

Elder Vernon Johson

Numbers

Forty – Trial and Judgment

The number forty is often associated in the scriptures with the subject of trial and judgment. In a courtroom, you first have the trial and then you have the judgment. Sometimes we see the number forty associated with the trial and sometimes we see it associated with the judgment after the verdict is rendered.

We observe in the scriptures the number forty associated with the following examples of trial or judgment:

1. The destruction of the world during the days of Noah
2. Moses going into the mount to receive the law contrasted to Christ's being tested of Satan.
3. The spies spying out the land of Canaan
4. The judgment upon the children of Israel in the wilderness because they did not believe the promise and power of God
5. The judgment of a wicked man
6. National judgment of Israel because of sin and repentance
7. Trial of faith due to Goliath's defiance
8. The buildings of the tabernacle, temple, and of Ezekiel's vision
9. The trial and judgment of Ninevah
10. Judgment of Jerusalem and Jews for their rejection of Christ.