

### ~ARMS, ARMOR (1245)

- Arms Offensive, Sword And dagger
- Spear, Lance, Javelin, And Dart
- Bow And Arrow
- Sling
- War Club, Hand stave, Battle-Ax
- Armor, Defensive
- Shield
- Helmet
- Coat Of Mail
- Girdle
- Greaves
- Spiritual Armor

- Arms and armor are often mentioned in the Bible, but no extensive details on their manufacture and utilization are provided.
- While the Hebrew Scriptures in particular tell repeatedly of the use of the literal sword, spear, shield, and other arms, they also consistently emphasize the vital necessity and advantage of trusting in Yehowah.
- After these things the word of Yehowah came to Abram in a vision, saying, Do not fear, Abram. I am a **shield** for you. Your reward will be very great. (**Genesis 15:1**)
- God is known in Judah. In Israel his name is great. (**Psalms 76:1**)
- And his covert proves to be in Salem itself, and his dwelling place in Zion. (**Psalms 76:2**)
- There he broke the flaming shafts of the bow, the **shield** and the **sword** and the battle. (**Psalms 76:3**)
- O Israel, trust in Yehowah. He is their help and their **shield**. (**Psalms 115:9**)
- O house of Aaron, put your trust in Yehowah. He is their help and their **shield**. (**Psalms 115:10**)
- You that fear Yehowah, trust in Yehowah. He is their help and

- their **shield**. (**Psalms 115:11**)
- You are my place of concealment and my **shield**. For your word I have waited. (**Psalms 119:114**)
  - My loving-kindness and my stronghold, my secure height and my Provider of escape for me, my **shield** and the One in whom I have taken refuge, the One subduing peoples under me. (**Psalms 144:2**)
  - **Reliance upon Him was evident in David's words to Goliath;**
  - In turn David said to the Philistine; You are coming to me with a **sword** and with a **spear** and with a **javelin**, but I am coming to you with the **name of Yehowah of armies**, the God of the battle lines of Israel, whom you have taunted. (**1 Samuel 17:45**)
  - This day Yehowah will surrender you into my hand, and I shall certainly strike you down and remove your head off you, and I shall certainly give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines this day to the fowls of the heavens and to the wild beasts of the earth, and people of all the earth will know that there exists a God belonging to Israel. (**1 Samuel 17:46**)
  - And all this congregation will know that neither with **sword** nor with **spear** does Yehowah save, because to Yehowah belongs the battle, and he must give you men into our hand. (**1 Samuel 17:47**)
  - **Dependence upon Yehowah's spirit and not military force is shown to be essential and effective.**
  - Accordingly he answered and said to me; This is the word of Yehowah to Zerubbabel, saying; Not by a military force, nor by power, **but by my spirit**, Yehowah of armies has said. (**Zechariah 4:6**)
  - **And in confirming his love for his figurative wife, Zion, Yehowah assured;**
  - Any **weapon** whatever that will be formed against you will have no success, and any tongue at all that will rise up against you in the judgment you will condemn. This is the hereditary possession of the servants of Yehowah, and their righteousness

is from me, is the utterance of Yehowah. (Isaiah 54:17)

- The Hebrew word *keli'* may denote a **weapon**, but it can also refer to an **article, utensil, instrument, implement, or vessel**.
- So he quickly called the attendant bearing his **weapons** and said to him; Draw your **sword** and put me to death, for fear they should say about me, It was a woman that killed him. Immediately his attendant ran him through, so that he died. (Judges 9:54)
- And the yellowish-green or reddish plague does develop in the garment or in the skin or in the warp or in the woof or in any article of skin, it is the plague of leprosy, and it must be shown to the priest. (Leviticus 13:49)
- And as for you, take for yourself wheat and barley and broad beans and lentils and millet and spelt, and you must put them in one **utensil** and make them into bread for you, for the number of the days that you are lying upon your side, three hundred and ninety days you will eat it. (Ezekiel 4:9)
- Now if it was with an **instrument** of iron that he has struck him so that he dies, he is a murderer. Without fail the murderer should be put to death. (Numbers 35:16)
- Wisdom is better than **implements** for fighting, and merely one sinner can destroy much good. (Ecclesiastes 9:18)
- And the earthenware **vessel** in which it may be boiled is to be shattered. But if it was boiled in a copper vessel, then it must be scoured and rinsed with water. (Leviticus 6:28)
- In the plural form it can refer to **armor**, as well as **goods, equipment, luggage, and baggage**.
- And they were bringing each his gift, articles of silver and articles of gold and garments, **armor** and balsam oil, horses and mules as a yearly matter of course. (2 Chronicles 9:24)
- Now that you have felt through all my **goods**, what of all the goods of your house have you found? Put it here in front of my brothers and your brothers, and let them decide between us two. (Genesis 31:37)

- And do not let your eye feel sorry over your **equipment**, because the good of all the land of Egypt is yours. (**Genesis 45:20**)
- Hence they inquired further of Yehowah; Has the man come here as yet? To this Yehowah said; Here he is, hidden among the **luggage**. (**1 Samuel 10:22**)
- Immediately David left the **baggage** from off him to the care of the keeper of the **baggage** and went running to the battle line. When he came, he began asking about the welfare of his brothers. (**1 Samuel 17:22**)
- One other **Hebrew** word for armor, *ne'sheq* comes from the root *na-shaq'*, meaning **be armed or be equipped**.
- And they were bringing each his gift, articles of silver and articles of gold and garments and **armor** and balsam oil, horses and mules, as a yearly matter of course. (**1 Kings 10:25**)
- Armed with the bow, using the right hand and using the left hand with stones or with arrows in the bow. They were of the brothers of Saul, of Benjamin. (**1 Chronicles 12:2**)
- And out of Benjamin there was the valiant, mighty man Eliada, and with him there were two hundred thousand men equipped with the **bow** and **shield**. (**2 Chronicles 17:17**)
- The **Greek** word *ho'plon*, weapon is related to *pa-no-pli'a*, meaning, **full armament, or complete suit of armor**.
- Therefore Judas took the soldier band and officers of the chief priests and of the Pharisees and came there with torches and lamps and weapons. (**John 18:3**)
- But when someone stronger than he is comes against him and conquers him, he takes away his full armament in which he was trusting, and he divides out the things he despoiled him of. (**Luke 11:22**)
- Put on the complete suit of armor from God that you may be able to stand firm against the machinations of the Devil. (**Ephesians 6:11**)

## •• Arms Offensive, Sword And dagger

- The **Hebrew** word *che'rev* is usually rendered **sword**, but it may also be rendered **dagger**, **chisel**, and **knife**.
- And so he drove the man out and posted at the east of the garden of Eden the cherubs and the flaming blade of a **sword** that was turning itself continually to guard the way to the tree of life. (**Genesis 3:24**)
- And they began calling at the top of their voice and cutting themselves according to their custom with **daggers** and with lances, until they caused blood to flow out upon them. (**1 Kings 18:28**)
- And if you should make an altar of stones for me, you must not build them as hewn stones. In the event that you do wield your **chisel** upon it, then you will profane it. (**Exodus 20:25**)
- At that particular time Yehowah said to Joshua; Make for yourself **flint knives** and circumcise the sons of Israel again, the second time. (**Joshua 5:2**)
- In the Hebrew Scriptures the sword is the most frequently mentioned weapon of offense and defense. It had a handle and a **metal blade**, which might be made of **brass**, **copper**, **iron**, or **steel**. Swords were employed for cutting.
- And David continued running and got to stand over the Philistine. Then he took his **sword** and pulled it out of its sheath and definitely put him to death when he cut his head off with it. And the Philistines got to see that their mighty one had died, and they took to flight. (**1 Samuel 17:51**)
- And the king went on to say; You men, get me a **sword**. So they brought the **sword** before the king. (**1 Kings 3:24**)
- And the king proceeded to say; You men, sever the living child in two and give the one half to the one woman and the other half to the other. (**1 Kings 3:25**)
- And thrusting or running through.
- Then Saul said to his armor-bearer; Draw your **sword** and **run me**

**through** with it, that these uncircumcised men may not come and certainly **run me through** and deal abusively with me. And his armor-bearer was unwilling, because he was very much afraid. So Saul **took the sword and fell upon it.** (1 Samuel 31:4)

- Some **swords** were short, others long, being single- or double-edged. Archaeologists separate **daggers** from **swords** by length, the point of differentiation being about 40 centimeters (16 inches)
- Generally the **sword** was suspended on the left side from the girdle;
- Immediately David said to his men: Gird on every one his **sword**! So they girded on every one his **sword** and David also girded on his own **sword**, and they began to go up after David, about four hundred men, while two hundred sat by the **baggage.** (1 Samuel 25:13)
- And was worn in a sheath, a leather case or covering for the **sword** or the **dagger.**
- They were close by the great stone that is in Gibeon, and Amasa himself came to meet them. Now Joab was girded, clothed with a garment, and upon him there was girded a sword attached to his hip, in its sheath. And he himself came forth, and so it fell out. (2 Samuel 20:8)
- Allows for the possibility that Joab deliberately adjusted his **sword** so that it fell from its sheath and then merely held the weapon in his hand instead of sheathing it once again. Unsuspecting Amasa perhaps thought it had fallen accidentally, and he was unconcerned. That proved fatal.
- In the **Christian Greek Scriptures**, the **Greek** word *ma'khai-ra* is usually used for the sword.
- And while he was yet speaking, look! Judas, one of the twelve, came and with him a great crowd with **swords** and **clubs** from the chief priests and older men of the people. (Matthew 26:47)
- Though **Greek** *rhom-phai'a*, denoting a **long sword**, is also employed.
- And I saw, and, look! A pale horse, and the one seated upon it

- had the name Death. And Hades was closely following him. And authority was given them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with a **long sword** and with food shortage and with deadly plague and by the wild beasts of the earth. (**Revelation 6:8**)
- The fact that two **swords** were available among the disciples on the night of Jesus betrayal was not unusual for those times
  - Then they said; Lord, look! Here are two **swords**. He said to them; It is enough. (**Luke 22:38**)
  - And there is evidence that for Galileans in particular it was not uncommon to carry **arms**. [See *The Jewish War*, by F. Josephus, III, 42, iii, 2] Jesus words at;
  - Then he said to them; But now let the one that has a purse take it up, likewise also a food pouch, and let the one having no **sword** sell his outer garment and buy one. (**Luke 22:36**)
  - Let the one having no **sword** sell his outer garment and buy one, would not indicate that his disciples were about to enter into a hazardous life. Rather, he desired to have a **sword** available among his followers on that night in order to demonstrate clearly that, though they would come into circumstances that could easily provoke armed resistance, he did not intend to resort to the **sword**, but would give himself up voluntarily in harmony with God's will. Thus, when Peter did react and try to put up armed resistance, lopping off the ear of Malchus, Jesus ordered him;
  - Then Jesus said to him; Return your **sword** to its place, for all those who take the **sword** will perish by the **sword**. (**Matthew 26:52**)
  - Then Simon Peter, as he had a **sword**, drew it and struck the slave of the High Priest and cut his right ear off. The name of the slave was Malchus. (**John 18:10**)
  - Jesus, however, said to Peter; Put the **sword** into its sheath. The cup that the Father has given me, should I not by all means drink it? (**John 18:11**)
  - Certainly, Peter's **sword** and the other one at hand would have availed little against such a large group of armed men, and by trying to use them, they would undoubtedly have perished by the **sword**.

- And while he was yet speaking, look! Judas, one of the twelve, came and with him a great crowd with **swords** and **clubs** from the chief priests and older men of the people. (**Matthew 26:47**)
- More important, such attempted delivery of Jesus would have failed, being completely contrary to Yehowah God's purpose.
- Or do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father to supply me at this moment more than twelve legions of angels? (**Matthew 26:53**)
- In that case, how would the Scriptures be fulfilled that it must take place this way? (**Matthew 26:54**)
- As it was, later that day Jesus could plainly state to Pilate:
- Jesus answered; My kingdom is no part of this world. If my kingdom were part of this world, my attendants would have fought that I should not be delivered up to the Jews. But, as it is, my kingdom is not from this source. (**John 18:36**)

#### •• **Spear, Lance, Javelin, Dart**

- Weapons used for thrusting or hurling, consisting of a shaft fitted with a sharp point or head.
- And Saul proceeded to hurl the **spear** and say; I will pin David even to the wall! But David turned aside from before him, twice. (**1 Samuel 18:11**)
- They proceeded to choose new gods. It was then there was war in the gates. A **shield** could not be seen, nor a **lance**, among forty thousand in Israel. (**Judges 5:8**)
- Yehowah now said to Joshua; Stretch out the **javelin** that is in your hand toward Ai, for into your hand I shall give it. Accordingly Joshua stretched out the **javelin** that was in his hand toward the city. (**Joshua 8:18**)
- Overtaking it, the **sword** itself does not prove equal, nor **spear**, **dart** or **arrowhead**. (**Job 41:26**)



- Various kinds were used by all the nations of antiquity. Precise delineation between them, as designated by different Hebrew words, is somewhat uncertain.
- In the Hebrew Scriptures, the **spear** Hebrew, *chanith'* was apparently the largest of these four weapons, having a long wooden shaft and generally a **sharp stone or metal head**. In importance it ranked second to the **sword**.
- The giant Goliath carried a **spear** with a blade weighing six hundred shekels of iron, 6.8 kilograms (15 Pounds) and with a wooden shaft like the beam of loom workers.
- And the wooden shaft of his **spear** was like the beam of loom workers, and the blade of his **spear** was six hundred shekels of iron, and the **bearer** of the **large shield** was marching ahead of him. (1 Samuel 17:7)
- Some **spears** had a **metal point at the butt end by which they might be fixed in the ground**. Hence, this end, and not just the **spearhead**, could be used effectively by a warrior.
- And Asahel went chasing after Abner, and he did not incline to go to the right or to the left from following Abner. (2 Samuel 2:19)
- At length Abner looked behind him and said; Is this you, Asahel? to which he said; It is I. (2 Samuel 2:20)
- Then Abner said to him; Veer to your right or to your left and seize one of the young men as yours and take what you strip off him as yours. And Asahel did not want to turn aside from following him. (2 Samuel 2:21)
- So Abner said to Asahel yet again; Turn your course aside from following me. Why should I strike you down to the earth? How, then, could I raise my face to Joab your brother? (2 Samuel 2:22)
- But he kept refusing to turn aside, and Abner got to strike him in the abdomen with the butt end of the spear, so that the spear came out from his back, and he fell there and died where he was. And it came about that all those who came to the place where Asahel fell and then died would stand still. (2 Samuel 2:23)

- A **spear** stuck in the earth might denote a king's temporary abode.
- And David made his way with Abishai to the people by night, and, look! Saul was lying asleep in the camp enclosure with his **spear stuck into the earth** at his head, and Abner and the people were lying all around him. (**1 Samuel 26:7**)
- In the **Christian Greek Scriptures** the **spear** Greek, *log'khe* is mentioned in;
  - Yet one of the soldiers jabbed his side with a **spear**, and immediately blood and water came out. (**John 19:34**)
  - Which says that after Jesus Christ had died, one of the soldiers jabbed his side with a **spear**. Since this was a Roman soldier, the Roman pilum was probably used. Such a weapon was about 1.8 meters (6 feet) long, with a **barbed iron head extending halfway down the length of the wooden shaft**.
  - The **lance** Hebrew, *ro'mach*, a weapon with a long shaft and a **sharp** point, was used for thrusting.
    - When Phinehas the son of Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest caught sight of it, he at once got up from the midst of the assembly and took a **lance** in his hand. (**Numbers 25:7**)
    - Then he went after the man of Israel into the vaulted tent and **pierced both** of them through, **the man of Israel and the woman through her genital parts**. At that the scourge was halted from upon the sons of Israel. (**Numbers 25:8**)
    - It was a standard weapon of the Hebrews.
  - The **javelin** Hebrew, *ki-dhohn'* had a pointed metal head and was usually thrown. It was apparently smaller and lighter than the conventional **spear**, which would allow for it to be held with outstretched arm.
    - Yehowah now said to Joshua; Stretch out the **javelin** that is in your hand toward Ai, for into your hand I shall give it. Accordingly Joshua stretched out the **javelin** that was in his hand toward the city. (**Joshua 8:18**)

- And the ambush rose up quickly from its place, and they began to run at the instant that he stretched out his hand, and they proceeded to enter the city and capture it. Then they hurried and set the city on fire. (**Joshua 8:19**)
- And the men of Ai began to turn back and look, and there the smoke of the city ascended to the heavens, and there proved to be no ability in them to flee this way or that. And the people that were fleeing to the wilderness turned upon the pursuers. (**Joshua 8:20**)
- And Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had captured the city, and that the smoke of the city ascended, and so they turned around and went striking the men of Ai down. (**Joshua 8:21**)
- And these others came out of the city to meet them, so that they got to be in between Israel, these on this side and those on that, and they went striking them down until there did not remain of them either a survivor or an escapee. (**Joshua 8:22**)
- And the king of Ai they caught alive and proceeded to bring him near to Joshua. (**Joshua 8:23**)
- And it came about that while Israel was finishing the killing of all the inhabitants of Ai in the field, in the wilderness in which they had pursued them, they kept falling, all of them, by the edge of the sword until they came to their end. After that all Israel returned to Ai and struck it with the edge of the sword. (**Joshua 8:24**)
- And all those who fell on that day, from man to woman, amounted to twelve thousand, all the people of Ai. (**Joshua 8:25**)
- And Joshua did not draw back his hand with which he stretched out the javelin until he had devoted all the inhabitants of Ai to destruction. (**Joshua 8:26**)
- The **javelin** was customarily carried not in the hand but on the back.
- The dart, Hebrew, *mas-sa* ' was evidently a **short pointed missile similar to the arrow**.
- Overtaking it, the **sword** itself does not prove equal, nor spear,

**dart** or **arrowhead**. (Job 41:26)

- The Hebrew *She'lach*, a word for a **missile**, comes from the root verb *sha-lach'*, meaning send out, put out, or thrust out.
- And he went on to station all the people, even each one with his missile in his hand, from the right side of the house clear to the left side of the house, by the altar and by the house, all around near the king. (2 Chronicles 23:10)
- Later **he sent out** from him a dove to see whether the waters had abated from the surface of the ground. (Genesis 8:8)
- And the dove did not find any resting-place for the sole of its foot, and so it returned to him into the ark because the waters were yet upon the surface of the whole earth. At that he put his hand out and took it and brought it to himself inside the ark. (Genesis 8:9)
- For by now I could **have thrust my hand** out that I might strike you and your people with pestilence and that you might be effaced from the earth. (Exodus 9:15)
- The Hebrew word *ziq-qim'* denotes **fiery missiles** and is related to *zi-qoth'*, meaning **sparks**, or **fiery arrows**.
- Just like someone mad that is **shooting fiery missiles**, arrows and death. (Proverbs 26:18)
- Look! All you who are igniting a fire, **making sparks light up**, walk in the light of your fire, and amid the sparks that you have set ablaze. From my hand you will certainly come to have this; In sheer pain you will lie down. (Isaiah 50:11) Footnote
- The Greek *be'los*, **missile** comes from the root *bal'lo*, meaning **throw**. The apostle Paul used this Greek word when he wrote about **burning missiles** that one is able to quench with the large shield of faith.
- Above all things, take up the large shield of faith, with which you will be able to **quench all the wicked one's burning missiles**. (Ephesians 6:16)

- Among the Romans, **darts** were made of hollow reeds, and on the lower part, under the point, there was an iron receptacle that could be filled with burning naphtha. The **dart** was then shot from a slack bow, as projecting it from a taut bow would put out the fire. Endeavoring to extinguish such a missile with water would just increase the flame, and the only way to put it out was by covering the destructive projectile with earth.

## · Bow And Arrow

- From early times the **bow** Hebrew, *qe'sheth* or Greek, *to'xon* was used in hunting and warfare.

- And God continued to be with the boy, and he kept growing and dwelling in the wilderness, and he became an **archer**. (**Genesis 21:20**)

- So at this time take, please, your implements, your quiver and your **bow**, and go out to the field and hunt some venison for me. (**Genesis 27:3**)

- As for me, I do give you one shoulder of land more than to your brothers, which I took from the hand of the Amorites by my sword and by my **bow**. (**Genesis 48:22**)

- And I saw, and, look! A white horse, and the one seated upon it had a **bow**, and a crown was given him, and he went forth conquering and to complete his conquest. (**Revelation 6:2**)

- It was a standard weapon among the Israelites.

- And Uzziah continued to prepare for them, for the entire army, shields and lances and helmets and coats of mail and **bows** and slingstones. (**2 Chronicles 26:14**)

- Further, he made in Jerusalem engines of war, the invention of engineers, that they might come to be upon the towers and upon the corners, to **shoot arrows and great stones**. Consequently his fame went out to a great distance, for he was helped wonderfully until he was strong. (**2 Chronicles 26:15**)

- Those who fought for Egypt.

- Egypt itself comes up just like the Nile River, and like rivers the

waters toss themselves. And it says, I shall go up. I shall cover the earth. I shall readily destroy the city and those inhabiting it. **(Jeremiah 46:8)**

- Go up, O you horses, and drive madly, O you **chariots!** And let the mighty men go forth, Cush and Put, who are handling the **shield**, and the Ludim, who are handling and **treading the bow**. **(Jeremiah 46:9)**
- **The Assyrians.**
- Therefore this is what Yehowah has said concerning the king of Assyria: He will not come into this city, **nor will he shoot an arrow there**, nor confront it with a **shield**, nor cast up a **siege rampart** against it. **(Isaiah 37:33)**
- **And the Medo-Persians.**
- Array yourselves against Babylon on every side, all you who are treading the bow. **Shoot at her. Spare no arrow**, for it is against Yehowah that she has sinned. **(Jeremiah 50:14)**
- **Polish the arrows.** Fill the **circular shields**, O men. Yehowah has aroused the spirit of the kings of the Medes, because it is against Babylon that his idea is, in order to bring her to ruin. For it is the vengeance of Yehowah, the vengeance for his temple. **(Jeremiah 51:11)**

### **See Also ARCHER**

- The reference to **a bow of copper** is likely to be understood as meaning a **wooden bow mounted with copper**.
- He is teaching my hands for warfare, and **my arms have pressed down a bow of copper**. **(2 Samuel 22:35)**
- The expression **to bend the bow**, literally, to tread the bow, which refers to **stringing the bow**.
- If anyone will not return, His sword he will sharpen, **this bow he will certainly bend**, and he will make it ready for shooting. **(Psalms 7:12)**

- The wicked one's have drawn a sword itself and **have bent their bow, to cause the afflicted and poor one to fall**, to slaughter those who are upright in their way. (**Psalms 37:14**)
- Array yourselves against Babylon on every side, all you who are **treading the bow. Shoot at her. Spare no arrow**, for it is against Yehowah that she has sinned. (**Jeremiah 50:14**)
- Summon against Babylon **archers**, all who are **treading the bow**. Encamp against her all around. May there prove to be no escapees. Pay back to her according to her activity. According to all that she has done, do to her. For it is against Yehowah that she has acted presumptuously, against the Holy One of Israel. (**Jeremiah 50:29**)
- This might be done by firmly planting the **foot against the middle of the bow, or one end of the bow** with the string attached might be held to the ground by the foot **while the other end was bent to receive the free end of the string**.
- Arrows **Hebrew, *chits-tsim*** were made of **reed shafts or light wood, their bases usually feathered**. **Arrowheads** were at first made of **flint or bone** and later of **metal**. Sometimes arrows were **barbed**, were **dipped in poison**.
- For the **arrows of the Almighty** are with me, the venom of which my spirit is drinking, the terrors from God range themselves up against me. (**Job 6:4**)
- Or were dressed with combustible material.
- And for himself he must prepare the instruments of death, **his arrows he will make flaming ones**. (**Psalms 7:13**)
- In the case of an **incendiary arrow**, **oil-soaked tow was placed into holes along the edge of its metal head**, to be ignited when the arrow was used.
- **Thirty arrows** were commonly placed in a leather case or quiver. Assyrian reliefs show that the **quivers** carried on chariots held **50 arrows**.
- And Elam itself has taken up the **quiver**, in the war chariot of earthling man, with steeds, and Kir itself has uncovered the

**shield.** (Isaiah 22:6)

## · Sling

- From ancient times the **sling** Hebrew, *qe'la`* has been the weapon of shepherds.
- And he proceeded to take his staff in his hand and to choose for himself the **five smoothest stones** from the torrent valley and to place them in **his shepherds bag** that served him as a receptacle, and in his hand was his **sling**. And he began approaching the Philistine. (1 Samuel 17:40)
- And warriors.
- And Uzziah continued to prepare for them, for the entire army, **shields** and **lances** and **helmets** and **coats of mail** and **bows** and **slingstones**. (2 Chronicles 26:14)
- It was a **leather thong** or was a **band woven of such materials as animal sinews, rushes, or hair**. The **hollow of the sling**, a widened center part, **held the projectile**.
- When man rises up to pursue you and look for your soul, the soul of my lord will certainly prove to be wrapped up in the bag of life with Yehowah your God, but, as for the soul of your enemies, he will sling it forth as from **inside the hollow of the sling**. (1 Samuel 25:29)
- One **end of the sling** might be tied to the hand or wrist while the other was **held in the hand, to be freed when the sling was swung**. The loaded **sling was whirled overhead**, perhaps several times, and then **one end was suddenly released**, sending the missile forward with considerable force and speed. **Smooth, round stones** were especially desired for **slinging**, though other projectiles were also used.
- And he proceeded to take his staff in his hand and to choose for himself the **five smoothest stones** from the torrent valley and to place them in **his shepherds bag** that served him as a receptacle, and in his hand was his sling. And he began approaching the Philistine. (1 Samuel 17:40)
- **Slingers** were a regular part of the armies of Judah.



- And Uzziah continued to prepare for them, for the entire army, **shields** and **lances** and **helmets** and **coats of mail** and **bows** and **slingstones**. (2 Chronicles 26:14)
- And Israel,
- And the cities they went throwing down, and, as for every good tract of land, they would pitch each one his stone and actually fill it, and every spring of water they would stop up, and every good tree they would fell, until they left only the stones of Kir-hareseth remaining in it, and the **slingers** began going around it and striking it down. (2 Kings 3:25)

### •• War Club, Hand Stave, Battle-Ax

- The **war club** was evidently a **heavy club or mace**, sometimes studded with **metal**.
- As a **war club** and a **sword** and a **sharpened arrow** is a man testifying against his fellowman as a false witness. (Proverbs 25:18)
- The **hand stave** was a **wooden staff**, perhaps **tipped with a metal point**, that was used as a weapon.
- And the inhabitants of the cities of Israel will certainly go forth and burn and build fires with the **armor** and **bucklers** and **large shields**, with the **bows** and with the **arrows** and with the **handstaves** and with the **lances**, and with them they will have to light fires seven years. (Ezekiel 39:9)
- The **battle-ax** was a weapon usually having a **relatively short wooden or metal handle and a stone or metal head with a sharp blade**. There is an allusion to the **battle-ax** in figurative speech at.
- And draw **spear** and **double ax** to meet those pursuing me. Say to my soul; I am your salvation. (Psalms 35:3)
- Where Yehowah is asked by David to draw **spear** and **double ax** to meet those pursuing me.

### •• Armor - Defensive

- In order to protect his body from the offensive weapons of the enemy, a soldier employed various kinds of **shields** and **personal armor**.

## · Shield

- A broad piece of defensive armor used by all ancient nations. It was equipped with an inside handle and was carried by the warrior during battle, usually on the left arm or in the left hand, although during the march it may have been hung from a shoulder strap.

- And Elam itself has taken up the quiver, in the war chariot of earthling man, with steeds, and Kir itself has uncovered the **shield**. (**Isaiah 22:6**)

- Indicates that some may have been provided with a cover that was removed at time of combat. In peacetime, **shields** were often placed in arsenals.

- Your neck is like the tower of David, built in courses of stone, upon which are hung a thousand **shields**, all the **circular shields** of the mighty men. (**Song of Solomon 4:4**)

- **Shields** used in ancient times were often made of **wood covered with leather**, and such **shields** could be burned.

- And the inhabitants of the cities of Israel will certainly go forth and **burn** and build fires with the armor and bucklers and **large shields**, with the bows and with the arrows and with the handstaves and with the lances, and with them they will have to light fires seven years. (**Ezekiel 39:9**)

- Whereas **wooden and leather shields** were in general use, it appears that **metal shields were less common**, being used especially by **leaders, royal guards, or possibly for ceremonial purposes**.

- Moreover, David took the **circular shields of gold** that happened to be on the servants of Hadadezer and brought them to Jerusalem. (**2 Samuel 8:7**)

- Consequently King Rehoboam made in place of them **copper shields**, and he committed them to the control of the chiefs of the runners, the guards of the entrance of the king's house. (**1 Kings 14:27**)

- And it would occur that as often as the king came to the house of Yehowah, the runners would carry them, and they returned them to the guard chamber of the runners. (1 Kings 14:28)
- Shields were oiled to make them pliable and moisture resistant, to keep the metal from rusting, or to make them smooth and slippery.
- You mountains of Gilboa, let no dew, let no rain be upon you, nor let there be fields of holy contributions, because there the shield of mighty one's was befouled, the shield of Saul, so that there was none anointed with oil. (2 Samuel 1:21)
- The leather shield was often decked with a heavy center boss, a knob or stud of metal, which gave added protection.
- Because he runs against him stiff-neckedly, with the thick bosses of his shields. (Job 15:26)
- The large shield Hebrew, *tsin-nah'* was carried by the heavily armed infantry.
- And Asa came to have a military force bearing the large shield and lance, three hundred thousand out of Judah. And out of Benjamin those bearing the buckler and bending the bow were two hundred and eighty thousand. All these were valiant, mighty men. (2 Chronicles 14:8)
- And sometimes by a shield bearer.
- And the wooden shaft of his spear was like the beam of loom workers, and the blade of his spear was six hundred shekels of iron, and the bearer of the large shield was marching ahead of him. (1 Samuel 17:7)
- And the Philistine began to come, coming nearer and nearer to David, and the man carrying the large shield was ahead of him. (1 Samuel 17:41)
- It was either oval or else rectangular like a door. Apparently a similar large shield is designated at;
- Above all things, take up the large shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the wicked one's burning missiles. (Ephesians 6:16)

- By the Greek word *thy-re-os'* from *thy'ra*, meaning door. The *tsin-nah'* was large enough to cover the entire body.
- For you yourself will bless anyone righteous, O Yehowah, as with a **large shield, with approval** you will surround them. (**Psalms 5:12**)
- It was on occasion used to set up solid-front battle lines with lances protruding. The **large shield** is sometimes mentioned with the lance or spear as a form of reference to weapons in general.
- And there were some of the Gadites that separated themselves to David's side at the place difficult to approach in the wilderness, valiant, mighty men, army men for the war, keeping the **large shield** and the **lance** ready, whose faces were the faces of lions, and they were like the gazelles upon the mountains for speed. (**1 Chronicles 12:8**)
- And of Naphtali there were a thousand chiefs, and with them with the **large shield** and the **spear** there were thirty-seven thousand. (**1 Chronicles 12:34**)
- And in all the different cities **large shields** and **lances**, and he went on reinforcing them to a very great degree. And Judah and Benjamin continued his. (**2 Chronicles 11:12**)
- The **smaller shield** or **buckler** Hebrew, *ma-ghen'* was customarily **carried by archers** and is usually associated with light weapons such as the bow. For instance, it was carried by Benjaminite bowmen of Judean King Asa's military force.
- And Asa came to have a military force **bearing the large shield and lance**, three hundred thousand out of Judah. And out of Benjamin those **bearing the buckler and bending the bow** were two hundred and eighty thousand. All these were valiant, mighty men. (**2 Chronicles 14:8**)
- The **smaller shield** was usually round and more common than the **large shield**, probably being used chiefly in hand-to-hand fighting. That the Hebrew *tsin-nah'* and *ma-ghen'* differed considerably in size seems to be indicated by the **gold shields** Solomon made, the **large shield** being overlaid with **four times as much gold as the smaller shield, or buckler**.

- And King Solomon went on to make two hundred large **shields** of alloyed gold, six hundred shekels of gold he proceeded to lay upon each large **shield**. (1 Kings 10:16)
- And three hundred bucklers of alloyed gold, three minas of gold he proceeded to lay upon each buckler. Then the king put them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon. (1 Kings 10:17)
- And King Solomon went on to make two hundred large shields of alloyed gold, six hundred shekels of alloyed gold he proceeded to lay upon each large shield. (2 Chronicles 9:15)
- And three hundred bucklers of alloyed gold, three minas of gold he proceeded to lay upon each buckler. Then the king put them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon. (2 Chronicles 9:16)
- *Ma-ghen'*, like *tsin-nah'*, seems to be used as part of a formula for weapons of war.
- And Asa came to have a military force bearing the large shield and lance, three hundred thousand out of Judah. And out of Benjamin those **bearing the buckler and bending the bow** were two hundred and eighty thousand. All these were valiant, mighty men. (2 Chronicles 14:8)
- And out of Benjamin there was the valiant, mighty man Eliada, and with him there were two hundred thousand men equipped with the **bow and shield**. (2 Chronicles 17:17)
- Furthermore, he took courage and built up all the broken-down wall and raised towers upon it, and on the outside another wall, and repaired the Mound of the City of David, and **made missiles in abundance and shields**. (2 Chronicles 32:5)
- The **Hebrew** word *she'let*, rendered **circular shield**, occurs seven times in the Hebrew Scriptures and is evidently similar to the more common *ma-ghen'* or shield, since it is used in conjunction with *ma-ghen'* in;
- Your neck is like the tower of David, built in courses of stone, upon which are hung a thousand shields, all the **circular shields** of the mighty men. (Song of Solomon 4:4)

## •• Helmet

- A military headgear designed to protect a fighter during battle and a very basic part of defensive armor. The **Hebrew** word for helmet is *koh-va`* alternately *qoh-va`*; while the **Greek** term is *pe-ri-ke-pha-lai'a*, literally meaning around the head.
- And there was a helmet of copper on his head, and he was clad with a coat of mail, of overlapping scales, and the weight of the coat of mail was five thousand shekels of copper. (**1 Samuel 17:5**)
- Saul now went clothing David with his garments, and he put a copper helmet upon his head, after which he clothed him with a coat of mail. (**1 Samuel 17:38**)
- Also, accept the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the spirit, that is, God's word. (**Ephesians 6:17**)
- Originally, Israelite **helmets** were probably made of **leather**. Later these were covered with **copper or iron** and were worn over woolen, felt, or **leather bonnets**. **Copper helmets** were used in Israel as early as the days of King Saul.
- Saul now went clothing David with his garments, and he put a **copper helmet upon his head**, after which he clothed him with a coat of mail. (**1 Samuel 17:38**)
- While **helmets** may at first have been reserved for kings and other leaders, later they were in general use, Uzziah furnishing his entire army with them.
- And Uzziah continued to prepare for them, for the entire army, shields and lances and **helmets and coats of mail** and bows and slingstones. (**2 Chronicles 26:14**)
- The Philistines possessed **metal helmets**. Goliath wore one of **copper**.
- And there was a **helmet of copper** on his head, and he was clad with a coat of mail, of overlapping scales, and the weight of the coat of mail was five thousand shekels of copper. (**1 Samuel 17:5**)

- Ezekiel mentioned **helmets** in connection with Persians, Ethiopians, and others.
- Persians and Ludim and men of Put, they happened to be in your military force, your men of war. Shield and **helmet** they hung up in you. They were the ones that caused your splendor. (**Ezekiel 27:10**)
- Persia, Ethiopia and Put with them, all of them with buckler and **helmet**. (**Ezekiel 38:5**)

## ·· Coat Of Mail

- A coat worn for protection during battle. The **coat of mail** Hebrew, *shir-yohn'* or *shir-yan'* consisted of a cloth or leather cloak that had **hundreds of small adjoining pieces of metal, somewhat like fish scales**, attached to its surface. Often it covered the breast, back, and shoulders, though it sometimes reached to the knees or even the ankles.
- And there was a helmet of copper on his head, and he was clad with a **coat of mail**, of overlapping scales, and the weight of the coat of mail was five thousand shekels of copper. (**1 Samuel 17:5**)
- Among the Hebrews the **coat of mail** was frequently made of **leather covered with metal scales or plates**. The wearer enjoyed considerable protection thereby, but, nonetheless, would be vulnerable where the scales were connected or where the **coat of mail** adjoined other parts of the armor. Thus, King Ahab was mortally wounded by a bowman who got to strike the king of Israel **between the appendages and the coat of mail**.
- And there was a man that bent the bow in his innocence, but he got to strike the king of Israel between the appendages and the coat of mail, so that he said to his charioteer; Turn your hand around, and take me out from the camp, because I have been badly wounded. (**1 Kings 22:34**)
- And the battle kept rising in intensity on that day, and the king himself had to be kept in a standing position in the chariot facing the Syrians, and gradually he died in the evening, and the blood of the wound kept pouring out upon the interior of the war chariot. (**1 Kings 22:35**)

- And the ringing cry began to pass through the camp about the setting of the sun, saying; Everyone to his city, and everyone to his land! (1 Kings 22:36)
- Thus the king died. When he was brought to Samaria, then they buried the king in Samaria. (1 Kings 22:37)

## •• Girdle

- The military **girdle** of ancient times was a **leather belt worn around the waist or hips**. It varied in width from 5 to 15 centimeters (2 to 6 inches) and was often **studded with plates of iron, silver, or gold**. The warriors sword was suspended from it, and at times the belt was supported by a shoulder strap.
- Further, Jonathan stripped himself of the sleeveless coat that was on him and gave it to David, and also his garments, and even his sword and his bow and his belt. (1 Samuel 18:4)
- They were close by the great stone that is in Gibeon, and Amasa himself came to meet them. Now Joab was **girded, clothed with a garment**, and upon him there was **girded a sword** attached to his hip, in its sheath. And he himself came forth, and so it fell out. (2 Samuel 20:8)
- Whereas a loosened **girdle** denoted leisure.
- In turn the king of Israel answered and said; You men, speak to him, Do not let **one girding on** boast about himself like one unfastening. (1 Kings 20:11)
- **Girding up the loins or hips** indicated readiness for action or battle.
- And in this way you should eat it, with your **hips girded**, sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand, and you must eat it in haste. It is Yehowah's Passover. (Exodus 12:11)
- And the very hand of Yehowah proved to be upon Elijah, so that he **girded up his hips** and went running ahead of Ahab all the way to Jezreel. (1 Kings 18:46)
- Hence **brace up your minds for activity**, keep your senses



completely. Set your hope upon the undeserved kindness that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (**1 Peter 1:13**) Footnote

## · Greaves

· **Armor consisting of thin plates of metal**, covering the leg between the ankle and the knee. The only Biblical reference to them is at

- And there were **greaves** of copper above his feet and a javelin of copper between his shoulders. (**1 Samuel 17:6**)
- Where it is shown that the giant Philistine warrior Goliath from Gath had **greaves Hebrew, mits-chath' of copper above his feet**. The Israelites may also have used greaves to some extent.

## · Spiritual Armor

- Although true Christians **do not share in fleshly warfare**, they are engaged in a battle, and are likened to soldiers.
- However, I consider it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and **fellow soldier**, but your envoy and private servant for my need. (**Philippians 2:25**)
- As a **fine soldier** of Christ Jesus take your part in suffering evil. (**2 Timothy 2:3**)
- And to Apphia, our sister, and to Archippus, **our fellow soldier**, and to the congregation that is in your house. (**Philemon 1:2**)
- Because we have a **wrestling**, not against blood and flesh, but against the governments, against the authorities, **against the world rulers of this darkness, against the wicked spirit forces in the heavenly places**. (**Ephesians 6:12**)
- Since **physical weapons and armor would be of no value in a battle against superhuman spirits**, Christians must **take up the complete suit of armor from God**.
- On this account take up the **complete suit of armor from God**, that you may be able to resist in the wicked day and, after you have done all things thoroughly, to stand firm. (**Ephesians 6:13**)

- Paul advises Christians to have their **loins girded about with truth**.
  - Stand firm, therefore, with your **loins girded about with truth**, and having on the **breastplate of righteousness**. (**Ephesians 6:14**)
  - Just as a **girdle** can provide support and protection for the loins, an **unbreakable attachment to divine truth** can strengthen a Christian in his determination to remain firm despite trials.
  - Next, a Christian must put on **the breastplate of righteousness**.
  - Stand firm, therefore, with your loins girded about with truth, and having on the **breastplate of righteousness**. (**Ephesians 6:14**)
  - A **literal breastplate** served to protect **vital organs**, especially the **heart**. The need of righteousness as a **protective breastplate for the figurative heart** is especially evident because of the hearts sinful inclination.
  - And Yehowah began to smell a restful odor, and so Yehowah said in his heart; Never again shall I call down evil upon the ground on man's account, because **the inclination of the heart of man is bad from his youth up**. Never again shall I deal every living thing a blow just as I have done. (**Genesis 8:21**)
  - The heart is more treacherous than anything else and is desperate. Who can know it? (**Jeremiah 17:9**)
- 3· Part of the spiritual armor is to have the feet **shod with the equipment of the Good News of peace**.
- And with your feet shod with the equipment of the Good News of peace. (**Ephesians 6:15**)
  - The **Greek** word *he-toi-ma-si'a*, translated **equipment**, has the basic meaning **readiness**. **Int, NIV, TEV**. A Christians always being **equipped** and **ready** to make known the **Good News** to others, and doing so despite hardships, can help him to endure faithfully.
  - A prominent part of the **spiritual armor** is **the large shield of faith**. Like a **large shield** covering most of the body, **faith** in Yehowah God

and his ability to fulfill his promises will enable a Christian to **quench all the wicked one's burning missiles.**

- Above all things, take up the **large shield of faith**, with which you will be able to **quench all the wicked one's burning missiles.** (**Ephesians 6:16**)
- With his pinions he will block approach to you, and under his wings you will take refuge. **His truthfulness will be a large shield and bulwark.** (**Psalms 91:4**)
- **Faith will help a Christian withstand attacks by wicked spirits, resist temptations to immorality, shun materialistic desires, and not give in to fear, doubt, or excessive grief.**
- Now after these things it came about that the wife of his master began to raise her eyes toward Joseph and say; **Lie down with me.** (**Genesis 39:7**)
- But he would refuse and would say to his master's wife; Here my master does not know what is with me in the house, and everything he has he has given into my hand. (**Genesis 39:8**)
- There is no one greater in this house than I am, and he has not withheld from me anything at all except you, because you are his wife. **So how could I commit this great badness and actually sin against God?** (**Genesis 39:9**)
- So it turned out that as she spoke to Joseph day after day **he never listened** to her to lie alongside her, to continue with her. (**Genesis 39:10**)
- But it happened that on this day as other days he went into the house to do his business, and there was none of the men of the house there in the house. (**Genesis 39:11**)
- Then she grabbed hold of him by his garment, saying; Lie down with me! But he left his garment in her hand and took to flight and went on outside. (**Genesis 39:12**)
- And yet, if they had indeed kept remembering that place from which they had gone forth, they would have had opportunity to return. (**Hebrews 11:15**)

- So that we may be of good courage and say; Yehowah is my helper, I will not be afraid. What can man do to me? (**Hebrews 13:6**)
- But let him keep on asking in faith, not doubting at all, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven by the wind and blown about. (**James 1:6**)
- Moreover, brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant concerning those who are sleeping in death, that you may not sorrow just as the rest also do who have no hope. (**1 Thessalonians 4:13**)
- As a **helmet** protects a soldier's head, so **the helmet of salvation** safeguards the Christians' mental powers from ungodly influences.
- Also, accept the **helmet of salvation**, and the sword of the spirit, that is, God's word. (**Ephesians 6:17**)
- Having on **as a helmet the hope of salvation** means looking **intently toward the payment of the reward**, as Moses did.
- But as for us who belong to the day, let us keep our senses and have on the breastplate of faith and love and as a **helmet the hope of salvation**. (**1 Thessalonians 5:8**)
- Because he esteemed the reproach of the Christ as riches greater than the treasures of Egypt, for **he looked intently toward the payment of the reward**. (**Hebrews 11:26**)
- The **sword of the spirit**, that is, **God's word** is indispensable to the Christian in **warding off false teachings and traditions of men and in teaching the truth and overturning strongly entrenched things**.
- Also, accept the helmet of salvation, and the **sword of the spirit**, that is, God's word. (**Ephesians 6:17**)
- For the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly, but **powerful by God for overturning strongly entrenched things**. (**2 Corinthians 10:4**)
- For we are **overturning reasonings** and every **lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God**, and we are **bringing every thought into captivity** to make it obedient to the Christ. (**2**

**Corinthians 10:5)**