

~HAND (1132)

[Hebrews, *yadh*, Greek, *kheir*]

- Manual Gestures And Their Significance
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- The terminal part of the arm. The hand, as used in the Scriptures, at times includes the wrist, as at;
- Consequently it came about that, when the camels had finished drinking, then the man took a gold nose ring of a half shekel in weight and two bracelets for her **hands**, ten shekels of gold was their weight. ([Genesis 24:22](#))
- And it came about that on seeing the nose ring and the bracelets on the **hands** of his sister and on hearing the words of Rebekah his sister, saying; This is the way the man spoke to me, then he came to the man and there he was, standing by the camels at the fountain. ([Genesis 24:30](#))
- After that I asked her and said; Whose daughter are you? to which she said; The daughter of Bethuel the son of Nahor, whom Milcah bore to him. Accordingly I put the nose ring on her nostril and **the bracelets on her hands**. ([Genesis 24:47](#))
- And I went on to deck you with ornaments and to put bracelets upon your **hands** and a necklace about your throat. ([Ezekiel 16:11](#))
- And I went on to deck you with ornaments and to put bracelets upon your **hands** and a necklace about your throat. ([Ezekiel 16:11](#))
- Where bracelets are said to be worn on the **hands**, and at;
- He, for his part, came as far as Lehi, and the Philistines, for their part, shouted exultantly at meeting him. And Yehowah's spirit became operative upon him, and the ropes that were upon his

arms came to be like linen threads that have been scorched with fire, so that his fetters melted off his **hands**. (**Judges 15:14**)

- Where mention is made of the fetters on Samson's **hands**. The hand applies the power of the arm and directs it, so, in many cases where it appears in figurative speech, the idea of applied power can be associated with the word **hand**.
- And Pharaoh will not listen to you men, and I shall have to lay my **hand** upon Egypt and bring my armies, my people, the sons of Israel, out from the land of Egypt with great judgments. (**Exodus 7:4**)
- And Moses went on to say to the people; Let there be a remembering of this day on which you went out of Egypt, from the house of slaves, because by strength of **hand** Yehowah brought you out from here. So nothing leavened may be eaten. (**Exodus 13:3**)
- And the **hand** of Yehowah also proved to be upon them to disquiet them out of the midst of the camp, until they came to their end. (**Deuteronomy 2:15**)
- And all that heard made note of it in their hearts, saying; What really will this young child be? For the **hand** of Yehowah was indeed with it. (**Luke 1:66**)
- Since the human **hand** is very dexterous and versatile and a part of the body with which work is done, it is used symbolically in many Bible texts to denote a wide range of actions.
- The common **Hebrew** term for **hand** is *yadh*, at times, the word *kaph* is rendered **hand**, but it literally means palm.
- He will rescue an innocent man, and you will certainly be rescued for the cleanness of your **hands**. (**Job 22:30**) **Footnote**
- The usual **Greek** term for hand is *kheir*.

•• Manual Gestures And Their Significance

- The **hands** were employed in gestures to express various things. They were lifted in prayer, the palms usually turned toward heaven in appeal

- And he began standing before the altar of Yehowah in front of all the congregation of Israel, and he now spread out his palms. (**2 Chronicles 6:12**)
- Then Ezra blessed Yehowah the true God, the great One, at which all the people answered, Amen! Amen! With the lifting up of their **hands**. They then bowed low and prostrated themselves to Yehowah with their faces to the earth. (**Nehemiah 8:6**)
- **Lifted in oaths**
- At this Abram said to the king of Sodom; I do lift up my **hand** in an oath to Yehowah the Most High God, Producer of heaven and earth. (**Genesis 14:22**)
- **Touched to the mouth in a form of salute,**
- And my heart began to be enticed in secrecy and my **hand** proceeded to kiss my mouth. (**Job 31:27**)
- **Clapped in joy, as in applause,**
- Then he brought the son of the king out and put upon him the diadem and the Testimony, and so they made him king and anointed him. And they began to clap their **hands** and say; Let the king live! (**2 Kings 11:12**)
- **Or in anger or derision,**
- At that Balak's anger blazed against Balaam and he clapped his **hands**, and Balak went on to say to Balaam; It was to execrate my enemies that I called you, and, look! You have blessed them to the limit these three times. (**Numbers 24:10**)
- One will clap his **hands** at him and will whistle at him from his place. (**Job 27:23**)
- There is no relief for your catastrophe. Your stroke has become unhealable. All those hearing the report about you will certainly clap their **hands** at you, because upon whom was it that your badness did not pass over constantly? (**Nahum 3:19**)
- **Waved in threat**

- It is yet day in Nob to make a halt. He waves his **hand** threateningly at the mountain of the daughter of Zion, the hill of Jerusalem. (**Isaiah 10:32**)
- Placed on top of the head or on the loins in sadness or distress.
- Then Tamar placed ashes upon her head, and the striped robe that was upon her she ripped apart, and she kept her **hands** put upon her head and went walking away, crying out as she walked. (**2 Samuel 13:19**)
- For this is what Yehowah has said; The sound of trembling we have heard, dread, and there is no peace. (**Jeremiah 30:5**)
- Ask, please, O men, and see whether a male is giving birth. Why is it that I have seen every able-bodied man with his **hands** upon his loins like a female that is giving birth, and all faces have turned pale? (**Jeremiah 30:6**)
- Washed with water in an attempt to denote ceremonial cleanness, innocence, or ridding oneself of responsibility.
- Then there came to Jesus from Jerusalem Pharisees and scribes, saying; (**Matthew 15:1**)
- Why is it your disciples overstep the tradition of the men of former times? For example, they do not wash their **hands** when about to eat a meal. (**Matthew 15:2**)
- Seeing that it did no good but, rather, an uproar was arising, Pilate took water and washed his **hands** before the crowd, saying; I am innocent of the blood of this man. You yourselves must see to it. (**Matthew 27:24**)
- I have hated the congregation of evildoers, and with the wicked ones I do not sit. (**Psalms 26:5**)
- I shall wash my **hands** in innocency itself, and I will march around your altar, O Yehowah. (**Psalms 26:6**)
- Show me favor, O God, according to your loving-kindness. According to the abundance of your mercies wipe out my transgressions. (**Psalms 51:1**)

- Thoroughly wash me from my error, and cleanse me even from my sin. (**Psalms 51:2**)

See Also ATTITUDES AND GESTURES

· Figurative And Symbolic Usages

- The **hand** was sometimes used to represent the person himself, as in David's appeal to Nabal for food; Just give, please, whatever your **hand** may find.
- Ask your own young men, and they will tell you, that my young men may find favor in your eyes, because it was upon a good day that we came. Just give, please, whatever your **hand** may find to your servants and to your son David. (**1 Samuel 25:8**)
- It also referred to one's general disposition or activity.
- As for him, he will become a zebra of a man. His **hand** will be against everyone, and the hand of everyone will be against him, and before the face of all his brothers he will tabernacle. (**Genesis 16:12**)
- Or it denoted his responsibility to account for his actions.
- And, besides that, your blood of your souls shall I ask back. From the **hand** of every living creature shall I ask it back, and from the hand of man, from the hand of each one who is his brother, shall I ask back the soul of man. (**Genesis 9:5**)
- When I say to someone wicked; You will positively die, and you do not actually warn him and speak in order to warn the wicked one from his wicked way to preserve him alive, he being wicked, in his error he will die, but his blood I shall ask back from your own **hand**. (**Ezekiel 3:18**)
- And when someone righteous turns back from his righteousness and actually does injustice and I must put a stumbling block before him, he himself will die because you did not warn him. For his sin he will die, and his righteous acts that he did will not be remembered, but his blood I shall ask back from your own **hand**. (**Ezekiel 3:20**)

- The **hands** of the priests were filled with sacrifices by Moses at the time of their installation as part of the ceremony symbolically equipping them, filling their **hands** with authority and power for the priesthood.
- Then he took the fat and the fat tail and all the fat that was upon the intestines, and the appendage of the liver and the two kidneys and their fat and the right leg. ([Leviticus 8:25](#))
- And out of the basket of unfermented cakes that was before Yehowah he took one unfermented ring-shaped cake and one ring-shaped cake of oiled bread and one wafer. He then placed them upon the fatty pieces and the right leg. ([Leviticus 8:26](#))
- After that he put all of them upon the palms of Aaron and the palms of his sons and began to wave them to and fro as a wave offering before Yehowah. ([Leviticus 8:27](#))

See Also FILL HAND WITH POWER

- Yehowah assured Jacob that his son Joseph would lay his **hand** upon your eyes, that is, close Jacob's eyes after he had died.
- I myself shall go down with you to Egypt and I myself shall surely bring you up also, and Joseph will lay his **hand** upon your eyes. ([Genesis 46:4](#))
- This privilege would ordinarily have been that of the firstborn. Hence these words not only assured Jacob that his beloved son Joseph would remain near him during the remaining years of the aged patriarchs life but also apparently foretold that the right of firstborn, lost by Reuben, would go to Joseph.
- God is symbolically spoken of as using his **hand**, that is, his applied power, in accomplishing work, a few of such instances are, creation.
- You make him dominate over the works of your **hands**, everything you have put under his feet. ([Psalms 8:6](#))
- Long ago you laid the foundations of the earth itself, and the heavens are the work of your **hands**. ([Psalms 102:25](#))
- Destroying his enemies.

- For the **hand** of Yehowah will settle down on this mountain, and Moab must be trodden down in its place as when a straw heap is trodden down in a manure place. (**Isaiah 25:10**)
- And he must slap out his **hands** in the midst of it as when a swimmer slaps them out to swim, and he must abase its haughtiness with the tricky movements of his hands. (**Isaiah 25:11**)
- Delivering his people.
- And Pharaoh will not listen to you men, and I shall have to lay my **hand** upon Egypt and bring my armies, my people, the sons of Israel, out from the land of Egypt with great judgments. (**Exodus 7:4**)
- And the Egyptians will certainly know that I am Yehowah when I stretch out my **hand** against Egypt, and I shall indeed bring the sons of Israel out from their midst. (**Exodus 7:5**)
- Exercising favor and power toward those seeking him.
- For I felt ashamed to ask a military force and horsemen from the king to help us against the enemy in the way, because we had said to the king; The **hand** of our God is over all those seeking him for good, but his strength and his anger are against all those leaving him. (**Ezra 8:22**)
- Making provision.
- What you give them they pick up. You open your **hand**, they get satisfied with good things. (**Psalms 104:28**)
- You are opening your **hand** and satisfying the desire of every living thing. (**Psalms 145:16**)
- And offering help.
- And it must occur in that day that Yehowah will again offer his **hand**, a second time, to acquire the remnant of his people who will remain over from Assyria and from Egypt and from Pathros and from Cush and from Elam and from Shinar and from Hamath and from the islands of the sea. (**Isaiah 11:11**)

- Elihu declared that the powerful ones depart by no **hand**, and the stone of Nebuchadnezzar's prophetic dream was cut out of a mountain not by **hands**, in each case the meaning was that the action occurred, not by human **hands**, **but by the power of Yehowah**.
- And Elihu continued to answer and say; (**Job 34:1**)
- In a moment they die, even in the middle of the night, the people shake back and forth and pass away, and powerful ones depart by no **hand**. (**Job 34:20**)
- You kept on looking until a stone was cut out not by **hands**, and it struck the image on its feet of iron and of molded clay and crushed them. (**Daniel 2:34**)
- And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be brought to ruin. And the kingdom itself will not be passed on to any other people. It will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, and it itself will stand to times indefinite. (**Daniel 2:44**)
- Forasmuch as you beheld that out of the mountain a stone was cut not by **hands**, and that it crushed the iron, the copper, the molded clay, the silver and the gold. The grand God himself has made known to the king what is to occur after this. And the dream is reliable, and the interpretation of it is trustworthy. (**Daniel 2:45**)
- In, into, or under ones **hand** means to be under such ones power or dominion
- And a fear of you and a terror of you will continue upon every living creature of the earth and upon every flying creature of the heavens, upon everything that goes moving on the ground, and upon all the fishes of the sea. Into your **hand** they are now given. (**Genesis 9:2**)
- And let them collect all the foodstuffs of these coming good years, and let them pile up grain under Pharaoh's **hand** as foodstuffs in the cities, and they must safeguard it. (**Genesis 41:35**)
- Accordingly Yehowah said to Satan; There he is in your **hand**!

Only watch out for his soul itself! (**Job 2:6**)

- Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty **hand** of God, that he may exalt you in due time. (**1 Peter 5:6**)
- When Reuben heard this he tried to deliver him out of their **hand**. So he said; Let us not strike his soul fatally. (**Genesis 37:21**)
- Or it may mean at your disposal or in ones care.
- So Abram said to Sarai; Look! Your maidservant is at your disposal. Do to her what is good in your eyes. Then Sarai began to humiliate her so that she ran away from her. (**Genesis 16:6**)
- But Reuben said to his father; My own two sons you may put to death if I do not bring him back to you. Give him over to my care, and I shall be the one to return him to you. (**Genesis 42:37**)
- And Jesus called with a loud voice and said; Father, into your **hands** I entrust my spirit. When he had said this, he expired. (**Luke 23:46**)
- And I give them everlasting life, and they will by no means ever be destroyed, and no one will snatch them out of my **hand**. (**John 10:28**)
- What my Father has given me is something greater than all other things, and no one can snatch them out of the **hand** of the Father. (**John 10:29**)
- With uplifted **hand** denotes **being vigorous, victorious**.
- Thus Yehowah let the heart of Pharaoh the king of Egypt become obstinate, and he went chasing after the sons of Israel, while the sons of Israel were going out with uplifted **hand**. (**Exodus 14:8**)
- Strengthening the **hands** means empowering or supplying and equipping.
- As for all those round about them, they strengthened their **hands** with utensils of silver, with gold, with goods and with domestic animals and with choice things, besides all that which was voluntarily offered. (**Ezra 1:6**)

- **Weakening the hands**, breaking down the morale.
- And the princes began to say to the king; Let this man, please, be put to death, for that is how he is **weakening the hands** of the men of war who are left remaining in this city and the hands of all the people, by speaking to them according to these words. For this man is one seeking not for the peace of this people but for calamity. (**Jeremiah 38:4**)
- **Putting one's own life into his hand or palm**, risking his life.
- And he proceeded to put his soul in his **palm** and strike the Philistine down, so that Yehowah performed a great salvation for all Israel. You saw it, and you gave way to rejoicing. So why should you sin against innocent blood in having David put to death for nothing? (**1 Samuel 19:5**)
- Why do I carry my flesh in my teeth and place my own soul in my palm? (**Job 13:14**)
- **Shaking hands** was done in making a promise.
- But they promised by shaking **hands** to put their wives away, and that, they being guilty, there should be a ram of the flock for their guiltiness. (**Ezra 10:19**)
- Or in going surety for another.
- My son, if you have gone surety for your fellowman, if you have given your **handshake** even to the stranger. (**Proverbs 6:1**)
- If you have been ensnared by the sayings of your mouth, if you have been caught by the sayings of your mouth. (**Proverbs 6:2**)
- Take this action then, my son, and deliver yourself, for you have come into the **palm** of your fellowman; Go humble yourself and storm your fellowman with importunities. (**Proverbs 6:3**)
- A man that is wanting in heart shakes **hands**, going full surety before his companion. (**Proverbs 17:18**)
- Do not get to be among those striking **hands**, among those who go security for loans. (**Proverbs 22:26**)

- **Putting the hand to** signifies undertaking.
- You should by all means give to him, and your heart should not be stingy in your giving to him, because on this account Yehowah your God will bless you in every deed of yours and in every **undertaking** of yours. (**Deuteronomy 15:10**)
- **Putting ones hand upon another's goods**, stealing or improperly using such.
- In case a man should give his fellow money or articles to keep, and it gets stolen from the man's house, if the thief should be found, he is to make double compensation. (**Exodus 22:7**)
- If the thief should not be found, then the owner of the house must be brought near to the true God to see whether he did not put his **hand** upon the goods of his fellow. (**Exodus 22:8**)
- In case a man should give his fellow an ass or bull or sheep or any domestic animal to keep, and it does die or get maimed or gets led off while nobody is looking. (**Exodus 22:10**)
- An oath by Yehowah is to take place between them both that he did not put his **hand** on the goods of his fellow, and their owner must accept it, and the other is not to make compensation. (**Exodus 22:11**)
- **Clean hands** denote innocence.
- Yehowah rewards me according to my righteousness, according to the cleanness of my **hands** he repays me. (**2 Samuel 22:21**)
- Who may ascend into the mountain of Yehowah, and who may rise up in his holy place? (**Psalms 24:3**)
- Anyone innocent in his **hands** and clean in heart, who has not carried My soul to sheer worthlessness, nor taken an oath deceitfully. (**Psalms 24:4**)
- **Blood filling the hands**, murder.
- And when you spread out your **palms**, I hide my eyes from you. Even though you make many prayers, I am not listening, with bloodshed your very **hands** have become filled. (**Isaiah 1:15**)

- For your own **palms** have become polluted with blood, and your fingers with error. Your own lips have spoken falsehood. Your own tongue kept muttering sheer unrighteousness. (**Isaiah 59:3**)
- Their own feet keep running to sheer badness, and they are in a hurry to shed innocent blood. Their thoughts are hurtful thoughts, despoiling and breakdown are in their highways. (**Isaiah 59:7**)
- **Putting the hand over the mouth**, keeping quiet.
- But they said to him; Be quiet. Put your **hand** over your mouth, and go with us and become a father and a priest for us. Which is better, for you to continue a priest to the house of one man or for you to become a priest to a tribe and family in Israel? (**Judges 18:19**)
- **Dropping the hands down**, becoming discouraged.
- And you, be courageous and do not let your **hands** drop down, because there exists a reward for your activity. (**2 Chronicles 15:7**)
- Strengthen the weak **hands**, you people, and make the knees that are wobbling firm. (**Isaiah 35:3**)
- Hence straighten up the **hands** that hang down and the enfeebled knees. (**Hebrews 12:12**)
- And keep making straight paths for your feet, that what is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather that it may be healed. (**Hebrews 12:13**)
- **Opening up the hand**, being generous.
- For someone poor will never cease to be in the midst of the land. That is why I am commanding you, saying; You should generously open up your **hand** to your afflicted and poor brother in your land. (**Deuteronomy 15:11**)
- **A little more folding of the hands in lying down** brings poverty to the lazy one.

- How long, you lazy one, will you keep lying down? When will you rise up from your sleep? (**Proverbs 6:9**)
- A little more sleep, a little more slumbering, a little more folding of the **hands** in lying down. (**Proverbs 6:10**)
- And your poverty will certainly come just like some rover, and your want like an armed man. (**Proverbs 6:11**)
- He is described as being too weary to get his **hand** out of the banquet bowl to bring it back to his mouth.
- The lazy one has hidden his **hand** in the banquet bowl, he has become too weary to bring it back to his mouth. (**Proverbs 26:15**)
- The negligent person **working with a slack hand** will be of little means, whereas the **diligent hand** will bring riches.
- The one working with a **slack hand** will be of little means, but the **hand of the diligent** one is what will make one rich. (**Proverbs 10:4**)
- Other Hebrew idiomatic expressions involving the **hand** are, **put your hand with**, meaning to cooperate with, be on the side of.
- You must not take up an untrue report. Do not cooperate with a wicked one by becoming a witness who schemes violence. (**Exodus 23:1**)
- With that the king said to the runners stationed about him; Turn and put to death the priests of Yehowah, because their **hand** also is with David and because they knew that he was a runaway and they did not disclose it to my ear! And the servants of the king did not want to thrust out their **hand** to assault the priests of Yehowah. (**1 Samuel 22:17**)
- **By the hand of** denotes under the guidance of.
- The following are the things inventoried of the tabernacle, the tabernacle of the Testimony, which was inventoried at the command of Moses, as the service of the Levites under the guidance of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest. (**Exodus 38:21**)
- But he said; Excuse me, Yehowah, but send, please, by the **hand**

of the one whom you are going to send. (**Exodus 4:13**)

- And Aaron and his sons proceeded to do all the things that Yehowah had commanded by means of Moses. (**Leviticus 8:36**)
- And in order to teach the sons of Israel all the regulations that Yehowah has spoken to them by means of Moses. (**Leviticus 10:11**)
- **His hand does not reach, or his hand is not attaining it**, he does not have enough **financial** means.
- However, if he is lowly and does **not have enough means**, he must then take one young ram as a guilt offering for a wave offering in order to make atonement for him and one tenth of an ephah of fine flour moistened with oil as a grain offering and a log measure of oil. (**Leviticus 14:21**)
- **What his hand shall get**, what he can afford.
- This is the Law about the Nazirite who vows, his offering to Yehowah over his Naziriteship, besides that which he can afford. According to his vow that he may make, so he should do because of the Law of his Naziriteship. (**Numbers 6:21**)
- **Hands of a sword**, power of a sword.
- During famine he will certainly redeem you from death, and during war from the **power of a sword**. (**Job 5:20**)
- **Hand of the tongue**, power of the tongue.
- Death and life are in the **power of the tongue**, and he that is loving it will eat its fruitage. (**Proverbs 18:21**)
- **Life of your hand**, revival of your power.
- In the multitude of your ways you have toiled. You have not said; It is hopeless! You have found a revival of your own power. That is why you have not grown sick. (**Isaiah 57:10**)
- **To shut the hand** from ones brother, that is, to be closefisted as to helping him.

- In case some one of your brothers becomes poor among you in one of your cities, in your land that Yehowah your God is giving you, you must not harden your heart or be **closefisted** toward your poor brother. (**Deuteronomy 15:7**)
- Yehowah told the Israelites that they should tie his words as a **sign upon their hand**.
- And these words that I am commanding you today must prove to be on your heart. (**Deuteronomy 6:6**)
- And you must inculcate them in your son and speak of them when you sit in your house and when you walk on the road and when you lie down and when you get up. (**Deuteronomy 6:7**)
- And you must tie them as a sign upon your **hand**, and they must serve as a frontlet band between your eyes. (**Deuteronomy 6:8**)
- And you must apply these words of mine to your heart and your soul and bind them as a sign upon your **hand**, and they must serve as a frontlet band between your eyes. (**Deuteronomy 11:18**)
- And that he had engraved Zion upon his palms.
- But Zion kept saying; Yehowah has left me, and Yehowah himself has forgotten me. (**Isaiah 49:14**)
- Can a wife forget her suckling so that she should not pity the son of her belly? Even these women can forget, yet I myself shall not forget you. (**Isaiah 49:15**)
- Look! Upon my palms I have engraved you. Your walls are in front of me constantly. (**Isaiah 49:16**)
- Denoting constant remembrance and attention. With similar meaning, Yehowah tells the eunuchs who lay hold of his covenant that he will give them in his house a monument, or, place, literally, a **hand**.
- For this is what Yehowah has said to the eunuchs that keep my Sabbaths and that have chosen what I have delighted in and that are laying hold of my covenant. (**Isaiah 56:4**)
- I will even give to them in my house and within my walls a

monument and a name, something better than sons and daughters. A name to time indefinite I shall give them, one that will not be cut off. ([Isaiah 56:5](#))

- The Bible speaks of worshipers of God as writing upon their **hands**, symbolically, the words, Belonging to Yehowah, thus denoting they are his slaves.
- This one will say; I belong to Yehowah. And that one will call himself by the name of Jacob, and another will write upon his **hand**; Belonging to Yehowah. And by the name of Israel one will betitle himself. ([Isaiah 44:5](#))
- In the same way the mark of the wild beast in the right **hand** would symbolize ones giving attention, devotion, and active support to the wild beast and its image, inasmuch as a person's **hands** are used to do work in behalf of the one he serves.
- And it puts under compulsion all persons, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free and the slaves, that they should give these a mark in their right **hand** or upon their forehead. ([Revelation 13:16](#))
- And that nobody might be able to buy or sell except a person having the mark, the name of the wild beast or the number of its name. ([Revelation 13:17](#))
- And another angel, a third, followed them, saying in a loud voice; If anyone worships the wild beast and its image, and receives a mark on his forehead or upon his **hand**. ([Revelation 14:9](#))
- He will also drink of the wine of the anger of God that is poured out undiluted into the cup of his wrath, and he shall be tormented with fire and sulphur in the sight of the holy angels and in the sight of the Lamb. ([Revelation 14:10](#))
- And I saw thrones, and there were those who sat down on them, and power of judging was given them. Yes, I saw the souls of those executed with the ax for the witness they bore to Jesus and for speaking about God, and those who had worshiped neither the wild beast nor its image and who had not received the mark upon their forehead and upon their **hand**. And they came to life and ruled as kings with the Christ for a thousand years. ([Revelation 20:4](#))

· Laying On Of Hands

- Aside from mere **handling**, **hands were laid on** a person or object for various purposes. The general meaning of the act, however, was that of a designation, a pointing out of the person or thing as being acknowledged, or recognized, in a certain way.
- During the ceremony at the installation of the priesthood, Aaron and his sons laid their **hands** on the head of the bull and the two rams to be sacrificed, thereby acknowledging that these animals were being sacrificed for them for the sake of their becoming priests of Yehowah God.
- You must now present the bull before the tent of meeting, and Aaron and his sons must lay their **hands** upon the bulls head. (**Exodus 29:10**)
- Then you will take the one ram, and Aaron and his sons must lay their **hands** upon the rams head. (**Exodus 29:15**)
- Next you must take the other ram, and Aaron and his sons must lay their **hands** upon the rams head. (**Exodus 29:19**)
- Then he led up the bull of the sin offering and Aaron and his sons laid their **hands** upon the head of the bull of the sin offering. (**Leviticus 8:14**)
- He now brought the ram of the burnt offering near, and Aaron and his sons then laid their **hands** upon the head of the ram. (**Leviticus 8:18**)
- Then he brought the second ram, the ram of the installation, near, and Aaron and his sons laid their **hands** upon the rams head. (**Leviticus 8:22**)
- When appointing Joshua as his successor at God's command, Moses laid his **hand** on Joshua, who consequently was, full of the spirit of wisdom, and so was able to lead Israel properly.
- And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his **hand** upon him, and the sons of Israel began to listen to him and they went doing just as Yehowah had commanded Moses. (**Deuteronomy 34:9**)

- **Hands** were laid on persons when designating them as receivers of a blessing.
- However, Israel put out his **right hand** and placed it on Ephraim's head, although he was the younger, and his left hand upon Manasseh's head. He purposely laid his hands so, since Manasseh was the firstborn. (**Genesis 48:14**)
- And he took the children into his arms and began blessing them, laying his **hands** upon them. (**Mark 10:16**)
- Jesus Christ touched, or laid his **hands** on, some persons he healed.
- And so, stretching out his **hand**, he touched him, saying; I want to. Be made clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed away. (**Matthew 8:3**)
- So he was able to do no powerful work there except to lay his **hands** upon a few sickly ones and cure them. (**Mark 6:5**)
- And he laid his **hands** on her, and instantly she straightened up, and began to glorify God. (**Luke 13:13**)
- The gift of the Holy Spirit was granted in some instances through the laying on of the **hands** of the apostles.
- When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they dispatched Peter and John to them. (**Acts of Apostles 8:14**)
- And these went down and prayed for them to get Holy Spirit. (**Acts of Apostles 8:15**)
- For it had not yet fallen upon any one of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 8:16**)
- Then they went laying their **hands** upon them, and they began to receive Holy Spirit. (**Acts of Apostles 8:17**)
- Now when Simon saw that through the laying on of the **hands** of the apostles the spirit was given, he offered them money. (**Acts**

of Apostles 8:18)

- Saying; Give me also this authority, that anyone upon whom I lay my **hands** may receive Holy Spirit. (**Acts of Apostles 8:19**)
- But Peter said to him; May your silver perish with you, because you thought through money to get possession of the free gift of God. (**Acts of Apostles 8:20**)
- And when Paul laid his **hands** upon them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying. (**Acts of Apostles 19:6**)

.. Appointments To Service

- In the Christian congregation appointments of mature men to positions or offices of responsibility were also made by the **laying on of hands** by those authorized to do so.
- And they placed them before the apostles, and, after having prayed, these **laid their hands** upon them. (**Acts of Apostles 6:6**)
- Do not be neglecting the gift in you that was given you through a prediction and when the body of older men laid their **hands** upon you. (**1 Timothy 4:14**)
- Because of the influence such appointed men would have and the example they would set, the apostle Paul admonished Timothy; Never lay your **hands** hastily upon any man, neither be a sharer in the sins of others.
- This meant not to appoint a man without due consideration of his qualifications, lest the man fail to carry out the duties of his office properly, and Timothy thus share the blame for the difficulty caused.
- Never **lay your hands** hastily upon any man, neither be a sharer in the sins of others. Preserve yourself chaste. (**1 Timothy 5:22**)

.. The Right Hand

- The **right hand** was considered to be of great importance, symbolically. Joseph was displeased when Jacob crossed his **hands** in order to lay his right **hand** on Ephraim, Joseph's younger son. But Jacob did this purposely, to give Ephraim the superior blessing.

- Joseph now took the two of them, Ephraim by his right **hand** to Israel's left, and Manasseh by his left hand to Israel's right, and brought them close to him. (**Genesis 48:13**)
- However, Israel put out his right **hand** and placed it on Ephraim's head, although he was the younger, and his left **hand** upon Manasseh's head. He purposely laid his hands so, since Manasseh was the firstborn. (**Genesis 48:14**)
- And he proceeded to bless Joseph and to say; The true God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked; The true God who has been shepherding me during all my existence until this day. (**Genesis 48:15**)
- The angel who has been recovering me from all calamity, bless the boys. And let my name be called upon them and the name of my fathers, Abraham and Isaac. And let them increase to a multitude in the midst of the earth. (**Genesis 48:16**)
- When Joseph saw that his father kept his **right hand** placed on Ephraim's head, it was displeasing to him, and he tried to take hold of his father's hand to remove it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head. (**Genesis 48:17**)
- Hence Joseph said to his father; Not so, my father, because this is the firstborn. Put your **right hand** on his head. (**Genesis 48:18**)
- But his father kept refusing and said; I know it, my son, I know it. He too will become a people and he too will become great. But, just the same, his younger brother will become greater than he will, and his offspring will become the full equivalent of nations. (**Genesis 48:19**)
- And he continued to bless them on that day, saying; By means of you let Israel repeatedly pronounce blessing, saying; May God constitute you like Ephraim and like Manasseh. Thus he kept putting Ephraim before Manasseh. (**Genesis 48:20**)
- To be on the right **hand** of a ruler was to have the most important position, next to the ruler himself.
- The utterance of Yehowah to my Lord is; Sit at my right **hand** until I place your enemies as a stool for your feet. (**Psalms 110:1**)

- But he, being full of Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and caught sight of God's glory and of Jesus standing at God's right **hand**. (**Acts of Apostles 7:55**)
- And he said; Look! I behold the heavens opened up and the Son of man standing at God's **right hand**. (**Acts of Apostles 7:56**)
- Who is he that will condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died, yes, rather the one who was raised up from the dead, who is on the **right hand** of God, who also pleads for us. (**Romans 8:34**)
- He is at God's **right hand**, for he went his way to heaven, and angels and authorities and powers were made subject to him. (**1 Peter 3:22**)
- Or **a position in his favor**.
- And he will put the sheep on his **right hand**, but the goats on his left. (**Matthew 25:33**)
- Jesus is spoken of in the vision of Revelation as having the seven stars of the seven congregations in his **right hand**. That is, all these bodies of elders have his favor and are under his full control, power, and direction.
- And he had in his **right hand** seven stars, and out of his mouth a sharp, long two-edged sword was protruding, and his countenance was as the sun when it shines in its power. (**Revelation 1:16**)
- As for the sacred secret of the seven stars that you saw upon my right **hand**, and of the seven golden lampstands. The seven stars mean the angels of the seven congregations, and the seven lampstands mean seven congregations. (**Revelation 1:20**)
- To the angel of the congregation in Ephesus write. These are the things that he says who holds the seven stars in his right **hand**, he who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands. (**Revelation 2:1**)
- For God to take hold of one's right **hand** would strengthen that one.

- But I am constantly with you; You have taken hold of my **right hand**. (**Psalms 73:23**)
- Usually the **right hand** of a warrior was his sword-wielding hand, and it was unprotected by the shield in the left hand. Therefore, a friend would stand or fight at his right hand as an upholder and protector.
- This circumstance is used metaphorically with regard to God's help and protection to those serving him.
- I have placed Yehowah in front of me constantly. Because he is at my **right hand**, I shall not be made to totter. (**Psalms 16:8**)
- I shall laud Yehowah very much with my mouth, and in among many people I shall praise him. (**Psalms 109:30**)
- For he will stand at the **right hand** of the poor, to save him from those judging his soul. (**Psalms 109:31**)
- Yehowah himself at your **right hand** will certainly break kings to pieces on the day of his anger. (**Psalms 110:5**)
- Yehowah is guarding you. Yehowah is your shade on your **right hand**. (**Psalms 121:5**)
- The writer of Ecclesiastes says; The heart of the wise is at his **right hand**, but the heart of the stupid at his left hand. In other words, the wise one inclines toward a good, favorable path, but the stupid one inclines toward a bad course.
- The heart of the wise is at his **right hand**, but the heart of the stupid at his left hand. (**Ecclesiastes 10:2**)

•• Directions

- The **Hebrew** expressions for **right hand** **Hebrew**, *ya-min'* and **left hand** **Hebrew**, *semo 'l'* are also translated south and north, respectively;
- And by night he resorted to dividing his forces, he and his slaves, against them, and thus he defeated them and kept in pursuit of them up to Hobah, which is north of Damascus. (**Genesis 14:15**)
- The north and the south, you yourself created them, tabor and

Hermon, in your name they cry out joyfully. (**Psalms 89:12**)

- Since directions were reckoned from the standpoint of a person facing the East. Hence, South would be to his right.
- Later the men of Ziph went up to Saul at Gibeah, saying; Is not David concealing himself close by us in the places difficult to approach at Horesh, on the hill of Hachilah, which is to the right side of Jeshimon? (**1 Samuel 23:19**)
- So they rose up and went to Ziph ahead of Saul, while David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon in the Arabah to the south of Jeshimon. (**1 Samuel 23:24**)

.. Other Uses

- **Hand** Hebrew, *yadh*, is also used for side.
- After a while Pharaoh's daughter came down to bathe in the Nile River, and her female attendants were walking by the **side** of the Nile River. And she caught sight of the ark in the middle of the reeds. Immediately she sent her slave girl that she might get it. (**Exodus 2:5**)
- 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**)
- Or at the side of
- And at their side Meremoth the son of Urijah the son of Hakkoz did repair work, and **at their side** Meshullam the son of Berechiah the son of Meshezabel did repair work, and at their side Zadok the son of Baana did repair work. (**Nehemiah 3:4**)
- And **at their side** the Tekoites did repair work, but their majestic ones themselves did not bring the back of their neck into the service of their masters. (**Nehemiah 3:5**)
- And **at their side** Melatiah the Gibeonite and Jadon the Meronothite, did repair work, men of Gibeon and Mizpah, belonging to the throne of the governor beyond the River.

(Nehemiah 3:7)

- For **coast**
- And there will be ships from the **coast** of Kittim, and they will certainly afflict Assyria, and they will indeed afflict Eber. But he too will eventually perish. (Numbers 24:24)
- And for the **tenons** of the tabernacle panel frames.
- Each panel frame has two **tenons** joined one to the other. That is the way you will do with all the panel frames of the tabernacle. (Exodus 26:17) *KJ, margin*
- The **Hebrew** word *kaph*, often rendered **palm** and **hand**, is used for the **sole** of the foot
- And the dove did not find any resting-place for the **sole of its foot**, and so it returned to him into the ark because the waters were yet upon the surface of the whole earth. At that he put his **hand** out and took it and brought it to himself inside the ark. (Genesis 8:9)
- For cups, spoons, *KJ*, of the tabernacle and of the temple.
- And you must make its dishes and its cups and its pitchers and its bowls with which they will pour libations. You are to make them out of pure gold. (Exodus 25:29)
- This was the inauguration offering of the altar on the day of its being anointed, on the part of the chieftains of Israel, twelve silver dishes, twelve silver bowls, twelve gold cups. (Numbers 7:84)
- The twelve gold cups full of incense being ten shekels respectively to a cup by the shekel of the holy place, all the gold of the cups being a hundred and twenty shekels. (Numbers 7:86)
- And the cans and the shovels and the extinguishers and the cups and all the utensils of copper with which they used to minister they took. (2 Kings 25:14)
- And for **socket**, of one's thigh or **hollow**, of a sling.

- When he got to see that he had not prevailed over him, then he touched the socket of his thigh joint, and the **socket** of Jacob's thigh joint got out of place during his grappling with him. (**Genesis 32:25**)
- That is why the sons of Israel are not accustomed to eat the sinew of the thigh nerve, which is on the **socket** of the thigh joint, down to this day, because he touched the socket of Jacob's thigh joint by the sinew of the thigh nerve. (**Genesis 32:32**)
- When man rises up to pursue you and look for your soul, the soul of my lord will certainly prove to be wrapped up in the bag of life with Yehowah your God, but, as for the soul of your enemies, he will sling it forth as from inside the **hollow** of the sling. (**1 Samuel 25:29**)
- Both *yadh*, **hand** and *kaph*, **palm, hand**, are variously translated by yet other English terms.
- **Handfuls**, figuratively, stands for abundance.
- And during the seven years of plenty the land went on producing by the **handfuls**. (**Genesis 41:47**)
- Or a **handful** may mean only a little.
- At this she said; As Yehowah your God is living, I have no round cake, but a **handful** of flour in the large jar and a little oil in the small jar, and here I am gathering up a few pieces of wood, and I must go in and make something for myself and my son, and we shall have to eat it and die. (**1 Kings 17:12**)
- Or a modest portion
- Better is a **handful** of rest than a double **handful** of hard work and striving after the wind. (**Ecclesiastes 4:6**)

See Also ARM

See Also THUMB

See Also WASHING OF HANDS