## ~FIRE HOLDER (316)

### ·· Misuses

- Fire holders were used in various ways in connection with the service at the sanctuary. There were gold fire holders that apparently served as containers for holding the pieces of burnt lampwick removed from the lamps on the golden lampstand.
- And its snuffers and its fire holders are of pure gold. (Exodus 25:38)
- Then he made its seven lamps and its snuffers and its fire holders out of pure gold. (Exodus 37:23)
- And they must take a cloth of blue and cover the lampstand of the luminary and its lamps and its snuffers and its fire holders and all its vessels for oil with which they regularly minister to it. (Numbers 4:9)
- The copper fire holders of the altar of burnt offering evidently served as ashpans or utensils for removing coals from the fire.
- And you must make its cans for clearing away its fatty ashes, and its shovels, and its bowls, and its forks, and its fire holders, and you will make all its utensils of copper. (Exodus 27:3)
- After that he made all the utensils of the altar, the cans and the shovels and the bowls, the forks and the fire holders. All its utensils he made of copper. (Exodus 38:3)
- Additionally, fire holders were used to burn incense.
- Later on Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu took up and brought each one his fire holder and put fire in them and placed incense upon it, and they began offering before Yehowah illegitimate fire, which he had not prescribed for them. (Leviticus 10:1)
- Each morning and between the two evenings, the High Priest made perfumed incense smoke upon the golden altar of incense.
- And Aaron must make perfumed incense smoke upon it. Morning by morning, when he dresses the lamps, he will make it smoke.

### (Exodus 30:7)

- And when Aaron lights up the lamps between the two evenings, he will make it smoke. It is an incense constantly before Yehowah during your generations. (Exodus 30:8)
- The fire holders as well as the other utensils used with the lampstand and with the altar of burnt offering had to be covered when the Israelites broke camp and the tabernacle was transported to another location during their journeys.
- And they must take a cloth of blue and cover the lampstand of the luminary and its lamps and its snuffers and its fire holders and all its vessels for oil with which they regularly minister to it. (Numbers 4:9)
- And they must put upon it all its utensils with which they regularly minister at it, the fire holders, the forks and the shovels and the bowls, all the utensils of the altar, and they must spread out over it a covering of sealskins and put in its poles. (Numbers 4:14)
- Solomon made fire holders of gold and silver for the temple, the plans of which had been given to David by inspiration. Possibly these were of more ornate form than those used in the tabernacle in the wilderness.
- And Solomon gradually made all the utensils that pertained to the house of Yehowah, the altar of gold and the table on which was the showbread, of gold. (1 Kings 7:48)
- And the lampstands, five to the right and five to the left before the innermost room, of pure gold, and the blossoms and the lamps and the snuffers, of gold. (1 Kings 7:49)
- And the basins and the extinguishers and the bowls and the cups and the fire holders, of pure gold, and the sockets for the doors of the inner house, that is, the Most Holy, and for the doors of the house of the temple, of gold. (1 Kings 7:50)
- And David proceeded to give Solomon his son the architectural plan of the porch and of its houses and its storerooms and its roof chambers and its dark inner rooms and the house of the propitiatory cover. (1 Chronicles 28:11)

- Even the architectural plan of everything that had come to be with him by inspiration for the courtyards of Yehowah's house and for all the dining rooms all around, for the treasures of the house of the true God and for the treasures of the things made holy. (1 Chronicles 28:12)
- And for the divisions of the priests and of the Levites and for all the work of the service of Yehowah's house and for all the utensils of the service of Yehowah's house. (1 Chronicles 28:13)
- For the gold by weight, the gold for all the utensils for the different services, for all the utensils of silver by weight, for all the utensils for the different services. (1 Chronicles 28:14)
- And the weight for the lampstands of gold and their lamps of gold, by weight of the different lampstands and their lamps, and for the lampstands of silver by weight for the lampstand and its lamps according to the service of the different lampstands. (1 Chronicles 28:15)
- And the gold by weight for the tables of the layer bread, for the different tables, and silver for the tables of silver. (1 Chronicles 28:16)
- And the forks and the bowls and the pitchers of pure gold, and for the small gold bowls by weight for the different small bowls, and for the small silver bowls by weight for the different small bowls. (1 Chronicles 28:17)
- And for the incense altar refined gold by weight and for the representation of the chariot, namely, the cherubs of gold for spreading their wings out and screening over the ark of the covenant of Yehowah. (1 Chronicles 28:18)
- He gave insight for the entire thing in writing from the hand of Yehowah upon me, even for all the works of the architectural plan. (1 Chronicles 28:19)
- And Solomon proceeded to make all the utensils that were at the house of the true God and the golden altar and the tables with the showbread upon them. (2 Chronicles 4:19)
- And the lampstands and their lamps of pure gold, to light them

- up before the innermost room according to the rule. (2 Chronicles 4:20)
- And the blossoms and the lamps and the snuffers, of gold, it was the purest gold. (2 Chronicles 4:21)
- And the extinguishers and the bowls and the cups and the fire holders, of pure gold, and the entrance of the house, its inner doors for the Most Holy and the doors of the house of the temple, of gold. (2 Chronicles 4:22)
- Mention is made of genuine gold and silver fire holders being taken from the temple at the time of the Babylonian exile.
- And the chief of the bodyguard took the fire holders and the bowls that were of genuine gold and those that were of genuine silver. (2 Kings 25:15)
- And the basins and the fire holders and the bowls and the cans and the lampstands and the cups and the bowls that were of genuine gold, and those that were of genuine silver, the chief of the bodyguard took. (Jeremiah 52:19)
- This had a golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid all around with gold, in which were the golden jar having the manna and the rod of Aaron that budded and the tablets of the covenant. (Hebrews 9:4)
- Reference is made to an object that, along with the ark of the covenant, pertained to or was associated with the Most Holy. In Greek it is called, *thy-mi-a-te'ri-on*.
- That word refers to something connected with the burning of incense. Was it the altar of incense? Some translations present the matter that way, and the use of the word by Philo and Josephus with reference to the altar of incense is cited in support. NIV, NE, JB, RS
- Of course, it is well known that the altar of incense was not actually in the Most Holy.
- And you must make an altar as a place for burning incense, out of acacia wood you will make it. (Exodus 30:1)
- And you must put it before the curtain that is near the ark of the

testimony, before the cover that is over the Testimony, where I shall present myself to you. (Exodus 30:6)

- But it was immediately outside the curtain, or toward the innermost room, as;
- And the whole house he overlaid with gold, until all the house was completed, and all the altar that was toward the innermost room he overlaid with gold. (1 Kings 6:22)
- And you must place the ark of the testimony in it and shut off approach to the Ark with the curtain. (Exodus 40:3)
- And you must bring the table in and set its arrangement in order, and you must bring in the lampstand and light up its lamps. (Exodus 40:4)
- And you must put the golden altar for incense before the ark of the testimony and put the screen of the entrance for the tabernacle in place. (Exodus 40:5)
- On the other hand, *thy-mi-a-te'ri-on* can properly be rendered censer, and a censer was actually taken into the Most Holy by the High Priest on Atonement Day.
- And he must take the fire holder full of burning coals of fire from off the altar before Yehowah, and the hollows of both his hands full of fine perfumed incense, and he must bring them inside the curtain. (Leviticus 16:12)
- He must also put the incense upon the fire before Yehowah, and the cloud of the incense must overspread the Ark cover, which is upon the Testimony, that he may not die. (Leviticus 16:13)
- In the Greek Septuagint, the word *thy-mi-a-te'ri-on* is always used with reference to the censer. LXX
- But Uzziah became enraged while in his hand there was a censer for burning incense, and, during his rage against the priests, leprosy itself flashed up in his forehead before the priests in the house of Yehowah beside the altar of incense. (2 Chronicles 26:19)
- And seventy men of the elderly ones of the house of Israel, with

Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan standing in among them, were standing before them, each one with his censer in his hand, and the perfume of the cloud of the incense was ascending. (Ezekiel 8:11)

- Though a different word is used at;
- And he must take the fire holder full of burning coals of fire from off the altar before Yehowah, and the hollows of both his hands full of fine perfumed incense, and he must bring them inside the curtain. (Leviticus 16:12)
- When describing events of Atonement Day. The Jewish Mishnah, however, indicates that a special golden censer came to be used on Atonement Day. [Yoma 4:4][Yoma 5:1][Yoma 7:4]
- So, with good reason, some translators prefer to render *thy-mi-a-te'ri-on* as censer. NW, CC, Dy, Yg, Da, Kx

#### ·· Misuses

- Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu used their fire holders to offer illegitimate fire before Yehowah and lost their lives as a result.
- Later on Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu took up and brought each one his fire holder and put fire in them and placed incense upon it, and they began offering before Yehowah illegitimate fire, which he had not prescribed for them. (Leviticus 10:1)
- At this a fire came out from before Yehowah and consumed them, so that they died before Yehowah. (Leviticus 10:2)
- Likewise the rebellious 250 men headed by Korah were consumed by fire when they presented their copper fire holders before Yehowah.
- Then Moses said to Korah; You and all your assembly, be present before Yehowah, you and they and Aaron, tomorrow. (Numbers 16:16)
- And take each one his fire holder, and you men must put incense upon them and present each one his fire holder before Yehowah, two hundred and fifty fire holders, and you and Aaron each his fire holder. (Numbers 16:17)

- And take each one his fire holder, and you men must put incense upon them and present each one his fire holder before Yehowah, two hundred and fifty fire holders, and you and Aaron each his fire holder. (Numbers 16:17)
- And a fire came out from Yehowah and proceeded to consume the two hundred and fifty men offering the incense. (Numbers 16:35)
- Accordingly Eleazar the priest took the copper fire holders, which those who had been burned up had presented, and they proceeded to beat them out into an overlaying for the altar. (Numbers 16:39)
- King Uzziah was smitten with leprosy while using a censer illegally.
- Then they stood up against Uzziah the king and said to him; It is not your business, O Uzziah, to burn incense to Yehowah, but it is the business of the priests the sons of Aaron, the ones sanctified, to burn incense. Go out from the sanctuary, for you have acted unfaithfully, and it is not for any glory to you on the part of Yehowah God. (2 Chronicles 26:18)
- But Uzziah became enraged while in his hand there was a censer for burning incense, and, during his rage against the priests, leprosy itself flashed up in his forehead before the priests in the house of Yehowah beside the altar of incense. (2 Chronicles 26:19)
- The 70 older men of Israel seen in Ezekiel's vision were using censers to offer incense to idols.
- So I went in and began to see, and, look! There was every representation of creeping things and loathsome beasts, and all the dungy idols of the house of Israel, the carving being upon the wall all round about. (Ezekiel 8:10)
- And seventy men of the elderly ones of the house of Israel, with Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan standing in among them, were standing before them, each one with his censer in his hand, and the perfume of the cloud of the incense was ascending. (Ezekiel 8:11)

# **See Also INCENSE**