

~TIME INDEFINITE (377)

[Hebrew, '*oh-lam*', '*adh*, Greek, *ai-on*']

- The Hebrew word '*oh-lam*' carries the thought of indefinite or uncertain time. Lexicographer Gesenius defines it as meaning **hidden time**, i.e. **obscure and long, of which the beginning or end is uncertain or indefinite**. [A Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament, translated by E. Robinson, 1836, p. 746]
- Accordingly, expressions such as, time indefinite.
- Remember your mercies, O Yehowah, and your loving-kindnesses, for they are from **time indefinite**. (**Psalms 25:6**)
- Indefinitely lasting,
- He stood still, that he might shake up the earth. He saw, and then caused nations to leap. And the eternal mountains got to be smashed, the **indefinitely lasting** hills bowed down. The walkings of long ago are his. (**Habakkuk 3:6**)
- Of old,
- The Nephilim proved to be in the earth in those days, and also after that, when the sons of the true God continued to have relations with the daughters of men and they bore sons to them, they were the mighty ones who were **of old**, the men of fame. (**Genesis 6:4**)
- A long **time** ago, of long ago,
- And Joshua went on to say to all the people; This is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; It was on the other side of the River that your forefathers dwelt a **long time ago**, Terah the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, and they used to serve other gods. (**Joshua 24:2**)
- Do not move back a boundary **of long ago**, which your forefathers have made. (**Proverbs 22:28**)
- Do not move back the boundary **of long ago**, and into the field of fatherless boys do not enter. (**Proverbs 23:10**)

- And **long-lasting**,
- Also, they have become afraid merely at what is high, and there are terrors in the way. And the almond tree carries blossoms, and the grasshopper drags itself along, and the caper berry bursts, because man is walking to his **long-lasting** house and the wailers have marched around in the street. (**Ecclesiastes 12:5**)
- Appropriately convey the thought of the original-language term.
- The **Hebrew** word '*oh-lam*' is at **times** associated with that which is **everlasting**.
- But King Solomon will be blessed, and the throne of David itself will prove to be firmly established before Yehowah **forever**. (**1 Kings 2:45**) Footnote
- The prophet Isaiah wrote. Yehowah, the Creator of the extremities of the earth, is a God to **time indefinite**.
- Have you not come to know or have you not heard? Yehowah, the Creator of the extremities of the earth, is a God to **time indefinite**. He does not tire out or grow weary. There is no searching out of his understanding. (**Isaiah 40:28**)
- Yehowah is from **time indefinite to time indefinite**.
- Before the mountains themselves were born, or you proceeded to bring forth as with labor pains the earth and the productive land, even from **time indefinite to time indefinite** you are God. (**Psalms 90:2**)
- Since Yehowah is immortal and does not die, he will continue to be God for all eternity.
- Are you not from long ago, O Yehowah? O my God, my Holy One, you do not die. O Yehowah, for a judgment you have set it, and, O Rock, for a reproving you have founded it. (**Habakkuk 1:12**)
- Now to the King of eternity, incorruptible, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. (**1 Timothy 1:17**)

- However, the **Hebrew** expression '*oh-lam*' does not **in itself** mean **forever**. It often refers to things that have an end, but the period of such things existence can be said to be **to time indefinite** because the **time of their end is not then specified**.
- For example, the **indefinitely lasting** Law covenant came to an end with Jesus death and the bringing in of a New Covenant.
- And the sons of Israel must keep the Sabbath, so as to carry out the Sabbath during their generations. It is a covenant to **time indefinite**. (**Exodus 31:16**)
- Between me and the sons of Israel it is a sign to **time indefinite**, because in six days Yehowah made the heavens and the earth and on the seventh day he rested and proceeded to refresh himself. (**Exodus 31:17**)
- For Christ is the end of the Law, so that everyone exercising faith may have righteousness. (**Romans 10:4**)
- Furthermore, if you are being led by spirit, you are not under law. (**Galatians 5:18**)
- Therefore let no man judge you in eating and drinking or in respect of a festival or of an observance of the new moon or of a Sabbath. (**Colossians 2:16**)
- For those things are a shadow of the things to come, but the reality belongs to the Christ. (**Colossians 2:17**)
- So that is why he is a mediator of a New Covenant, in order, that, because a death has occurred for their release by ransom from the transgressions under the former covenant, the ones who have been called might receive the promise of the **everlasting inheritance**. (**Hebrews 9:15**)
- And the **indefinitely lasting** Aaronic priesthood similarly came to an end.
- And you must anoint them just as you anointed their father, and so they must act as priests to me, and their anointing must serve continually for them as a priesthood to **time indefinite** during their generations. (**Exodus 40:15**)

- If, then, perfection were really through the Levitical priesthood, for with it as a feature the people were given the Law, what further need would there be for another priest to arise according to the manner of Melchizedek and not said to be according to the manner of Aaron? (**Hebrews 7:11**)
- For since the priesthood is being changed, there comes to be of necessity a change also of the Law. (**Hebrews 7:12**)
- For the man respecting whom these things are said has been a member of another tribe, from which no one has officiated at the altar. (**Hebrews 7:13**)
- For it is quite plain that our Lord has sprung up out of Judah, a tribe about which Moses spoke nothing concerning priests. (**Hebrews 7:14**)
- And it is still more abundantly clear that with a similarity to Melchizedek there arises another priest. (**Hebrews 7:15**)
- Who has become such, not according to the Law of a commandment depending upon the flesh, but according to the power of an indestructible life. (**Hebrews 7:16**)
- For in witness it is said; You are a priest **forever** according to the manner of Melchizedek. (**Hebrews 7:17**)
- Certainly, then, there occurs a setting aside of the preceding commandment on account of its weakness and ineffectiveness. (**Hebrews 7:18**)
- For the Law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in besides of a better hope did, through which we are drawing near to God. (**Hebrews 7:19**)
- Also, to the extent that it was not without a sworn oath. (**Hebrews 7:20**)
- For there are indeed men that have become priests without a sworn oath, but there is one with an oath sworn by the One who said respecting him; Yehowah has sworn, and he will feel no regret; You are a priest **forever**. (**Hebrews 7:21**)
- To that extent also Jesus has become the one given in pledge of a

better covenant. (**Hebrews 7:22**)

- Furthermore, many had to become priests in succession because of being prevented by death from continuing as such. (**Hebrews 7:23**)
- But he because of continuing alive forever has his priesthood without any successors. (**Hebrews 7:24**)
- For since the Law has a shadow of the good things to come, but not the very substance of the things, men can never with the same sacrifices from year to year which they offer continually make those who approach perfect. (**Hebrews 10:1**)
- Another **Hebrew** term, '*adh*', denotes **unlimited future time, everlastingness, or eternity**.
- And you, Solomon my son, know the God of your father and serve him with a complete heart and with a delightful soul, for all hearts Yehowah is searching, and every inclination of the thoughts he is discerning. If you search for him, he will let himself be found by you, but if you leave him, he will cast you off **forever**. (**1 Chronicles 28:9**)
- The fear of Yehowah is pure, standing **forever**. The judicial decisions of Yehowah are true, they have proved altogether righteous. (**Psalms 19:9**)
- For there has been a child born to us, there has been a son given to us, and the princely rule will come to be upon his shoulder. And his name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. (**Isaiah 9:6**)
- As for Israel, he will certainly be saved in union with Yehowah with a salvation for **times indefinite**. You people will not be ashamed, nor will you be humiliated for the indefinite **times of eternity**. (**Isaiah 45:17**)
- He stood still, that he might shake up the earth. He saw, and then caused nations to leap. And the eternal mountains got to be smashed, the **indefinitely lasting** hills bowed down. The walkings of long ago are his. (**Habakkuk 3:6**)
- At **times**, as at;

- God is your throne to **time indefinite**, even forever, the scepter of your kingship is a scepter of uprightness. (**Psalms 45:6**)
- The **Hebrew** words '*oh-lam*' and '*adh*' appear together and may be rendered, **age-during**, and for **ever**, **YG**, **age-abiding and beyond**, **RO**, and **time indefinite, even forever**, **NW**. Concerning the earth, the psalmist declared.
- He has founded the earth upon its established places, it will not be made to totter to **time indefinite**, or **forever**. (**Psalms 104:5**)
- The **Hebrew** term *ne'tsach* can also denote **everlastingness**. Among the ways it may be rendered are, **forever**.
- From morning to evening they are crushed to pieces, without anyones taking it to heart they perish forever. (**Job 4:20**)
- You overpower him forever so that he goes away; You are disfiguring his face so that you send him away. (**Job 14:20**)
- **Perpetually**
- For it will not be to **time indefinite** that I shall contend, nor perpetually that I shall be indignant, for because of me the spirit itself would grow feeble, even the breathing creatures that I myself have made. (**Isaiah 57:16**)
- **And always**
- For not **always** will the poor one be forgotten, nor will the hope of the meek ones ever perish. (**Psalms 9:18**)
- **Somet****imes** *ne'tsach* and '*oh-lam*' occur in parallel.
- And the redemption price of their soul is so precious that it has ceased to **time indefinite**. (**Psalms 49:8**)
- That he should still live **forever** and not see the pit. (**Psalms 49:9**)
- Or the terms *ne'tsach* and '*adh*' appear together.
- This is what Yehowah has said; On account of three revolts of Edom, and on account of four, I shall not turn it back, on account

of his pursuing his own brother with the sword, and because he ruined his own merciful qualities, and his anger keeps tearing away forever, and his fury, he has kept it **perpetually**. (**Amos 1:11**)

- All three words are found at;
- You have rebuked nations, you have destroyed the wicked one. Their name you have wiped out to **time indefinite**, even **forever**. (**Psalms 9:5**)
- O you enemy, your desolations have come to their **perpetual finish**, and the cities that you have uprooted. The very mention of them will certainly perish. (**Psalms 9:6**)
- You have rebuked nations. Their name you have wiped out to **time indefinite**, *le 'oh-lam'*, even **forever**, *wa-`edh'*. O you enemy, your desolations have come to their **perpetual**, *la-ne'tsach* finish.
- In the **Christian Greek Scriptures**, the **Greek** word *ai-on'* may denote a **time period of indefinite or indeterminate length, a period of remote, but not endless, time**. For example, at;
- Just as he, through the mouth of his holy prophets from of **old**, has spoken (**Luke 1:70**)
- Whom heaven, indeed, must hold within itself until the **times of restoration** of all things of which God spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets of old time. (**Acts of Apostles 3:21**)
- **Ai-on'** can be rendered, **of old, of old time, in ancient times**. **RS, NW, AT** Often, however, the context suggests that *ai-on'* is to be understood to refer to a time period of undefined length because of such period being endless in duration.
- Just as he told to our forefathers, to Abraham and to his seed, forever. (**Luke 1:55**)
- This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that anyone may eat of it and not die. (**John 6:50**)
- I am the living bread that came down from heaven, if anyone eats of this bread he will live **forever**, and, for a fact, the bread that I shall give is my flesh in behalf of the life of the world.

(John 6:51)

- Therefore the crowd answered him; We heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever, and how is it you say that the Son of man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of man? (John 12:34)
- Furthermore, the world is passing away and so is its desire, but he that does the will of God remains forever. (1 John 2:17)
- Similarly, the adjective *ai-o'ni-os*, drawn from *ai-on'* can, as is evident from the context, signify both **long lasting**,
- Now to him who can make you firm in accord with the Good News I declare and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the sacred secret which has been kept in silence for long-lasting **times**. (Romans 16:25)
- He saved us and called us with a holy calling, not by reason of our works, but by reason of his own purpose and undeserved kindness. This was given us in connection with Christ Jesus before **times** long lasting. (2 Timothy 1:9)
- Upon the basis of a hope of the everlasting life which God, who cannot lie, promised before **times** long lasting. (Titus 1:2)
- Everlasting,
- If, then, your hand or your foot is making you stumble, cut it off and throw it away from you, it is finer for you to enter into life maimed or lame than to be thrown with two hands or two feet into the everlasting fire. (Matthew 18:8)
- Now, look! A certain one came up to him and said; Teacher, what good must I do in order to get everlasting life? (Matthew 19:16)
- And everyone that has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands for the sake of my name will receive many **times** more and will inherit everlasting life. (Matthew 19:29)
- Another Greek adjective, *a-i'di-os*, specifically means, **eternal** or **everlasting**. NW, RS, AT

- For his invisible qualities are clearly seen from the world's creation onward, because they are perceived by the things made, even his **eternal** power and godship, so that they are inexcusable. (**Romans 1:20**)
- And the angels that did not keep their original position but forsook their own proper dwelling place he has reserved with **eternal** bonds under dense darkness for the judgment of the great day. (**Jude 1:6**)
- For a further consideration of *ai-on'* see,

See Also AGE

See Also SYSTEMS OF THINGS