## ~SACRED PILLAR (106)

- The Hebrew term so translated basically refers to something set up or stationed. It was evidently a phallic symbol of Baal or, at times, of other false gods. It never had any part of true worship to Yehowah.
- You must not bow down to their gods or be induced to serve them, and you must not make anything like their works, but you will without fail throw them down and you will without fail break down their sacred pillars. (Exodus 23:24)
- And he kept on doing what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, only not like his father or like his mother, but he removed the sacred pillar of Baal that his father had made. (2 Kings 3:2)
- Further, they pulled down the sacred pillar of Baal and pulled down the house of Baal, and they kept it set aside for privies down to this day. (2 Kings 10:27)
- At various sites in the Middle East, upright stone pillars with no apparent structural function have been found. Their being discovered along with artifacts of a religious nature suggests that they were sacred pillars. Some of these are unhewn and measure 1.8 meters (6 feet) or more in height.
- Before entering the Promised Land, the Israelites were commanded not to erect any sacred pillars and were instructed to break down or shatter the already existing sacred pillars of the Canaanites.
- But their altars you people are to pull down, and their sacred pillars you are to shatter, and their sacred poles you are to cut down. (Exodus 34:13)
- You must not make valueless gods for yourselves, and you must not set up a carved image or a sacred pillar for yourselves, and you must not put a stone as a showpiece in your land in order to bow down toward it, for I am Yehowah your God. (Leviticus 26:1)
- And you must pull down their altars and shatter their sacred pillars, and you should burn their sacred poles in the fire and cut

- down the graven images of their gods, and you must destroy their names from that place. (Deuteronomy 12:3)
- Neither should you set up for yourself a sacred pillar, a thing Yehowah your God hates indeed. (Deuteronomy 16:22)
- The manner in which these were to be destroyed indicates that they were probably made of stone.
- Then they brought out the sacred pillars of the house of Baal and burned each one. (2 Kings 10:26)
- However, mention is made of burning sacred pillars, suggesting that some were made of wood. In this case, though, the reference may be to the sacred pole, or Asherah.

## **See Also SACRED POLE**

- Israel disregarded God's clear warnings given through Moses. The territory of the kingdom of Judah and that of the ten-tribe kingdom became filled with sacred pillars.
- And Judah went on doing what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah, so that they incited him to jealousy more than all that their forefathers had done by their sins with which they sinned. (1 Kings 14:22)
- 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 they kept setting up for themselves sacred pillars and sacred poles upon every high hill and under every luxuriant tree. (2 Kings 17:10)
- However, faithful Judean kings, like Asa, Hezekiah, and Josiah, broke the sacred pillars.
- He it was that removed the high places and broke the sacred pillars to pieces and cut down the sacred pole and crushed to pieces the copper serpent that Moses had made, for down to those days the sons of Israel had continually been making sacrificial smoke to it, and it used to be called the copper serpent-idol. (2 Kings 18:4)

- And he broke the sacred pillars to pieces and went on to cut down the sacred poles and to fill their places with human bones. (2 Kings 23:14)
- So he removed the foreign altars and the high places and broke up the sacred pillars and cut down the sacred poles. (2 Chronicles 14:3)
- And when Jehu eradicated Baal worship from the ten-tribe kingdom, the sacred pillar of Baal was pulled down.
- Further, they pulled down the sacred pillar of Baal and pulled down the house of Baal, and they kept it set aside for privies down to this day. (2 Kings 10:27)
- Thus Jehu annihilated Baal out of Israel. (2 Kings 10:28)