

## The Bible Code

Years ago, a gentleman by the name of Michael Drosnin published a book entitled “The Bible Code.” Wikipedia says, “The Bible code (Hebrew: הצופן התנ"כי, *hatzofen hatanachi*), also known as the Torah code, is a purported set of encoded words within a Hebrew text of the Torah that, according to proponents, has predicted significant historical events. The statistical likelihood of the Bible code arising by chance has been thoroughly researched, and it is now widely considered to be statistically insignificant, as similar phenomena can be observed in any sufficiently lengthy text. Although Bible codes have been postulated and studied for centuries, the subject has been popularized in modern times by Michael Drosnin's book *The Bible Code* and the movie *The Omega Code*.”

In rebuttal to the claim, a certain professor denied that the Hebrew Bible was written in code, saying, “I do not believe the Hebrew Bible was written in code because, if it was, then there is a God, and I do not believe in God.”

Men will often deny or affirm, a proposition to support their doctrines or practices. In some cases, men will make a good point that is true, but the supporting text and context does not teach the truth of their argument. One such passage is Luke 13:3, where Jesus said, “I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all in like manner perish.” The passage is referred to in an effort to show the necessity of repentance. Now it is true that repentance is essential to salvation: Acts 2:38; 3:19; 20:21. However, Luke 13:3 does not address a general repentance required of all men, but a repentance that related to a judgment to come to pass on the nation of Israel. Note the Lord’s response: “Now there were some present at that very season who told him of the Galilaeans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And he answered and said unto them, Think ye that these Galilaeans were sinners above all the Galilaeans, because they have suffered these things? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all in like manner perish. Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and killed them, think ye that they were offenders above all the men that dwell in Jerusalem? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish” (Lk. 13:1-5). Note the terms “ye shall all likewise perish,” i.e., as the Galilaeans had their blood mingled with their sacrifices, or that perished “upon whom the town in Siloam fell,” so also would those who heard the words of Jesus “in like manner,” i.e., in same manner perish, or be killed, as those Galilaeans, of whom the hearers of Jesus was certain “were sinners above all the Galilaeans, because they have suffered” the way they did.

The rejection of the Jews, concerning Christ, would result in the destruction of the nation. When Jesus was delivered up to Pilate, to be crucified, “all the people answered and said, His blood be on us, and on our children” (Matt. 27:25). Except the Jews repented of their rejection of Jesus Christ, they would, as did the Galilaeans, “all likewise perish.” Ross