

◀ MINISTRY MATTERS ▶

▶ Committee

We thank God for His guidance and grace as we past into 2005. Please continue to pray that God will bring in more people into the ministry and for His leading in the ministry this year. If your church is interested in adopting our ministry or would like to partner with us, do get in touch with Jeffrey at jeffrey@2tim2-2.com.

Chairman: Jeffrey Loh
Advisor: Cecilia Perh
Administrators: Lim Wei Teck
 Jeffrey Loh
 Suzanna Lim
Secretary: Soon Soo Guan
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 Ruth Soon
Teaching: Cecilia Perh
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 Suzanna Lim
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Logistics: Irene Goh
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 Joshua Chua
 Serene Soh
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▶ Donations & Love Offerings

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2Tim2-2.com

Please include your name, church,
 contact numbers, e-mail address and
 mail to:

2Tim2-2.com

*c/o Bukit Panjang Gospel Chapel;
 12 Galistan Ave, Singapore 669686*



▶ Administration

Our ministry is looking for volunteers to help with regards to burning audio CDs, DVD/VCDs, MP3s, teaching, website matters, designing, administration etc.

If God has endowed you with a special talent or gift that is tailor-made for our type of ministry, write to **Soo Guan** at audio@2tim2-2.com (audio matters) or **Wei Teck** at administration@2tim2-2.com.



▶ Newsletter

If you wish to contribute articles for the newsletter, kindly write in to Jeffrey for more details. The deadline for submission of articles for next issue will be middle May 2005.

Past issues of the newsletters are available at the website

 www.2Tim2-2.com



▶ Jacob Prash Teaching Conference 2005

Jacob Prash will be coming to town in early July 2005. Do keep a lookout for the dates which shall be announced shortly. Do pray as we plan for this teaching conference.



Entrusting the
 Word to the
 Faithful

MITA (P) No.: 211/08/2004
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TIMOTHIAN
 TIMES



www.2Tim2-2.com

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CECILIA'S VIETNAM TRIP

BY CECILIA PERH



WHEN ONE LOOKS at a country from any perspective except a spiritual one, one is apt to describe a country in terms of its natural beauty, its people, its products - anything that is saleable, it seems!

But when one looks at a country from God's perspective, then... then the needs are so apparent.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ has made but a dent in a population of about 80 million people in a land that is slowly trying to enter into the free-enterprise world of which we, Singaporeans, have been in since our beginning as a nation.



Much of its natural beauty is still unspoilt by commerce, but the signs of modernization are already there. Girls who would normally wear the traditional Vietnamese dress in the last four or five years, now wear modern clothes. It seems like the greatest evangelist of our times or any country is the mighty dollar! God help us then, as profit becomes more and more the bottom line in our world.

We are taught in the Scriptures that the greatest need when we see the huge harvest field is to "beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest" (Matthew 9:38), and perhaps that's how we can do our part unless God specifically calls you to this former Communist country which has been so war-torn in the past century.

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◀ EDITOR'S NOTE ▶



DEAR TIMOTHIANs,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! 2005 started out on a more sombre note with the Tsunami tidal wave and certainly God is reminding the nations that He is still God and that He rules the world. Unfortunately, this event has passed into history with most having no recollection of it as I am writing.

This calamity has served as a warning to the nations and it should come as a warning to us in the church. Life is but fleeting breath and if we do not utilize whatever resources we have in working for the Kingdom, then we should really ask ourselves, "What are we here for?"

2005 will be an eventful year for us at 2Tim2-2. New courses such as Colossians and Habakkuk are taught in the first quarter. We pray for God's leading as we continue to write more courses to establish God's people firmly in His Word.

We are also planning to have IBS workshops in various churches as part of our motto to entrust God's Word to the faithful. So do pray along with us in our endeavour to equip the churches.

Not forgetting also the Jacob Prasch conference which we are hosting in July this year. So do keep a look out for this event as Jacob brings in the Jewish perspectives to Scriptures.

Lastly, we will end the year with a Bible study trip to Israel in the September / October period. We hope to bring to life whatever we have studied in Scriptures and see how the modern state of Israel fulfills Biblical prophecy today.

Do pray with us as we plan to fulfill this year's plans, God willing.

His bondservant,
Jeffrey Loh

▲
Editor
Jeffrey Loh

Sub-editors
Cecilia Perh
May Tan

Design
Lim Wei Teck

Contributors
Cecilia Perh
Jeffrey Loh
David A. Kriner

▼
Correspondence address:

2Tim2-2.com
c/o Bukit Panjang
Gospel Chapel;
12 Galistan Ave,
Singapore 669686

Email address:
jeffrey@2tim2-2.com

◀ TEACHING MATERIALS ▶



MP3 CDs

Teaching Conference

- Jacob Prasch 2004 \$15
- Dave Royle 2004 \$10

Old Testament Books

- Genesis (Pt 1) \$10
- Daniel (Pt 1 & 2) \$20
- Haggai \$10
- Joel \$10
- Obadiah \$10

New Testament Books

- 1 & 2 Thessalonians \$20
- Hebrew (Pt 1 & 2) \$20
- Revelation (Pt 1) \$10
- Romans (Pt 1 & 2) \$20
- Romans (Pt 3) \$10
- Jude \$10

Topical

- Marriage without Regrets (Pt 1) \$10
- Two Witnesses \$10
- Spiritual Gifts \$10
- Attributes & Names of God \$10



All prices for MP3 CDs are in Singapore dollars and without postage.

In Singapore, add **\$1.50 for CD postage**. Please provide us with your full name, address & e-mail.

WORKBOOKS

You can also purchase the following workbooks which accompany the MP3 CDs:

- Plumbing the Depths of the Book of Revelation, Pt 1, 2
- Plumbing the Depths of the Book of Hebrews, Pt 1, 2
- Plumbing the Depths of the Book of Romans, Pt 4
- Plumbing the Depths of the Epistle to the Colossians, Pt 1
- Plumbing the Depths of the Epistle of Jude
- Dipping into the Book of Haggai
- Dipping into the Book of Joel
- Dipping into the Book of Obadiah
- Dipping into the Book of Zephaniah
- Second Coming, Pt 1, 2



Workbooks are available only in Cecilia's classes and workshops.

If you have the ability to writing or love to do research, and have a burden in assisting the ministry in the area of compiling or writing the workbooks, do drop Cecilia a note at cecilia@2tim2-2.com



Drop Jeffrey a note at editor@2tim2-2.com if you want to subscribe to our monthly e-mailer.

◀ TEACHING SCHEDULE ▶



Cecilia's Schedule for H1, 2005

MONDAY EVENINGS:

7.45pm-9.45pm at Bethesda
Bedok-Tampines Church -

- What does the Bible Say
About the Coming of Our
Lord and the Gathering
Together of the Saints?

> **Commenced: 14 Feb 2005**

TUESDAY EVENINGS:

8-10pm at Hakka Methodist
Church

- Plumbing the Depths of
Colossians

> **Commenced: 15 Feb 2005**

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS:

9.15am-12.15pm at Hakka
Methodist Church

- Plumbing the Depths of
Colossians

> **Commenced: 16 Feb 2005**

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS:

7.45pm-9.45pm at Church of
the Good Shepherd

- Plumbing the Depths of
Jude

> **Commenced: 16 Mar 2005**

THURSDAY EVENINGS:

8-10pm at Bethesda (Frankel
Estate) Church

- Plumbing the Depths of
Hebrews Part II

> **Commenced: 13 Jan 2005**

FRIDAY MORNINGS:

9.30am-12.30pm at Bukit
Panjang Gospel Chapel

- What does the Bible Say
About the Coming of Our
Lord and the Gathering
Together of the Saints?

> **Commenced: 18 Feb 2005**

FRIDAY EVENINGS:

7.45pm-9.45pm at Joy
Fellowship

- Foundational Truths in
Genesis II (chap 12-50) -
an 8-week course

> **Commenced: 18 Feb 2005**

SUNDAY AFTERNOONS

12.30pm-1.45pm at Bukit
Panjang Gospel Chapel

- Dipping into the book of
Haggai- a 5-week course

> **Commencing: 3 April 2005**

Cecilia will be speaking at

Glory Presbyterian Church
ladies' fellowship:

- **Date:** 2 April 2005 (Sat)
- **Time:** 3:30 pm - 5.30 pm
- **Topic:** *The Importance of
God's Word*

Christ Methodist Church:

- **Date:** 15 May 2005 (Sun)
- **Time:** 8:30 am / 10:30 am
- **Topic:** *Becoming Anointed -
Healers in this
troubled world*
(Isa 61:1-2)



NOTE:

*There will be no classes
between 14-18 April 2005
as Cecilia is speaking at a
women's conference in
India. Do lift her up in
prayer and prayer for the
interpreters as well.*



Jeffrey's Schedule for 2005



Jeffrey will be speaking at
Glory Presbyterian Church
combined CG meeting:

- **Date:** 23 April 2005 (Sat)
- **Time:** 5:30 pm - 6.30 pm
- **Topic:** *Haggai - What is
Your Priority in Life?*



SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS



Cecilia and Jeffrey are
always open to speaking
and teaching wherever
God opens a door, so do
e-mail or call them as to
how they can serve you in
this area!

Continued from cover page

God has sent some of His people there but they are making little headway into the many millions that are still unreached. There is a presence of believers there but they need to reach their full potential in Christ (as are we all, except that we have more resources and greater help). They are fairly insulated from the outside world as such and would need much spiritual help in terms of prayer and teaching. Financial help as always would be welcome, as many are desperately poor and a recent government announcement in January 2005 speaks of the salary of government employees being raised to 290,000 dong which is only about S\$30!



By God's grace, the interpreter managed to keep up with Cecilia's pace.



Cecilia - building foundational truths based on the Bible.



Paddling up the Mekong River.

We (a group of students and friends) went on a tour of Hanoi for 5 days before flying down to Ho Chi Minh City for 9 more days. Since we are urged by our Lord to always be willing and ready to speak about Him whenever there is an open door, we were blessed to be enabled to pray with one local person who received Christ, teach other believers the method of Inductive Bible Study, encouraged a discouraged evangelist, as well as speak to a youth fellowship.

We were also able to leave some books and tapes behind with the people. May the seeds that God enabled us to sow be allowed to grow to maturity!

Many thanks for co-labouring in prayer and for all other help rendered.

Cecilia Perh

Note: Cecilia was in Vietnam during the Christmas period of 2004.

JOHN 21:11 - SIMON PETER went up, and drew the net to land, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not torn.

This is the account of Peter going fishing after the resurrection, after being told by Jesus to wait in Jerusalem for the promise of the Father (Luke 24:49). Why was he up in Galilee and not in Jerusalem? What happened to cause him to hurry down to Jerusalem after this miracle and tarry there for the promise of the Father?

It was his conviction that Christ Jesus truly is Israel's Messiah sent by God to redeem the "sons of God".

What helped cement this conviction in his head? It was the "153 fish" that was caught.

What is the significance of the "153" fish? Most Gentile commentators would think nothing of this number. In fact why use 153? Why not 152? or 150? or some other number?

There is a specific reason why this number was mentioned in John.

The Rabbis in Jesus' day had taught that Messiah would come to the house of Israel and that part of His mission would be to gather the children of Israel into the Kingdom of God. They based their teaching on what the prophets taught.



HEBREW ROOTS

153 FISHES

By Cecilia Perh



Hosea (c.784-722 BC) prophesied of their being sowed into the nations where God would have no pity or compassion on them any more, nor will they be called His people any longer. But Hosea held out a ray of hope to the Northern Kingdom:

Yet the number of the sons of Israel

Will be like the sand of the sea,

Which cannot be measured or numbered;

And it will come about that, in the place

Where it is said to them, "You are not My people,"

It will be said to them, "You are the sons of the living God." (Hosea 1:10)

The Northern Kingdom of Israel or Ephraim went first into the Assyrian captivity in 722 BC.

Jeremiah also told the Southern Kingdom of Judah that God would throw them into a land which they had not known where they will serve other gods day and night and there He will grant them no favour (16:13). But God also promised that He would restore them back into their own land, and that He would send for "many fishermen" who "will fish for them" (16:16a).

TEACH ME THY WAYS

IBS WORKSHOPS

30 APRIL TO 1 MAY 2005 @
GLORY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Have you ever wondered if you could know God more intimately?

How could you have a panoramic view of Scriptures?

How would you want God to transform your walk with Him?

Come join us at our Inductive Bible Study Workshop and find out!

Courses: 1. Basic IBS Skills

(Jude & Obadiah)

Dr. Jeffrey Loh

2. Intermediate IBS Skills

(Structuring - Colossians)

Ms. Cecilia Perh

Dates: 30 April (Sat) 9 am - 4:30 pm

1 May (Sun) 2 pm - 9:30 pm

Venue: Glory Presbyterian Church,
9 Pei Wah Avenue, S(597611)

Cost: S\$ 30.00 (includes materials)

Write to workshops@2Tim2-2.com
for a brochure!

EPISTOLE

Dear Ms. Cecilia Perh,

Christian greetings. This is to thank you immensely for your solid exposition of Ezekiel 36:27 at Jayanagar Methodist Church on Sunday, October 10, 2004.

Please do pray for our church. We are an extension church, the fruit of the outreach ministries of Richmond Town Methodist Church. We are the only English speaking congregation in a predominantly Brahmin dominated locality - South Bangalore.

Pray that we may all be built up in the inner person by the preaching and teaching of God's Word. We have plans to build a small church building of our own in the near future.

We will certainly remember to pray for your teaching ministries during our meetings.

Warm regards,

Rev. James Sunder Raj, Pastor &
Mrs. Sindhu James



Cecilia will be in Bangalore from 14 to 18 April 2005 to preach at a women's conference. Do extend your prayers to her as she prepares for the trip.

Rasmussen doesn't agree with the Arabian Mount Sinai theory.

"I believe the strongest candidate is Jebel Sin Bisher," he told WorldNetDaily. "The sites in Saudi Arabia have very, very weak scriptural backing, in spite of the hype."

Now, a new book by Cambridge University physicist Colin Humphreys titled "The Miracles of Exodus" supports not only the claim for an Aqaba crossing, but also the location of Mount Sinai in Arabia.

"If my book is correct, and I believe the evidence is very strong," says Humphreys, "then world maps will need to be redrawn to relocate Mount Sinai. History books, travel guides and biblical commentaries will need to be rewritten."

Throughout his work, Humphreys provides scientific explanations to corroborate the accounts of the Old Testament.

"The waters piled up, the surging waters stood firm like a wall," is a remarkable description of what the mathematics reveals to be the case for water pushed back by a very strong wind," he writes.

"What I have found is that the events of the Exodus are even more dramatic than is generally believed," Humphreys said. "The Exodus of the ancient Israelites from Egypt really is one of the greatest true stories ever told."

A Swedish scientist who believes the Red Sea was split says while Humphreys is correct about the Aqaba crossing, there are no natural, scientific explanations for the parting miracle described in Scripture.

"The wind did not separate the water," says Lennart Moller of the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. "No person could be in that wind and survive. ... If God has created all the Earth, it's no problem for Him to separate the water for a while."

Speaking to WorldNetDaily from the isle of Gotland in the Baltic Sea, Moller, the author of "The Exodus Case," says the key in finding the correct route of the Israelites is to understand that the Hebrew reference to "yum suph" does not mean "sea of reeds" as many scholars have claimed.

Moller says it refers specifically to the Gulf of Aqaba, and while he's not formally affiliated with the Wyatts, he agrees with them that a host of other evidence can be found on the Arabian side of the water, including remains of the golden calf, pillars, altars and even the rock the Bible says Moses split to bring forth water for the Israelites.

Regarding the items found beneath the waters, Moller believes there are remnants not only of chariots and wheels, but also human and animal skeletons.

"There was a disaster [there] a long time ago," he said. "Whatever that is, it's open to interpretation."

He also notes that the downward and upward slope of the Aqaba crossing path actually falls within current U.S. standards for handicapped ramps.

And while Mary Nell Wyatt warns overstating the claims by divers and authors could do more harm than good, she does believe there's a reason why her husband was led to discover what Ron called "God's attention-getters."

"God preserved all these evidences," she said, "[otherwise] there would have been nothing left. ... God has been lost today. Even Christians still can't believe this all happened. ... We need to pray for the Lord to help us get people to see it."

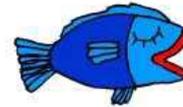
Back in England, Peter Elmer says people have mockingly asked "Why should a forklift mechanic from Keynsham be able to go to the same place Moses was?"

He takes the criticism in stride, pointing out "Jesus used fishermen, tax collectors and publicans. Why not a forklift mechanic?" ■



Top: Route of the Exodus

What is the significance of the "153" fish? Most Gentile commentators would think nothing of this number. In fact why use 153? Why not 152? or 150? or some other number?



Judah, however, disregarded Jeremiah's many warnings and was sent into the Babylonian Captivity in three stages: 605 BC (Daniel and friends taken), 597BC (Ezekiel and 10,000 taken) and 586 BC (temple and land destroyed).

Only a remnant returned to the land in 537 BC and the temple was rebuilt in 516 BC amid much opposition. Not only was there no kingdom of God and no Messiah, but Israel was ruled over by Persian kings, then by the Greeks and later on by the Romans.

As the rabbis taught, messianic expectations arose higher and higher and the people knew that one of the ways Messiah would introduce Himself would be as a fisherman fishing for "the sons of God". Associated with this is the number 153 which is the Hebrew Gematria for phrase "the sons of God". It's almost as if "153" was a code!

Imagine then the excitement in Galilee when Jesus Christ called Simon Peter & Andrew and said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19; Mark 1:17; see also Luke 5:10).



Hebrew Letter	Numerical Equivalent
ב	beth 2
נ	nun 50
י	yod 10
ה	hey 5
א	aleph 1
ל	lamed 30
ה	hey 5
י	yod 10
מ	mem 40
Total	153

Continued from previous page

"Fishers of men! That's what our rabbis taught us Messiah would do. He would fish for the 'sons of God'" (i.e. the nation of Israel)! How Peter, Andrew, James & John and their families must have discussed this issue long into the night. "And to think that He would choose *us*, humble fishermen, to fish for 'the sons of God!'" ...

As they walked with Him and saw the miracles that Jesus did, more and more they were convinced that this was truly the Messiah!

But... He was crucified by their own authorities and the disciples were scattered and headless ever since Peter, their leader, denied the Lord and disqualified himself from leading them.

But... wonder of wonders! He arose from the dead on the third day and excitement again arose in their hearts. They saw the resurrected Lord! They saw that death had no hold on Him! They realized that whatever He taught must be true and yet... they had no courage, they still feared.

So Peter went back north, back to his home located on the Sea of Tiberius, with seven disciples still following him. He decided to go fishing and as John records, they fished all night and caught nothing.



Then Jesus appeared and when they cast their nets on the right side as He directed, they enclosed a huge number of fish, all large, exactly 153 in number! And... the net was not torn although the catch was so large!

What Jesus did through this miracle was to tell the disciples in a most graphic and memorable way, "Men, the program is still on. I'm sending you, the 'many fishermen' to fish for 'the sons of God' (i.e. those of Israel who belong to the Kingdom of God) and you will catch ALL of them. The net will not break and not one will be missing!"

How this must have encouraged their hearts! How grateful to Jesus Peter must have been to be reinstated into leadership again, especially after his denial of his dear Lord (John 21:15-17).

So with renewed courage and conviction he led the disciples back to Jerusalem, gathered up the rest, totaling 120 in all, and they waited for the promise of the Father.

They already had the promise from our Lord Jesus that the program was still on. Now they only needed the empowering of the Holy Spirit.

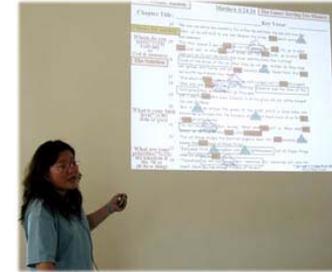
So, with bated breath and heightened anticipation, they prayed and waited until Pentecost came and they were endued with power from on high, and they went out preaching that Jesus truly is the Christ, the sent One from the Father, and that eternal life in God's Kingdom is only to be obtained through Him. And God confirmed their message with "signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will" (Hebrews 2:4).

The fishermen went out, fishing for the 153 large fish!

The 29th and 30th of January saw the Lord providing us an idyllic spot on the eastern coast of our little island to hold our first Bible retreat. The lovely bungalow was a perfect getaway from our busy lives to sit down and spend time studying the Word of God and refreshing our memories of the nuances of Inductive Bible Study.

As Cecilia taught us from the passages of 1 Thessalonians 1 and Matthew 6:24-34, we had opportunity to practise the method of "reading the text", "marking the text", "making a list", "analyzing the list" and "making an outline."

An end times meeting was also held in the same venue to discuss preparations with regards to the end times. We take a leaf from Joseph who



spent 7 years preparing for the 7 years of famine that was about to come in order to preserve the lives of his family and of Egypt.

We pray God would use these trainers' workshops as precursors for leaders & teachers to bring the basic skills of Bible study into their churches, skills which we believe are the most Biblical since they came from God's Word itself (see Nehemiah 8).

God willing, we will be organizing more workshops of this sort to train leaders & teachers. So do pray along with us and see how God will move our churches to develop a love and reverence for His Word. ■



Cecilia teaching on end times preparation.

▲
**TEACH ME
THY WAYS**
▼

BIBLE RETREAT 2005

**30TH – 31ST
JANUARY 2005**

By Joshua Chua



Continued from previous page



Other Highlights
(depending on schedule)

- On site teaching by D'vora, Cecilia and other teachers
- Mount Carmel School of Ministry at Haifa
- Welcoming the Shabbat
- Rosh Hashana celebration and teaching
- Daily devotion - Epistle of 1 John
- Nightly debriefs and prayer in small groups

Pre-Trip Bible Study - There will be a Bible study (3 Saturday afternoons) prior to the trip. This is to ensure that travelers to Israel understand the Biblical significance of the different sites. Travelers will be informed of the date nearer the trip.

Security - We do trust God to protect us but we also know that we are to exercise wisdom in what we choose to do. Thus we seek your cooperation to ensure the safety of all on this study tour. We expect you to follow the instructions of our Tour Leader and Guide so that *everyone* has a blessed and enjoyable time. In the event that certain sites cannot be visited due to safety issues, we will endeavor to substitute those sites with other activities or places of biblical & historical interest.



Reservations should be made with a non-refundable deposit of S\$ 500 per pax and a completed registration form for each person.

Please make payment to **2Tim2-2.com** by cheque and write your name and contact numbers at the back. As we are limiting the number of travelers on our trip, reservations will be on a first-come-first-served basis.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: 30 JULY 2005

Cost - S\$ 3,500 per pax

- Single room supplement: add S\$600 more

Tour price includes:

- airfares, airport taxes, visas
- full board
- double sharing accommodation at 3-4 star hotels and kibbutz
- entrance fees for the places outlined in the itinerary
- portorage at airport and hotels
- tips for guide, driver and hotel staff
- government licensed English speaking tour guide - D'vora Maor
- land travel in luxury air-conditioned coach

Does not include:

- expenses of a personal nature
- travel insurance

Any queries?

Israel@2Tim2-2.com

Continued from previous page



Jesus appeared and when they cast their nets on the right side as He directed, they enclosed a huge number of fish, all large, exactly 153 in number! And... the net was not torn although the catch was so large!



Note:

Gematria is an ancient form of Hebrew numerology by which hidden truths and meanings are discovered within letters, words or phrases. In the Hebrew language, each alphabet corresponds to numerical value.

It is thus the calculation of the numerical equivalence of letters, words, or phrases, and on that basis, gaining insight or exploring the interrelationships between different concepts, words and ideas, which have the same numerical value.

Gematria is known as the "spice of Torah", and this tells us that though it is not the main course, yet it adds flavor to Torah. There are many ways to compute the numerical value of a word via gematria with the simplest being to just add the numerical values of the corresponding letters. The proper way to use gematria is to help you see more clearly those things that you already know to be true.

However, one should never use gematria to verify something which is contrary to the plain and obvious meaning of the Word of God.

The expression בני האלהים (Beni Ha-Elohim), "Sons of God," occurs *seven* times in the Hebrew Scriptures!*

* One of them is slightly different, בני אל-חי (Beni El-hai), "sons of the living God." (Hosea 1:10) ■

Letter	Value	Letter	Value	Letter	Value	R Class
א	1	י	10	ק	100	1
ב	2	כ	20	ר	200	2
ג	3	ל	30	ש	300	3
ד	4	מ	40	ת	400	4
ה	5	נ	50	ך	500	5
ו	6	ס	60	ם	600	6
ז	7	ע	70	ן	700	7
ח	8	פ	80	ף	800	8
ט	9	צ	90	ץ	900	9

◀ ARTICLE: NEW EXODUS ROUTE?? ▶

'Physical evidence' of ancient Exodus prompting new look at Old Testament

By Joe Kovacs

(reprinted with permission from WorldNetDaily.com)

"And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided." (Exodus 14:21)

ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS stories of the Bible is God's parting of the Red Sea to save the Israelites from the Egyptian army and the subsequent drowning of soldiers and horses in hot pursuit.

But is there evidence that such an event did in fact happen and if so, precisely where did it take place?

The issue is surfacing some 3,500 years after the event is said to have taken place with reports of Egyptian chariot wheels found in the Red Sea, photographs to document it and new books by scientists that could lead to a whole remapping of the Exodus route and a fresh look at ancient biblical accounts.

Wheel of fortune

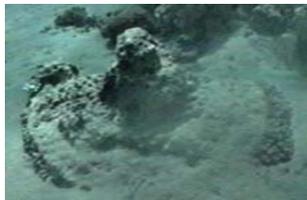
"I am 99.9 percent sure I picked up a chariot wheel," Peter Elmer tells WorldNetDaily after two diving trips to the Gulf of Aqaba branch of the sea. "It was covered in coral."

The 38-year-old forklift mechanic from Keynsham, England, traveled to the region with his brother, Mark, after being inspired by videos of explorers Ron Wyatt and Jonathan Gray, who have documented artifacts that in at least one case authorities have confirmed to be a chariot wheel dating to the time of the Exodus.

"I believe I actually sat in an ancient chariot cab," Elmer said, referring to his time exploring a submerged item in what he describes as an underwater scrapyard. "Without question, it is most definitely the remains of the Egyptian army."

But despite all of Elmer's excitement, others who have been to the same location are not so sure what is being viewed underwater are the remnants of the great chase and urge extreme caution regarding the unsubstantiated claims.

"All kinds of people are finding coral and calling it chariot parts," says Richard Rives, president of Wyatt Archaeological Research in Tennessee. "It's most likely coral covered with coral. ... Opportunists are combining false things with the true things that are found. These people are making it up as they go to be TV stars."



Rives was a longtime partner of Ron Wyatt, an anesthetist and amateur archaeologist who died of cancer in 1999. Before passing away, Wyatt devoted years searching for and documenting physical evidence for events mentioned in the Bible. In addition to chariot wheels, Wyatt claimed to have found Noah's Ark on the mountain next to Ararat in Turkey, the "true" Mount Sinai in Saudi Arabia and the Ark of the Covenant with the Ten Commandments near the site of Jesus Christ's crucifixion.

Among those who accompanied Wyatt on many of his excursions is his wife, Mary Nell. She's concerned about over-exuberance regarding new claims, but the Spring Hill, Tenn., woman tells WorldNetDaily she's "convinced" there are chariot parts located on a subsurface "land bridge" connecting Egypt to Saudi Arabia through the Gulf of Aqaba.

She cites Ron's discovery of a wheel hub that he brought to the surface in the late 1970s as proof.

The hub had the remains of eight spokes radiating outward and was examined by Nassif Mohammed Hassan, director of Antiquities in Cairo. Hassan declared it to be from the 18th Dynasty of ancient Egypt, explaining the eight-spoked wheel was used only during that dynasty around 1400 B.C.

Left: Is this a chariot wheel that chased Moses?

◀ STUDY TOUR TENTATIVE ITINERARY ▶

DO YOU KNOW THE ANSWERS TO THE LOCALES?

- Where Peter first brought the Gospel to the Gentiles...
- Where the Messiah died and rose again...
- What is considered the most sacred place to the Jews...
- Where David hid in the caves from Saul...
- Where Jesus chose His first disciples...
- Where you can't sink no matter how hard you try...

Whether you do or you don't, you should still join us for our **Israel Bible Study Tour 2005** in September!



📅 DATES:

24 SEPTEMBER 2005 TO
6 OCTOBER 2005

➔ AIRLINES:

SINGAPORE AIRLINES & EL
AL AIRLINES (VIA BKK)



DAY 1 (SUNDAY)
- 25 SEPT 2005

Arrive at Ben Gurion Airport..
Caesarea; Haifa - Mount
Carmel School of Ministry
(Pastor Tsukahira); Megiddo

Overnight in Kibbutz
Hagoshim - 4 nights

DAY 2 (MONDAY)
- 26 SEPT 2005

Tel Dan; Banias (Caesarea
Philippi); Golan Heights

DAY 3 (TUESDAY)
- 27 SEPT 2005

Mount Tabor (Mount of
Transfiguration); "The
Galilee Experience";
Bethsaida (et-Tell)

DAY 4 (WEDNESDAY)
- 28 SEPT 2005

Boat ride on the Sea of
Galilee; Ancient Boat
Museum; Tabgha;
Capernaum; Mount of
Beatitudes

DAY 5 (THURSDAY)
- 29 SEPT 2005

Drive along the Jordan
Valley; Qumran; Dead Sea

Overnight at the Dead Sea -
1 night. (Novotel Dead Sea)

DAY 6 (FRIDAY)
- 30 SEPT 2005

Massada (cable car); ruins of
Gomorrhah; south of Dead
Sea; Ein Gedi

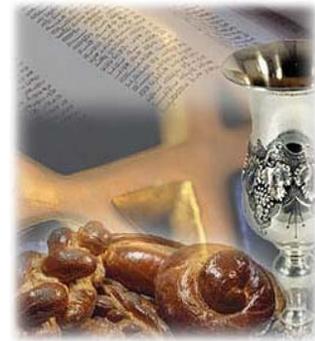
Overnight at Jerusalem - 5
nights (Olive Tree Hotel).

DAY 7 (SATURDAY)
- 1 OCT 2005

Mount of Olives; Garden of
Gethsemane; Kidron Valley;
Israel Museum; Replica of
the model of Jerusalem in
Jesus' time.

DAY 8 (SUNDAY) -
2 OCT 2005

Archeological Garden
(Davidson Center); The
Western Wall and
Rabbi's Tunnel; Temple
Institute Museum; City of
David



DAY 9 (MONDAY)
- 3 OCT 2005 (EVE OF
ROSH HASHANA)

Yad Vashem; Neot
Kedumim

DAY 10 (TUESDAY)
- 4 OCT 2005 (ROSH
HASHANA)

Ecce Homo; Holy Sepulcher;
Christian and Jewish
quarters

DAY 11 (WEDNESDAY)
- 5 OCT 2005 (ROSH
HASHANA)

Garden Tomb; Yad
Hashmona; Shopping in
Jaffa and Tel Aviv before
transfer to Ben Gurion
Airport after dinner.

Leave Ben Gurion Airport
for Singapore via Bangkok;
arrive in Singapore on 6 Oct
2005 at 21:20hr.



2Tim2-2.com is thankful to God that we are able to organize a Bible study trip to Israel, the land of the Hebrews. It is our desire to conduct a tour that goes beyond the usual tourist experience by integrating prophetic studies to the usual historical, cultural and political aspects of the places visited. This is to enable travelers to see the Bible come alive with fresh and new insights.

The tour itinerary has been diligently planned to include on-site Bible studies through Cecilia and our local guides who will enhance the places visited with their knowledge of the historical, cultural and Biblical aspects.

To obtain more understanding of the Jewish elements of our faith, we will visit messianic congregations, interact with the saints there, celebrate the Sabbath and Rosh Hashanah and more!

There will be no hidden costs and we have tried to make it as affordable as is possible to God's people. Do pray and plan to join us in this trip and expect great blessings from our gracious Lord and Master..

Blessings in Yeshua's name.

Jeffrey Loh

See next page for itinerary

TEACH ME
THY WAYS

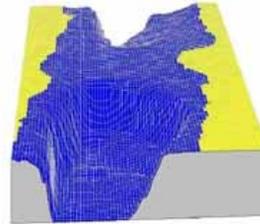
ISRAEL BIBLE STUDY TOUR 2005

"IN MESSIAH'S FOOTSTEPS"

24 SEPTEMBER TO
6 OCTOBER 2005

By Jeffrey Loh

cs



Left: Submerged 'land bridge' between Egypt and Arabia.

The Bible account makes it clear that once the Israelites had marched through the parted sea on dry ground, that the waters rushed back to completely engulf the doomed army of ancient Egypt.

With that in mind, many of the items being seen in the Gulf of Aqaba have been photographed by divers for comparison to the Exodus story.

One of the most spectacular items is what appears to be a wheel with metal exposed. Mary Nell says the wheel is covered with a gold veneer, to which coral has difficulty attaching. She says the gold wheel is still there, wedged so tightly in the bottom that it feels like it's been cemented in.

Many other photographs show formations in a circular pattern with projections that could be spokes, but those items remain at the bottom and have not been authenticated.

Another issue is the route of the Exodus, and which body of water the Israelites crossed. Many travel maps and Bibles indicate a crossing point in the Gulf of Suez, the western branch of the Red Sea. But those may have to be updated if the Aqaba location is confirmed as the true location for the miraculous event.



Right: Wheel with metal exposed.

Curiously, no one can account for the precise whereabouts of that eight-spoked wheel today, though Hassan is on videotape stating his conclusion regarding authenticity.

When Mary Nell went diving with Ron, she says it was very easy to assume (wrongly) that every item on the flat bottom had historical significance.

"[At first] I thought everything was a chariot wheel!" Mrs. Wyatt exclaimed, noting how difficult it is for the untrained eye to distinguish an artifact from a piece of coral. "I'm just trying to be cautious about over-identifying too much. ... It is God's truth, and we can't hype it up. We can't add to it."

However, she notes a big problem for explorers and scientists is that the Egyptian government no longer allows items to be removed from the protected region. Thus, someone claiming to find an artifact will have a hard if not impossible time verifying its authenticity, a classic catch-22.

The watery grave

"And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them." (Exodus 14:28)

"The truth is, no one really knows where the crossing of the Red Sea took place," says Carl Rasmussen, a biblical geographer and professor of Old Testament at Bethel College in St. Paul, Minn.

Rasmussen compiled the "Zondervan NIV Atlas of the Bible" and personally thinks the crossing took place somewhere along what is now the Suez Canal.

Some scientists from Europe say the current maps are wrong, and the Wyatts are right that the crossing began at the Nuweiba beachhead, went through the Gulf of Aqaba, and then into what is now Saudi Arabia where they claim the "true" Mount Sinai is located.

For years, scholars have speculated as to the location of the actual Mount Sinai where Moses received the Ten Commandments from God. At least 13 sites have actually been claimed on the Sinai peninsula as being the correct spot.

But Ron Wyatt believed it was in Arabia, even referenced as "mount Sinai in Arabia" by the Apostle Paul in Galatians 4:25.

So he and his sons made their way to "Jebel el Lawz," the mountain of the Law, which is known by the locals as "Jebel Musa" Moses' mountain.

Unfortunately for the Wyatts, they were arrested and held in prison. His wife says someone had phoned embassy authorities for the Muslim country, claiming that Ron was spying for Israel. They were released after spending 78 days behind bars.

Continued on page 16

By David A.
Kriener



THE CITY OF EBLA is not mentioned in the Old or New Testament, yet the re-discovery of this ancient city in Syria provides support for the historical narrative in a variety of ways. The city of Ebla lies about 55 km south of Aleppo in northern Syria. During excavations at Tel Mardikh during 1974 and 1976, a library of inscribed clay tablets was found, amounting to some 17,000 tablets.

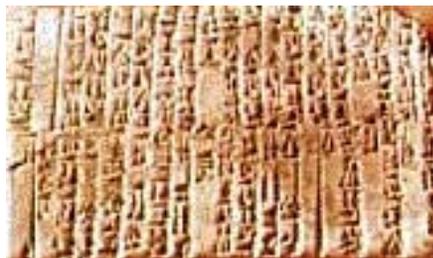
The writing uses the old Sumerian script, and cuneiform inscriptions, but the inscriptions occur in two languages. Dictionaries were also found as part of this library. The remains of Ebla date back to around 2400 BC, about 500 years before Abraham journeyed from Ur of the Chaldeans to Canaan. One of the two languages, now called Eblaite bears many striking similarities to old Hebrew. The find of written records at Ebla is the biggest find of ancient written records, surpassing the sum of all other finds to date.

Archeologists estimate the population of Ebla at about 40,000 in its prime, making it one of the largest cities of its day. It counted many other cities as part of its kingdom. Ebla is mentioned in the records of other countries of the region, including Mesopotamia, Egypt and Akkadia. Ebla started to decline after 2240BC when it was destroyed by the Akkadians. It attained some prominence again between 1700BC and 1650BC, but does not appear to have been inhabited after the Greek conquests, since around 200BC.

While not all of the tablets have so far been translated, most deal with everyday issues, such as commerce but there are other texts dealing with law, as well as stories.

In dealing with records of its commerce, many cities of the Old Testament are mentioned, including Salem (another name for Jerusalem) and perhaps, more significantly Sodom and Gomorrah and the other cities of the plain mentioned in Gen10:19. No remnant of these two cities has ever been found and no other independent evidence has confirmed their existence before the unearthing of the tablets. This provides independent evidence corroborating the accuracy of the historic setting of the Old Testament. Mention is made of Ur in Haran and another Ur.

Many of the personal names of the Old Testament are used, including Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, David, Israel, Saul and Esau. These names were in common use by around 2300BC. This prompted many to try to re-write Biblical history based on very flimsy evidence.



A clay tablet from Ebla.

While many have tried to exaggerate the significance of the Ebla tablets relative to the Bible, they do prove that an alphabetic language similar to Hebrew was in use long before the time of Moses.

The records lend credence to the claimed size of King Solomon's treasury, as tribute paid to one of the kings of Ebla after a military defeat was in hundreds of pounds of gold and thousands of pounds of silver.

A sophisticated legal code is in evidence. The punishment dealing with rape closely mirrors that presented in Mosaic law in Deuteronomy 22:20-30. The tablets also provide evidence of standard sacrifices for various events.

While the city was pagan, worshiping many gods of the region, as well as some local ones, one tablet deals with the story of the creation by a single supreme being.

Interestingly, the Syrian authorities tried to prevent the linkage of the finds with the stories of the Patriarchs, not wanting to give Israel further historic claims on the region.

Location of Ebla – now in modern-day Syria.



While many have tried to exaggerate the significance of the Ebla tablets relative to the Bible, they do prove that an alphabetic language similar to Hebrew was in use long before the time of Moses. It also demonstrates that there were sophisticated legal codes in existence long before the critics thought possible. It lends strong support for geographic places that no longer exist today, but were known to exist as trading partners. Sodom and Gomorrah can not be relegated to fantasy as some have tried to do.

I thank God and give praise that we continue to gain evidence of the veracity of his Word through historical findings. ■