

~PROSTITUTE (1029)

[Hebrew, *zoh-nah'*, Greek, *por'ne*]

- Under The Law
- Temple Prostitutes
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- Destroys Valuable Things
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- Figurative Use

• A person, usually a woman, given to indiscriminate lewdness, specifically, a woman who offers herself indiscriminately for sexual intercourse for hire, a harlot. The Hebrew word for prostitute is *zoh-nah'*, while its Greek equivalent is *por'ne*.

See Also HARLOT

• Under The Law

- The Law that God gave to Israel commanded:
- Do not profane your daughter by making her a **prostitute**, in order, that the land may not commit prostitution and the land actually be filled with loose morals. (**Leviticus 19:29**)
- Adultery was prohibited by the seventh commandment
- You must not commit adultery. (**Exodus 20:14**)
- Neither must you commit adultery. (**Deuteronomy 5:18**)
- The penalty was death for both parties.
- Now a man who commits adultery with another man's wife is one who commits adultery with the wife of his fellowman. He should be put to death without fail, the adulterer and the adulteress as well. (**Leviticus 20:10**)
- The girl found guilty of having married under the false pretense of virginity was to be put to death.
- In case a man takes a wife and actually has relations with her

and has come to hate her. ([Deuteronomy 22:13](#))

- And he has charged her with notorious deeds and brought forth a bad name upon her and has said; This is the woman I have taken, and I proceeded to go near her, and I did not find evidence of virginity in her. ([Deuteronomy 22:14](#))
- The father of the girl and her mother must also take and bring forth the evidence of the girls virginity to the older men of the city at the gate of it. ([Deuteronomy 22:15](#))
- And the girl's father must say to the older men, I gave my daughter to this man as a wife, and he went hating her. ([Deuteronomy 22:16](#))
- And here he is charging her with notorious deeds, saying; I have found your daughter does not have evidence of virginity. Now this is the evidence of my daughters virginity. And they must spread out the mantle before the older men of the city. ([Deuteronomy 22:17](#))
- And the older men of that city must take the man and discipline him. ([Deuteronomy 22:18](#))
- And they must fine him a hundred silver shekels and give them to the girl's father, because he brought forth a bad name upon a virgin of Israel, and she will continue to be his wife. He will not be allowed to divorce her all his days. ([Deuteronomy 22:19](#))
- If, though, this thing has proved to be the truth, evidence of virginity was not found in the girl. ([Deuteronomy 22:20](#))
- They must also bring the girl out to the entrance of her father's house, and the men of her city must pelt her with stones, and she must die, because she has committed a disgraceful folly in Israel by committing prostitution in the house of her father. So you must clear away what is bad from your midst. ([Deuteronomy 22:21](#))
- The engaged girl who committed fornication with another man was considered the same as an adulterous wife, and she was put to death.
- They must also bring the girl out to the entrance of her father's

house, and the men of her city must pelt her with stones, and she must die, because she has committed a disgraceful folly in Israel by committing prostitution in the house of her father. So you must clear away what is bad from your midst. (**Deuteronomy 22:21**)

- You must also bring them both out to the gate of that city and pelt them with stones, and they must die, the girl for the reason that she did not scream in the city, and the man for the reason that he humiliated the wife of his fellowman. So you must clear away what is evil from your midst. (**Deuteronomy 22:24**)
- The single girl who committed fornication was to be married to the man who seduced her unless the father refused to permit the marriage.
- Now in case a man seduces a virgin who is not engaged, and he actually lies down with her, he is to obtain her without fail as his wife for the purchase price. (**Exodus 22:16**)
- If her father flatly refuses to give her to him, he is to pay over the money at the rate of purchase money for virgins. (**Exodus 22:17**)
- In case a man finds a girl, a virgin who has not been engaged, and he actually seizes her and lies down with her, and they have been found out. (**Deuteronomy 22:28**)
- The man who lay down with her must also give the girl's father fifty silver shekels, and she will become his wife due to the fact that he humiliated her. He will not be allowed to divorce her all his days. (**Deuteronomy 22:29**)
- For these and other reasons, **prostitutes** in Israel were, doubtless with few exceptions, foreign women. The Proverbs repeatedly warn against the **strange woman** and the **foreign woman** who would entice a man to commit immorality.
- To deliver you from the strange woman, from the foreign woman who has made her own sayings smooth. (**Proverbs 2:16**)
- So why should you, my son, be in an ecstasy with a strange woman or embrace the bosom of a foreign woman? (**Proverbs 5:20**)

- To guard you against the woman stranger, against the foreigner who has made her own sayings smooth. (**Proverbs 7:5**)
- The mouth of strange women is a deep pit. The one denounced by Yehowah will fall into it. (**Proverbs 22:14**)
- For a **prostitute** is a deep pit and a foreign woman is a narrow well. (**Proverbs 23:27**)
- A priest was forbidden by the Law to marry a **prostitute**, and the daughter of a priest who committed **prostitution** was to be put to death and afterward burned in the fire.
- **Prostitute** or a violated woman they should not take, and a woman divorced from her husband they should not take, because he is holy to his God. (**Leviticus 21:7**)
- Now in case the daughter of a priest should make herself profane by committing prostitution, it is her father that she is profaning. She should be burned in the fire. (**Leviticus 21:9**)
- As for a widow or a divorced woman and one violated, a **prostitute**, none of these may he take, but he should take a virgin from his people as a wife. (**Leviticus 21:14**)
- The **hire of a prostitute** was not to be received as a contribution at Yehowah's sanctuary, because **prostitutes** were detestable in Yehowah's sight.
- You must not bring the hire of a harlot or the price of a dog into the house of Yehowah your God for any vow, because they are something detestable to Yehowah your God, even both of them. (**Deuteronomy 23:18**)
- It was the case of two **prostitutes**, handled in a wise and understanding way, that greatly strengthened the faith of the people in Solomon as the fitting successor of David to the throne of Israel. Probably the case had been one upon which the judges of the lower court could not decide, and it was referred, therefore, to the king.
- You must not be partial in judgment. You should hear the little one the same as the great one. You must not become frightened because of a man, for the judgment belongs to God, and the case

that is too hard for you, you should present to me, and I must hear it. ([Deuteronomy 1:17](#))

- In case a matter for judicial decision should be too extraordinary for you, one in which blood has been shed, in which a legal claim has been raised, or a violent deed has been committed, matters of dispute, inside your gates, you must also rise and go up to the place that Yehowah your God will choose. ([Deuteronomy 17:8](#))
- And you must go to the priests, the Levites, and to the judge who will be acting in those days, and you must make inquiry, and they must hand down to you the word of the judicial decision. ([Deuteronomy 17:9](#))
- Then you must do in accordance with the word that they will hand down to you from that place which Yehowah will choose, and you must be careful to do according to all that they instruct you. ([Deuteronomy 17:10](#))
- In accordance with the Law that they will point out to you, and according to the judicial decision that they will say to you, you should do. You must not turn aside from the word that they will hand down to you, to the right or to the left. ([Deuteronomy 17:11](#))
- And we must become, we also, like all the nations, and our king must judge us and go out before us and fight our battles. ([1 Samuel 8:20](#))
- These women may have been **prostitutes**, not in a commercial sense, but women who had committed fornication, either Jewish women or, quite possibly, women of foreign descent.
- At that time two women, **prostitutes**, got to come in to the king and stand before him. ([1 Kings 3:16](#))
- Then the one woman said; Excuse me, my lord, I and this woman are dwelling in one house, so that I gave birth close by her in the house. ([1 Kings 3:17](#))
- And it came about on the third day after I gave birth, this woman also proceeded to give birth. And we were together. There was no stranger with us in the house, no one but the two of us in the house. ([1 Kings 3:18](#))

- **Later the son of this woman died at night, because she lay upon him. (1 Kings 3:19)**
- **So she got up in the middle of the night and took my son from beside me while your slave girl herself was asleep and laid him in her own bosom, and her dead son she laid in my bosom. (1 Kings 3:20)**
- **When I got up in the morning to nurse my son, why, there he was dead. So I examined him closely in the morning, and, look! he did not prove to be my son that I had borne. (1 Kings 3:21)**
- **But the other woman said; No, but my son is the living one and your son is the dead one! All the while this woman was saying; No, but your son is the dead one and my son is the living one. And they kept on speaking before the king. (1 Kings 3:22)**
- **Finally the king said; This one is saying; This is my son, the living one, and your son is the dead one! and that one is saying; No, but your son is the dead one and my son is the living one! (1 Kings 3:23)**
- **And the king went on to say; You men, get me a sword. So they brought the sword before the king. (1 Kings 3:24)**
- **And the king proceeded to say; You men, sever the living child in two and give the one half to the one woman and the other half to the other. (1 Kings 3:25)**
- **At once the woman whose son was the living one said to the king, for her inward emotions were excited toward her son, so that she said; Excuse me, my lord! You men, give her the living child. Do not by any means put him to death. All the while this other woman was saying; Neither mine nor yours will he become. You men, do the severing! (1 Kings 3:26)**
- **At that the king answered and said; You men, give her the living child, and you must by no means put him to death. She is his mother. (1 Kings 3:27)**
- **And all Israel got to hear of the judicial decision that the king had handed down, and they became fearful because of the king, for they saw that the wisdom of God was within him to execute**

judicial decision. (1 Kings 3:28)

.. Temple Prostitutes

- **Temple prostitutes** constituted a prominent feature of false religion. The historian **Herodotus [I, 199]** reports the **foulest Babylonian custom is that which compels every woman of the land once in her life to sit in the temple of Aphrodite and have intercourse with some stranger.**
- **Temple prostitutes** were also connected with the worship of Baal, Ashtoreth, and other gods and goddesses worshiped in Canaan and elsewhere.
- **Male temple prostitutes** were also a part of degenerate worship.
- **And they too kept building for themselves high places and sacred pillars and sacred poles upon every high hill and under every luxuriant tree. (1 Kings 14:23)**
- **And even the male temple prostitute proved to be in the land. They acted according to all the detestable things of the nations whom Yehowah had driven out from before the sons of Israel. (1 Kings 14:24)**
- **Accordingly he had the male temple prostitutes pass out of the land and removed all the dungy idols that his forefathers had made. (1 Kings 15:12)**
- **And the rest of the male temple prostitutes that had been left over in the days of Asa his father he cleared out from the land. (1 Kings 22:46)**

.. The Way To Death

- **King Solomon, in (Proverbs Chapter 7) of, describes a scene that he observed, illustrating the workings of the prostitute and the results to those who are ensnared by her.**
- **He speaks of a young man passing along the street near a prostitutes house, at the approach of night. Solomon describes the young man as in want of heart, lacking discernment or good sense. The woman, dressed in the immodest manner of a prostitute, is lying in wait and approaches him.**

• She has smooth lips and fair speech, but her actual disposition is boisterous and stubborn, she is cunning of heart. This **prostitute** puts on a display of being righteous by saying that she had made communion sacrifices that very day, implying that there would be food on which to feast, inasmuch as the offerer regularly took part of the communion sacrifice for himself and his family.

- For at the window of my house, through my lattice I looked down. (**Proverbs 7:6**)
- That I might peer upon the inexperienced ones. I was interested in discerning among the sons a young man in want of heart. (**Proverbs 7:7**)
- Passing along on the street near her corner, and in the way to her house he marches. (**Proverbs 7:8**)
- In the twilight, in the evening of the day, at the approach of the night and the gloom. (**Proverbs 7:9**)
- And, look! There was a woman to meet him, with the garment of a **prostitute** and cunning of heart. (**Proverbs 7:10**)
- She is boisterous and stubborn. In her house her feet do not keep residing. (**Proverbs 7:11**)
- Now she is outdoors, now she is in the public squares, and near every corner she lies in wait. (**Proverbs 7:12**)
- And she has grabbed hold of him and given him a kiss. She has put on a bold face, and she begins to say to him. (**Proverbs 7:13**)
- Communion sacrifices were incumbent upon me. Today I have paid my vows. (**Proverbs 7:14**)
- That is why I have come out to meet you, to look for your face, that I may find you. (**Proverbs 7:15**)
- With coverlets I have bedecked my divan, with many-colored things, linen of Egypt. (**Proverbs 7:16**)
- I have besprinkled my bed with myrrh, aloes and cinnamon. (**Proverbs 7:17**)

- Do come, let us drink our fill of love until the morning, do let us enjoy each other with love expressions. ([Proverbs 7:18](#))
- For the husband is not in his house, he has gone traveling on a way of some distance. ([Proverbs 7:19](#))
- A bag of money he has taken in his hand. On the day of the full moon he will come to his house. ([Proverbs 7:20](#))
- She has misled him by the abundance of her persuasiveness. By the smoothness of her lips she seduces him. ([Proverbs 7:21](#))

See Also HEART

- Now that the young man is enticed to this point, Solomon shows, he is irresistibly drawn into sin with her, throwing all good sense to the wind, going ahead like a bull to the slaughter, as a man who is in fetters and cannot escape the discipline he will get.
- Until, says Solomon, an arrow cleaves open his liver, that is, until he gets the wound that causes death, both spiritually and physically, for not only has he exposed his body to death-dealing sexually transmitted disease, in advanced cases of syphilis, bacterial organisms overwhelm the liver, but also he has not known that it involves his very soul.
- His entire being and his life are seriously affected, and he has sinned seriously against God. Solomon concludes his account saying, The ways to Sheol her house is, they are descending to the interior rooms of death.
- All of a sudden he is going after her, like a bull that comes even to the slaughter, and just as if fettered for the discipline of a foolish man. ([Proverbs 7:22](#))
- Until an arrow cleaves open his liver, just as a bird hastens into the trap, and he has not known that it involves his very soul. ([Proverbs 7:23](#))
- The ways to Sheol her house is, they are descending to the interior rooms of death. ([Proverbs 7:27](#))
- To deliver you from the strange woman, from the foreign woman

who has made her own sayings smooth. (**Proverbs 2:16**)

- Who is leaving the confidential friend of her youth and who has forgotten the very covenant of her God. (**Proverbs 2:17**)
- For down to death her house does sink and down to those impotent in death her tracks. (**Proverbs 2:18**)
- None of those having relations with her will come back, nor will they regain the paths of those living. (**Proverbs 2:19**)
- For as a honeycomb the lips of a strange woman keep dripping, and her palate is smoother than oil. (**Proverbs 5:3**)
- But the aftereffect from her is as bitter as wormwood, it is as sharp as a two-edged sword. (**Proverbs 5:4**)
- Her feet are descending to death. Her very steps take hold on Sheol itself. (**Proverbs 5:5**)
- The path of life she does not contemplate. Her tracks have wandered she does not know where. (**Proverbs 5:6**)
- So now, O sons, listen to me and do not turn away from the sayings of my mouth. (**Proverbs 5:7**)
- Keep your way far off from alongside her, and do not get near to the entrance of her house. (**Proverbs 5:8**)
- That you may not give to others your dignity, nor your years to what is cruel. (**Proverbs 5:9**)
- That strangers may not satisfy themselves with your power, nor the things you got by pain be in the house of a foreigner. (**Proverbs 5:10**)
- Nor you have to groan in your future when your flesh and your organism come to an end. (**Proverbs 5:11**)
- And you will have to say; How I have hated discipline and my heart has disrespected even reproof! (**Proverbs 5:12**)
- And I have not listened to the voice of my instructors, and to my teachers I have not inclined my ear. (**Proverbs 5:13**)

- Easily I have come to be in every sort of badness in the midst of the congregation and of the assembly. (**Proverbs 5:14**)

·· Destroys Valuable Things

- The proverb says:
- A man that is loving wisdom makes his father rejoice, but he that is having companionship with **prostitutes** destroys valuable things. (**Proverbs 29:3**)
- First of all, he destroys his relationship with God, the most valuable possession, then he brings reproach upon his family and destroys family relationships.
- As another proverb warns, such a man gives to others his dignity and his years to what is cruel, strangers take their fill of his power, and the things he got by pain come to be in the house of a foreigner.
- That you may not give to others your dignity, nor your years to what is cruel. (**Proverbs 5:9**)
- That strangers may not satisfy themselves with your power, nor the things you got by pain be in the house of a foreigner. (**Proverbs 5:10**)
- The wise man therefore counsels; Do not desire her the foreign woman's prettiness in your heart, because in behalf of a woman **prostitute** one comes down to a round loaf of bread, but as regards another man's wife, she hunts even for a precious soul.
- To guard you against the bad woman, against the smoothness of the tongue of the foreign woman. (**Proverbs 6:24**)
- Do not desire her prettiness in your heart, and may she not take you with her lustrous eyes. (**Proverbs 6:25**)
- Because in behalf of a woman **prostitute** one comes down to a round loaf of bread, but as regards another man's wife, she hunts even for a precious soul. (**Proverbs 6:26**)
- This may mean that a man in Israel, by his association with a **prostitute**, squandered his substance and was reduced to poverty.

- And it must occur that anyone left over in your house will come and bow down to him for the payment of money and a round loaf of bread, and will certainly say; Attach me, please, to one of the priestly offices to eat a piece of bread. (**1 Samuel 2:36**)
- But as soon as this your son who ate up your means of living with harlots arrived, you slaughtered the fattened young bull for him. (**Luke 15:30**)
- But the man who committed adultery with another man's wife was losing his soul, under the Law death was the penalty for adultery. Or, the entire passage may be referring to the adulterous wife as a **prostitute**.
- The concluding verses of the chapter.
- Likewise with anyone having relations with the wife of his fellowman, no one touching her will remain unpunishable. (**Proverbs 6:29**)
- People do not despise a thief just because he commits thievery to fill his soul when he is hungry. (**Proverbs 6:30**)
- But, when found, he will make it good with seven times as much, all the valuables of his house he will give. (**Proverbs 6:31**)
- Anyone committing adultery with a woman is in want of heart, he that does it is bringing his own soul to ruin. (**Proverbs 6:32**)
- A plague and dishonor he will find, and his reproach itself will not be wiped out. (**Proverbs 6:33**)
- For the rage of an able-bodied man is jealousy, and he will not show compassion in the day of vengeance. (**Proverbs 6:34**)
- He will have no consideration for any sort of ransom, neither will he show willingness, no matter how large you make the present. (**Proverbs 6:35**)
- Say; As to anyone having relations with the wife of his fellowman, no one touching her will remain unpunishable. People do not despise a thief just because he commits thievery to fill his soul when he is hungry.

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- **He will have no consideration for any sort of ransom, neither will he show willingness, no matter how large you make the present. ([Proverbs 6:35](#))**
- **May be that men do not look down greatly on a thief who steals to satisfy hunger, they understand his action to an extent. Nevertheless, if caught, he is made to restore with interest what he stole, this was especially so under the Law**
- **In case a man should steal a bull or a sheep and he does slaughter it or sell it, he is to compensate with five of the herd for the bull and four of the flock for the sheep. ([Exodus 22:1](#))**
- **If the sun has shone forth upon him, there is bloodguilt for him. He is to make compensation without fail. If he has nothing, then he must be sold for the things he stole. ([Exodus 22:3](#))**

- If there should be unmistakably found in his hand what was stolen, from bull to ass and to sheep, alive, he is to make double compensation. (**Exodus 22:4**)
- Seven times may be used in the proverb to indicate that he is made to pay the penalty to the fullest extent. But the adulterer can make no restitution for his sin, his reproach, which is great, remains, and in no way can he ransom or buy himself off from the punishment he deserves.
- If a Christian who is a member of the spiritual body of Christ has relations with a **prostitute** or commits fornication, he is taking a member of the Christ away and making it the member of a harlot, joining himself to a **prostitute** as one body. He is thereby sinning against his own body as regards its being a member of Christ.
- Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I, then, take the members of the Christ away and make them members of a harlot? Never may that happen! (**1 Corinthians 6:15**)
- What! Do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body? For, The two, says he, will be one flesh. (**1 Corinthians 6:16**)
- But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit. (**1 Corinthians 6:17**)
- Flee from fornication. Every other sin that a man may commit is outside his body, but he that practices fornication is sinning against his own body. (**1 Corinthians 6:18**)

•• **Must Forsake Such Practice To Be Saved**

- There is hope for those who are **prostitutes** if they turn away from the detestable practice and exercise faith in the ransom sacrifice of Jesus Christ.
- The apostle wrote to the Christians at Corinth, reminding them that some of them were fornicators and adulterers but that they had forsaken that course and had been washed clean and declared righteous in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- What! Do you not know that unrighteous persons will not inherit

God's kingdom? Do not be misled! Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men kept for unnatural purposes, nor men who lie with men. (1 Corinthians 6:9)

- **Nor thieves, nor greedy persons, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit God's kingdom. (1 Corinthians 6:10)**
- **And yet that is what some of you were. But you have been washed clean, but you have been sanctified, but you have been declared righteous in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and with the spirit of our God. (1 Corinthians 6:11)**
- **Many of the harlots in Israel showed themselves to have better hearts than the religious leaders. These women, viewed with scorn by the scribes and Pharisees, humbly accepted the preaching of John the Baptizer, and Jesus used them as an example to the religious leaders, saying,**
- **Which of the two did the will of his father? They said; The latter. Jesus said to them; Truly I say to you that the tax collectors and the harlots are going ahead of you into the kingdom of God. (Matthew 21:31)**
- **For John came to you in a way of righteousness, but you did not believe him. However, the tax collectors and the harlots believed him, and you, although you saw this, did not feel regret afterwards so as to believe him. (Matthew 21:32)**

•• Rahab

- **Rahab is an example of a prostitute who expressed faith in God and was counted righteous.**
- **In the same manner was not also Rahab the harlot declared righteous by works, after she had received the messengers hospitably and sent them out by another way? (James 2:25)**
- **Men sent by Joshua to spy out Jericho lodged at Rahab's house.**
- **Then Joshua the son of Nun sent two men out secretly from Shittim as spies, saying; Go, take a look at the land and Jericho. So they went and came to the house of a prostitute woman whose name was Rahab, and they took up lodging there. (Joshua 2:1)**

- **It would not be reasonable to assume that they did so for immoral purposes. As to their motive, Professors C. F. Keil and F. Delitzsch, in Commentary on the Old Testament remark: Their entering the house of such a person would not excite so much suspicion.**

- **Moreover, the situation of her house against or upon the town wall was one which facilitated escape. But the Lord so guided the course of the spies, that they found in this sinner the very person who was the most suitable for their purpose, and upon whose heart the tidings of the miracles wrought by the living God on behalf of Israel had made such an impression, that she not only informed the spies of the despondency of the Canaanites, but, with believing trust in the power of the God of Israel, concealed the spies from all the inquiries of her countrymen, though at the greatest risk to herself. [1973, Vol. II, Joshua, p. 34]**

- **In view of God's statement that Israel was to drive out the Canaanites because of their immoral practices and in view also of God's blessing on the conquest of Jericho and upon Rahab herself, it would be entirely unreasonable to assume that the spies committed immorality with Rahab or that she continued her practice of prostitution afterward.**

- **Do not make yourselves unclean by any of these things, because by all these things the nations whom I am sending out from before you have made themselves unclean. (Leviticus 18:24)**

- **Consequently the land is unclean, and I shall bring punishment for its error upon it, and the land will vomit its inhabitants out. (Leviticus 18:25)**

- **And you yourselves must keep my statutes and my judicial decisions, and you must not do any of all these detestable things, whether a native or an alien resident who is residing as an alien in your midst. (Leviticus 18:26)**

- **For all these detestable things the men of the land who were before you have done, so that the land is unclean. (Leviticus 18:27)**

- **Then the land will not vomit you out for your defiling it the same way as it will certainly vomit the nations out who were before you. (Leviticus 18:28)**

- In case anyone does any of all these detestable things, then the souls doing them must be cut off from among their people. (**Leviticus 18:29**)
- And you must keep your obligation to me not to carry on any of the detestable customs that have been carried on before you, that you may not make yourselves unclean by them. I am Yehowah your God. (**Leviticus 18:30**)
- In regard to Jephthah's being the son of a **prostitute** woman, and Samson's lodging in the house of a prostitute in the city of Gaza
- Now Jephthah the Gileadite had become a mighty, valiant man, and he was the son of a **prostitute** woman, and Gilead came to be the father of Jephthah. (**Judges 11:1**)
- Once Samson went to Gaza and saw a **prostitute** woman there and came in to her. (**Judges 16:1**)

See Also JEPHTHAH
See Also SAMSON.

.. Figurative Use

- A person, a nation, or a congregation of persons dedicated to God who make alliances with the world or who turn to the worship of false gods are called in the Bible **prostitutes**. This is much the same way as a woman who does not share her husband's goals, morals and ideals is a **prostitute** spiritually to him. To walk away from truth, justice, compassion and other fine qualities of Yehowah God is spiritual prostitution.
- Such was the nation of Israel. Israel was seduced into having immoral intercourse with foreign gods and, just as an unfaithful wife would seek out other men, she looked to foreign nations for security and salvation from her enemies instead of looking to her husbandly owner, Yehowah God.
- For your Grand Maker is your husbandly owner, Yehowah of armies being his name, and the Holy One of Israel is your Repurchaser. The God of the whole earth he will be called. (**Isaiah 54:5**)
- For Yehowah called you as if you were a wife left entirely and

hurt in spirit, and as a wife of the time of youth who was then rejected, your God has said. (**Isaiah 54:6**)

- Moreover, Jerusalem became so debased in her unfaithfulness that she went beyond the usual custom of **prostitutes**, as the prophet Ezekiel was inspired to say;
- To all **prostitutes** they are accustomed to give a present, but you, you have given your presents to all those passionately loving you, and you offer a bribe to them to come in to you from all around in your acts of **prostitution**. (**Ezekiel 16:33**)
- And in your case the opposite thing takes place from that of other women in your acts of **prostitution**, and after your style no prostitution has been committed, even in your giving hire when no hire has been given to you, and so it occurs in the opposite way. (**Ezekiel 16:34**)
- Both the ten-tribe kingdom of Israel and the two-tribe kingdom of Judah were denounced as **prostitutes** in this symbolic manner.
- Son of man, two women, the daughters of one mother, there happened to be. (**Ezekiel 23:2**)
- And they began to **prostitute** themselves in Egypt. In their youth they committed prostitution. There their breasts were squeezed, and there they pressed the bosoms of their virginity. (**Ezekiel 23:3**)
- And their names were Oholah the older one and Oholibah her sister, and they came to be mine and began to give birth to sons and daughters. And as for their names, Oholah is Samaria, and Oholibah is Jerusalem. (**Ezekiel 23:4**)
- And Oholah began to **prostitute** herself, while subject to me, and kept lusting after those passionately loving her, after the Assyrians, who were near. (**Ezekiel 23:5**)
- Governor's clothed with blue material, and deputy rulers, desirable young men all of them, cavalymen riding horses. (**Ezekiel 23:6**)
- And she continued giving forth her prostitutions upon them, the choicest sons of Assyria all of them, and with all those after

whom she lusted, with their dungy idols, she defiled herself.
([Ezekiel 23:7](#))

- And her **prostitutions** carried from Egypt she did not leave, for with her they had lain down in her youth, and they were the ones that pressed the bosoms of her virginity and they kept pouring out their immoral intercourse upon her. ([Ezekiel 23:8](#))
- Therefore I gave her into the hand of those passionately loving her, into the hand of the sons of Assyria, toward whom she had lusted. ([Ezekiel 23:9](#))
- They were the ones that uncovered her nakedness. Her sons and her daughters they took, and her they killed even with sword. And she came to be infamy to women, and acts of judgment were what they executed upon her. ([Ezekiel 23:10](#))
- When her sister Oholibah got to see it, then she exercised her sensual desire more ruinously than she, and her **prostitution** more than the fornication of her sister. ([Ezekiel 23:11](#))
- For the sons of Assyria she lusted, governor's and deputy rulers who were near, clothed with perfect taste, cavalymen riding horses, desirable young men all of them. ([Ezekiel 23:12](#))
- And I got to see that, because she had defiled herself, both of them had one way. ([Ezekiel 23:13](#))
- And she kept adding to her acts of **prostitution** when she got to see the men in carvings upon the wall, images of Chaldeans carved in vermilion. ([Ezekiel 23:14](#))
- Girded with belts on their hips, with pendant turbans on their heads, having the appearance of warriors, all of them, the likeness of the sons of Babylon, Chaldeans as respects the land of their birth. ([Ezekiel 23:15](#))
- And she began to lust after them at the sight of her eyes and proceeded to send messengers to them in Chaldea. ([Ezekiel 23:16](#))
- And the sons of Babylon kept coming in to her, to the bed of expressions of love, and defiling her with their immoral intercourse, and she continued getting defiled by them, and her

soul began to turn away disgusted from them. ([Ezekiel 23:17](#))

- And she went on uncovering her acts of prostitution and uncovering her nakedness, so that my soul turned away disgusted from company with her, just as my soul had turned away disgusted from company with her sister. ([Ezekiel 23:18](#))
- And she kept multiplying her acts of prostitution to the point of calling to mind the days of her youth, when she prostituted herself in the land of Egypt. ([Ezekiel 23:19](#))
- And she kept lusting in the style of concubines belonging to those whose fleshly member is as the fleshly member of male asses and whose genital organ is as the genital organ of male horses. ([Ezekiel 23:20](#))
- And you continued calling attention to the loose conduct of your youth by the pressing of your bosoms from Egypt onward, for the sake of the breasts of your youth. ([Ezekiel 23:21](#))
- Therefore, O Oholibah, this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Here I am rousing up your passionate lovers against you, those from whom your soul has turned away in disgust, and I will bring them in against you on all sides. ([Ezekiel 23:22](#))
- the sons of Babylon and all the Chaldeans, Pekod and Shoa and Koa, all the sons of Assyria with them, desirable young men, governor's and deputy rulers all of them, warriors and summoned ones, riding on horses, all of them. ([Ezekiel 23:23](#))
- And they must come in against you with rattling of war chariots and wheels, and with a congregation of peoples, with large shield and buckler and helmet. They will set themselves against you all around, and I will give judgment over to them, and they must judge you with their judgments. ([Ezekiel 23:24](#))
- And I will express my ardor against you, and they must take action against you in rage. Your nose and your ears they will remove, and the remainder of you will fall even by the sword. Your sons and your daughters they themselves will take, and the remainder of you will be devoured by the fire. ([Ezekiel 23:25](#))
- And they will certainly strip off you your garments and take away your beautiful articles. ([Ezekiel 23:26](#))

- And I shall actually cause your loose conduct to cease from you, and your prostitution carried from the land of Egypt, and you will not raise your eyes to them, and Egypt you will remember no more. ([Ezekiel 23:27](#))
- For this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Here I am giving you into the hand of those whom you have hated, into the hand of those from whom your soul has turned away disgusted. ([Ezekiel 23:28](#))
- And they must take action against you in hatred and take away all your product of toil and leave you naked and nude, and the nudeness of your acts of fornication and your loose conduct and your acts of **prostitution** must be uncovered. ([Ezekiel 23:29](#))
- There will be a doing of these things to you because of your going like a **prostitute** after the nations, on account of the fact that you defiled yourself with their dungy idols. ([Ezekiel 23:30](#))
- In the way of your sister you have walked, and I shall have to give her cup into your hand. ([Ezekiel 23:31](#))
- This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; The cup of your sister you will drink, the deep and wide one. You will become an object of laughter and derision, the cup containing much. ([Ezekiel 23:32](#))
- With drunkenness and grief you will be filled, with the cup of astonishment and of desolation, the cup of your sister Samaria. ([Ezekiel 23:33](#))
- And you will have to drink it and drain it out, and its earthenware fragments you will gnaw, and your breasts you will tear out. For I myself have spoken, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah. ([Ezekiel 23:34](#))
- Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; For the reason that you have forgotten me and you proceeded to cast me behind your back, then you yourself also bear your loose conduct and your acts of prostitution. ([Ezekiel 23:35](#))
- And Yehowah went on to say to me; Son of man, will you judge Oholah and Oholibah and tell them their detestable things?

(Ezekiel 23:36)

- **For they have committed adultery and there is blood on their hands, and with their dungy idols they have committed adultery. And, besides that, their sons whom they had borne to me they made pass through the fire to them as food. (Ezekiel 23:37)**
- **What is more, this is what they have done to me; They have defiled my sanctuary in that day, and my Sabbaths they have profaned. (Ezekiel 23:38)**
- **And when they had slaughtered their sons to their dungy idols they even proceeded to come into my sanctuary on that day to profane it, and, look! That is what they have done in the midst of my house. (Ezekiel 23:39)**
- **And in addition to that, when they began to send to the men coming from far away, to whom there was sent a messenger, then, look! They came, for whom you had washed yourself, painted your eyes and decked yourself with ornaments. (Ezekiel 23:40)**
- **And you sat down upon a glorious couch, with a table set in order before it, and my incense and my oil you put upon it. (Ezekiel 23:41)**
- **And the sound of a crowd at ease was in her, and to the men out of the mass of mankind there were drunkards being brought in from the wilderness, and they proceeded to put bracelets on the hands of the women and beautiful crowns upon their heads. (Ezekiel 23:42)**
- **Then I said respecting her who was worn out with adultery; Now she will keep on committing her prostitution, even she herself. (Ezekiel 23:43)**
- **And they kept on coming in to her, just as one comes in to a woman that is a prostitute, in that manner they came in to Oholah and to Oholibah as women of loose conduct. (Ezekiel 23:44)**
- **But as regards righteous men, they are the ones that will judge her with the judgment for adulteresses and with the judgment for female shedders of blood, for adulteresses are what they are,**

and there is blood on their hands. (**Ezekiel 23:45**)

- For this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; There will be the bringing up of a congregation against them and a making of them a frightful object and something to plunder. (**Ezekiel 23:46**)
- And the congregation must pelt them with stones, and there will be a cutting of them down with their swords. Their sons and their daughters they will kill, and with fire their houses they will burn. (**Ezekiel 23:47**)
- And I shall certainly cause loose conduct to cease out of the land, and all the women will have to let themselves be corrected, so that they will not do according to your loose conduct. (**Ezekiel 23:48**)
- And they must bring your loose conduct upon you, and the sins of your dungy idols you will bear, and you people will have to know that I am the Sovereign Lord Yehowah. (**Ezekiel 23:49**)
- The most notorious example of **spiritual prostitution** is Babylon the Great, the mother of the **harlots** and of the disgusting things of the earth. (**Revelation 17:5**)

See Also BABYLON THE GREAT