

~BULBUL (42)

(bul'bul) [Hebrew, 'a-ghur']

- The name of a number of types of medium-sized thrush-like birds found in Africa and southern Asia, including Palestine. The **bulbul** characteristically has a **short neck, short wings, and a long tail**.
- While many translations render Hebrew 'a-ghur' as crane. Hezekiah's reference to the birds chirping would hardly describe the deep trumpeting sound made by that large bird.
- Like the swift, the **bulbul**, so I keep chirping, I keep cooing like the dove. My eyes have looked languishingly to the height. O Yehowah, I am under oppression. Stand good for me. (**Isaiah 38:14**)
- **Lexicon in Veteris Testamenti Libros** (by L. Koehler and W. Baumgartner, Leiden, 1958, p. 679) identified 'a-ghur' as the **bulbul**, *Pycnonotus Reichenovi*. Ludwig Koehler says the Hebrew 'a-ghur' describes a bird that **ruffles or bristles its feathers** and says concerning the **bulbul** that during the pauses of its song it lifts, from time to time the extended crestlike feathers of the back of the head. [**Kleine Lichte German, Zurich, 1945, pp. 38,39**]
- Unlike the somewhat bellowing sound of the crane, the song of the **bulbul** is rather **flutelike in tone** and is described as a combination **chirp and warble**.
- Even the stork in the heavens, it well knows its appointed times, and the turtledove and the swift and the **bulbul**, they observe well the time of each one's coming in. But as for my people, they have not come to know the judgment of Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 8:7**)
- Evidently refers to the seasonal arrival of migratory birds in his censuring the Israelites for not discerning the time of God's judgment on them.