The *SECOND EDGE* Monographs

ISSUE 1.

בראשית ברא אלהים את השמים ואת הארץ׃

earth the.   and   heaven the   —   God   created   beginning the In

The Ultimate Assertion:

EVIDENCE OF SUPERNATURAL DESIGN
IN THE DIVINE PROLOGUE

Vernon Jenkins MSc

Preamble

Since becoming familiar with the words of Isaiah 29:14 I have often wondered how the Lord would fulfil His promise to destroy man's wisdom. And while it may be argued that the Gospel does just that, things being as they are I felt there had to be a 'second instalment' to this prophecy: some dramatic event which would immediately challenge the thinkers of our age and cause them to seriously consider the Lord's words, "...believe me for the very works' sake." (Jn.14:11)

For me, the interminable argument between creationist and evolutionist concerning who and what we are was not the answer; even a divine visitation would be interpreted by many today as an 'extraterrestrial event' - proof that our universe teems with life (the assumed process of evolution ensuring that some of its manifestations must be vastly superior to our own). No, the answer had to lie within something we already possess: the Bible. But what could it be? What form could it possibly take?

The beginnings of an answer are given in this introduction to *The Second Edge* where it is revealed that God's word, as originally given, incorporates many wonders (here referred to as *standing miracles* for the very good reason that unlike the *transient* variety - of which there are many examples in the Scriptures - they endure, and are thus ever available for inspection, analysis and comment).

 I have thought it best to present the material as a dialogue between an anonymous reporter (AR – his words recorded in blue) and myself.

Vernon Jenkins

The Second Edge:

a role for number in the pursuit of truth

An interesting title! Tell me something about your proposed book.

Actually, it's a book about a Book. That may not sound very exciting but as it involves a mystery – perhaps the greatest of all mysteries – I believe it will be widely read. As to the title: the Christian Bible speaks of itself as a 'sword' (Eph. 6:17) which it later describes as being 'sharp and two-edged' (Rev. 1:16, 2:12). The metaphor is apt: the sword's leading edge clearly represents the Gospel of Jesus Christ; its second edge, a complementary principle which God has prepared to take effect in a time of unbelief and gross apostasy – in other words, now!

Go on.

It is not generally appreciated that the collection of early Hebrew and Greek writings that forms the basis of what we now call 'the Bible' is also a fixed set of numbers. The ambiguity arises quite naturally from the plain historical fact that for many ancient peoples the 'alphabetic system' of numeration, sooner or later, became the accepted standard of the day.

Can you explain?

The use of letters as numerals was an important development in man's long and tedious quest for better methods of writing, reading and manipulating numbers. It is a sobering thought that the system in which we are so fluent today – and which is now virtually universal – is no more than a few centuries old; with it, we seem, finally, to have achieved perfection.

I suppose you would quote Roman numeration as a familiar example of these early developments?

Yes, but for a number of reasons it is not typical; for example, only seven of its letters (I, V, X, L, C, D and M) are used as numerals. On the other hand, the Hebrew and Greek systems of the day each involved the whole alphabet, every letter being assigned a fixed numerical value. The Hebrew scheme is shown on the next page. Appearing above each of its 22 letters is its alphabetic position; below, its value as a numeral. Observe that 5 of the letters have alternative 'end forms' - these used when terminating a word. This scheme – introduced circa 200 BC – was designed to record numbers on a simple 'additive' basis, i.e. the value represented by a string of letters was the sum of the letter-values, irrespective of their position in the string.

Presumably then, various combinations of letters might be used to represent a particular number?

That's right. Though, of course, there would have been a natural tendency to write concisely and to order the values.

How may words be fairly interpreted as numbers?

We can do no better than take as an example the opening words of the Bible as they are found in the original Hebrew, as shown. Here, reading from right to left, we have the whole of the first verse (Genesis 1:1) and the first word of the second. Letter-values are marked above the text and word-values below. Observe that the untranslatable central word of the opening verse is formed from the first and last letters of the Hebrew alphabet and is therefore equivalent to the Greek 'Alpha and Omega' – a term used of himself by the Lord Jesus Christ (Rv.1:8, 17; 22:13).

Place:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Letter:	א	ב	ג	ד	ה	ו	ז	ח
Name:	aleph	beyt	gimel	dalet	hey	vav	zayin	hhet
Numeral:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Place:	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Letter:	ט	י	ךכ	ל	םמ	ןנ	ס
Name:	tet	yud	kaph	lamed	mem	nun	samech
Numeral:	9	10	20	30	40	50	60

Place:	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Letter:	ע	ףפ	ץצ	ק	ר	שׁ	ת
Name:	ayin	pey	tsadey	quph	resh	shin	tav
Numeral:	70	80	90	100	200	300	400

The Hebrew alphabet and scheme of alphabetic numeration

8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
והארץ	האדץ: ואת	ואת	השמים	את	אלהים	ברא	בראשית
earth the And	. earth the	and	heaven the	—	God	created	beginning the In
302	**296**	**407**	**395**	**401**	**86**	**203**	**913**

The Bible's first eight Hebrew words and their interpretation as numbers

To summarise: the first eight words of the Bible, as originally written, may be fairly read as the numbers 913, 203, 86, 401, 395, 407, 296 and 302 .

I CAN SEE THAT WHAT YOU ARE DOING APPEARS TO HAVE THE MERIT THAT IN STRIPPING DOWN THE WORDS TO FIXED NUMBERS YOU ARE DISPENSING WITH THE CLOUDING NUANCES OF LANGUAGE AND INTERPRETATION WHICH CAN BE SO DIVISIVE. BUT ARE YOU THEN LEFT WITH ANYTHING OF VALUE? IT WOULD SURELY BE NATURAL TO SUPPOSE THAT SUCH NUMBERS ARE NO MORE THAN FORTUITOUS ADHESIONS TO THE TEXT!

Perhaps so. But you must agree that this situation provides a golden opportunity for any able and resourceful author to further inform his readers through this additional 'channel of communication'.

YES, BUT EVEN IF I GRANT YOU THAT, WHERE IS THE PROOF THAT IT ACTUALLY HAPPENED? WHAT COULD NUMBERS POSSIBLY 'SAY' THAT WOULD CONVINCE PEOPLE THAT THEY ARE THERE 'BY DESIGN'?

Before that question can be answered it is necessary that we briefly turn our attention elsewhere. At the heart of mathematics lie fundamental structures of unchallengeable integrity – structures that transcend human opinion, conjecture or manipulation. Included among these are the *figurate numbers*. It is these silent arbiters of absolute truth that will assist us in deciding whether or not the biblical numbers are there *by design*.

PLEASE EXPLAIN.

A figurate number is one that has visual symmetry when expressed as a close formation of uniform 'counters' – circular or spherical , square or cubic – as appropriate to the situation in hand.

An example of the most primitive of these is to be found on a snooker table where, at the beginning of each frame, we see the reds balls arranged in the form of an equilateral triangle, thus:
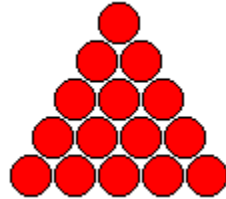
It is immediately apparent that there is a link between this simple instance of *numerical geometry* and the operation of counting for we find one red in row one, two in row two, three in row three, four in row four and, finally, five in row five. Clearly, this triangle can never fail to comprise precisely 1+2+3+4+5 = 15 reds - and we therefore designate 15 as '5th triangular number'. Observe that the concept is immutable, and completely independent of time, of place, and of the things counted.

YOU ARE AWARE THAT SNOOKER IS NOW AMONG THE MOST POPULAR OF TELEVISED GAMES?

Yes, and that is a most interesting fact. Countless millions of people will now readily grasp what is meant by the *shape* and *symmetry* of a number.

I SUPPOSE YOU WOULD REGARD THE EQUILATERAL TRIANGLE AND ITS SUGGESTION OF A VIEW OF GOD AS FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT — CO-EQUAL, CONSUBSTANTIAL AND CO-ETERNAL — AS HIGHLY RELEVANT TO YOUR THESIS?

Indeed I would! And further encouragement is provided by the observation that the Bible comprises 66 books – 39 contributed by the 'Old Testament' (i.e. the Jewish Bible) and 27 by the 'New'– which, when expressed as an ordered collection of uniform

circular counters, may take the form of an equilateral triangle within which 27 may be symmetrically represented as a group of three sets of 9 – each set taking the form of a rhombus, thus:
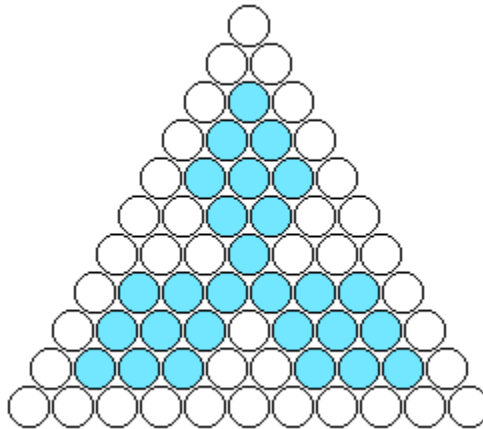

The associated symbolism should not be missed: the Word of God (the Bible) is seen to be a unified Book comprising two related Testaments – the second embedded in the first; its Author, the Triune God of the Christian Scriptures; the three rhombi merging to become 3^3. However, in case we are tempted to ascribe these wonders to human agency alone it is salutary to read of the gradual development of 'the canon' over several centuries.

## So is this the principal message of your proposed book?

By no means; it simply adds conviction to the developments which follow. So, to proceed, let us now turn to consider another and more pertinent instance of *triangularity*. This occurs in the structure of the Bible's opening verse, Genesis 1:1 where, as we have seen, its seven words comprise a total of 28 letters. Because 28 = 1+2+3+4+5+6+7 then, clearly, it is the 7th triangular number and its letters may be depicted as shown here:
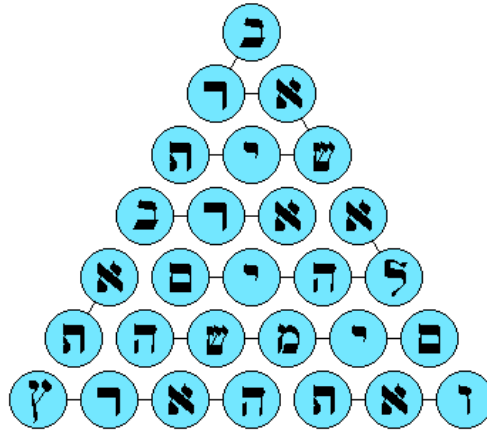
Indeed, though before proceeding to my main argument I would like to pursue the matter of the superficial structure of this first verse a little further. You see, the triangle we have uncovered in the opening words of the Scriptures is one that is itself capable of generating another type of figurate number. This arises when the triangle is united with an inverted copy of itself, (a); it takes the form of a six-pointed star, or hexagram, of 37 counters and, having three counters along each edge, it is designated '3rd numerical hexagram'. But from the same collection of counters we can form another symmetrical figure, (b) – the 4th numerical hexagon, as depicted here:

(a)

(b)
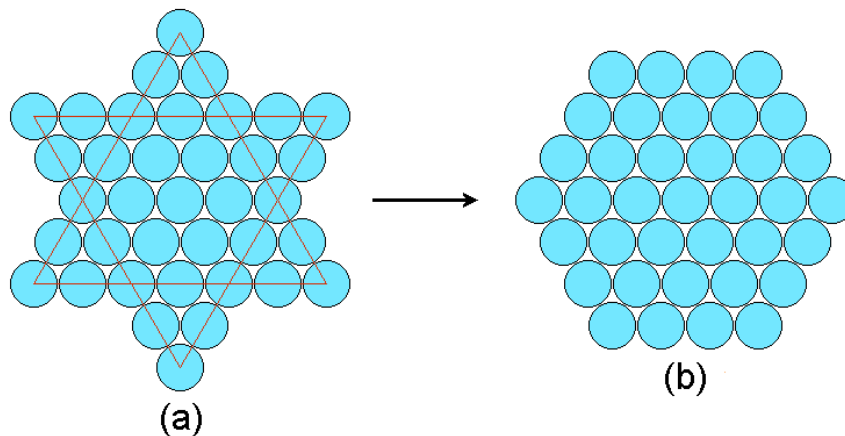
In short, the fact that 37 is implied by the lexical structure of Genesis 1:1 and displays this comparatively rare feature of *bifiguracy*, has an importance bearing upon our developing theme.

Apart from their common value, these two new figurate numbers you have introduced appear to be closely related, for I see a hexagon where the triangles of (a) overlap and can envisage a hexagram having hexagon (b) at its centre.

They do indeed occur in pairs; thus 37-as-hexagram embraces 19 (the 3rd hexagon); and 37 as 4th hexagon lies at the centre of 73 – the 4th hexagram. We may conveniently record these details in the form 19/37 and 37/73. But, to return to the point, it is really with the given biblical feature 666 – 36th triangular number – that we begin our case. Remembering the simple derivation of a triangular number, using your electronic calculator you might wish to check that the total of the numbers named when counting to 36 is, indeed, 666.

<Pause>

Yes, you are correct, the total is 666. But this number has dark symbolic connotations I believe?

Quite right. These are detailed in the 13th chapter of the Bible's last book, Revelation. However, for the moment our interest is in the number itself. Let us begin by observing that the number 3 features in every triangle – there being 3 sides and 3 angles – and 3 happens to be the first triangular number proper. But in 666 we also see a 3-figure number, and an eye-catching repetition involving 6 and 66 – 3rd and 11th triangular numbers, respectively.

8

## BUT THESE LAST FEATURES SURELY DEPEND UPON THE WAY WE REPRESENT THE NUMBER TODAY?

Indeed they do, and they would not have been visible before the introduction of our present number system. That fact in itself has interesting implications, though it would not be appropriate to consider them here. Instead, let us focus on the two remaining triangular associates of 666, viz. 36 – the 8th (length of side and dimension of this 36th triangle), and 105 – the 14th (its *perimeter* or *outline*). These two features are of course *absolute*, i.e. they are completely independent of the way we write the number. As may be seen, 666 is not merely triangular, but uniquely so and, of all numbers, qualifies as the most 'attention-seeking'.

I HAD NO IDEA OF THESE FACTS.

Few people have, it seems. However, we have not quite finished: 666 is exactly divisible by 37; indeed, 37 = 666/18 = 666/(6+6+6)! So the bifigurate number we encountered when examining the lexical structure of the Bible's first verse is also seen to be the principal prime factor of our uniquely interesting number. Observe that this link is completely independent of the triangularity of 666, and is a feature of considerable relevance to this discussion for it leads to the highly-portentous observation that **666 is the first triangular multiple of 37.**

I GUESS THAT'S A PRETTY RARE COMBINATION OF ATTRIBUTES TO FIND IN A NUMBER?

Indeed, as is apparent from a consideration of the first seven numbers of this kind, viz. 666, 703, 2701, 2775, 6105, 6216 and 10878.

The numerical attributes of 666-as-triangle
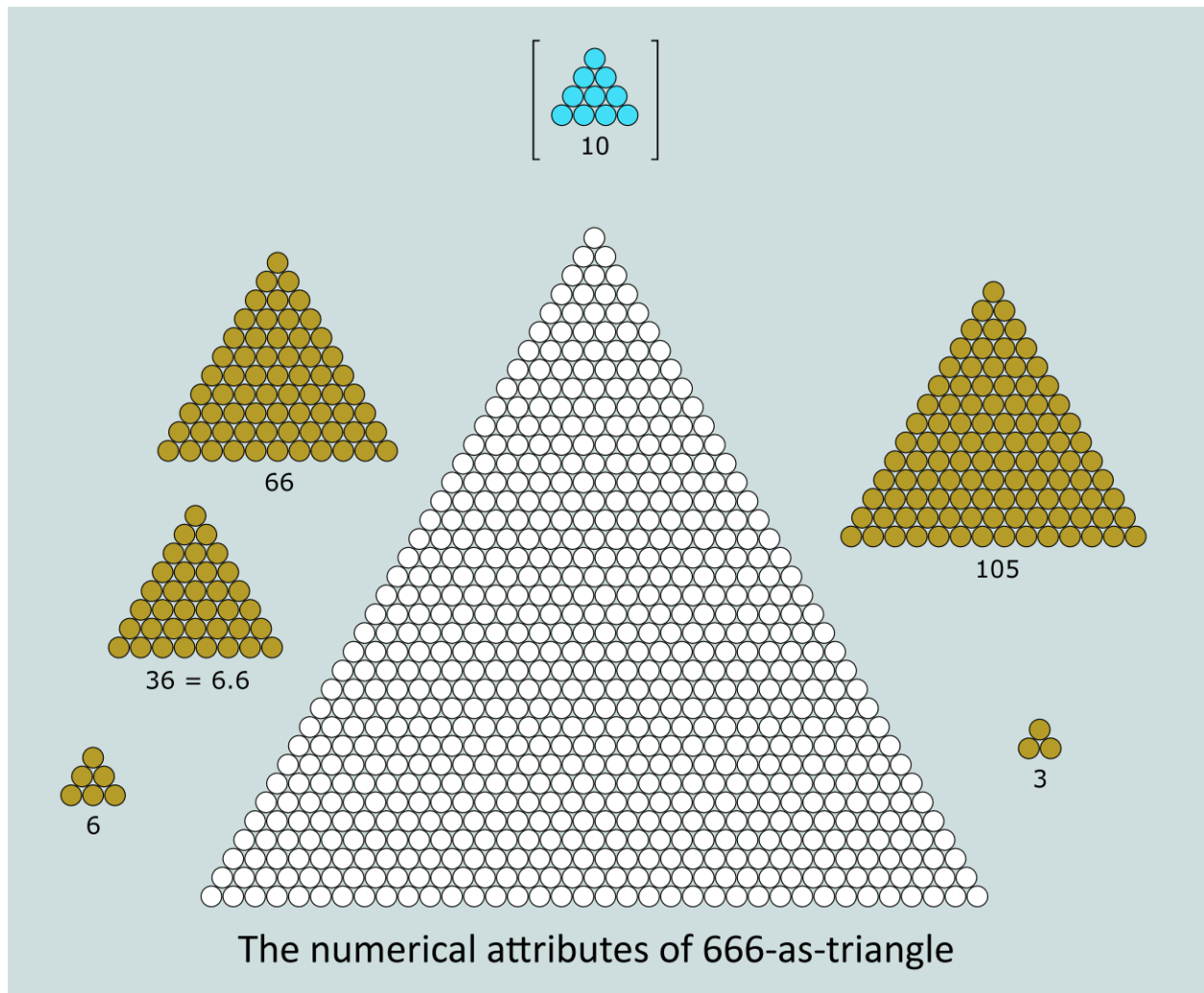
The symbolic features:

10 – the hidden 'base' or 'radix' of our current system of numeration which reveals the beast's number as the symbol '**666**' ;

6 and **66** – the visible components of this symbol

The absolute features:

3 – the number of sides;

36 (= 6x6) – the number of counters forming a side;

105 – the number of counters forming the outline

The total of the visible numerical attributes of 666

$$= 6 + 66 + 3 + 36 + 105 = 216 = 6x6x6 = 6^3$$

Well, adding together the seven numbers derived earlier –
representing the powerful and strategically placed assertion "In
the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" – we
obtain, 913 + 203 + 86 + 401 + 395 + 407 + 296 = 2701 = 37 x 73
(product of the 4th hexagon/hexagram pair already noted) = 73rd
triangular number = ***3rd triangular multiple of 37***. We also
observe that the number of counters forming the outline of this
triangle is 3 x 72 = 216, i.e. 6^3 – sum of the 666-as-triangle
attributes, found earlier.
Then, adding 407 and 296 – the 6th and 7th of the Genesis 1:1 set
(translated "and the earth", and thus highly relevant to
ourselves!), we obtain 703 = 19 x 37 (the other
hexagon/hexagram pair, 19/37) = 37th triangular number = ***2nd
triangular multiple of 37***!

As the next diagrams make clear, the 2701 and 703 triangles
exhibit a remarkable *coordination*: at (c), the smaller is displayed
within the larger – its bottom row of counters occupying the
middle row of (a). At (d), this inner triangle is shown inverted and
is now observed to fit the larger *precisely,* thereby dividing its
remainder into three equal triangles of 666! Clearly, if we regard
the smaller triangle as a 'pointer' this picture carries highly
symbolic overtones – viz. the menacing trio of 666 occurs only
when man's attitude is opposed to God.

But we are not yet finished, for if we add the 1st and 3rd biblical
numbers ("In the beginning ...God...") we get 913 + 86 = 999; and
likewise, adding 2nd, 4th, and 5th ("...created...the heaven"), we get
203 + 401 + 395 = (again) 999 !

2701 (a) and 703 (b), the 3rd and 2nd triangular multiples of 37:

(a)

(b)

A precise fit !

703

1998

(c)

666

666

666

(d)
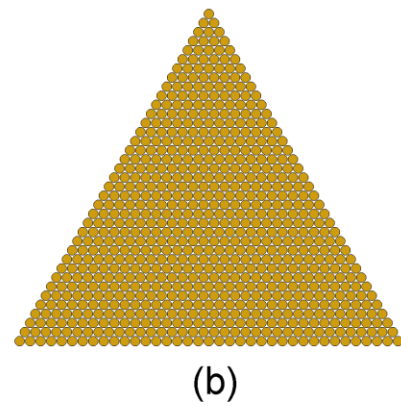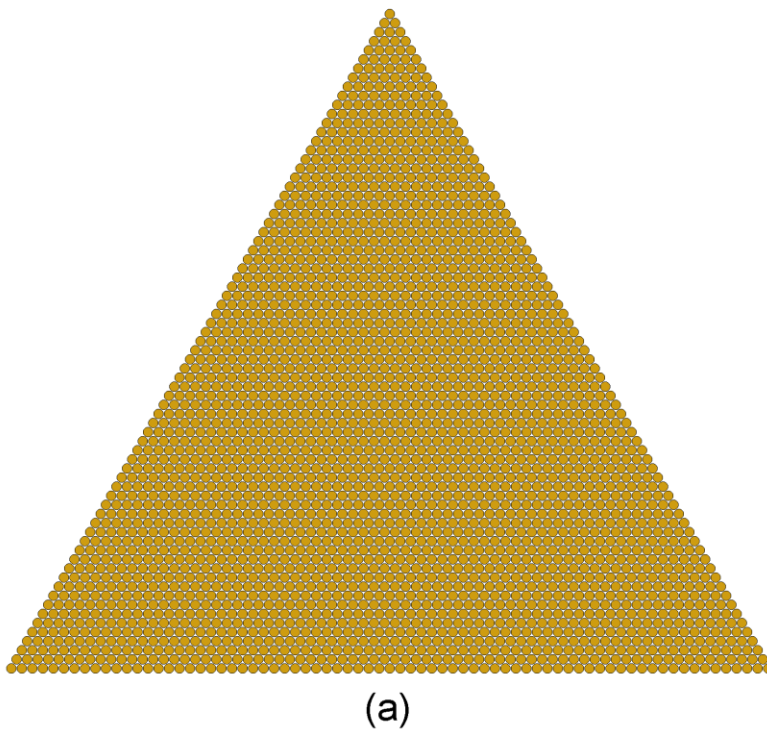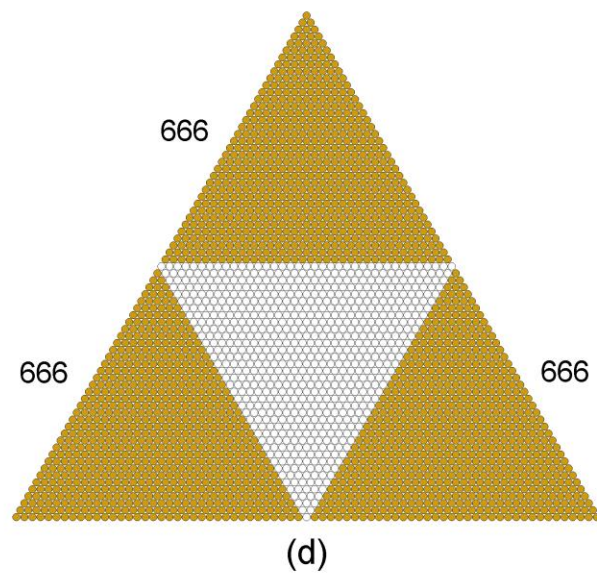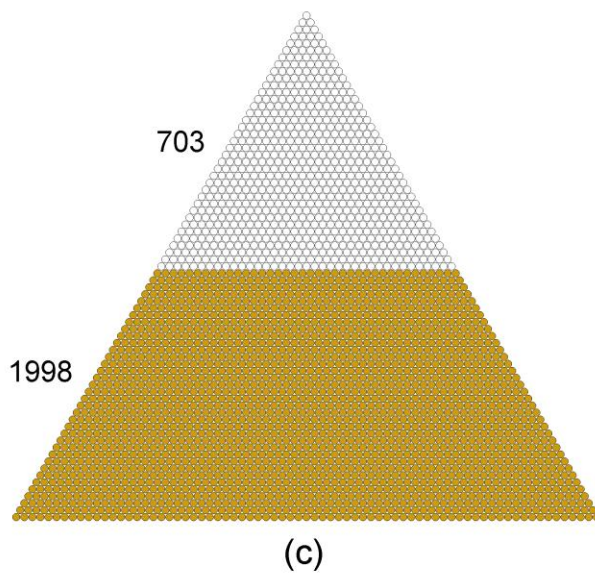
The three nouns, God, heaven and earth total 86 + 395 + 296 = 777 – another multiple of 37. In fact, the whole verse is 'saturated' with 37s – there being 23 of the 7 words and their 120 combinations which are exactly divisible by 37 – i.e. more than 6 times a statistical analysis would lead us to expect !

You present a very powerful case for the purposeful design of this particular number set and the sentence from which it derives, and the hinted links with our own generation is food for most serious thought.

Actually, this particular evidence extends beyond the first verse. Thus the eighth biblical number 302, by adding four rows of 74, 75, 76 and 77 counters, forms a perfect *plinth* for what we may well call the 'Creation Triangle', thereby *underlining it symbolically* and creating the new and larger 77th triangle, value 3003. However, in accomplishing this a further independent figurate number appears within the sequence of biblical numbers 4 to 8 inclusive, thus:

$$401 + 395 + 407 + 296 + 302 = 1801 = 25\text{th hexagon}$$

As shown overleaf, this represents the number of counters overlapped when the creation triangle is united with an inverted copy of itself. This hexagon is itself unique in its class – having 25 (=5^2) counters along each side, 49 (=7^2) rows of counters, and 144 (=12^2) counters in its outline. The additional fact that it fits precisely into the 2701 triangle, and thus perfectly encloses the inner 703 triangle, has the effect of forging a symbolic link between this remarkable first verse and the remainder of the first chapter, the remainder of the Book of Genesis, and the remainder of the Bible!
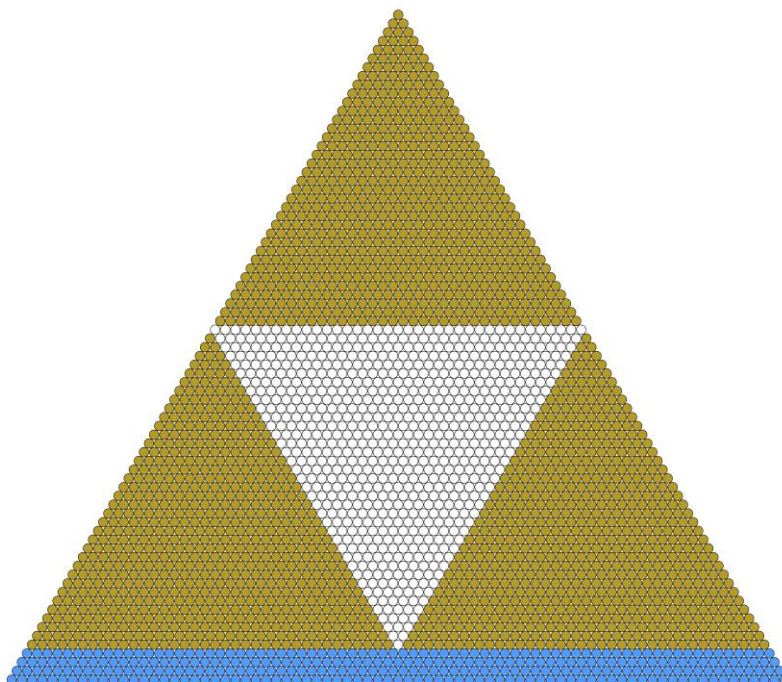
The Creation Triangle on a plinth of 302
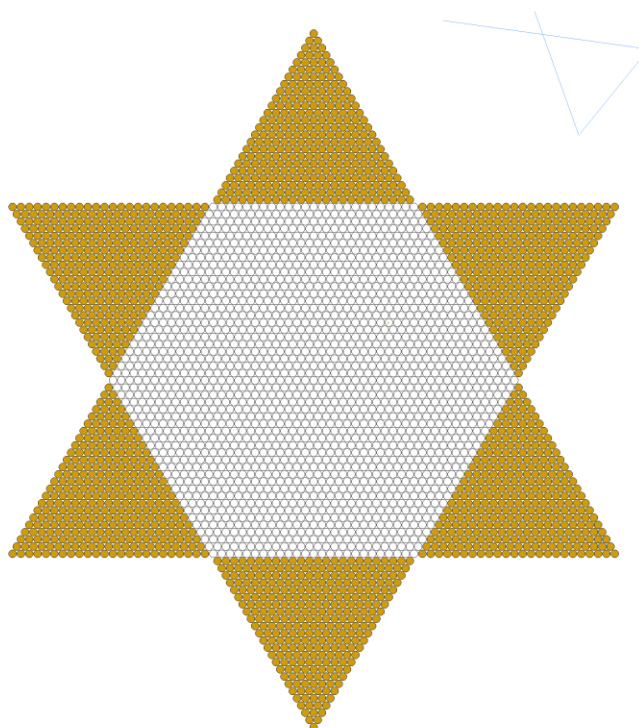
The self-union of the Creation Triangle
generating the 25th hexagon of 1801

HOLD ON! I THINK YOU ARE OVERSTATING YOUR CASE. NOW I AGREE THAT YOU HAVE ASSEMBLED POWERFUL EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THE EXTRAORDINARY VIEW THAT THE AUTHOR OF THESE EIGHT MEANINGFUL WORDS ALSO ARRANGED THAT THEIR NUMERICAL VALUES WOULD CREATE THE INTRICATE FEATURES OF DESIGN THAT YOUR RESEARCH HAS REVEALED, BUT THERE WERE SOME VERY CLEVER PEOPLE AROUND IN THOSE DAYS! CONSIDER THE CAPABILITIES OF THE ANCIENT GREEKS, AND OF THE BUILDERS OF THE PYRAMIDS, STONEHENGE, AND SO ON.

A fair point. But don't overlook the formidable matter of *discovery.* The intricacies of the numerical design had first to be discovered before the problems associated with the matter of concealing them within a meaningful Hebrew sentence (worthy of its place at the head of the Scriptures) were encountered. By any standard, this would have been an extraordinary feat for the most clever man living in a computer-less age! And where does such a man and his claim to fame appear in the annals of history? And what would have been his motive in performing this wonder and yet wishing to remain anonymous? However, all argument based on these points is undermined and silenced by a fact that we may well have overlooked: ***the relevant words were written many centuries before the Hebrews adopted their alphabetic numbering scheme.*** In other words, this development must have been foreknown to the Author – even instigated by Him!

I SEE. YOU ARE THEREFORE CLAIMING PROOF OF SUPERNATURAL AUTHORSHIP?

Yes, I am, and in so doing I merely echo the biblical claim that "All scripture is given by inspiration of God..." (2 Timothy 3:16).

I<small>T SEEMS THAT YOU HAVE COME VERY CLOSE TO PROVING THAT</small> G<small>OD EXISTS</small>!?

I'd rather put it this way: the Bible maintains that we are already 'without excuse' in believing that He doesn't exist! The intricate form of the world, of living things, of the universe and, above all, our own sense of right and wrong, should be sufficient for all to acknowledge Him. But we are also informed that we are 'fallen' creatures; that though created perfect, and 'in the image of God', we have been so corrupted that 'we prefer darkness to light'. These are ominous words for they clearly imply that as creatures of God we are no longer able to think clearly about matters of the most vital interest to ourselves and our loved ones.

S<small>O WHY DO YOU THINK</small> H<small>E PLANTED THE NUMBER PATTERNS IN</small> G<small>ENESIS</small> 1:1?

To fulfil a promise. You see God has said that He would 'destroy the wisdom of the wise' – i.e. the so-called 'wisdom' of men (Is.29:14, 1Co.1:19). I think you will agree that all we have discussed thus far has the potential to shake current thinking to its foundations!

I<small>NDEED</small>! B<small>UT WHERE DOES</small> J<small>ESUS FIT INTO ALL THIS</small>? H<small>IS BIBLICAL ROLE IS SURELY CENTRAL SINCE WE ARE TOLD THAT</small> H<small>E IS</small> C<small>REATOR</small>, M<small>ESSIAH</small>, R<small>EDEEMER</small>, H<small>IGH</small> P<small>RIEST</small>, J<small>UDGE</small>, B<small>ROTHER</small> <small>AND</small> F<small>RIEND TO ALL WHO BELIEVE THAT THROUGH</small> H<small>IM, AND</small> H<small>IM</small> <small>ALONE, WE HAVE ACCESS TO</small> T<small>RUTH, TO</small> G<small>OD, AND TO</small> E<small>TERNAL</small> L<small>IFE WITH</small> H<small>IM</small>.

Yes, I agree that an absence of related numerical support attending that Name would cause some concern. But, on the other hand, its presence would represent a substantial confirmation of my thesis.

What evidence do you have that this is the case?

We must begin with a view of the Greek alphabetic numbering scheme which follows, because all direct references to Jesus Christ appear in the Greek New Testament. This scheme dates from as early as 600 BC. The layout is much the same as for the Hebrew: the numbers above the letters mark their alphabetic positions; those below, their numerical values. Observe that there are now two more letters and that the numerals 6 and 90 do not appear – this, for the simple reason that traditionally these values were represented by non-alphabetic characters. There is only one instance of an 'end-form', and that concerns the 18th letter, *Sigma*. Having this table to hand, we are now in a position to evaluate 'the Name' as it is found in New Testament Greek, nominative case.

'Jesus' – the Name of 'the Christ' is notably of the same numerical form as 666 – 'the antichrist'. It too is exactly divisible by 37, but is not triangular. 'Christ' is also a multiple of 37. However, compelling as these features are, we further observe that each component of the Name is exactly divisible by 296 (= 8x37); this is the 7th of the biblical numbers – its associated word translated 'the earth'; it is therefore a most appropriate symbol for *God Incarnate*.

Place:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Letter:	$A\alpha$	$B\beta$	$\Gamma\gamma$	$\Delta\delta$	$E\varepsilon$	$Z\zeta$	$H\eta$	$\Theta\theta$
Name:	Alpha	Beta	Gamma	Delta	Epsilon	Zeta	Eta	Theta
Numeral:	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9
Place:	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Letter:	$I\iota$	$K\kappa$	$\Lambda\lambda$	$M\mu$	$N\nu$	$\Xi\xi$	Oo	$\Pi\pi$
Name:	Iota	Kappa	Lambda	Mu	Nu	Xi	Omicron	Pi
Numeral:	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80
Place:	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Letter:	$P\rho$	$\Sigma\sigma\varsigma$	$T\tau$	$Y\upsilon$	$\Phi\phi$	$X\chi$	$\Psi\psi$	$\Omega\omega$
Name:	Rho	Sigma	Tau	Upsilon	Phi	Chi	Psi	Omega
Numeral:	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800

The Greek alphabet and scheme of alphabetic numeration

1	2
10 8 200 70 400 200	600 100 10 200 300 70 200
$I\eta\sigma\sigma\upsilon\varsigma$	$X\rho\iota\sigma\tau\sigma\varsigma$
JESUS	CHRIST
888	1480
$= 24 \times 37 = 3 \times 296$	$= 40 \times 37 = 5 \times 296$

THE LORD

2368

$= 64 \times 37 = 8 \times 296$
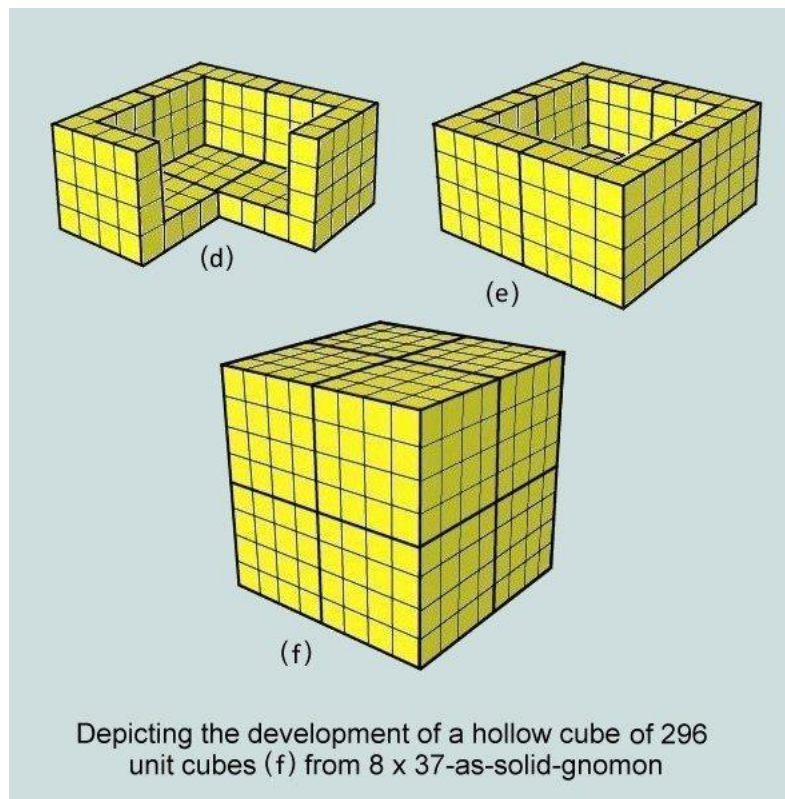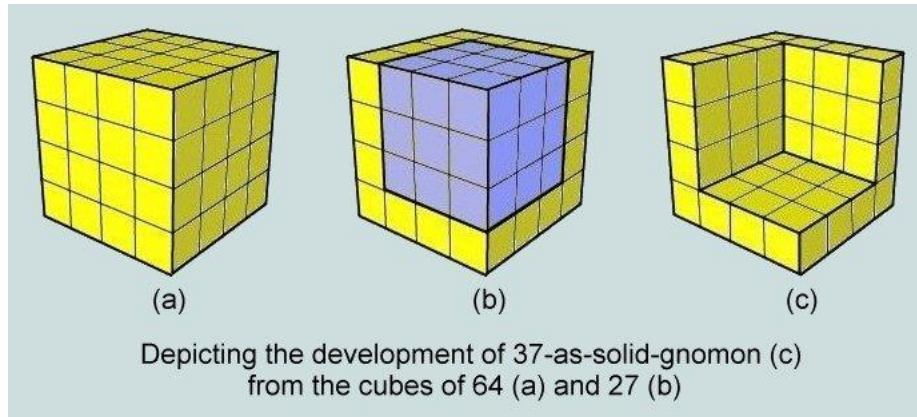
The Lord's Name and Title as numbers

Again, observe that the ratio Name:Title is 3:5 – matching that of the sides of the *propitiatory* or 'mercy seat', central feature of both Tabernacle and Temple worship (Ex.25:17), and a term used of Christ himself by New Testament writers (Romans 3:25, Hebrews 2:17, and 1John 2:2, 4:10).

Further, note that the complete name has the value 2368 (= 37x64). Now 64 can be regarded either as 8^2 (=8x8) or 4^3 (4x4x4); like 37, it is therefore a *bifigurate* number. But the association is the more remarkable when we realise that 64-as-cube, typically represented in two dimensions, takes the form of *37-as-hexagon*, thus:

64-as-cube
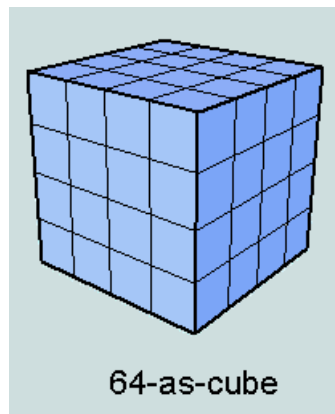
A simple count establishes the fact that precisely 37 of the 64 unit cubes are thus revealed. Remarkably, this particular object therefore displays the factors of the Lord's Name !

And finally, observe that the cube is *a biblical symbol of holiness* (1Kings 6:20, Revelation 21:16) and is thus an appropriate figure to be found associated with the 'Sinless One'. Indeed, further analysis reveals that 2368 = 4096 – 1728 = $16^3 - 12^3$; it is therefore a figurate number which takes the form of a *hollow cube*. The following diagrams provide further figurate solutions associated with the Lord's Name.

Depicting the development of 37-as-solid-gnomon (c)
from the cubes of 64 (a) and 27 (b)

Depicting the development of a hollow cube of 296
unit cubes (f) from 8 x 37-as-solid-gnomon

Clearly, a symmetrical stack of 8 of these hollow cubes would represent a total of 2368 (i.e. 'The Lord'), 3 of which - totaling 888 unit cubes (i.e. 'Jesus'), and the remaining 5, 1480 (i.e. 'Christ').

A good point. But let us not forget what we have already discussed and concluded: Genesis 1:1 can only be reasonably explained by allowing a *supernatural Author*. That same Author must be accorded the freedom to work out his numerical scheme elsewhere in His book. However, having said that let us not overlook certain facts which sustain this view. Both components of the Lord's Name were in use long before His birth:

> 'Jesus' is a Greek form of the Hebrew name Joshua, i.e. 'Jehovah is salvation'; it had been assigned to the babe in the manger by divine decree in the words of the angel, "...and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21)

> 'Christ' is a Greek form of the Hebrew title מֹשִׁיחַ (mashiach), i.e. 'Anointed One' or *Messiah* – the promised saviour who would, one day, come to redeem mankind from its sins; His acceptance of the title follows Simon Peter's utterance, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." (Matthew 16:16)

Further, identical evaluations of both Name and Title are to be found in the *Septuagint* – a Greek translation of the Old Testament dating from the 3rd century BC.

That's right. And we don't really need to look for further evidence of this – though there is more, much more! What these facts reveal is a simple truth that we find so hard to accept (and with good reason, for our minds are corrupted!), viz. the reality of the Being and Sovereignty of God. In other words, and as the Bible maintains, He is – and always has been – in complete control of everything! Believing that – if only because of the evidence presented here – we shall confidently accept all the Bible has to say, despite the shrill voice of science concerning origins

These 'proofs' are all very well, but convincing the community of believers that they are 'of the Lord' is likely to be a difficult task. numerology has a bad reputation; so, impressive as your discoveries are, they are likely to be viewed with unease by many Christians.

I take your point. However, it is unfortunate that you should refer to my work as 'numerology' for the term smacks of the occult. Consequently, for most Christians and many others, it rules as 'out of bounds' what the Lord has chosen to reveal at this time. You see, what cannot be doubted is that numbers along with their associated precision are already prominent features of the biblical text and must be of importance to the Lord.

So how is your work best described?

I think the title *Bible Numerics* is as good as any, for it then encompasses all the evidence for the importance of number in the divine scheme of things.

I would simply point to the fact that they are closely integrated with what Christians know to be the divinely-breathed words of Scripture, and magnify and glorify Him (and Him alone!), and this should remove any obstacle to our believing that these things are of the Lord and are provided for our use in these last days.

And how would you answer those who question the procedures you have adopted in your work?

Concerning methodology: my procedures are biblical, being firmly based upon the wisdom that on the Highest Authority (Rv.1: 1-3) is offered to those who with understanding count to 666 – this being the value of a letter sequence, and hence requiring the availability of an appropriate system of alphabetic numeration (Rv.13:18). Since the originals were written in Hebrew and Greek, there can be no confusion here. The need for such wisdom is implied in Rv.15:2 where, intriguingly, we read of those who have *overcome* the number 666!

Thank you!

Now I gather you wish to conclude with an extended summary of the numerical features of the Hebrew Bible's first verse (which you have designated 'The Ultimate Assertion'). However, before you do that, let me thank you for participating in this interview and wish you well with all your plans for bringing these important matters to a wider audience.

AR

The Bible's complementary message

The matters discussed during the foregoing interview – particularly those concerning the opening words of Scripture, as originally given (and here referred to as *The Ultimate Assertion*) – may be summarised and formally presented as follows:

> *By adding together the numerical worth of each word (as based on the numeric value of each Hebrew letter) in certain unbroken sequences drawn from the first eight words of Genesis (i.e. the Bible's first verse and following word), one uncovers strong evidence of intelligent design and purpose in the form of a symmetrical structure of coordinated numerical geometries, thus:*
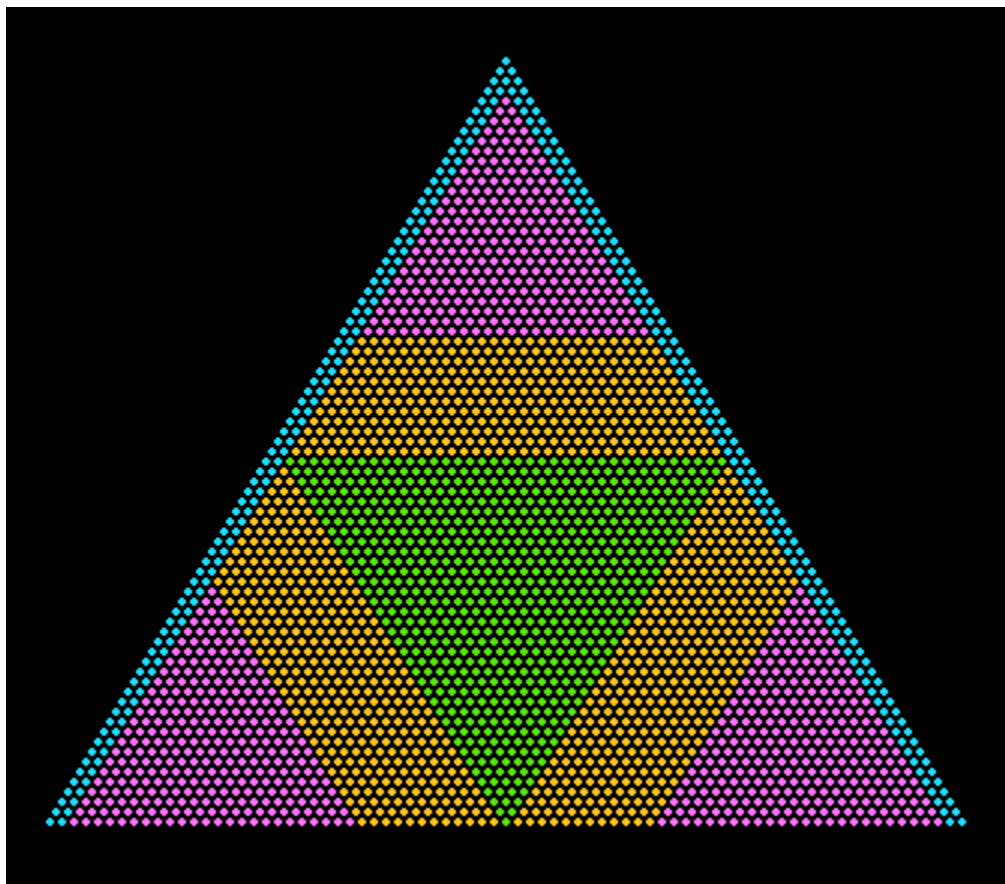
The augmented Genesis 1:1 as a symmetrical structure
of coordinated numerical geometries

Observe that this 'picture' physically adorns the threshold of Holy Writ, *as originally given.* However, though itself untranslatable, its presence clearly permeates all our Bibles.

The picture is built from a series of overlays, as detailed below:
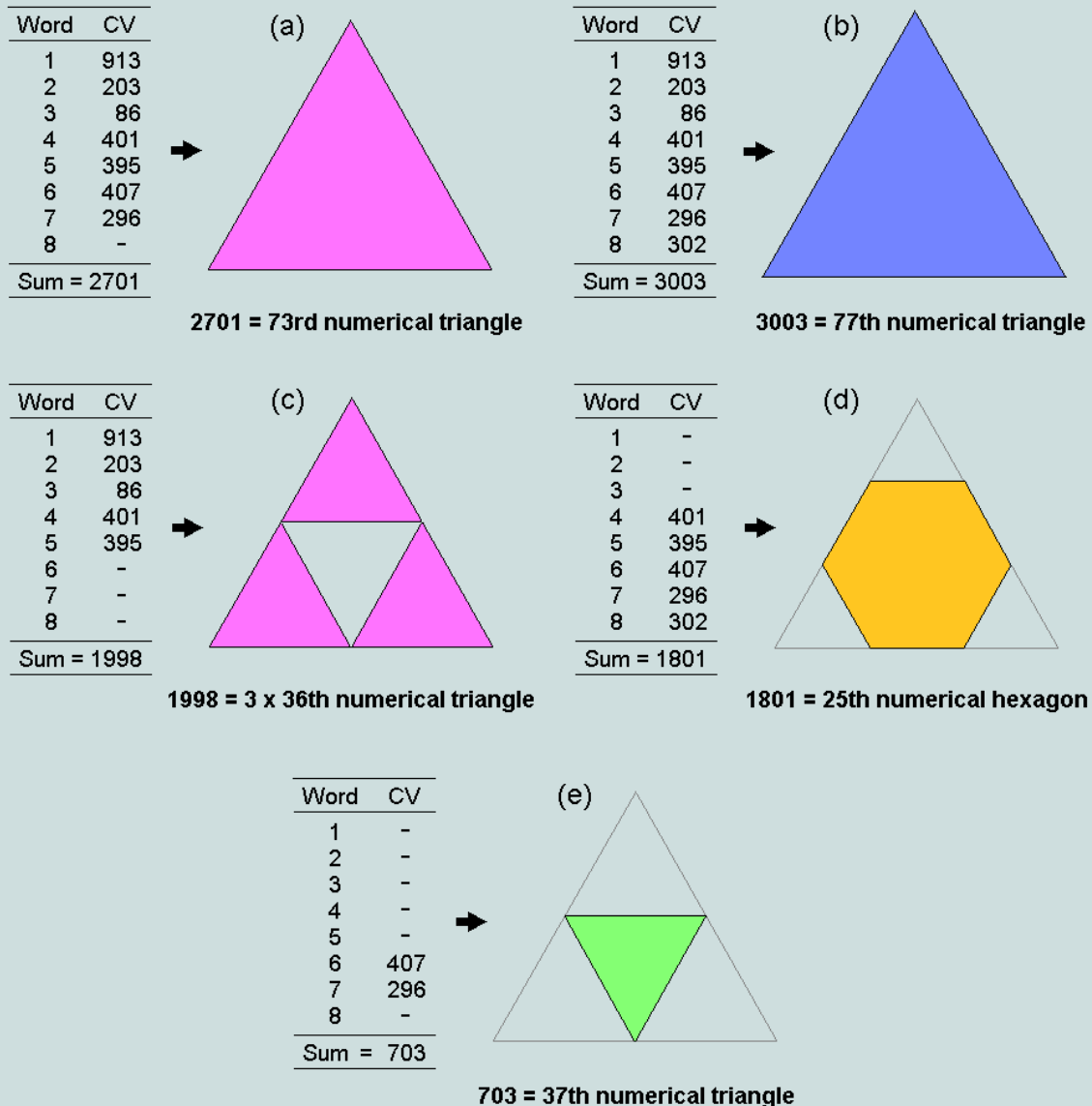
The coordinated numerical geometries represented
within the Bible's first eight Hebrew words

Note that in order to simplify matters, (i) the diagrams no longer display the individual counters of which they are constructed, and (ii) that associated with each, is its composition as the sum of an unbroken sequence of numbers (here designated CVs, or Characteristic Values). Beginning with triangle (b), there are two ways of superimposing (a) symmetrically, thus:
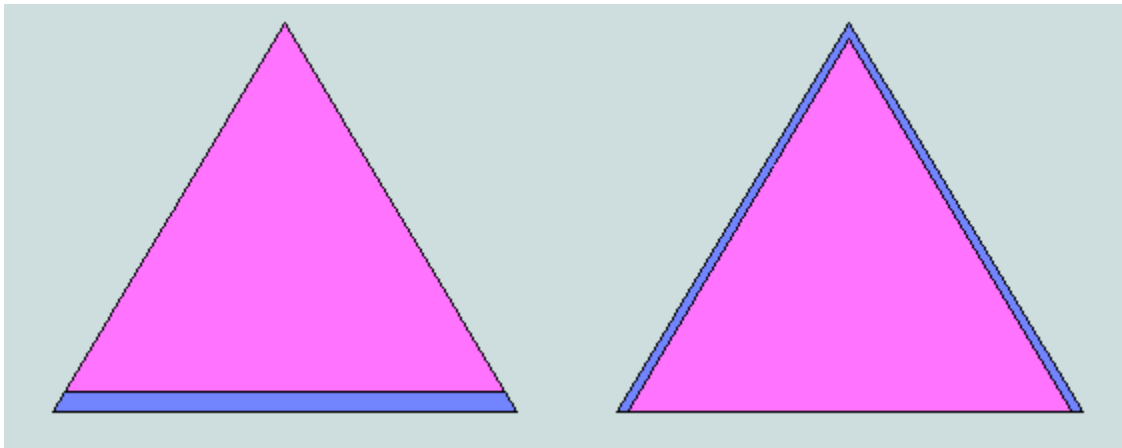
The first has already been described (page 14) – the eighth word (CV=302) providing a perfect plinth or underscore for the Creation Triangle. In respect of the second, the same word is observed to provide a perfect uniform cover for this triangle. It is one or other of these that forms a suitable basis for further development.
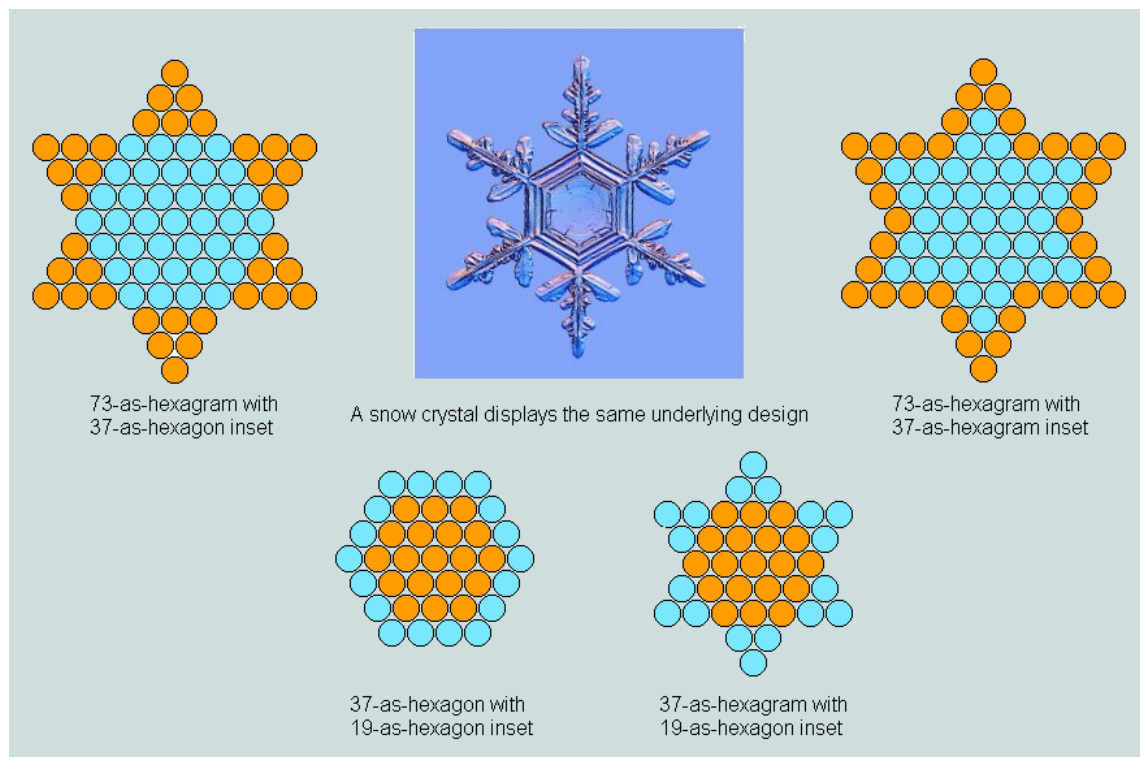

Alternative views of the Bible's first 8 Hebrew words
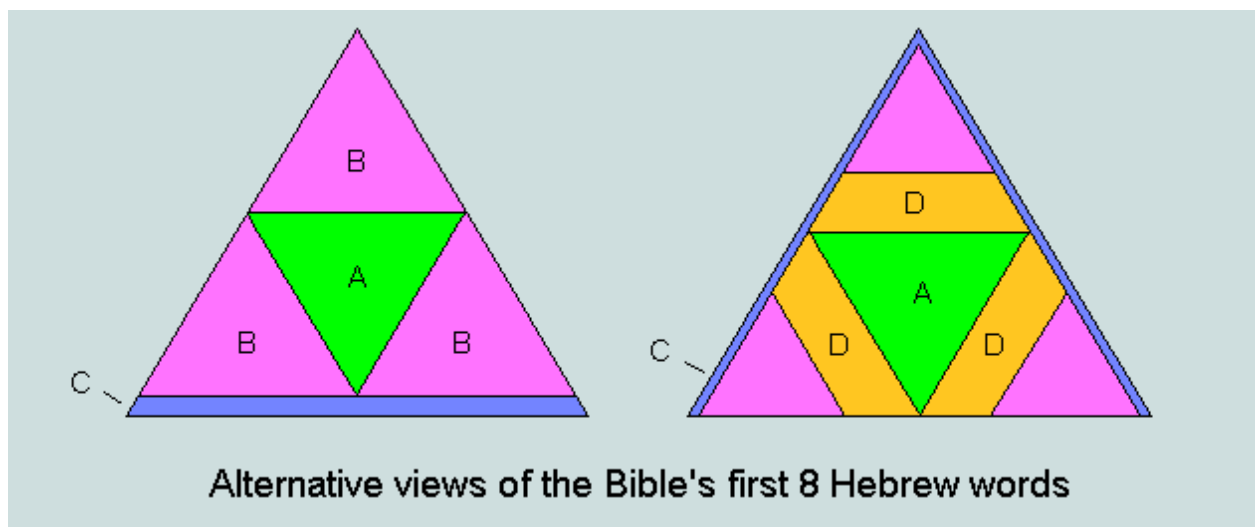
Reference	Composition (Word CVs)	Geometry
A	6+7 (= 703)	37th Triangle
3B	1+2+3+4+5 (=1998)	—
B	(1+2+3+4+5) / 3 (= 666)	36th Triangle
C	8 (= 302)	Trapezium / Chevron
A+3B	1+2+3+4+5+6+7 (= 2701)	73rd Triangle
A+3B+C	1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8 (= 3003)	77th Triangle
A+3D	4+5+6+7+8 (= 1801)	25th Hexagon

KEY:

While both diagrams speak powerfully of intelligent design, it is the second of these that undergirds the given 'picture' of the Ultimate Assertion.

At a more basic level these developments rest upon inner symmetries that involve the factors of the chief participants, 2701 (=37x73) and 703 (=19x37), and these, remarkably, display the shapes found in a typical snow crystal (a striking feature of God's Creation), thus:

73-as-hexagram with 37-as-hexagon inset

A snow crystal displays the same underlying design

73-as-hexagram with 37-as-hexagram inset

37-as-hexagon with 19-as-hexagon inset

37-as-hexagram with 19-as-hexagon inset

Whilst the ingenuity required by the Author of these developments is itself immense, the fact that He needed also to have available the Hebrew scheme of alphabetic numeration *many centuries before it was devised, and appeared to the human eye,* proves the matter to be extraordinary – and, in purely human terms, impossible. In short, these wonders have the hallmarks of a *standing miracle* and represent a clear example of supernatural design and purpose. God alone is glorified!

Soli Deo Gloria!

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November, 2013

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Further 'Second Edge' monographs are planned; these will provide details of the more prominent of the remaining standing miracles of Scripture. Included among the topics presented will be the following:

- A consideration of the numerical structure of John 1:1 and its coordination with Genesis 1:1 as Creation Triangle

- The realisation of the Ultimate Assertion (i.e. Genesis 1:1) as a 'Star of Stars'

- A 'chessboard' integration of Creator and Creation

- The A4 sheet of cut paper as a 'sign' for this generation

Hard-copies of these monographs may be obtained by first emailing their author at mentor37@virginmedia.com (with 'Second Edge' in the subject field) to receive the current catalogue, price list and order form.

During the Middle Ages, chiefly to facilitate citation, the text of the Bible was divided into 1189 chapters and 31,102 verses. This monograph draws attention to some of the many wonders that accompany its opening verse of seven Hebrew words which, clearly, occupies a uniquely strategic position in the Book. It is for these reasons that this 'Ultimate Assertion' must be regarded as the most remarkable combination of words ever written.

While this will be heartening news for all who, by faith, already believe that "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.", for those who don't - who maintain that all that is claimed to be true must be tested and proved by reason alone – here is a thought-provoking challenge!