are those who are heavenly. And just as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

The apostle Paul writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit identifies the first Adam as the first man. He identifies Christ as the Last Adam, and he also calls Him "the second man." Paul further states that, though we have all borne the image of the first man, we are now called to bear the image of the second man. As we have already discussed in this book, not all men attain to the image and likeness of God in this age. Some stubbornly cling to the image of the earthy.

I believe it is these two men that John has in view when he states that the number 666 is the number of a man. This makes the determination of which man it is relatively simple, for instead of billions of men to select from, we have only two. It is very evident from the Scriptures that the beast and His number cannot refer to the Second Man, who is Christ Yahshua, for Christ completely ruled over the beast nature. Christ always lived to do the will of the Father, and the Scriptures do further testify that Yahshua was the very expression of the Father.

This leaves us only the first man, Adam, whom Paul describes as being of the earth, earthy. How does this number 666 point to this first Adam? I believe that we can find testimonies of this everywhere throughout both the Scriptures and nature, for God is the architect of both of them and He has set this seal upon the flesh man. However, I will focus upon just a couple of these testimonies.

Let us begin with the opening chapter of Scripture. We read here that the first man, Adam, was created on the sixth day from the dust of the earth. It is generally accepted that the number six is representative of man, and particularly of the flesh man. The number six is a very interesting number. When we multiply the number six by itself we arrive at the number thirty-six. If we add up the sum of all the numbers from one to thirty-six we find that the sum of these numbers is 666.

In verse 28 of Genesis chapter 1 we read God's command to the man and woman to "multiply." This multiplication is done through the union of the man and the woman. Since both Adam and Eve were of the earth, earthy, they could only produce offspring who were also of the earth. They could produce living souls, but their union could not produce life giving spirits. Therefore, the multiplication of Adam and Eve, flesh man (6) multiplying with flesh woman (6), can only produce more of the same (36). If we are to calculate the value of their offspring by summing them all up we arrive at 666.

Because Adam and Eve bowed to the beast, all of their offspring were subject to the beast nature. They were marked, or engraved, with this nature and became subjected to futility and wrath. It would take the divine seed of God being united with woman to produce a man that was wholly man and wholly God. This man was Christ, who being in the image of sinful flesh was Himself without sin. This Second Man was not earthy (beastly), but heavenly. We must experience a second birth, a spiritual birth that arises from the seed of Christ, in order that we might escape the bondage to the flesh and live as heavenly creations.

I Peter 1:23

For you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring Word of God.

Let us return to the flesh man and his relation to the number 666. God is the Author of all creation and He has revealed His marvelous truths through the creation. As modern science has advanced, that which is true science has only served to confirm the marvelous design of God in the creation.

Today, scientists understand that there are certain elements that are found abundantly throughout the universe. One element that is essential to all life, and which is found in all organic life forms is carbon. No other element is linked to life to the extent to which carbon is so linked. Therefore we often hear the phrase "carbon based life forms." The life forms that are dependent upon carbon are of the earth, earthy. Therefore, we should not be surprised if we find in the element carbon a witness of the beast, and even the number

of the beast.

All elements are classified by the number of protons, electrons and neutrons that are present within them. No two elements are the same. Only in the element carbon do we find six protons, six electrons, and six neutrons. Thus, the life of all flesh is marked with the numbers 666. Could God have engraved any deeper this stamp upon earthbound life forms? Consider now the following words of the apostle Paul:

I Corinthians 15:50-53

Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.

Flesh cannot inherit the kingdom of God. That which is stamped with the number 666 cannot inherit the kingdom of God. Even after men have been born again of the Spirit they still walk around in bodies of sinful flesh. Therefore, these bodies must be put off before the saints can enter into the presence of God. All that pertains to the beast must be slain. [End Excerpt]

It was this last revelation, that all flesh is stamped with this number 666 at the most elemental level of creation, that led me to consider further revelations God has placed in the natural creation. Even as every living thing that lies under the curse is predominantly formed of carbon, and carbon has six protons, six electrons and six neutrons, we can realize that God has set parables everywhere throughout His creation.

As I looked further at this element carbon and how it symbolizes sin and the curse, I saw further remarkable details. Carbon is a six sided crystal, and six is the number of the flesh man, sold as a slave unto sin. Carbon is black in color, and blackness has universally been associated with sin and evil. Where there is no light, all is dark.

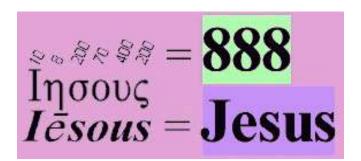
I knew at the time that I was shown this revelation that the number associated with the new creation man, of which Christ is the pattern and forerunner, is the number eight. It was on the eighth day that a Hebrew male was to be

circumcised. This removal of the flesh of the foreskin is a parable of Adamic man laying aside the mortal flesh. Christ arose on the eighth day. He was the first to put off the flesh of this earth and enter into resurrection life, receiving a new, glorified body.

Matthew 28:1-6

Now after the Sabbath (seventh day), as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave... And the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Yahshua who has been crucified. He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying."

After seven days, on the first day of a new week (Day 8) Christ arose. Yet this is not the only relationship between Christ and the number eight. In Gematria the name Jesus (Iesous in Greek) has the numeric value 888. This is illustrated in the following diagram.



After seeing the correlation of the number 666 to the element carbon, I began to wonder what element must pertain to Christ and the number 888. I looked at the Periodic Table of the Elements to see what element had 8 electrons, 8 protons, and 8 neutrons. I observed that the element Oxygen perfectly satisfied all of these criteria. How wonderful and appropriate this seemed.

Oxygen is an eight sided crystal. In contrast to Carbon which is black, Oxygen is colorless, being invisible to the sight. This is fitting as Christ is said to be "the image of the invisible God" (Colossians 1:15). Also oxygen is absolutely essential in order to have fire. In fact, fire is defined as "rapid oxidation." Once more this is fitting, for John declared of the Son of God that He would baptize men with fire. Christ also declared, "I have come to cast fire on the earth." how fitting then that He is represented by oxygen.

More profound truths are revealed as we observe the interplay of Oxygen and

Carbon in nature, especially in the process of respiration. As mentioned, Carbon represents sin, and Christ came to take away the sins of mankind. In order for the sins of man to be taken away, Christ must enter into the life of mankind. Man breathes in Oxygen. As this Oxygen enters man's lungs, and is passed to the blood stream, it combines with Carbon which has formed in the cells, and builds up in the muscles and bloodstream. One Carbon atom combines with two Oxygen atoms to form CO2, carbon dioxide. This carbon dioxide is then expelled from the body as man exhales.

In this is a magnificent parable of the work of Christ. Even as Oxygen enters into man and combines with Carbon and is expelled, so Christ comes into mankind and takes away sin. This process of respiration must continue all the days a person lives. When respiration ceases, so does life end. In the same way, mankind must abide in Christ all his days, receiving the life of Christ into his members. If he should stop this process, death would result.

The Scriptures speak of the Tree of Life. It is understood in biology that trees perform the opposite function of mankind. Trees take in carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, and they give off Oxygen. Christ is life, and in the action of trees we see the function of the Tree of Life. It supplies the life of God to the world.

Revelation 22:2

And on either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

There are many other significant truths that God has placed in His creation, and there are grand parables contained in the Periodic Table of the Elements. If I were a chemist, or physicist, perhaps I would understand more of the profound parables contained there. As it is, I can see only a few basic details of this grand parable.

The most common element in all the Universe is Hydrogen. The numeric value of hydrogen is 1. I believe this speaks of God the Father.

Deuteronomy 6:4

"Hear, O Israel! Yahweh is our God, Yahweh is one!"

Hydrogen is colorless, odorless, tasteless, and highly flammable. No man has

seen God at any time, for the natural senses cannot see the invisible God. God the Father is also described as "a consuming fire." Hydrogen is said to comprise approximately 75% of all the elemental mass in the universe. It is everywhere found in abundance.

Acts 17:28

For in him we live, and move, and have our being...

Colossians 1:17

And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Stars are believed to mainly consist of Hydrogen, and the stars are the source of light in the universe.

James 1:17

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Hydrogen and Oxygen combine to form H2O (water). This is once more a source of life upon the earth, and it reveals that there is a parable in the words of the prophet Habakkuk.

Habakkuk 2:14

For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of Yahweh, as the waters cover the sea.

If Oxygen is the element representing Yahshua, and Hydrogen is the element representing Yahweh, then what is the element representing the Spirit of Christ? My guess is that it would be Nitrogen, which has the value 7 on the Periodic Table.

Revelation 4:5

And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God...

Nitrogen is also colorless, odorless and tasteless. It cannot be perceived by the natural senses. Nitrogen makes up 78% of the earth's atmosphere. The Scriptures portray the Spirit as a wind, and truly Nitrogen is the most abundant element that makes up the wind.

John 3:8

"The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Truly God has set many marvelous testimonies before the eyes of man. May we have eyes to see the mysteries of His creation.

May you be blessed with peace and understanding in these days.