



WELCOME TO BIBLE HOUSE OF GRACE

If you think items presented on this site to be in error, please let me know and I will gladly reconsider the content.

Uu

Bible Dictionary And Various Biblical Meanings

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

UNBELIEVERS

Unbelievers (*Greek apistos*) means disbelieving (i.e. without Christian faith) (especially a heathen). It also carries the idea of being an untrustworthy person; a person that does not believe; the faithless and an infidel.

UNCLEAN

Unclean (*Greek akathartos*) means impure, evil, foul, disgusting, offensive, repulsive, gross and nasty, in a moral sense it carries the idea of being unclean in thought and life and in a ceremonial sense it applies to that which must be abstained from according, to the Levitical law.

Unclean in the Old Testament: a person was considered unclean if they touched an unclean bird, animal, fish or were drinking strong drink and a woman that gave birth to a male child and people with leprosy were considered unclean. The land was considered unclean because of the people's uncleanness and people who touched a dead body killed in battle or a bone or a grave were considered unclean. Sin is identified with uncleanness and an unclean spirit is identified with idols and false prophets. The uncircumcised, the Gentiles and anything not Jewish was considered unclean. A person could become unclean by defiling themselves, ethically, sexually, religiously, ceremonially or by ritual or idolatry. No unclean person was to enter the house of the LORD. Unclean in the Old Testament is not the same as saying the people are unsaved as in most verses the word unclean is referring to God's chosen people Israel.

Unclean in the New Testament: during Jesus generation, the Jews considered Gentiles unclean, meaning without God, without forgiveness and without redemption. Unclean does not always relate to moral sin, but has a wider meaning that embraces anything that it is not of God (i.e., false doctrines are called unclean spirits and idols or anything that is opposed to God is called unclean). The people of Jesus generation believed that mental sickness or disorders, including blindness, deafness and any other sickness they did not understand were a result of demon (daimon) possession. Throughout the New Testament demons and unclean spirits are often used in the same story as interchangeable terms because they carry the same meaning.

Jesus spoke to the physical sicknesses saying be healed and the people were healed by the spoken word of Jesus in the same way Jesus speaks to illnesses people believed to be caused by evil gods called demons or unclean spirits saying come or depart, and the person was healed. It was Jesus' word that had the power to heal sickness regardless of what people believed caused the sickness.

Unclean in some contexts in the New Testament can mean unsaved because both unclean and unsaved carry the idea of being separated from God. In other contexts, the word unclean and unsaved means the same as the word common referring to the population at large contrasted to the privileged, the rich or those with authority.

Unclean spirit: can be a virus or infection that the people didn't understand and couldn't see, people thought Jesus had an unclean spirit and understood that to be a devil, this shows that just because people believed something in the New Testament it does not mean they were correct or even that the thing they believed in existed.

Unclean does not always mean sexual sin: it can imply that a person is exposed to disease, the Old Testament laws for uncleanness was to protect the people from the spread of disease in the camp (Num. 9:9-10). For further information see the titles:

- Common and unclean in the Old and New Testament, and Demons, both titles are in, Satan and his Family (ON WEBSITE MENU).

UNCOVERED

Uncovered means, unveiled.

UNDER

In Scriptures, the expression, "under the earth," when used figuratively can represent nations.

UNDERSTAND

Understand means, comprehend, heed, consider, perceive and think to understand a thing. It carries the idea of exercising the mind and observing something that is difficult to perceive and hard to be understood.

UNDERSTANDING

Understanding means, prudent, careful, sensible, and discreet and carries the idea of understanding and considering a thing, which are all summed up in the word, wise as the following verse shows.

- Whoever gets sense (getteth wisdom) loves his own soul; he who keeps understanding will discover good. (Proverbs 19:8).

Understanding is having the ability:

- To perceive and explain the meaning or the nature of somebody or something.
- To gain a better understanding of a situation, circumstance or a person.
- To grasp a belief, opinion or the reasoning of another person.
- To perceive and comprehend any given situation or circumstance.
- To recognize somebody else's character, nature or situation and be sympathetic, empathetic, or tolerant.

Good will come to the life of whoever possess and keeps these qualities, because they will not only be favoured by those who know them, but also be greatly valued by any employer, organisation or church etc. See also the title, "Sense (The Meaning of Good Sense), in this Bible Dictionary.

UNEQUALLY

Unequally yoked means, to yoke up differently, to associate discordantly and unevenly; to yoke together with; to join especially by a yoke; to confine, shackle or constrain). It carries the idea of coupling or joining something to servitude, to a law or to an obligation.

The word unicorn comes from the Hebrew word (*re'em*) it literally means to rise-up and carries the idea of attracting special attention and being easily seen noticed and readily visible. It is impossible to determine precisely what sort of creature is and because of this there has been a great diversity of opinion among interpreters as to what kind of animal the unicorn was, some say, the rhinoceros, a large and fierce species of the antelope and the wild buffalo.

Since there is so much controversy over what animal the unicorn was (and most likely will forever be), the best way for us to discover what the unicorn might be is to look at the following eight Scriptures that use the word unicorn in their surrounding context with the intention of discovering common characteristics.

1. His (Joseph's) glory is like the firstling of his bullock (*showr*) and his horns are like the horns of unicorns (*re'em*): with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth: and they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh. (Deut. 33:17).

In this verse the unicorn comes from the Hebrew word (*re'em*) and means a wild bull (from the fact it is easily seen, noticed and readily visible and observable to the eye) it carries the idea of being lifted-up. The word bullock comes from the Hebrew word (*showr*) and can refer to a bullock, cow or ox. It carries the idea of a traveller. It also comes from the Hebrew word (*par*) this also refers to a bullock, but it carries the idea of breaking forth in wild strength and figuratively to violate, frustrate, break, cast off or cause to cease and utterly make void (it can also refer to a young bull, a calf or an ox). Unicorn in this verse is used in the context of prophetic language. The strength of the unicorn is in its horns they are so powerful they can not only push multitudes of people together, but also push them to the ends of the earth. Whatever animal the unicorn was it is presented here as a symbol of royal power and mighty strength such as Joseph had.

2. God brought them out of Egypt; he hath as it were the strength of an unicorn (*re'em*). (Numbers 23:22).

Unicorn in this verse is used in the context of poetic language. Here the unicorn had such mighty strength it was, able to deliver Israel out of the bondage of Egypt. Whatever animal the unicorn was it is presented here as a symbol of God's power and mighty strength to deliver the people of Israel from the slavery of Egypt.

3. King Balak called Balaam to curse his enemy Israel, but instead of cursing Balaam lifted up his eyes and said: ⁷He (Israel) shall pour the water out of his buckets, and his seed shall be in many waters, and his king shall be higher than Agag, and his kingdom shall be exalted. ⁸God brought him (Israel) forth out of Egypt; he (Israel) hath as it were the strength of an unicorn: he shall eat up the nations his enemies, and shall break their bones, and pierce them through with his arrows. ⁹He (Israel), couched, he lay down as a lion, and as a great lion: who shall stir him up? Blessed is he that blesseth thee, and cursed is he that curseth thee. ¹⁰And Balak's anger was kindled against Balaam, and he smote his hands together: and Balak said unto Balaam, I called thee to curse mine enemies, and, behold, thou hast altogether blessed them these three times. (Num. 24:1-10).

Unicorn in this verse is used in the context of prophetic language. The unicorn is likened to something that has such mighty strength it is, able to eat up nations, meaning destroy and break them in pieces. It is used in the context of the seed of Israel and their king and his kingdom being highly exalted and in war utterly conquering his enemies and nations. Whatever animal the unicorn was it is presented here as a symbol of Israel's king and his royal power and mighty strength being so great that he is, able to destroy all nations that would come against his kingdom.

4. Will the unicorn (re'em) be willing to serve thee, or abide by thy crib? ¹⁰Canst thou bind the unicorn (re'em) with his band in the furrow? or will he harrow the valleys after thee? ¹¹Wilt thou trust him, because his strength is great? or wilt thou leave thy labour to him? (Job 39:9-11).

Here the LORD is speaking to Job. The question, "Will the unicorn lay by your crib (i.e., manger or stall) as tame or common animals do," carries the idea that the unicorn will not suffer himself to be tied or confined all night and kept to work the next day as domestic animals do? Whatever animal the unicorn was it is presented here as something of such great strength and power that it could not be tamed or bought into submission to man and therefore could not be trusted to be left alone to labour in the fields. The idea is, if Job cannot even tame and rule such a creature how much less should God who governs the world explain and justify Himself to him.

5. Save me (David) from the lion's mouth: for thou hast heard me from the horns of the unicorns. (Psalm 22:21).

Unicorn in this verse is used in the context of poetic language. It is in the context of David praying, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Many strong bulls of Bashan have compassed me and gaped upon me with their mouths as ravening and roaring lions. Dogs have compassed me and the assembly of the wicked have pierced my hands and my feet and parted my garments among them and cast lots upon my vesture. Deliver my soul from the sword; my darling from the power of the dog and then David says: "Save me from the lion's mouth: for thou hast heard me from the horns of the unicorns. (Psalm 22:11-21). In this Psalm bulls, lions and dogs all represent the wicked not the actual animal, likewise the unicorn represents the strength of David's prayer and by extension Christ's prayer on the bloodstained cross of Calvary.

Throughout Scripture the unicorn commonly represents power and strength and it continues to do so in the context of these verses. David's words, "thou hast heard me from the horns of the unicorns," carry the following idea, "O LORD I have prayed with all the strength that my heart and mind can muster, I have no more I am emptied in my cry for your deliverance from the lion's mouth (the wicked) to save me. In the same way that the lion is a symbol of the wicked the unicorn is used as a symbol to highlight the strength of emotion and the deep cry of David's (and by extension Christ's) heartfelt prayer.

4

6. The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. ⁵The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon. ⁶He maketh them also to skip like a calf; Lebanon and Sirion like a young unicorn (re'em). (Psalm 29:4-6).

Unicorn in this verse is used in the context of poetic language. It is in the context of the voice of the LORD being so powerful and full of majesty that it is, able to make the cedars of Lebanon skip like calves and young unicorns. The picture of young animals skipping carries the idea that they are full of joy and happiness. Whatever animal the unicorn was it is presented here as a symbol of overwhelming joy and happiness.

7. For lo, thine enemies O LORD shall perish; all the workers of iniquity shall be scattered. ¹⁰But my horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil. Psalm 92:9-10).

Unicorn in this verse is used in the context of poetic language. This is in the context of the Psalmist giving thanks to the LORD on the Sabbath Day and singing praises to the name of the Most High. The expression, "My horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of a unicorn," most likely refers to the Psalmist seat of authority and power, he is saying that he will again be exalted to his rightful place of power and authority. It could refer to King David or some other royal king that had been bought to

ruin, but knew they would again be established to their kingly authority and dominion, of which the horn of a unicorn was an appropriate symbol. Whatever animal the unicorn was it is presented here as an animal of such regal and royal standing faithful men desired to attain to its majestic and noble status.

8. The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, *and* with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the LORD hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea. ⁷And the unicorns (*r'el'em*) shall come down with them, and the bullocks (*par*) with the bulls (*'abbiyr*); and their land shall be soaked with blood, and their dust made fat with fatness. ⁸For *it is* the day of the LORD'S vengeance, for the controversy of Zion. (Isaiah 34:6-8)

Bull: comes from the Hebrew word (*'abbiyr*) it literally means chiefest one, mighty one, strong one, valiant one and strong of heart and can refer to an angel or a bull.

Unicorn in this verse is used in the context of prophetic language. In this group of verses the bullocks and bulls symbolise the chief rulers and their most powerful armies, while the unicorn symbolises the most exalted powerful kings and their royal kingdoms. Isaiah is saying that the most powerful of the nations will be slaughtered on the Day of the LORD'S Judgment. Horn or horns speak of the principal seat of strength, and the instruments of assault and defence. It appears that the horn of the unicorn was considered to have some unique and special majesty and dignity, power and dominion that not only attracted attention, but also surpassed the beauty and power of all other animals.

Whatever animal the unicorn was it is presented as surpassing the beauty of all other animals and being so powerful it:

- Could refer to a wild ox, bull or buffalo.
- Could push multitudes of people to the ends of the earth.
- Could deliver Israel out of the bondage of Egypt.
- Could not be tamed by anyone (as common animals were tamed).
- Could not be tied or confined or bought into submission to man.
- Could eat up nations (meaning destroy and break them in pieces).

It is often used to symbolise:

- Mighty strength and power of kings, emperors, princes, nobles and God.
- The tribe of Ephraim, a godly man, the super the rich and those who have power and pre-eminence over others.
- The instrument of assault and defence.
- Overwhelming joy and happiness.
- The principal seat of authority strength, power and dominion.
- The most exalted powerful kings and their royal kingdoms.
- Royal power or some unique and special majesty and dignity and dominion.
- Israel's king and his royal power and mighty strength being so great that he is, able to destroy all nations.

CONCLUSION: The word unicorn is mostly used in poetic and prophetic language. It is very difficult to determine from Scripture what animal the unicorn is since no animal seems to meet all the characteristics perfectly. For this reason, it is pointless to spend more time attempting to find the answer to the question, "What animal was the unicorn?" It could have been some ancient animal that became extinct with the dinosaurs, a

mythical creature that held a high place of esteem in the mind of man at that time or simply applies in certain verses to a bull or ox, because of their great strength and in other verses is used as a symbol of the strength and power of such animals and at other times a symbol of a king's royal power or the LORDS majestic power and dominion over all things. Perhaps rather than try to determine what type of animal the unicorn was a better idea would be to focus on its essential nature, rather than suppose what the person using it in Scripture had in mind, especially since it is not needful to be known whether there ever was such a creature or whether it refers to some other animal, since it is its character that is the focus of the writers and what is important.

UPBUILDING

Upbuilding (edify in KJV) means to build an edifice especially a roof or housetop it refers to architecture or a structure and figuratively carries the idea of confirmation and acceptance.

URIM

Urim (*Hebrew 'Uwriym*) means lights and refers to the oracular brilliancy of the figures in the high-priest's breastplate.

UNVEILED

Unveiled (open in KJV) means to unveil, open or take away. It carries the idea of reversal.

US

The word us can carry any of the following meanings, do, make, deal, commit, offer, execute, keep, prepare, work, perform, get, to do, fashion, accomplish, to do work, produce, prepare, attend put in order, observe, celebrate, to deal or act with effect, to appoint, ordain, institute or bring about, to be done, made, produced, offered, observed or used.

USURP

Usurp carries the idea of usurping authority over another, to dominate others for one's own gain.

UTTERANCE

Utterance (word in the KJV) refers to the spoken word.

UTTERMOST

The word, uttermost refers to the entire completion of the whole in every way, to thoroughly make whatsoever or whosoever whole. It carries the idea of setting out for a definite point or goal and reaching the point aimed at as the final limit or conclusion.

UTTERMOST SEA

See the title:

- Rivers and Seas

In Map Locations and People of the Bible (ON WEBSITE MENU).

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.

Bible House of Grace