

# FORTY (40)

The Word of אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah) is so amazing. Throughout the scriptures we find there are patterns and symmetry that prove that it is inspired. We can see אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah)'s designs and patterns not only through types and parallels but also in numbers and the meaning of names of people and places. I believe these are some of the “deep things of אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah)” and his word:

The number Forty (40) shows up often in Scripture. In Scripture, next to the number seven (7), the number forty (40) occurs most frequently. Because the number Forty (40) appears so often in contexts dealing with judgment or testing, many scholars understand it to be the number of “probation” or “trial.” This doesn't mean that Forty (40) is entirely symbolic; it still has a literal meaning in Scripture. “Forty (40) days” means “Forty (40) days,” but it does seem that אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah) has chosen this number to help emphasize times of trouble and hardship.

The book of Exodus, with its Forty (40) chapters and 1,213 verses, is the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) longest book. The longest is the Psalms. Mushah (Moses) was also on Mount Sinai for Forty (40) days and nights, on two separate occasions (**Exodus 24:18, 34:1 - 28**), receiving אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah)'s Turah. He also sent spies, for Forty (40) days, to investigate the land אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah) promised the Yasharalites (Israelites) as an inheritance (**Numbers 13:25, 14:34**).

The prophet Yonah powerfully warned ancient Nineveh, for Forty (40) days, that its destruction would come because of its many sins. The prophet Ezekiel laid on His right side for Forty (40) days to symbolize Yahudah (Judah)'s sins **Ezekiel 4:6**.

## **Scriptures using the number Forty (40) that stress the theme of testing or judgment:**

In the Tanakh (OT), when אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah) destroyed the earth with water, He caused it to rain Forty (40) days and Forty (40) nights (**Genesis 7:12**). After Mushah (Moses) killed the Mitsrym (Egyptian), he fled to Midian, where he spent Forty (40) years in the desert tending flocks (**Acts 7:30**). Mushah (Moses) was on Mount Sinai for Forty (40) days and Forty (40) nights (**Exodus 24:18**). Mushah (Moses) interceded on Yasharal (Israel)'s behalf for Forty (40) days and Forty (40) nights (**Deuteronomy 9:18, 25**). The Law specified a maximum number of lashes a man could receive for a crime, setting the limit at Forty (40) (**Deuteronomy 25:3**). The Israelite spies took Forty (40) days to spy out Canaan (**Numbers 13:25**). The Yasharalites (Israelites) wandered for Forty (40) years (**Deuteronomy 8:2-5**). Before Samson's deliverance, Yasharal (Israel) served the Philistines for Forty (40) years (**Judges 13:1**). Goliath taunted Saul's army for Forty (40) days before Daud (David) arrived to slay him (**1 Samuel 17:16**). When AlYahu (Elijah) fled from Yezebel, he traveled Forty (40) days and Forty (40) nights to Mt. Horeb (**1 Kings 19:8**). The number Forty (40) also appears in the prophecies of **Ezekiel 4:6; 29:11-13** and **Jonah 3:4**. In the Brit HaDashah (NT), OWYָּהוָה (Yahusha) was tempted for Forty (40) days and Forty (40) nights (**Matthew 4:2**). There were Forty (40) days between OWYָּהוָה (Yahusha)'s resurrection and ascension (**Acts 1:3**).

Whether or not the number Forty (40) really has any significance is still debated. Scripture definitely seems to use Forty (40) to emphasize a spiritual truth, but we must point out that

nowhere in scripture does it specifically assigns any special meaning to the number Forty (40).

### **Forty (40) – A Period of Testing**

Scripture Mentions the number Forty (40) One Hundred Fifty-Seven (157) times, the number Forty (40) generally symbolizes a period of testing, trial or probation. During Mushah (Moses) life he lived Forty (40) years in Mitsrym (Egypt) and Forty (40) years in the desert before **אֲיָהוָה** (Yahuah) selected him to lead his people out of slavery. Some examples would be:

1. Mushah (Moses) lived Forty (40) years in Mitsrym (Egypt) and Forty (40) years in the desert. After which **אֲיָהוָה** (Yahuah) selected him to lead his people out of slavery.
2. Mushah (Moses) was on Mount Sinai for Forty (40) days and nights receiving **אֲיָהוָה** (Yahuah)'s Torah. This happened on two (2) separate occasions (**Exodus 24:18, 34:1 – 28**). Mushah (Moses) also sent spies, for Forty (40) days, to investigate the land.
3. For Forty (40) days, the prophet Yonah warned Nineveh, that because of its many Sins destruction would come.
4. For Forty (40) days the prophet, Ezekiel laid on His right side. This was to symbolize Yahudah (Judah)'s Sins **Ezekiel 4:6**.
5. **וַיָּשָׂא** (Yahusha) was tempted by HaSatan (the devil), not just three (3) times, but Many times during the Forty (40) days and nights he fasted just before his ministry began. He also appeared to his disciples and others for Forty (40) days after his resurrection from the dead.
6. The number Forty (40) can also represent a generation of man. Because of their Sins after leaving Mitsrym (Egypt), **אֲיָהוָה** (Yahuah) swore that the generation of Yasharalites (Israelites) who left Mitsrym (Egyptian) bondage would not enter their inheritance in Canaan (**Deuteronomy 1**). The children of Yasharal (Israel) were punished by wandering in the wilderness for Forty (40) years. This was before a new generation was allowed to possess the promised land.
7. Just days before his crucifixion, **וַיָּשָׂא** (Yahusha) warned his disciples that Yarusalym (Jerusalem) and the Temple would be destroyed (**Matthew 24:1 – 2, Mark 13:1 – 2**). Forty (40) years after his crucifixion in 70 A.D., the mighty Roman Empire destroyed the city and burned its temple to the ground. Not one stone was left upon another.
8. The book of Exodus has Forty (40) chapters.
9. Yasharal (Israel) was ruled by judges from the time they entered the Promised Land to the time of King Saul. These judges had a tremendous influence on the nation of Yasharal (Israel). Judges who served Forty (40) years include Othniel, Deborah and Barak, Eli and Gideon.
10. The first (1<sup>st</sup>) three (3) kings over the children of Yasharal (Israel), Saul, Daud (David) and Solomon, each ruled for Forty (40) years (1050 to 930 B.C.).
11. After the United Kingdom had split into two (2) separate pieces, King Yoash served Forty (40) years as one (1) of Yahudah (Judah)'s better kings. **2 Chronicles 24:1**
12. Abraham pleaded with **אֲיָהוָה** (Yahuah) not to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah if Forty (40) Righteous people could be found **Genesis 18:29**.
13. Yitshaq (Isaac) and Esau were both married at the age of Forty (40) years **Genesis 25:20, 26:34**.

14. **אֲרָבָה** (Yahuah) flooded the earth by having it rain for Forty (40) days and nights **Genesis 7:12**.
15. After the patriarch Yaquub (Jacob/Israel) had died in Mitsrym (Egypt), the Mitsrym (Egyptians) spent Forty (40) days embalming his body **Genesis 50:3**
16. Forty (40) days after **וַיָּחֻשׁ** (Yahusha) was born, He was presented at the Temple in Yarusalym (Jerusalem) for His legal purification, according to the established Turah (law) **Luke 2: 22-40**.
17. Forty (40) days between the Ascension of **וַיָּחֻשׁ** (Yahusha) and His Resurrection. **Acts 1,3**
18. AlYahu (Elijah) walked Forty (40) days and Forty (40) nights to reach Mount Horeb. He fasted for Forty (40) days before beginning his public ministry. He remained Forty (40) days on the Mount Carmel. **1 Kings 19-8**.
19. Yitshal (Isaac) was Forty (40) years old when he married his wife, Rebekah. **Genesis 25-20**
20. The embalming of Yaquub (Jacob) was prolonged for Forty (40) days. **Genesis 50-3**
21. It is interesting to note that Forty (40) different people wrote the Scriptures.

One of the most important prophetic passages is found in **Matthew 24**. This chapter contains detailed prophecies of **וַיָּחֻשׁ** (Yahusha) concerning future events. **וַיָּחֻשׁ** (Yahusha) delivered a speech during the last week of His life as He and His disciples sat on the Mount of Olives. From this mount, they could clearly see the city of Yarusalym (Jerusalem) and its magnificent Temple. The speech is recorded in three (3) places: **Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21**. Shortly after **וַיָּחֻשׁ** (Yahusha) would be led away and crucified.

Forty (40) years after **וַיָּחֻשׁ** (Yahusha) warned of the destruction of the Temple, Roman General Titus marched into Yarusalym (Jerusalem) with his army. The Hebrew historian Yosephus tells us that over 1.1 million Hebrews perished in the siege of Yarusalym (Jerusalem). The Temple was destroyed – not one stone was left upon another. This was just as **וַיָּחֻשׁ** (Yahusha) had prophesied. It was only after the unbelievers of that generation had rejected **וַיָּחֻשׁ** (Yahusha) that judgment came.

After **וַיָּחֻשׁ** (Yahusha)'s death around 30 A.D. this unbelieving generation lived in Sin for Forty (40) years (**Matthew 23:31-39; Acts 2:40**). Judgement came in 70 A.D., Forty (40) years later. This is similar to what happened to the unbelievers of Mushah (Moses) day. The unbelievers died in the wilderness while the believers were left to live in **אֲרָבָה** (Yahuah)'s promise. A similar judgement is seen during Noah's flood. The unbelievers were taken away in the flood, but the believers were saved and were "left" to live and repopulate the earth **Matthew 24:3-42; Luke 17:26-27**.

#### **FORTY (40) IN COUNTS AND MEASURES**

Among the presents sent by Yaquub (Jacob) to Esau were forty (40) cows (**Genesis 32:16**). Benhadad sends "forty (40) camels' burden" as a gift for Elisha (**II Kings 8:9**). The governors before Nehemiah extorted from the people forty (40) shekels of silver (**Nineveh 5:15**). Abdon had forty (40) sons (**Judges 12:14**); Solomon, forty (40) stalls of horses (**I Kings 5:6**). Barak's army consisted of forty (40) thousand men (**Judges 5:8**); as many Syrian footmen were killed by Daud (David) in battle (**I Chronicles 19:18**); and forty (40) stripes were inflicted on certain evil-doers

**(Deuteronomy 25:5).** In the Tabernacle Forty (40) sockets of silver supported the twenty (20) boards (**Exodus 26:19; 36:24, 26**); in the Temple of Solomon each of the ten (10) lavers of brass contained forty (40) baths; and in the Temple described by Ezekiel the "hekal" and the side-courts measured forty (40) cubits in length (**Ezekiel 41:2, 46:22**).

### **SCRIPTURE MENTIONING FORTY (40)**

**Luke 4:2** For Forty (40) days, being tempted by HaSatan (the devil). And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry.

**1 Kings 19:8** And he arose and ate and drank, and went in the strength of that food Forty (40) days and Forty (40) nights to Horeb, the mount of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah).

**Exodus 24:18** Mushah (Moses) entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Mushah (Moses) was on the mountain Forty (40) days and Forty (40) nights.

**1 Samuel 17:16** For Forty (40) days the Philistine came forward and took his stand, morning and evening.

**Acts 1:3** He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during Forty (40) days and speaking about the kingdom of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah).

**Numbers 13:25** At the end of Forty (40) days they returned from spying out the land.

**Exodus 34:28** So he was there with **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) Forty (40) days and Forty (40) nights. He neither ate bread nor drank water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten (10) Commandments.

**Ezekiel 4:6** And when you have completed these, you shall lie down a second time, but on your right side, and bear the punishment of the house of Yahudah (Judah). Forty (40) days I assign you, a day for each year.

**Deuteronomy 9:18** Then I lay prostrate before **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) as before, Forty (40) days and Forty (40) nights. I neither ate bread nor drank water, because of all the sin that you had committed, in doing what was evil in the sight of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) to provoke him to anger.

**Matthew 4:1-11** Then **יְהוֹשֻׁעַ** (Yahusha) was led up by the Ruch (Spirit) into the wilderness to be tempted by Ha Satan (the devil). And after fasting Forty (40) days and Forty (40) nights, he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah)." Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ...

**Jonah 3:4** Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, "Yet Forty (40) days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!"

**Deuteronomy 9:25** “So I lay prostrate before אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah) for these Forty (40) days and Forty (40) nights, because אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah) had said he would destroy you.

**Deuteronomy 9:9** When I went up the mountain to receive the tablets of stone, the tablets of the covenant that אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah) made with you, I remained on the mountain Forty (40) days and Forty (40) nights. I neither ate bread nor drank water.

**Genesis 7:12** And rain fell upon the earth Forty (40) days and Forty (40) nights.

**Genesis 50:3** Forty (40) days were required for it, for that is how many are required for embalming. And the Mitsrym (Egyptians) wept for him seventy (70) days.

**Exodus 16:35** The people of Yasharal (Israel) ate the manna Forty (40) years, till they came to a habitable land. They ate the manna till they came to the border of the land of Canaan.

**Judges 13:1** And the people of Yasharal (Israel) again did what was evil in the sight of אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah), so אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah) gave them into the hand of the Philistines for Forty (40) years.

**Mark 1:12-13** The Ruch (Spirit) immediately drove him out into the wilderness. And he was in the wilderness Forty (40) days, being tempted by HaSatan. And he was with the wild animals, and the Malkym (Angels) were ministering to him.

**Jonah 3:1-10** Then the word of אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah) came to Yonah the second time, saying, “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” So, Yonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah). Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three (3) days' journey in breadth. Yonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, “Yet Forty (40) days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” And the people of Nineveh believed אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah). They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. ...

**Deuteronomy 10:10** “I myself stayed on the mountain, as at the first (1<sup>st</sup>) time, Forty (40) days and Forty (40) nights, and אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah) listened to me that time also. אַיָּהוָה (Yahuah) was unwilling to destroy you.

**Numbers 14:33-34** And your children shall be shepherds in the wilderness Forty (40) years and shall suffer for your faithlessness, until the last of your dead bodies lies in the wilderness. According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, Forty (40) days, a year for each day, you shall bear your iniquity Forty (40) years, and you shall know my displeasure.’

**Genesis 8:6** At the end of Forty (40) days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made

**Mark 1:13** And he was in the wilderness Forty (40) days, being tempted by HaSatan. And he was with the wild animals, and the Malkym (Angels) were ministering to him.

**Genesis 7:4** For in seven (7) days I will send rain on the earth Forty (40) days and Forty (40) nights, and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground.”

**Judges 3:11** So the land had rest Forty (40) years. Then Othniel the son of Kenaz died.

### **Hebrew Beliefs about Forty (40)**

Why do we come across this number as a duration of time so often in the Torah? We find the beginnings of an answer in the laws of childbirth, as they applied in the time of the Qadosh Temple. The pain and infirmity associated with childbirth are an indication of the imperfection of human reproduction, and therefore, they bring about a state of "impurity" in a woman who has given birth. Childbirth, and the pain associated with it, is related to man's imperfection and therefore requires "purification". In speaking of this purification, the Torah says:

**Leviticus 12:2-4** "When a woman conceives and bears a male child, she shall be unclean seven (7) days, as the days of niddah... And she shall continue... for thirty-three (33) days...." Counting the days required for purification after childbirth, we find a total of forty (40).

Forty (40) days represent the time that an embryo takes to attain human form. From a standpoint of Hebrew Law, an embryo does not have any status as a human being until forty (40) days after conception. This concept is also sound from a scientific viewpoint, since it is well known that the human embryo begins to assume recognizable human form around the fortieth (40<sup>th</sup>) day after conception. This helps explain why the flood described in the Torah lasted for forty (40) days. According to the traditional interpretations, the main sin that brought about the flood was sexual immorality. The Midrash thus says that the flood lasted for forty (40) days because the people of that generation "perverted the embryo that is formed in forty (40) days."

Torah says:

**Bereshit (Genesis) 7:11** "The springs of the great deep were split open, and the windows of Shamym (Heavens) were opened.

This same concept also applies to Mikveh (Immersion), which can be made up of rain waters and spring waters. The same concept also applies to the giving of the Torah. This also involves the idea of birth. The Hebrew people were born anew under the Covenant of the Torah, and the Torah itself, in being transmitted to man, had to undergo a birth process. As in the case of man, this was to take forty (40) days. The same reasoning also explains why the Yasharalites (Israelites) spent forty (40) years in the desert. When Moshah (Moses) sent spies to explore the Promised Land, the Torah tells us that:

**Numbers 13:25** "they returned from spying out the land at the end of forty (40) days."

The spies knew that the Yasharalites (Israelites) would undergo a spiritual rebirth when they entered the Promised Land. In order to experience this rebirth themselves and report on it, the spies spent forty (40) days in the land. They were not worthy of the land, however, and therefore, they brought back a bad report. As a result of this report, the Yasharalites (Israelites) rebelled against Moshah (Moses), not trusting that **אֲיָהוָה** (Yahuah) would give them the land. It was then decreed that they should spend forty (40) years in the desert, as the Torah says:

**Numbers 14:34** "Following the number of days in which you spied out the land – forty (40) days - for every day, you shall bear your Sins for a year – forty (40) years."

These forty (40) years represent yet another kind of rebirth - the rebirth of an entire generation that would be worthy of eventually entering the Promised Land. We see that the number Forty (40) represents the process of birth.

In order to understand why birth and embryonic development always involve the number forty (40), we must introduce yet another concept. Creation consists of four (4) stages, alluded to in the verse **Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 43:7** "All that is called by My Name,

- (1) for My glory,
- (2) I have created it,
- (3) I have formed it,
- (4) and I have made it."

These four (4) stages are represented by the four (4) letters **אֵלֹהִים** of the Tetragrammaton, **יְהוָה** (Yahuah)'s Name.

The first (1<sup>st</sup>) stage is "**אֵלֹהִים** (Yahuah)'s Glory," where things exist conceptually, but not in actuality.

The second (2<sup>nd</sup>) stage is creation," which represents the creation of matter, "something out of nothing."

Then comes third (3<sup>rd</sup>) stage, "formation" where the primeval substance attains the first resemblance of form.

Finally comes the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) stage, making," where the process is completed and yields a finished product. It is said that the world was created with ten (10) statements. These are the ten (10) times where the expression "and **אֵלֹהִים** (Yahuah) said" appears in the account of creation:

**Bereshit (Genesis) 17:1** And **אֵלֹהִים** (Yahuah) Alhym said: It is not good that the Man should be alone (2-8). By ten (10) commands was the world created, and these are they: In the beginning Alhym created (**Genesis 1:1**); And the Ruch (Spirit) of Alhym hovered; And Alhym said: Let there be light (3); And Alhym said: Let there be a firmament (6); And Alhym said: Let the waters be gathered together (9); And Alhym said: Let the earth put forth grass (11); And Alhym said: Let there be lights (14) And Alhym said: Let the waters swarm (20); And Alhym said: Let the earth bring forth (24); And Alhym said: Let us make man.

These "ten (10) statements" enter into each of the four (4) stages of creation, the total number of elements of creation is forty (40). The number forty (40) is therefore very intimately related to the concept of creation.

## **FORTY (40) ASSOCIATED WITH TURAH AND KNOWLEDGE**

It was over the course of forty (40) days that Mushah received the Turah on Mt Sinai. He subsequently spent two (2) more sets of forty (40) days on Mt Sinai to achieve forgiveness and atonement for the incident of the golden calf. We also see that Mushah (Moses) went up on Mt. Sinai, three (3) times, for forty (40) days each.

Mushah (Moses) himself, who is considered "rooted" in Knowledge, lived for a hundred and twenty (120) years, or three (3) sets of forty (40) years. He was:

1. Forty (40) years as a prince in Mitsrym (Egypt),
2. Forty (40) years as a prince of sheep in Midian, and
3. Forty (40) years as a prince of Yasharal (Israel) in the desert.

This concept underlies many of the forty (40) day periods found in the Turah:

1. The forty (40) days of rain of the Great Flood. The intention was to destroy all life. Just as [human] life forms in forty days, so too it took that interval to erase it from the earth. **Genesis 7:1-4**

2. The forty (40) days that Mushah (Moses) remained on Mount Sinai. A new order was beginning, in which Turah would play the central role. Hence, the 40-day duration. **Exodus 34:28, Deuteronomy 9:9-11, Deuteronomy 9:15-26, Deuteronomy 10:10**

3. The forty (40) days of the spies. The transition to yet another world perspective, that of the Hebrews as a nation united with their land, was to have begun. Unfortunately, the spies produce a slanderous report on the land and the Hebrews are relegated to forty (40) years in the desert, one (1) year for each day. **Numbers 13:16-25, Numbers 32:13**

4. The forty (40) day period after childbirth. Forty (40) days after birth of a boy, or eighty (80) days after birth of a girl, the mother brings offerings to the Temple. After the birth of a male child the mother is required to observe a cycle of separation. She separates herself for 7 days + 33 days which equals a total of 40 days. This represents the beginning, the middle and the end of the cycle of separation from physical relationships, etc. (**Liviticus 12:4**, 6 days of creation + 1 day of rest + 33 days the body mourns the separation of the son.) The child is elevated to a new level as the mother brings the offerings. **Leviticus 12:2-7**

There is a certain spiritual impurity after childbirth that extends for a double 40-day period after the birth of a girl described in the Turah for an 80-day period for a girl. The duration of impurity is double as opposed to the birth of a boy. After the initial 7 days when she goes to the mikveh she becomes pure 40 days after the birth of a boy, and 80 days for a girl.

## **IMPORTANCE OF NUMBERS IN SCRIPTURE**

The number Forty (40) represents a time of testing, trial or probation. Of all the types and shadows of the Tanakh (OT), none is as pervasive and important as the shadows revealed in the relationship between "Forty (40)," and the fulfillment of promises.

The number Forty (40) has great significance throughout the Turah. The number 40 represents transition or change; the concept of renewal; a new beginning. The number Forty (40) has the power to lift a spiritual state.

It is no accident that in the story of Noah, the rain poured for Forty (40) days, and submerged the world in water. Just as when a person exits a mikveh (immersion) washed pure, so too when the



waters of the flood subsided, the world was purified from the licentiousness which had corrupted it in the days of Noah.

Mushah (Moses) was on Mt. Sinai for Forty (40) days and came down with the stone tablets. The Hebrews arrived at Mt. Sinai as a nation of Mitsrym (Egyptian) slaves, but after Forty (40) days they were transformed into **יְהוָה** (Yahuah)'s nation. It is said that it takes Forty (40) days for an embryo to be formed in its mother's womb, So, forget “nine (9) months” – a typical pregnancy actually lasts 40 weeks. Minus 40 degrees, or “40 below” is the only temperature that is the same in both Fahrenheit and Celsius.

When a rabbinical court finds someone guilty of a crime, the punishment is sometimes lashing, prescribed in the Turah as "forty (40) less one (1)." The purpose is to bring the offender to a point of change, transition and atonement. Forty (40) days was the period from the resurrection of **יְהוֹשֻׁעַ** (Yahusha) to the ascension of **יְהוֹשֻׁעַ** (Yahusha) **Acts 1:3**

Some believe that at the age Forty (40) a person transitions from one (1) level of wisdom to the next. He reaches the level of deeper insight of understanding one matter from another. After Mushah (Moses) led the Hebrew people for Forty (40) years in the wilderness, he told them: " **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) has not given you a heart to know, and eyes to see, and ears to hear, until this day" (**Deuteronomy 29:3-4**). From here we see that it took the Hebrew people 40 years before reaching a full level of understanding. The number Forty (40) resonates with dignity and a sense of worthiness.