

## ~DILL (31)

[Greek, *a'ne-thon*]

- Modern lexicographers agree that the plant referred to by the Greek term *a'ne-thon* is the **dill**, *Anethum graveolens*, rather than the anise, Greek, *an'ne-son*, as in older translations **KJ, Dy**.
- The **dill** is more commonly cultivated than the anise in the Palestine region today, and evidence indicates that it was cultivated from ancient times in the Middle East, as well as by the Greeks and Romans. **Dill** was among the plants the hypocritical Pharisees punctiliously tithed, while failing to observe the weightier matters of the Law.
- Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you give the tenth of the mint and the **dill** and the cumin, but you have disregarded the weightier matters of the Law, namely, justice and mercy and faithfulness. These things it was binding to do, yet not to disregard the other things. (**Matthew 23:23**)
- The Jewish Mishnah [**Maaserot 4:5**] prescribed that not only the seeds, but also the plant and pods were subject to tithe.
- The plant is weedlike in growth, resembles anise, and attains a height of about 0.5 meters (2 feet) with finely cut, clear green leaves and sprays of small yellow flowers. It is cultivated for its aromatic seeds, which are much valued for flavoring foods and also medicinally for treatment of stomach ailments.