

~EYE (688)

[Hebrew, *a'yin*, Greek, *o-phthal-mos*]

- Yehowah's Eyes
- Illustrative Usage
- Seeing God
- Spiritual Sight

- The organ of sight, a highly efficient, self-adjusting camera that transmits impulses to the brain, where the object focused on the eyes retina is interpreted as sight. The Hebrew *a'yin* and the Greek, *o-phthal-mos*, are both used in literal and figurative senses. The Hebrew term is also used to denote a fountain or spring.
- Here I am stationed at a **fountain** of water, and the daughters of the men of the city are coming out to draw water. (**Genesis 24:13**)
- After that they came to Elim, where there were twelve **springs** of water and seventy palm trees. So they went camping there by the water. (**Exodus 15:27**)
- The possession of two **eyes**, as in the human body, provides stereoscopic vision. The loss of sight is a tremendous handicap because sight is probably the most important channel of communication to the mind.
- The **eye** is one of the most beautiful parts of the body.
- Look! You are beautiful, O girl companion of mine. Look! You are beautiful. Your **eyes** are those of doves. (**Song of Solomon 1:15**)
- You have made my heart beat, O my sister, my bride, you have made my heart beat by one of your **eyes**, by one pendant of your necklace. (**Song of Solomon 4:9**)
- Your neck is like an ivory tower. Your **eyes** are like the pools in Heshbon, by the gate of Bath-rabbim. Your nose is like the tower of Lebanon, which is looking out toward Damascus. (**Song of Solomon 7:4**)

- So disfiguring and detrimental was an **eye** affliction that one could not serve as a priest under the Law covenant if he was blind or diseased in either eye.
- In case there is any man in whom there is a defect, he may not come near. A man blind or lame or with his nose slit or with one member too long. (**Leviticus 21:18**)
- Or hunchback or thin or diseased in his **eyes** or scabby or having ringworms or having his testicles broken. (**Leviticus 21:20**)
- In Israel, under the Law, the man who knocked out the **eye** of his slave had to let the slave go free.
- And in case a man should strike the **eye** of his slave man or the **eye** of his slave girl and he really ruins it, he is to send him away as one set free in compensation for his **eye**. (**Exodus 21:26**)
- In order to humiliate and to shatter the power of their enemies, some ancient nations followed the cruel practice of blinding prominent men among the captured enemy.
- So the Philistines grabbed hold of him and bored his **eyes** out and brought him down to Gaza and bound him with two fetters of copper, and he came to be a grinder in the prison house. (**Judges 16:21**)
- Then Nahash the Ammonite said to them; On this condition I shall conclude it with you, on the condition of boring out every right **eye** of yours, and I must put it as a reproach upon all Israel. (**1 Samuel 11:2**)
- And Zedekiah's sons they slaughtered before his **eyes**, and Zedekiah's **eyes** he blinded, after which he bound him with copper fetters and brought him to Babylon. (**2 Kings 25:7**)
- The structure of the **eye** reveals marvelous design on the part of its Maker, and the process by which the brain interprets what is transmitted through the eye is far from being understood by scientists.
- All of this points to its Designers intelligence. Yehowah God himself testifies to his creatorship of the **eye**, saying; The One forming the **eye**, can he not look?

- The One planting the ear, can he not hear? Or the One forming the **eye**, can he not look? (**Psalms 94:9**)
- The hearing ear and the seeing **eye**, Yehowah himself has made even both of them. (**Proverbs 20:12**)

•• Yehowah's Eyes

- God helps human's to understand and appreciate things about himself by likening them to things that we see and know well. Thus he speaks figuratively of his **eyes** being on his people, evidently indicating his watchfulness and loving care for them. The apostle Peter says; The eyes of Yehowah are upon the righteous ones.
- For the **eyes** of Yehowah are upon the righteous ones, and his ears are toward their supplication, but the face of Yehowah is against those doing bad things. (**1 Peter 3:12**)
- God emphasizes this care and sensitiveness for their welfare when he speaks of his servants as the pupil of his **eye**, metaphorically representing their preciousness in his sight and his quickness to act in their behalf when touched by the enemy.
- He came to find him in a wilderness land, and in an empty, howling desert. He began to encircle him, to take care of him, to safeguard him as the pupil of his **eye**. (**Deuteronomy 32:10**)
- Keep me as the pupil of the **eyeball**, in the shadow of your wings may you conceal me. (**Psalms 17:8**)
- Describing God's observation of the actions of all men, Jeremiah wrote that His **eyes** are opened upon all the ways of the sons of men, in order to give to each one according to his ways.
- Great in counsel and abundant in acts, you whose **eyes** are opened upon all the ways of the sons of men, in order to give to each one according to his ways and according to the fruitage of his dealings. (**Jeremiah 32:19**)
- Of Yehowah's omniscience and his purpose to exercise justice toward all, the apostle Paul wrote;
- And there is not a creation that is not manifest to his sight, but all things are naked and openly exposed to the **eyes** of him with

whom we have an accounting. (**Hebrews 4:13**)

- For, as regards Yehowah, his **eyes** are roving about through all the earth to show his strength in behalf of those whose heart is complete toward him. You have acted foolishly respecting this, for from now on there will exist wars against you. (**2 Chronicles 16:9**)
- He is ruling by his mightiness to time indefinite. Upon the nations his own **eyes** keep watch. As for those who are stubborn, let them not be exalted in themselves. (**Psalms 66:7**)
- The **eyes** of Yehowah are in every place, keeping watch upon the bad ones and the good ones. (**Proverbs 15:3**)
- Of the searching quality of God's examination of men, the psalmist says;
- Yehowah is in his holy temple. Yehowah, in the heavens is his throne. His own **eyes** behold, his own beaming **eyes** examine the sons of men. (**Psalms 11:4**)
- Yehowah's ability to know a person's characteristics and tendencies or his genetic makeup even while he is being formed in the womb, as was the case with Jacob and Esau.
- And Isaac kept on entreating Yehowah especially for his wife, because she was barren, so Yehowah let himself be entreated for him, and Rebekah his wife became pregnant. (**Genesis 25:21**)
- And the sons within her began to struggle with each other, so that she said; If this is the way it is, just why am I alive? With that she went to inquire of Yehowah. (**Genesis 25:22**)
- And Yehowah proceeded to say to her; Two nations are in your belly, and two national groups will be separated from your inward parts, and the one national group will be stronger than the other national group, and the older will serve the younger. (**Genesis 25:23**)
- Yet not that case alone, but also when Rebekah conceived twins from the one man, Isaac our forefather. (**Romans 9:10**)
- For when they had not yet been born nor had practiced anything

good or vile, in order, that the purpose of God respecting the choosing might continue dependent, not upon works, but upon the One who calls. (**Romans 9:11**)

- It was said to her; The older will be the slave of the younger. (**Romans 9:12**)
- Just as it is written: I loved Jacob, but Esau I hated. (**Romans 9:13**)
- Is indicated by the psalmist David's words.
- My bones were not hidden from you when I was made in secret, when I was woven in the lowest parts of the earth. (**Psalms 139:15**)
- Your **eyes** saw even the embryo of me, and in your book all its parts were down in writing, as regards the days when they were formed and there was not yet one among them. (**Psalms 139:16**)

.. Illustrative Usage

- The human **eye** is an important channel of communication to the mind, strongly influencing the emotions and actions. Satan tempted Eve by causing her to desire something seen with her **eyes**.
- Consequently the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was something to be longed for to the **eyes**, yes, the tree was desirable to look upon. So she began taking of its fruit and eating it. Afterward she gave some also to her husband when with her and he began eating it. (**Genesis 3:6**)
- He attempted to induce Jesus to sin by reaching out improperly for things seen with his **eyes**.
- So he brought him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the inhabited earth in an instant of time. (**Luke 4:5**)
- And the Devil said to him; I will give you all this authority and the glory of them, because it has been delivered to me, and to whomever I wish I give it. (**Luke 4:6**)
- You, therefore, if you do an act of worship before me, it will all be yours. (**Luke 4:7**)

- And the apostle John tells us that the desire of the **eyes** is one of the things originating with this world, which is passing away.
- Because everything in the world, the desire of the flesh and the desire of the **eyes** and the showy display of one's means of life, does not originate with the Father, but originates with the world. (**1 John 2:16**)
- Furthermore, the world is passing away and so is its desire, but he that does the will of God remains forever. (**1 John 2:17**)
- Many of the emotions are likewise expressed by the **eyes**, and so the Scriptures use the expressions lofty or haughty **eyes**.
- Lofty **eyes**, a false tongue, and hands that are shedding innocent blood. (**Proverbs 6:17**)
- Lustrous **eyes**, of the bad, seductive woman.
- Do not desire her prettiness in your heart, and may she not take you with her lustrous **eyes**. (**Proverbs 6:25**)
- **Eyes** full of adultery.
- They have **eyes** full of adultery and unable to desist from sin, and they entice unsteady souls. They have a heart trained in covetousness. They are accursed children. (**2 Peter 2:14**)
- The ungenerous **eye**.
- Do not feed yourself with the food of anyone of ungenerous **eye**, nor show yourself craving his tasty dishes. (**Proverbs 23:6**)
- The envious **eye**.
- A man of envious **eye** is bestirring himself after valuable things, but he does not know that what he wants will come upon him. (**Proverbs 28:22**)
- The **eye** that is wicked or evil **eye**, **KJ**, the latter does not refer to any magical quality of the **eye**, but to an **eye** with bad intent, the opposite of an **eye** that is kindly.

- Is it not lawful for me to do what I want with my own things? Or is your **eye** wicked because I am good? (**Matthew 20:15**)
- He that is kindly in **eye** will be blessed, for he has given of his food to the lowly one. (**Proverbs 22:9**)
- Gestures by means of the **eyes** are very expressive of the individuals feelings. They may show pity or lack of it.
- Your **eye** should not feel sorry for him, and you must clear away the guilt of innocent blood out of Israel, that you may have good. (**Deuteronomy 19:13**)
- They may wink or blink in derision, or in scheming insincerity.
- O may those who for no reason are my enemies not rejoice over me, as for those hating me without cause, let them not wink the **eye**. (**Psalms 35:19**)
- Winking with his **eye**, making signs with his foot, making indications with his fingers. (**Proverbs 6:13**)
- One who does not want to observe or who does not desire to carry out an act for another may be spoken of as shutting or hiding his **eyes**.
- For the heart of this people has grown unreceptive, and with their ears they have heard without response, and they have shut their **eyes**, that they might never see with their **eyes** and hear with their ears and get the sense of it with their hearts and turn back, and I heal them. (**Matthew 13:15**)
- He that is giving to the one of little means will have no want, but he that is hiding his **eyes** will get many curses. (**Proverbs 28:27**)
- The stupid one is said to have his **eyes** at the extremity of the earth, wandering here and there without any fixed object, his thoughts being everywhere except where they ought to be.
- Wisdom is before the face of the understanding one, but the **eyes** of the stupid one are at the extremity of the earth. (**Proverbs 17:24**)

- Even a person's health, vigor, or state of happiness is manifested by the appearance of his **eyes**.
- As for Jonathan, he had not been listening when his father put the people under an oath, so he stretched out the tip of the rod that was in his hand and dipped it into the honeycomb and drew his hand back to his mouth, and his **eyes** began to beam. (1 Samuel 14:27)
- At this one of the people answered and said; Your father solemnly put the people under oath, saying; Cursed is the man that eats bread today! And the people began to get tired. (1 Samuel 14:28)
- However, Jonathan said; My father has brought ostracism upon the land. See, please, how my **eyes** have beamed because I tasted this little bit of honey. (1 Samuel 14:29)
- And Moses was a hundred and twenty years old at his death. His **eye** had not grown dim, and his vital strength had not fled. (Deuteronomy 34:7)
- And from vexation my **eye** grows dimmer and my members are all of them like the shadow. (Job 17:7)
- From vexation my **eye** has become weak, it has grown old because of all those showing hostility to me. (Psalms 6:7)
- My own **eye** has languished because of my affliction. I have called on you, O Yehowah, all day long, to you I have spread out my palms. (Psalms 88:9)
- King Jehoshaphat addressed Yehowah; Our **eyes** are toward you.
- O our God, will you not execute judgment upon them? For in us there is no power before this large crowd that is coming against us, and we ourselves do not know what we ought to do, but our **eyes** are toward you. (2 Chronicles 20:12)
- In certain contexts the **eyes** refer to a person's judgment.
- Hence Lot went on out and began to speak to his sons-in-law who were to take his daughters, and he kept on saying; Get up! Get out of this place, because Yehowah is bringing the city to

- ruin! But in the **eyes** of his sons-in-law he seemed like a man who was joking. (**Genesis 19:14**)
- The way of the foolish one is right in his own **eyes**, but the one listening to counsel is wise. (**Proverbs 12:15**)
 - Jesus said to them; Did you never read in the Scriptures; The stone that the builders rejected is the one that has become the chief cornerstone. From Yehowah this has come to be, and it is marvelous in our **eyes**? (**Matthew 21:42**)
 - **Presence**
 - No, my lord! Listen to me. The field I do give to you, and the cave that is in it to you I do give it. Before the **eyes** of the sons of my people I do give it to you. Bury your dead. (**Genesis 23:11**)
 - **Knowledge**
 - It must then occur that if it has been done far from the **eyes** of the assembly by mistake, the whole assembly must then render up one young bull as a burnt offering for a restful odor to Yehowah, and its grain offering and its drink offering according to the regular procedure, and one kid of the goats as a sin offering. (**Numbers 15:24**)
 - **Attention**
 - After that you said to your slaves, Bring him down to me that I may set my **eye** upon him. (**Genesis 44:21**)
 - With that he rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the attendant and sat down, and the **eyes** of all in the synagogue were intently fixed upon him. (**Luke 4:20**)
 - **Or sympathy.**
 - He that is giving to the one of little means will have no want, but he that is hiding his **eyes** will get many curses. (**Proverbs 28:27**)
 - The **Hebrew** word **'a'yin** , **eye**, can also refer to the appearance of something, as the visible surface of the earth.
 - And they will actually cover the visible surface of the earth and it

will not be possible to see the earth, and they will simply eat up the rest of what has escaped, what has been left to you people by the hail, and they will certainly eat every sprouting tree of yours out of the field. (**Exodus 10:5**) Footnote

- The look of manna and electrum.
- Incidentally, the manna was like coriander seed, and its look was like the **look** of bdellium gum. (**Numbers 11:7**) Footnote
- And I began to see, and, look! There was a tempestuous wind coming from the north, a great cloud mass and quivering fire, and it had a brightness all around, and out of the midst of it there was something like the **look** of electrum, out of the midst of the fire. (**Ezekiel 1:4**)
- The sparkle of wine.
- Do not **look** at wine when it exhibits a red color, when it gives off its sparkle in the cup, when it goes with a slickness. (**Proverbs 23:31**)
- The likeness of an expanse.
- And over the heads of the living creatures there was the **likeness** of an expanse like the sparkle of awesome ice, stretched out over their heads up above. (**Ezekiel 1:22**)
- And the sight of copper.
- And his body was like chrysolite, and his face like the appearance of lightning, and his **eyes** like fiery torches, and his arms and the place of his feet were like the **sight** of burnished copper, and the sound of his words was like the sound of a crowd. (**Daniel 10:6**)
- So I said, What is it? In turn he said, This is the ephah measure that is going forth. And he went on to say; This is their aspect in all the earth. (**Zechariah 5:6**) Footnote

••Seeing God

- Jesus. Spirit creatures, angels, are able to behold the brilliance of Yehowah.

- See to it that you men do not despise one of these little ones, for I tell you that their angels in heaven always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven. ([Matthew 18:10](#))
- In reply the angel said to him; I am Gabriel, who stands near before God, and I was sent forth to speak with you and declare the Good News of these things to you. ([Luke 1:19](#))
- An experience that no human **eyes** could endure, for Yehowah himself told Moses; No man may see me and yet live.
- And he added; You are not able to see my face, because no man may see me and yet live. ([Exodus 33:20](#))
- John said; No man has seen God at any time.
- No man has seen God at any time, the only-begotten god who is in the bosom position with the Father is the one that has explained him. ([John 1:18](#))
- Therefore, when Jesus told his disciple Philip; He that has seen me has seen the Father also.
- Jesus said to him; Have I been with you men so long a time, and yet, Philip, you have not come to know me? He that has seen me has seen the Father also. How is it you say; Show us the Father? ([John 14:9](#))
- And when the apostle John said; He that does bad has not seen God.
- Beloved one, be an imitator, not of what is bad, but of what is good. He that does good originates with God. He that does bad has not seen God. ([3 John 1:11](#))
- Obviously they were speaking of seeing God, not with ones physical **eyes**, but with what the apostle Paul described as the **eyes** of the heart.
- The **eyes** of your heart having been enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he called you, what the glorious riches are which he holds as an inheritance for the holy ones. ([Ephesians 1:18](#))

- Those who see with the **eyes** of the heart are those who have really come to know God, appreciating his qualities, and that is why John could say; He that does not love has not come to know God, because God is love.
- He that does not love has not come to know God, because God is love. (**1 John 4:8**)
- So, too, in view of the fact that Jesus said the world would behold him no more.
- A little longer and the world will **behold** me no more, but you will behold me, because I live and you will live. (**John 14:19**)
- The statement at;
- Look! He is coming with the clouds, and every **eye** will see him, and those who pierced him, and all the tribes of the earth will beat themselves in grief because of him. Yes, Amen. (**Revelation 1:7**)
- Every **eye** will see him, that is Jesus Christ, must have reference, not to the literal **eye**, but, rather, to the effect upon the mind of human observers of the evidences that they can see with their literal **eyes** when he goes forth to destroy his enemies. The Bible plainly indicates, however, that those whom God calls to heavenly life with Christ will literally see God, which requires for them resurrection in a heavenly spiritual body.
- To an incorruptible and undefiled and unfading inheritance. It is reserved in the heavens for you. (**1 Peter 1:4**)
- However, this I say, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit God's kingdom, neither does corruption inherit incorruption. (**1 Corinthians 15:50**)
- Look! I tell you a sacred secret. We shall not all fall asleep in death, but we shall all be changed. (**1 Corinthians 15:51**)
- In a moment, in the twinkling of an **eye**, during the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised up incorruptible, and we shall be changed. (**1 Corinthians 15:52**)
- For this which is corruptible must put on incorruption, and this

which is mortal must put on immortality. (**1 Corinthians 15:53**)

- But when this which is corruptible puts on incorruption and this which is mortal puts on immortality, then the saying will take place that is written; Death is swallowed up forever. (**1 Corinthians 15:54**)
- Why, even Christ died once for all time concerning sins, a righteous person for unrighteous ones, that he might lead you to God, he being put to death in the flesh, but being made alive in the spirit. (**1 Peter 3:18**)

•• Spiritual Sight

- The spiritual **eye** as well as the physical **eye** is a gift of God.
- The hearing ear and the seeing **eye** Yehowah himself has made even both of them. (**Proverbs 20:12**)
- He promises to heal spiritual **eyes** as well as physical ones and to remove all causes for tears.
- At that time the **eyes** of the blind ones will be opened, and the very ears of the deaf ones will be unstopped. (**Isaiah 35:5**)
- And he will wipe out every tear from their **eyes**, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away. (**Revelation 21:4**)
- One cannot understand God's purposes without the gift of spiritual **eyesight**. On the other hand, Yehowah hides his truth from the eyes of those who are stubborn or rebellious, letting their **eyes** become darkened.
- Just as it is written: God has given them a spirit of deep sleep, **eyes** so as not to see and ears so as not to hear, down to this very day. (**Romans 11:8**)
- Also, David says; Let their table become for them a snare and a trap and a stumbling block and a retribution. (**Romans 11:9**)
- Let their **eyes** become darkened so as not to see, and always bow down their back. (**Romans 11:10**)

- **Saying; If you, even you, had discerned in this day the things having to do with peace, but now they have been hid from your eyes. (Luke 19:42)**
- **They have literal eyes, but they cannot see spiritually.**
- **Hear, now, this, O unwise people that is without heart. They have eyes, but they cannot see. They have ears, but they cannot hear. (Jeremiah 5:21)**
- **We keep groping for the wall just like blind men, and like those without eyes we keep groping. We have stumbled at high noon just as in evening darkness, among the stout ones we are just like dead people. (Isaiah 59:10)**
- **Jesus also pointed out that one's spiritual vision must be kept sharp and in focus. He said; The lamp of the body is the eye. If, then, your eye is simple, sincere, all one way, in focus, generous, your whole body will be bright, but if your eye is wicked, your whole body will be dark. If in reality the light that is in you is darkness, how great that darkness is!**
- **The lamp of the body is the eye. If, then, your eye is simple, your whole body will be bright. (Matthew 6:22)**
- **But if your eye is wicked, your whole body will be dark. If in reality the light that is in you is darkness, how great that darkness is! (Matthew 6:23)**
- **Jesus further counsels that a person should not presume to offer to extract a mere straw from his brothers eye to help him to render more acceptable judgments, when one's own ability to render proper judgment is impaired by a rafter.**
- **Why, then, do you look at the straw in your brothers eye, but do not consider the rafter in your own eye? (Matthew 7:3)**
- **Or how can you say to your brother; Allow me to extract the straw from your eye. When, look! A rafter is in your own eye? (Matthew 7:4)**
- **Hypocrite! First extract the rafter from your own eye, and then you will see clearly how to extract the straw from your brothers eye. (Matthew 7:5)**

- The apostle John saw the throne of God and in conjunction with it four living creatures full of **eyes** in front and behind.
- And before the throne there is, as it were, a glassy sea like crystal. And in the midst of the throne and around the throne there are four living creatures that are full of **eyes** in front and behind. (**Revelation 4:6**)
- And as for the four living creatures, each one of them respectively has six wings, round about and underneath they are full of **eyes**. And they have no rest day and night as they say; Holy, holy, holy is Yehowah God, the Almighty, who was and who is and who is coming. (**Revelation 4:8**)
- Creatures with such equipment could be continually on the watch, able to see all things. They would be fully aware of what was taking place here on earth and would take note of God in all things and observe all his indications of what he wanted done.
- Look! As the **eyes** of servants are toward the hand of their master, as the **eyes** of a maidservant are toward the hand of her mistress, so our eyes are toward Yehowah our God until he shows us favor. (**Psalms 123:2**)
- And as for their rims, they had such height that they caused fearfulness, and their rims were full of **eyes** all around the four of them. (**Ezekiel 1:18**)
- And all their flesh and their backs and their hands and their wings and the wheels were full of **eyes** all around. The four of them had their wheels. (**Ezekiel 10:12**)
- Yehowah counsels his servants not to let his sayings get away from their **eyes**.
- My son, to my words do pay attention. To my sayings incline your ear. (**Proverbs 4:20**)
- May they not get away from your **eyes**. Keep them in the midst of your heart. (**Proverbs 4:21**)
- With that he turned to the disciples by themselves and said, Happy are the **eyes** that behold the things you are beholding.

(Luke 10:23)

See Also BLINDNESS

See Also NEEDLES EYE