

~WELL (225)

[Hebrew, *be'er*]

- The Hebrew word *be'er*, translated, well, usually designates a pit or hole sunk into the ground to tap a natural supply of water. The term *be'er* appears in such place-names as Beer-lahai-roi.
- That is why the well was called Beerlahairoi. Here it is between Kadesh and Bered. (Genesis 16:14)
- Beer-sheba
- So Abraham got up early in the morning and took bread and a skin water bottle and gave it to Hagar, setting it upon her shoulder, and the child, and then dismissed her. And she went her way and wandered about in the wilderness of Beersheba. (Genesis 21:14)
- Beer
- So Abraham got up early in the morning and took bread and a skin water bottle and gave it to Hagar, setting it upon her shoulder, and the child, and then dismissed her. And she went her way and wandered about in the wilderness of Beersheba. (Genesis 21:14)
- Finally the water became exhausted in the skin bottle and she threw the child under one of the bushes. (Genesis 21:15)
- Then she went on and sat down by herself, about the distance of a bowshot away, because she said; Let me not see it when the child dies. So she sat down at a distance and began to raise her voice and weep. (Genesis 21:16)
- Beer-elim
- For the outcry has gone around the territory of Moab. The howling thereof is clear to Eglaim, the howling thereof is clear to Beer-elim. (Isaiah 15:8)
- This word may also mean, pit.

- Now the Low Plain of Siddim was pits upon pits of bitumen, and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah took to flight and went falling into them, and those who remained fled to the mountainous region. (**Genesis 14:10**)
- But you yourself, O God, will bring them down to the lowest pit. As for bloodguilty and deceitful men, they will not live out half their days. But as for me, I shall trust in you. (**Psalms 55:23**)
- **Pit**
- O may not the flowing stream of waters wash me away, nor the depth swallow me up, nor the **well** close its mouth over me. (**Psalms 69:15**)
- **Well**, seems to denote the grave. It is used metaphorically to refer to a wife or a beloved woman.
- Drink water out of your own cistern, and tricklings out of the midst of your own **well**. (**Proverbs 5:15**)
- And a spring of gardens, a **well** of fresh water, and trickling streams from Lebanon. (**Song of Solomon 4:15**)
- For a prostitute is a deep pit and a foreign woman is a **narrow well**. (**Proverbs 23:27**)
- Where the foreign woman is likened to a **narrow well**, may allude to the fact that obtaining **water** from such a well **often involves difficulties**, as earthenware jars break readily on its sides.

See Also FOUNTAIN, SPRING

- In lands having a long dry season, particularly wilderness regions, from earliest times **wells** have been of great importance. Anciently, the unauthorized use of **wells** appears to have been viewed as an invasion of property rights.
- Let us pass, please, through your land. We shall not pass through a field or a vineyard, and we shall not drink the water of a **well**. On the kings road we shall march. We shall not bend toward the right or the left, until we shall pass through your territory. (**Numbers 20:17**)

- Let us pass, please, through your land. We shall not pass through a field or a vineyard, and we shall not drink the water of a **well**. On the kings road we shall march. We shall not bend toward the right or the left, until we shall pass through your territory. (**Numbers 20:17**)
- Let me pass through your land. We shall not turn off into a field or a vineyard. We shall drink water of no **well**. On the kings road we shall march until we pass through your territory. (**Numbers 21:22**)
- The scarcity of water and the labor entailed in digging **wells** made them valuable property. Not infrequently did the possession of wells give rise to violent disputes and strife. For this reason the patriarch Abraham, on one occasion, formally established his ownership of a **well** at **Beer-sheba**.
- When Abraham criticized Abimelech severely as regards the **well** of water that the servants of Abimelech had seized by violence. (**Genesis 21:25**)
- Then Abimelech said; I do not know who did this thing, neither did you yourself tell it to me, and I myself have also not heard of it except today. (**Genesis 21:26**)
- With that Abraham took sheep and cattle and gave them to Abimelech, and both of them proceeded to conclude a covenant. (**Genesis 21:27**)
- When Abraham set seven female lambs of the flock by themselves. (**Genesis 21:28**)
- Abimelech went on to say to Abraham; What is the meaning here of these seven female lambs that you have set by themselves? (**Genesis 21:29**)
- Then he said; You are to accept the seven female lambs at my hand, that it may serve as a witness for me that I have dug this **well**. (**Genesis 21:30**)
- That is why he called that place **Beersheba**, because there both of them had taken an oath. (**Genesis 21:31**)
- And the shepherds of Gerar fell to quarreling with the shepherds

- of Isaac, saying; The water is ours! Hence he called the name of the **well** Esek, because they had contended with him. (**Genesis 26:20**)
- And they went digging another **well**, and they fell to quarreling over it also. Hence he called its name Sitnah. (**Genesis 26:21**)
 - After his death, however, the Philistines disregarded the rights of his son and heir Isaac and stopped up the very **wells** that Abraham's servants had dug.
 - As for all the **wells** that the servants of his father had dug in the days of Abraham his father, these the Philistines stopped up and they would fill them with dry earth. (**Genesis 26:15**)
 - And Isaac proceeded to dig again the **wells** of water that they had dug in the days of Abraham his father but which the Philistines went stopping up after Abraham's death, and he resumed calling their names by the names that his father had called them. (**Genesis 26:18**)
 - **Wells** were frequently surrounded by low walls and were kept covered with a large stone, doubtless to keep out dirt and to prevent animals and persons from falling into them.
 - Now he looked, and here there was a **well** in the field and here three droves of sheep were lying down there by it, because from that well they were accustomed to water the droves, and there was a great stone over the mouth of the well. (**Genesis 29:2**)
 - When all the droves had been gathered there, they rolled away the stone from off the mouth of the **well**, and they watered the flocks, after which they returned the stone over the mouth of the well to its place. (**Genesis 29:3**)
 - Subsequently Pharaoh got to hear of this thing, and he attempted to kill Moses, but Moses ran away from Pharaoh that he might dwell in the land of Midian, and he took a seat by a well. (**Exodus 2:15**)
 - Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters, and as usual they came and drew water and filled the gutters to water their fathers flock. (**Exodus 2:16**)

- Near some **wells**, there were drinking troughs or gutters for watering domestic animals.
- So she quickly emptied her jar into the drinking trough and ran yet again and again to the **well** to draw water, and kept drawing for all his camels.
(**Genesis 24:20**)
- Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters, and as usual they came and drew water and filled the gutters to water their fathers flock. (**Exodus 2:16**)
- And as usual the shepherds came and drove them away. At this Moses got up and helped the women out and watered their flock. (**Exodus 2:17**)
- So when they came home to Reuel their father he exclaimed; How is it you have come home so quickly today? (**Exodus 2:18**)
- To this they said; A certain Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds and, besides, he actually drew water for us that he might water the flock. (**Exodus 2:19**)
- Throughout the hills of Palestine, **wells** were dug in the limestone, and steps, leading down to the water, were often cut in the rock.
- In some **wells**, after descending, the one drawing water simply dipped a vessel directly into it. However, from very deep sources, water was commonly drawn up by means of a leather bucket
- To this they said; A certain Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds and, besides, he actually drew water for us that he might water the flock. (**Exodus 2:19**)
- Or an earthenware jar,
- Now the young woman was very attractive in appearance, a virgin, and no man had had sexual intercourse with her, and she made her way down to the fountain and began to fill her water jar and then came up. (**Genesis 24:16**)
- Suspended from a rope.
See Also JACOBS FOUNTAIN

