

## ~KNIFE (96)

[Hebrew, *ma- 'akhe'leth*]

- A single or double-edged cutting implement. Knives used in Biblical lands in times past were made of stone, particularly of flint, copper, bronze, or iron.
- The Hebrew term *ma- 'akhe'leth*, which literally refers to an instrument for eating, is also applied to large knives such as those employed in cutting up the carcasses of sacrificial animals.
- A slaughtering knife Hebrew, *ma- 'akhe'leth*, was the instrument faithful Abraham took in hand, when about to sacrifice Isaac
- After that Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and put it upon Isaac his son and took in his hands the fire and the slaughtering knife, and both of them went on together. (Genesis 22:6)
- Then Abraham put out his hand and took the slaughtering knife to kill his son. (Genesis 22:10)
- And the same type was used by a certain Levite to cut the body of his dead concubine into 12 pieces.
- Then he entered his house and took the slaughtering knife and laid hold of his concubine and cut her up according to her bones into twelve pieces and sent her into every territory of Israel. (Judges 19:29)
- There is a generation whose teeth are swords and whose jawbones are slaughtering knives, to eat up the afflicted ones off the earth and the poor ones from among mankind. (Proverbs 30:14)
- Speaks of a generation whose teeth are swords and whose jawbones are slaughtering knives, thus employing the same Hebrew term as a figure of rapaciousness.
- Flint knives were made by Joshua for use in circumcising the sons of Israel at Gibeath-haaraloth.

- At that particular time Yehowah said to Joshua; Make for yourself **flint knives** and circumcise the sons of Israel again, the second time. (**Joshua 5:2**)
- Accordingly Joshua made **flint knives** for himself and circumcised the sons of Israel at Gibeath-haaraloth. (**Joshua 5:3**)
- And this was the reason why Joshua did the circumcising: all the people that came out of Egypt, the males, all the men of war, had died in the wilderness on the road when they were coming out of Egypt. (**Joshua 5:4**)

The **Hebrew** term designating these knives is *che'rev*, generally rendered **sword**.

- At that particular time Yehowah said to Joshua; Make for yourself **flint knives** and circumcise the sons of Israel again, the second time. (**Joshua 5:2**) Footnote
- The common Canaanite **flint knife** was about 15 centimeters (6 inches) in length and had a raised center ridge and a double edge.
- Scribes and secretaries of ancient times used a type of **knife** to sharpen their reed pens and to make erasures.
- Then it came about that as soon as Jehudi had read three or four page-columns, he proceeded to tear it apart with the **secretary's knife**, pitching it also into the fire that was in the brazier until all the roll ended up in the fire that was in the brazier. (**Jeremiah 36:23**)
- Tells of the use of a **secretary's knife** to tear apart a roll of a book prepared by Jeremiah at Yehowah's direction.
- Many ancient **knives** of copper have a straight blade from 15 to 25 centimeters (6 to 10 inches) in length, some with curved tips have also been discovered. Handles were often one piece with the blade. Other handles were made of wood and were fastened to the blade.
- In case you should sit down to feed yourself with a king, you should diligently consider what is before you. (**Proverbs 23:1**)
- And you must put a **knife** to your throat if you are the owner of soulful desire. (**Proverbs 23:2**)

- Makes figurative reference to a **knife**, recommending the putting of a **knife** to ones throat when eating with a king, evidently emphasizing the need to restrain ones appetite in such a circumstance.