

The Number 13

The number 13 is symbolic of rebellion and lawlessness. Nimrod, the mighty hunter who was 'before the Lord' (meaning he tried to take the place of God - Genesis 10:9), was the 13th in Ham's line (Ham was one of Noah's three sons who survived the flood).

The phrase 'valley of Hinnom' (or variation thereof) occurs in 13 places in Scripture. The valley was the scene of the evil-inspired rites of the pagan god Moloch (or Molech). (Revelation 19:20, 20:9 - 10, 14 - 15).

The longest name of a book, Thessalonians, is 13 characters.

The dragon, a symbol for Satan, is found 13 times in Revelation.

Haman the Agagite had a decree signed on the thirteenth day of the first month that on the thirteenth day of the 12th month all Jews in the Persian Empire were to be killed (Esther 3:7 - 9).

The destruction of Jericho is stamped with the number 13, for the city was marched around for six straight days, and on the seventh day it was marched seven times, making thirteen total.

King Solomon spent a little more than seven years building Jerusalem's temple (1Kings 6:38). He, however, spent a total number of THIRTEEN years building a home for himself (1Kings 7:1)

There are at least 13 famines mentioned in the Bible (Genesis 12:10, 26:1, 41:54; Ruth 1:1; 2Samuel 21:1; 1Kings 18:1; 2Kings 4:38, 7:4, 25:3; Nehemiah 5:3; Jeremiah 14:1; Luke 15:14 and Acts 11:28).

In Mark Chapter 7, Jesus mentions thirteen things that defile a person. They are evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. (Mark 7:20 - 23).

Ishmael, the first physical son of Abraham (through Hagar), was circumcised when he was 13 years old (Genesis 17:25) as part of the then new covenant God made with Abraham (Genesis 17:1 - 22). But this was just the start. Abraham also had EVERY male born in his house (numbering at least 318 individuals - Genesis 14:14), as well as all the males he owned, and any other males (whether an adult or child) he was responsible for, circumcised ON THE SAME DAY (Genesis 17:23 - 27)! And, even though he was 99 years old, Abraham himself also submitted to circumcision.

Other facts about the number 13

To have a Friday the 13th occur, the month in which it occurs must begin on a Sunday.

In Italy, 13 is considered a very lucky number. The expression *fare tredici* (“to do 13”) means hit the jackpot.

13 is a prime number, the number 13 is the square root of 169

In a standard 52-card deck of cards there are four suits of 13.

There were 13 original colonies of the United States.

Because of the 13 original colonies, the first US flag had 13 stripes and 13 white stars

When we look at the 1 Dollar Bill, we find there are 13 stars on the Great Seal of the United States, 13 bars on the shield, 13 leaves on the olive branch and 13 fruits along with 13 arrows.

There are 13 steps on the Pyramid, 13 letters in “E PLURIBUS UNUM” meaning “Out of many, one”. There are 13 letters in “ANNUIT COEPTIS” meaning “God has favored our undertaking”.

The Prohibition in the United States lasted for thirteen years; from 1920 – 1933.

Thirteen Women were found guilty and executed in the Salem Witch Trials, Massachusetts.

There are thirteen loaves in a “baker’s dozen”. This dates back to medieval England, when punishment was severe for bakers who cheated their customers. To be on the safe side, a free loaf was given with every dozen sold.

The Thirteenth Amendment (USA) forbids slavery - “Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.”

In 1856, the Grand Encampment of the United States abolished the Order of the Knights of Malta. The Order was deemed as being unnecessary and embarrassing, but in 1862 it was restored to its current position.