

~WATERMELON (21)

[Hebrew, *'avat-ti'ach*]

- **A large oblong or roundish fruit with a hard rind, many seeds, and a sweet pulp having high water content.** It was one of the items of diet for which the mixed crowd and the Israelites expressed a longing while in the wilderness after leaving Egypt.
- And the mixed crowd that was in the midst of them expressed selfish longing, and the sons of Israel too began to weep again and say; Who will give us meat to eat? (**Numbers 11:4**)
- How we remember the fish that we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers and the **watermelons** and the leeks and the onions and the garlic! (**Numbers 11:5**)
- **Watermelons**, *Citrullus vulgaris*, have long been cultivated in Egypt and other parts of the Middle East.