## ~NAIL (92)

## ·· Figurative Use

- Ancient nails were quite similar to the larger modern ones, although some kinds had four-sided shanks and a longer taper to the point than those in use today. Apparently, earliest nails were made of bronze, though larger nails of later times were made of iron. David prepared iron in great quantity for nails for the doors of the gates of the prospective temple.
- And iron in great quantity for nails for the doors of the gates and for clamps David prepared, and also copper in such quantity as to be beyond weighing. (1 Chronicles 22:3)
- Ornamental nails have been discovered that were made of bronze overlaid with gold foil, and these are said to date back to about 1300-1200 B.C.E.
- Concerning nails used in the construction of Solomon's temple it is said; The weight for the nails was fifty gold shekels [0.6 kilograms)(1.5 pounds troy).
- And he proceeded to make the house of the Most Holy, its length in relation to the width of the house being twenty cubits, and its own width being twenty cubits, and then he covered it with good gold to the amount of six hundred talents. (2 Chronicles 3:8)
- And the weight for the nails was fifty gold shekels, and the roof chambers he covered with gold. (2 Chronicles 3:9)
- In 1968 C.E, in an excavated tomb located just Northeast of Jerusalem, the remains were found of a Jew who was executed in the First Century by being attached to a torture stake.
- As shown by subsequent studies, an iron nail 11.5 centimeters (4.5 inches) long was still piercing the right heel bone. This nail may be similar to the nails employed by the Roman soldiers to impale Jesus Christ. Thomas did not believe that Christ was resurrected until after he saw the print of the nails in Jesus flesh.
- But Thomas, one of the twelve, who was called The Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. (John 20:24)

- Consequently the other disciples would say to him; We have seen the Lord! But he said to them; Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails and stick my finger into the print of the nails and stick my hand into his side, I will certainly not believe. (John 20:25)
- Well, eight days later his disciples were again indoors, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and he stood in their midst and said; May you have peace. (John 20:26)
- Next he said to Thomas; Put your finger here, and see my hands, and take your hand and stick it into my side, and stop being unbelieving but become believing. (John 20:27)
- In answer Thomas said to him; My Lord and my God! (John 20:28)
- Jesus said to him; Because you have seen me have you believed? Happy are those who do not see and yet believe. (John 20:29)

## ·· Figurative Use

- Jesus death on the torture stake resulted in the termination of the Mosaic Law covenant. Referring to its cancellation, Paul pointed out that God took the Law out of the way, by nailing it to the torture stake.
- Furthermore, though you were dead in your trespasses and in the uncircumcised state of your flesh, God made you alive together with him. He kindly forgave us all our trespasses. (Colossians 2:13)
- And blotted out the handwritten document against us, which consisted of decrees and which was in opposition to us, and He has taken it out of the way by nailing it to the torture stake. (Colossians 2:14)
- Solomon likened those indulging in collections of sentences to nails driven in, possibly because they and their good words from Yehowah have a stabilizing and supporting effect upon a hearer.
- The words of the wise ones are like oxgoads, and just like nails

driven in are those indulging in collections of sentences, they have been given from one shepherd. (Ecclesiastes 12:11)