## ~POISONOUS PLANT (98)

- While some have suggested equating the Hebrew word <u>ro sh</u> or, <u>rohsh</u> with hemlock, colocynth, or the poppy, no certain identification of the plant is possible. The Hebrew term at times refers to (1) a bitter and poisonous plant.
- He has built against me, that he may encircle me with poisonous plant and hardship. (Lamentations 3:5)
- Remember my affliction and my homeless state, the wormwood and the poisonous plant. (Lamentations 3:19)
- Poison or venom.
- Their wine is the **venom** of big snakes and the cruel poison of cobras (**Deuteronomy 32:33**)
- The venom of cobras he will suck, the tongue of a viper will kill him. (Job 20:16)
- And when used in connection with water, poisonous water
- Why are we sitting still? Gather yourselves together, and let us enter into the fortified cities and be silent there. For Yehowah our God has himself put us to silence, and he gives us poisoned water to drink, because we have sinned against Yehowah. (Jeremiah 8:14)
- Therefore this is what Yehowah of armies, the God of Israel, has said; Here I am making them, that is, this people, eat wormwood, and I will make them drink poisoned water.

  (Jeremiah 9:15)
- Therefore this is what Yehowah of armies has said against the prophets; Here I am making them eat wormwood, and I will give them poisoned water to drink. For from the prophets of Jerusalem apostasy has gone forth to all the land. (Jeremiah 23:15)
- It appears in an illustrative sense with reference to a perversion of justice;

- They speak words, making false oaths, concluding a covenant, and judgment has sprouted like a poisonous plant in the furrows of the open field. (Hosea 10:4)
- On a crag will horses run, or will one plow there with cattle? For into a poisonous plant you people have turned justice, and the fruitage of righteousness into wormwood. (Amos 6:12)
- And to those who apostatize.
- That there may not be among you a man or a woman or a family or a tribe whose heart is turning today away from Yehowah our God to go and serve the gods of those nations, that there may not be among you a root bearing the fruit of a poisonous plant and wormwood. (Deuteronomy 29:18)
- For I see you are a poisonous gall and a bond of unrighteousness. (Acts of Apostles 8:23)
- Carefully watching that no one may be deprived of the undeserved kindness of God, that no poisonous root may spring up and cause trouble and that many may not be defiled by it. (Hebrews 12:15)
- Concerning the Messiah, it was foretold that he would be given a poisonous plant for food.
- But for food they gave me a poisonous plant, and for my thirst they tried to make me drink vinegar. (Psalms 69:21)
- This occurred when Jesus Christ, before his impalement, was offered wine mixed with gall but, upon tasting it, refused the stupefying drink that was probably intended to alleviate his sufferings. In recording the fulfillment of this prophecy.
- They gave him wine mixed with gall to drink, but, after tasting it, he refused to drink. (Matthew 27:34)
- Employed the Greek word *kho-le'*, gall, the same term found in the Greek Septuagint at;
- But for food they gave me a poisonous plant, and for my thirst they tried to make me drink vinegar. (Psalms 69:21)

- However, Mark's Gospel account mentions myrrh,
- Here they tried to give him wine drugged with myrrh, but he would not take it. (Mark 15:23)
- And this has given rise to the view that in this case the poisonous plant or gall was myrrh. Another possibility is that the drugged drink contained both gall and myrrh.