18. “Here is wisdom. He that hath understanding let him  
count the number of the Wild Beast; for it is the number of a  
man, and his number is six hundred sixty and six.”  
  
 “Here is wisdom.” That is, the problem is a difficult one. It is this—“Given the sum of the figures  
which are the equivalents of the letters, to find the  
name.” As if God had said by Isaiah—“The number  
of the name of Messiah is 888. Find out the name  
from this datum.”  
 Many words possessing significance may be found  
out answering to this number. But few fulfil the conditions. Few, if any, are *proper names of men*. “Apostatees,” “Romiith,” “Titan,” and so on, are not names  
of men. “Evanthes,” “Kosroes,” “Latinus,” are names  
of men. But none of this name was ever *King of Rome*.  
 Wisdom, then, and the knowledge of God’s purposes  
will be shown, by the discovery of the true name.  
Some indeed have despised this key, as unworthy.  
But it is wisdom with God; whatever the worldly  
wise, whose wisdom is contemptible with God, may say.  
The astronomer who computes from a portion of its  
orbit the whole circuit and distance of a comet, is  
justly reckoned a man of understanding. But no  
comet ever so powerfully affected our system of worlds,  
as this dread Deceiver will affect mankind. The *perdition of souls unnumbered is bound up with him*.  
 1. “It is the number of a man.”1  
  
1 One has observed, that the words τὸ μέγα θηρίον [The Great  
Wild Beast] contain the number 666.  
  
Τ .. 300 Μ .. 40 Θ .. 9

Ο .. 70 Ε .. 5 Η .. 8

Γ .. 3 Ρ .. 100

Α .. 1 Ι .. 10

Ο .. 70

Ν .. 50

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666

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