

~HILL (227)

[Hebrew, *giv-`ah'*, Greek, *bou-nos'*]

- The Hebrew term *giv-`ah'* and the Greek term *bou-nos'* refer to a natural elevation of earth's surface, lower than a mountain. Rounded hills are especially noticeable in Judea, though they are also found in other parts of Palestine.
- On occasion hills served as burial places and places for concealment.
- Also, Eleazar the son of Aaron died. So they buried him in the **Hill** of Phinehas his son, which he had given him in the mountainous region of Ephraim. (**Joshua 24:33**)
- 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**)
- In time the men of Ziph came to Saul at Gibeah, saying; Is not David concealing himself on the **hill** of Hachilah, facing Jeshimon? (**1 Samuel 26:1**)
- Homes and towns were frequently built on them, as was the house of Abinadab where the Ark was kept for some 70 years.
- Accordingly the men of Kiriath-jearim came and brought the ark of Yehowah up and took it into the house of Abinadab on the **hill**, and Eleazar his son was the one whom they sanctified to guard the ark of Yehowah. (**1 Samuel 7:1**)
- And it came about that from the day of the Ark's dwelling in Kiriath-jearim the days kept multiplying, so that they amounted to twenty years, and all the house of Israel went lamenting after Yehowah. (**1 Samuel 7:2**)
- In highlighting the greatness of the Almighty, the prophet Isaiah shows that Yehowah can, in effect, weigh the **hills** in the scales.
- Who has measured the waters in the mere hollow of his hand, and taken the proportions of the heavens themselves with a

mere span and included in a measure the dust of the earth, or weighed with an indicator the mountains, and the **hills** in the scales? (**Isaiah 40:12**)

- The mountains and **hills** are described as eternal and indefinitely lasting, but even greater permanence than this is ascribed to God's loving-kindness and covenant of peace.
- For the mountains themselves may be removed, and the very **hills** may stagger, but my loving-kindness itself will not be removed from you, nor will my covenant of peace itself stagger, Yehowah, the One having mercy upon you, has said. (**Isaiah 54:10**)
- The blessings of your father will indeed be superior to the blessings of the eternal mountains, to the ornament of the indefinitely lasting **hills**. They will continue upon the head of Joseph, even upon the crown of the head of the one singled out from his brothers. (**Genesis 49:26**)
- And with the choicest from the mountains of the east, and with the choice things of the indefinitely lasting **hills**. (**Deuteronomy 33:15**)
- Before undertaking a journey, Eastern rulers would often send out men to prepare the way before them by removing stones, filling up depressions, smoothing out rough places, and, at times, even leveling **hills**.
- In a figurative sense, the hills were leveled in making possible the unhindered return of the Jews from Babylon to Jerusalem in **537 B.C.E.** This was also prophetic of the preparatory work done by John the Baptizer before the appearance of the Messiah.
- Let every valley be raised up, and every mountain and **hill** be made low. And the knobby ground must become level land, and the rugged ground a valley plain. (**Isaiah 40:4**)
- In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was district ruler of Galilee, but Philip his brother was district ruler of the country of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was district ruler of Abilene. (**Luke 3:1**)

- In the days of chief priest Annas and of Caiaphas, God's declaration came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. (Luke 3:2)
- So he came into all the country around the Jordan, preaching baptism in symbol of repentance for forgiveness of sins. (Luke 3:3)
- Just as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet; Listen! Someone is crying out in the wilderness, Prepare the way of Yehowah, you people, make his roads straight. (Luke 3:4)
- Every gully must be filled up, and every mountain and hill leveled down, and the curves must become straight ways and the rough places smooth ways. (Luke 3:5)
- And all flesh will see the saving means of God. (Luke 3:6)
- It was often on hills that the Israelites, in imitation of the Canaanites, carried on idolatrous worship.
- You should absolutely destroy all the places where the nations whom you are dispossessing have served their gods, on the tall mountains and the hills and under every luxuriant tree. (Deuteronomy 12:2)
- And they too kept building for themselves high places and sacred pillars and sacred poles upon every high hill and under every luxuriant tree. (1 Kings 14:23)
- And the sons of Israel went searching into the things that were not right toward Yehowah their God and kept building themselves high places in all their cities, from the tower of the watchmen clear to the fortified city. (2 Kings 17:9)
- And they kept setting up for themselves sacred pillars and sacred poles upon every high hill and under every luxuriant tree. (2 Kings 17:10)
- For their own errors and for the errors of their forefathers at the same time, Yehowah has said. Because they have made sacrificial smoke upon the mountains, and upon the hills they have reproached me, I will also measure out their wages first of

all into their own bosom. (**Isaiah 65:7**)

- For long ago I broke your yoke to pieces. I tore your bands apart. But you said; I am not going to serve, for upon every high **hill** and under every luxuriant tree you were lying sprawled out, prostituting yourself. (**Jeremiah 2:20**)
- The sin of Judah is written down with an iron stylus. With a diamond point it is engraved on the tablet of their heart, and on the horns of their altars. (**Jeremiah 17:1**)
- When their sons remember their altars and their sacred poles beside a luxuriant tree, upon the high **hills**. (**Jeremiah 17:2**)
- On the mountains in the field. Your resources, all your treasures, I shall give for mere plunder, your high places because of sin throughout all your territories. (**Jeremiah 17:3**)
- And you people will have to know that I am Yehowah, when their slain ones come to be in the midst of their dungy idols, all around their altars, upon every high **hill**, on all the tops of the mountains and under every luxuriant tree and under every branchy big tree, the place where they have offered a restful odor to all their dungy idols. (**Ezekiel 6:13**)
- And I proceeded to bring them into the land that I had lifted up my hand in an oath to give them. When they got to see every exalted **hill** and every branchy tree, then they began sacrificing there their sacrifices and giving there their offensive offering, and presenting there their restful odors and pouring out there their drink offerings. (**Ezekiel 20:28**)
- On the tops of the mountains they sacrifice, and on the **hills** they make sacrificial smoke, under massive tree and storax tree and big tree, because its shade is good. That is why your daughters commit fornication and your own daughters-in-law commit adultery. (**Hosea 4:13**)
- This explains the prophetic response to the appeal for Israel to return to Yehowah; Here we are! We have come to you, for you, O Yehowah, are our God. Truly the **hills** as well as the turmoil on the mountains belong to falsehood.
- Return, you renegade sons. I shall heal your renegade condition.

Here we are! We have come to you, for you, O Yehowah, are our God. ([Jeremiah 3:22](#))

- Truly the **hills** as well as the turmoil on the mountains belong to falsehood. Truly in Yehowah our God is the salvation of Israel. ([Jeremiah 3:23](#))
- Most appropriately, therefore, both Isaiah and Micah foretold that, the mountain of the house of Yehowah, would become firmly established above the top of the mountains and would be lifted up above the **hills**.
- And it must occur in the final part of the days that the mountain of the house of Yehowah will become firmly established above the top of the mountains, and it will certainly be lifted up above the **hills**, and to it all the nations must stream. ([Isaiah 2:2](#))
- And it must occur in the final part of the days that the mountain of the house of Yehowah will become firmly established above the top of the mountains, and it will certainly be lifted up above the **hills**, and to it peoples must stream. ([Micah 4:1](#))
- In sharp contrast with this, those not doing Yehowah's will at the time of his executorial work will say to the mountains; Cover us! And to the **hills**; Fall over us!
- And the high places of Beth-aven, the sin of Israel, will actually be annihilated. Thorns and thistles themselves will come up upon their altars. And people will in fact say to the mountains; Cover us! And to the **hills**; Fall over us! ([Hosea 10:8](#))
- Then they will start to say to the mountains; Fall over us! And to the **hills**; Cover us over! ([Luke 23:30](#))
- And people will enter into the caves of the rocks and into the holes of the dust because of the dreadfulness of Yehowah and from his splendid superiority, when he rises up for the earth to suffer shocks. ([Isaiah 2:19](#))
- And they keep saying to the mountains and to the rock-masses; Fall over us and hide us from the face of the One seated on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb. ([Revelation 6:16](#))
- Because the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able

to stand? (**Revelation 6:17**)