Un Germano

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GENESIS and the problems in understanding it:

So often we hear "science" badmouthed and blasted with verses from Genesis. Yet we were also taught to "Get all the facts, and then decide!".

Suppose we start here:

"No scripture is of any <u>private</u> <u>interpretation</u>", but rather determine the meaning the author had in mind!

PROBLEMS:

Written phonetic communication has its shortcomings. There is no intonation, often context is uncertain. Let's contrast writing with oral communication over the phone where we hear intonation, or face to face, where body language is included. Then with the highway signs we read so easily, though they need not have a single written word!

A real life example: A plane crash lands in a cannibal infested jungle. Injuries are slight; they have a single weapon, a knife. They do not understand the speech of the natives, yet hear them in the surrounding jungle. What are they going to do?

Outnumbered, "outgunned" and face to face with being killed and eaten

They line up, smile, hold out the knife as a gift . . . and await the appearance of their hidden "enemy".

Result: Smiles from the cannibals, and no they were not eaten. Proof: They lived to tell the story. Now Moses faced a different problem; really a series of problems.

1. He is to lead 2 million Israelites out of Egyptian slavery and Egyptian culture.

2. Presumably they are illiterate. They are addicted to the culture of Egypt, with the "bull" being the symbol of the nation, and the "young bull" or calf being the god of Heliopolis. (The worship of the calf 50 + 40 days after the Exodus is very close to the Summer Solstice, and sheds some light on Aaron's statement, "Tomorrow is a festival".

3. They are going to be held accountable to a <u>written</u> law; yet the writing of Egypt is designed for Egyptian speech, thought and values, not Hebrew. And Egyptian pictograms and ideograms are often vulgar; so much so the "awful" ones are very seldom shown.

4. The culture of Egypt includes a timekeeping system, with 3 seasons of 4 month each. The year begins with the coincidence of the Nile Rise, the Summer Solstice (June 21), and the appearance of Sirius the Dog Star just before sunrise. People face <u>east</u> to use the heavens for Egyptian timekeeping.

5. Moses will turn their faces to the west, to a sunset beginning of the day with the sun gone, to a crescent moon beginning for the month, which moon is then gone in minutes, to worship their Creator!

6. There is no phonetic alphabet until 1500 B.C. when it shows up among

Semite slaves to the Egyptians working in the copper and turquoise mines of the Sinai. <u>All phonetic alphabets go back to Hebrew and Hebrew goes back to the</u> <u>time of the Exodus</u>. Was Moses the originator? Or Aaron? Or Joseph?

SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEM:

Look toward heaven! Begin with Taurus the Bull for your alphabet, your <u>alpha</u> <u>beta</u>, your <u>alef bet</u>!

Write with consonants only, it avoids much of the problem of accents which presumably each tribe had (Ephriam either couldn't or wouldn't say shibboleth).

Just as we teach children, "A is for Apple, B is for Ball, C is for Cat, Dog is for Dog, ... "; so Moses (or somebody) simply chose 22 (or 27) constellations (or portion thereof, like a head, a <u>koph</u>) eastward starting with <u>alef</u>, and used the first letter of the constellation's Hebrew name for these 22 Hebrew consonants!

Simple!! Now we have a "clean" alphabet; it comes from heaven, it is the work of God's hands in a poetic sense; and the value system and the words too of the X Commandments are God's Word to mankind via Moses.

I deliberately used "X Commandments" to point out another item. The Romans gave "X" the value 10; In Egypt there were 27 numbers. Egyptian numbers though were awkward to use. There were 27, and they were decimal:

9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1; 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10; 900 800 700 600 500 400 300 etc. The above numerals are from Arabic and come much later. But "Moses" (or whomever) had a solution:

Just as the Moon takes 27 (well more exactly 27 1/3) days to go eastward from Taurus to Taurus, and as its moonrise position swings from left to right on the eastern horizon (and moonset position on the western also), so let's put 27 letters in the Hebrew alef bet.

We only need 22 consonants to begin Hebrew words, but we can use the final 5 for ending letters on the words. <u>Alef</u> will be the beginning letter, the "leader", the "chief", the "lord". It doesn't have much of a sound; it is the opening of the throat as is "cooperative", the sound between the two "o's".

So did Sarah call Abraham by the first letter of his name, or at least the meaning of it, "lord"?

Now attach numeric values to the 27 letters. Now these letters have both sound, numeric value and sequence.

Just as we learn: a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, and x, y, z; so we learn our ABC's!

And we learned them with a musical beat, just as the Jews even to this day chant the Bible verses! It is a good way to remember.

Now as the Moon and planets move from west to east, or left to right along the Zodiac path, so Hebrew is written from right to left:

> dalet, gimmel, bet, alef 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1

The zero will be invented much later, as shown in the book <u>From One to Zero</u>.

WHAT "MOSES" (or someone) ACCOMPLISHED:

A simple way to write with 22 letters, consonants only.

A way that could be learned by an illiterate people in a few weeks time.

The children of Israel could be held accountable to a <u>Written Law</u>, with <u>alef</u> <u>bet</u> symbols what were designed by God's fingers, and a Law that came also from their Creator God.

And since the letters were sequenced by their locations eastward from Aldebaran (the eye of the Bull), and since they had numeric values, they could be used for math, and they could sequence things, even our words in <u>Webster's Dictionary</u>, and our books in the Library.

(We gave a lot of attention in early years of the College to the work of Ivan Panin, and to how numeric patterns came to be in Scripture. Why for example Genesis 1:1 has a value of 2701, or 37 x 73.)

Thus the phonetic alphabet was an invaluable gift to mankind, and any nation adopting it gained a great advantage in handling its affairs. Consider how the Japanese leaped ahead of the Chinese; their adoption of phonetic writing have them a tremendous advantage.

A FEW COINCIDENCES:

There are 22 things created in Genesis 1.

There are 22 Patriarchs Adam through Jacob.

There are 22 books in the O.T. as arranged in the Hebrew Bible.

There were 22 books in the N.T. until John wrote. And by adding 5 more and canonizing the 27, their arrangement is 22, 5, 22.

Today we have 66 books by splitting and rearranging.

And we have 88 constellations in our completion of naming the star groupings of heaven.

All this starts with the "22" a "Moses" (or somebody) at, or somewhat before the Exodus thought up.

"VESTIGIAL STRUCTURES":

The one who wrote Genesis used a number of Egyptian words.

The custom of a series of six events or problems, with the solution coming with the seventh is found in other cultures of the time.

Genesis 1 counters Egyptian values item by item. Don't worship any of these created things, as you did in Egypt. Rather worship the One who created all!

The secondary laws, or judgements, address the <u>same</u> problems as laws in Egypt and surrounding nations, but <u>without</u> the mercy and justice.

The beginning of the <u>alef bet</u> in the heavens is the same place the Egyptians began their year, their Zodiac (if one were to say it belonged to them; really it goes back another thousand years).

The Spring Equinox originally was in Taurus, even at the tips of the horns of the Bull, if you go back around 4000 B.C.

Today young people talk about the "Age of Aquarius" about to begin. Why? Because the Spring Equinox precesses westward.

From the Bull (and bull worship in Egypt), to Aries the Lamb (and the symbolic use of lambs till Christianity), to Pisces the Fish, and their symbolic use in the new age of Christianity, and now drifting toward Pisces western edge.

How do we know the meaning of the Hebrew words used in Genesis? Do we look them up in "<u>Strongs</u>"? Or do we really depend upon Hebrew tradition to bring the meanings down to us?

Consider the unimportant problem of identifying the stars and constellations named in the O.T. There is <u>no agreement</u> as to which stars or constellations are being referred to! Only tradition could carry down the meaning. And in this <u>unimportant</u> case, tradition has failed us!

Previous writing is in pictograms, ideograms, like Chinese. Chinese writing is not phonetic -- it can be read in German, English, French, Spanish, or any Chinese speech or dialect. It is like our highway signs which quickly give us a message, but not phonetically, and not in any particular language.

I've written portions of Genesis 1 with my own pictograms; it is easily handled.

But it is impossible with Paul's writings! Phonetic communication has given the Israelite nations (and others too) a tremendous boost in communicating detailed information.

China simply lags thousands of years behind the rest of the world. Yet in some ways its pictograms are superior (and we read these pictograms and ideograms in split seconds as we speed along the Freeways today).

How then do we best understand Genesis? By closely studying the human author Moses and his context in Egyptian culture, and by the Spirit of the Creator which gives us understanding. And by the revelation seen so clearly in the creation itself.

And how does God understand man's predicament, and how does He learn to judge us with mercy? Easy -- He comes down and lives in human flesh. "If the shoe fits, put it on" is a crude way to put it, but this is the trust we have, that He can forgive and forget our human failings.

Science and Genesis?? I find so many scriptures and examples all through the Bible to "get all the facts and then decide" that I have grave misgivings as to the doctrines that theology has in cases <u>read</u> <u>into</u> Genesis.

Rather follow what is clear and obvious. Example: How do we know Jesus rose from the dead? "That which we have seen with our eyes, looked upon, our hands have handled ... ".

Restated: That which we plural, honest mature men, have seen clearly in the daytime with our eyes, have scrutinized closely, have had even a doubting Thomas investigate critically with his hands, that we declare as TRUTH!

