

~WORMWOOD (63)

[Hebrew, *la-`anah*, Greek, *a'psin-thos*]

- This designates many, frequently somewhat woody, plants having an intensely bitter taste and a strong aromatic odor. Several varieties of **wormwood** are found in Palestine, particularly in desert areas.
- The most common is the *Artemisia herba-alba*, a small shrub growing 40 centimeters (16 inches) tall. In Scripture, **wormwood** is compared to the aftereffects of immorality.
- But the aftereffect from her is as bitter as **wormwood**, it is as sharp as a two-edged sword. (**Proverbs 5:4**)
- And the bitter experience that was to come and did come upon Judah and Jerusalem at the hands of the Babylonians.
- Therefore this is what Yehowah of armies, the God of Israel, has said; Here I am making them, that is, this people, eat **wormwood**, and I will make them drink poisoned water. (**Jeremiah 9:15**)
- Therefore this is what Yehowah of armies has said against the prophets; Here I am making them eat **wormwood**, and I will give them **poisoned water to drink**. For from the prophets of **Jerusalem apostasy has gone forth to all the land**. (**Jeremiah 23:15**)
- He has given me a sufficiency of bitter things. He has saturated me with **wormwood**. (**Lamentations 3:15**)
- Remember my affliction and my homeless state, the **wormwood** and the poisonous plant. (**Lamentations 3:19**)
- It also represents injustice and unrighteousness.
- O you who are **turning justice into mere wormwood**, and the ones who have cast righteousness itself to the earth. (**Amos 5:7**)
- On a crag will horses run, or will one plow there with cattle? For into a poisonous plant you people **have turned justice, and the**

fruitage of righteousness into wormwood. (Amos 6:12)

- **And is used with reference to apostates.**
- **That there may not be among you a man or a woman or a family or a tribe whose heart is turning today away from Yehowah our God to go and serve the gods of those nations, that there may not be among you a root bearing the fruit of a poisonous plant and wormwood. (Deuteronomy 29:18)**
- **And the name of the star is called Wormwood. And a third of the waters turned into wormwood, and many of the men died from the waters, because these had been made bitter. (Revelation 8:11)**
- **Wormwood denotes a bitter and poisonous substance, also called absinthe.**