

~HIRE, WAGES (546)

[Hebrew, *sa-khar'*]

- Generally, **compensation paid to laborers for their work or services.**
- 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**)
- As a verb, hire means to employ someone.
- For the kingdom of the heavens is like a man, a householder, who went out early in the morning to **hire** workers for his vineyard. (**Matthew 20:1**)
- Or to rent something.
- But in case anybody should ask for something of his fellow, and it does get maimed or die while its owner is not with it, he is to make compensation without fail. (**Exodus 22:14**)
- If its owner is with it, he is not to make compensation. If it is hired, it must come in its **hire**. (**Exodus 22:15**)
- So he remained for an entire two years in his own **hired** house, and he would kindly receive all those who came in to him. (**Acts of Apostles 28:30**)
- **Wages** may be synonymous with **reward**. For example, King Nebuchadrezzar's, Nebuchadnezzar's, **wages** or **reward** for his service as Yehowah's executioner in destroying Tyre was the conquest of Egypt with all its wealth for him to plunder.
- Son of man, Nebuchadrezzar himself, the king of Babylon, made his military force perform a great service against Tyre. Every head was one made bald, and every shoulder was one rubbed bare. But as for **wages**, there proved to be none for him and his military force from Tyre for the service that he had performed against her. (**Ezekiel 29:18**)
- Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said;

Here I am giving to Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon the land of Egypt, and he must carry off its wealth and make a big spoil of it and do a great deal of plundering of it, and it must become wages for his military force. ([Ezekiel 29:19](#))

- May Yehowah **reward** the way you act, and may there come to be a perfect wage for you from Yehowah the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to seek refuge. ([Ruth 2:12](#))
- For I, Yehowah, am loving justice, hating robbery along with unrighteousness. And I will give their **wages** in trueness, and an indefinitely lasting covenant I shall conclude toward them. ([Isaiah 61:8](#))
- Look! Yehowah himself has caused it to be heard to the farthest part of the earth; Say, you people, to the daughter of Zion; Look! Your salvation is coming. Look! The **reward** he gives is with him, and the wages he pays are before him. ([Isaiah 62:11](#))
- In fulfillment of;
- Then I said to them; If it is good in your eyes, give me my wages, but if not, refrain. And they proceeded to pay my **wages**, thirty pieces of silver. ([Zechariah 11:12](#))
- Judas Iscariot received 30 pieces of silver from the priests, if shekels, \$66, as **wages** for betraying Jesus Christ.
- Then one of the twelve, the one called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ([Matthew 26:14](#))
- And said; What will you give me to betray him to you? They stipulated to him thirty silver pieces. ([Matthew 26:15](#))
- So from then on he kept seeking a good opportunity to betray him. ([Matthew 26:16](#))
- Then Judas, who betrayed him, seeing he had been condemned, felt remorse and turned the thirty silver pieces back to the chief priests and older men. ([Matthew 27:3](#))
- Saying; I sinned when I betrayed righteous blood. They said; What is that to us? You must see to that! ([Matthew 27:4](#))

- So he threw the silver pieces into the temple and withdrew, and went off and hanged himself. (**Matthew 27:5**)
- But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said; It is not lawful to drop them into the sacred treasury, because they are the price of blood. (**Matthew 27:6**)
- After consulting together, they bought with them the potter's field to bury strangers. (**Matthew 27:7**)
- Therefore that field has been called, **Field of Blood** to this very day. (**Matthew 27:8**)
- Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled, saying; And they took the thirty silver pieces, the price upon the man that was priced, the one on whom some of the sons of Israel set a price. (**Matthew 27:9**)
- And they gave them for the potter's field, according to what Yehowah had commanded me. (**Matthew 27:10**)
- This very man, therefore, purchased a field with the wages for unrighteousness, and pitching head foremost he noisily burst in his midst and all his intestines were poured out. (**Acts of Apostles 1:18**)
- Also, **wages** at times denotes recompense. The **wages** sin pays is death.
- For the **wages** sin pays is death, but the gift God gives is everlasting life by Christ Jesus our Lord. (**Romans 6:23**)
- This is the **wages** from Yehowah of the one resisting me and of those speaking evil against my soul. (**Psalms 109:20**)
- Look! It is written before me. I shall not keep still, but I will render a reward. I will even render the reward into their own bosom. (**Isaiah 65:6**)
- 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**)

See Also BRIBE

- **Hire** was paid not only in the form of money or silver
- And it came about at the proper time he would bring the chest to the care of the king by the hand of the Levites, and, as soon as they saw that there was plenty of money, the secretary of the king and the commissioner of the chief priest came and then emptied the chest and lifted it up and returned it to its place. That was the way they did from day to day, so that they gathered money in abundance. ([2 Chronicles 24:11](#))
- Then the king and Jehoiada would give it to the doers of the work of the service of Yehowah's house, and they came to be hirers of the stonecutters and of the craftsmen for renovating Yehowah's house, and also of the workers in iron and copper for repairing Yehowah's house. ([2 Chronicles 24:12](#))
- Further, he **hired** from Israel a hundred thousand valiant, mighty men for a hundred silver talents. ([2 Chronicles 25:6](#))
- But also in domestic animals, agricultural products, and so forth. Jacob's **wages** for 14 years of work were his two wives, Leah and Rachel. Additionally, he served six years for the agreed-upon part of Laban's flock.
- After that Laban said to Jacob; Are you my brother, and must you serve me for nothing? Tell me. What are your wages to be? ([Genesis 29:15](#))
- And Jacob was in love with Rachel. So he said; I am willing to serve you seven years for Rachel your younger daughter. ([Genesis 29:18](#))
- Celebrate to the full the week of this woman. After that there shall be given to you also this other woman for the service that you can serve with me for seven years more. ([Genesis 29:27](#))
- This makes twenty years for me in your house. I have served you fourteen years for your two daughters and six years for your flock, and you kept changing my wages ten times. ([Genesis 31:41](#))

- Leah, in giving her sons mandrakes to Rachel, **hired** Jacob to have relations with her, and for this reason she referred to the son born to her as **hireling's wages**.
- Now Reuben went walking in the days of the wheat harvest and got to find mandrakes in the field. So he brought them to Leah his mother. Then Rachel said to Leah; Give me, please, some of your sons mandrakes. (**Genesis 30:14**)
- At this she said to her; Is this a little thing, your having taken my husband, with your now taking also my sons mandrakes? So Rachel said; For that reason he is going to lie down with you tonight in exchange for your sons mandrakes. (**Genesis 30:15**)
- When Jacob was coming from the field in the evening, Leah went on out to meet him and then said; It is with me you are going to have relations, because I have **hired** you outright with my sons mandrakes. Accordingly he lay down with her that night. (**Genesis 30:16**)
- And God heard and answered Leah and she became pregnant and in time bore to Jacob a fifth son. (**Genesis 30:17**)
- Then Leah said; God has given me a hireling's wages, because I have given my maidservant to my husband. So she called his name Issachar. (**Genesis 30:18**)
- In the time of Jesus earthly ministry, the usual daily wage for agricultural workers was evidently one denarius, currently 74 cents.
- When he had agreed with the workers for a denarius a day, he sent them forth into his vineyard. (**Matthew 20:2**)
- God's Law to Israel required that **hired** laborers be paid at the close of the workday.
- 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**)

- In his day you should give him his wages, and the sun should not set upon them, because he is in trouble and is lifting up his soul to his wages, that he may not cry out to Yehowah against you, and it must become sin on your part. (**Deuteronomy 24:15**)
- The Scriptures severely censure those dealing dishonestly with the wages of hired workers.
- Woe to the one building his house, but not with righteousness, and his upper chambers, but not with justice, by use of his fellowman who serves for nothing, and whose wages he does not give him. (**Jeremiah 22:13**)
- 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**)
- 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**)
- Care must be exercised when **hiring** others to be sure that those hired are competent. Hence the proverb.
- As an archer piercing everything is the one **hiring** someone stupid or the one **hiring** passersby. (**Proverbs 26:10**)
- The hospitality and material assistance extended to those exclusively devoting themselves to the interests of pure worship may be referred to as wages due them, according to the principle.
- So stay in that house, eating and drinking the things they provide, for the worker is worthy of his **wages**. Do not be transferring from house to house. (**Luke 10:7**)
- Let the older men who preside in a fine way be reckoned worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard in speaking and teaching. (**1 Timothy 5:17**)

- For the scripture says: You must not muzzle a bull when it threshes out the grain; Also: The workman is worthy of his **wages**. (**1 Timothy 5:18**)
- The tithes of the Israelites constituted the **wages** of the Levites for their service at the sanctuary.
- And you should speak to the Levites, and you must say to them, you will receive from the sons of Israel the tenth part that I have given to you from them for your inheritance, and you must contribute from it as a contribution to Yehowah a tenth part of the tenth part. (**Numbers 18:26**)
- And you must say to them, When you contribute the best of them, then it will certainly be reckoned to the Levites as the produce of the threshing floor and as the produce of the wine or oil press. (**Numbers 18:30**)
- And you must eat it in every place, you and your household, because it is your wages in return for your service in the tent of meeting. (**Numbers 18:31**)
- On the other hand, a righteous standing with God, and everlasting life, are not given as **wages** to those serving God, for they are **gifts** resulting from the undeserved kindness of God through Jesus Christ because His servants exercise faith in the ransom sacrifice of Christ.
- If, for instance, Abraham were declared righteous as a result of works, he would have ground for boasting, but not with God. (**Romans 4:2**)
- For what does the scripture say? Abraham exercised faith in Yehowah, and it was counted to him as righteousness. (**Romans 4:3**)
- Now to the man that works the pay is counted, not as an undeserved kindness, but as a debt. (**Romans 4:4**)
- On the other hand, to the man that does not work but puts faith in him who declares the ungodly one righteous, his faith is counted as righteousness. (**Romans 4:5**)
- Just as David also speaks of the happiness of the man to whom

God counts righteousness apart from works. (**Romans 4:6**)

- Happy are those whose lawless deeds have been pardoned and whose sins have been covered. (**Romans 4:7**)
- Happy is the man whose sin Yehowah will by no means take into account. (**Romans 4:8**)
- For the **wages** sin pays is death, but the gift God gives is everlasting life by Christ Jesus our Lord. (**Romans 6:23**)
- Neglect of the sanctuary in the days of the prophet Haggai resulted in Yehowah's withholding his blessing so that those hiring themselves out were doing so for a bag having holes, that is, the **hire received was meager and quickly spent**.
- And the word of Yehowah continued to come by means of Haggai the prophet, saying; (**Haggai 1:3**)
- Is it the time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house is waste? (**Haggai 1:4**)
- And now this is what Yehowah of armies has said; Set your heart upon your ways. (**Haggai 1:5**)
- You have sown much seed, but there is a bringing of little in. There is an eating, but it is not to satisfaction. There is a drinking, but not to the point of getting intoxicated. There is a putting on of clothes, but it is not with anyone's getting warm, and he that is **hiring** himself out is hiring himself out **for a bag having holes**. (**Haggai 1:6**)
- Then, with respect to the days before the restoration of the temple, Yehowah said through Zechariah;
- This is what Yehowah of armies has said; Let the hands of you people be strong, you who are hearing in these days these words from the mouth of the prophets, on the day on which the foundation of the house of Yehowah of armies was laid, for the temple to be built. (**Zechariah 8:9**)
- For before those days there were no **wages** for mankind made to exist, and as for the **wages** of domestic animals, there was no such thing, and to the one going out and to the one coming in

there was no peace because of the adversary, as I kept thrusting all mankind against one another. (**Zechariah 8:10**)

See Also GIFTS, PRESENTS

See Also GIFTS FROM GOD

See Also HIRED LABORER

- In contrast with the **Hebrew** word *sa-khar'*, usually meaning hire in the sense of a wage paid for labor or services rendered, the **Hebrew** word *'eth-nan'*, from the root *na-than'*, **give**, is used in the Scriptures exclusively with reference to the **hire gained from prostitution**, literal or figurative.
- The latter is thus viewed as **a gift rather than a wage** earned by labor and is generally used in a bad sense. The Law forbade bringing into the sanctuary for a vow either the **hire** of a harlot or the **price** of a dog, this latter likely referring to the **hire of a male homosexual**.
- You must not bring the **hire of a harlot** or the **price of a dog** into the house of Yehowah your God for any vow, because they are something detestable to Yehowah your God, even both of them. (**Deuteronomy 23:18**)
- In view of this, the reference to Tyre's **hire** for prostitution to the nations becoming something holy to Yehowah evidently means that the Most High would sanctify Tyre's material gain therefrom in the sense of his seeing that it was used according to his will, causing it to result in benefit for his servants.
- And it must occur at the end of seventy years that Yehowah will turn his attention to Tyre, and she must return to her **hire** and commit prostitution with all the kingdoms of the earth upon the surface of the ground. (**Isaiah 23:17**)
- And her profit and her **hire** must become something holy to Yehowah. It will not be stored up, nor be laid up, because her hire will come to be for those dwelling before Yehowah, for eating to satisfaction and for elegant covering. (**Isaiah 23:18**)
- And the Tyrians themselves dwelt in the city, bringing in fish and every sort of merchandise and making sales on the Sabbath to the sons of Judah and in Jerusalem. (**Nehemiah 13:16**)

- **Both Judah and Israel were guilty of prostituting themselves to other nations.**
- **And the word of Yehowah proceeded to come to me, saying; (Ezekiel 23:1)**
- **Son of man, two women, the daughters of one mother, there happened to be. (Ezekiel 23:2)**
- **And they began to prostitute themselves in Egypt. In their youth they committed prostitution. There their breasts were squeezed, and there they pressed the bosoms of their virginity. (Ezekiel 23:3)**
- **And their names were Oholah the older one and Oholibah her sister, and they came to be mine and began to give birth to sons and daughters. And as for their names, Oholah is Samaria, and Oholibah is Jerusalem. (Ezekiel 23:4)**
- **And Oholah began to prostitute herself, while subject to me, and kept lusting after those passionately loving her, after the Assyrians, who were near. (Ezekiel 23:5)**
- **Governor's clothed with blue material, and deputy rulers, desirable young men all of them, cavalymen riding horses. (Ezekiel 23:6)**
- **And she continued giving forth her prostitutions upon them, the choicest sons of Assyria all of them, and with all those after whom she lusted, with their dungy idols, she defiled herself. (Ezekiel 23:7)**
- **And her prostitutions carried from Egypt she did not leave, for with her they had lain down in her youth, and they were the ones that pressed the bosoms of her virginity and they kept pouring out their immoral intercourse upon her. (Ezekiel 23:8)**
- **Therefore I gave her into the hand of those passionately loving her, into the hand of the sons of Assyria, toward whom she had lusted. (Ezekiel 23:9)**
- **They were the ones that uncovered her nakedness. Her sons and her daughters they took, and her they killed even with sword. And she came to be infamy to women, and acts of judgment were**

what they executed upon her. (**Ezekiel 23:10**)

- When her sister Oholibah got to see it, then she exercised her sensual desire more ruinously than she, and her prostitution more than the fornication of her sister. (**Ezekiel 23:11**)
- For the sons of Assyria she lusted, governor's and deputy rulers who were near, clothed with perfect taste, cavalymen riding horses, desirable young men all of them. (**Ezekiel 23:12**)
- And I got to see that, because she had defiled herself, both of them had one way. (**Ezekiel 23:13**)
- And she kept adding to her acts of prostitution when she got to see the men in carvings upon the wall, images of Chaldeans carved in vermilion. (**Ezekiel 23:14**)
- Girded with belts on their hips, with pendant turbans on their heads, having the appearance of warriors, all of them, the likeness of the sons of Babylon, Chaldeans as respects the land of their birth. (**Ezekiel 23:15**)
- And she began to lust after them at the sight of her eyes and proceeded to send messengers to them in Chaldea. (**Ezekiel 23:16**)
- Do not rejoice, O Israel. Do not act joyful like the peoples. For by fornication you have gone from alongside your God. You have loved gifts of **hire** on all the threshing floors of grain. (**Hosea 9:1**)
- And I shall certainly make Samaria a heap of ruins of the field, the planting places of a vineyard, and I will pour down into the valley her stones, and her foundations I shall lay bare. (**Micah 1:6**)
- And her graven images will all be crushed to pieces, and all the gifts made to her as her hire will be burned in the fire, and all her idols I shall make a desolate waste. For from the things given as the **hire** of a prostitute she collected them, and to the thing given as the hire of a prostitute they will return. (**Micah 1:7**)
- But God specifically denounced Jerusalem for something unusual in this regard. Unlike harlots who receive **hire**, **Jerusalem even gave hire** to the nations committing prostitution with her.

- **And you went prostituting yourself to the sons of Egypt, your neighbors great of flesh, and you continued making your prostitution abound in order to offend me. (Ezekiel 16:26)**
- **And, look! I shall certainly stretch out my hand against you and I shall diminish your allowance and give you to the soulful desire of the women hating you, the daughters of the Philistines, the women humiliated on account of your way as regards loose conduct. (Ezekiel 16:27)**
- **And you went on to prostitute yourself to the sons of Assyria because there was no satisfying of you, and you kept prostituting yourself with them and also did not get satisfaction. (Ezekiel 16:28)**
- **So you kept making your prostitution abound toward the land of Canaan, toward the Chaldeans, and even in this you did not get satisfaction. (Ezekiel 16:29)**
- **O how I am filled up with rage against you, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah, by your doing all these things, the work of a woman, a domineering prostitute! (Ezekiel 16:30)**
- **When you built your mound at the head of every way and you made your own height in every public square, yet you became unlike a prostitute in disdaining hire. (Ezekiel 16:31)**
- **In the case of the wife that commits adultery, she takes strangers instead of her own husband. (Ezekiel 16:32)**
- **To all prostitutes they are accustomed to give a present, but you, you have given your presents to all those passionately loving you, and you offer a bribe to them to come in to you from all around in your acts of prostitution. (Ezekiel 16:33)**
- **And in your case the opposite thing takes place from that of other women in your acts of prostitution, and after your style no prostitution has been committed, even in your giving hire when no hire has been given to you, and so it occurs in the opposite way. (Ezekiel 16:34)**
- **And they must burn your houses with fire and execute in you acts of judgment before the eyes of many women, and I will cause**

**you to cease from being a prostitute, and also no more hire will
you give. (Ezekiel 16:41)**