



**WELCOME  
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BIBLE HOUSE  
OF  
GRACE**

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**Mm**

**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.

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**MADE**


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Made (*Greek ginomai*) means to cause to be, to generate, to become, to come into being, to be assembled, to be brought to pass, to come to pass, to continue, be ended, be finished, be fulfilled, to grow, happen, be kept, be made, be married, be ordained to be performed, be published and be revealed. Made (*Greek asphalizo*) to render secure and make fast and sure. Made (*Greek poieo*) to make or do, to abide, agree, appoint, band together, bear and bring forth. it carries two meanings firstly, to create in relation to material things and secondly, to receive in relation to people. Made (*Greek prasso*) to practice (i.e. perform repeatedly or habitually). Made (*Greek phaneroo*) to appear, declare and openly manifest and to publicly bring forth. Made (*Greek phaneros*) means shining externally and carries the idea of appearing openly and making oneself known. Generally, speaking it is the context of the verse that determines the meaning of the word made and not the word itself.

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**MAGIC**


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**Magic (from the Bible dictionary)** the word magic originally referred to the science of art of the Magi, the Persian priestly caste, who, like the Levites, were devoted to the practice of religion. With the wide extension of the term magus, the word magic, too acquired broader significance. It came to refer to all occult rituals or processes deigned to influence or control the course of nature, to dominate men or circumstances by the alliance, aid, or use of supernatural powers, and generally to tap and to employ the forces of an unseen world. Divination, the art of forecasting the future with a view to avoiding the perils and pitfalls, might be included under the same classification. Its methods were frequently magic. Magic arts and practises were associated with paganism and with religion, idols and the worship and belief in other gods. This is one of the primary reasons the Bible prohibits all forms of magic, wizardry and sorcery. (Exod. 22:18) (Lev. 19:26) (Lev. 20:27) (Deut. 18:10-11).

It was part of the advanced wisdom of the Mosaic law to protect the Hebrew race from being enticed by the religion of the surrounding pagan nations and to show that superstition and the practice of the occult was an abomination to God and a perversion to true faith and genuine prophecy. Magician (Sorcerer in KJV) comes from the word (*magos*) of foreign origin (Hebrew (Rab-Mag)). It can refer to a magician as an Oriental scientist and by implication a magician as a sorcerer (considered by many to be a wise man). Magician (*Hebrew Rab-Mag*) refers to a chief magician and a Babylonian official (Jer. 39:3, 13).

**Sorcery** (witchcraft in KJV) (*Greek pharmakeia and pharmakeus*) embraces medication (pharmacy), magic, sorcery or witchcraft and by extension, a drug, or spell-giving potion, (i.e., a druggist and pharmacist) or poisoner. Today it would be one who pushes or sells mind altering drugs. Sorcery (*Greek Magos*) refers to one who claimed to have supernatural power or knowledge, he often used magic potions and considered to be in league with evil forces. The practice of sorcery was widespread in ancient times (Exod. 7:11) and was regarded an evil practice for Israel (Isaiah 47:9) (Malachi 3:5). Practice of the occult arts was prevalent in New Testament days. Simon of Samaria used sorcery, but was converted under Philip (Acts 8:9-13), and Paul and Barnabas found a sorcerer in Paphos. (Acts 13:8-11).

**Witchcraft:** (*Hebrew qecem*) refers to a lot, divination (including its fee), an oracle or divine sentence, to determine by lot or magical scroll and by implication a soothsayer and to divine.

**Divine:** (*Hebrew nachash*) means to hiss (i.e. whisper a magic spell), generally to predict or foretell future events (divine, enchant and enchantments).

**Divination:** (*Hebrew qecem and qacam*) a lot (including its fee) or an oracle with reward (enchant, enchantments), to determine by lot, magical scroll or oracle and by implication to divine a sentence, a soothsayer (somebody telling or predicting the future) (witchcraft).

**Divination from the English Dictionary:** seeking knowledge by supernatural means: the methods or practice of attempting to foretell the future or discover the unknown through omens, oracles, or supernatural powers. A prophecy, prediction or premonition meaning, a feeling of foreboding about something that is going to happen.

**Enchanters:** (*Hebrew `anan*) to cover; to cloud over; figurative to act covertly (i.e. practise magic, and observer of times, soothsayer, sorcerer).

**Enchantment from Bible Dictionary:** the use of any form of magic, including divination. Several Hebrew and Greek words, variously translated, occur. All forms of enchantment were forbidden God's people (Deut. 18:10) (Acts 8:9 11) (Acts 8, 10) (Acts 19:19).

**Enchanters from English Dictionary:** to charm, delight, or captivate somebody, to put a person under spell.

**Soothsayer:** (*Hebrew qacam*) to distribute, (i.e. determine by lot or magical scroll), by implication to divine (divination).

**Soothsayer from English Dictionary:** fortune-teller, one who speaks oracles and astrologer, Clairvoyant and mystic. (especially one who proclaims happy endings).

**Magicians and wise men:** the word magicians can refer to:

- The sacred scribes who were skilled in writing and reading hieroglyphics (i.e., mysterious symbols).
- Those whose employment it was to discover secret and future things by the observation of the stars or by other superstitious practices.
- The occult priests who believed they had insight into the mysterious secrets of the gods, the host of heaven and of nature.
- Those who professed to discover the secrets of future things, either by consulting the stars or by other superstitious practices.

**The wise men:** it is difficult to define the exact distinction between magicians and wise men; it seems they formed different branches of a numerous body of various kinds of mystics, who believed they had supernatural skill in revealing mysteries, explaining secrets and symbols and in interpreting dreams. The wise men were called so because they were educated men and probably men of wealth and noble standing who often made happy predictions concerning future things.

However, both the magicians and wise men practiced some form of magic, divination, astrology (as in reading the stars to discern future events) or the interpretation of dreams, the practise of soothsaying (proclaiming happy endings), or the performing of other occultist practises. By these mystic practises they were not only esteemed as men of great spiritual insight among the kings, the Pharaoh's and people of Egypt, but also gained much fame and wealth.

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## MALICE

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Malice means, wickedness, evil, badness, depravity, malignity, trouble, disobedience, depraved, injurious, harm and noisome. It carries the idea of thinking ill will toward a person and wishing them harm.

**The two natures of man:** the spirit and the conscience can be seen, as the higher or spiritual nature while the flesh and the instinct to survive and breed can be seen, as the lower or natural nature.

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**MANDRAKES**

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Mandrakes, are a member of the potato family, the mandrake is also called "love-apple." The apples, although insipid tasting and slightly poisonous, are much desired as an edible fruit. The mandrake root is large, sometimes resembling the human body in shape. It was used as an edible fruit and as a charm against the evil spirits and as indicated by the story of Rachel and Leah was credited with aphrodisiac qualities. (Gen 30:14-16). Rachel allows Leah to Lie with Jacob in Exchange for Reuben's Mandrakes.

- In the days of wheat harvest Reuben went and found mandrakes in the field and brought them to his mother Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, "Please give me some of your son's mandrakes." <sup>15</sup>But she said to her, "Is it a small matter that you have taken away my husband? Would you take away my son's mandrakes also?" Rachel said, "Then he may lie with you tonight in exchange for your son's mandrakes." (Gen. 30:14-15).

**Mandrakes: comes from the Hebrew** word (*duwday*) it literally means boiling and to boil it can refer to caldron and a kettle for boiling as seething pots or to a basket. Figuratively it carries the idea of an aphrodisiac as a token of love and to love and a lover, but can also refer to a well-beloved friend, an uncle or father's brother. The fact Reuben found the mandrakes in a field shows that they are a plant (Gen. 30:14-15). They are mentioned in the Song of Solomon:

- The mandrakes give forth fragrance, and beside our doors are all choice fruits, new as well as old, which I have laid up for you, O my beloved. (Song 7:13).

In this verse the mandrakes are in the context of the king being captivated by a beautiful woman who he describes as his beloved whose eyes are like pools in Heshbon; her mouth like the best wine; her thighs rounded like jewels; her belly encircled with lilies and her two breasts like twins of a gazelle. (Song 7:1-13). A mandrake was a common plant that grew all over Palestine and Mesopotamia. Even today it still grows near Jerusalem and in other parts of Palestine. It has a thick upright root that is usually forked and often resembles human figures. Its flowers are purple and bell-shaped and its berries grow to about the size of a small apple and are yellow, and pale orange in colour. Though the fruit has a sweetish taste they are too poisonous to be used as everyday food. The plant contains stimulating narcotic properties and when used in small quantities like opium it excites the nerves and acts as a stimulant. It has been called by the Arabs, the love-apple and Satan's apple or the devils apple, because of its narcotic power to excite voluptuousness (sensuous enjoyment and pleasure). Mandrakes, have also been associated with a variety of superstitious practices throughout history and long been used in magic spells, rituals and pagan traditions and by the ancients was commonly known to be an aphrodisiac. The fruit of the mandrake plant is even to this day believed by some to promote fruitfulness of the womb. It is for this purpose Rachel desired to obtain them from Leah. (Gen. 30:14-15).

**Please give me some of your son's mandrakes:** (Gen. 30:14) up to this point Rachel has given no birth to infants from her own womb, so it is very likely that she believed that the mandrakes had the power to make her fruitful and, also thought that Leah's fruitfulness was partly due to her eating small portions of the plant. Rachel was so desperate to have these mandrakes she offers to give her husband to Leah for the night. (From this night Leah conceived and gave birth to Isaac).

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## MANGER

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Manger (*Greek pateomai*) means to eat and refers to a trough for food and to a stall for cattle (Luke 2:7, 12, 16) (Luke 13:15).

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## MANNA

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**Introduction to manna:** when the people of Israel were in the wilderness of Sin (Exod. 16:1) all of Israel accused Moses and Aaron of killing them with hunger (Exod. 16:3), so the LORD said He would rain bread from heaven (Exod. 16:4). The people of Israel were to gather manna for six days (Exod. 16:26) and not to leave any of it over till the morning (Exod. 16:19). They were only to gather as much as each person was able, to eat for the day (Exod. 16:16).

There would be no manna on the seventh day (the Sabbath Day) (Exod. 16:25, 30). On the sixth day, the LORD would give Israel bread for two days (Exod. 16:29) so they were to gather twice as much as they gathered on the other days of the week (Exod. 16:5). The extra manna they took for the Sabbath Day (Saturday) would not stink or breed worms (Exod. 16:24) as the manna did for the other six days of the week if the people tried to store it up for the next day (Exod. 16:20).

**The LORD'S purpose for the manna:** the LORD would use the manna to test Israel to see whether they would walk in His law or not (Exod. 16:4). He fed Israel with manna so that He might humble Israel and test them, to do them good in the end (Deut. 8:16). God humbled Israel and let them hunger then fed them with manna, so that He might make Israel know that man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD (Deut. 8:3).

**Israel's disobedience regarding the manna:** some of the people of Israel rebelled against the word of the LORD and stored some of the manna for the morning, but it bred worms and stank (Exod. 16:20) and on the seventh day some people disobeyed God and went out to get manna on the Sabbath Day, but they found none (Exod. 16:27) thus Israel failed the test to obey the word of the LORD (Exod. 16:28).

**Manna was like:** white coriander seed (Exod. 16:31) and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey (Exod. 16:31). Every morning they had manna to eat and, in the evening, they had quail to eat (Exod. 16:13-14). Israel ate manna forty years, till they came to the border of Canaan (Exod. 16:35). The day after Israel ate of the produce of the land of Canaan the manna stopped (Joshua 5:12).

**SUMMARY:** when the people of Israel were in the wilderness of Sin (Exod. 16:1) all of Israel accused Moses and Aaron of killing them with hunger (Exod. 16:3) so the LORD said He would rain bread from heaven (Exod. 16:4). During their forty years in the wilderness every morning they had manna to eat (Exod. 16:13) and in the evening, they had quail to eat (Exod. 16:13). They ate manna for forty years, but the day after they ate of the produce of the land of Canaan the manna stopped (Joshua 5:12). Manna was like white coriander seed (Exod. 16:31) and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey (Exod. 16:31).

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## MANSIONS

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Mansions (*Greek mone and meno*) means, a staying it can refer to a residence, an abode or a mansion or to the act of staying in them. Figuratively it carries the idea of abiding in a place in a state of expectancy.

**Original manuscripts:** the printing of the original manuscripts were either all capitals or all lower case, therefore there were no capital (*H*) for him or he, a simple rule is to use lower case when the Scripture is referring to Jesus and upper case for God.

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## MARANATHA

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Maranatha is of Chaldean origin (meaning our Lord has come); it is an exclamation of the approaching divine judgment.

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## MARRIAGE

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**Israel and mixed marriages:** the problem in the Old Testament with mixed marriages concerning Israel was that eventually everyone merges as one people and Israel loses their identity, their inheritance and their faith. The Old Testament Law commanded the Israelites not to engage in interracial marriage.

- You shall not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons, <sup>4</sup>for they would turn away your sons from following me, to serve other gods. Then the anger of the LORD would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly. (Deut. 7:3-4).

The reason for this command was not skin colour or ethnicity, but rather for religious reasons. God commanded Israel against interracial marriage because the people of the other races were worshippers of false gods. God was fully aware that the Israelites would be led astray from Him and their faith if they intermarried with idol worshippers, pagans, or heathens. The following verses of Malachi shows us that this is exactly what happened:

- The officials approached me (Ezra) and said, “The people of Israel and the priests and the Levites have not separated themselves from the peoples of the lands with their abominations, from the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites.” (Ezra 9:1)
- Judah has been faithless, and abomination has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem. For Judah has profaned the sanctuary of the LORD, which he loves, and has married the daughter of a foreign god. (Malachi 2:11)

**Raising up offspring for a widowed brother's wife:** under the Levitical law a brother was to go in to his widowed brother's wife and perform the duty of a brother-in-law and raise up offspring for his brother. (Gen. 38:8). The words, “Go in to your brother's wife,” in this context means cohabituate with her as his wife to bring forth children. It was at this time the custom for a brother next of age to do the duty of a husband for the wife of a brother who had died leaving his wife a widow and with no children. This custom was observed at this time amongst God's people, and later became part of the Levitical Law as the following verses show.

- If brothers dwell together, and one of them dies and has no son, the wife of the dead man shall not be married outside the family to a stranger. Her husband's brother shall go in to her and take her as his wife and perform the duty of a husband's brother to her. <sup>6</sup>And the first son whom she bears shall succeed to the name of his dead brother, that his name may not be blotted out of Israel. (Deut. 25:5-6).
- This is what the LORD commands concerning the daughters of Zelophehad, 'Let them marry whom they think best, only they shall marry within the clan of the tribe of their

father. <sup>7</sup>The inheritance of the people of Israel shall not be transferred from one tribe to another, for every one of the people of Israel shall hold on to the inheritance of the tribe of his fathers. (Num. 36:6-7).

- Moses said, “If a man dies having no children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up children for his brother.” (Matt. 22:24).

From, this story we learn that the Levitical law by which the brother of a dead husband was required to act as a husband to his deceased brothers’ widow to raise up an heir for her was practised long before the law of Moses. It was a custom that was incorporated among the Levitical laws of Moses to serve the following five purposes:

1. To prevent the extinction of any line of descent which was a matter of great importance.
2. To keep the inheritance of land in the tribe of the deceased brother.
3. So, that the deceased brothers’ line would continue to multiply through his widow’s wife.
4. To preserve the family bloodline since the child born by the brother of the wives deceased husband would have the name and inheritance of her deceased husband.
5. To guarantee that the widowed wife would have an heir to her deceased husband’s inheritance and in this way, the father’s family inheritance would be continued.

The Mosaic Law did not institute this custom, but confirmed and regulated it. It did allow the brother to refuse to act as a husband to his brothers widowed wife if he chose to do so, but the following verses show that it was considered a disgrace if he did refuse her.

- If brothers dwell together, and one of them dies and has no son, the wife of the dead man shall not be married outside the family to a stranger. Her husband's brother shall go in to her and take her as his wife and perform the duty of a husband's brother to her. <sup>6</sup>And the first son whom she bears shall succeed to the name of his dead brother, that his name may not be blotted out of Israel. <sup>7</sup>And if the man does not wish to take his brother's wife, then his brother's wife shall go up to the gate to the elders and say, 'My husband's brother refuses to perpetuate his brother's name in Israel; he will not perform the duty of a husband's brother to me.' <sup>8</sup>Then the elders of his city shall call him and speak to him, and if he persists, saying, 'I do not wish to take her,' <sup>9</sup>then his brother's wife shall go up to him in the presence of the elders and pull his sandal off his foot and spit in his face. And she shall answer and say, 'So shall it be done to the man who does not build up his brother's house.' <sup>10</sup>And the name of his house shall be called in Israel, 'The house of him who had his sandal pulled off.' (Deut. 25:5-10).

This practice and law was abolished in the New Testament.

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## MARKS

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Marks (*Hebrew qa`aqa`*) means an incision or gash. Marks (*Hebrew Qowa`*) carries the sense off cutting off or curtailing, limiting and restraining. Marks (*Greek stigma*) means to stick or prick, it can be a mark carved, punched or cut into for recognition of ownership or a scar of service.

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## MARRIAGE

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Marriage (*Hebrew `ownah*) means to sexually dwell together, to live together in a sexual relationship and to perform the duty of marriage (i.e., sexual intercourse). Marriage (*Greek gameo*) marry in KJV) means, to wed, of either sex or to marry a wife. The Britannica encyclopaedia states

that marriage is usually marked by a sharp increase in sexual activity, simply because sexual access is obviously easier for a married couple living together than for most single people, who tend to live apart from their partners. For many people, for reasons of religion or morality, sexual intercourse is permissible only after marriage, but for others, marriage simply makes sexual activity more convenient. For further information see the title:

- Betrothal, in Various Topics (ON WEBSITE MENU).

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## MARS HILL

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In the book of Act's, it is written:

- Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus (the midst of Mars' hill in KJV), said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious (too superstitious in KJV). (Acts 17:22).

Mars Hill (Greek Areios Pagos (Areopagus in ESV) is the name of the Greek deity of war. The rock of Ares is a place in Athens.

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## MATURE

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Mature (perfect in KJV) (*Greek telesphoreo*) literally applies to the full age of a person, but figuratively means to be complete in labour and growth and mental and moral character, etc. It carries the idea of setting out for a definite point or goal and reaching the conclusion and in some biblical contexts implies reaching the ultimate or prophetic purpose.

**Maturity:** (*Greek teleiotes*) (perfection in KJV) carries the idea of a finisher or one that completes the ideal.

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## MAZZAROTH

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Mazzaroth carries the sense of distinction (i.e., a noted constellation) only in the plural, perhaps collectively the zodiac.

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## MEASURE

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Measure (*Greek metron*) literally means, a measure and by implication a limited portion or degree.

**With the measure, you use, it will be measured to you:** Jesus said to his disciples, "With the measure you use, it will be measured to you and still more will be added to you. (Mark 4:24). When Jesus said this to his disciples, he had just told them not to hide the Gospel message of grace and mercy. In this context, what measure you use means to what measure you give grace and mercy to others. The more grace and mercy given to others the more grace and mercy one will receive from God. Jesus is telling those with him to take heed to what they are hearing, meaning embrace it. What measure they use means to what degree they act on it or do something with it will determine the degree that more will be added to them. If they do nothing with what they hear nothing will be added to them, in fact they may even lose what they have, but if they act on what they hear more will be given to them. God's grace and mercy is manifested by those who belong to him doing good to others and showing grace and mercy to them. A person is not required to have a degree in theology to serve the Lord Jesus Christ if those who belong to him act on the little, they have they will increase in the knowledge and love of God.

Jesus words, "The one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away." (Mark 4:25) embraces the idea of doing something with what a person has, the one who has not, carries the idea of doing nothing with what they have. One person is taking the lamp out from under the bed while the other is leaving it under a basket to be hidden.

**Measure, by measure the LORD contended with Israel in exile:** (Isaiah 27:8) the word measure in this verse comes from the Hebrew word (*ca'c'e'ah*) it literally means measurement and carries the idea of moderation. In this context, it means God will afflict and punish His people with moderation (i.e., self-control and temperance) so that they will not be totally, annihilated. Though the branches will be broken off the tree will not be utterly-destroyed. The following verses express this idea of the LORD punishing with controlled moderation and limitations:

- David prayed: "O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger, nor discipline me in your wrath." (Psalm 6:1).
- Correct me, O LORD, but in justice; not in your anger, lest you bring me to nothing. (Jeremiah 10:24).
- I am with you to save you, declares the LORD; I will make a full end of all the nations among whom I scattered you, but of you I will not make a full end. I will discipline you in just measure, and I will by no means leave you unpunished. (Jer. 30:11).
- Fear not, O Jacob my servant, declares the LORD, for I am with you. I will make a full end of all the nations to which I have driven you, but of you I will not make a full end. I will discipline you in just measure, and I will by no means leave you unpunished. (Jeremiah 46:28).

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## MEASUREMENTS

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Handbreath --- Is the same as a palmbreath (i.e. a cubit plus a palm) which is equal to (21 inches) ( $1\frac{3}{4}$  feet).

Finger -----  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch.

Palm ----- 4 Fingers (3 inches).

Span ----- 3 Palms (9 inches).

Cubit ----- 2 Spans (18 inches).

$\frac{1}{2}$  cubic ----- 9 inches

1 cubic ----- 18 inches

$1\frac{1}{2}$  cubic -----  $1\frac{1}{4}$  feet

1 reed ----- 9 feet

1 cubit ----- 18 inches

2 cubits ----- 3 feet

3 cubits -----  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet

4 cubits ----- 6 feet

5 cubits -----  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet

6 cubits ----- 9 feet

7 cubits -----  $10\frac{1}{2}$  feet

8 cubits ----- 12 feet

10 cubits ----- 15 feet  
12 cubits ----- 18 feet  
13 cubits ----- 19½ feet  
14 cubits ----- 21 feet  
20 cubits ----- 30 feet  
25 cubits ----- 37½ feet  
30 cubits ----- 45 feet  
40 cubits ----- 60 feet  
50 cubits ----- 75 feet  
100 cubits ----- 150 feet  
108 cubits ----- 162 feet  
500 cubits ----- 750 feet

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## MEAT

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**Spiritual meat or food:** Jesus said to his disciples that, "He has food (meat in the KJV) to eat that they do not know about and that his food is to do the will of him who sent him and to accomplish His work. (John 4:32-34). He tells his disciples not to labour for food (meat in the KJV) that perishes, but for the food (meat) that endures to eternal life, which he will give to them (John 6:27) because the Kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. (Rom 14:17).

In the book of Hebrews, it is written, that those who should be teachers still need someone to teach them the basic principles of God, they need milk, not solid food (meat in the KJV) because they are unskilled in the word of righteousness since they have been a child. Solid food (meat in the KJV) we are told is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil. (Hebrews 5:12-14).

**Unskilled in the word of righteousness means:** means that they have no idea how to live a life that is right before God. They still get involved in arguments over trivial matters, they cause division, strife and contention, they oppress the poor for their own gain and follow their own selfish ambition. Spiritual meat (or food) is, "righteousness," which is being able to distinguish good from evil and carries the idea of doing the work of God the Father which is summed up in the words, "Love your neighbour as yourself." This means do not deliberately do harm to other humans. No sane person deliberately does things to inflict pain on themselves, loving others as you love yourself is not about feeling some warm and fuzzy emotion towards others, it is about not hurting others as you would not hurt yourself.

The thing God hates the most is when we do harm to another person, physically, financially, sexually, verbally, emotionally or spiritually and the thing God loves the most is when we do good to others. It is interesting to notice that the major crime that God points out in Noah's time and one of the main reasons for the flood was because of all the violence in the land. Leviticus chapter nineteen makes it clear that our neighbour is every other person, showing that the law requires justice to all people. The six commandments regarding mankind should be applied to everyone and we must abide by them ourselves. To love in the biblical sense is not an

emotional attitude, but the keeping of these laws in relation to our neighbour. This is the general law of justice, beyond that; our conduct is to be regulated by relationship. We must render honour and justice to all people wherever due, but we have a particular-responsibility to care for our families and those who belong to Christ.

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## MEDIATOR

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Mediator (intermediary in ESV) means, middle, and carries the idea of a go-between, a reconciler and intercessor.

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## MEEK

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Meek can mean mild, humble and gentle or carry the idea of depending on God.

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## MENORAH

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**The seven golden lampstands:** (golden candlesticks in KJV) in the Old Testament there is a literal reference of this lampstand standing in the Temple of the LORD (called the Menorah by Jews). It was very large, approximately 1.62 metres high (5.3ft) with a main central gold stem that had a lamp at its top, and on each-side it had three gold branches curving outwards and upwards with a lamp at the top of each branch so that there were seven lamps in all. It stood in the Holy Place, the first room in the tent of the tabernacle and later in Solomon's temple where the table of showbread and the golden altar of incense was.

The priests would daily fill these lamps with fresh olive oil of the purest quality to keep them continually burning. They were the only source of light in the Holy Place that allowed the priests to see and that shone upon the table of showbread and the altar of incense which enabled the priests to fellowship with God and intercede on behalf of His people. Just as the lampstand was placed in God's dwelling place so that the priests could see and approach and serve Him. Jesus, the true light that gives light to every one (John 1:9) came into the world so that all could see God and not live in spiritual darkness anymore. Jesus said:

- I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life. (John 8:12).
- I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. (John 12:46).

Jesus is represented by the main branch of the lampstand, while believers are represented by the six branches that extend from it. The main stem and the branches signify Jesus relationship to us in that once we were in darkness, but now being connected to him, the true light, we walk in his light as children of light. (Ephes. 5:8). Just as the lampstand shone light into the darkness of the Holy Place so his priests could serve him, Jesus calls his people to be the light of the world and to let our light shine before others, that they may see our good works and give glory our Father in heaven (Matt. 5: 14-16).

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## MERCHANTS

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Merchants and traders would to travel a common route from the land of Canaan to Egypt with their camels carrying all sorts of merchandise such as gum, balm, and myrrh etc., (Gen. 37:25).

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## MERCY

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Mercy comes from the Hebrew word (*cheched*) and means kindness and favour, to be compassionate by word or deed and especially by divine grace. It carries the idea of showing pity, tender mercy, good will and mercy toward the helpless and the afflicted joined with a desire to help them and of bowing to show oneself loving and kind.

**God's mercy:** is revealed in His offering to sinners' salvation by grace in Christ and at the judgment seat His mercy will be revealed when He blesses those who belong to Christ with eternal life. God shows mercy to those who:

- Belong to the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Love God and keep His commandments (Exod. 20:6) (Deut. 5:10) (Neh. 1:5).
- Listen to the LORD'S rules and keeps them (Deut. 7:9-12).
- Walks before God with all their heart in faithfulness and in righteousness of heart. (1 Kings 3:6) (1 Kings 8:23 2) (Chron. 6:14).
- Fear God and are obedient to Him. (Luke 1:50) (Rom. 11:30).

**God does not show mercy to:**

- Those who are guilty (Exod. 34:7) (Num. 14:18).
- People who do not show mercy to others (James 2:13).

**The tablets of stone and the mercy seat:** it is interesting to notice that the only thing Moses put in the Ark of the Covenant was the two tablets of stone. The law was under the mercy seat overshadowed by the wings of the cherubim and it was from above the mercy seat that the LORD spoke. This means that the law was covered by mercy and therefore to get to the law one had to go through mercy first. This clearly shines a brilliant spotlight upon the truth that the Ark of the Covenant was built according, to the perfect design of God. The apostle Paul wrote, "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23) and that, "the wages of sin is death," but the free-gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord (Rom. 6:23). We all sin and are therefore all under the condemnation of the law and condemned to death, without God's mercy we would all be doomed to the darkness of the grave never to rise.

- There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets that Moses put there at Horeb, where the LORD made a covenant with the people of Israel, when they came out of Egypt (2 Chron. 5:10).

**The mercy of God:** here is the majestic mercy of God, Israel has turned from Him to worship pagan gods and are practising extremely gross sins, yet God says if they repent and forsake their wicked ways He will not only forgive them and treat them as though they had never sinned, but also wash them whiter than snow even though they had lived a life of utter darkness and cleanse them as white as wool even though their sins were blood red (meaning they were guilty of violence and murder). Added to this God would prosper their land and all they put their hand to do. Now here is the foolishness of the people, they set their hearts diamond hard against the word of the LORD and continued in their own wickedness.

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## MERCIFUL

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Merciful comes from the Hebrew word (*chanan*) and means to bend or stoop in kindness and favour to an inferior and graciously bestow a blessing upon them. In the context of the invisible, immoral Almighty God

the creator of all things and source of all life it carries the idea of a superior being stooping down to bless an inferior creature.

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## MESSENGER

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Messenger (*Greek aggelos*) means to bring tidings, a messenger, especially an angel and by implication a pastor, angel and messenger. Messenger (*Greek ago*) means to lead by implication to bring forth. Messenger (*Greek apostolos*) refers to a delegate; specially an ambassador of the Gospel and officially a commissioner of Christ (i.e., an apostle with miraculous powers) and a messenger that is sent. For further information see the title, "Angels can be Human Messengers," in, Angels (ON WEBSITE MENU).

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## MESSIAH

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The word Messiah as used in the Bible is the Hebrew word for Christ, both Messiah and Christ mean anointed one. Messiah (*Hebrew mashiach*) means anointed; usually a consecrated person (as a king, priest, or servant of God); specifically, the Messiah as the anointed one. Messiah (*Hebrew mashach*) means to rub with oil (i.e. to anoint) and by implication to consecrate (to set apart, dedicate and devote).

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## MICHAEL

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Michael (*Hebrew Miyka'el*), who (is) like God; Mikael, the name of an archangel and of nine Israelites. Michael (*Greek Michael*) is of Hebrew origin (*Miyka'el*) and refers to Michael an archangel and means the same as Hebrew Miyka'el.

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## MIDST

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Midst (within in the KJV) it carries the idea of being inside or within.

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## MIGHTY

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Mighty means, strong, powerful and able it carries the idea of a person who excels in what they do or who has power over a thing, a government, organization, group or a person. It can refer to a person who is mighty in wealth and influence or to one who is strong in soul, heart and mind or to a person who is, able to bear calamities and trials with fortitude and patience and especially to someone who is strong in Christian faith and virtue.

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## MIDNIGHT

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Midnight can carry any of the following meanings, the middle, midst, among, midnight and in some context's midday.

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## MILLENNIUM

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The Millennium refers the New Age when the Lord will create a New Heaven and a New Earth for those who have sought after him. Jerusalem will be a joy and gladness forever and there will be no more weeping or distress. Isaiah prophesied that during this time, "People would build

houses and their labour would not be in vain and that it would be an age when children will not be born to calamity and the wolf and the lamb will graze together. The lion will eat straw like the ox, the dust will be the serpent's food and no-one will hurt or destroy on God's Holy Mountain (Isaiah 65:9-25).

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## MIND

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Mind (*Greek nous and ginosko*) refers to the intellect, understanding and the mind (divine or human in thought, feeling or will). It means to know absolutely, allow, be aware of, feel, have knowledge, perceive, be resolved and be sure.

**Having the same mind:** having the same mind and the same love is the same thing they go hand in hand and are in companionship with each other. Having the same mind embraces the idea of being similar in opinion, emotion, feeling, judgement, attitude, thought and having a resemblance in possessions, hobbies and in enjoyment. It is having the same humble mind as Christ had, meaning, being a servant to others, esteeming others better than ourselves and doing all things without grumbling or questioning (not being argumentative). It is holding fast to the word of God and doing nothing from rivalry (strife in the KJV) self-conceit or to glorify self, but doing everything in humility counting others more significant than ourself looking not only to our own interests, but the interests of others. (Philippians 2:1-14).

**NOTE:** this does not mean that everyone has, to have exactly, the same opinions, ideas and thoughts to be in unity with each other. A couple or group may agree that they will accept that each one is an individual and therefore agree to respect the ideas and opinions of others even though they may not agree with them, in this way there can be fellowship and unity without argument, strife and contention.

**The battle of the mind:** our mind can be our best friend or our worst enemy, sadly some people seem to have more trouble making it their friend than they do their enemy perhaps one of the reasons for this is that they expect life to always go in their favour rather than against it. If we expect the world to give us nothing, we are always happy with the little we have. The mental battle is always the most difficult because we are all alone in the mind. No one can enter and fix the problem and when we realise this it is scary. A doctor can give us a pill a friend can offer a kind word but ultimately the battle remains our own.

On a secular level, it is true that we are alone in our mind, because no-one, but us can enter it," but at another level it is not true for every Christian, because God certainly can and does enter into that vastly alone space of the mind. However, on another level for Christians or non-Christians the expression, "Alone in the mind, no-one can enter" is a very real mental experience whether one believes in God or doesn't, because ultimately the battle remains our own, because even God will not enter that space unless we choose to believe in God and believe He by His Spirit and love is with us, so in that sense, the battle really, is our own.

**The mindset of Old Testament believers:** in Psalm's it is written: "The heavens are yours; the earth also is yours; the world and all that is in it, you have founded them," (Psalm 89:11). These words shine a light upon the truth that the common focus or mindset of the faithful of the Old Testament was that everything belongs to God.

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## MINISTERS

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Ministers means to contribute, donate, give, supply and provide or minister to and serve and wait on upon others.

Miracles (*Greek dunamis and dunamai*) means, force and applies especially to miraculous power or a worker of miracles (usually the miracle itself). It can apply to any of the following, ability, abundance, mighty deeds, power, strength, might, a wonderful work or an act of powerful violence (as in the flood and plagues of Egypt etc.).

**God's miracles defy our laws of nature:** because God's miracles do defy our laws of nature as we understand them some Christian intellectuals and scientist attempt to explain them in such a way that forces them to fit in with our laws of nature so that the secular world might be more believing in the Christian God, but this is foolishness. The whole reason God performed all these miraculous wonders that defy our laws of nature was so that He would be different and separated from every other god that people believe in since no other creature in heaven or on earth has such awe-inspiring power. Without the awesome miraculous miracles God did throughout history on Israel's behalf He would be, seen as being no different to every other god people believe in. It is hard to comprehend why people who believe in the God of creation would even consider trying to explain the miracles away especially since all Christians believe God created the universe we live in and every living creature in it.

Compared to such an awesome creation the ten plagues; the parting of the Red Sea and the River Jordan; causing a donkey to talk; making water come out of a rock, pouring manna down from heaven and stopping the sun and moon for a day and such like things are all trivial acts in comparison to God creating mankind from the dust of the earth and the creation of the heavenly host, the moon, sun and stars; the earth and its oceans and every living creature that walks on earth and that fly's in the air and swims in the oceans. Added to this God dwells outside of our laws of nature as we understand them to be and it is God who before time began set our laws of nature in place so for Him to alter them as He desires is, but a small task indeed.

### **MIRACLES IN HISTORY DURING THE OLD TESTAMENT.**

**From creation to the time of the flood:** there were no miracles.

**From the flood to the time of the Patriarchs:** the only miracle signs were the translation of Enoch nearly one hundred years after the flood and God's judgment on the tower of Babel.

**From the Patriarchs to Moses:** through Israel's entire four hundred years of bondage in Egypt there was not one word from heaven let alone a miracle.

**From the time of the Exodus with Moses and Joshua:** there was a sudden burst of miracles and then after them the sign miracles became very rare again.

**From the time of Solomon all the way down to Nehemiah:** there were no miracles.

**Summary of miracles in history during the Old Testament:** during the history of the Bible miracles are not happening every other week or to every other person in fact they are among the rarest events in the history of the world. Over the entire history of man miracles were so rare they were almost non-existent. Some exceptions were Elijah, Elisha and Jonah but some of the godliest men Ezra, Nehemiah and Zerubbabel never experienced one sign miracle. When the Old Testament period came to, a conclusion there followed four hundred years traditionally known as God's silence.

### **MIRACLES IN HISTORY IN DURING THE NEW TESTAMENT.**

John the Baptist the greatest prophet never did one sign miracle in fact only the apostles and three others they appointed (Stephen, Phillip and Barnabas did miracles) (the thousands they saved never did any miracles). Jesus and the apostles' miracles left no doubt that they were miracles of God they defied all the laws of science as we know them and it was clearly visible that a miracle had taken place. Sadly, in today modern world of faith hundreds of thousands of professing Christians want sign miracles to vindicate God and themselves before and unbelieving world.

**The purpose of miracles in the New Testament:** Paul says miracles were to attest that God was working through Jesus and the apostles. The miracles proved God was with Jesus and that he was who he claimed to be (i.e., the promised Messiah, the Christ, the Son and God and Saviour of the world) and to show that the apostles were sent and approved by Christ to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel (Acts 2:22) (Cor. 12:12).

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## MOCKER

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Mocker (scoffer) refers to a person who is arrogant, haughty and prideful. A mocker will have a haughty attitude and believe (often unjustifiably) that he or she is better than others, and will often not mix with those they consider their social inferiors. They are arrogant and exalt themselves above others and even God, and will treat people they look down to and believe are inferior to them with disdain and at their worst with cruelty and destruction. They cause quarrels, strife, arguments, fights and even wars.

**Mocking:** (laughing in ESV) means, to laugh outright in merriment or scorn.

**Against whom do you stick out your tongue?** Isaiah said to the people of Israel who had adopted the practise of sorcery and were committing adultery and entertaining loose woman:

- Whom are you mocking? Against whom do you open your mouth wide and stick out your tongue? Are you not children of transgression, the offspring of deceit. (Isaiah 57:4).

The people of Israel were by their corrupt actions mocking the prophets of God and His word by their rejection and disdain they showed toward it and toward the prophets. Isaiah is basically saying that their disobedience and extremely corrupt practises was the same as looking up to God and sticking their tongue out at Him and the prophets. It means they were mocking and scoffing the prophets by their rejection of the message they proclaimed and by their rebellion against the word and laws of God. When people show disdain and disrespect to God's prophets it is not only the prophets that they are insulting, but also God who sent them and whose word they plead and, in whose name, they speak. Whenever a person speaks against the faithful of God or mocks them or does anything to harm them it is the same as doing it against God Himself. Likewise, whenever anyone does a good deed toward God's people it is the same as doing good to God Himself. Israel, against God's will not only mixed with women of the surrounding nations who worshipped idols and pagan gods, but also brought forth offspring from them and because of this they turned away from God and adopted the wicked religious practices of the woman they married, including child sacrifices; in doing this Isaiah is saying that it is the same as if they were sticking their tongues out at God and mocking Him.

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## MOLECH

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Molech (*Hebrew Molek*) from Hebrew (*malak*), he was the chief deity and god of the Ammonites. Malak means to reign; to ascend the throne; to induct into royalty and by implication to take counsel to consult and set up as king or queen to reign and rule. Molech (*Hebrew Milcom and*

*Malcam*) means, the reigning one, he was the national idol and god of the Ammonites. Worship ceremonies involved gruesome orgies in which little ones were sacrificed. In some places of sacrifice the image of the god stood so high that it would be intimidating to stand before it. During these sacrifices Molech's arms would be heated with flames of fire and the children that had been slain would be offered to it by placing them in its fiery and heated arms so that the sacrificed child's body would roll down into the open mouth of the god. After the death of king Manasseh the king of Judah the place where the worship of Molech was held, became known as the valley of the son of Hinnon. For further information see the title:

- Molech in, Various Topics (ON WEBSITE MENU). See also: Tophet, in Map Locations (ON WEBSITE MENU).

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## MONEY

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Money (*Hebrew keceph*) means silver (from its pale color) and by implication money as the price of silver. Money (*Greek chrema*) refers to something useful or needed (i.e. wealth, money and riches). Money (*Greek argurion*) means silvery and by implication a piece of silver as cash especially a silverling (i.e. drachma or shekel). Money (*Greek philarguria*) carries the idea of avarice, greed, materialism, covetousness and of the love of money. Generally, speaking the word money literally means to weigh out a certain estimated nugget of gold, silver or bronze etc., to be stamped for a coin to be used as money.

**Denarius** (*Denarii*) (*denarion*) (*pronounced day-nar'-ee-on*) is of Latin origin. It was a silver coin and the most common Roman coin during the days of the apostles (Roman army pay was a denarius a day). There was a gold denarius, but these were generally special issues and not nearly as numerous. It is generally misleading and confusing to give the coins' value in pound sterling, to state that a denarius is worth twenty cents may give the value in silver weight, but it does not give the value in purchasing power, which gives the true or real value of the coin.

### **The denarius in Scripture.**

- One denarius was a day's wages (Matt 20:2).
- Paul gave the innkeeper more than two days' wages to take care of the Samaritan (Luke 10:35).
- Mary anoints Jesus with expensive oil worth 300 days' wages (John 12:3-5).
- Judas betrays Jesus for 30 days' wages (Matt 26:15).
- In the last days' a quart of wheat will cost 1 days' wages (Rev. 6:5-6).
- Jesus and the disciples had 200 days' wages to buy bread for the crowd. This means they had in their treasury 200 denarii so Jesus and the disciples most likely dispensed more money to the needy than is generally recognised (John 6:1-21).

**The denarius and the American dime:** from the denarius came the idea of the American dime, one of the American dimes is pictured with Franklin Roosevelt's image in the same profile view as Caesar's whose name is spelled out entirely to the right of the head in the following way:

CAESARAVGVSTVS.

The following Latin abbreviations all run together to the left of Caesar's head.

DIVIMPPATERPATRIAE.

DIV ----- Means divine.

IMP ----- Means imperator.

PATER PATRIAE is Latin for father of his country. On the reverse side are two figures of Caesar and above and around the figures of Caesar are the following Latin abbreviations:

VGVSPONCOSTRPGER.

AVG ----- Is Augustus.

PON ----- Pontifex Maximus, religious ruler or highest priest.

COS ----- Consulship.

TRP ----- Tribunica Potestate (tribune power civil head of the state).

Below the images are the word CAESARES the Latin for Caesars. From this coin alone one can discern that the Roman Emperor was an absolute monarch head of both state and religion.

**The denarius and literature:** a great deal of literature was included on the small face of the denarius it had lengthy lettering around the image of Domitian who reigned from AD 81-96 (Domitian probably exiled John to Patmos). The lettering proceeds clockwise around the coin and the image of Domitian as follows:

IMP ----- Imperator.

CAES ----- Caesar, title of king (not his name)

DOMIT ----- Domitian, his given name (Praenomen).

AUG ----- Augustus, most distinctive title.

GERM ----- Germanicus or German, hereditary title.

PM ----- Pontifex maximus, head of the empire's religion.

TRP ----- Tribunica potestate (supreme civil head, representative of the people).

**On the reverse side of the denarius:** is the image of Mars, god of war, holding a spear and a shield, when the nation was at peace, he was pictured carrying an olive branch but not in the days of Domitian. Around the image of Mars reading left to right are the words:

IMP ----- Imperator or Emperor.

XX11 ----- Means date of 90 AD.

COS XV1 - 16TH consulship about 90 AD.

CENSPER -Censor Perpetuus, another title of the chief of state granted for lifetime, hence perpetual.

Seldom does one see so much said in so little space.

**The denarius and propaganda:** the denarius was not only to serve as a medium of exchange, but also to disseminate information and propaganda for the emperor. Since there were no newspapers in those days the government placed much information on its money especially information that glorified the emperor and that recited his deeds. Roman emperors knew people read the legends on the coins and went to great trouble to change them often sometimes once a year.

**Drachma:** the Greeks when they were conquering the world developed the Persian and Babylonian coinage into something of a fixed world system. Animals, natural objects, and the Greek gods were used as symbols on the coins. Each coin was made individually with hammer,

punch and die, the Greeks called these coins' drachmas (drachma means handful). There were a variety of them with about the same value later the term's drachmas and shekel were used somewhat interchangeably. The Lost coin in (Luke 15:18) was a silver drachma equivalent to a Roman denarius, a day's wages.

**Mite and Penny:** the Maccabees were, allowed to issue money of their own, one piece was the shekel and the other was the Mite (*Greek lepton*) a tiny bronze or copper coin. Two mites make a Penny (*Greek kodrantes*). The lepton was translated mite because it was the coin of least value among coins even the metal of the lepton was inferior and deteriorated easily whereas the penny was a Roman coin worth twice the value of two mites or leptons.

**Silver** (*Greek arguros*) means shinning it refers to the metal silver in the object or in the coin and by implication refers to cash or money.

**Talent** (*Greek talanton*) a balance (as supporting weights) and by implication a certain coin weight or sum of money.

**Moneybags and the apostle's:** prior to the garden of Gethsemane Jesus told the apostles not to take a staff, a bag, bread, money, or an extra tunic (Luke 9:3), but at the garden of Gethsemane Jesus told the apostles to take a moneybag (purse in KJV), a knapsack, (their script in KJV) and a sword with them. For further information concerning this see: (Luke 22:35-36) in, Commentary NT (ON WEBSITE MENU).

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## MORNING STAR

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**Bright morning star:** see the title: Constellations, Arcturus, Orion and Pleiades, in this Bible Dictionary.

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## MONTH

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A month in Scripture can refer to the period from new moon to new moon and consists of twenty-nine or thirty days.

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## MONUMENTS

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Monuments comes from the Hebrew word (*luwn*) it can mean to stop or abide over-night or to stay permanently.

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## MORTAL

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Mortal means, liable to die, to die or be dead and by extension destruction.

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## MOTHER EARTH

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It is common for the world to refers to the planet we live on as, "Mother Earth," this is a very appropriate title since the Bible personifies the earth as a pregnant mother longing to give birth to the sons of God (referring the resurrection of the faithful). It also likens natural disasters and troubles upon earth to the labour pains of a pregnant woman. In the same way that the labour pains of a pregnant woman increase and become more rapid as the time of the birth draws closer likewise troubles and disasters will increase in power and rapidness as we nearer the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. If anyone of us treated our mothers and abused

them in the same way mankind treats and abuses the earth we would not only be cast out of our mothers' home, but also be standing in a court of law accused of grossly abusing our mother in every way possible and no doubt condemned by the judge of the courtroom for the harm and abuse we have caused her.

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## MOUNTAIN

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Mountain (*Greek oros and airo*) means, to rise or lift-up (as a mountain out of the earth), it literally, a mountain or range of hills and by implication to take up or away. Figuratively it can mean any of the following, extinguish guilt, to promote, to make amends, to cancel offences, to take away sin, to cause to doubt or to keep the mind in suspense.

**Mountains thrown into the sea:** Jesus made his triumphant entry on the colt into Jerusalem by way of the Mount of Olives (Matt. 21:1) (Mark 11:1) (Luke 19:29) (Luke 19:37). He looked around Jerusalem and the temple of God and was not pleased with what he saw. The next day he came to a fig tree and cursed it, then entered the temple and overturned the tables of the money-changers saying to them, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'? But you have made it a den of robbers (den of thieves in KJV)." (Matt. 21:13) (Mark 11:17) (Luke 19:46). Jesus and the disciples left the city and Peter said to him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered." It was in answer to Peter's statement that Jesus said, "Have faith in God. Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him. (Mark 11:7-26).

The fig tree in this context is a symbol of the hypocritical, prideful religious leaders (the chief priests, Pharisees, scribes and elders) so the literal mountain Jesus had in mind was the Mount of Olives which is called the Mount of Corruption in the Old Testament (2 Kings 23:13). The mountain is symbolic of the corruption of the Jewish religious leaders and the influence and control they had over the entire nation of Israel. Jesus is telling his disciples to have faith in God and this mountain (of corruption) will be destroyed which it was. Jesus death and resurrection destroyed the entire Levitical priesthood with all its religious ceremonies, feast days, rules and regulations and the religious hypocrisy and corruption of the chief priests the Pharisees, scribes and elders and the power and control they had over the common people. By extension everyone who puts their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation is destroying the mountain of Jewish law and religious corruption that dominated and controlled the entire nation of Israel.

**The Mountain of God:** The mountain of God is Mount Sinai (also called Horeb) (Exod. 3:1). In the book of Exodus, it is written, "Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God." (Exodus 3:1).

**Mountains, hills and the foundations of the earth:** Micah tells the people of Israel to plead their case before the mountains, and let the hills hear their voice and he tells the mountains to hear the indictment of the LORD and of the enduring foundations of the earth because the LORD has an indictment against his people Israel. (Micah 6:1-2). Mountains, hills and the foundations of the earth do not have ears. mountains and the hills in this context refer to the religious leaders, the prophets and the rulers of Judah and Israel.

The enduring foundations of the earth refer to the faithful remnant. Micah is calling the faithful people of Judah and Israel to plead their case before the prophets and rulers of Israel and telling Israel's religious leaders to listen to the collective voice of the faithful because the LORD is about to bring judgment on Judah and Israel.

**The mountains shall be melted with their blood:** (Isaiah 34:1-3) in these verses the mountains are pictured melting with blood, since mountains do not melt with blood, it is biblical colorful language depicting the fury of God and means that multitudes will be slaughtered in battle upon the mountains.

**Destroying mountains:** (Jeremiah 51:24-25) in these verses the mountains are pictured as being destructive, since mountains don't destroy it is a picture of the might armies of Babylon that have destroyed the whole earth (meaning the nations of the earth).

**Mountains, hills and valleys:** (Ezek. 6:1-5) (Micah 6:1-3) in these verses the people of Israel are signified by mountains, hills and valleys

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## MOUSE

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**The mouse:** (Isaiah 66:17) certain kinds of mice were eaten by idolaters and the Romans and Arabians. During the institutions of the ancient religion idolaters and occultist used mice in their incantations, sacrifices and idol feasts along with pigs. This kind of superstition and idolatry was forbidden under the Mosaic and Levitical law. The mouse under the Levitical law was an unclean animal to Israel:

- These are unclean to you among the swarming things that swarm on the ground (the creeping things that creep upon the earth in KJV): the mole rat, the mouse, the great lizard of any kind. (Lev. 11:29).

Though mice were an unclean animal and these kinds of practises were forbidden to Israel apostate Hebrews often forsook their faith and fully embraced them or blended their Jewish religion with these pagan practises. Hebrews considered mice to be an abomination because they were an unclean animal under the Levitical law. Two other reasons they may have been considered such an abomination maybe because pagan religions used them as idols and for their sacrifices and because of their destructive and disease carrying nature. However, at various times in history a great portion of Israel did cast aside their conscience and the law of God concerning the Levitical laws. They no doubt considered them to be trivial and unimportant matters and were so spiritually blind that they believed that there was some advantage in adopting the superstitious pagan rituals and eating forbidden creatures including the mouse which even nature abhors to be eaten.

- If anyone touches an unclean thing, whether human uncleanness or an unclean beast or any unclean detestable creature (abominable unclean thing in KJV), and then eats some flesh from the sacrifice of the LORD's peace offerings, that person shall be cut off from his people. (Lev. 7:21).
- Every swarming thing that swarms on the ground is detestable (an abomination in KJV); it shall not be eaten. <sup>42</sup>Whatever goes on its belly, and whatever goes on all fours, or whatever has many feet, any swarming thing that swarms on the ground, you shall not eat, for they are detestable. (Lev. 11:41-42).

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## MULBERRY TREE

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See (Plants).

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## MUD

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Mud (clay in KJV) is a primary word meaning clay.

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## MUSTARD TREE

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See (Plants).

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## MY

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My (moo) means I, my, me, mine and my own.

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## MYRRH

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See (Plants).

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## MYRTLE TREES

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See (Plants).

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## MYSTICISM

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**Mysticism:** is having a belief in God or any other deity that is solely based upon emotions, feelings and vague speculations or a person's own thought patterns and concepts of God or belief in a deity without any sound basis. It refers to an ill-defined religious or spiritual belief, especially one that is associated with a belief in the occult and the spiritual belief that proclaims a connection can be obtained with God or the spirits through, mental thought and meditation (i.e., sitting and thinking) and achieve communion with God solely through contemplation without any doctrine, rational thought, intellectual proofs or solid basis. It embraces experiences an individual may have through séances, astral projection or by their belief in the existence of angels, gods and spiritual beings beyond human and intellectual understanding, but because of their strong personal belief in them they have various kinds of mental or emotional experiences of them. Mysticism can be summed up in the words, "Belief that is not based on evidence."

Unlike mysticism biblical belief is founded upon solid evidence (i.e., fulfilled prophecies of the Bible; history and archaeology proving the Bible; the Bibles perfect description of individual sin and sin worldwide and the testimonies of hundreds of millions of men and women of all generations who have embraced the message of the bloodstained cross of Calvary and the Gospel and made the Lord Jesus Christ the most treasured possession of their heart, mind and life. This inward, hidden, invisible and personal heartfelt individual relationship embraces that belief in God and union with Him that is received by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and results in an inward experience of his love and grace dwelling in the inner most being. Though this inward personal relationship cannot be seen or explained to others it is based upon solid intellectual knowledge and the teachings of the Bible.

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## MYTHS

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Myths can refer to any of the following:

- A tale, a fiction or a fable told through instruction, teaching, schooling and education.
- A traditional story, especially one concerning the early history of a people or explaining a natural or social phenomenon that involves supernatural beings or events.
- A widely held but false belief or idea.

- A traditional or legendary story concerning some being or hero or event without a determinable basis of fact or a natural explanation, especially one that is concerned with deities or demigods and explains some practice, rite, or phenomenon of nature.
- An imaginary or fictitious thing or person or any invented story, idea, or concept (i.e., their account of the event is pure myth).
- An unproved or false collective belief that is used to justify a social institution, organisation and establishment or that is used to support a tradition.

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*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.*

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