

From: Philip Corbin
Sent: Monday, September 05, 2005 12:51 PM
To: Christian Fellowship
Subject: Pearls From The Word Website

Greetings everyone in the Precious Pearl of the Name of the Lord JESUS CHRIST!

Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;
Ephesians 3:8, KJV

Two months ago (Friday 1 July 2005) I was discussing the idea of my own website with I.S. vacation student Jermaine Bradshaw. It had long been a dream of mine to have a website, and the idea had started to gain new focus and urgency this year. Jermaine said he would code one for me; I just had to supply the material. "What are you going to call it?" he asked.

Up until that point in time, I had been thinking of calling it "Corbin's Corner", with 3 parts: Corbin's Chess Corner (with my best chess games), Corbin's Computational Corner (with Maths/Science stuff), and Corbin's Christian Corner (with poems/Bible studies). What I did not know is that there is currently a Corbin Corner on the Net (it is under construction, and has nothing to do with me!), and what Jermaine did not know is that the Lord had been speaking to me and saying the site should be first and foremost about Him, not chess or maths! So in response to his question, I said I would pray about the name and get back to him Monday.

When I did seek the Lord about the name, His response was swift: I was to base the site on a dream the Lord had given me back in Sept 2003. In that dream I had been taking pearls from a golden gleaming bowl which contained anointing oil, the pearls had been white, on taking each from the bowl I had seen the Holy Spirit etched as a dove on each pearl; the words of the first two pearls taken had been "lower" and "crowned", and the final pearl had shown Jesus slain for us. Later the Lord had taken me to Hebrews 2:9 and explained that the pearls were truths in the Word of God, which had been represented by the bowl. Each time I had taken a pearl from the bowl, I had been surrounded by a refreshing mist. (Full details of the dream are on our website in the Dreams and Visions section).

So on Monday I told Jermaine that the site would be called "Pearls From The Word", and that it would be a place of refreshment for the weary surfer on the Net.

We set to work, and worked extremely hard; less than two months later, on Friday 26 August 2005, at 7:14 pm, the website was loaded at www.pearlsfromtheword.com. Then last week was spent debugging.

The website is fairly big: about 40 MB, containing about 400 Html pages, about 400 pages of text in pdf files, and about 400 images. There are 7 main sections: **Précis Pearls** (poems précising each book of the Old and New Testaments), **Popular Pearls** (popular passages in both, in poetry), **Prized Pearl** (about the Prized Pearl of JESUS, with 40 Bible studies and over 300 prophecies and their fulfillments in Jesus quoted), **Prised Pearl** (about the Church He has prised from darkness), **Psalms Pearls** (Psalms pertaining to the power and purpose of praise), **Promise Pearls** (144 promises from all over scripture that the believer can claim) and **Personal Pearls** (a little about me, which also contains a Poetry Pearls section with 40 of my poems). Each section is based on the number 12 (which symbolises completeness in scripture) and each web page is stamped with a white dove of the Holy Spirit etched on a pearl, resembling what I saw in my dream.

White Jermaine coded the text I was providing, I focused on the images, and kept to the dream as much as I could. To that end, I used images with doves, waterfalls, rainbows, and mist. The leading of the Lord in the images was amazing. I will give an example:

I wanted to reproduce the bowl and the pearls in my dream in the opening page of the important Prized Pearl Section on Jesus. That section is designed to lead a person, whether Jewish or Gentile, to Christ. At first I could not find an appropriate bowl on the Net to match the one in the dream; the pictures of golden bowls on the Net tend to relate to those used in Eastern religions and I knew the Lord would not want me to use any of those (throughout the site I avoided using any image from occult websites or the like). I persevered and eventually found a golden bowl that was being used in Holy Communion. Then I took the image of the bowl and placed 12 pearls within it (using Adobe Photoshop software), placing the pearls in 5 rows in the pattern 2-3-2-3-2. Shortly after that, as I was waking up one morning, the Lord showed me how He wanted the Pearls arranged - in the shape of the star of David, a pearl on each of its 12 vertices. Then He led me to take 12 key words from Hebrews 2:9 (the verse in my original dream), namely (in the order of appearance in the verse) See, Jesus, Lower, Suffering, Death, Crowned, Glory, Honour, Grace, God, Taste, Man, and associate each with a pearl in the bowl (in my original dream I had only taken 2 of those pearls, namely, Lower and Crowned, in that order). Each pearl when clicked upon was also to be related to one of the 12

verses of the prime prophecy of Christ in the Old Testament, namely Isaiah chapter 53. When Jermaine was coding this, he asked if the order of the 12 words on the 12 pearls was important, and without praying about it I answered "no". Then later the Lord impressed upon my spirit that the order was indeed very important, and so I spent an entire Sunday (21 August 2005) seeking the Lord about this.

The mathematicians among you will know that there are 12 factorial, or 479,001,600 ways, of arranging 12 objects, so I really needed to hear from the Lord! To cut a longish story short, below is the order I was given, and the numbers of the associated verses in Isaiah 53 which the pearls link to:

1.See

2.Suffering 3.Man 4.God 5.Grace

6.Lower 7.Crowned

8.Taste 9.Death 10.Glory 11.Honour

12.Jesus

The left hand side relates to the humanity and suffering of Jesus; the right hand side to His exaltation and Deity. On the one hand He is man; on the other He is God. The whole is enclosed in the words "See Jesus", the theme both of Hebrews 2:9 and Isaiah 53, all in the shape of the Star of David.

I wanted confirmation that I had indeed been led by the Lord in this design, and He provided it: when I checked Isaiah 53 I discovered that of the 12 words, only 3 were in that passage, namely 3.Man, 4.God, and 9.Death; and that these words were in separate verses, and guess which verses these words are in - yes, verses 3, 4 and 9! The odds of that happening by chance are $(1/12)$ times $(1/11)$ times $(1/10)$, or $1/1320$; i.e. the odds were less than 1 in a thousand that the words would have matched Isaiah 53.

Jesus is our Star of David as seen in the prophecy of Isaiah 53; but the star is flat, only a 2-D shape consisting of equilateral triangles. (Mind you, if you take a cube, and rotate it so that the corner nearest you is in the center as you look at

it, and mark the 12 points midway along its 12 edges, you will also see the star of David). The next image in **Prized Pearl** is of a 3-D cross surrounded by 12 pearls (linked to the 12 great "I AM" statements of Christ in scripture) on the 12 vertices of an icosahedron which also is made up of equilateral triangles, symbolising that the true reality of Jesus is here, Who was but shadowed (a shadow is only 2-D) in the days of David.

As you may be gathering, there is a lot of hidden mathematics in the site, based on the number 12:

In **Précis Pearls**, and **Popular Pearls**, each poem is 12 lines, 12 syllables per line.

In **Prized Pearl**, apart from the two images already mentioned (the golden bowl with 12 pearls and the icosahedron with 12 pearls), there is one special animated gif consisting of 12 images which fade into each other - symbolising how the Holy Spirit reveals Christ.

In **Prised Pearl**, the Church is symbolised by the New Jerusalem; the city is shown enclosing a picture of the Bride of Christ worshipping Jesus, spurred on to worship the Lord by the dove of the Holy Ghost by her head; 12 pearls (its gates) change colour to match those of the 12 foundation walls in the New Jerusalem. (Scripture says each gate is made out of one pearl, showing just how amazing rich and beautiful the city is - the biggest pearl on earth is minute in comparison!) Here Oyster verses re the church and God's love for her are randomly chosen from Isaiah (12 pearls) and Revelation (12 pearls).

In **Psalms Pearls**, the 12 pearls are in the shape of the cross, and arranged so that the ratio of the cross (height to width) roughly match the Golden ratio - a number which is half of (1 plus the square root of 5) or 1.61803.. - it has been shown that this ratio provides the most aesthetic shape for a rectangle, termed a "Golden Rectangle". In the Fibonacci number series

1,1,2,3,5,8,13,21,34,55,89,144..., each number, apart from the first 2, is the sum of the preceding two, and the ratio of successive numbers tends towards this Golden Ratio, the 12th number in the series being 12 squared. (The icosahedron in **Prized Pearls** has its 12 pearls lying on the 12 vertices of three mutually perpendicular golden rectangles.)

In **Promise Pearls**, the 12 gems of the breastplate (see Exodus 28) of Our High Priest (Jesus) lead each to 12 pearl promises from the Word, which are randomly accessed. The colours on the breastplate, as well as on the icosahedron in **Prized Pearl**, are taken from Exodus 28 : blue - heaven; gold -

glory, purple-royalty; scarlet - sacrifice; white - righteousness. (My research here turned up a fascinating theory about the High Priest's breastplate of old, namely that the Lord used light rays from the Urim and Thummim, mysterious items that the High Priest may have held in front of him, cited in Exodus 28:30, to pass messages to the High Priest in binary code through the light shining on the 12 gems, 2 letters per gem, 11 being used for the 22 letters in the Hebrew Alphabet; possible light on the last gem denoted either a space between a word or the end of a sentence.) However, to date I was unable to locate an authentic picture of what the breastplate actually looked like, so I designed my own based on scripture. (For the design, as shown on the website, I used AutoCAD software for precision, and assumed that the 5 colours had to be equally distributed, and equally associated with, and passing through, each pearl; Exodus 28:16 shows the whole had to be square, hence the apparent lopsidedness in the colours from left to right; however, I grant, ahead of critics, that in real life the gems would probably not have been as big, and would have been more spaced out).

In **Poetry Pearls**, 12 large pearls are arranged in a circle (as on the hour hand points of a clock) surrounding 12 smaller pearls which lie on the 12 vertices of the cross. (Sorry, but there's nothing deep here - it's just that these were the last outstanding mathematical arrangements of 12 left over to use!)

In creating the website, I learnt a lot about scripture that I did not know before. Above all, God revealed Himself to me as a God of Beauty. I had known Him as a God of great Power, Holiness, Love, etc. but not Beauty. He showed me from several places in the Word that He is a God who loves, embodies, creates and personifies beauty. For example, one Sunday morning last month, feeling sorry for myself that I was missing church because my car had broken down, I looked at the grass on my front lawn, and for the first time I understood the dying words of King David; speaking by the Spirit of the coming Messiah:

Now these be the last words of David. David the son of Jesse said, and the man who was raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel, said, The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word was in my tongue. The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God. And he shall be as the light of the morning, when the sun riseth, even a morning without clouds; as the tender grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain. 2 Samuel 23:1-4. KJV

The last verse, highlighted in red, seems really obscure, but as I looked at the grass I understood. It had been raining earlier that morning and the rain had now stopped. The light from the morning sun, unobstructed by clouds in the

way, was shining in at a low angle on the grass. David had been a Shepherd boy in the fields; many mornings he would have sat low down, as I was doing in the car seat by the grass, observing the grass likewise. The raindrops had not yet evaporated but were hanging on the grass springing up, and the light of the morning sun was being refracted by each raindrop into the most beautiful colours (I observed in particular gold, cyan, blue, and green). The raindrops literally sparkled like the most beautiful diamonds! And the Spirit of the Lord spoke to me and said "This is what David meant!". It was worth missing church to experience that moment.

The website makes much use of rainbows, which are formed in mist, and are associated with the glory of God in Ezekiel and Revelation. In passing, a common conception is that the first rainbow on earth only appeared after Noah's flood; I may be wrong, but researching for the website has caused me to now think that rainbows always existed, and that indeed they were very prevalent in the days when earth was being watered by mist (Gen 2:6) but only appeared in the clouds after Noah's flood, when rain was now falling from the clouds, for today we still see rainbows in the mist created by waterfalls or the water spray of hoses etc.

Anyway, this email has gotten kind of longish; my apologies. There is much more I could say about the new website but hopefully I have said enough to make you all visit it sometime and provide some feedback. There is still some cosmetic work being done on the site, and the inevitable occasional typo, etc. to be fixed. However, I hope to have the website fully pristine by this coming weekend, and to register it with the major search engines next week, so would appreciate any comments / feedback / suggested corrections etc. by Monday next week at the latest.

Blessings on you all, from one who is also less than the least of all saints, but who hopes that the website will proclaim to many the unsearchable riches of Christ (so much more precious than ordinary pearls!), by the grace of God that has been given me.

Philip

PS... I almost forgot to mention the Treasure Hunt section of the website (see the Homepage)... so far no one has yet solved the puzzle and opened the Treasure Chest! Have a go! (Hint: It's not that difficult... really!). I also forgot to mention that Personal Pearls contains links to a selection (12) of my favourite chess games, my research to date into Mathematical Physics, and to Science and the Bible.

April 2008 comments: My first website, described above, is now only accessible via the link www.pearlsfromtheword.com/index.asp. Its “Popular Pearls” Section was renamed “Premium Pearls” subsequent to the notes above, and the code to open the Treasure Chest (check <http://www.pearlsfromtheword.com/prizedPearl1.asp>) is the number 316, which is the number of prophecies quoted from the Old Testament which Christ fulfilled.

The new website www.packedpearls.com has four new sections, namely Partie Pearls, Prophetic Pearls, Physics Pearls, and Pictorial Pearls, with the more informative “Personal Pearls” replacing “Private Pearls”. All new graphics and poems are based on the number 12 to match the earlier website. The Partie Pearls graphic is a chessboard (8 by 8 squares) in the middle of a square layout corresponding to 12 by 12 of the chessboard’s squares. The Prophetic Pearls graphic is 12 gems ringed around a central gem, speaking of the Lord’s disciples (us) ringed around Christ. The Physics Pearls graphic, the Carbon 12 atom, has 6 neutrons and 6 protons in its nucleus (meaning it has an atomic weight of 12 atomic mass units), and it is the building block of life on earth (both plants and animals). The Pictorial Pearls graphic is a 12 slide animation of 12 of my best paintings. The Personal Pearls graphic, Christ on the cross, is my own design – the cross in tri-fold symmetry speaks of the Trinity.

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