

~BATTERING RAM (34)

[Hebrew, *kar*, ram]

- An instrument of warfare used by besiegers to breach or break down the gates and walls of a city or fortress. In its simplest form, it was a **heavy beam of timber with an iron tip** resembling the head of a ram. Perhaps on account of this or because of its butting action when in use, it is designated by the same Hebrew word *kar* as the ram.
- And you, O son of man, take for yourself a brick, and you must put it before you and engrave upon it a city, even Jerusalem. (Ezekiel 4:1)
- And you must lay siege against it and build a siege wall against it and throw up a siege rampart against it and set encampments against it and put **battering rams** all around against it. (Ezekiel 4:2)
- In his right hand the divination proved to be for Jerusalem, to set **battering rams**, to open one's mouth for a slaying, to raise the sound in an alarm signal, to set **battering rams** against gates, to throw up a siege rampart, to build a siege wall. (Ezekiel 21:22)
- Besiegers would cast up a mound, or siege rampart, against the city walls to serve as an inclined plane on which **battering rams** and other engines of war might be brought. Towers as high as the city walls might be pushed up the rampart, thus placing attackers on the same level as defenders. The defending soldiers would endeavor to put the battering rams out of action by dropping firebrands on them or by catching them with chains or grapnels.