

## ~GARLAND (161)

[Hebrew, *tsephi-rah*]

- An ornamental wreath worn on the head. The Hebrew term *tsephi-rah* or garland, was used symbolically in a prophecy of Yehowah's judgment on Samaria, the capital city of Ephraim, that is, the ten-tribe kingdom of Israel.
- Samaria was at that time full of political drunkards, drunk over the northern kingdoms independence from Judah and over its political alliances with Syria and other enemies of Yehowah's kingdom in Judah.
- And Yehowah proceeded to say to Isaiah; Go out, please, to meet Ahaz, you and Shear-jashub your son, to the end of the conduit of the upper pool by the highway of the laundryman's field. ([Isaiah 7:3](#))
- And you must say to him, Watch yourself and keep undisturbed. Do not be afraid, and do not let your heart itself be timid because of the two tail ends of these smoking logs, because of the hot anger of Rezin and Syria and the son of Remaliah. ([Isaiah 7:4](#))
- For the reason that Syria with Ephraim and the son of Remaliah has advised what is bad against you, saying; ([Isaiah 7:5](#))
- Let us go up against Judah and tear it apart and by breakthroughs take it for ourselves, and let us make another king reign inside it, the son of Tabeel. ([Isaiah 7:6](#))
- This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; It will not stand, neither will it take place. ([Isaiah 7:7](#))
- For the head of Syria is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin, and within just sixty-five years Ephraim will be shattered to pieces so as not to be a people. ([Isaiah 7:8](#))
- And the head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is the son of Remaliah. Unless you people have faith, you will in that case not be of long duration. ([Isaiah 7:9](#))

- Just as drunkards would wear **garlands** of flowers on their heads during their wine bouts, so Samaria wore the **garland** of this political power.
- It was a decoration of beauty but was a fading blossom that would disappear. Then Yehowah would become for the remaining ones of his people as a crown of decoration and as a **garland**, or diadem according to several translations of beauty.
- Woe to the eminent crown of the drunkards of Ephraim, and the **fading blossom of its decoration of beauty** that is upon the head of the fertile valley of those overpowered by wine! (**Isaiah 28:1**)
- Look! Yehowah has someone strong and vigorous. Like a thunderous storm of hail, a destructive storm, like a thunderous storm of powerful, flooding waters, he will certainly do a casting down to the earth with force. (**Isaiah 28:2**)
- With the feet the eminent crowns of the drunkards of Ephraim will be trampled down. (**Isaiah 28:3**)
- And the **fading flower of its decoration of beauty** that is upon the head of the fertile valley must become like the early fig before summer, that, when the seer sees it, while it is yet in his palm, he swallows it down. (**Isaiah 28:4**)
- In that day Yehowah of armies will become as a crown of decoration and as a **garland** of beauty to the ones remaining over of his people. (**Isaiah 28:5**)
- The same **Hebrew** word appears at;
- The **garland** must come to you, O inhabiter of the land, the time must come, the day is near. There is confusion, and not the shouting of the mountains. (**Ezekiel 7:7**)
- Look! The day! Look! It is coming. The **garland** has gone forth. The rod has blossomed. Presumptuousness has sprouted. (**Ezekiel 7:10**)
- Translators, however, are uncertain as to the sense or application of the word in this case. A similar Aramaic word means morning, and Lamsa's translation of the **Syriac Peshitta** here reads dawn, rather than **garland**, or diadem.

- Some translators, **AS, AT, RS**, link the word with a cognate **Arabic** noun and render it as doom. Still others, on the belief that the root meaning of the **Hebrew** word is to go round, translate it as turn, in the sense of a turn of events. **JB, JP, Ro**
- In the **Christian Greek Scriptures**, the plural form of the **Greek** word *stem'ma*, **garland**, appears at;
- And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was before the city, brought bulls and **garlands** to the gates and was desiring to offer sacrifices with the crowds. (**Acts of Apostles 14:13**)
- As there related, the priest of Zeus at Lystra brought bulls and **garlands** to the city gates to offer sacrifices, because the people supposed that Paul and Barnabas were gods.
- They may have intended to put **garlands** on the heads of Paul and Barnabas, as was sometimes done to idols, or on themselves and the sacrificial animals. Such **garlands** were generally made up of foliage supposed to be pleasing to the god worshiped.
- Now in Lystra there was sitting a certain man disabled in his feet, lame from his mother's womb, and he had never walked at all. (**Acts of Apostles 14:8**)
- This man was listening to Paul speak, who, on looking at him intently and seeing he had faith to be made well. (**Acts of Apostles 14:9**)
- Said with a loud voice; Stand up erect on your feet. And he leaped up and began walking. (**Acts of Apostles 14:10**)
- And the crowds, seeing what Paul had done, raised their voices, saying in the Lycaonian tongue; The gods have become like human's and have come down to us! (**Acts of Apostles 14:11**)
- And they went calling Barnabas Zeus, but Paul Hermes, since he was the one taking the lead in speaking. (**Acts of Apostles 14:12**)
- And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was before the city, brought bulls and **garlands** to the gates and was desiring to offer sacrifices with the crowds. (**Acts of Apostles 14:13**)

- **However, when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they ripped their outer garments and leaped out into the crowd, crying out ([Acts of Apostles 14:14](#))**
- **And saying; Men, why are you doing these things? We also are human's having the same infirmities as you do, and are declaring the Good News to you, for you to turn from these vain things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all the things in them. ([Acts of Apostles 14:15](#))**
- **In the past generations he permitted all the nations to go on in their ways. ([Acts of Apostles 14:16](#))**
- **Although, indeed, he did not leave himself without witness in that he did good, giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling your hearts to the full with food and good cheer. ([Acts of Apostles 14:17](#))**
- **And yet by saying these things they scarcely restrained the crowds from sacrificing to them. ([Acts of Apostles 14:18](#))**

**See Also CROWN**