

~LEBANON (565)

(Leb'a-non) [White Mountain]

.. Illustrative Use

- Generally, the westernmost of the two ranges forming the mountain system of **Lebanon**. Perhaps its name is derived from the light color of its limestone cliffs and summits or from the fact that the ranges upper slopes are covered with snow during a major part of the year.
- Will the snow of **Lebanon** go away from the rock of the open field? Or will strange waters, cool, trickling, be dried up? (**Jeremiah 18:14**)
- Extending from North-Northeast to South-Southwest for about 160 kilometers (100 miles) along the Mediterranean Sea, the **Lebanon** chain parallels the Anti-Lebanon Range for about 100 kilometers (60 miles).
- The two ranges are separated by a long, fertile valley, the **Beqa`**, **Coele-Syria**, measuring between 10 and 16 kilometers (6 and 10 miles) in width.
- From Mount Halak, which goes up to Seir, and as far as Baal-gad in the valley plain of **Lebanon** at the base of Mount Hermon, and he captured all their kings and went striking them and putting them to death. (**Joshua 11:17**)
- And these are the kings of the land whom Joshua and the sons of Israel defeated on the side of the Jordan toward the west, from Baal-gad in the valley plain of **Lebanon** and as far as Mount Halak, which goes up to Seir, after which Joshua gave it to the tribes of Israel as a holding by their shares. (**Joshua 12:7**)
- Through this valley the Orontes River courses northward, whereas the Litani, its lower course being called **Nahr el-Kasimiye**, flows southward and curves around the southern end of the **Lebanon** range. The **Nahr el-Kebir**, **Eleutherus**, flows past the northern end of the Lebanon chain.

- With few exceptions, the foothills of the **Lebanon** Range rise almost directly from the Mediterranean Sea, leaving only a narrow coastal plain.
- The summits of this range average between 1,800 and 2,100 meters (6,000 and 7,000 feet) in elevation, with two peaks towering over 900 meters (3,000 feet) higher. Both the eastern and the western slopes of the range are steep.
- Its eastern slopes are quite barren and have practically no important streams. But the well-watered western slopes are cleft by streams and gorges.
- And a spring of gardens, a well of fresh water, and trickling streams from **Lebanon**. (**Song of Solomon 4:15**)
- The terraced lower slopes on the West side support grain, vineyards, and fruit orchards, as well as mulberry, walnut, and olive trees.
- I shall become like the dew to Israel. He will blossom like the lily, and will strike his roots like **Lebanon**. (**Hosea 14:5**)
- His twigs will go forth, and his dignity will become like that of the olive tree, and his fragrance will be like that of **Lebanon**. (**Hosea 14:6**)
- They will again be dwellers in his shadow. They will grow grain, and will bud like the vine. His memorial will be like the wine of **Lebanon**. (**Hosea 14:7**)
- Pines thrive in the rich soil of the sandstone layer, and at the higher elevations a few small groves of majestic cedars are to be found. These trees anciently covered the range and their wood was used for a variety of purposes.
- Further, he continued building the house that he might finish it, and covered in the house with beams and rows in cedarwood. (**1 Kings 6:9**)
- It is the litter that King Solomon has made for himself from the trees of **Lebanon**. (**Song of Solomon 3:9**)
- Out of juniper timbers from Senir they built for you all the

planks. A cedar from **Lebanon** they took to make a mast upon you. (**Ezekiel 27:5**)

- **Ash, cypress, and juniper trees are also native to the **Lebanon Range**.**
- **And now command that they cut for me cedars from **Lebanon**, and my servants themselves will prove to be with your servants, and the wages of your servants I shall give to you according to all that you may say, for you yourself well know that there is among us no one knowing how to cut trees like the Sidonians. (**1 Kings 5:6**)**
- **And it came about that as soon as Hiram heard the words of Solomon, he began to rejoice greatly, and he went on to say; Blessed is Yehowah today in that he has given David a wise son over this numerous people! (**1 Kings 5:7**)**
- **Accordingly Hiram sent to Solomon, saying; I have heard what you sent to me. For my part, I shall do all your delight in the matter of timbers of cedar trees and timbers of juniper trees. (**1 Kings 5:8**)**
- **By means of your messengers you have taunted Yehowah and you say; With the multitude of my war chariots I myself. I shall certainly ascend the height of mountainous regions, the remotest parts of **Lebanon**, and I shall cut down its lofty cedars, its choice juniper trees. And I will enter its final lodging place, the forest of its orchard. (**2 Kings 19:23**)**
- **To you the very glory of **Lebanon** will come, the juniper tree, the ash tree and the cypress at the same time, in order to beautify the place of my sanctuary, and I shall glorify the very place of my feet. (**Isaiah 60:13**)**
- **Among the animals inhabiting this region are jackals, gazelles, hyenas, wolves, and bears. In ancient times both the forests and the wildlife were more abundant, the region was a haunt for lions and leopards.**
- **With me from **Lebanon**, O bride, with me from Lebanon may you come. May you descend from the top of Anti-Lebanon, from the top of Senir, even Hermon, from the lairs of lions, from the mountains of leopards. (**Song of Solomon 4:8**)**

- Even **Lebanon** is not sufficient for keeping a fire burning, and its wild animals are not sufficient for a burnt offering. (**Isaiah 40:16**)
- Possibly it was the fragrance of its great forests that was known as, the fragrance of **Lebanon**.
- With comb honey your lips keep dripping, O my bride. Honey and milk are under your tongue, and the fragrance of your garments is like the fragrance of **Lebanon**. (**Song of Solomon 4:11**)

See Also CEDAR

- The **Lebanon** region was not conquered by the Israelites under Joshua's leadership, but it came to be the Northwest border of the land.
- Turn and set out on your way and go into the mountainous region of the Amorites and to all their neighbors in the Arabah, the mountainous region and the Shephelah and the Negeb and the seacoast, the land of the Canaanites, and **Lebanon**, up to the great river, the river Euphrates. (**Deuteronomy 1:7**)
- Let me pass over, please, and see the good land that is across the Jordan, this good mountainous region and **Lebanon**. (**Deuteronomy 3:25**)
- Every place on which the sole of your foot will tread will become yours. From the wilderness up to **Lebanon**, from the River, the river Euphrates, to the western sea your boundary will become. (**Deuteronomy 11:24**)
- From the wilderness and this **Lebanon** to the great river, the river Euphrates, that is, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the setting of the sun your territory will prove to be. (**Joshua 1:4**)
- And it came about that as soon as all the kings who were on the side of the Jordan in the mountainous region and in the Shephelah and along the whole coast of the Great Sea and in front of **Lebanon**, the Hittites and the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, heard of it. (**Joshua 9:1**)

- The pagan inhabitants of this area, however, served to test Israel's faithfulness to Yehowah.
- The five axis lords of the Philistines, and all the Canaanites, even the Sidonians and the Hivites inhabiting Mount **Lebanon** from Mount Baal-hermon as far as to the entering in of Hamath. (**Judges 3:3**)
- And they kept serving as agents to test Israel so as to know whether they would obey Yehowah's commandments that he had commanded their fathers by means of Moses. (**Judges 3:4**)
- Centuries later, King Solomon exercised jurisdiction over a part of **Lebanon** and there did building work.
- And Solomon went on to build Gezer and Lower Beth-horon. (**1 Kings 9:17**)
- And Baalath and Tamar in the wilderness, in the land. (**1 Kings 9:18**)
- And all the storage cities that became Solomon's and the chariot cities and the cities for the horsemen, and the desirable things of Solomon that he had desired to build in Jerusalem and in **Lebanon** and in all the land of his dominion. (**1 Kings 9:19**)
- And he went on to build Upper Beth-horon and Lower Beth-horon, fortified cities with walls, doors and bar. (**2 Chronicles 8:5**)
- And Baalath and all the storage cities that had become Solomon's and all the chariot cities and the cities for the horsemen and every desirable thing of Solomon that he had desired to build in Jerusalem and in **Lebanon** and in all the land of his dominion. (**2 Chronicles 8:6**)
- Possibly one of his construction projects included the tower of **Lebanon**, which is looking out toward Damascus.
- 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**)

- Some, however, understand this to refer to one of the peaks of **Lebanon**. At this time Hiram the king of Tyre controlled another portion of **Lebanon**, from which he supplied Solomon with cedar and juniper timbers.
- And it came about that as soon as Hiram heard the words of Solomon, he began to rejoice greatly, and he went on to say; Blessed is Yehowah today in that he has given David a wise son over this numerous people! (1 Kings 5:7)
- Accordingly Hiram sent to Solomon, saying; I have heard what you sent to me. For my part, I shall do all your delight in the matter of timbers of cedar trees and timbers of juniper trees. (1 Kings 5:8)
- My servants themselves will bring them down out of **Lebanon** to the sea, and I, for my part, shall put them in log rafts to go by sea clear to the place that you will send me notice of, and I shall certainly have them broken up there, and you, for your part, will carry them, and you, for your part, will do my delight by giving the food for my household. (1 Kings 5:9)
- So Hiram became a giver of timbers of cedar trees and timbers of juniper trees to Solomon according to all his delight. (1 Kings 5:10)
- And Solomon, for his part, gave Hiram twenty thousand cor measures of wheat as food supplies for his household and twenty cor measures of beaten-out oil. That was what Solomon kept giving Hiram year by year. (1 Kings 5:11)
- And Yehowah, for his part, gave Solomon wisdom, just as he had promised him, and there came to be peace between Hiram and Solomon, and both of them proceeded to conclude a covenant. (1 Kings 5:12)
- And King Solomon kept bringing up those conscripted for forced labor out of all Israel, and those conscripted for forced labor amounted to thirty thousand men. (1 Kings 5:13)
- And he would send them to **Lebanon** in shifts of ten thousand a month. For a month they would continue in Lebanon, for two months at their homes, and Adoniram was over those

conscripted for forced labor. (1 Kings 5:14)

· Illustrative Use

- Many of the Scriptural references to **Lebanon** are associated with its fruitfulness.
- There will come to be plenty of grain on the earth, on the top of the mountains there will be an overflow. His fruit will be as in **Lebanon**, and those who are from the city will blossom like the vegetation of the earth. (Psalms 72:16)
- Without fail it will blossom, and it will really be joyful with joyousness and with glad crying out. The glory of **Lebanon** itself must be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and of Sharon. There will be those who will see the glory of Yehowah, the splendor of our God. (Isaiah 35:2)
- And luxuriant forests, particularly its majestic cedars.
- The voice of Yehowah is breaking the cedars, yes, Yehowah breaks the cedars of **Lebanon** in pieces. (Psalms 29:5)
- Often **Lebanon** is used in a figurative way. It is depicted as if in a state of abashment, sympathizing with the land of Judah that had been despoiled by the Assyrian forces.
- Woe to you who are despoiling, without you yourself being despoiled, and to you who are dealing treacherously, without others having dealt treacherously with you! As soon as you have finished as a despoiler, you will be despoiled. As soon as you have done with dealing treacherously, they will deal treacherously with you. (Isaiah 33:1)
- The land has gone mourning, has withered away. **Lebanon** has become abashed, it has moldered. Sharon has become like the desert plain, and Bashan and Carmel are shaking off their leaves. (Isaiah 33:9)
- The Assyrian army itself, however, was to experience calamity, being felled like trees of **Lebanon**.
- Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord, Yehowah of armies, has said; Do not be afraid, O my people who are dwelling in Zion,

because of the Assyrian, who with the rod used to strike you and who used to lift up his own staff against you in the way that Egypt did. (**Isaiah 10:24**)

- For yet a very little while, and the denunciation will have come to an end, and my anger, in their wearing away. (**Isaiah 10:25**)
- And Yehowah of armies will certainly brandish against him a whip as at the defeat of Midian by the rock Oreb, and his staff will be upon the sea, and he will certainly lift it up in the way that he did with Egypt. (**Isaiah 10:26**)
- Look! The true Lord, Yehowah of armies, is lopping off boughs with a terrible crash, and those tall in growth are being cut down, and the high ones themselves become low. (**Isaiah 10:33**)
- And he has struck down the thickets of the forest with an iron tool, and by a powerful one **Lebanon** itself will fall. (**Isaiah 10:34**)
- Disastrous effects resulting from Yehowah's judgment are compared to the withering of the blossom of **Lebanon**.
- He is rebuking the sea, and he dries it up, and all the rivers he actually makes run dry. Bashan and Carmel have withered, and the very blossom of **Lebanon** has withered. (**Nahum 1:4**)
- However, the turning of **Lebanon's** forest into a fruitful orchard is alluded to in a restoration prophecy and illustrates a complete reversal of matters.
- Is it not yet but a very little time and **Lebanon** must be turned into an orchard and the orchard itself will be accounted just as a forest? (**Isaiah 29:17**)
- And in that day the deaf ones will certainly hear the words of the book, and out of the gloom and out of the darkness even the eyes of the blind ones will see. (**Isaiah 29:18**)
- Yehowah, through Jeremiah, said concerning the house of the king of Judah, You are as Gilead to me, the head of **Lebanon**.
- For this is what Yehowah has said concerning the house of the king of Judah, You are as Gilead to me, the head of **Lebanon**. Assuredly I shall make you a wilderness, as for the cities, not one

will be inhabited. (**Jeremiah 22:6**)

- **The house appears to designate the palace complex.**
- **This is what Yehowah has said; Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and you must speak there this word. (**Jeremiah 22:1**)**
- **But if you will not obey these words, by myself I do swear, is the utterance of Yehowah, that this house will become a mere devastated place. (**Jeremiah 22:5**)**
- **Situated as it was on an eminence, the palaces location was lofty and magnificent, like **Lebanon**. Also, cedarwood had been used extensively in the construction of the various royal edifices there.**
- **And he proceeded to build the House of the Forest of **Lebanon** a hundred cubits in its length, and fifty cubits in its width, and thirty cubits in its height, upon four rows of pillars of cedarwood, and there were beams of cedarwood upon the pillars. (**1 Kings 7:2**)**
- **And it was paneled in with cedarwood above upon the girders that were upon the forty-five pillars. There were fifteen to a row. (**1 Kings 7:3**)**
- **As for framed windows, there were three rows, and there was an illumination opening opposite an illumination opening in three tiers. (**1 Kings 7:4**)**
- **And all the entrances and the doorposts were squared with the frame, and also the forefront of the illumination opening opposite an illumination opening in three tiers. (**1 Kings 7:5**)**
- **And the Porch of Pillars he made fifty cubits in its length, and thirty cubits in its width, and another porch was in front of them with pillars and a canopy in front of them. (**1 Kings 7:6**)**
- **As for the Porch of the Throne where he would do judging, he made the porch of judgment, and they covered it in with cedarwood from the floor to the rafters. (**1 Kings 7:7**)**
- **As regards the house of his where he was to dwell, at the other courtyard, it was away from the house belonging to the Porch. It proved to be like this in workmanship. And there was a house**

like this Porch that he proceeded to build for Pharaoh's daughter, whom Solomon had taken. (1 Kings 7:8)

- All these were of expensive stones according to measures, hewn, sawed with stone-saws, inside and outside, and from the foundation up to the coping, and outside as far as the great courtyard. (1 Kings 7:9)
- And the expensive stones laid as a foundation were great stones, stones of ten cubits, and stones of eight cubits. (1 Kings 7:10)
- And up above there were expensive stones according to measures, hewn, and also cedarwood. (1 Kings 7:11)
- As for the great courtyard, round about were three rows of hewn stone and a row of beams of cedarwood, and this also for the inner courtyard of the house of Yehowah, and for the porch of the house. (1 Kings 7:12)
- King Jehoiakim, who heard the words recorded at;
- For this is what Yehowah has said concerning the house of the king of Judah, You are as Gilead to me, the head of **Lebanon**. Assuredly I shall make you a wilderness, as for the cities, not one will be inhabited. (Jeremiah 22:6)
- Had himself used cedar paneling for his luxurious palace.
- 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)
- The one saying; I am going to build for myself a roomy house and commodious upper chambers, and my windows must be widened out for it, and the paneling will be with cedar and smeared with vermilion. (Jeremiah 22:14)
- Will you continue reigning because you are competing by use of cedar? As for your father, did he not eat and drink and execute justice and righteousness? In that case it went well with him. (Jeremiah 22:15)

- Therefore, the palace area was like a magnificent forest of cedar buildings and could appropriately be compared to **Lebanon** and to heavily wooded Gilead.
- Yehowah warned Judah that if King Jehoiakim, his servants, and the people did not render justice, the house would become a mere devastation.
- This is what Yehowah has said; Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and you must speak there this word. (**Jeremiah 22:1**)
- And you must say; Hear the word of Yehowah, O king of Judah who are sitting on the throne of David, you with your servants and your people, those who are coming in through these gates. (**Jeremiah 22:2**)
- This is what Yehowah has said; Render justice and righteousness, and deliver the one that is being robbed out of the hand of the defrauder, and do not maltreat any alien resident, fatherless boy or widow. Do them no violence. And do not shed any innocent blood in this place. (**Jeremiah 22:3**)
- For if you will by all means perform this word, there will also certainly come in through the gates of this house the kings sitting for David upon his throne, riding in chariots and on horses, he with his servants and his people. (**Jeremiah 22:4**)
- But if you will not obey these words, by myself I do swear, is the utterance of Yehowah, that this house will become a mere devastated place. (**Jeremiah 22:5**)
- And those dwelling in figurative **Lebanon**, Jerusalem, being nested in the cedars, would experience calamity.
- O you who are dwelling in **Lebanon**, being nested in the cedars, how you will certainly sigh when there come to you birth pangs, the labor pains like those of a woman giving birth! (**Jeremiah 22:23**)
- Son of man, propound a riddle and compose a proverbial saying toward the house of Israel. (**Ezekiel 17:2**)
- And you must say; This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; The great eagle, having great wings, with long pinions, full

of plumage, which had color variety, came to **Lebanon** and proceeded to take the treetop of the cedar. (**Ezekiel 17:3**)

- Similarly, the desire of Assyrian King Sennacherib to ascend the height of mountainous regions, the remotest parts of **Lebanon**, and to cut down its lofty cedars appears to allude to his intentions concerning Jerusalem.
- And Isaiah the son of Amoz proceeded to send to Hezekiah, saying; This is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; Because you have prayed to me concerning Sennacherib the king of Assyria. (**Isaiah 37:21**)
- This is the word that Yehowah has spoken against him; The virgin daughter of Zion has despised you, she has held you in derision. Behind you the daughter of Jerusalem has wagged her head. (**Isaiah 37:22**)
- Whom have you taunted and spoken of abusively? And against whom have you lifted up your voice and do you raise your eyes on high? It is against the Holy One of Israel! (**Isaiah 37:23**)
- By means of your servants you have taunted Yehowah and you say; with the multitude of my war chariots I myself, I shall certainly ascend the height of mountainous regions, the remotest parts of **Lebanon**, and I shall cut down its lofty cedars, its choice juniper trees. And I shall enter its final height, the forest of its orchard. (**Isaiah 37:24**)
- The prophetic words regarding the violence done to **Lebanon**.
- Because the violence done to **Lebanon** is what will cover you, and the rapacity upon the beasts that terrifies them, because of the shedding of blood of mankind and the violence done to the earth, the town and all those dwelling in it. (**Habakkuk 2:17**)
- May refer to calamity in store for Jerusalem. Or they are perhaps to be understood literally as denoting the depletion of **Lebanon's** forests through the ravages of war.
- Yehowah has broken the rod of the wicked ones, the staff of the ruling ones. (**Isaiah 14:5**)
- The one striking peoples in fury with a stroke incessantly, the

one subduing nations in sheer anger with a persecution without restraint. (**Isaiah 14:6**)

- The whole earth has come to rest, has become free of disturbance. People have become cheerful with joyful cries. (**Isaiah 14:7**)
- Even the juniper trees have also rejoiced at you, the cedars of **Lebanon**, saying; Ever since you have lain down, no woodcutter comes up against us. (**Isaiah 14:8**)
- Zechariah's prophecy;
- And I must bring them back from the land of Egypt, and from Assyria I shall collect them together, and to the land of Gilead and **Lebanon** I shall bring them, and no room will be found for them. (**Zechariah 10:10**)
- Pointed to the time when Yehowah would bring his people back to the land of Gilead and **Lebanon**. In this case **Lebanon** may refer to the territory West of the Jordan, as Gilead designates the land East of the Jordan.