

~MEASURING LINE (246)

.. Figurative Use

- **A string, rope, or cord used for measuring.**
- Then he cast the two pillars of copper, eighteen cubits being the height of each pillar, and a string of twelve cubits would **measure** around each of the two pillars. (**1 Kings 7:15**)
- And he proceeded to make the molten sea ten cubits from its one brim to its other brim, circular all around, and its height was five cubits, and it took a line of thirty cubits to circle all around it. (**1 Kings 7:23**)
- Therefore this is what Yehowah has said; As regards your wife, in the city she will become a prostitute. And as regards your sons and your daughters, by the sword they will fall. And as regards your ground, by the **measuring rope** it will be apportioned out. And as regards you yourself, on unclean ground you will die, and as regards Israel, it will without fail go into exile from its own ground. (**Amos 7:17**)
- And I proceeded to raise my eyes and see, and, look! There was a man, and in his hand a **measuring rope**. (**Zechariah 2:1**)
- So I said; Where are you going? In turn he said to me; To measure Jerusalem, in order to see what her breadth amounts to and what her length amounts to. (**Zechariah 2:2**)
- Some **measuring lines** were apparently divided into cubits.
- And he proceeded to make the molten sea ten cubits from its one brim to its other brim, circular all around, and its height was five cubits, and it took a **line** of thirty cubits to circle all around it. (**2 Chronicles 4:2**)
- The extent of a particular land area was determined by stretching or casting a **measuring line** upon its surface.
- Where did you happen to be when I founded the earth? Tell me, if you do know understanding. (**Job 38:4**)

- Who set its measurements, in case you know, or who stretched out upon it the **measuring line**? (**Job 38:5**)
- And because of them he gradually drove out the nations, and by the **measuring line** he went allotting them an inheritance, so that he caused the tribes of Israel to reside in their own homes. (**Psalms 78:55**)
- In that day one will raise up concerning you people a proverbial saying and will certainly lament a lamentation, even a lamentation. One will have to say; We have positively been despoiled! The very portion of my people he alters. How he removes it from me! To the unfaithful one he apports out our own fields. (**Micah 2:4**)
- Therefore you will come to have no one casting out the cord, by lot, in the congregation of Yehowah. (**Micah 2:5**)
- Builders used it, as when laying out a city,
- Look! There are days coming, is the utterance of Yehowah; and the city will certainly be built to Yehowah from the Tower of Hananel to the Corner Gate. (**Jeremiah 31:38**)
- And the **line** for **measurement** will yet actually go forth straight ahead to the hill of Gareb, and it will certainly go around to Goah. (**Jeremiah 31:39**)
- Therefore this is what Yehowah has said; I shall certainly return to Jerusalem with mercies. My own house will be built in her, is the utterance of Yehowah of armies, and a **measuring line** itself will be stretched out over Jerusalem. (**Zechariah 1:16**)
- And a wood carver might use it to set the dimensions of an object.
- As for the wood carver, he has stretched out the **measuring line**, he traces it out with red chalk, he works it up with a wood scraper, and with a compass he keeps tracing it out, and gradually he makes it like the representation of a man, like the beauty of mankind, to sit in a house. (**Isaiah 44:13**)

- On one occasion King David appears to have **measured** off the vanquished Moabites that were to be put to death from those to be preserved alive.
- And he went on to strike down the Moabites and measure them with a line, making them lie down on the earth, that he might **measure two lines** to put them to death, and a full line to preserve them alive, and the Moabites came to be David's servants to carry tribute. (2 Samuel 8:2)

•• Figurative Use

- In a figurative sense, **measuring line** denotes a rule, or standard, of action.
- For it is command upon command, command upon command, **measuring line** upon **measuring line**, **measuring line** upon **measuring line**, here a little, there a little. (Isaiah 28:10)
- And to them the word of Yehowah will certainly become command upon command, command upon command, **measuring line** upon **measuring line**, **measuring line** upon **measuring line**, here a little, there a little, in order, that they may go and certainly stumble backwards and actually be broken and ensnared and caught. (Isaiah 28:13)
- For example, Yehowah made justice the **measuring line** when dealing with his unfaithful people.
- And I will make justice the **measuring line** and righteousness the leveling instrument, and the hail must sweep away the refuge of a lie, and the waters themselves will flood out the very place of concealment. (Isaiah 28:17)
- His applying the same **measuring line** to Jerusalem as he had to Samaria pointed to a similar desolation for Jerusalem.
- And I shall certainly stretch upon Jerusalem the **measuring line** applied to Samaria and also the leveling instrument applied to the house of Ahab, and I shall simply wipe Jerusalem clean just as one wipes the handleless bowl clean, wiping it clean and turning it upside down. (2 Kings 21:13)
- Yehowah has thought of bringing the wall of the daughter of Zion

to ruin. He has stretched out the **measuring line**. He has not turned back his hand from swallowing up. And he causes rampart and wall to go mourning. Together they have faded away. (**Lamentations 2:8**)

- His stretching out the **measuring line** of emptiness on Edom likewise betokened destruction, and the use of this measuring line meant apportioning the land to the animals that would begin to dwell in the desolated areas of Edom.
- For in the heavens my sword will certainly be drenched. Look! Upon Edom it will descend, and upon the people devoted by me to destruction in justice. (**Isaiah 34:5**)
- Yehowah has a sword, it must be filled with blood, it must be made greasy with the fat, with the blood of young rams and he-goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams. For Yehowah has a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughtering in the land of Edom. (**Isaiah 34:6**)
- And the wild bulls must come down with them, and young bulls with the powerful ones, and their land must be drenched with blood, and their very dust will be made greasy with the fat. (**Isaiah 34:7**)
- For Yehowah has a day of vengeance, a year of retributions for the legal case over Zion. (**Isaiah 34:8**)
- And her torrents must be changed into pitch, and her dust into sulphur, and her land must become as burning pitch. (**Isaiah 34:9**)
- By night or by day it will not be extinguished, to time indefinite its smoke will keep ascending. From generation to generation she will be parched, forever and ever no one will be passing across her. (**Isaiah 34:10**)
- And the pelican and the porcupine must take possession of her, and long-eared owls and ravens themselves will reside in her, and he must stretch out over her the **measuring line** of emptiness and the stones of wasteness. (**Isaiah 34:11**)
- Her nobles, there are none there whom they will call to the kingship itself, and her very princes will all become nothing.

(Isaiah 34:12)

- On her dwelling towers thorns must come up, nettles and thorny weeds in her fortified places, and she must become an abiding place of jackals, the courtyard for the ostriches. (**Isaiah 34:13**)
- And haunters of waterless regions must meet up with howling animals, and even the goat-shaped demon will call to its companion. Yes, there the nightjar will certainly take its ease and find for itself a resting-place. (**Isaiah 34:14**)
- There the arrow snake has made its nest and lays eggs, and it must hatch them and gather them together under its shadow. Yes, there the gledes must collect themselves together, each one with her mate. (**Isaiah 34:15**)
- Search for yourselves in the book of Yehowah and read out loud, not one has been missing of them, they actually do not fail to have each one her mate, for it is the mouth of Yehowah that has given the command, and it is his spirit that has collected them together. (**Isaiah 34:16**)
- And it is He that has cast for them the lot, and his own hand has apportioned the place to them by the **measuring line**. To time indefinite they will take possession of it, for generation after generation they will reside in it. (**Isaiah 34:17**)
- David regarded his relationship with Yehowah as his portion in life. This was a most satisfying inheritance, prompting him to say; The **measuring lines** themselves have fallen for me in pleasant places.
- Yehowah is the portion of my allotted share and of my cup. You are holding fast my lot. (**Psalms 16:5**)
- The **measuring lines** themselves have fallen for me in pleasant places. Really, my own possession has proved agreeable to me. (**Psalms 16:6**)
- And Yehowah went on to say to Aaron; In their land you will not have an inheritance, and no share will become yours in their midst. I am your share and your inheritance in the midst of the sons of Israel. (**Numbers 18:20**)

- The heavenly bodies testify to God's creative activity, and since their silent testimony fills the earth, the psalmist could say respecting them; Into all the earth their **measuring line** has gone out.
- The heavens are declaring the glory of God, and of the work of his hands the expanse is telling. (**Psalms 19:1**)
- One day after another day causes speech to bubble forth, and one night after another night shows forth knowledge. (**Psalms 19:2**)
- There is no speech, and there are no words, no voice on their part is being heard. (**Psalms 19:3**)
- Into all the earth their **measuring line** has gone out, and to the extremity of the productive land their utterances. In them he has set a tent for the sun. (**Psalms 19:4**)
- For his invisible qualities are clearly seen from the world's creation onward, because they are perceived by the things made, even his eternal power and godship, so that they are inexcusable. (**Romans 1:20**)

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