## ~IVORY (111)

[Hebrew, *shen*, Greek, *e-le-phan'ti-nos*]

- The creamy-white tusks of the elephant, hippopotamus, walrus, and other animals. Though hard, and having a density about three and a half times as great as seasoned cedarwood, it is highly elastic and is easily carved or tooled.
- Its fine grain gives it a pleasing touch and finish that has remarkable durability. The intersecting layers of dentin, alternating in shade, add to its utility a beauty all its own.
- Ivory is designated in Hebrew by the words *shen*, literally, tooth, and *shen-hab-bim'*, rendered elephants teeth; in the Greek Septuagint. The Greek term *e-le-phan'ti-nos*, means, made of ivory.
- · Ivory has been associated with the luxuries of life fine art, elegant furnishings, treasured riches. Solomon's ships, once every three years, brought great quantities of ivory from faraway places.
- For the king had a fleet of ships of Tarshish on the sea along with Hiram's fleet of ships. Once every three years the fleet of ships of Tarshish would come carrying gold and silver, ivory, and apes and peacocks. (1 Kings 10:22)
- For ships belonging to the king were going to Tarshish with the servants of Hiram. Once every three years ships of Tarshish would come in, carrying gold and silver, ivory, and apes and peacocks. (2 Chronicles 9:21)
- Befitting his glory and greatness, Solomon made a great ivory throne and overlaid it with refined gold.
- Further, the king made a great ivory throne and overlaid it with refined gold. (1 Kings 10:18)
- Further, the king made a great ivory throne and overlaid it with pure gold. (2 Chronicles 9:17)
- The Psalms mention the grand ivory palace in connection with stringed instruments of music.

- All your garments are myrrh and aloeswood and cassia, out from the grand ivory palace stringed instruments themselves have made you rejoice. (Psalms 45:8)
- In the lovely Song of Solomon the writer uses ivory as a metaphor and a simile to express beauty.
- His hands are cylinders of gold, filled with chrysolite. His abdomen is an ivory plate covered with sapphires. (Song of Solomon 5:14)
- Your neck is like an ivory tower. Your eyes are like the pools in Heshbon, by the gate of Bath-rabbim. Your nose is like the tower of Lebanon, which is looking out toward Damascus. (Song of Solomon 7:4)
- King Ahab also built himself a palace using costly ivory, making it a veritable house of ivory.
- As for the rest of the affairs of Ahab and all that he did and the house of ivory that he built and all the cities that he built, are they not written in the book of the affairs of the days of the kings of Israel? (1 Kings 22:39)
- In the days of Amos houses and couches were constructed with ivory.
- And I will strike down the winter house in addition to the summer house. And the houses of ivory will have to perish, and many houses will have to come to their finish, is the utterance of Yehowah. (Amos 3:15)
- You men that are lying down on couches of ivory and are sprawling on their divans, and are eating the rams out of a flock and the young bulls from among fattened calves. (Amos 6:4)
- Archaeological findings confirm the rather extensive use of ivory by the nation of Israel and her neighbors.
- Egypt too used this natural plastic in making such things as combs, fan handles, dishes, ointment boxes, chair legs, game boards, statuettes, and sculptured works of art.

- The city of Tyre, in her great sea commerce, inlaid the prows of her ships with ivory. Ivory is also listed among the costly things of ancient Tyre's traders, as well as in the stock of, the traveling merchants of the earth, who weep over Babylon the Greats fall into destruction.
- Out of massive trees from Bashan they made your oars. Your prow they made with ivory in cypress wood, from the islands of Kittim. (Ezekiel 27:6)
- The sons of Dedan were your traders, many islands were merchants in your employ. Horns of ivory and ebony they have paid back as gift to you. (Ezekiel 27:15)
- Also, the traveling merchants of the earth are weeping and mourning over her, because there is no one to buy their full stock anymore. (Revelation 18:11)
- A full stock of gold and silver and precious stone and pearls and fine linen and purple and silk and scarlet, and everything in scented wood and every sort of ivory object and every sort of object out of most precious wood and of copper and of iron and of marble. (Revelation 18:12)