

## ~BRIDLE (179)

[Hebrew, *me'theg*, *re'sen*, Greek, *kha-li-nos'*]

- The headgear with which a horse is governed and restrained, consisting of a headstall, a bit, and reins, often with other appurtenances. In Hebrew it is *me'theg*.
- Because your exciting yourself against me and your roaring have come up into my ears. And I shall certainly put my hook in your nose and my **bridle** between your lips, and I shall indeed lead you back by the way by which you have come. (2 Kings 19:28)
- And *re'sen*,
- For he loosened my own bowstring and proceeded to humble me, and the **bridle** they left loose on my account. (Job 30:11)
- While in Greek it is *kha-li-nos'*.
- If we put **bridles** in the mouths of horses for them to obey us, we manage also their whole body. (James 3:3)
- **Bridle** is generally used figuratively in the Bible, or in drawing an illustration. The psalmist says;
  - Do not make yourselves like a horse or mule without understanding, whose spiritedness is to be curbed even by **bridle** or halter Before they will come near to you. (Psalms 32:9)
  - Men should not be like unreasoning beasts, unable to guide themselves properly. However, as such brute beasts require correction by whip and **bridle**, the rod is serviceable for use on the stupid person.
  - A whip is for the horse, a **bridle** is for the ass, and the rod is for the back of stupid people. (Proverbs 26:3)
  - In Revelation the vine of the earth is thrown into a winepress and trodden roughly with the shod feet of horses, the blood coming as high up as the **bridles** of the horses, for a distance of a thousand six hundred furlongs equaling 296 kilometers or 184 miles.
  - And still another angel emerged from the altar and he had

- authority over the fire. And he called out with a loud voice to the one that had the sharp sickle, saying; Put your sharp sickle in and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, because its grapes have become ripe. (**Revelation 14:18**)
- And the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and he hurled it into the great winepress of the anger of God. (**Revelation 14:19**)
  - And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress as high up as the **bridles** of the horses, for a distance of a thousand six hundred furlongs. (**Revelation 14:20**)
  - So great a depth of blood covering such a distance represents the tremendous scope of the destruction wrought by the angels and reflects the fact that the winepress is big enough to catch all and allow escape for none who make up the symbolic vine of the earth at the time of the fullness of its guiltiness.
  - Yehowah told King Sennacherib of Assyria.
  - Because your exciting yourself against me and your roaring have come up into my ears. And I shall certainly put my hook in your nose and my **bridle** between your lips, and I shall indeed lead you back by the way by which you have come. (**2 Kings 19:28**)
  - Because your exciting yourself against me and your roaring have come up into my ears. And I shall certainly put my hook in your nose and my **bridle** between your lips, and I shall indeed lead you back by the way by which you have come. (**Isaiah 37:29**)
  - Not willingly, but by Yehowah's hand, Sennacherib was forced to forgo any siege of Jerusalem and to return to Nineveh, where he was later assassinated by his own sons.
  - That is why this is what Yehowah has said concerning the king of Assyria; He will not come into this city nor will he shoot an arrow there nor confront it with a shield nor cast up a siege rampart against it. (**2 Kings 19:32**)
  - By the way by which he proceeded to come, he will return, and into this city he will not come, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**2 Kings 19:33**)

- **And I shall certainly defend this city to save it for my own sake and for the sake of David my servant. (2 Kings 19:34)**
- **And it came about on that night that the angel of Yehowah proceeded to go out and strike down a hundred and eighty-five thousand in the camp of the Assyrians. When people rose up early in the morning, why, there all of them were dead carcasses. (2 Kings 19:35)**
- **Therefore Sennacherib the king of Assyria pulled away and went and returned, and he took up dwelling in Nineveh. (2 Kings 19:36)**
- **And it came about that as he was bowing down at the house of Nisroch his god, Adrammelech and Sharezer, his sons, themselves struck him down with the sword, and they themselves escaped to the land of Ararat. And Esar-haddon his son began to reign in place of him. (2 Kings 19:37)**
- **Therefore this is what Yehowah has said concerning the king of Assyria; He will not come into this city, nor will he shoot an arrow there, nor confront it with a shield, nor cast up a siege rampart against it. (Isaiah 37:33)**
- **By the way by which he came he will return, and into this city he will not come, is the utterance of Yehowah. (Isaiah 37:34)**
- **And I shall certainly defend this city to save it for my own sake and for the sake of David my servant. (Isaiah 37:35)**
- **And the angel of Yehowah proceeded to go forth and strike down a hundred and eighty-five thousand in the camp of the Assyrians. When people rose up early in the morning, why, there all of them were dead carcasses. (Isaiah 37:36)**
- **Hence Sennacherib the king of Assyria pulled away and went and returned and took up dwelling in Nineveh. (Isaiah 37:37)**
- **And it came about that as he was bowing down at the house of Nisroch his god, Adrammelech and Sharezer, his own sons, struck him down with the sword, and they themselves escaped to the land of Ararat. And Esar-haddon his son began to reign in place of him. (Isaiah 37:38)**

- Yehowah's putting a **bridle** in the jaws of enemy peoples indicates their coming under the type of **complete control** gained over animals by means of a **bridle**.
- And his spirit is like a flooding torrent that reaches clear to the neck, to swing the nations to and fro with a sieve of worthlessness, and a **bridle** that causes one to wander about will be in the jaws of the peoples. (**Isaiah 30:28**)
- Job, lamenting his sorrowful condition in sickness and under ridicule, says of his persecutors,
- For he loosened my own bowstring and proceeded to humble me, and the **bridle** they left loose on my account. (**Job 30:11**)
- Job's enemies went ahead full speed, **unbridled**, in complete disrespect and unrestraint, in venting their hostility upon him.
- James the half brother of Jesus gives counsel on the proper use of the tongue, likening the control of it to a **bridle**. If one has self-control through the application of Scriptural principles, and by this can control the tongue, **he can control his entire body**.
- For we all stumble many times. If anyone does not stumble in word, this one is a perfect man, able to **bridle** also his whole body. (**James 3:2**)
- If we put **bridles** in the mouths of horses for them to obey us, we manage also their whole body. (**James 3:3**)
- A **bridle** on the tongue itself is necessary for a person professing to be a worshiper of God, or else his form of worship will be futile.
- If any man seems to himself to be a formal worshiper and yet does not **bridle his tongue**, but goes on deceiving his own heart, this man's form of worship is futile. (**James 1:26**)