

~BIRDCATCHER (287)

.. Traps And Snares

- A person engaged in the **capture of birds**.
- Deliver yourself like a gazelle from the hand and like a bird from the **hand of the birdcatcher**. (**Proverbs 6:5**)
- Our soul is like a **bird** that is escaped from the **trap of baiters**. The trap is broken, and we ourselves have escaped. (**Psalms 124:7**)
- Among the Hebrews, this seems to have been done primarily by means of traps, snares, or nets, although other means may well have been used, such as bow and arrow, and sling.
- After the Flood, birds, properly bled, were made available to man as food.
- And a fear of you and a terror of you will continue upon every living creature of the earth and upon every flying creature of the heavens, upon everything that goes moving on the ground, and upon all the fishes of the sea. Into your hand they are now given. (**Genesis 9:2**)
- Every moving animal that is alive may serve as food for you. As in the case of green vegetation, I do give it all to you. (**Genesis 9:3**)
- Only flesh with its soul, its blood, you must not eat. (**Genesis 9:4**)
- Although the Mosaic Law later proscribed the eating of certain kinds, a great variety of birds were counted as clean for eating.
- Any clean bird you may eat. (**Deuteronomy 14:11**)
- But these are the one's of which you must not eat, the eagle and the osprey and the black vulture. (**Deuteronomy 14:12**)
- And the red kite and the black kite and the glede according to its kind. (**Deuteronomy 14:13**)

- And every raven according to its kind. (**Deuteronomy 14:14**)
- And the ostrich and the owl and the gull and the falcon according to its kind. (**Deuteronomy 14:15**)
- The little owl and the long-eared owl and the swan. (**Deuteronomy 14:16**)
- And the pelican and the vulture and the cormorant. (**Deuteronomy 14:17**)
- And the stork and the heron according to its kind, and the hoopoe and the bat. (**Deuteronomy 14:18**)
- And every winged swarming creature is unclean for you. They should not be eaten. (**Deuteronomy 14:19**)
- Any clean flying creature you may eat. (**Deuteronomy 14:20**)
- Birds caught in hunting were to have their blood **poured out and covered with dust.**
- As for any man of the sons of Israel or some alien resident who is residing as an alien in your midst who in hunting catches a wild beast or a fowl that may be eaten, he must in that case pour its blood out and cover it with dust. (**Leviticus 17:13**)
- For the soul of every sort of flesh is its blood by the soul in it. Consequently I said to the sons of Israel; You must not eat the blood of any sort of flesh, because the soul of every sort of flesh is its blood. Anyone eating it will be cut off. (**Leviticus 17:14**)
- In addition to use as food;
- As for that which happened to be made ready daily, one bull, six select sheep and birds were made ready for me, and once every ten days every sort of wine in abundance. And along with this the bread due the governor I did not demand, because the service upon this people was heavy. (**Nehemiah 5:18**)
- And Solomon's food for each day regularly proved to be thirty cor measures of fine flour and sixty cor measures of flour. (**1 Kings 4:22**)

- Ten fat cattle and twenty pastured cattle and a hundred sheep, besides some stags and gazelles and roebucks and fattened cuckoos. (**1 Kings 4:23**)
- Some of the captured birds, specifically young pigeons and turtledoves, could be used in sacrifices.
- However, if his offering as a burnt offering to Yehowah is from the fowls, then he must present his offering from the turtledoves or the young pigeons. (**Leviticus 1:14**)
- And **birdcatchers** probably supplied some of the doves sold at the temple in Jerusalem during the time Jesus was on earth.
- And he found in the temple those selling cattle and sheep and doves and the money brokers in their seats. (**John 2:14**)
- And he said to those selling the doves; Take these things away from here! Stop making the house of my Father a house of merchandise! (**John 2:16**)
- Some birds of lovely plumage or attractive song were likely sold as pets.
- Will you play with it as with a bird, or will you tie it for your young girls? (**Job 41:5**)
- For the king had a fleet of ships of Tarshish on the sea along with Hiram's fleet of ships. Once every three years the fleet of ships of Tarshish would come carrying gold and silver, ivory, and apes and **peacocks**. (**1 Kings 10:22**)

•• Traps And Snares

- Of the **Hebrew** terms used to designate traps and snares, two **Hebrew** *moh-qesh'* and *pach* are considered to relate primarily to those used by **birdcatchers**. It has been suggested that *moh-qesh'* snare,
- Will a bird fall into a trap on the earth when there is no **snare** for it? Does a trap go up from the ground when it has absolutely caught nothing? (**Amos 3:5**)
- Denotes a **snare** that was operated by the **birdcatcher**, or a team of them, while *pach*,

- That is why **bird traps** are all around you, and sudden dread disturbs you. (**Job 22:10**)
- For he himself will deliver you from the **trap of the birdcatcher**, from the pestilence causing adversities. (**Psalms 91:3**)
- Describes a **trap that was sprung automatically upon the birds entry therein**. The bird was drawn into the trap by means of bait or a lure.
- Until an arrow cleaves open his liver, just as a **bird hastens into the trap**, and he has not known that it involves his very soul. (**Proverbs 7:23**)
- The **Hebrew** word for **birdcatcher**, *ya-qush'* or *ya-qohsh'* comes from the root verb *ya-qosh'*, meaning lay a snare.
- I have laid a snare for you and you have also been caught, O Babylon, and you yourself did not know it. You were found and also taken hold of, for it was against Yehowah that you excited yourself. (**Jeremiah 50:24**)
- The **birdcatcher** of ancient times had to study the various habits and peculiarities of each kind of bird and employ clever methods of concealment and camouflage in placing traps.
- A cord for him is hidden on the earth, and a **catching device** for him on his pathway. (**Job 18:10**)
- They hold themselves down to bad speech, they make statements about **hiding traps**. They have said; Who sees them? (**Psalms 64:5**)
- They keep searching out unrighteous things, they have **hidden a shrewd device** well searched out, and the inward part of each one, even his heart, is deep. (**Psalms 64:6**)
- The self-exalted one's **have hidden a trap for me**, and ropes they have spread out as a net at the side of the track. Snares they have set for me. (**Psalms 140:5**)
- Because of the placement of their eyes on each side of the head, most birds have a wider range of vision than do human's. Also, some

birds can discern objects at a distance that would require the use of binoculars by men. Such vision, added to the natural cautiousness of birds, points up the truth of the proverb that.

- For it is for nothing that the net is spread before the eyes of anything owning wings. (**Proverbs 1:17**)
- Man, unable to foresee the future and limited in his ability to cope with calamity, is likened to birds that are being taken in a trap **Hebrew, *bap-pach'***, ensnared at a calamitous time, when it falls upon them suddenly.
- For man also does not know his time. Just like fishes that are being taken in an evil net, and like **birds that are being taken in a trap**, so the sons of men themselves are being ensnared at a calamitous time, when it falls upon them suddenly. (**Ecclesiastes 9:12**)
- The righteous are confronted with subtle **snakes, hidden traps, attractive lures**, and **bait** placed in their path to draw them into the domain of the wicked who seek to bring them to moral and spiritual ruin.
- The **wicked have set a trap for me**, but from your orders I have not wandered. (**Psalms 119:110**)
- When my spirit fainted away within me. Then you yourself knew my roadway. In the path in which I walk they have **hidden a trap for me**. (**Psalms 142:3**)
- The watchman of Ephraim was with my God. As regards a prophet, there is **the trap of a birdcatcher** on all his ways, there is an animosity in the house of his God. (**Hosea 9:8**)
- False prophetesses are condemned for **hunting down, souls** as though they were **flying things**.
- And as for you, O son of man, set your face against the daughters of your people who are acting as prophetesses out of their own heart, and prophesy against them. (**Ezekiel 13:17**)
- And you must say; This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said, Woe to the women sewing bands together upon all elbows and making veils upon the head of every size in order to hunt

souls! Are the souls that you women **hunt down the one's belonging to my people**, and the souls belonging to you the one's that you preserve alive? (**Ezekiel 13:18**)

- And will you profane me toward my people for the handfuls of barley and for the morsels of bread, in order to put to death the souls that ought not to die and in order to preserve alive the souls that ought not to live by your lie to my people, the hearers of a lie? (**Ezekiel 13:19**)
- Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Here I am against the bands of you women, with which you are hunting down the souls as though they were flying things, and I will rip them from off your arms and let go the souls that you are **hunting down, souls** as though they were **flying things**. (**Ezekiel 13:20**)
- And I will rip away your veils and deliver my people out of your hand, and they will no more prove to be in your hand something caught in the hunt, and you will have to know that I am Yehowah. (**Ezekiel 13:21**)
- By reason of dejecting the heart of a righteous one with falsehood, when I myself had not caused him pain, and for making the hands of a wicked one strong so that he would not turn back from his bad way in order to preserve him alive. (**Ezekiel 13:22**)
- Therefore untruth you women will not keep on visioning, and divination you will divine no longer, and I will deliver my people out of your hand, and you will have to know that I am Yehowah. (**Ezekiel 13:23**)
- However, because Yehowah proves to be with his faithful servants, their soul is like a bird that is **escaped from the trap of baiters**. The **trap is broken**, and we ourselves have escaped.
- Had it not been that Yehowah proved to be for us, Let Israel now say; (**Psalms 124:1**)
- Our **soul is like a bird that is escaped from the trap** of baiters. The trap is broken, and we ourselves have escaped. (**Psalms 124:7**)

- Our help is in the name of Yehowah, the Maker of heaven and earth. (**Psalms 124:8**)
- The psalmist prayed; Keep me from the clutches of the trap **Hebrew** *phach* that they have laid for me and from the snares **Hebrew** *u-mo-qeshohth'*, feminine plural form of **Hebrew** *moh-qesh'* of those practicing what is hurtful. The wicked will fall into their own nets all together, while I, for my part, pass by.
- Keep me from the **clutches of the trap** that they have laid for me and from the **snares** of those practicing what is hurtful. (**Psalms 141:9**)
- The wicked will fall into their own **nets all together**, while I, for my part, pass by. (**Psalms 141:10**)