

**~MINA (139)**  
**(mi'na)**

- **A unit both of weight and of monetary value.**
- **And three hundred bucklers of alloyed gold, three **minas** of gold he proceeded to lay upon each buckler. Then the king put them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon. (1 Kings 10:17)**
- **According to their power they gave gold for the working supplies, sixty-one thousand drachmas, and silver, five thousand **minas**, and a hundred robes of priests. (Ezra 2:69)**
- **And there were some of the heads of the paternal houses that gave to the treasure for the work twenty thousand gold drachmas and two thousand two hundred silver **minas**. (Nehemiah 7:71)**
- **According to the **Hebrew** text of;**
- **And the shekel is twenty gerahs. Twenty shekels, twenty-five shekels, fifteen shekels should prove to be the maneh for you. (Ezekiel 45:12)**
- **One **mina**, or **maneh**, equals 60 shekels. The **Greek Septuagint** rendering of the scripture, though, assigns a value of 50 shekels to the **mina**. See RS, Mo**
- **Since, when large numbers of shekels are referred to in the Bible, the numbers are divisible by 50, this may indicate that in earlier times a **mina** consisted of 50 shekels.**
- **My lord, listen to me. A land plot worth four hundred silver shekels, what is that between me and you? So bury your dead. (Genesis 23:15)**
- **And cassia five hundred units by the shekel of the holy place, and olive oil a hin. (Exodus 30:24)**
- **And the copper of the wave offering was seventy talents and two thousand four hundred shekels. (Exodus 38:29)**

- And all the gold of the contribution that they contributed to Yehowah amounted to sixteen thousand seven hundred and fifty shekels, from the chiefs of the thousands and the chiefs of the hundreds. (**Numbers 31:52**)
- And there was a helmet of copper on his head, and he was clad with a coat of mail, of overlapping scales, and the weight of the coat of mail was five thousand shekels of copper. (**1 Samuel 17:5**)
- There is archaeological testimony for a **mina** of 50 shekels. An uninscribed weight of about 4,565 grams (12.2 pounds troy) found at **Tell Beit Mirsim**, if divided into eight minas of 50 shekels, would yield a shekel of 11.4 grams.
- This value basically corresponds to that of the average of some 45 inscribed shekel weights found in Palestine. Therefore, in this publication the mina of the Hebrew Scriptures is calculated at 50 shekels or 1/60 talent, that is, 570 grams (18.35 ounces troy). Accordingly, in modern values, the **silver mina** would equal \$110.10 and the **gold mina** \$6,422.50.
- There is also a possibility that, as in the case of the cubit, two values were assigned to the **mina**, one perhaps for a royal **mina**.
- And when he shaved his head, and it occurred at the end of every year that he would shave it, because it was so heavy upon him, he shaved it, he weighed the hair of his head, two hundred shekels by the royal stone weight. (**2 Samuel 14:26**)
- And the other for a common **mina**.
- And, look! There was a wall outside the house all round about. And in the hand of the man there was the measuring reed of six cubits, by a cubit and a handbreadth. And he began to measure the breadth of the thing built, one reed, and the height, one reed. (**Ezekiel 40:5**)
- The **mina**, **mina**, of the **Christian Greek Scriptures**.
- Calling ten slaves of his he gave them ten **minas** and told them, Do business till I come. (**Luke 19:13**)
- But his citizens hated him and sent out a body of ambassadors

- after him, to say; We do not want this man to become king over us. (Luke 19:14)
- Eventually when he got back after having secured the kingly power, he commanded to be called to him these slaves to whom he had given the silver money, in order to ascertain what they had gained by business activity. (Luke 19:15)
  - Then the first one presented himself, saying; Lord, your mina gained ten minas. (Luke 19:16)
  - So he said to him, Well done, good slave! Because in a very small matter you have proved yourself faithful, hold authority over ten cities. (Luke 19:17)
  - Now the second came, saying; Your mina, Lord, made five minas. (Luke 19:18)
  - He said to this one also; You, too, be in charge of five cities. (Luke 19:19)
  - But a different one came, saying; Lord, here is your mina, that I kept laid away in a cloth. (Luke 19:20)
  - You see, I was in fear of you, because you are a harsh man. You take up what you did not deposit and you reap what you did not sow. (Luke 19:21)
  - He said to him, Out of your own mouth I judge you, wicked slave. You knew, did you, that I am a harsh man, taking up what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow? (Luke 19:22)
  - Hence why is it you did not put my silver money in a bank? Then on my arrival I would have collected it with interest. (Luke 19:23)
  - With that he said to those standing by, Take the mina from him and give it to him that has the ten minas. (Luke 19:24)
  - But they said to him, Lord, he has ten minas! (Luke 19:25)
  - Is reckoned at 100 drachmas, this being the value derived from ancient Greek writers. The drachma was worth nearly as much as a denarius. So the mina was a considerable sum. The present-day value

would be \$65.40), in the **First Century C.E.**, it amounted to about a fourth of the wages earned annually by an agricultural worker.