

## SERMON OUTLINE

**SERMON TITLE:** 666 vs. 777

**SERMON REFERENCE:** Revelation 1:12-13

**LWF SERMON NUMBER:** #1993

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## 1) INTRODUCTION

- a) The Apostle John was exiled on the island of Patmos.
  - i) It was the Alcatraz, the Devil's Island of that day.
  - ii) He was incarcerated there because he was a preacher of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
  - iii) When men shut him out, God took him up and gave him a great revelation.
- b) Revelation 1:12-13
- c) A key number in the book of the Revelation is seven.
  - i) There are seven churches in the first three chapters.
  - ii) There are seven seals in chapters 4-7.
  - iii) There are seven trumpets in chapters 8-11.
  - iv) There are seven personages in chapters 12-14.
  - v) There are seven bowls of judgment in chapters 15-16.
  - vi) There are seven judgments in chapters 17-20.
  - vii) There are seven new things in chapters 21-22.
- d) Revelation 13:18
  - i) The number of the Beast is 666.
- e) In this message, we will study the science and symbolism of numbers as we look at "666 vs. 777."

## 2) THE SCIENCE OF NUMBERS

- a) God is a God of order and design.
  - i) This is seen in all of creation.
  - ii) Numbers and numerical law are written into the universe.
- b) God really wrote two books:
  - i) The book that we call the Bible.
  - ii) The book that we call nature.
- c) God's handiwork is seen in nature.
  - i) The Bible tells us that the heavens declare the glory of God.
    - (1) Psalm 19:1
- d) All astronomy can be reduced to mathematical laws.
  - i) We can chart the heavens, past and future, by mathematics.
- e) Chemistry is primarily a study of mathematics and numbers.
- f) There is a mathematical formula in all of biology.
  - i) All flowers have a certain number of petals.
  - ii) There is a mathematical arrangement to everything that is biological.
    - (1) The same is true for zoology.
- g) God does nothing by accident.
- h) Aristotle said that number is the principle of all things.
- i) To really understand God's universe, one needs to be good in mathematics.

## 3) THE SYMBOLISM OF NUMBERS

- a) To the Jewish people, numbers had a spiritual significance.

- b) The use and the consistency of numbers in the Bible is one of the amazing confirmations of inspiration.
- c) Understanding the meaning of numbers will help the Bible become clearer to us.
- d) In the Bible, “one” is the number of unity, and it speaks of God.
  - i) Deuteronomy 6:4
  - ii) Zechariah 14:9
    - (1) The name of God is one because there is only one God.
  - iii) Ephesians 4:4-6
    - (1) This passage speaks of the primacy, the unity of Almighty God.
- e) “Two” in the Bible is the number of witness.
  - i) John 8:17
  - ii) Even in business meetings, someone with make a motion to do something, and someone else will “second” the motion.
  - iii) God has given us His revelation in two testaments:
    - (1) The Old Testament
    - (2) The New Testament
  - iv) Jesus, who is called the Faithful Witness, is the second person in the Trinity.
    - (1) Revelation 1:5
  - v) After the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, there were two angels at the tomb to testify and to witness that He had risen.
    - (1) John 20:11-13
  - vi) There were two angels at Jesus’ ascension.
    - (1) Acts 1:9-11
  - vii) Two witnesses are going to come back and witness during the Great Tribulation.
    - (1) Revelation 11:3
  - viii) It is still wise to send soul winners out two-by-two.
- f) “Three” is the divine number.
  - i) We worship one God who has revealed himself in three persons.
  - ii) Matthew 28:19
    - (1) God is a triune God.
  - iii) Isaiah 6:3
    - (1) Holy is the Father, holy is the Son, and holy is the Spirit.
  - iv) Three is the simplest compound unity.
  - v) Since man is made in the image of God, man is triune in his nature.
    - (1) 1 Thessalonians 5:23
  - vi) Christ arose on the third day.
  - vii) Everything God has made which reflects His tri-unity is all around us.
    - (1) Space is height, width, and depth.
      - (a) Each is distinguishable from the other, but each is inseparable.
      - (2) Time is past, present, and future.

- (a) Each can be distinguished from the other, but they cannot be separated.
    - (i) You cannot have one without the other.
- g) The number “four” is the Earth number.
  - i) In the Bible, four is used to speak of the Earth.
    - (1) Isaiah 11:12
      - (a) This does not mean that the Earth is a cube when it speaks of the four corners of the Earth.
      - (b) It is speaking of the four points of the compass: North, South, East, and West.
    - (2) Ezekiel 7:2
    - (3) Revelation 7:1
    - (4) Revelation 20:8
  - ii) Revelation 4:4-8
    - (1) The word for “beast” in this passage is not the same word that is used for the Antichrist Beast.
      - (a) It means “living creature,” and it represents all creation.
    - (2) In this passage, there are four creatures that represent all creation praising God.
  - iii) There are four world empires that have existed upon the Earth.
  - iv) In the Bible, “forty” is the number of testing and trial while we are here upon the Earth.
    - (1) Forty is just simply four multiplied by ten.
      - (a) Ten is the complete number.
    - (2) While Noah was in the ark, it rained forty days and forty nights.
    - (3) Moses was on Mt. Sinai forty days and nights.
    - (4) Jonah preached forty days that Nineveh would be destroyed.
    - (5) Jesus was tested and tempted in the wilderness for forty days.
- h) The numbers “five” and “ten” stand for completeness.
  - i) A person has five fingers and five toes.
  - ii) We have five senses.
  - iii) Five and five put together speaks of completeness.
  - iv) There are ten commandments.
    - (1) It is impossible to add an eleventh commandment because all of moral law is summed up in those ten commandments.
  - v) Ten is spoken of as having completeness.
    - (1) Revelation 13:1
      - (a) A horn in Bible prophecy is emblematic of authority and power.
      - (b) The Beast has ten horns which means that he has complete power.
  - vi) The Bible speaks of ten in the sense of judgment.
    - (1) There were ten plagues upon Egypt.
    - (2) When the church receives trials and persecution, it will be ten-fold.
      - (a) Revelation 2:10
        - (i) In this verse, the “ten days” are spoken of symbolically.

1. This means that there will be full persecution and full tribulation.
  - a. This is not the Great Tribulation.
- (3) John 16:33
  - (a) The church will receive tribulation.
- i) The number “six” is the number of man.
  - i) Revelation 13:18
  - ii) Man was created on the sixth day.
  - iii) The mark 666 (three being the number of God and six the number of man) is man pretending to be God.
    - (1) The Bible says that the Antichrist will sit in the temple of God and show himself that he is God.
      - (a) 2 Thessalonians 2:4
- j) “Seven” is a perfect or complete number.
  - i) It references the Lord Jesus many times, as well as the Holy Spirit.
  - ii) The Bible speaks of the seven spirits of God.
    - (1) This does not mean that there are literally seven spirits of God.
    - (2) It means that the Holy Spirit is the perfect Spirit of God.
  - iii) The number six is one less than seven.
    - (1) Six stands for perfect imperfection.
      - (a) That’s what man is.
    - (2) In the Bible, six is used to symbolize Satan and evil.
      - (a) The height of Goliath of Gath, the giant that David killed, was six cubits and a span.
        - (i) His spearhead weighed 600 shekels of iron.
        - (ii) He had six pieces of armor.
        - (iii) Goliath represented 666.
    - (3) David represented the Lord Jesus.
      - (a) He killed Goliath.
        - (i) One man won the battle for all the rest.
          1. This is a prophecy of the Lord Jesus who defeated Satan for all of us.
  - iv) The number seven is made up of three and four.
    - (1) Three is the divine number, and four is the Earth number.
      - (a) It is Earth crowned with Heaven.
        - (i) Matthew 6:10
  - v) There are seven days in a week.
  - vi) There are seven notes in the musical scale.
    - (1) The eighth note in an octave is but a repetition of the first.
  - vii) Revelation 3:1
    - (1) There are only three in the Trinity.
    - (2) The “seven spirits of God” means the “perfect Spirit of God.”
  - viii) Revelation 5:6
    - (1) In this verse, the lamb is Jesus.

- (2) The seven horns speak of His perfect power.
- (3) Seven eyes speak of His perfect omniscience.
- (4) The seven spirits of God (the Holy Spirit) speak of His holiness.
- ix) Joshua marched around Jericho seven times on the seventh day.
- x) There are seven parables of the Kingdom in Matthew 13.
- xi) In the book of the Revelation, there are seven lampstands.
  - (1) The lampstand was a seven-pronged lampstand.
    - (a) It had one central shaft which speaks of the unity of God.
    - (b) It had six shafts coming out, three on each side, which speaks of man united with God becoming the light of the world.
- xii) Examples of multiples of sevens and sevens and tens put together:
  - (1) Daniel was given a revelation of future history.
    - (a) It was a revelation of seventy weeks of years, or 490 years.
  - (2) Seventy were sent out to preach the Gospel.
  - (3) The Bible teaches that there are seventy years in the human life span.
    - (a) Psalm 90:10
  - (4) Seventy speaks of unlimited forgiveness.
    - (a) Matthew 18:22
- xiii) In the study of prophecy, the number seven will be cut in half.
  - (1) This speaks of division and danger.
  - (2) The Great Tribulation will be seven years of horror.
    - (a) It will be divided into two periods:
      - (i) Three-and-a-half years of peace.
      - (ii) The last half will be the time of great and horrible tribulation.
  - (3) The prophet Elijah shut up Heaven for three years and six months so that it would not rain.
    - (a) This is half of seven.
  - (4) The Antichrist will make a covenant with Israel for seven years.
    - (a) But in the middle of those seven years, he will break the covenant.
  - (5) Daniel 7:25
    - (a) For three-and-a-half years, the Antichrist will have unlimited power.
  - (6) Daniel 9:27
    - (a) The Antichrist will make a covenant with Israel.
    - (b) "One week" mentioned here is a week of years (seven years).
    - (c) A peace treaty will be signed; but the Bible says of the Antichrist that by peace, he will destroy many.
      - (i) Daniel 8:25
    - (d) The temple will be rebuilt.
    - (e) The Beast will move into the temple of God.
      - (i) 2 Thessalonians 2:4
    - (f) After three-and-a-half years, the Antichrist will break the covenant.
      - (i) He will turn on Israel.

1. Matthew 24:15
  2. Matthew 24:21
- (g) These things can be understood better if we understand that seven is the perfect number and three-and-a-half is a division of seven, and that is when the anti-Christ breaks the covenant.
- (i) Revelation 13:5
    1. Forty-two months is three-and-a-half years.
- k) The number “eight” speaks of new beginnings and the new birth.
- i) The eighth day is the first day of the week.
  - ii) Jesus appeared eight days after His resurrection.
  - iii) We do not worship on the seventh day.
    - (1) We worship on the eighth day, which is the first day because it speaks of new beginnings.
  - iv) A newborn male child was circumcised on the eighth day.
    - (1) This is analogous of speaking of new life because the Bible uses this as an analogy of salvation.
      - (a) Colossians 2:11
  - v) Eight people came through the flood to a new world.
    - (1) 2 Peter 2:5
    - (2) 1 Peter 3:20
  - vi) When a leper would be healed of his leprosy, he would be pronounced clean on the eighth day.
  - vii) Jesus was transfigured on the eighth day.
    - (1) Luke 9:28
  - viii) Jesus arose after three days in the grave, but it was the eighth day (Sunday) when He came out of the grave.
  - ix) Jesus appeared to His disciples on the eighth day.
  - x) John 20:26
- l) The number “twelve” is the governmental number.
- i) Twelve apostles were in the foundational government of the church.
  - ii) There were twelve patriarchs in the Old Testament.
  - iii) When John went up to Heaven, he saw twelve thrones.
    - (1) Matthew 19:28
      - (a) All of the redeemed are going to rule and reign with the Lord Jesus.
    - (2) Revelation 4:4
      - (a) These are likely the twelve patriarchs of the Old Testament and the twelve apostles of the New Testament.
  - iv) Revelation 21:16
  - v) This is God’s governmental number which teaches that we are going to rule and reign with Almighty God.
- m) The significance of this:
- i) There is one God.
  - ii) That one God has given witness to us; that is two.
  - iii) He witnesses of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; that’s three.



- iv) This witness is given to all the world; that's four.
- v) He will complete what He has begun; that is five and ten.
- vi) Man is a failure; that is six.
- vii) God demands perfection; that is seven.
- viii) Eight says that we can be born again.

#### 4) THE MINISTER OF PROPAGANDA

- a) There is coming a man who will be the minister of propaganda for the Beast.
- b) He will be a servant of Satan.
  - i) Revelation 13:11
    - (1) This is speaking of the false prophet.
    - (2) There is a holy Trinity and an unholy trinity.
      - (a) Revelation 16:13
      - (b) The unholy trinity is the dragon, the Beast, and the false prophet.
        - (i) The dragon is the anti-God.
        - (ii) The Beast is the anti-Christ.
        - (iii) The false prophet is the anti-Spirit.
  - ii) Revelation 13:11 speaks of the anti-Spirit.
    - (1) "Two horns" speaks of witness, and the lamb speaks of Jesus.
      - (a) But this is speaking of a false prophet.
      - (b) He is a dragon in lamb's clothing.
- c) He will be a worker of worship.
  - i) Revelation 13:12
  - ii) Satan can hardly wait to be worshipped.
  - iii) The spirit of the Antichrist is already in this world.
- d) He will be a master of miracles.
  - i) Revelation 13:13-14
  - ii) Satan has the power to do miracles.
    - (1) Jesus said that he would deceive the very elect if it were possible.
      - (a) Matthew 24:24
      - (2) 2 Thessalonians 2:9
    - iii) In Egypt, Pharaoh's magicians imitated the miracles of Moses.
- e) He will be a controller of commerce.
  - i) Revelation 13:16-18

#### 5) CONCLUSION

- a) The rapture is coming, and the church will be taken out.
- b) The Great Tribulation is the great day of God's wrath.
  - i) God is not going to pour out His wrath upon His children.
    - (1) This does not mean that we will not have tribulation.
      - (a) John 16:33
      - (2) The flood did not come until Noah was in the ark.
      - (3) Fire and brimstone did not fall upon Sodom and Gomorrah until Lot was taken out.



- c) It is going to be dark for Israel.
  - i) The kingdoms of this world will be gathered together at Armageddon to decimate Israel.
  - ii) Just when 666 thinks he has it all made, 777 is coming from Heaven.
- d) Jesus is coming again.
  - i) Are you ready for His coming?
- e) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- f) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
  - i) Romans 3:23
  - ii) Romans 10:9-10
  - iii) Romans 10:13
  - iv) Acts 16:31
  - v) John 3:16