

The Binary System in the Tree of the Sephiroth

We are not studying numerology computer programs, but rather examining the numerology of elements based on the digital system of computers, namely the binary (or base 2) one. Those who studied only the decimal system in school, also called the base 10 system, should rest assured they will understand.

The decimal system is based on a series of 10 digits: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. We could count in a system with fewer symbols, for example: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. We would then have groups of 6 units, or "packs of 6 sticks." In this system we would use sixes instead of the tens of our current system. We would write our first 10 base 6 numbers as such:

- 1 → 1**
- 2 → 2**
- 3 → 3**
- 4 → 4**
- 5 → 5**

Up until 5, there is no change. From 6 onward (except zero) we have no more symbols to represent, the sequence of numbers in this system. We proceed in the same way we do in our decimal system after number 9. We will start numeration from the smallest i.e. 1 and 0, then 1 and 1, 1 and 2, etc. Thus, the number written 10 in base 6 means 0 units and 1 sixes. Up to 10 the equivalences are:

- 7 → 11**
- 8 → 12**
- 9 → 13**
- 10 → 14**

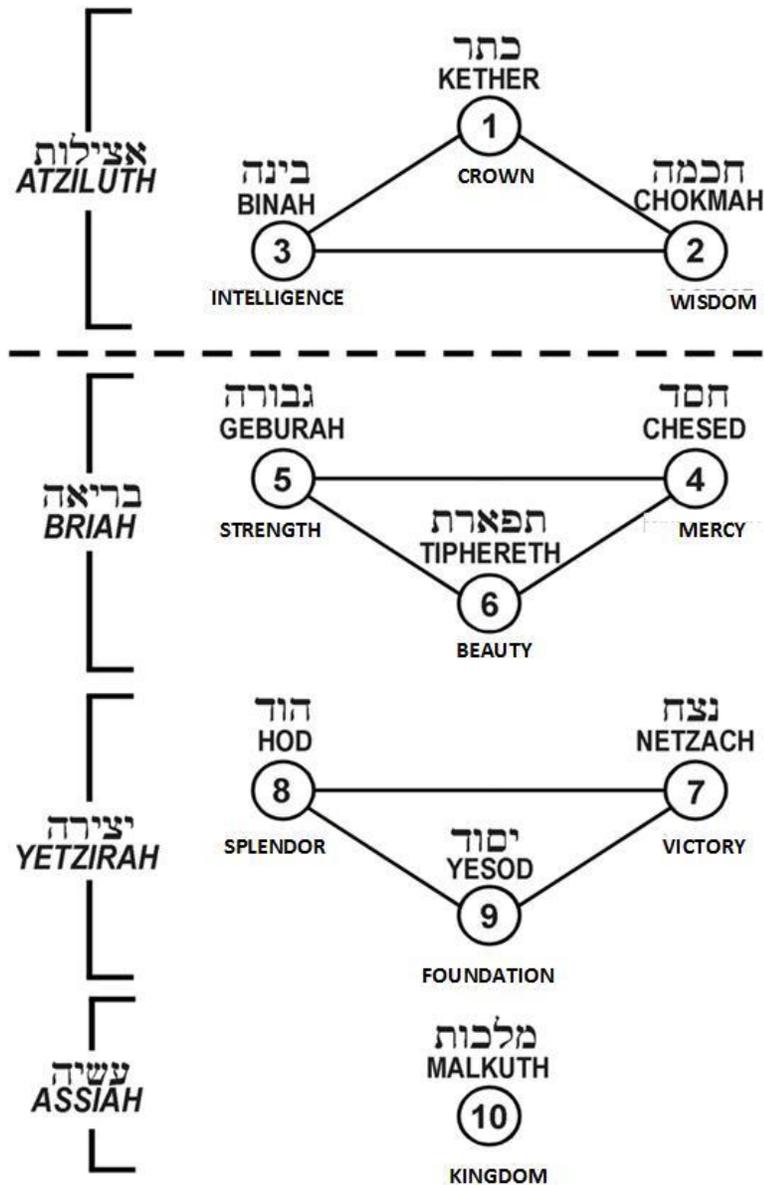
Further, **15** would be written 23, **19** would be written 31, etc. If we had to count in base 3 (0, 1 and 2), "our" 8 would be written 22, "our" 15 would be written 120, etc. We could count in level systems higher than 10 in which letters or other symbol act as figures.

But to the point, it is the binary system in base 2 (0 and 1), that we will focus on. We give below the matches for the first 32 numbers in the decimal system and in the binary system.

0	0		8	1000		16	10000		24	11000		32	100000
1	1		9	1001		17	10001		25	11001			
2	10		10	1010		18	10010		26	11010			
3	11		11	1011		19	10011		27	11011			
4	100		12	1100		20	10100		28	11100			
5	101		13	1101		21	10101		29	11101			
6	110		14	1110		22	10110		30	11110			
7	111		15	1111		23	10111		31	11111			

The binary system has an interesting correspondence with the structure of Nature. It has only two symbols: 1 and 0. Similarly, the two Foundations of Nature are the Absolute or 0, and Unity (manifestation) or 1.

Let us now examine the numbers of the Sephiroth in light of their binary correspondences:



0 does not change, it represents the 0 or Nothingness or Absolute above Kether (not shown).

1 does not change, 1 is Unity.

2 reads 10, 2 is the number of the Chokmah Sefhira. It is the link between Unity and the Absolute, between 1 and 0. This is the potential duality.

3 is written 11, the number of the Sefhira Binah (Saturn). 11 is Unity and its reflection 1 and 1. This is manifested duality.

4 is written 100, the number of the Sefhira Gedulah or Chesed (Jupiter), the quaternary. If the symbol 0 is also that of the Absolute, Qabala assigns it a change of level function. With the first duality: 10 or 1 and 0, the energy took two aspects:

Nitre \oplus and Salt \ominus

100 is also 10 and 0, so there appears one second duality manifesting the 4 elements:



5 is written 101, the number of the Geburah Sefhira (Mars).

5 is the number of man. Unitary Man 1 is embodied in the Quaternary:

100 \rightarrow 101.

6 is written 110, the number of the Tiphereth Sefhira (Sun). 6 is the symbol of the Hexagram, the two inverted triangles: 

the spiritual symbol of Fire 

symbol of the material, Water 

110 translates the connection of the spiritual and material.

110 is also 11 and 0, namely 11 (duality) and 0 expressing the dynamics of a change of plane. In Tiphereth man is fully realized by the union of two planes, one spiritual, and the other material.

7 is written 111, the number of the Netzach Sefhira (Venus).

111 represents unity and duality, the expression of the fullness of the laws in duality.

The unitary divine man, 1, governs the laws of duality, 11.

111 or 1-1-1 symbolizes the ternary bond in the 7 laws, each proceeding from the duplication of 1 (neutral, balanced) into 1^+ and 1^- .

8 is written 1000, the number of the Hod Sefhira (Mercury). The double quaternary, 8, or here, 1000 or 0 and 100, dominates duality through Thoth and Hermes.

1000 term of powers of unity in duality. 1000 or 100-0 also expresses a densification of duality.

9 is written 1001, the number of the Yesod Sephira (Moon).

1001 is also written 10-01, the passage from 1 to 0 and 0 to 1, symbolizing the transfer of the energies from the visible to the invisible and vice versa.

10 is written 1010, the number of the Malkuth Sephira, the Kingdom of Earth, our world.

In 1010 it was 10 and 10 or a double duality since 2 is written 10. It is here that the meeting of the visible duality 10 and the invisible duality 10 occurs. Once established, the contact will allow for the work to the realization of Man.

Beyond 10 we leave the Sephirothic symbolism to enter the symbolism of the Paths (11 to 32).

In the decimal system, the Theosophical reduction of any number from 10 is possible. We know that the Theosophical reduction of a number is to add up the digits of this number, for example in the decimal system:

$$15 \rightarrow 1 + 5 = 6$$

$$79 \rightarrow 7 + 9 = 16 \rightarrow 1 + 6 = 7$$

The result indicates a relationship of the number discussed with a number smaller than 10. Therefore, we can establish a link with a Sephira. But this is not possible for a binary number because its reduction always gives Unity, and **15**, written 1111 will be equal to 1. Also, for the numbers of the binary system is it more interesting to examine their structure to get information.

Let's examine **27** written 11011.

The 11-0-11 symmetry reflected at this level the necessary balance between Rigor (Sephira 3, 5, and 8) and Mercy (Sephira 2, 4, and 7) to cross the veil of Paroket (between Briah and Yetzirah) during the Return.

If we look at **21**, written 10101, we find another symbol of symmetry 10-1-01. At this point of the tree, symmetry reflects the balance required to access the passage of the World of Yetzirah (lunar Astral) to the one of Briah (solar Astral).

Note that when we have a plenitude of units, the next number is a number for change of level.

$$7 \rightarrow 111$$

$$8 \rightarrow 1000$$

$$15 \rightarrow 1111$$

$$16 \rightarrow 10000$$

$$31 \rightarrow 11111$$

$$32 \rightarrow 100000$$

Note also that in the binary system, adding a zero to the right of a number is equivalent to multiplying it by 2:

5 → 101
1010 → 10
3 → 11
110 → 6
12 → 1100
11000 → 24

The two systems discussed have advantages. We are familiar with base 10 therefore we are more susceptible to decoding its symbols. In base 2, there is permanent resonance with our being which also comes from Nature.

Beyond appearances, we are not talking here of intellectual jugglery but of research on the relationship between the numbers on the Tree of Life. The qualities thus revealed should allow a better understanding of the Tree's structure and dynamics.

These comments relating to the Tree of the Sephiroth are far from exhaustive so we let everyone come to their own interpretation of the 32 Paths of Wisdom for their greatest benefit.

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