

## ~ANTELOPE (30)

[Hebrew, *di-shon'*]

- A cud-chewing animal and a splitter of the hoof, sole mention of which is made at,
- The stag and gazelle and roebuck and wild goat and **antelope** and wild sheep and chamois. (**Deuteronomy 14:5**)
- Where it is included in the list of animals permitted to the Israelites for food. There is uncertainty as to which animal is meant by the Hebrew - *di-shon'*.
- The addax **antelope**, *Addax nasomaculatus*, still surviving in the desert regions of North Africa, is often suggested as corresponding to the *di-shon'* of the Hebrew Scriptures. This antelope measures about 1 m (40 inches) high at the shoulder. Its spreading, cloven hooves equip it admirably for travel in the loose sands of the desert, where it can survive without water for extremely long periods.
- The widespread horns of this animal are twisted like a screw, making from one and a half to nearly three turns, and measuring about 1 meter (40 inches) along the curve. With the exception of the belly, tail, hindquarters, and facial markings, which always remain white, the color of the addax **antelope** becomes darker in winter, changing from a sandy color to brownish. Another possibility is the **Arabian oryx**, *Oryx gazella leucoryx*, also a desert **antelope**.