

~PALM TREE (15)

[Hebrew, *ta-mar'*, *to'mer*, Greek, *phoi'nix*]

- And she was dwelling under Deborah's **palm tree** between Ramah and Bethel in the mountainous region of Ephraim, and the sons of Israel would go up to her for judgment. (**Judges 4:5**)
- The date **palm**, *Phoenix dactylifera*, though now found only in certain sections, was once abundant in Palestine and apparently was as characteristic of that area as it was and is of the Nile Valley of Egypt. Following the second destruction of Jerusalem, Roman Emperor Vespasian had numerous coins minted bearing the figure of a weeping woman seated beneath a palm tree with the inscription Judaea Capta.
- Palms are associated with oases, and are a welcome sight to desert travelers, as were the 70 palm trees growing beside the 12 springs of water at Elim, the second stop of the marching Israelites after their crossing the Red Sea.
- After that they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees. So they went camping there by the water. (**Exodus 15:27**)
- Then they pulled away from Marah and came to Elim. Now in Elim there were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees. So they camped there. (**Numbers 33:9**)
- The long taproot of the palm enables it to reach down to water sources not available to many plants and thus to thrive amid desert conditions.