



# Magdalene's Lost Legacy: Symbolic Numbers and the Sacred Union in Christianity

By Margaret Starbird

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In *Magdalene's Lost Legacy*, author Margaret Starbird decodes the symbolic numbers embedded in the original Greek phrases of the New Testament--revealing the powerful presence of the feminine divine.

The New Testament contains wide use of *gematria*, a literary device that allows the sums of certain phrases to produce sacred numbers. Exploring the hidden meanings behind these numbers, Starbird reveals that the union between Jesus and his bride, Mary Magdalene, formed a sacred partnership that was the cornerstone of the earliest Christian community.

*Magdalene's Lost Legacy* demonstrates how the crucial teaching of the sacred marriage that unites masculine and feminine principles--the *heiros gamos*--is the partnership model for life on our planet and the ultimate blueprint for civilization. Starbird's research challenges the concept that Christ was celibate and establishes Mary Magdalene as the human incarnation of the sacred bride. The author also explains the true meaning of the "666" prophesied in the Book of Revelation. Through this potent reclaiming of the lost legacy of Mary Magdalene, Margaret Starbird offers the opportunity to restore the divine feminine to her rightful role as bride, beloved, and sacred partner.

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**Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #902867 in eBooks
- Published on: 2003-05-05
- Released on: 2012-03-08
- Format: Kindle eBook

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"Margaret Starbird fearlessly explores the symbols and the hidden clues within the scriptures of the sacred union. . . . Starbird writes eloquently and convincingly, laying the facts before us and allowing us to come to our own conclusions about these wonderful and secret teachings." (*Lesley Crossingham, New Dawn, Jan-Feb 2006*)

"Recommended for academic libraries serving women's studies programs and for public libraries where patrons are interested in Christian women throughout the ages." (*Gary P. Gillum, Library Journal, July 2003*)

"Through her decoding, Starbird reveals the powerful presence of the feminine divinity in religion where it has been almost erased." (*Network for Women's Spirituality, Sept/Oct/Nov 2003*)

"Margaret Starbird's work is of particular interest to me because it fuses the diverse fields of symbolism, mythology, art, heraldry, psychology, and gospel history. Her research opens doors for each of us to further explore the rich iconography of our own spiritual history." (*Dan Brown, author of The Da Vinci Code*)

#### From the Back Cover

#### ANCIENT MYSTERIES / CREATION SPIRITUALITY

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MARGARET STARBIRD holds a master's degree from the University of Maryland and has studied at the Christian Albrechts Universität in Kiel, Germany, and at Vanderbilt Divinity School. She is the author of *The Woman with the Alabaster Jar: Mary Magdalene and the Holy Grail* and *The Goddess in the Gospels*. She lives with her family in the Puget Sound area of Washington State.

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