

~FRAUD (224)

[Hebrew, *a-shaq'*, Greek, *a-po-ste-re'o*]

- The **intentional use of deception, trickery, or perversion of truth for the purpose of inducing another to part with some valuable thing** belonging to him or to give up a legal right. The **Hebrew** term rendered defraud *'a-shaq'*.
- In case a soul sins in that he does behave unfaithfully toward Yehowah and does deceive his associate about something in his charge or a deposit in hand or a robbery or he does def**raud** his associate. (**Leviticus 6:2**)
- Has the basic sense of misusing ones strength, power, or authority over others. It is thus also rendered oppress.
- And I myself returned that I might see all the acts of oppression that are being done under the sun, and, look! The tears of those being oppressed, but they had no comforter, and on the side of their oppressors there was power, so that they had no comforter. (**Ecclesiastes 4:1**)
- For this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; It was to Egypt that my people went down in the first instance to reside there as aliens, and without cause Assyria, for its part, oppressed them. (**Isaiah 52:4**)
- The **Greek** verb *a-po-ste-re'o* means **deprive, defraud, despoil**.
- Do not be **depriving** each other of it, except by mutual consent for an appointed time, that you may devote time to prayer and may come together again, that Satan may not keep tempting you for your lack of self-regulation. (**1 Corinthians 7:5**)
- You know the commandments, Do not murder. Do not commit adultery. Do not steal. Do not bear false witness. Do not def**raud**. Honor your father and mother. (**Mark 10:19**)
- Violent disputes about trifles on the part of men corrupted in mind and **despoiled** of the truth, thinking that godly devotion is a means of gain. (**1 Timothy 6:5**)

- The Greek noun *do'los*, **fraud**.
- And said; O man full of every sort of **fraud** and every sort of villainy, you son of the Devil, you enemy of everything righteous, will you not quit distorting the right ways of Yehowah? (**Acts of Apostles 13:10**)
- Is also rendered **deceit**.
- Adulteries, covetings, acts of wickedness, **deceit**, loose conduct, an envious eye, blasphemy, haughtiness, unreasonableness. (**Mark 7:22**)
- **Fraud**, as dealt with in the Bible, is generally associated with business relationships. Dishonest business dealings are forbidden by God's law. The Israelites were to deal honestly with one another. The hired laborer was specifically protected by the Law.
- You must not defraud your fellow, and you must not rob. The wages of a hired laborer should not stay all night with you until morning. (**Leviticus 19:13**)
- You must not defraud a hired laborer who is in trouble and poor, whether of your brothers or of your alien residents who are in your land, within your gates. (**Deuteronomy 24:14**)
- Look! The wages due the workers who harvested your fields but which are held up by you, keep crying out, and the calls for help on the part of the reapers have entered into the ears of Yehowah of armies. (**James 5:4**)
- Jesus Christ included the injunction against **fraud** among the commandments of God.
- You know the commandments, Do not murder. Do not commit adultery. Do not steal. Do not bear false witness. Do not defraud. Honor your father and mother. (**Mark 10:19**)
- Under the Law covenant, if a man defrauded his associate and later repented and brought the matter to light, confessing it, he was required to restore the full amount plus one fifth of it to the person injured, as well as to offer a guilt offering to Yehowah.
- And Yehowah went on to speak to Moses, saying; (**Leviticus 6:1**)

- In case a soul sins in that he does behave unfaithfully toward Yehowah and does deceive his associate about something in his charge or a deposit in hand or a robbery or he does defraud his associate. (**Leviticus 6:2**)
- Or he does find something lost and is actually **deceptive** about it and does swear falsely over any of all the things that the man might do to sin by them. (**Leviticus 6:3**)
- Then it must occur that in case he sins and indeed becomes guilty, he must return the robbed thing which he has robbed or the extorted thing which he has taken by **fraud** or the thing in his charge which was put in his charge or the thing lost that he has found. (**Leviticus 6:4**)
- Or anything at all over which he might swear falsely, and he must make compensation for it in its full amount, and he will add to it a fifth of it. To the one whose it is he will give it on the day his guilt is proved. (**Leviticus 6:5**)
- And as his guilt offering he will bring to Yehowah a sound ram from the flock according to the estimated value, for a guilt offering, to the priest. (**Leviticus 6:6**)
- And the priest must make an atonement for him before Yehowah, and so it must be forgiven him regarding any of all the things that he might do resulting in guiltiness by it. (**Leviticus 6:7**)
- **False forms of religion** likewise are considered **fraudulent** in the Scriptures. Paul's sharp denunciation of Elymas the sorcerer resulted in Elymas being struck with blindness because of the **fraud** and **villainy** he had practiced by distorting the right ways of Yehowah.
- But Elymas the sorcerer that, in fact, is the way his name is translated began opposing them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. (**Acts of Apostles 13:8**)
- Saul, who is also Paul, becoming filled with Holy Spirit, looked at him intently (**Acts of Apostles 13:9**)
- And said; O man full of every sort of **fraud** and every sort of villainy, you son of the Devil, you enemy of everything righteous, will you not quit distorting the right ways of Yehowah? (**Acts of**

Apostles 13:10)

- Well, then, look! Yehowah's hand is upon you, and you will be blind, not seeing the sunlight for a period of time. Instantly a thick mist and darkness fell upon him, and he went around seeking men to lead him by the hand. (**Acts of Apostles 13:11**)
- Paul also corrected Christians in Corinth who were taking one another to court, stating that they were wronging and defrauding their brothers by this action of going to court before unrighteous men and not before the holy ones in the congregation. They should rather suffer being defrauded than to take such matters before men of the world.
- Does anyone of you that has a case against the other dare to go to court before unrighteous men, and not before the holy ones? (**1 Corinthians 6:1**)
- Or do you not know that the holy ones will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you unfit to try very trivial matters? (**1 Corinthians 6:2**)
- Do you not know that we shall judge angels? Why, then, not matters of this life? (**1 Corinthians 6:3**)
- If, then, you do have matters of this life to be tried, is it the men looked down upon in the congregation that you put in as judges? (**1 Corinthians 6:4**)
- I am speaking to move you to shame. Is it true that there is not one wise man among you that will be able to judge between his brothers. (**1 Corinthians 6:5**)
- But brother goes to court with brother, and that before unbelievers? (**1 Corinthians 6:6**)
- Really, then, it means altogether a defeat for you that you are having lawsuits with one another. Why do you not rather let yourselves be wronged? Why do you not rather let yourselves be defrauded? (**1 Corinthians 6:7**)
- To the contrary, you wrong and defraud, and your brothers at that. (**1 Corinthians 6:8**)

- The Bible frequently warns against **fraud** and **fraudulent** practices and denounces them, also pointing out that God will judge defrauders and will deliver his people from such ones.
- Do not put your trust in **defrauding**, nor become vain in sheer robbery. In case the means of maintenance should thrive, do not set your heart on them. (**Psalms 62:10**)
- Let him judge the afflicted ones of the people, let him save the sons of the poor one, and let him crush the **defrauder**. (**Psalms 72:4**)
- Yehowah is executing acts of righteousness and judicial decisions for all those being **defrauded**. (**Psalms 103:6**)
- He that is **defrauding** the lowly one has reproached his Maker, but the one showing favor to the poor one is glorifying Him. (**Proverbs 14:31**)
- He that is **defrauding** the lowly one to supply many things to himself, he also that is giving to the rich one, is surely destined for want. (**Proverbs 22:16**)
- A leader that is in want of true discernment is also abundant in **fraudulent** practices, but he that is hating unjust profit will prolong his days. (**Proverbs 28:16**)
- Woe to those who are scheming what is harmful, and to those practicing what is bad, upon their beds! By the light of the morning they proceed to do it, because it is in the power of their hand. (**Micah 2:1**)
- And they have desired fields and have seized them, also houses, and have taken them, and they have **defrauded** an able-bodied man and his household, a man and his hereditary possession. (**Micah 2:2**)
- And I will come near to you people for the judgment, and I will become a speedy witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against those swearing falsely, and against those acting **fraudulently** with the wages of a wage worker, with the widow and with the fatherless boy, and those turning away the alien resident, while they have not feared me, Yehowah of armies has said. (**Malachi 3:5**)

