

~DOVE (263)

[Hebrew, *yoh-nah'*, Greek, *pe-ri-ste-ra'*]

.. Varieties And Description

- The **dove** is one of the first two birds specifically named in the Bible, Noah having sent out a **dove** three times after the Flood to determine the drainage of the waters.
- Later he sent out from him a **dove** to see whether the waters had abated from the surface of the ground. (**Genesis 8:8**)
- And the **dove** did not find any resting-place for the sole of its foot, and so it returned to him into the ark because the waters were yet upon the surface of the whole earth. At that he put his hand out and took it and brought it to himself inside the ark. (**Genesis 8:9**)
- And he went on waiting still another seven days, and once again he sent out the **dove** from the ark. (**Genesis 8:10**)
- Later on the **dove** came to him about the time of evening and, look! there was an olive leaf freshly plucked in its bill, and so Noah got to know that the waters had abated from the earth. (**Genesis 8:11**)
- And he went on waiting still another seven days. Then he sent out the **dove**, but it did not come back again to him anymore. (**Genesis 8:12**)
- The Hebrew name *yoh-nah'* is thought to derive from the word *'a-nah'*, meaning **mourn**, and evidently is in imitation of the **mournful cooing** sound made by the **dove**.
- 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**)
- We keep groaning, all of us, just like bears, and like **doves** we mournfully keep **cooing**. We kept hoping for justice, but there was none, for salvation, but it has stayed far away from us. (**Isaiah 59:11**)

- For our revolts have become many in front of you, and as for our sins, each one has testified against us. For our revolts are with us, and as for our errors, we well know them. (**Isaiah 59:12**)
- And their escapees will certainly make their escape and become on the mountains like the **doves** of the valleys, all of which are **moaning**, each one in his own error. (**Ezekiel 7:16**)
- And it has been fixed, she has been uncovered. She will certainly be carried away, and her slave girls will be moaning, like the sound of **doves**, beating repeatedly upon their hearts. (**Nahum 2:7**)
- While **dove** and **pigeon** are often used interchangeably in English, both birds being classed as of the family *Columbidae*, the term **dove** is usually restricted to the smaller varieties generally living wild and regularly migrating.
- Since the distinction in **English** between **dove** and **pigeon** is quite indefinite, translators usually render *yoh-nah'* as **dove** except when it occurs in association with **turtledove**, as in all cases relating to sacrifices, in which texts it is generally translated **pigeon**.

See Also PIGEON

See Also TURTLEDOVE

•• **Varieties And Description**

- The most common varieties of **doves** found in Israel are the rock **dove**, *Columba livia*, the ring **dove**, *Columba palumbus*, also called the wood pigeon, and the stock **dove**, *Columba oenas*. Ring **doves** are found particularly in the forests of Gilead and Carmel. The stock **dove** settles chiefly around Jericho and on the eastern side of the Jordan, while the rock dove breeds on the coastlands, along the gorges of the Jordan Valley and the highlands to the west.
- Doves characteristically have a plump, full-breasted body, a graceful neck, a small rounded head with rather slender bill, and short legs. The feathers are very compact, giving the bird a rather sleek look. The **doves** are frequently of a blue-gray color, while some have an iridescent sheen on parts of the plumage, causing it to take on a metallic appearance in the golden sunlight. This may be alluded to at;

- Although you men kept lying between the camp ash heaps, there will be the wings of a **dove** covered with silver and its pinions with yellowish-green gold. (**Psalms 68:13**)
- Although the reference there to the wings of a **dove** covered with silver and its pinions with yellowish-green gold is thought by some to refer to some richly wrought piece of art taken as spoil.
- The **dove** has a soft, gentle appearance and disposition, earning for it the description **the sheep of the bird world**. Thus the name Jonah *Yoh-nah'* was and is a popular name for Jewish boys.
- And the word of Yehowah began to occur to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying; (**Jonah 1:1**)
- The birds are **notable for their devotion to their mates and their affection, and in courtship** they bring their heads together and each bird takes the others beak in its own much like a lovers kiss. My **dove** was thus an apt term of endearment used by the Shulammite maidens shepherd lover.
- And the word of Yehowah began to occur to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying; (**Jonah 1:1**)
- The maidens eyes were likened to the soft gentle eyes of a **dove** (**Song of Solomon 1:15**)
- Look! You are beautiful, O girl companion of mine. Look! You are beautiful. Your eyes are those of **doves**, behind your veil. Your hair is like a drove of goats that have hopped down from the mountainous region of Gilead. (**Song of Solomon 4:1**)
- While she likened the shepherds eyes to blue-gray **doves** bathing in pools of milk, by this lovely simile evidently representing the darker iris surrounded by the gleaming white of the eye.
- His eyes are like **doves** by the channels of water, which are bathing themselves in milk, sitting within the rims. (**Song of Solomon 5:12**)
- **Doves** are fond of bathing, preferring to nest near a source of water.
- A timid bird, trembling when frightened.

- Like a bird they will come trembling out of Egypt, and like a **dove** out of the land of Assyria, and I shall certainly make them dwell in their houses, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Hosea 11:11**)
- The **dove** in its wild state often nests in valleys.
- And their escapees will certainly make their escape and become on the mountains like the **doves** of the valleys, all of which are moaning, each one in his own error. (**Ezekiel 7:16**)
- While the rock **dove** makes its nest on ledges and in holes of cliffs and rocky gorges.
- O my **dove** in the retreats of the crag, in the concealed place of the steep way, show me your form, let me hear your voice, for your voice is pleasurable and your form is comely. (**Song of Solomon 2:14**)
- Leave the cities and reside on the crag, you inhabitants of Moab, and become like the **dove** that makes its nest in the regions of the mouth of the hollow. (**Jeremiah 48:28**)
- When domesticated, they fly back to the **dovecotes** prepared for them, the white undersides of the wings of a large flock of **doves** giving the appearance of a moving cloud.
- Who are these that come flying just like a cloud, and like **doves** to their birdhouse holes? (**Isaiah 60:8**)
- **Dovecotes**, some of considerable size, have been excavated in Israel.
- The **dove** has strong wings, is able to fly long distances in search of food, and is swift enough to elude most of its enemies.
- And I keep saying; O that I had wings as a **dove** has I would fly away and reside. (**Psalms 55:6**)
- Look! I would go far away in flight. I would lodge in the wilderness. Selah (**Psalms 55:7**)
- I would hasten to a place of escape for me from the rushing wind, from the tempest. (**Psalms 55:8**)

- Yet **doves** are quite trusting of human's and are rather easily entrapped or snared with a net. Thus, apostate Ephraim, foolishly placing its confidence first in Egypt and then in Assyria, was likened to a **simpleminded dove**, due to be caught in a net.
- And Ephraim proves to be like a **simpleminded dove** without heart. To Egypt they have called, to Assyria they have gone. (**Hosea 7:11**)
- Whichever way they go, I shall spread out over them my net. Like flying creatures of the heavens I shall bring them down. I shall discipline them in agreement with the report to their assembly. (**Hosea 7:12**)
- Jesus, in warning his disciples against wolf-like opposers, counseled them to be not only **innocent as doves**, but also cautious as serpents.
- Look! I am sending you forth as sheep amidst wolves, therefore prove yourselves cautious as serpents and **yet innocent as doves**. (**Matthew 10:16**)
- At the time of Jesus baptism and subsequent anointing by God's Holy Spirit, that Holy Spirit was caused to appear **in bodily shape like a dove**, its visible descent upon Jesus perhaps being similar to the fluttering descent of the **dove** as it approaches its perch.
- And the Holy Spirit in bodily shape like a **dove** came down upon him, and a voice came out of heaven; You are my Son, the beloved. I have approved you. (**Luke 3:22**)
- After being baptized Jesus immediately came up from the water, and, look! The heavens were opened up, and he saw descending like a **dove** God's spirit coming upon him. (**Matthew 3:16**)
- And immediately on coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being parted, and, like a **dove**, the spirit coming down upon him. (**Mark 1:10**)
- John also bore witness, saying; I viewed the spirit coming down as a **dove** out of heaven, and it remained upon him. (**John 1:32**)
- Even I did not know him, but the very One who sent me to

baptize in water said to me; Whoever it is upon whom you see the spirit coming down and remaining, this is the one that baptizes in Holy Spirit. (John 1:33)

- And I have seen it, and I have borne witness that this one is the Son of God. (John 1:34)
- It was an apt symbol, in view of its characteristic innocence.
- Look! I am sending you forth as sheep amidst wolves, therefore prove yourselves cautious as serpents and yet innocent as **doves**. (Matthew 10:16)
- **Doves** were used for sacrificial purposes, as is indicated by their being sold by those pursuing commercial activities at the temple in Jerusalem, although the term **doves**, Greek, *pe-ri-ste-ras'*, may here indicate the **turtledoves** or **young pigeons** mentioned in the Mosaic Law.
- Now they came to Jerusalem. There he entered into the temple and started to throw out those selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling **doves**. (Mark 11:15)
- And he found in the temple those selling cattle and sheep and **doves** and the money brokers in their seats. (John 2:14)
- So, after making a whip of ropes, he drove all those with the sheep and cattle out of the temple, and he poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. (John 2:15)
- And he said to those selling the **doves**; Take these things away from here! Stop making the house of my Father a house of merchandise! (John 2:16)