

~BRIBE (206)

[Hebrew, *sho'chadh*]

- Generally a valuable consideration given with a view to influencing its recipient to act, usually unjustifiably or corruptly, in behalf of the giver. Depending on the context, the Hebrew word for a **bribe**, Hebrew *sho'chadh*, may also be rendered **gift** or **present**.
- You are not to accept a **bribe**, for the **bribe** blinds clear-sighted men and can distort the words of righteous men. (**Exodus 23:8**)
Footnote
- There is a covenant between me and you, between my father and your father. Here I have sent you a **present** of silver and gold. Come, do break your covenant with Baasha the king of Israel, that he may withdraw from me. (**1 Kings 15:19**)
- The **gift** is a stone winning favor in the eyes of its grand owner. Everywhere that he turns he has success. (**Proverbs 17:8**)
- The Scriptures indicate that the accepting of **bribes** led not only to the **perversion of justice but even to bloodshed**.
- You **must not pervert judgment**. You must **not be partial or accept a bribe**, for the **bribe** blinds the eyes of wise one's and distorts the words of righteous ones. (**Deuteronomy 16:19**)
- **Cursed is the one who accepts a bribe** to strike a soul fatally, when it is innocent blood. And all the people must say; Amen! (**Deuteronomy 27:25**)
- A **bribe** they have taken in you for the purpose of shedding blood. Interest and usury you have taken, and you violently keep making gain of your companions with defrauding, and me you have forgotten, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah. (**Ezekiel 22:12**)
- Accepting **bribes** was specifically prohibited by God's Law to Israel, and Yehowah, as the Supreme Judge, set the perfect example by **always rendering impartial decisions and never accepting bribes**.
- You are not to accept a **bribe**, for the **bribe** blinds clear-sighted

men and can distort the words of righteous men. (**Exodus 23:8**)

- And now let the dread of Yehowah come to be upon you. Be careful and act, for with Yehowah our God there is no unrighteousness or partiality or taking of a **bribe**. (**2 Chronicles 19:7**)
- Hence, those who would be guests in Yehowah's tent **must imitate him in this respect**.
- O Yehowah, who will be a guest in your tent? Who will reside in your holy mountain? (**Psalms 15:1**)
- His money he has not given out on interest, and a **bribe** against the innocent one he has not taken. He that is doing these things will never be made to totter. (**Psalms 15:5**)
- There is one who is walking in continual righteousness and speaking what is upright, who is rejecting the unjust gain from frauds, who is shaking his hands clear from taking hold on a bribe, who is stopping up his ear from listening to bloodshed, and who is closing his eyes so as not to see what is bad. (**Isaiah 33:15**)
- He is the one that will reside on the heights themselves, his secure height will be craggy places difficult to approach. His own bread will certainly be given him, his water supply will be unfailing. (**Isaiah 33:16**)
- The Bible contains numerous examples of those who were not free from **bribery**. Delilah was **bribed** to betray Samson, each axis lord of the Philistines paying 1,100 silver pieces or \$2,422, if the silver pieces were shekels.
- And the axis lords of the Philistines proceeded to come up to her and to say to her; Fool him and see in what his great power is and with what we can prevail over him and with what we are certain to tie him so as to master him, and we, for our part, shall give you each **one thousand one hundred silver pieces**. (**Judges 16:5**)
- The sons of Samuel the prophet and judge, unlike their father, **accepted bribes and perverted judgment**.

- And his sons did not walk in his ways, but they were inclined to follow unjust profit and would **accept a bribe** and **pervert judgment**. (1 Samuel 8:3)
- Here I am. Answer against me in front of Yehowah and in front of his anointed one. Whose bull have I taken or whose ass have I taken or whom have I defrauded or whom have I crushed or **from whose hand have I accepted hush money** that I should hide my eyes with it? And I shall make restoration to you people. (1 Samuel 12:3)
- David speaks of those whose right hand, which should have been supporting the cause of right, was full of **bribery**.
- In whose hands there is loose conduct, and whose right hand is full of **bribery**. (Psalms 26:10)
- Kings Asa and Ahaz **bribed** the king of Syria and the king of Assyria respectively for military aid.
- At that Asa took all the silver and the gold that were left in the treasures of the house of Yehowah and the treasures of the house of the king and put them in the hand of his servants, and King Asa now **sent them to Ben-hadad** the son of Tabrimmon the son of Hezion, the king of Syria, who was dwelling in Damascus, saying; (1 Kings 15:18)
- There is a covenant between me and you, between my father and your father. Here **I have sent you a present of silver and gold**. Come, do break your covenant with Baasha the king of Israel, that he may withdraw from me. (1 Kings 15:19)
- Accordingly Ahaz took the silver and the gold that was to be found at the house of Yehowah and in the treasures of the king's house and **sent the king of Assyria a bribe**. (2 Kings 16:8)
- The head ones, or princes, of unfaithful Jerusalem proved to be lovers of **bribes**.
- Your princes are stubborn and partners with thieves. Every one of them is a lover of a **bribe** and a **chaser after gifts**. For a fatherless boy they do not render judgment, and even the legal case of a widow does not get admittance to them. (Isaiah 1:23)

- Those who are pronouncing the wicked one righteous in **consideration of a bribe**, and who take away even the righteousness of the righteous one from him! (**Isaiah 5:23**)
- Her own head one's judge **merely for a bribe**, and her own priests instruct just for a price, and her own prophets practice divination simply for money, yet upon Yehowah they keep supporting themselves, saying; Is not Yehowah in the midst of us? There will come upon us no calamity. (**Micah 3:11**)
- Unlike ordinary prostitutes who receive hire, unfaithful Jerusalem actually **bribed others to come to her**.
- To all prostitutes they are accustomed to give a present, but you, you have **given your presents** to all those passionately loving you, and **you offer a bribe** to them to come in to you from all around in your acts of prostitution. (**Ezekiel 16:33**)
- In the **First Century C.E.**, Judas Iscariot, in effect, **accepted a bribe to betray Jesus Christ**.
- Then one of the twelve, the one called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests. (**Matthew 26:14**)
- And said; What will you give me to betray him to you? They stipulated to him thirty silver pieces. (**Matthew 26:15**)
- So from then on he kept seeking a good opportunity to betray him. (**Matthew 26:16**)
- Truly I say to you, he will appoint him over all his belongings. (**Matthew 24:47**)
- But if ever that evil slave should say in his heart; My master is delaying. (**Matthew 24:48**)
- And should start to beat his fellow slaves and should eat and drink with the confirmed drunkards. (**Matthew 24:49**)
- The master of that slave will come on a day that he does not expect and in an hour that he does not know. (**Matthew 24:50**)
- And Governor Felix withheld justice in Paul's case in the hope of receiving a **bribe** from the apostle.

- At the same time, though, he was hoping for money to be given him by Paul. On that account he sent for him even more frequently and would converse with him. (**Acts of Apostles 24:26**)
- But, when two years had elapsed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus, and because Felix desired to gain favor with the Jews, he left Paul bound. (**Acts of Apostles 24:27**)
- The expressions **a bribe from the bosom** and **a bribe in the bosom** can be better understood when considering that in **Hebrew** the word **bosom** may also refer to the fold of a garment above the belt. Therefore, these expressions indicate that the **bribe** apparently was **hidden in the upper fold of the garment** and then given in secrecy to another who, in turn, likewise concealed it.
- One who is wicked will take even a **bribe from the bosom to bend the paths of judgment**. (**Proverbs 17:23**)
- A gift made in secrecy subdues anger, and a **bribe in the bosom, strong rage**. (**Proverbs 21:14**)

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