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Subject: Bible Numerics

Posted by [wishing34](#) on Sat, 21 Mar 2009 23:21:04 GMT

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Hi,

Here is a little on Bible Numerics if anyone is into it or has loved ones into it. Pretty obscure stuff unless your minister is into it... and some people very similar to FA are into it.

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Bible Numerics does the following to analyze a passage of Scripture to test if it is really from God or not.  
(counting is done in the original languages)

- 1) Count the number of words in the passage.
- 2) Divide the total by seven
- 3) If remainder equal zero then this is a "hit"
- 4) If remainder is not equal to zero then this is a "miss"

Repeat those 4 steps up to 70 times for different count items. Count the number of vowels, number of consonants, number of verbs, number of verbs beginning with vowels, the number of nouns, the number of nouns beginning with a vowel, the number of nouns beginning with a consonant .... and on and on.

If you can keep trying counting various things and eventually get up to 10 "hits" then this passage is accepted as Divinely inspired. If you cannot reach the number 10 then this passage is rejected as not from God.

Some have created a new "Numerics" bible of only acceptable verses.

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(The following is kind of thick math which is why it is tricky)

Key idea is. . .

You have to include the "number of tries" when you calculate the odds.

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For example...

Numerics literature says the odds of finding 3 "hits" are

$1/7$  times  $1/7$  times  $1/7$  or  $1/343$

this is an error in math

the real calculation is

$6/7$  times  $8/7$  times  $7/7$  or  $336/343$

assuming there were 6 counts, then 8 counts, then 7 counts before the "hits" were obtained. You have to include the number of tries - the 6, the 8, and the 7

That  $336/343$  fraction is very close to equal to one which will always be the case. Odds of nearly equal to one are not impressive at all.

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Being redundant now. . .

If I try 6 counts before I get a "hit" then the odds associated with that hit are  $6/7$  (close to = one)

If I say the odds were  $1/7$  that is wrong because I tried 6 counts not just one count.

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The extremely high odds boasted in the Numerics literature is wrong math. Numerics is not a way to judge Bible verses.

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Numerics might sound bizarre to get caught up in.

Numerics is "sold" as valid by referring to tremendous odds to obtain the 10 "hits."  
In reality (math reality that is) the odds are completely unremarkable.

Please go easy on those who might have gotten into Bible Numerics. You can see how hard the math is to understand and when Bible Numerics is "sold" via a book or web page the huge odds are quite appealing because they make it look like it had to be God to obtain such large numbers. The hook is to think you are validating the Scriptures in a really cool way - actually you end up deleting real Scriptures which of course will hinder the ministry of the pure Word or hinder a 5-fold from succeeding.