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SPEAKERS

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Baruch Korman 00:08

Shalom, and welcome to this installment in our series Hebrew numerology. And in this edition, we're going to focus in on the number four. But let me warn us and caution us that not every time a number appears in the Bible, does the significance attached to that number? Is it relevant? You see, sometimes God uses a number simply because that was the historical fact meaning this happened two times, or three times or five times. Or he uses a number because there were seven loaves of bread, or three pieces of fish, whatever it might be. So not always does that significance that we're learning for the numbers, are they a factor always in our interpretation, but frequently, they are. So with that statement made, let's explore the number four. And the place that I would like us to begin is in the book of Daniel, chapter four. Now, what we're going to see is this, that the number four frequently in the Scripture carries with it a context of the entire world, we might say that the number four is a global number. And this is exactly what we're going to learn in this passage. So look with me to Daniel, chapter eight, and verse eight, let me give you the contexts, we're dealing with a beast, and a beast, according to the prophets, a beast is an empire. And here we're looking at the second beast that's mentioned in Daniel chapter eight in his vision, and we're speaking about one that is called the goat. And the goat is the Empire of the Antichrist. And notice what it says in verse eight, Daniel, chapter eight, and verse eight. And the goat magnified itself, unto exceedingly meaning simply, it magnified itself in an exceedingly great manner. And notice what it says. And when it was strong, notice that when it was very strong is the implication that it's great horn was broken, and went up four prominent ones, in its place. And notice what it says, not just four prominent ones, but it says to the four winds of the heavens, now, what is it referring to the four winds of the Heaven? Well, just like we see the number four in regard to the four corners of the earth, it's not saying that the earth is flat, that would be ridiculous. But it's speaking about four directions. We speak about north, south, east, and west. And what the scripture is saying is this, when this empire is very strong, that that prominent horn, in the middle of the forehead is going to be broken off. It's strong, very strong, but it's going to be broken off, and for others are going to arise in its place. Now for is that global number, it represents the earth in its entirety. And what is simply saying is that this empire, when the time is right, when it's strong, it is going to exert its authority, its power, its rule over all the earth, over the entire globe. And that's why one should see and this is supported in the book of Revelation as well, that that Antichrist Empire is going to rule over all the earth, it's going to be a one world government. Now, notice something else, turn if you would, to the book of Revelation,

Revelation and chapter seven, we're going to see that same truth and that same significance for the number four being expressed here in this passage, as well. So the book of Revelation and chapter seven, where it says, and afterwards meaning after these things that we've just spoken of, in the seals, it says afterwards, I looked and For angels, this can mean messengers, those who were given with an assignment from God, these four messengers were standing. And notice where they were standing in the four corners of the earth. So for messengers, they have significance for all the earth. And they're standing in the four corners of the earth, meaning towards the north, towards the south, towards the east, and towards the west. And they were holding on to meaning exerting authority over the four, they were exerting authority over the four winds of the earth, notice how the term of the earth appears over and over, they were exerting authority over the four winds of the earth in order that the wind should not blow upon the earth, or upon the sea, or upon any tree. Now, what's happening here, these four angels have the wrath of God to be poured out over the entire Earth, in its totality. But before that happens, there is something that must be done. And we look now to verse two, and it says, I saw another angel, or a messenger, coming up from the east meeting from the rising of the sun, and its authority, it had authority in regard to the Seal of the Living God. And it was called out in a loud voice to the four angels, that that were given to end them to harm what the entire earth and the sea, so they were being told not to harm anything until a few things took place. And again, when we look at this, we see that the number four is repeating, and the context is clear. It has to do with the entire world, the wrath of God that was prophesied and proclaimed, in chapter six, is being detained, that wrath is not going to fall upon all the earth in its entirety until God seals that 144,000 with the seal of living God. And also, there's another thing that has to happen. And that would be the rapture also alluded to, in Revelation chapter seven. And it's only after the servants of God are sealed, and the believers are removed from this world, then, and only then can the wrath of God fall upon the earth, in its totality, meaning that the earth and the sea, and the trees would all be harmed. So again, we see how the number four relates to the world, and how it's a global number. Let me give you one more example. I just like to talk our way through that. And we know that there is the altar. And the Bible says that the altar has four horns, why four horns? Well, four relates to the world to the entire Earth. And what we find is this, that altar, that related to the tabernacle, and then to the temple, st altar. It had four horns. Why? Because this was the only place once Jerusalem was establish once the tabernacle was set up, and it was placed in either Shiloh at the beginning, and then the utensils were moved to Jerusalem. Once that happened with the establishment of the temple, there was only one place in all the world to sacrifice one place that was uniquely set apart for worship. And it was Jerusalem. And that's why the Temple Mount is in Jerusalem, the place of worship, and the altar of God is the only place this altar that has the four horns. So my encouragement to you is, as we learned, the significance of these numbers, when you come across them in the Bible, give strong consideration to whether in that passage, that significance of whatever number we're dealing with, if that significance is relevant, if it adds to one's understanding and assist in arriving at the proper interpretation

Baruch Korman 09:57

again, does that significant of that significance for a particular number? Is it always relevant in that passage? Not always. But frequently? It is. And it does us ourselves well to know that significance. So when we come across the numbers, we remember that significance attached for that number in order to aid our understanding, and to give us guidance in a proper interpretation. Well, I'll close this installment

with that until next time, and we turn our attention to the number five Until then, may God bless you, as you study his word. Shalom from Israel,