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# The 13 Rungs of the Heavenly Ladder

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What is the measure of love? There are many romantic and philosophical answers to that



question, but Kabbalah traces all answers to their roots and love in Hebrew is *Ahava* (*EHBH*) of numerical value **13**, in Kabbalistic tradition, a lucky number.

Tracing the number **13** back to its spiritual source, we see that there are **13** letters in the 3 iterations of the spelled out letter *Yud* (**Y**), the first letter in the ineffable Name of G-d, the **YHVH**, connecting to divine wisdom (*Chochma*) at its highest level.

Y

YVD

YVD VYV DLT

Together these **13** letters that create an expansion on the highest aspect of G-d's Name add up to **506**, the numerical value of *Ahavat Chinam*, unconditional love. According to the Arizal, spelling out, or filling out a Name adds power (*koach*) to that Name. **506** is also the complete value of *Moshiach Ben David* (the Messiah) and is also deeply associated with the [Ana B'koach](#) (42 Letter Name of G-d).

It's no coincidence that the all-important **13** verses of the [10 Commandments](#) begin in Exodus **20:2** with a **13**-letter phrase of G-d saying, "I am God, your Lord (*Anochi Adonai Elohaycha, ENCY YHVH ELHYC*)."

Or that the Torah gives us the **13** Attributes of Mercy, showing us G-d's unconditional love, amongst other special gifts (yet another article).

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????????????, ?????? ??????, ??? ??????  
????????????-???????? ??????????, ?????-?????  
?????????

**6** And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed: '**The LORD, the LORD, God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth;**

? ?????? ?????? ?????????????, ?????? ??????  
**7** keeping mercy unto the thousandth

?????????? ?????????????; ??????????, ??? **generation, forgiving iniquity and**  
 ??????????--????????? ?????????? ?????????? ???-????????? **transgression and sin;** and that will by no  
 ??????-????????? ??????????, ???-????????????????? ?????? **means** clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of  
 ?????????????? the fathers upon the children, and upon the  
 children's children, unto the third and unto the  
 fourth generation.'

**"..and the measure of my days, what it is" Psalms 39:5**

According to the Arizal, the secret meaning of the verse "..and the measure of my days, what it is" is the equalization of *Zeir Anpin* and *Malchut* that occurred in the times of the Holy Temple and that will occur again at the end of days in the time of the Third Holy Temple. In the understanding of the Ari's explanation we're given that the Hebrew word for Temple, as in the 2 previous Holy Temples and the **Future one**, *Mikdash (MKDSh)* is spiritually equivalent to the word for measure, *Midat (MDT)*, both of which have a gematria value of **444**. In his discussion in *Shaar HaPsukim* about the above mentioned Psalm, the Arizal explains that the significance of **444** is that it is the sum of the **4 Alephs (ELP)**, each of numerical value 111, that are the initials of the **4 iterations of Eyheh (EHYH)**, the Name of G-d associated with *Binah (Imma)*.

**Rav Ashlag**, also known as *HaSulam* ("the Ladder") saw the number **444** as **444** years,



since this was **.666** of **666** or 2/3 of 2/3 in his **revelation about the timing for the arrival of Moshiach** in the **5778 (2018CE)** time period, the measure of the days.

Rav Ashlag further noted that it was not coincidental that the **Arizal** passed away **444** years before the final redemption (the *geula*).

So now we must note that that time period of **444** years is **1/13th** of the **13** time periods from Adam to *Moshiach*. One part love. When a *tzaddik* like the Arizal passes away, he becomes much more powerful to us as he guides and steers us with love. And we can't ask for a more powerful guide than the Arizal to help us ascend the final rung.

This knowledge gives us the equation **13 x 444 = 5772** and in Kabbalah **444** is the same as **444.444**, which is what Rav Ashlag of blessed memory used in **his computations**, thus we get **13 x 444.444 = 5778**

It can now be seen by us as well that there are **13** measures and/or **13** Spiritual Temples in all, bringing us to the year **5778 (2018CE)**, 5 years from now.

The number **13** is not only connected to the route of Love, the unconditional love of the Creator,

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as we saw above, but it is the numerical value of *Echad*, "One," as in G-d is One.

### Love = 13 = One

So back to the **10** Commandments (Utterances), the highest point in the Torah, which begin in Exodus **20:2** with G-d saying, "I am God, your Lord (*Anochi Adonai Elohaycha, ENCY YHVH ELHYC*)." These **13** letters divide into its first 2 words that equate to **107** and the 3rd word which equates to **546**, or altogether to 653 plus the *kolel* of **13** (letters) for a total, not coincidentally of **666**.



And while the number **546** is the sum of the initials of the **10 sefirot** (dimensions) of the Tree-of-life, the sum of all the integers from 1 - **107** equals **5778**.

Given all this, we can see the divine design is the 3 windows specified for the Tree-of-Life reality: the 1<sup>st</sup> of which was with Adam; the 2<sup>nd</sup> occurred in **2448** HC (**1313** BCE) with the receipt of the **10** Commandments; and the 3<sup>rd</sup> exactly **66.6** jubilee years later in **5778 (2018 CE)**.

The ladder, *Sulam*, has a numerical value for **130** or **10 x 13**, as does the grandest ladder of them all, Mt Sinai (**130** or **10 x 13**), where the **10** Commandments were given. The ladder is *Zeir Anpin*, the nexus from our world of *Malchut* to the Heavenly realms. As **10** is the numerical value of the letter (*Yud*) we are where we started, with the integration of the letter *Yud* and Love. Subtracting **444** from **506**, the numerical value of *Ahavat Chinam*, unconditional love we get **62**, as in the **62 Yuds** in the **620** letters of the **10** Commandments.

There are **13** rungs on the divine ladder of time, each of equal measure, **444** years, each segment a measure of love, each a step closer to the Future Holy Temple. Yes, there is a [Divine Calendar](#) revealed here, but there is also the measure of love, which we find permeating everything G-d has tried to give us. In it is also the answer of how to ascend that final rung: love.

Love will bring about the Future Holy Temple in this final period. Nevertheless, of the 444 years, there are only 5 left. And yet, because the whole system was built on love, there is still time.