~LILY (110)
[Hebrew, *shu-shan'*, Greek, *kri'non*]

·   The Hebrew term *shu-shan'* and its corresponding Greek equivalent *kri'non,* both rendered, lily, probably embrace a great variety of flowers, such as the tulips, anemones, hyacinths, irises, and gladioli.

·   According to Koehler and Baumgartner, the Hebrew designation is derived from an Egyptian word meaning, big flower. [Lexicon in Veteris Testamenti Libros, Leiden, 1958, p. 958]

·   The Greek historian Herodotus [II, 92] speaks of the Egyptian lotus as lily, and many believe that in the Scriptural references to the lily or lily work in ornamentation, the Egyptian lotus, a water lily, is meant.

·   And the capitals that were upon the top of the pillars at the porch were of lily work, of four cubits. (1 Kings 7:19)

·   And upon the top of the pillars there was lily work. And the work of the pillars was gradually completed. (1 Kings 7:22)

·   And its thickness was a handbreadth, and its brim was like the workmanship of the brim of a cup, a lily blossom. Two thousand bath measures were what it would contain. (1 Kings 7:26)

·   And its thickness was a handbreadth, and its brim was like the workmanship of the brim of a cup, a lily blossom. As a receptacle, three thousand bath measures were what it could contain. (2 Chronicles 4:5)

·   However, in view of the fact that the lotus figured prominently in the false religious symbolism of Egypt, the identification of the lily with the lotus is questionable.

·   The lilies of the Scriptural record were to be found in the low plain, among thorny weeds, and in pastures where flocks and gazelles grazed.

·   A mere saffron of the coastal plain I am, a lily of the low plains. (Song of Solomon 2:1)

·   My dear one is mine and I am his. He is shepherding among the

lilies. (**Song of Solomon 2:16**)

· Your two breasts are like two young ones, the twins of a female gazelle, that are feeding among the **lilies.** (**Song of Solomon 4:5**)

· **They may also have been cultivated in gardens.**

· My own dear one has gone down to his garden, to the garden beds of spice plants, to shepherd among the gardens, and to pick lilies. (**Song of Solomon 6:2**)

· I am my dear ones, and my dear one is mine. He is shepherding among the **lilies.** (**Song of Solomon 6:3**)

· **And allusion is made to their sweet fragrance.**

· His cheeks are like a garden bed of spice, towers of scented herbs. His lips are lilies, dripping with liquid myrrh. (**Song of Solomon 5:13**)

· **Possibly with reference to the lily's beauty, Hosea, in foretelling Israel's restoration, spoke of the time when God's people would blossom as a lily.**

· I shall become like the dew to Israel. He will blossom like the **lily**, and will strike his roots like Lebanon. (**Hosea 14:5**)

· **In de-emphasizing the importance generally attached to material things, Jesus Christ pointed out that not even Solomon in all his glory was as beautifully arrayed as the lilies of the field.**

· **It has been suggested that Jesus probably had the anemone in mind. However, he may simply have been referring to lily-like flowers in general, as may be inferred from the fact that lilies of the field is used in parallel with vegetation of the field.**

· Also, on the matter of clothing, why are you anxious? Take a lesson from the **lilies** of the field, how they are growing, they do not toil, nor do they spin. (**Matthew 6:28**)

· But I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory was arrayed as one of these. (**Matthew 6:29**)

· If, now, God thus clothes the vegetation of the field, which is

here today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much rather clothe you, you with little faith? **(Matthew 6:30)**

· Mark well how the **lilies** grow, they neither toil nor spin, but I tell you, not even Solomon in all his glory was arrayed as one of these. **(Luke 12:27)**

· If, now, God thus clothes the vegetation in the field that today exists and tomorrow is cast into an oven, how much rather will he clothe you, you with little faith! **(Luke 12:28)**

· The significance of the expressions, **The Lily, The Lilies,** appearing in the superscriptions of **(Psalms 45,60,69,80)** is not known.