

## ~DEW (297)

[Hebrew, *tal*]

### .. Figurative Use

- Small drops of water produced by the condensation of moisture in the air, of water vapor arising from the ground, and of moisture exuded by plants. The Hebrew word for dew, *tal*, also signifies light rain.
- By his knowledge the watery deeps themselves were split apart, and the cloudy skies keep dripping down **light rain**. (**Proverbs 3:20**)
- **Dew** becomes silvery-white, icy hoarfrost when the lower air strata drop in temperature to 0° Centigrade or 32° Fahrenheit. Yehowah is responsible for the dewdrops and is said to scatter the hoarfrost just like ashes.
- He is giving snow like wool, **hoarfrost** he scatters just like ashes. (**Psalms 147:16**)
- Does there exist a father for the rain, or who gave birth to the **dewdrops**? (**Job 38:28**)
- **Dew** forms when night air laden with water vapor cools, depositing the vapor, condensed to liquid form, on cooler objects. It also develops when warm watery vapor rising from the ground comes in contact with the cooling air.
- The Bible explains that early in earth's history, before it rained on earth, a **mist vapor** would go up from the earth and it watered the entire surface of the ground.
- But a mist would go up from the earth and it watered the entire surface of the ground. (**Genesis 2:6**)
- **Dew** is also produced when moisture from vegetation evaporates into the air. **A plant continues to draw water that has been absorbed by its roots until a balance is obtained between the temperature at the tip of the leaves and that at the plants roots.**

- The great amount of **dew** thus produced by some trees can often be heard dripping from them at night. Most morning **dew** seems to have this source. Job said; My root is opened for the waters, and **dew** itself will stay overnight upon my bough.
- My root is opened for the waters, and **dew** itself will stay overnight upon my bough. (**Job 29:19**)
- In Israel there is normally little if any rain from mid-April to mid-October. However, **dew** forms and waters the vegetation during these months.
- The Geography of the Bible by D. Baly (1974, p. 45) says; The value of the dew was well appreciated by the Israelites, for it swells the grapes during the drought of summer. Isaiah refers to the **dew** in the heat of grape harvest.
- For this is what Yehowah has said to me; I will keep undisturbed and look upon my established place, like the dazzling heat along with the light, like the cloud of **dew** in the heat of harvest. (**Isaiah 18:4**)
- For before the harvest, when the blossom comes to perfection and the bloom becomes a ripening grape, one must also cut off the sprigs with pruning shears and must remove the tendrils, must lop them off. (**Isaiah 18:5**)
- After this came the autumn, or early, rains.
- And, you sons of Zion, be joyful and rejoice in Yehowah your God, for he will be bound to give you the autumn rain in right measure, and he will bring down upon you people a downpour, **autumn rain and spring rain**, as at the first. (**Joel 2:23**)
- Exercise patience, therefore, brothers, until the presence of the Lord. Look! The farmer keeps waiting for the precious fruit of the earth, exercising patience over it until he gets the **early rain and the late rain**. (**James 5:7**)
- Night **dews** in certain areas are so heavy that trees and other plants thereby obtain more than enough moisture to compensate for loss through evaporation during the day. Hence, nocturnal **dews** may well account for a bountiful harvest where drought and starvation would otherwise prevail.

- The importance of **dew** is emphasized by the discovery that when plants have wilted from the heat, they have recovered more rapidly when moisture condensed on their leaves at night than they did when the ground was watered.

- They absorbed so much moisture that they functioned normally during the succeeding day without any watering of the ground. The amount of water absorbed from **dew** and later excreted through the roots into the soil for storage sometimes equaled the plants entire weight.

- During Israel's 40-year wilderness trek, the divinely provided manna regularly descended with the **dew**, remaining upon the earth after the **dews** evaporation.

- Accordingly it occurred that in the evening the quails began to come up and cover the camp, and in the morning there had developed a layer of **dew** round about the camp. (**Exodus 16:13**)

- In time the layer of **dew** evaporated and here upon the surface of the wilderness there was a fine flaky thing, fine like hoarfrost upon the earth. (**Exodus 16:14**)

- When the sons of Israel got to see it, they began to say to one another; What is it? For they did not know what it was. Hence Moses said to them; It is the bread that Yehowah has given you for food. (**Exodus 16:15**)

- This is the word that Yehowah has commanded; Pick up some of it, each one in proportion to his eating. You are to take an omer measure for each individual according to the number of the souls that each of you has in his tent. (**Exodus 16:16**)

- And the sons of Israel began to do so, and they went picking it up, some gathering much and some gathering little. (**Exodus 16:17**)

- When they would measure it by the omer, he that had gathered much had no surplus and he that had gathered little had no shortage. They picked it up each one in proportion to his eating. (**Exodus 16:18**)

- And when the **dew** descended upon the camp by night, the

manna would descend upon it. (**Numbers 11:9**)

- By two signs involving **dew**, Gideon obtained proof of divine support before going forth to fight the Midianites. First, he kept a fleece of wool exposed on a threshing floor overnight, the **dew** developing only on the fleece while the earth was dry. In the second test, matters were reversed. It is not revealed whether this was the rainless season when **dew** could be expected.

- And when the **dew** descended upon the camp by night, the manna would descend upon it. (**Numbers 11:9**)

### ·· Figurative Use

- **Dew** is Scripturally associated with **blessing, fertility, and abundance**.

- And may the true God give you the **dews** of the heavens and the fertile soils of the earth and an abundance of grain and new wine. (**Genesis 27:28**)

- And as to Joseph he said; May his land be continually blessed from Yehowah with the choice things of heaven, with **dew**, and with the watery deep lying down below. (**Deuteronomy 33:13**)

- And Israel will reside in security, the fountain of Jacob by itself, upon a land of grain and new wine. Yes, his heavens will let the **dew** drip down. (**Deuteronomy 33:28**)

- For there will be the seed of peace, the vine itself will give its fruitage, and the earth itself will give its yield, and the **heavens themselves will give their dew**, and I shall certainly cause the remaining ones of this people to inherit all these things. (**Zechariah 8:12**)

- A return to Yehowah would result in blessing, God saying; I shall become like the **dew** to Israel.

- Do come back, O Israel, to Yehowah your God, for you have stumbled in your error. (**Hosea 14:1**)

- I shall become like the **dew** to Israel. He will blossom like the lily, and will strike his roots like Lebanon. (**Hosea 14:5**)

- Through Micah, God foretold that the remaining ones of Jacob would become in the midst of many peoples like **dew** from Yehowah, like copious showers upon vegetation, foretelling that the remnant of spiritual Jacob or Israel, would be a blessing from God to the people.
- And the remaining ones of Jacob must become in the midst of many peoples like **dew** from Yehowah, like copious showers upon vegetation, that does not hope for man or wait for the sons of earthling man. (**Micah 5:7**)
- Conversely, lack or the withholding of **dew** is associated with a disfavored condition.
- So in answer Isaac his father said to him; Behold, **away from the fertile soils of the earth your dwelling will be found, and away from the dew of the heavens above.** (**Genesis 27:39**)
- Therefore over you the heavens kept back their **dew**, and the earth itself kept back its yield. (**Haggai 1:10**)
- When God withheld **dew** and rain from the land of Israel in the days of King Ahab and Elijah, famine resulted.
- And Elijah the Tishbite from the inhabitants of Gilead proceeded to say to Ahab; As Yehowah the God of Israel before whom I do stand is living, there will occur during these years neither **dew** nor rain, except at the order of my word! (**1 Kings 17:1**)
- For instance, I tell you in truth, There were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, so that a great famine fell upon all the land. (**Luke 4:25**)
- Morning clouds and **dew** in Israel vanished rapidly in the sun's heat. What little loving-kindness there was in Ephraim or Israel, and Judah had vanished similarly.
- What shall I do to you, O Ephraim? What shall I do to you, O Judah, when the loving-kindness of you people is like the morning clouds and like the **dew** that early goes away? (**Hosea 6:4**)
- And because of wrongdoing, the inhabitants of Ephraim or Israel, would be taken into exile, becoming like the **dew** that early goes away.

- When Ephraim spoke, there was trembling, he himself carried weight in Israel. But he proceeded to become guilty in regard to Baal and die. (**Hosea 13:1**)
- And now they commit additional sin and make for themselves a molten statue from their silver, idols according to their own understanding, the work of craftsmen, all of it. To them they are saying; Let the sacrificers who are men kiss mere calves. (**Hosea 13:2**)
- Therefore they will become like the clouds of morning and like the **dew** that early goes away, like chaff that is stormed away from the threshing floor and like smoke from the roof hole. (**Hosea 13:3**)
- Samaria will be held guilty, for she is actually rebellious against her God. By the sword they will fall. Their own children will be dashed to pieces, and their pregnant women themselves will be ripped up. (**Hosea 13:16**)
- **Dewdrops** are quiet and numerous. Perhaps to denote stealthiness or a multitude as numerous as dewdrops, Hushai told Absalom; We ourselves will be upon David just as the **dew** falls upon the ground.
- And we must come against him in one of the places where he is certain to be found, and we ourselves will be upon him just as the **dew** falls upon the ground, and there will certainly not be left even a single one among him and all the men that are with him. (**2 Samuel 17:12**)
- Yehowah's King has his company of young men just like **dewdrops**, perhaps as to number.
- Your people will offer themselves willingly on the day of your military force. In the splendors of holiness, from the womb of the dawn, you have your company of young men just like **dewdrops**. (**Psalms 110:3**)
- **Dew** is also gentle and refreshing. It is aptly applied to Moses farewell prophetic song.
- My instruction will drip as the rain, my saying will trickle as the

**dew, as gentle rains upon grass and as copious showers upon vegetation. (Deuteronomy 32:2)**

- **A king's goodwill is likened to the refreshing effect of dew on vegetation.**
- **The raging of a king is a growling like that of a maned young lion, but his goodwill is like the dew upon the vegetation. (Proverbs 19:12)**
- **The loving unity prevailing among God's people is refreshing like the dew of Hermon that is descending upon the mountains of Zion. Mount Hermon's forest-covered and perpetually snow-streaked heights caused night vapors to arise that could be carried so far by cold air currents coming down over Hermon from the North that these vapors could condense upon Zion's mountains many miles to the south.**
- **Look! How good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity! (Psalms 133:1)**
- **It is like the good oil upon the head, that is running down upon the beard, Aaron's beard, that is running down to the collar of his garments. (Psalms 133:2)**
- **It is like the dew of Hermon that is descending upon the mountains of Zion. For there Yehowah commanded the blessing to be, even life to time indefinite. (Psalms 133:3)**