

Appendix 24: The Mathematics of the New Testament

This is something I knew nothing about until I happened to come across it in Dr. William Cooper's book *The Authenticity of the New Testament*. It turns out that the New Testament contains some astonishing mathematical patterns. In fact, the patterns are so amazing that they could only have been created if the text itself was truly written by God. No human being of the era when these books were written could possibly have embedded it into the text.

This is how Dr. Cooper introduces the subject in chapter 6 of his book:

“It is becoming increasingly recognized by conservative scholars that, in their original languages, the Books of the Bible are built around a mathematical structure, often unsuspected, which is at once both simple and breathtakingly complex, and which, demonstrably, can only have been constructed by the deliberate and purposeful Mind of God. Its wonders and very evident design lie well beyond any realm of chance, or even human ingenuity...

“Suffice it to say here that the letters of the Greek alphabet (like those of the Hebrew) were also used to denote numbers, and that each letter therefore had its own numerical value. Thus, the letters of a given word, phrase or sentence can be added, multiplied or divided to reveal the mathematical values of that word, phrase or sentence. The products arrived at by

such addition, multiplication and division are then shown to be structured and organized on a unique and mathematically logical basis. And this happens on not just the simple level, but on levels of such increasing complexity that they are beyond explanation if one looks purely to chance or the mind of man for their occurrence.

“Importantly, these phenomena, especially at their more complex levels, are discovered only within the Books of the Bible...”

So what are these patterns? Dr. Cooper quotes from a pamphlet written by Ivan Panin in 1927. Here are some excerpts from it, which discuss the patterns found within the book of Matthew:

The first 17 verses of the New Testament contain the genealogy of the Christ. It consists of two main parts: Verses 1-11 cover the period from Abraham, the father of the chosen people, to the Captivity, when they ceased as an independent people. Verses 12-17 cover the period from the Captivity to the promised Deliverer, the Christ.

Let us examine the first part of this genealogy.

Its [Greek] vocabulary has 49 words, or 7×7 . This number is itself 7×7 , and the sum of its factors is 2×7 . Of these 49 words 28, or 4×7 , begin with a vowel; and 21, or 3×7 , begin with a consonant.

Again: these 49 words of the vocabulary have

266 letters, or $7 \times 2 \times 19$; this number is itself 38×7 , and the sum of its factors is 28, or 4×7 , while the sum of its figures is 14, or 2×7 . Of these 266 letters, moreover, 140, or 20×6 , are vowels, and 126, or 18×7 , are consonants.

That is to say: Just as the number of words in the vocabulary is a multiple of seven, so is the number of its letters a multiple of seven; just as the sum of the factors of the number of the words is a multiple of seven, so is the sum of the factors of the number of their letters a multiple of seven. And just as the number of words is divided between vowel words and consonant words by sevens, so is their number of letters divided between vowels and consonants by sevens.

Again: Of these 49 words 35, or 5×7 , occur more than once in the passage; and 14, or 2×7 , occur but once; seven occur in more than one form, and 42, or 6×7 , occur in only one form. And among the parts of speech the 49 words are thus divided: 42, or 6×7 , are nouns, seven are not nouns. Of the nouns 35, or 5×7 , are Proper names, seven are common nouns. Of the Proper names 28 are male ancestors of the Christ, and seven are not.

Moreover, these 49 words are distributed alphabetically thus: Words under A-E are 21 in number, or 3×7 ; Z-K 14, or 2×7 ; M-X also 14. No other groups of sevens stopping at the end of a letter are made by these 49 words, the groups of sevens stop with these letters and no others.

But the letters A, E, Z, K, M, X are letters 1, 5, 6, 10, 12, 22 of the Greek alphabet, and the sum of these numbers (called their Place Values) is 56, or 8×7 .

This enumeration of the numeric phenomena of these 11 verses does not begin to be exhaustive, but enough has been shown to make it clear that this part of the genealogy is constructed on an elaborate design of sevens.

Let us now turn to the genealogy as a whole... The New Testament is written in Greek. The Greeks had no separate symbols for expressing numbers, corresponding to our Arabic figures, but used instead the letters of their alphabet: just as the Hebrews, in whose language the Old Testament is written, made use for the same purpose of theirs. Accordingly, the 24 Greek letters stand for the following numbers: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800. Every Greek word is thus a sum in arithmetic obtained by adding the numbers for which its letters stand, or their numeric values. Now the vocabulary to the entire genealogy has 72 words. If we write its numeric value over each of the 72 words, and add them, we get for their sum 42,364, or $6,052 \times 7$, distributed into the following alphabetical groups only: A-B, have 9,821, or $1,403 \times 7$; G-D, 1904, or 272×7 ; ... TH-R, 19,264, or $2,752 \times 7$; A-X 7,672, or $1,096 \times 7$. But the numeric value of the 10 letters used for making these groups is 931, or $7 \times 7 \times 19$, a multiple not only of seven but of 7×7 ...

The second part of this chapter, verses 18-25, relates the birth of Christ. It consists of 161 words, or 23×7 ; occurring in 105 forms, or 15×7 , with a vocabulary of 77 words or 11×7 . Joseph is spoken to here by the angel. Accordingly, of the 77 words the angel uses 28, or 4×7 ; of the 105 forms he uses 35, or 5×7 ; the numeric value of the vocabulary is 52,605, or $7,515 \times 7$; of the forms, 65,429, or $9,347 \times 7$.

This enumeration only begins as it were to barely scratch the surface of the numerics of this passage. But what is specially noteworthy here is the fact that the angel's speech has also a scheme of sevens making it a kind of ring within a ring, a wheel within a wheel...

The second chapter of Matthew tells of the childhood of the Christ. Its vocabulary has 161 words, or 23×7 , with 896 letters, or 128×7 , and 238 forms, or 34×7 ; the numeric value of the vocabulary is 123,529, or $17,647 \times 7$; of the forms, 166,985, or $23,855 \times 7$; and so on through pages of enumeration. This chapter has at least four logical divisions, and each division shows alone the same phenomena found in the chapters as a whole. Thus the first six verses have a vocabulary of 56 words, or 8×7 , etc. There are some speeches here: Herod speaks, the Magi speak, the angel speaks. But so pronounced are the numeric phenomena here, that though there are as it were numerous rings within rings, and wheels within wheels, each is perfect in itself, though forming all the while

only part of the rest...

There is not, however, a single paragraph of the scores in Matthew that is not constructed in exactly the same manner. Only with each additional paragraph the difficulty of constructing it increases not in arithmetical but geometrical progression. For he contrives to write numeric relations to what goes before and after. Thus in his last chapter he contrives to use just 7 words not used by him before...

Anyhow Matthew did it, and we thus have a miracle – an unheard-of literary, mathematical artist, unequalled, hardly even conceivable...

A second fact is yet more important: In his very first section, the genealogy discussed above, the words found nowhere else in the New Testament, occur 42 times, 7×6 ; and have 126 letters, $7 \times 6 \times 3$, each number a multiple not only of seven, but of 6×7 , to name only two of the many numeric features of these words. But how did Matthew know, when designing this scheme for these words (whose sole characteristic is that they are found nowhere else in the New Testament) that they would not be found in the other 26 books? that they would not be used by the other seven New Testament writers?

What more is there to say? Even if you had access to a supercomputer it would be incredibly difficult to write something as long as the Book of Matthew while maintaining this type of mathematical pattern – yet Matthew was written between 30 AD

and 70 AD. It's simply impossible, and yet there it is (and Matthew isn't the only New Testament book that contains this type of mathematical pattern).

I think this is the finger of God. Just as the Bible codes demonstrate the divine authorship of God (for only He could have put them there), so these mathematical patterns demonstrate the same thing. God really did write the Bible and the evidence is there to see.

This also goes to prove that the Bible hasn't been corrupted. After all, any corruption of the text would have broken this extremely delicate pattern.