

## UPWARD CALL

*Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but this is my one aim: to forget everything that's behind, and to strain every nerve to go after what lies ahead. I press on toward the finish line, where the prize waiting for me is the upward call of God*  
**IN KING JESUS.**

(Philippians 3:13-14)

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### **Number 1776—America, Jesus, Israel**

Some ask: ***Is the United States mentioned in scripture?*** As should be expected, some say no and some say yes. As I see it, the answer to this question is not really the issue. More importantly, we should be asking: Where is the United States of America (USA) in the economy of God? Or, where does the USA fit in the history of nations as ordained by God? God is sovereign over His creation and, as such, nothing transpires outside His will. After all, through Jeremiah we are told that the Lord pulls down or builds up nations or kingdoms.

If at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, and if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I intended to do to it. And if at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, and if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will relent of the good that I had intended to do to it. (Jeremiah 18:7-10 ESV)

Regarding the USA, part of the answer is discovered in **the year 1776**, which is attributed to the issuance of the ***Declaration of Independence*** that established America's sovereignty as a nation, forming a union of thirteen states out of former British colonies. However, the answer is not only discovered in the year but also in the very number itself, as revealed through the ***biblical code*** or what is called ***gematria***, which is a system in which numerical values are assigned to an alphabet. For example, in the Hebrew language, *aleph* is assigned the number 1, and in the Greek language, *alpha* is assigned the number 1. By applying gematria to biblical words and verses, numeric values are derived.

Relying on Bonnie Gaunt and her extensive work with the gematria or numeric biblical code of scripture (e.g., *Jesus Christ the Number of His Name* [Adventures Unlimited Press, 2002]), we learn the numeric value of the following expressions:

Jesus of Nazareth = 1776

Lord of the Sabbath = 1776

I am the root and offspring of David = 1776

And they shall call you the city of God, Zion of the Holy One of Israel = 1776

The Lamb in the midst of the throne = 1776

River of life = 1776

Obviously, the first three expressions refer directly to our Lord Jesus and the last three refer to the Lord and New Jerusalem. However, America's founding sharing the same numeric value with the Lord Jesus and New Jerusalem should catch our attention. It can't be a coincidence. Interestingly, some of the early settlers that came from Europe seeking "religious" freedom, such as the Pilgrims/Puritans, arrived on the shores of New England with the hope of establishing the kingdom of God and New Jerusalem. For more on this, check out this link: ***America—Wake Up!*** — <http://www.kingdomandglory.com/art/art67.pdf>

In his farewell address to the nation, **President Ronald Reagan** shared his vision of America as ***a shining city upon a hill*** that harkened back to the Puritans: *In my mind it was a tall, proud city built on rocks stronger than oceans, windswept, God-blessed, and teeming with people of all kinds living in harmony and peace; a city with free ports that hummed with commerce and creativity. And if there had to be city walls, the walls had doors and the doors were open to anyone with the will and heart to get there.*

Based on Matthew 5:14-16, **John Winthrop, a Puritan pilgrim preacher**, in **1630** wrote: *For we must consider that we shall be as **a city upon a hill**. The eyes of all people are upon us. So that if we shall deal falsely with our God in this work we have undertaken, and so cause Him to withdraw His present help from us, we shall be made a story and a by-word through the world.*

Without doubt, there are many in our nation today that deny, even argue against, our Christian roots. It is a sad commentary how the God of Abraham and the Creator of all has been thrust out of so many aspects of our national life, especially in our governance. *Jesus*, the one through whom the Father of all created, is often thrust out of the national "conversation," even, at times, derided in this conversation. But we are not the only nation on earth that has gone down this destructive path. A long-time friend of mine who lives in Africa told me recently (2019) that he was asked to teach some pastors at a Christian university in a neighboring country, but he was instructed not to mention the name of *Jesus*. They wanted him to teach on how to get on in life. Of course, he declined.

Back to the year and number 1776, there are several parallels between America and the ancient house of Israel that lost its national identity when it was dispersed among the nations, starting in 745 BC. This is where it gets interesting, for 2,520 years or twelve 210-year cycles from 745 BC is the year 1776 AD, which is when the new government was formed that became the United States of America. So, 2,520 years after Israel fell into captivity to the Assyrians, America was released from captivity to the British Empire. One government (kingdom) began to fall, another began to rise. By the way, the number **12** signifies ***divine government***, and the numbers **21** and **210** signify what is called ***Jacob' distress***. All these numbers are associated with ***prophetic time-cycles***, and add further credence to the importance of these cycles and God's hand in the governmental affairs of ancient Israel and the US. As I explain elsewhere, the lost house of Israel emerged 2,520 years after its fall with the independence of thirteen British colonies that formed the foundation of *a more perfect union*.

As if programmed into our national roots, our founding fathers looked to Moses and God's law for guidance. In his book, *A Miracle That Changed the World, The 5000 Year Leap*, W. Cleon Skousen (National Center for Constitutional Studies, 2007) points out how our founding fathers viewed government and ruler's law verses people's law and common law. He notes how the founders saw similarities between the **Anglo-Saxon Common Law** and the **People's Law of Ancient Israel**, and they attempted to incorporate the principles of these ancient laws into the governmental framework of the US. In fact, the original intent of the founders was to incorporate representations of both the ancient Israelites and the Anglo-Saxons in the official seal of the United States. Others have pointed out that the Anglo-Saxons are descendants of the lost tribes of Israel, mainly the ten tribes that were in Samaria when the Assyrians invaded their land at the behest of God, and within the many that have come to the shores of America, as far back as its colonial days, are the descendants of the Anglo-Saxons. Was America founded by God as a modern-day Israelite nation? I'll leave it to you to decide.

I have left out a lot of detail. For more on this topic, I encourage you to read the following article:

*Abraham's Multitude of Nations* — <http://www.kingdomandglory.com/art/art63.pdf>