

« 161 »

It was really a wonderful number. Beyond the fact that the digits added to 8, the number of Hermes / Mercury, I could see in the two « one », two trees that I had already met : the Tree of Life (*Etz Haim*) and the Tree of Knowledge (*Etz Ha Da'ath*). And as if by magic, the *gematria* of *Etz* (Tree) was 160 or, thanks to the rule of *Colel* ... 161 !

But I could see, at the same time, the two Pillars at the entrance to the Solomon's Temple, *Jakin* and *Boaz*, of which the first letters *J* and *B*, by using the Simple Cipher, added to 11 (9 + 2), 11 which could be a reference to the 11th Sefhira *Da'ath*, the « Divine Knowledge », or a reference to the dream of Joseph in Genesis 37.

« And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me. »

Genesis 37 : 9 – King James Bible

And suddenly, a strange thing happened ! Like hypnotized, in a waking dream state, the number began to transform itself right before my eyes, each digit merging with each others, giving birth first to the number 17 « The Star » and then to its mirror image, the number 71, the *gematria* value of « *Jonah* ». It recalled me the reference to « *Jonah and the Whale* » in the gospel of Matthew.

« For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. » Matthew 12:40 - King James Bible

Three days and three nights ... The Resurrection ... 33 !

And « *Jonah* » meaning « Dove », I took it like a good *omen*, hoping that it was the Holy Dove from the story of Perceval which would take me on the Grail.

Hovering some feet off the ground inside the Castle entrance is a gleaming silver chalice surrounded by a brilliant halo of light. A white dove, the symbol of the Holy Spirit is suspended over the vessel. The Grail knights wait patiently for Perceval to join them. « All this time and it was right here in front of me » Perceval says with quite joy. « Only now I have the eyes to see » He mounts his horse and turns to thank you for accompanying him on this journey. « Farewell to you, friend » he tells you warmly. « May you find what you seek. » Israel Regardie - A Garden of Pomegranates



Then the digits merged again and gave birth to 62, and its mirror image 26, the *gematria* value of the Sacred Name , YHVH !

It was the first time that I was facing the number 62, but I immediately discerned its hidden meaning.

6 and 2 were the numerical values of the letters **F** and **B**, the initials of Francis **B**acon.
And 62 was the *gematria* value of two important Hebrew words.

The first one was the Hebrew verb « בִּינַּה » which could mean to observe, to discern, to understand, or to mark, like in the Psalm 37.

« Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace. » Psalm 37:37

And the three letters « בִּינַּה » was coincidentally the root of the word « בִּינָה » (*Binah*) which means « Understanding » and which is the 3rd *Sephirah* of the Tree of Life. It reminded me Cassiopeia, the « Bride » and the representation of the *Sephirah Malkuth*, « a young woman with a crown sits on the throne of *Binah*, the throne of understanding .»

By the way, I noticed the link between the 10th (*Malkuth*) and the 3rd (*Binah*) *Sephirah*, ten plus three being equal to 13, once again, the *gematria* value of the Hebrew words for Love (*Ahava*) and One (*Echad*), and a number that, I slowly saw, came back very often.

The second word with a *gematria* value of 62 was « מְחוּגָה » (*Mechuga*) which means « Compass », not to be confused with « מְשֻׁגָּע » (*Meshuga*) an adjective meaning « Foolish » or « Mad ».

« The carpenter stretcheth out his rule; he marketh it out with a line; he fitteth it with planes, and he marketh it out with the compass, and maketh it after the figure of a man, according to the beauty of a man; that it may remain in the house. » Isaiah 44:13 - King James Bible

The scene that followed was even stranger ! The digits came back to normal and the 6 began to unfold itself, connecting the 1 on his left. The 16 transformed itself, little by little, into the Hebrew letter *Ayin* (ע). At the same time, the 1 on the left started to tip, and two kind of buds began to grow, one above, one below. The 1 transformed itself, little by little, into the Hebrew letter *Aleph* (א).

The number 161 formed now two letters , *Ayin* (Eye) and *Aleph* (G-d), the Eye of G-d !



All of a sudden, the All-Seeing-Eye appeared right before my eyes, surrounded by a blinding light which woke me from my dream, leaving me with a last image in mind. Back to reality, I realized all the symbolic hidden behind this marvellous number and was pretty sure that 161 should be a very important number for Francis Bacon. The last image I was left with, was linked to the 6, right in the centre, symbol of the Divine Love (6) hiding the Divine Wisdom (9). The last image was that of a hexagram, specifically the Seal of Solomon !



Quod Superius, Quod Inferius
As Above, So Below

I had already encountered this « key » during my journey but, at that time, I didn't know which door it could open. In fact, this hexagram was at the heart of the number 161, which appeared to be a symbolic representation of the Seal of Solomon between the two Pillars *Jakin* and *Boaz*, the Pillars of Solomon's Temple.

And now I could clearly see and understand the link between the number 13 and the number 161.

Indeed, if 13 was symbolized by \triangle and 31 by ∇ | then 1331 was $\triangle \nabla$ | and 161 | \star |

« How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver! »
Proverb 16:16 - King James Bible

This also meant that 33 could be represented by \star and that *free*, the signature cipher of Francis Bacon, as well as *Bacon* of which the value is 33, could be linked to the Seal of Solomon.

Then, I realized that 161 was the addition of 100 and 61.

I knew that 100 was the simple cipher of « Francis Bacon » (67 + 33), But I did not know which word was concealed behind the number 61.

« Janus ! »

Once again, the voice of Ariel resounded in my mind. And she told me that 61 was the numerical value of Janus, the two-headed God. It was simply amazing !

Thus, the number 161 concealed FRANCIS BACON – JANUS, or in other term ...

Francis Bacon, the « two-headed » man !



This number 161 was really fascinating, and I was sure that if there had been more than 154 Sonnets, Francis Bacon would have probably hidden some secrets in the Sonnet 161.

As I was thinking about it, I suddenly had a flash of intuition. What if Bacon had hidden those secrets in another Sonnet which bears a relation with the number 161 ? It made sense !

Bacon, poet and cryptographer, played with numbers like he played with the words and the letters.

And I have a prime candidate, which shared a connection with the Sonnets 55 and 106, assuming that 55 is $5+5 = 10$: **The Sonnet 116.**

By Yann Le Merlus