

~NOSE, NOSTRILS (147)

[Hebrew, *aph*]

• Sensitivity In Smelling And Tasting

• Beauty

• Illustrative And Figurative Uses

• The part of the face that affords passage for air in respiration and serves as the organ of smell.

• When God created Adam, he proceeded to blow into his nostrils the breath form of Hebrew *nesha-mah*' of life, and the man came to be a living soul.

• And Yehowah God proceeded to form the man out of dust from the ground and to blow into his **nostrils** the breath of life, and the man came to be a living soul. (Genesis 2:7)

• This breath of life not only filled the lungs with air but also imparted to the body the life-force that is sustained by breathing. The breath being drawn into the body through the **nostrils** is essential to life, it sustains the life-force. At the Flood, everything in which the breath of the force of life was active in its **nostrils**, namely, all that were on the dry ground, died.

• Everything in which the breath of the force of life was active in its nostrils, namely, all that were on the dry ground, died. (Genesis 7:22)

• The Hebrew word for nose or nostrils *'aph* is frequently used to refer to the entire face. Adam was sentenced to earn his livelihood from the ground in the sweat of his face, literally, **nose** or **nostrils**.

• In the sweat of your face you will eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken. For dust you are and to dust you will return. (Genesis 3:19)

• Lot bowed down with his face, **nose**, to the ground before the visiting angels.

• Now the two angels arrived at Sodom by evening, and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot caught sight of them, then he got up to meet them and bowed down with his **face** to

the earth. (**Genesis 19:1**)

.. Sensitivity In Smelling And Tasting

- The olfactory area is located in the upper part of the **nasal cavity**, where the olfactory nerves terminate in hairlike endings, also fine endings of the trigeminal nerve are found in this area. The sense of smell in human's is very acute.
- According to an article in the **Scientific American** [February 1964, p. 42]: The sense of smell obviously is a chemical sense, and its sensitivity is proverbial, to a chemist the ability of the **nose** to sort out and characterize substances is almost beyond belief.
- It deals with complex compounds that might take a chemist months to analyze in the laboratory, the **nose** identifies them instantly, even in an amount so small, as little as a ten-millionth of a gram, that the most sensitive modern laboratory instruments often cannot detect the substance, let alone analyze and label it.
- The **nose** also plays a large part in taste. There are four primary tastes, **sweet, salt, sour, and bitter**. These the taste buds in the mouth recognize.
- But much of the flavor in food is enjoyed because of the sense of smell. For example, a person whose nostrils are stopped up finds difficulty in distinguishing between two kinds of food, as most things then taste more or less flat.

.. Beauty

- Being located so prominently, a well-formed **nose** contributes greatly to facial beauty.
- Your neck is like an ivory tower. Your eyes are like the pools in Heshbon, by the gate of Bath-rabbim. Your **nose is like the tower of Lebanon**, which is looking out toward Damascus. (**Song of Solomon 7:4**)
- The Shulammite girls nose being likened **to the tower of Lebanon** may have reference to the symmetry of her **nose** as adding dignity and beauty to her face.

- God required that Israel's priests, because they were his representatives before the people, be without blemish, one of the requirements being that no priest should have a slit or mutilated **nose**.
- In case there is any man in whom there is a defect, he may not come near, a man blind or lame or with his nose slit or with one member too long. (**Leviticus 21:18**)

• Illustrative And Figurative Uses

- The word for nose or nostril Hebrew *'ap*, is often used **figuratively for anger**, because of the **violent breathing or snorting of an enraged person**. It is also employed with reference to Yehowah's action because of his anger
- Smoke went up at his **nostrils**, and fire itself from his mouth kept devouring, coals themselves blazed forth from him. (**Psalms 18:8**)
- And the streambeds of waters became visible, and the foundations of the productive land became uncovered from your rebuke, O Yehowah, from the blast of the **breath of your nostrils**. (**Psalms 18:15**)
- Or when he exerts his powerful active force.
- Moses now stretched his hand out over the sea, and Yehowah began making the sea go back by a strong east wind all night long and converting the sea basin into dry ground, and the waters were being split apart. (**Exodus 14:21**)
- And by a **breath from your nostrils** waters were heaped up, they stood still like a dam of floods, the surging waters were congealed in the heart of the sea. (**Exodus 15:8**)

See Also **ANGER**

- The disgusting idolatry into which Israel fell was a cause for the burning anger of Yehowah against them, which he expressed through the prophet Isaiah, saying; These are a **smoke in my nostrils**, a fire burning all day long. (**Isaiah (65:5)**)
- If you have acted senselessly by lifting yourself up, and if you have fixed your thought upon it, put the hand to the mouth.

(Proverbs 30:32)

- For the churning of milk is what brings forth butter, and the squeezing of the nose is what brings forth blood, and the squeezing out of anger is what brings forth quarreling. (**Proverbs 30:33**)
- States; If you have acted senselessly by lifting yourself up, and if you have fixed your thought upon it, put the hand to the mouth. For the churning of milk is what brings forth butter, and the squeezing of the nose is what brings forth blood, and the squeezing out of anger is what brings forth quarreling.
- This strongly emphasizes the trouble that can be caused by one who speaks wrongly or who harbors up anger or lets it out unrestrained. Here, in a play on words, **anger** is the dual form of the word for **nose**.