

1: Be Wise As 'serpents'. Really? But Satan is the 'Serpent!' - Religion - Nigeria

When Jesus told the Twelve to be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves, He laid down a general principle about the technique of kingdom work. As we take the gospel to a hostile world, we must be wise (avoiding the snares set for us), and we must be innocent (serving the Lord blamelessly).

And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of any tree of the garden? And he said to the woman, Has God truly said that you may not take of the fruit of any tree in the garden? And it said to the woman, Is it even so, that God has said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And he said unto the woman: Ye shall not eat of any tree of the garden? And here observe, The tempter, the devil in the shape of a serpent. Multitudes of them fell; but this that attacked our first parents, was surely the prince of the devils. Whether it was only the appearance of a serpent, or a real serpent, acted and possessed by the devil, is not certain. The devil chose to act his part in a serpent, because it is a subtle creature. It is not improbable, that reason and speech were then the known properties of the serpent. And therefore Eve was not surprised at his reasoning and speaking, which otherwise she must have been. That which the devil aimed at, was to persuade Eve to eat forbidden fruit; and to do this, he took the same method that he doth still. He questions whether it were a sin or no, Ge 3: He denies that there was any danger in it, Ge 3: He suggests much advantage by it, Ge 3: And these are his common topics. As to the advantage, he suits the temptation to the pure state they were now in, proposing to them not any carnal pleasure, but intellectual delights. Your eyes shall be opened - You shall have much more of the power and pleasure of contemplation than now you have; you shall fetch a larger compass in your intellectual views, and see farther into things than now you do. You shall be as gods - As Elohim, mighty gods, not only omniscient but omnipotent too: You shall know good and evil - That is, everything that is desirable to be known. To support this part of the temptation, he abuseth the name given to this tree. But he perverts the sense of it, and wrests it to their destruction, as if this tree would give them a speculative notional knowledge of the natures, kinds, and originals of good and evil. And, All this presently, In the day you eat thereof - You will find a sudden and immediate change for the better. Discussion for Genesis 3:

2: Wise as Serpents

This is a commentary from a blog. It seems strange that we are told, by Jesus Himself, to be "wise as serpents" when the first thing most of us think of when it comes to serpents is Satan, who took the form of a serpent in the temptation of Eve.

Einwechter Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: The current climate for the participation of faithful Christians in politics is anything but congenial. This has not always been the case here in America where a strong Christian heritage and influence made Christianity and the Bible central, respected aspects of the political sphere. But as the nation has slid increasingly into the abyss of secularism and humanism, those who confess Christ and seek to promote Christian principles of civil government are considered a public nuisance, fit only for ridicule and extirpation. Where in the Bible can Christians find guidance for effective political participation in such an atmosphere as this? The backdrop of Matthew In commissioning his disciples, Jesus both warns and counsels them in regard to the persecutions that they will face then and in the future. Interpretation of Matthew Sheep, on the other hand, are weak, witless, and docile; surely no match for the strength and craftiness of the wolf. In the presence of wolves, sheep are in great peril because they have, in themselves, no effective means of defense. The point of the analogy is the danger that the disciples will be in and their relative defenselessness against their powerful and vicious foes. Jesus is not saying that his disciples are individually stupid, weak, or cowardly. Jesus is stating that in the mission of preaching the gospel of the kingdom, they will be opposed by the hostile powers that be in Israel and, at a later time, in the Roman Empire, and that they will not have the means for adequate defense against these powers. Wise as Serpents In view of these things, the disciples of Christ must act in a particular manner. As usual, Jesus himself sets the example. He did not seek to provoke conflicts with them. If opposition to his ministry became too intense, he would leave the area for a time. He knew how to answer their attacks and at the same time expose their folly. A classic example of how Christ dealt with the cunning, crafty leaders of the Jews is found in Matthew By ministering to the needs of the people, he won their trust, and on various occasions, the support of the people protected Jesus from the leaders who were intent on destroying him cf. In the New Testament, it is employed figuratively of moral purity and integrity Rom. In the ancient Near East, the dove was symbolic of purity, faithfulness, and guilelessness. The dove was, also, the only bird that could be offered as a sacrifice in the Old Testament. They must be clever and shrewd in dealing with their cunning wolf-like adversaries, but they must never stoop to the ethics of their enemies. They must be free from guile and evil. Sin in the life and speech of the disciple gives his foes an easy opening to discredit and neutralize his witness. Jesus was pure as a dove. Those who hated him could never find anything in his life to discredit him. So, the only area left to attack was his teaching, or to make absurd charges that he broke the law by doing good, or that he performed miracles by the power of Satan. By making his enemies focus on his teaching, Jesus made his doctrine the focus of debate; this is exactly what he wanted. Application of Matthew As such, the general principles taught in this text can be applied in any time, place, or sphere of life where Christians are persecuted for seeking to teach or live according to the Word of Christ. This would include the political sphere, and the current anti-Christian sentiment displayed therein. The following gives some suggestions on how Matthew This should be kept firmly in mind, lest potential allies are mistaken for enemies. Gundry, commenting on Matthew Thus a certain solidarity exists between the persecuted missionaries and the harried people; both suffer from the same source. The same secular elite that acts in a wolf-like fashion against the followers of Christ are also troubling the people by their ungodly, foolish policies. The secular elite, as represented in the media, academia, public policy and political action groups, and many public officials, are the enemies "the wolves" opposing Christian political principles. The common people have, in many ways, been duped by these adversaries of Christ. But if Christians can demonstrate a better way, one of liberty and justice, they might just find widespread support from the people. Christians in politics should avoid inviting or provoking unnecessary conflict with their enemies. Conflict of one degree or another will be inevitable as Christians seek to apply the biblical principles of civil government to their society. But the point is that they should act discreetly, and

sometimes work quietly, to keep from triggering unnecessary hostility and conflict. However, the fear of conflict must not be allowed to paralyze the Christian into inactivity and compromise. It is a travesty when a professed disciple of Jesus Christ uses Matthew 5:38-48. Christians in politics should be free from guile and above reproach. Christian politicians and activists must be known as men of impeccable integrity. They must be separate from all the guile, evil deception, corruption, meanness, and scandal that so marks contemporary politics. If Christians are to be effective in politics, they must have practical wisdom as to how politics works. Christians should know how political parties operate, how to lobby legislators, the conventions of political protocol, etc. If Christians do not have fundamental knowledge on how things operate in politics, they cannot hope to be effective, and the wolves will devour them. If Christians are to be effective in politics, they must have the practical knowledge to deal with the issues and problems of politics. People are looking for solutions to the problems that plague their communities, cities, and states. Problems of education, taxation, crime, welfare, the economy, etc. Christians need to be willing to roll up their sleeves and get to work serving the needs of the people in the socio-political sphere. But they need more than a willingness to work, they need knowledge, practical knowledge, and skill to understand and solve real-life problems to enhance the life and liberty of the people. Each political office requires a solid understanding of the duties of the office and the particular issues, and problems that need to be addressed. A good biblical example of this is the case of Joseph. Egypt was faced with a grave national crisis. The need of the hour was for a wise and resourceful man who could provide the solutions to the problem and see the solutions carried out. The man that was chosen was Joseph because he had a practical plan to meet the crisis. So Pharaoh appointed him to be governor over all the land, even though he was a Hebrew and a slave! Why was he chosen? If Christians are to be effective in politics, they need practical wisdom on how to conduct themselves in public. Public office puts many strains on a man. He is constantly in situations where he must deal with others and respond to unexpected questions, circumstances, and attacks. Prudence, grace, and discernment in interacting with others and in managing stressful situations are essentials for the job. A prime source for this kind of wisdom is the book of Proverbs. Proverbs is a gold mine of counsel on how to conduct oneself in public office and how to deal with people in any kind of situation. Anyone who aspires to political office ought to master the contents of Proverbs, paying particular attention to those texts that would specifically apply to the conduct of public office. For example, the wise are those who know when to hold their peace Prov. 17:14. The law of God will make him wiser than his wolf-like enemies Ps. 141:3. Eerdmans Publishing Company, , p. This article was originally published in The Christian Statesman, vol.

3: Wise as Serpents, Harmless as Doves | Darash Press

*Wise as serpents*The idea of the serpent as symbolising wisdom, seems to have entered into the early parables of most Eastern nations. We find it in Egyptian.

Among other parts of Sacred Writ, this text is not the least: His lips were a tree of life which fed many. His works were miracles. His words were oracles and deserve to be engraved upon our hearts as with the point of a diamond. This is a golden sentence, "Be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. Before they went abroad to preach, Christ ordained them, verse 5, "These twelve, Jesus sent forth. But if one has gifts, is this not sufficient to the ministerial office? As grace is not sufficient to make a minister, so neither are gifts. Therefore it is observable that the Scripture puts a difference between gifting and commissioning. The attorney who pleads at the bar, may have as good gifts as the judge who sits upon the bench but he must have a lawful commission before he sits as a judge. If it is thus in civil matters, much more in church matters which are of higher concern. Those, therefore, who usurp the work of the ministry without being solemnly set apart for it, reveal more pride than zeal and they can expect no blessing. They do not benefit these people in the least. Verse 16, "Behold I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves! They would meet with enemies as fierce and savage as wolves. Most of the Apostles died by the hands of tyrants. Peter was crucified with his head downwards. Luke the Evangelist was executed on an olive-tree. John was cast by Domitian into a vessel of scalding oil. The emperor Maximinus gave charge to his officers to put none to death, but the leaders and pastors of the church. They hold forth His truth. When Paul preached against Diana, all the city was in an uproar, Acts The exhortation, "Be wise. The simile, "as serpents. The qualification of this wisdom, a wisdom mixed with innocence, "harmless as doves. Faithful, there is the dove; wise, there is the serpent. It is hard to find both. If one would seek for a faithful man, no doubt, he may find many. If one would seek for a wise man, he may find many. But, if he seeks for one both wise and faithful it is hard to find. It is possible, though not common. Moses was a man "learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians," Acts 7: There was the wisdom of the serpent. And he was the meekest man alive. Daniel was an excellent person. He was faithful and honest and always responsible. Look at Paul, Acts Here was the wisdom of the serpent; and verse 1, "I have always lived before God in all good conscience! How lovely is this union of the dove and serpent! The Scripture joins these two together, meekness and wisdom, James 3: Wisdom, there is the serpent; meekness, there is the dove. We must have innocence with our wisdom else our wisdom is but craftiness. And we must have wisdom with our innocence else our innocence is but weakness. We must have the innocence of the dove that we may not harm others; and we must have the wisdom of the serpent that others may not harm us. We must have the innocence of the dove that we may not betray the truth; and the wisdom of the serpent that we may not betray ourselves. In short, innocence without wisdom is too weak to be safe. Wisdom without innocence is too subtle to be good. Christians must be both wise and innocent. Solomon said, "Wisdom is the principal thing," Proverbs 4: Wisdom is better than riches, "Happy is the person who finds wisdom and gains understanding. For the profit of wisdom is better than silver, and her wages are better than gold. Wisdom is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire can compare with her! If the mountains were pearls, if every sand of the sea was a diamond they would not be comparable to wisdom. Without wisdom, a person is like a ship without a pilot, in danger of wrecking upon the rocks. Job sets forth the eulogy and praise of wisdom, Job But wisdom casts a more sparkling color than the ruby. It makes us shine as angels. No chain of pearl you wear so adorns you as wisdom. Wisdom consists chiefly in three things: Knowledge to discern wherein happiness lies; skill to judge what will be the fittest means to conduce to it; activity to prosecute those things which will certainly accomplish that end. So much for wisdom in general. It is either natural, moral, or sacred. A natural wisdom is seen in finding out the secrets of nature. Aristotle was, by some of the ancients, called an eagle fallen from the clouds; because he had so profound an insight into the causes of things. This natural wisdom is adorning but it is not sufficient to salvation. Jerome brings in Aristotle with his syllogisms, and Tully with his rhetoric, crying out in hell. A moral wisdom consists in two things the rejection of those things which are harmful; and the choosing of those things which are beneficial. This is called prudence. A

sacred wisdom is knowing God, who is the supreme and sovereign Good. Greece was counted the eye of the world for wisdom, and Athens the eye of Greece; but neither of them knew God, Acts Christ is the looking-glass in which the face of God is seen, Colossians 1: We know God rightly, when we know Him not only with a knowledge of speculation, but appropriation, Psalm But to come nearer to the text and speak of the wisdom of the serpent: But must we in everything, be like the serpent? No, our Savior did not mean that in everything we should imitate the serpent. I shall show you how we should not be like the serpent—and how we should be like the serpent. How we should NOT be like the serpent: The serpent eats dust. Thus we should not be like the serpent, feeding immoderately upon earthly things. A Christian has better food to feed on—the heavenly manna, the precious promises, the body and blood of Christ. It is counted a miracle to find a diamond in a gold mine; but it is as great a miracle to find Christ, the pearl of great price, in an earthly heart. The lap-wing wears a little coronet on its head—yet feeds on dung. To have a crown of profession on the head—yet feed inordinately on these dunghill-comforts, is unworthy of a Christian. What a poor contemptible thing is the world! It cannot fill the heart. If Satan should take a Christian up to the top of the pinnacle and show him all the kingdoms and glory of the world—what could he show him but a pleasant delusion? There is a lawful use which God allows of these outward things—but the sin is in the excess. The bee may suck a little honey from the flower—but put it in a barrel of honey, and it is drowned. The wicked are thus characterized. The serpent is deceitful. The serpent uses many shifts, and glides so cunningly that we cannot trace him. This was one of those four things which wise Agur could not find out, "the way of the serpent upon a rock," Proverbs The serpent is a deceitful creature. We should not, in this sense, be like the serpent, deceitful. Naturally, we too much resemble the serpent for fraud and collusion. Second, deceit towards God. To draw near to God with the lips, while the heart is far from Him. To serve God—and seek ourselves; to pretend to love God—and yet be in league with sin. We should not in this sense, be like the serpent—deceitful and given to shifts.

4: Serpent (symbolism) - Wikipedia

Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, Yes, has God said, You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

Leaders who exhibit wisdom cannot just gloss over sayings that mean so much. For a wise leader, he must meditate and ponder over facts, statements and truths. Wisdom is characterized by exercising or showing sound judgment by a deep understanding. Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: However, because Jesus pointed out the wisdom of a serpent, all of us must pay special attention to these creatures and learn what we can from them. So, what is the wisdom of a serpent? What makes a serpent wise? It is not strange to any of us that men fear snakes! It is also not strange if people have a proper respect for snakes! It is a fact that snakes are amazing creatures, superbly surviving and multiplying in spite of the generalized hatred that exists towards them. Would you not want to find the wisdom that would make you flourish more than all your colleagues? Would you not want to find the wisdom that could make you successful in the face of strong opposition and hatred? Would you not want to have the wisdom that would make you flourish through all the changing scenes of life? After all, how many people are able to stay rich and prosperous through all seasons of life? Would you not want the wisdom that would make people fear you and treat you with proper respect? Do you not want the wisdom that will make you quietly accomplish all your goals in this life? I am sure you want this wisdom. Indeed, that is the wisdom of the serpent! That is why Jesus said we must be wise as serpents.

Seven Reasons Why Serpents Are Considered Wise Serpents are considered to be wise because they have multiplied and flourished more than any other wild animal. Serpents are considered to be wise because they have continued to exist in an ever-modernizing world. You will notice that many wild animals are becoming extinct in our modern world. Serpents are considered to be wise because they have been able to flourish even though they are hated by everyone. Serpents are considered to be wise because they evoke fear and respect in human beings. Human beings do not fear and respect many animals but they definitely fear and respect snakes. Serpents are considered to be wise because of their ability to live in every continent and every part of the world. Serpents are considered to be wise because of their ability to function in every sphere; on land, in the sea, in fresh water and even in the air. Serpents are considered to be wise because of their ability to accomplish their goals in this world. In spite of all the odds stacked against the snakes, they are able to live, eat and multiply. Have you ever thought about the fact that there are no lions roaming around near your house? But there are probably snakes in your area. At least, I have seen snakes in every house I have ever lived in. Lions are simply non-existent in your area. They have been wiped out because they do not operate by the wisdom of the serpent. They operate by another kind of wisdom – the wisdom of a lion. The wisdom of a lion makes us have a proper respect and fear for lions. But the wisdom of a lion has not enabled the lion to flourish and multiply successfully in cities all over the world. The population of lions is dwindling! Lions are becoming extinct! Snakes, on the other hand, are mysteriously found in every city and neighborhood. In that sense, the snake is wiser than the lion because it has prevailed, flourished and prospered whereas the lions have become fewer and are nearing extinction. Every leader aims at being successful at what he does. A leader also aims at survival to perpetuate his aims. We will begin to look generally at the great wisdom of a serpent that has made it more successful than any other wild animal found in the zoo. May you be a leader with the wisdom of a serpent! May you prevail where others have failed!

5: A Leader Must be As Wise As a Serpent - Daily Guide Africa

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Wise Serpents Part I Serpents are referred to frequently in the scriptures. These are all satanic references to the old serpent who lies, flatters, deceives, and seeks to lure away souls through dark arts and temptations. Interestingly, this same pronunciation also means to learn by experience or to diligently observe; these are interesting and deep meanings for this term not discussed here. Thus there is double meaning in the pronunciation. The Hebrew word used here does not mean serpent at all. The plural, seraphim, means burning or noble ones, referring to ministering beings with perhaps a serpentine form or a glowing quality about them. In other words, destroying angels. Generally, these were non-religious references to worms, sea monsters, whales, dragons, and plain old snakes or vipers, but can also refer to crawling or to fear or to be afraid. Optomai does not mean to merely voluntarily observe or use vision mechanically, casually, or passively. Ophis, for serpent, through the idea of sharpness of vision, means sly cunningness and artful malice, referring to satan. Most references to serpents in the scriptures are referring to something evil, if not to satan himself. There are two times in the scriptures in which the term serpent is used in a sense that is not evil. The first is in reference to the brazen serpent spoken of above. Moses was instructed to raise a brazen serpent that the camp of Israel was to look upon in order to avoid destruction. This was symbolic of the means provided by Heavenly Father to save His children from sin through the sacrifice atonement and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The second place in the scriptures where the term serpent is used in a positive sense is when the Lord is teaching His disciples about how to conduct themselves when performing in their ministries. There are two verses that describe their conduct in a similar fashion: Thus, we are counseled to be wise as serpents in our service to the Lord. What does a serpent do that makes it wise? What sort of wisdom does a serpent possess? How does one be wise, yet avoid becoming serpent-like evil? These issues will be explored in the next posts.

6: Symbolism of the Serpent - The Irish Origins of Civilization

The Art of Leadership By Dag Heward-Mills Wisdom is marked by a deep understanding of an issue and is characterized by exercising or showing sound judgment. For a leader to be Read More.

The first Chinese emperors, successors to the legendary Emperor Yao, said they were descended from dragons. The Egyptians had their god snake Kneph and the Pharaohs were often depicted with snakes. The Phoenicians had Agathodaimon in Greek, the good genius, a serpent. The cultures of Central America worshiped their creator god Quetzalcoatl, the winged serpent, as Baholinkonga, the feathered serpent of the Hopi Indians. Followers of Voodoo have a serpent god they call Damballah Wedo. The Hebrews have Nakhustan, the brazen serpent. The ancient god of the British Isles, called Hu, was the master of the dragon world. The first altar of the Cyclops in Athens was dedicated to Ops, the god-snake. Indigenous Australians also have their myth of Wagyl, a God-Serpent. According to the Gnostics, the Snakes are our instructors, demiurges who shaped our bodies, but not our soul, which is not theirs, because it is uncreated. We are born from light, just like them. But our terrestrial vehicle, this triple body of flesh and spirit, we owe it to them. To its followers, man is the emanation of the source of all things, and inherit a piece. Yahveh is regarded by the Gnostics as the chief of the Archons, the great demiurge, the most evil creature. In the 4th century, the confrontation between the Gnostics and the fathers of the Church was violent and merciless. Before that, Christ, it was Emperor Constantine. In the time of Jesus, Kali Yuga was only two thousand years old, now it is twice that age. Very little truth floats in an ocean of errors. Let us get back to those harmful beings who have shaped us, since this is the Gnostic view. According to Anton Parks, there is also a mistake there. The gifted geneticists who made us were not as evil as it seemed at first. To Parks, the mother goddess is the Sumerian goddess Tiamata. That is she who deserves firstly the title of Primordial Serpent. As for the Bible, it says quite the opposite: Thus the serpent is the ally of the men and the creator of the human race. He is the first instructor of our species, like the feathered serpent Quetzalcoatl, like the god-fishes Nommo, Oannes or Vishnu. He has always supported and defended men when other gods wanted to kill us, as our creator Prometheus siding with the men against his uncle, the powerful Zeus. Or again, as Osiris protecting us from Seth, who wanted our loss. As we already understood, all these legends refer to a unique history, and their convergence support its veracity. According to the translators of the Nag Hammadi manuscripts, it is explained by a semantic shift. Beast is the translation of quasi-homophones in Aramaic: The beast is not evil as she corrects the mistakes of the apprentice-sorcerers. And it does not stop us from being born of Light.

7: Serpents in the Bible - Wikipedia

"Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. 2 Corinthians ESV / 14 helpful votes Helpful Not Helpful But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

The Irish Origins of Civilization Symbolism of the Serpent Jesus said, "The Pharisees and the scribes have taken the keys of knowledge gnosis and hidden them. They themselves have not entered, nor have they allowed to enter those who wish to. You, however, be as wise as serpents and as innocent as doves" - Gospel of Thomas The Christian mythmongers working from Rome and elsewhere knew that the traditions and symbolism they presented as their own has a long history. They knew of the debt they owed to Egyptians, Phoenicians, Scythians, Persians and other races put to the sword by their bloodthirsty agents. Of the heinous criminality, scholar R. Constantinus II ordered the Egyptian temples of Isis-Osiris closed and forbade the use of Egyptian hieroglyphics as a religious language. Emperor Theodosius declared Christianity to be the official Roman state religion, and all pagan cults were thereafter forbidden. These edicts were devastating to Egyptian culture and religion, both of which had been preserved over millennia through the Egyptian language and the writing systems of Egyptian priests. The attack was akin to ordering the destruction of the Vatican. Egyptian priests were massacred in their shrines and in the streets. The ferocity of the violence consumed priests, followers, and the Egyptian intellectual elite of Alexandria, Memphis, and other cities of Egypt who were murdered and their temples and libraries destroyed. The institutional structure of Egyptian religion, then more than four millennia old, was demolished in less than two decades - Jesus the Egyptian Astro-Theology The mythmongers knew there was nothing demonic about the winged daemon that represented the Arya and priest-kings of old, those whose knowledge they had appropriated and cannibalized. They knew exactly what the terms "Christ" and "Messiah" meant. They knew of the age old relationship between the Sophic female and the protecting serpent, and that the antetype was astrological and astromantic. It is time that we too understand where the motifs originated and what they mean. Heavenly Serpents The student of mythology would do well to consider the astral or cosmic origins of serpent symbolism. Many ancient mythologies, and many godlike characters who appear in world myth, owe their existence to cosmic disasters that occurred in our solar system and which were witnessed by the inhabitants of the Earth. The cataclysmic events involving comets and exploding planets were permanently archived in what we nowadays refer to as the "collective unconscious. Throughout the ages they have been colorfully, and often obliquely, rendered in various mythological accounts and bizarre faerie tales that have perplexed and enthralled so many readers. The legends that speak of celestial upheaval, and of gods and deities with fantastic strength, power, and luminance, make a great deal more sense when we read them aright. For more information on this phenomenon, we refer the reader to the works of Comyns Beaumont and Immanuel Velikovsky, the original experts to make a study of world myth in this context. Etymology The following names and terms refer directly to the serpent: See corporate logo of Intel for confirmation. His consort was a sacerdotal female named Eurynome. The term comes from a Phoenician word connoting the serpent kings. However, it too means "serpent priest. DRACO Name of the giant constellation in the northern sky, the head of which attends the circumpolar zone. The name allegedly means "crooked woman," and is a reference either to Ursa Minor or Draco. The insignia "G," as found in Masonry, signifies knowledge and the men of knowledge. G is the seventh letter of the alphabet, and seven has long been a number of wisdom and occult science. It will not evenly divide into ten or three hundred and sixty. Unlike other numbers between one and ten, seven leave a remainder. Symbolically speaking, it is the numeral of independence and individuality. In Old Norse the word serpent was Nidar, as in the so-called "nithog serpent," the serpent who eats at the roots of Yggdrasil, the Nordic World Ash Tree. Nidar Ros means "old serpent" and referred to the ancient knowledge of the Druids. Interestingly, the serpent was adopted as a symbol by Olaf I, the king who Christianized Norway. He literally adopted the symbol of those he sought to annihilate. They were originally Levites and later they were elite Pharisees and Sadducees Order. The name is a variation of Naddred, meaning "wise serpent," and is probably also akin to Naga which can be rendered

Nasha, hence "nation. In Hebrew, they mean "fiery" or "blazing serpents. The root nshs means "to find out" or "discover. It could be the origin of the word "nation. The prototype of Hermes, Mercury, Thoth, and Jesus. This is the origin of the fictional characters, the Jedi. It features many strange megalithic sites. The word nech allegedly means "temptation. It also refers to the god Mercury. It is the origin of the phoneme AZT. This is the origin of terms such as Pepsi, Dr. Pepper, Sergeant Pepper, and Pepsid, etc. She was closely associated with the cat goddess Bast and with Nekhbet, the vulture goddess and patron of Upper Egypt. Her serpentine image is seen on the head of the god Ra. Like Buto and Nekhbet, Renenutet symbolized the human soul. Now the name of a giant serpentine constellation. NINE This word also connotes the serpent, as does the shape of the number. It symbolizes the god Mercury and also the zodiac. It is a stylized version of the Druidic sickle. ART From an Egyptian word aart, meaning "serpent. Always depicted as a undulating serpent. The Hurrian god Taru or Teshub slaying Illuyanka, the dragon of destruction. In ancient times the cataclysmic forces of nature were personified as a great cosmic dragon or serpent. The alternative historian Immanuel Velikovsky theorized that the dragon was equated with destruction because of their similarity to cometary bodies that once wrought havoc on earth. Hercules slaying Ladon, the great serpent guarding the tree in the Garden of Hesperides. The reference is primarily saeban or sidereal, given that the hero Hercules represents the sun passing through the twelve trials or signs of the zodiac. In any case, the symbolism pertains directly to female mystery traditions and rites. Grecian shrine or altar depicting serpent of wisdom A relief from Samothrace depicting neophytes being initiated into the Cabiri or Kabiri, an ancient pre-Grecian mystery religion. The serpent logo of the Alpha Romeo car company, set in the symbol of the "Chalice," or downward pointing triangle, that has long been a womb symbol. In the Far East, this symbol is known as the Yoni. The word "one" derives from this word denoting the female womb. It represents not so much a ritual death followed by resurrection as a complete regeneration of the initiate through his gestation and birth by the Great Mother - Mircea Eliade Rites and Symbols of Initiation Is the great serpent swallowing the man or birthing him? In the latter case, we are to take it that humans are progeny of the Serpent, that is the Serpent Race. Jason, the Greek hero here seen in the gaping mouth of a sea serpent. In this instance, he has been both swallowed and disgorged by the serpent. Like the Biblical Jonah, he has lived in the belly of the serpent. Saint John with his personal symbols, the chalice and serpent. The serpent is officially said to represent the poison John was given to drink by the authorities bringing him to trial. Strange then that we should hear Jesus ask his disciples to be as wise as "serpents. This deity is found in India as Pashupati or Shiva. The Tartar princes still carry the image of a serpent upon a spear as their military standard. Almost all the Runic inscriptions found upon tombs are engraved upon the sculptured forms of serpents. In the temple of the Bona Dea, serpents were tamed and consecrated. In the mysteries of Bacchus, women used to carry serpents in their hands and twined around their brows, and with horrible screams cry, Eva! In the great temple of Mexico, the captives taken in war and sacrificed to the sun, had wooden collars in the shape of a serpent put round their necks. And water-snakes are to this day held sacred by the natives of the Friendly Isles. It was not only worshiped as a symbol of light, of wisdom and of health, personified under the name of God, but also as an organ of divination - W. Deane Worship of the Serpent A symbol of sacred knowledge in antiquity was a tree, ever guarded by a serpent, the serpent or dragon of wisdom. The serpent of Hercules was said to guard the golden apples that hung from the pole, the Tree of Life, in the midst of the garden of Hesperides. The serpent that guarded the golden fruit At others it has the head of the serpent on it, united with the head of a ram - Gerald Massey Ancient Egypt: Light of the World The most poisonous winged serpent in the land was made the personification of the creator and ruling spirit! Champollion has satisfactorily accounted for the name Uraeus, given to the snake, by, suggesting that the word derives its origin Of Ptah it may be necessary to observe, that he was regarded as the Lord of Truth, and it is said to have been produced in the shape of an egg from the mouth of Kneph, and represented the creative power of Deity - George Smith The Gentile Nations, The accepted theory that the serpent is evil cannot be substantiated. It has long been viewed as the emblem of immortality. It is the symbol of reincarnation, or metempsychosis, because it annually sheds its skin It was also believed that snakes swallowed themselves, and this resulted in their being considered emblematic of the Supreme Creator, who periodically reabsorbed His universe back into Himself. In "Isis Unveiled," H. Blavatsky makes this

significant statement concerning the origin of serpent worship: This, say the explanations, was the Spirit of God moving on the chaos until its breath had incubated cosmic matter and made it assume the annular shape of a serpent with its tail in its mouth--emblem of eternity in its spiritual and of our world in its physical sense" - Manly Palmer Hall The Secret Teachings of All Ages The figure of Eve is based upon much older mythology and may be traced back to the ancient Mother Goddess or World Mother and the serpent cults of the pre-Biblical period.

8: The Serpent People - Eden Saga - english

Personally I believe to be "wise as a serpent" means to know what the serpent knows so that you know how to defend yourself from it's traps. It's basically saying it's a good thing to know your enemies tactics.

You can help by adding to it. May In the Gospel of John 3: Chthonic serpents and sacred trees[edit] This section does not cite any sources. Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. July Learn how and when to remove this template message In many myths, the chthonic serpent sometimes a pair lives in or is coiled around a Tree of Life situated in a divine garden. In the Genesis story of the Torah and Biblical Old Testament , the tree of the knowledge of good and evil is situated in the Garden of Eden together with the tree of life and the Serpent. In Greek mythology, Ladon coiled around the tree in the garden of the Hesperides protecting the entheogenic golden apples. Under yet another Tree the Bodhi tree of Enlightenment , the Buddha sat in ecstatic meditation. When a storm arose, the mighty serpent king Mucalinda rose up from his place beneath the earth and enveloped the Buddha in seven coils for seven days, so as not to break his ecstatic state. The Vision Serpent was also a symbol of rebirth in Mayan mythology , with origins going back to earlier Maya conceptions, lying at the center of the world as the Mayans conceived it. Essentially the World Tree and the Vision Serpent, representing the king, created the center axis which communicates between the spiritual and the earthly worlds or planes. It is through ritual that the king could bring the center axis into existence in the temples and create a doorway to the spiritual world, and with it power". Schele and Friedel, Sometimes the Tree of Life is represented in a combination with similar concepts such as the World Tree and Axis mundi or "World Axis" by a staff such as those used by shamans. The oldest known representation of two snakes entwined around a rod is that of the Sumerian fertility god Ningizzida. Ningizzida was sometimes depicted as a serpent with a human head, eventually becoming a god of healing and magic. It is the companion of Dumuzi Tammuz , with whom it stood at the gate of heaven. Ningizzida was the ancestor of Gilgamesh , who, according to the epic , dived to the bottom of the waters to retrieve the plant of life. But while he rested from his labor, a serpent came and ate the plant. The snake became immortal, and Gilgamesh was destined to die. Ancient North American serpent imagery often featured rattlesnakes Ningizzida has been popularized in the 20th century by Raku Kei Reiki a. There are a number of other translations of the term, usually emphasizing a more serpentine nature to the wordâ€™e. It has been suggested by Joseph Campbell that the symbol of snakes coiled around a staff is an ancient representation of Kundalini physiology. The staff represents the spinal column with the snake s being energy channels. In the case of two coiled snakes, they usually cross each other seven times, a possible reference to the seven energy centers called chakras. In Ancient Egypt , where the earliest written cultural records exist, the serpent appears from the beginning to the end of their mythology. Ra and Atum "he who completes or perfects" became the same god, Atum, the "counter-Ra," was associated with earth animals, including the serpent: Nehebkau "he who harnesses the souls" was the two headed serpent deity who guarded the entrance to the underworld. He is often seen as the son of the snake goddess Renenutet. She often was confused with and later was absorbed by their primal snake goddess Wadjet , the Egyptian cobra , who from the earliest of records was the patron and protector of the country, all other deities, and the pharaohs. Hers is the first known oracle. She was depicted as the crown of Egypt, entwined around the staff of papyrus and the pole that indicated the status of all other deities, as well as having the all-seeing eye of wisdom and vengeance. She never lost her position in the Egyptian pantheon. The image of the serpent as the embodiment of the wisdom transmitted by Sophia was an emblem used by gnosticism , especially those sects that the more orthodox characterized as " Ophites " "Serpent People". The chthonic serpent was one of the earth-animals associated with the cult of Mithras. The Basilisk , the venomous "king of serpents" with the glance that kills, was hatched by a serpent, Pliny the Elder and others thought, from the egg of a cock. Outside Eurasia, in Yoruba mythology , Oshunmare was another mythic regenerating serpent. The Rainbow Serpent also known as the Rainbow Snake is a major mythological being for Aboriginal people across Australia , although the creation myth associated with it are best known from northern Australia. In Fiji Ratumaibulu was a serpent

god who ruled the underworld and made fruit trees bloom. In the Northern Flinders Ranges reigns The Arkaroo , serpent who drank Lake Frome empty, refuges into the mountains, carving valleys and waterholes, earthquakes through snoring. This section does not cite any sources. July Learn how and when to remove this template message The serpent, when forming a ring with its tail in its mouth, is a clear and widespread symbol of the "All-in-All", the totality of existence, infinity and the cyclic nature of the cosmos. The most well known version of this is the Aegypto-Greek Ourobouros. It is believed to have been inspired by the Milky Way , as some ancient texts refer to a serpent of light residing in the heavens. The Ancient Egyptians associated it with Wadjet , one of their oldest deities as well as another aspect, Hathor. Vishnu resting on Ananta-Shesha, with Lakshmi massaging his "lotus feet" In Hindu mythology Lord Vishnu is said to sleep while floating on the cosmic waters on the serpent Shesha. In the Puranas Shesha holds all the planets of the universe on his hoods and constantly sings the glories of Vishnu from all his mouths. He is sometimes referred to as "Ananta-Shesha," which means "Endless Shesha". In the Samudra manthan chapter of the Puranas, Shesha loosens Mount Mandara for it to be used as a churning rod by the Asuras and Devas to churn the ocean of milk in the heavens in order to make Soma or Amrita , the divine elixir of immortality. As a churning rope another giant serpent called Vasuki is used. In pre-Columbian Central America Quetzalcoatl was sometimes depicted as biting its own tail. The mother of Quetzalcoatl was the Aztec goddess Coatlicue "the one with the skirt of serpents" , also known as Cihuacoatl "The Lady of the serpent". He was identified with the Milky Way, the stars and the heavens in several Mesoamerican cultures. The demigod Aidophedo of the West African Ashanti is also a serpent biting its own tail. In Dahomey mythology of Benin in West Africa, the serpent that supports everything on its many coils was named Dan. Aida-Wedo, Aido Quedo, "Rainbow-Serpent" is a spirit of fertility, rainbows and snakes, and a companion or wife to Dan, the father of all spirits. Because of his association with snakes, he is sometimes disguised as Moses, who carried a snake on his staff. He is also thought by many to be the same entity of Saint Patrick , known as a snake banisher. The serpent Hydra is a star constellation representing either the serpent thrown angrily into the sky by Apollo or the Lernaean Hydra as defeated by Heracles for one of his Twelve Labors. The constellation Serpens represents a snake being tamed by Ophiuchus the snake-handler, another constellation. The most probable interpretation is that Ophiuchus represents the healer Asclepius. Dragons[edit] An ancient painting of Nuwa and Fuxi unearthed in Xinjiang This section does not cite any sources. July Learn how and when to remove this template message Occasionally, serpents and dragons are used interchangeably, having similar symbolic functions. The venom of the serpent is thought to have a fiery quality similar to a fire spitting dragon. In Germanic mythology , serpent Old English:

9: Leaders- Be As Wise As a Serpent - How Ghana

The serpent "una delle prime canzoni che i Genesis hanno pubblicato all' interno del loro album From Genesis to Revelation. Ecco il testo. Dark nights, the planets are set Creator prepares for.

As sheep in the midst of wolves. The position of the disciples would be as sheep surrounded by a flock of hungry and raging wolves, the wolf being here, as elsewhere in the New Testament, the symbol of the persecutor. Paul "caught men with guile" 2Corinthians Once again truth appears in the form of paradox. The disciples of Christ are to be at once supremely guileful and absolutely guileless. In and by that Spirit the two qualities that seem so contradictory are reconciled. Pulpit Commentary Verses The subdivisions of this section are after ver. Verse a, parallel passage: He calls their attention. I send you forth. In this I lies the germ of vers. But Peter answered and said unto him, What then, if the wolves should tear the lambs? Jesus saith unto Peter, Let not the lambs fear the wolves after they [the lambs] are dead. The prudence of the serpent is specially apparent in the quickness of its perception of danger and the rapidity with which it escapes from it. Kubel gives Matthew And harmless as doves. It is thus not active, but passive. Matthew Henry Commentary They were to avoid all things which gave advantage to their enemies, all meddling with worldly or political concerns, all appearance of evil or selfishness, and all underhand measures. Christ foretold troubles, not only that the troubles might not be a surprise, but that they might confirm their faith. He tells them what they should suffer, and from whom. Thus Christ has dealt fairly and faithfully with us, in telling us the worst we can meet with in his service; and he would have us deal so with ourselves, in sitting down and counting the cost. Persecutors are worse than beasts, in that they prey upon those of their own kind. The strongest bonds of love and duty, have often been broken through from enmity against Christ. Sufferings from friends and relations are very grievous; nothing cuts more. It appears plainly, that all who will live godly in Christ Jesus must suffer persecution; and we must expect to enter into the kingdom of God through many tribulations. With these predictions of trouble, are counsels and comforts for a time of trial. Be ye harmless as doves. Not only, do nobody any hurt, but bear nobody any ill-will. Prudent care there must be, but not an anxious, perplexing thought; let this care be cast upon God. The disciples of Christ must think more how to do well, than how to speak well. In case of great peril, the disciples of Christ may go out of the way of danger, though they must not go out of the way of duty. The fear of man brings a snare, a perplexing snare, that disturbs our peace; an entangling snare, by which we are drawn into sin; and, therefore, it must be striven and prayed against. Fear Him, who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. They must deliver their message publicly, for all are deeply concerned in the doctrine of the gospel. The whole counsel of God must be made known, Ac Christ shows them why they should be of good cheer. Their sufferings witnessed against those who oppose his gospel. When God calls us to speak for him, we may depend on him to teach us what to say. A believing prospect of the end of our troubles, will be of great use to support us under them. They may be borne to the end, because the sufferers shall be borne up under them. The strength shall be according to the day. See how the care of Providence extends to all creatures, even to the sparrows. And the very hairs of your head are all numbered. This denotes the account God takes and keeps of his people. It is our duty, not only to believe in Christ, but to profess that faith, in suffering for him, when we are called to it, as well as in serving him. That denial of Christ only is here meant which is persisted in, and that confession only can have the blessed recompence here promised, which is the real and constant language of faith and love. Religion is worth every thing; all who believe the truth of it, will come up to the price, and make every thing else yield to it. Christ will lead us through sufferings, to glory with him. Those are best prepared for the life to come, that sit most loose to this present life. Christ does not say that they deserve a reward; for we cannot merit any thing from the hand of God; but they shall receive a reward from the free gift of God. Let us boldly confess Christ, and show love to him in all things.

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