

~EAST (158)

[Hebrew, *miz-rach'*, **sunrising**, *qe'dhem*, **in front of**]

- This expression is translated from the Hebrew *miz-rach'*, meaning literally **sunrising**.
- Go up to the top of Pisgah and raise your eyes to the west and north and south and **east** and see with your eyes, for you will not pass over this Jordan. (**Deuteronomy 3:27**)
- And they proceeded to go to the entryway of Gedor, clear to the **east** of the valley, to look for pasturage for their flocks. (**1 Chronicles 4:39**)
- And from *qe'dhem*, meaning **before, in front of**.
- And on the boundary of Dan, from the **eastern** border to the western border, Asher one. (**Ezekiel 48:2**)
- It was the practice of the Hebrews to face the rising sun when determining direction, which meant that **East** was in front of them, West was behind, North on the left hand, and South on the right hand.
- Sometimes *qe'dhem* was used to mean a generally **eastward** direction, as at;
- And it came about that in their journeying **eastward** they eventually discovered a valley plain in the land of Shinar, and they took up dwelling there. (**Genesis 11:2**)
- At other times it meant the **east** in relation to something else, as at;
- And the boundary must go down from Shepham to Riblah on the **east** of Ain, and the border must go down and strike upon the **eastern** slope of the sea of Chinnereth. (**Numbers 34:11**)
- Where the expression **east** of Ain is used. At still other times it referred to the area that lay East and Northeast of Israel. This included the lands of Moab and Ammon, the Arabian Desert, Babylonia, Persia, Assyria, and Armenia.

- The various peoples living in the lands referred to by the word **east** were spoken of as **sons of the East**. Job was called the greatest of all the **Oriental**s, or **sons of the East**.
- And his livestock got to be seven thousand sheep and three thousand camels and five hundred spans of cattle and five hundred she-asses, along with a very large body of servants, and that man came to be the greatest of all the **Oriental**s. (**Job 1:3**)
- He lived in this **eastern** area. When Jacob went to Mesopotamia to get a wife, he went, we are told, to the land of **the Oriental**s, or **sons of the East**.
- After that Jacob set his feet in motion and traveled on to the land of the **Oriental**s. (**Genesis 29:1**)
- The people to the **East** of Israel were also called sons of the **East**, or **Easterners**, as at;
- And it occurred that, if Israel sowed seed, Midian and Amalek and the **Easterners** came up, yes, they came up against them. (**Judges 6:3**)
- **Easterners**, as at;
- Now Zebah and Zalmunna were in Karkor, and their camps with them, about fifteen thousand being all who were left over out of the entire camp of the **Easterners**, and those already fallen were a hundred and twenty thousand men who used to draw the sword. (**Judges 8:10**)
- In Palestine the **East** wind was a hot wind that blew in from desert lands to the **East** and was destructive to vegetation.
- But she was finally uprooted in fury. To the earth she was thrown, and there was an **east** wind that dried up her fruit. Her strong rod was torn off and became dry. Fire itself devoured it. (**Ezekiel 19:12**)
- This is the basis for the expression fill ones belly with the **east** wind.
- Will a wise person himself answer with windy knowledge, or will he fill his belly with the **east** wind? (**Job 15:2**)

- The tabernacle, the temples of Solomon and Zerubbabel, and the second temple as rebuilt by Herod all faced the East.
- And those camping before the tabernacle toward the **east**, before the tent of meeting toward the sunrising, were Moses and Aaron and his sons, those taking care of the obligation to the sanctuary, as the obligation for the sons of Israel. And any stranger coming near would be put to death. (**Numbers 3:38**)
- Ezekiel's visionary temple faced **eastward**.
- And gradually he brought me back to the entrance of the House, and, look! There was water going forth from under the threshold of the House **eastward**, for the front of the House was east. And the water was going down from under, from the right-hand side of the House, south of the altar. (**Ezekiel 47:1**)
- The coming of Yehowah and Christ to the temple would therefore be expected from the **East**.
- The One calling from the sunrising a bird of prey, from a distant land the man to execute my counsel. I have even spoken it. I shall also bring it in. I have formed it, I shall also do it. (**Isaiah 46:11**)
- Cyrus, the Persian king, is spoken of as coming from the **east KJ**, or **the sunrising, NW**. The reports foretold as coming from the east **KJ** are, literally, out of **the sunrising**, or *miz-rach'*.
- But there will be reports that will disturb him, out of the **sunrising** and out of the north, and he will certainly go forth in a great rage in order to annihilate and to devote many to destruction. (**Daniel 11:44**)
- In the book of Revelation back-reference is made to Darius and Cyrus as prophetic of the kings **from the rising of the sun**, in connection with the drying up of the symbolic Euphrates in the time of Babylon the Great's judgment.
- And the sixth one poured out his bowl upon the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, that the way might be prepared for the kings from the **rising of the sun**. (**Revelation 16:12**)

- And the great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell, and Babylon the Great was remembered in the sight of God, to give her the cup of the wine of the anger of his wrath. (**Revelation 16:19**)
- The astrologers that came to see Jesus at the time of his birth came from the direction of Babylon, from **eastern** parts.
- After Jesus had been born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, look! astrologers from **eastern** parts came to Jerusalem. (**Matthew 2:1**)
- When they said that they saw his star in the **east** Greek, *a-na-to-lei'*, literally, rising, as some Bible translations state, they did not mean that it was **East** of where their land was but that they saw it from the **East** or when they were in the **East**.
- Saying; Where is the one born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when we were in the **east**, and we have come to do him obeisance. (**Matthew 2:2**) Footnote