

~MINE, MINING (149)

- **Digging beneath the surface of the earth in order to locate metals and precious stones.** This is an industry nearly as old as mankind. The Genesis account refers to Tubal-cain, the forger of every sort of tool of copper and iron, who lived in pre-Flood days.
- As for Zillah, she too gave birth to Tubalcain, the forger of every sort of tool of copper and iron. And the sister of Tubalcain was Naamah. ([Genesis 4:22](#))
- Moses, writing about **1513 B.C.E**, in describing the river Pishon, mentions the land of Havilah, where there is gold. And the gold of that land is good.
- The first ones name is Pishon. It is the one encircling the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. ([Genesis 2:11](#))
- And the gold of that land is good. There also are the bdellium gum and the onyx stone. ([Genesis 2:12](#))
- Whether the gold from Ophir was mined from **underground lodes** or was placer **mined** is not known.
- And they proceeded to go to Ophir and take from there four hundred and twenty talents of gold and bring it in to King Solomon. ([1 Kings 9:28](#))
- It cannot be paid for with gold of Ophir, with the rare onyx stone and the sapphire. ([Job 28:16](#))
- These metals were probably found to some extent in rather pure forms on or near the surface of the ground. In time, underground or lode **mining operations** were employed.
- Shafts were sunk deep along rich ore-bearing veins. About 3,600 years ago Job described how **miners** had sunk a shaft far from where people reside. There in the gloom and deep shadow they searched, having swung down and precariously dangled to obtain the desired metals.
- Indeed, for silver there exists a place to find it and a place for

gold that they refine. (**Job 28:1**)

- Iron itself is taken from the very dust and from stone copper is being poured out. (**Job 28:2**)
- An end to the darkness he has set, and to every limit he is searching out stone in the gloom and deep shadow. (**Job 28:3**)
- He has sunk a shaft far from where people reside as aliens, places forgotten far from the foot, some of mortal men have swung down, they have dangled. (**Job 28:4**)
- As for the earth, out of it food goes forth, but underneath it, it has been upturned as if by fire. (**Job 28:5**)
- Its stones are the place of the sapphire, and it has gold dust. (**Job 28:6**)
- A pathway, no bird of prey has known it, nor has the eye of a black kite caught sight of it. (**Job 28:7**)
- The majestic wild beasts have not trodden it down solid, the young lion has not paced over it. (**Job 28:8**)
- Upon the flint he has thrust out his hand. He has overthrown mountains from their root. (**Job 28:9**)
- Into the rocks he has channeled water-filled galleries, and all precious things his eye has seen. (**Job 28:10**)
- The places from which rivers trickled he has dammed up, and the concealed thing he brings forth to the light. (**Job 28:11**)
- **Mining** was carried on extensively by the Egyptians at the time of the Exodus, the Israelites, upon leaving Egypt, took metals and precious stones, later used in building the tabernacle.
- And the sons of Israel did according to the word of Moses in that they went asking from the Egyptians articles of silver and articles of gold and mantles. (**Exodus 12:35**)
- And Yehowah gave the people favor in the eyes of the Egyptians, so that these granted them what was asked, and they stripped the Egyptians. (**Exodus 12:36**)

- **And they kept coming, the men along with the women, every willing-hearted one. They brought brooches and earrings and rings and female ornaments, all sorts of articles of gold, that is, everyone who presented the wave offering of gold to Yehowah. (Exodus 35:22)**
- **Then they made the onyx stones set with settings of gold, engraved with the engravings of a seal according to the names of the sons of Israel. (Exodus 39:6)**
- **So he placed them upon the shoulder pieces of the ephod as memorial stones for the sons of Israel, just as Yehowah had commanded Moses. (Exodus 39:7)**
- **Then he made the breastpiece with the workmanship of an embroiderer, like the workmanship of the ephod, out of gold, blue thread and wool dyed reddish purple and coccus scarlet material and fine twisted linen. (Exodus 39:8)**
- **It proved to be foursquare when doubled. They made the breastpiece, when doubled, a span of the hand in its length and a span in its width. (Exodus 39:9)**
- **Then they filled it with four rows of stones. A row of ruby, topaz and emerald was the first row. (Exodus 39:10)**
- **And the second row was turquoise, sapphire and jasper. (Exodus 39:11)**
- **And the third row was leshem stone, agate and amethyst. (Exodus 39:12)**
- **And the fourth row was chrysolite and onyx and jade. They were set with settings of gold in their fillings. (Exodus 39:13)**
- **And the stones were according to the names of the sons of Israel. They were twelve according to their names, with the engravings of a seal, each according to its name for the twelve tribes. (Exodus 39:14)**
- **Egyptian turquoise mines were located on the Sinai Peninsula some 80 kilometers (50 miles) from Mount Sinai. Remains of Egyptian**

mining operations have been found along the East coast of the Red Sea.

- **Moses described the Promised Land into which the Israelites were about to enter as a land the stones of which are iron and out of the mountains of which you will mine copper.**
- **A land in which you will not eat bread with scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land the stones of which are iron and out of the mountains of which you will mine copper. (Deuteronomy 8:9)**

See Also COPPER

See Also IRON

See Also REFINE, REFINER