

~WEANING (121)

- **The process of training a nursing child to take food in another way.** In ancient times, a mother usually breast-fed her child for some time, unless such circumstances as inability to produce sufficient milk or her untimely death required that a nursing woman be acquired for that purpose.
- After a while Pharaoh's daughter came down to bathe in the Nile River, and her female attendants were walking by the side of the Nile River. And she caught sight of the ark in the middle of the reeds. Immediately she sent her slave girl that she might get it. (**Exodus 2:5**)
- When she opened it she got to see the child, and here the boy was weeping. At that she felt compassion for him, although she said; This is one of the children of the Hebrews. (**Exodus 2:6**)
- Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter; Shall I go and specially call for you a **nursing woman** from the Hebrew women that she may nurse the child for you? (**Exodus 2:7**)
- So Pharaoh's daughter said to her; Go! At once the maiden went and called the child's mother. (**Exodus 2:8**)
- Pharaoh's daughter then said to her; Take this child with you and **nurse** him for me, and I myself shall give you your wages. Accordingly the woman took the child and **nursed** him. (**Exodus 2:9**)
- And the child grew up. Then she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, so that he became a son to her, and she proceeded to call his name Moses and to say; It is because I have drawn him out of the water. (**Exodus 2:10**)
- The time when breast-feeding was discontinued marked a significant point in the young ones life.
- And the **sucking child** will certainly play upon the hole of the cobra, and upon the light aperture of a poisonous snake will a weaned child actually put his own hand. (**Isaiah 11:8**)

- Whom will one instruct in knowledge, and whom will one make understand what has been heard? Those who have been **weaned** from the milk, those moved away from the breasts? (**Isaiah 28:9**)
- This happy event could call for a feast such as the one Abraham arranged at the **weaning of Isaac**.
- Now the child kept growing and came to be weaned, and Abraham then prepared a big feast on the day of **Isaac's** being **weaned**. (**Genesis 21:8**)
- In those days, women nursed their children much longer than they do now in most parts of the earth. Upon being **weaned**, Samuel was old enough to be placed in the care of High Priest Eli and to serve at the tabernacle.
- Accordingly just as soon as she had weaned him, she brought him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull and one ephah of flour and a large jar of wine, and she proceeded to enter the house of Yehowah in Shiloh. And the boy was with her. (**1 Samuel 1:24**)
- Then they slaughtered the bull and brought the boy to Eli. (**1 Samuel 1:25**)
- With that she said; Excuse me, my lord! By the life of your soul, my lord, I am the woman that was standing with you in this place to pray to Yehowah. (**1 Samuel 1:26**)
- It was with reference to this boy that I prayed that Yehowah should grant me my petition that I asked of him. (**1 Samuel 1:27**)
- And I, in my turn, have lent him to Yehowah. All the days that he does happen to be, he is one requested for Yehowah. And he proceeded to bow down there to Yehowah. (**1 Samuel 1:28**)
- He must have been at least three years old then, for the registration of Levite males began at that age.
- Apart from their genealogical enrollment of the males from three years of age upward, of all those coming to the house of Yehowah as a daily matter of course, for their service by their obligations according to their divisions. (**2 Chronicles 31:16**)

- In his book **Family, Love and the Bible** [London, 1960, p. 175], Raphael Patai says of Arab children; **Cases are known where a child was suckled until his tenth year. The evidence indicates that Isaac was about five years old when weaned.**

See Also ISAAC

- A **weaned** child, though no longer yearning for nourishment from its mother, still finds security and satisfaction in her arms. Comparably, David had soothed and quieted his soul **like a weanling** upon his mother, and his soul was **like a weanling upon him**.
- Apparently it was soothed, quieted, and satisfied because he did not desire prominence, had manifested humility, avoided haughtiness, and refrained from walking in things too great for him. He urged Israel to act similarly, humbly waiting for Yehowah to time indefinite.
- O Yehowah, my heart has not been haughty, nor have my eyes been lofty, nor have I walked in things too great, nor in things too wonderful for me. (**Psalms 131:1**)
- Surely I have soothed and quieted my **soul like a weanling** upon his mother. My soul **is like a weanling upon me**. (**Psalms 131:2**)
- Let Israel wait for Yehowah from now on and to time indefinite. (**Psalms 131:3**)