

~LOTUS TREE (22)

[Hebrew, *tse- 'elim*]

- The thorny **lotus**, *Sisyphus lotus*, is a thickly branched shrub or low tree, often growing to a height of only 1.5 meters (5 feet). The leaves are small, oval, and leathery, and at the base of each leaf is a pair of thorns. The only reference to it is at;
- Under the thorny **lotus** trees it lies down, in the concealed place of reeds and the swampy place. (**Job 40:21**)
- The thorny **lotus** trees keep it blocked off with their shadow, the poplars of the torrent valley surround it. (**Job 40:22**)
- Which speaks of Behemoth, the hippopotamus, as lying in the shade cast by the tree. While this tree is found in dry places in Palestine, *A Dictionary of Life in Bible Times* speaks of it as **flourishing in the hot and humid marshland** of North Africa. [By W. Corswant, Suffolk, 1960, p. 177],