

I. Philosophy of Math

We live in an orderly world. Man has devised a systematic way of studying this orderliness in a study known as mathematics. This is a study dealing with numbers and their operations, measurement, space configurations, and relationships of quantities, as expressed numbers or symbols. We cannot study or teach mathematics without recognizing God who created a universe of order which continues to follow systematic patterns.

II. Instructional Goals and Biblical Truths

Mathematics reflects the very nature of God. Several important attributes of God are evident in the study of mathematics.

1. God's delight in symmetry and beauty is evidenced in His creation.¹

The story of creation. (Genesis 1:1-31)

One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple. (Psalm 27:4)

2. The consistency of mathematical truths demonstrates the orderliness, precision, and consistency of God.²

So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. This is how you are to build it: The ark is to be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high. Make a roof for it and finish the ark to within 18 inches of the top. Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle and upper decks. (Genesis 6:14-16)

Then have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will dwell among them. Make this tabernacle and all its furnishings exactly like the pattern I will show you. (Exodus 25:8-9)

3. Mathematical patterns are predictable and reliable because a faithful, dependable God established them.³

Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands. (Deuteronomy 7:9)

He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he. (Deuteronomy 32:4)

¹ Eckel, Mark. (2003). The Whole Truth. Xulon Press. 149.

² Haycock, Dr. Ruth C. Encyclopedia of Bible Truths for School Subjects. 1993. Association of Christian Schools International. 308.

³ Eckel, Mark. (2003). The Whole Truth. Xulon Press. 153.

4. The precision, accuracy, and exactitude of measurement are rooted in God's justice, shown through His perfection.⁴

I will proclaim the name of the Lord. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, his works are perfect and all His ways are just. (Deuteronomy 32:34)

Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. (Matthew 5:48)

5. God cares about numbers. He knows them all; He has recorded many for our information.⁵

He determines the numbers of stars and calls them each by name. (Psalm 147:4)

Indeed, the very hairs of your head are numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. (Luke 12:7)

6. God has at various times commanded men to count, measure, and record their findings.⁶

Genesis 6:14-16 The building of the ark

The angel who talked with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city, its gates and its walls. (Revelation 21:15)

7. God is concerned that we be accurate and orderly in our use of weights, measures, numbers.⁷

Do not use dishonest standards when measuring length, weight or quantity. (Leviticus 19:35)

The Lord abhors dishonest scales, but accurate weights are his delight. (Proverbs 11:1)

8. Mathematical study should result in greater appreciation of the works of God in His creation.⁸

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? (Psalm 8:3-4)

Who among the gods is like you, O LORD? Who is like you—majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders? (Exodus 15:11)

⁴ Eckel, Mar. (2003). *The Whole Truth*. Xulon Press. 154.

⁵ Haycock, Dr. Ruth C. *Encyclopedia of Bible Truths for School Subjects*. 1993. Association of Christian Schools International. 309.

⁶ Haycock, Dr. Ruth C. *Encyclopedia of Bible Truths for School Subjects*. 1993. Association of Christian Schools International. 310.

⁷ Haycock, Dr. Ruth C. *Encyclopedia of Bible Truths for School Subjects*. 1993. Association of Christian Schools International. 311.

⁸ Haycock, Dr. Ruth C. *Encyclopedia of Bible Truths for School Subjects*. 1993. Association of Christian Schools International. 308.