

## ~BUILDER BUILDING (1003)

[Hebrew, *ba-nah'*, Greek, *Oi-ko-do-me'o*]

### .. Figurative Usage

- The verb build means construct or make by assembling materials. The Hebrew word for build is *ba-nah'*. From it comes *bin-yah'* house.

- And he measured the **house**, a hundred cubits in length, and the separated area and the **building** and its walls, a hundred cubits in length. (**Ezekiel 41:13**)

- *Bin-yan'* **building**

- And the **building** that was before the separated area, the side of which was toward the west, was seventy cubits wide. And the wall of the **building** was five cubits in width, it being all around, and its length was ninety cubits. (**Ezekiel 41:12**)

- *Miv-neh'* **structure**

- In the visions of God he brought me to the land of Israel and gradually set me down upon a very high mountain, on which there was something like the **structure** of a city to the south. (**Ezekiel 40:2**)

- And *tav-nith'* **pattern**

- And see that you make them after their **pattern** that was shown to you in the mountain. (**Exodus 25:40**)

- **Representation**

- That you may not act ruinously and may not really make for yourselves a carved image, the form of any symbol, the **representation** of male or female. (**Deuteronomy 4:16**)

- **Architectural plan**

- And David proceeded to give Solomon his son the **architectural plan** of the porch and of its houses and its storerooms and its roof chambers and its dark inner rooms and the house of the propitiatory cover. (**1 Chronicles 28:11**)

- *Oi-ko-do-me'o* is the common Greek verb for **build**, the related noun form *oi-ko-do-me'* means **building**.
- Also, I say to you; You are Peter, and on this rock-mass I will **build** my congregation, and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. (**Matthew 16:18**)
- For we are God's fellow workers. You people are God's field under cultivation, God's **building**. (**1 Corinthians 3:9**)
- Yehowah God as Creator of all things is the **Builder** par excellence.
- Of course, every house is **constructed** by someone, but he that **constructed** all things is God. (**Hebrews 3:4**)
- Where did you happen to be when **I founded the earth**? Tell me, if you do know understanding. (**Job 38:4**)
- Who **set its measurements**, in case you know, or who stretched out upon it the measuring line? (**Job 38:5**)
- Into what have its **socket pedestals been sunk down**, or who laid its cornerstone. (**Job 38:6**)
- The Logos, **Word**, who became Jesus Christ, was the Master Worker that He used in creating all things.
- In the beginning the Word was, and the Word was with God, and the Word was a god. (**John 1:1**)
- This one was in the beginning with God. (**John 1:2**)
- All things came into existence through him, and apart from him not even one thing came into existence. What has come into existence (**John 1:3**)
- He delivered us from the authority of the darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of his love. (**Colossians 1:13**)
- By means of whom we have our release by ransom, the forgiveness of our sins. (**Colossians 1:14**)

- He is the image of the invisible God, **the firstborn of all creation.** (Colossians 1:15)
- **Because by means of him all other things were created in the heavens and upon the earth,** the things visible and the things invisible, no matter whether they are thrones or lordships or governments or authorities. **All other things have been created through him and for him.** (Colossians 1:16)
- Then I came to be beside him as a **master worker**, and I came to be the one he was specially fond of day by day, I being glad before him all the time. (Proverbs 8:30)
- Man cannot create but must **build** with materials already existent. The ability to plan, to manufacture instruments, and to **build** was planted in man at his creation and was manifested early in human history.
- And God went on to say; Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have in subjection the fish of the sea and the flying creatures of the heavens and the domestic animals and all the earth and every moving animal that is moving upon the earth. (Genesis 1:26)
- In time Adah gave birth to Jabal. He proved to be the **founder** of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. (Genesis 4:20)
- And the name of his brother was Jubal. He proved to be the **founder** of all those who handle the harp and the pipe. (Genesis 4:21)
- As for Zillah, she too gave birth to Tubalcain, the **forger** of every sort of tool of copper and iron. And the sister of Tubalcain was Naamah. (Genesis 4:22)
- Cain, the first son of Adam and Eve, is the first man mentioned in the Bible as the **builder** of a city, giving it the name of his son Enoch.
- Afterward Cain had intercourse with his wife and she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Then he engaged in **building** a city and called the city's name by the name of his son Enoch. (Genesis 4:17)

- Noah was the **builder** of an ark, the pattern of which was given to him by Yehowah.
- After that God said to Noah; The end of all flesh has come before me, because the earth is full of violence as a result of them, and here I am bringing them to ruin together with the earth. (**Genesis 6:13**)
- Make for yourself an ark out of wood of a resinous tree. You will make compartments in the ark, and you must cover it inside and outside with tar. (**Genesis 6:14**)
- Nimrod, a mighty hunter in opposition to Yehowah, was the **builder** of several cities, namely, Babel, Erech, Accad, Calneh, as well as Nineveh, Rehoboth-Ir, Calah, and Resen.
- He displayed himself a mighty hunter in opposition to Yehowah. That is why there is a saying; Just like Nimrod a mighty hunter in opposition to Yehowah. (**Genesis 10:9**)
- And the beginning of his kingdom came to be Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. (**Genesis 10:10**)
- Out of that land he went forth into Assyria and set himself to **building** Nineveh and Rehoboth-Ir and Calah (**Genesis 10:11**)
- And Resen between Nineveh and Calah. This is the great city. (**Genesis 10:12**)
- When the Israelites were in slavery in Egypt they built cities as storage places for Pharaoh, namely, Pithom and Raamses.
- So they set over them chiefs of forced labor for the purpose of oppressing them in their burden-bearing, and they went **building cities** as storage places for Pharaoh, namely, Pithom and Raamses. (**Exodus 1:11**)
- When they were led by Yehowah into the Promised Land they there found cities that had been **built** by the Canaanite inhabitants. Many of these cities with their houses were taken and used by the Israelites.
- And it must occur that when Yehowah your God will bring you into the land that he swore to your forefathers Abraham, Isaac

- and Jacob to give you, great and good-looking cities that you did not **build**. (**Deuteronomy 6:10**)
- And houses full of all good things and that you did not fill, and cisterns hewn out that you did not hew out, vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant, and you shall have eaten and become satisfied. (**Deuteronomy 6:11**)
  - In the wilderness Moses supervised the **building** of the tabernacle with all its utensils, the pattern having been divinely provided.
  - According to all that I am showing you as the **pattern** of the tabernacle and pattern of all its furnishings, that is the way you are to make it. (**Exodus 25:9**)
  - Taking the lead in the **fabrication** and construction were Bezalel and Oholiab, whose abilities were accentuated by God's Holy Spirit so that the finished work was done exactly as God had commanded Moses.
  - And see that you make them after their **pattern** that was shown to you in the mountain. (**Exodus 25:40**)
  - After David took the city of Jerusalem from the Jebusites, he did considerable **building** there, including constructing a house for himself.
  - And David took up dwelling in the stronghold, and it came to be called the City of David, and David began to **build** all around from the Mound and inward. (**2 Samuel 5:9**)
  - Thus David went on getting greater and greater, and Yehowah the God of armies was with him. (**2 Samuel 5:10**)
  - And Hiram the king of Tyre proceeded to send messengers to David, and also cedar trees and workers in wood and workers in stone for walls, and they began to **build** a house for David. (**2 Samuel 5:11**)
  - His son Solomon was a **builder** of renown, the temple of Yehowah being his foremost project. The **architectural plans** for this temple had been given to David by inspiration.
  - And David proceeded to give Solomon his son the **architectural**

**plan** of the porch and of its houses and its storerooms and its roof chambers and its dark inner rooms and the house of the propitiatory cover. (**1 Chronicles 28:11**)

- Even the architectural plan of everything that had come to be with him by inspiration for the courtyards of Yehowah's house and for all the dining rooms all around, for the treasures of the house of the true God and for the treasures of the things made holy. (**1 Chronicles 28:12**)
- David had gathered much of the material for the temple **building**, gold, silver, copper, iron, timbers, stones, and precious stones, contributed by the people and also from David's own funds.
- And here during my affliction I have prepared for Yehowah's house a hundred thousand talents of gold and a million talents of silver, and the copper and the iron there is no means of weighing because they have come to be in such quantity, and timbers and stones I have prepared, but to them you will make additions. (**1 Chronicles 22:14**)
- And with you there are in great number doers of work, stone hewers and workers in stone and wood and every one skillful in every sort of work. (**1 Chronicles 22:15**)
- The gold, the silver and the copper and the iron there is no means of numbering. Rise and act, and may Yehowah prove to be with you. (**1 Chronicles 22:16**)
- And according to all my power I have prepared for the house of my God the gold for the goldwork, and the silver for the silverwork, and the copper for the copperwork, the iron for the ironwork, and the timbers for the timberwork, onyx stones, and stones to be set with hard mortar, and mosaic pebbles, and every precious stone, and alabaster stones in great quantity. (**1 Chronicles 29:2**)
- And since I am taking pleasure in the house of my God, there is yet a special property of mine, gold and silver, I do give it to the house of my God over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house: (**1 Chronicles 29:3**)
- Three thousand talents of gold of the gold of Ophir, and seven thousand talents of refined silver, for coating the walls of the

houses. (**1 Chronicles 29:4**)

- **Of the gold for the goldwork, and of the silver for the silverwork and for all the work by the hand of the craftsmen. And who is there volunteering to fill his hand today with a gift for Yehowah? (**1 Chronicles 29:5**)**
- **And the princes of the paternal houses and the princes of the tribes of Israel and the chiefs of thousands and of hundreds and the chiefs of the business of the king proceeded to volunteer. (**1 Chronicles 29:6**)**
- **Accordingly they gave to the service of the house of the true God gold worth five thousand talents and ten thousand darics and silver worth ten thousand talents and copper worth eighteen thousand talents and iron worth a hundred thousand talents. (**1 Chronicles 29:7**)**
- **And what stones were found with any persons they gave to the treasure of the house of Yehowah under the control of Jehiel the Gershonite. (**1 Chronicles 29:8**)**
- **Hiram, king of Tyre, acted toward Solomon as he had toward David by supplying materials, particularly cedar and juniper timbers, as well as many workmen.**
- **And it came about that as soon as Hiram heard the words of Solomon, he began to rejoice greatly, and he went on to say; Blessed is Yehowah today in that he has given David a wise son over this numerous people! (**1 Kings 5:7**)**
- **Accordingly Hiram sent to Solomon, saying; I have heard what you sent to me. For my part, I shall do all your delight in the matter of timbers of cedar trees and timbers of juniper trees. (**1 Kings 5:8**)**
- **My servants themselves will bring them down out of Lebanon to the sea, and I, for my part, shall put them in log rafts to go by sea clear to the place that you will send me notice of, and I shall certainly have them broken up there, and you, for your part, will carry them, and you, for your part, will do my delight by giving the food for my household. (**1 Kings 5:9**)**
- **So Hiram became a giver of timbers of cedar trees and timbers of**

- juniper trees to Solomon according to all his delight. (**1 Kings 5:10**)
- So Solomon's **builders** and Hiram's **builders** and the Gebalites did the cutting, and they kept preparing the timbers and the stones to **build** the house. (**1 Kings 5:18**)
  - Further, Solomon sent to Hiram the king of Tyre, saying, Just as you dealt with David my father and you kept sending him cedarwood to **build** himself a house in which to dwell. (**2 Chronicles 2:3**)
  - King Hiram also sent a man named Hiram or Hiram-abi, son of a Tyrian man and an Israelite woman, a very skilled worker in gold, silver, copper, iron, stones, timbers, and fabrics.
  - And King Solomon proceeded to send and fetch Hiram out of Tyre. (**1 Kings 7:13**)
  - He was the son of a widowed woman from the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a Tyrian man, a worker in copper, and he was full of the wisdom and the understanding and the knowledge for doing every sort of work in copper. Accordingly he came to King Solomon and began to do all his work. (**1 Kings 7:14**)
  - And now I do send a skillful man, experienced in understanding, belonging to Hiram-abi. (**2 Chronicles 2:13**)
  - The son of a woman of the sons of Dan but whose father was a man of Tyre, experienced, to work in gold and in silver, in copper, in iron, in stones and in timbers, in wool dyed reddish purple, in blue thread and in fine fabric and in crimson and at cutting every sort of engraving and at designing every sort of device that may be given to him along with your own skillful men and the skillful men of my lord David your father. (**2 Chronicles 2:14**)
  - Solomon did other extensive **building works**, including a **house** for himself as well as the **House of the Forest of Lebanon**, the **Porch of Pillars**, and the **Porch of the Throne**. The building of the temple and other governmental buildings occupied 20 years.
  - And it came about in the four hundred and eightieth year after the sons of Israel came out from the land of Egypt, in the fourth year, in the month of Ziv, that is, the second month, after



- Solomon became king over Israel, that he proceeded to **build** the house to Yehowah. (1 Kings 6:1)
- And his own house Solomon **built** in thirteen years, so that he finished all his own house. (1 Kings 7:1)
  - And he proceeded to **build** the House of the Forest of Lebanon a hundred cubits in its length, and fifty cubits in its width, and thirty cubits in its height, upon four rows of pillars of cedarwood, and there were beams of cedarwood upon the pillars. (1 Kings 7:2)
  - And the Porch of Pillars he made fifty cubits in its length, and thirty cubits in its width, and another porch was in front of them with pillars and a canopy in front of them. (1 Kings 7:6)
  - As for the Porch of the Throne where he would do judging, he made the porch of judgment, and they covered it in with cedarwood from the floor to the rafters. (1 Kings 7:7)
  - And it came about at the end of twenty years, in which Solomon **built** the two houses, the house of Yehowah and the house of the king. (1 Kings 9:10)
  - Following this, Solomon embarked on a nationwide **building** program, including Gezer and Lower Beth-horon, Baalath and Tamar or Tadmor, in the wilderness, along with storage cities, chariot cities, and cities for the horsemen.
  - And Solomon went on to build Gezer and Lower Beth-horon. (1 Kings 9:17)
  - And Baalath and Tamar in the wilderness, in the land. (1 Kings 9:18)
  - And all the storage cities that became Solomon's and the chariot cities and the cities for the horsemen, and the desirable things of Solomon that he had desired to **build** in Jerusalem and in Lebanon and in all the land of his dominion. (1 Kings 9:19)
  - Excavations in Palestine, particularly at Hazor, Megiddo, and Gezer, have uncovered city gates and fortifications that archaeologists attribute to Solomon.

- A notable **builder** among the kings of Israel and Judah was Solomon's son Rehoboam. His works included the **rebuilding** of **Bethlehem, Etam, Tekoa, Beth-zur, Soco, Adullam, Gath, Mareshah, Ziph, Adoraim, Lachish, Azekah, Zorah, Aijalon, and Hebron.** **Rehoboam** also reinforced and provisioned the fortified places.
- And Rehoboam continued to dwell in Jerusalem and proceeded to build fortified cities in Judah. (**2 Chronicles 11:5**)
- Thus he rebuilt Bethlehem and Etam and Tekoa. (**2 Chronicles 11:6**)
- And Beth-zur and Soco and Adullam. (**2 Chronicles 11:7**)
- And Gath and Mareshah and Ziph. (**2 Chronicles 11:8**)
- And Adoraim and Lachish and Azekah. (**2 Chronicles 11:9**)
- And Zorah and Aijalon and Hebron, fortified cities, which were in Judah and Benjamin. (**2 Chronicles 11:10**)
- Further, he reinforced the fortified places and put leaders in them and supplies of food and oil and wine. (**2 Chronicles 11:11**)
- Other **builders** were King Baasha of Israel, who began to **build** Ramah, King Asa of Judah, **building** at Geba in Benjamin and Mizpah, Hiel the Bethelite, who forfeited two sons when he **rebuilt** ruined Jericho Abiram his firstborn at the laying of its foundation and Segub his youngest at the putting up of the doors as Joshua had prophesied.
- So Baasha the king of Israel came up against Judah and began to build Ramah, to allow no one to go out or come in to Asa the king of Judah. (**1 Kings 15:17**)
- And King Asa, for his part, summoned all Judah, there was none exempt, and they proceeded to carry the stones of Ramah and the timbers of it, with which Baasha had been **building**, and King Asa began to **build** with them Geba in Benjamin, and Mizpah. (**1 Kings 15:22**)
- In his days Hiel the Bethelite built Jericho. At the forfeit of Abiram his firstborn he laid the foundation of it, and at the forfeit of Segub his youngest he put up its doors, according to Yehowah's word that he spoke by means of Joshua the son of

**Nun. (1 Kings 16:34)**

- Then Joshua had an oath pronounced at that particular time, saying; Cursed may the man be before Yehowah who gets up and does build this city, even Jericho. At the forfeit of his firstborn let him lay the foundation of it, and at the forfeit of his youngest let him put up its doors. (**Joshua 6:26**)
- **And King Ahab of Israel, who constructed a house of ivory, besides several cities.**
- **As for the rest of the affairs of Ahab and all that he did and the house of ivory that he built and all the cities that he built, are they not written in the book of the affairs of the days of the kings of Israel? (1 Kings 22:39)**
- **King Uzziah of Judah was an extensive builder.**
- **Moreover, Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem by the Corner Gate and by the Valley Gate and by the Buttress, and made them strong. (2 Chronicles 26:9)**
- **Further, he built towers in the wilderness, and hewed out many cisterns, for there was a great deal of livestock that became his, and also in the Shephelah and on the tableland. There were farmers and vinedressers in the mountains and in Carmel, for a lover of agriculture he proved to be. (2 Chronicles 26:10)**
- **Uzziah displayed evidence of military genius in fortifying Jerusalem with engines of war, the invention of engineers.**
- **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)**
- **Scenes of wall reliefs depicting Sennacherib's assault on Lachish show special kinds of fortifications on the towers, attributed by archaeologists to Uzziah.**
- **Jotham did a great deal of building.**
- **He himself built the upper gate of Yehowah's house, and on the**

- wall of Ophel he did a great deal of **building**. (2 Chronicles 27:3)
- And cities he built in the mountainous region of Judah, and in the woodlands he **built** fortified places and towers. (2 Chronicles 27:4)
  - And Hezekiah did considerable fortifying of Jerusalem, in connection with which he dug a water tunnel from the spring of Gihon to bring water inside the city.
  - When Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib had come with his face set for war against Jerusalem. (2 Chronicles 32:2)
  - Then he decided with his princes and his mighty men to stop up the waters of the springs that were outside the city, and so they helped him. (2 Chronicles 32:3)
  - Accordingly many people were collected together, and they went stopping up all the fountains and the torrent that floods through the middle of the land, saying; Why should the kings of Assyria come and actually find a great deal of water? (2 Chronicles 32:4)
  - 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)
  - And Hezekiah was the one that stopped up the upper source of the waters of Gihon and kept them directed straight along down to the west to the City of David, and Hezekiah continued to prove successful in every work of his. (2 Chronicles 32:30)
  - This water tunnel can still be viewed by visitors to Jerusalem.
  - After the exile, Zerubbabel traveled from Babylon with about 50,000 men and began the **rebuilding** of the temple of Yehowah in Jerusalem. It was completed by **March 6 of 515 B.C.E.** Later, in **455 B.C.E.**, Nehemiah came from Shushan to **rebuild** the wall of the city.
  - And these were the sons of the jurisdictional district that went up out of the captivity of the exiled people whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had taken into exile at Babylon and who later returned to Jerusalem and Judah, each one to his own city. (Ezra 2:1)

- Those who came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Seraiah, Reelaiah, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispar, Bigvai, Rehum, Baanah. The number of the men of the people of Israel. ([Ezra 2:2](#))
- The entire congregation as one group was forty-two thousand three hundred and sixty. ([Ezra 2:64](#))
- Apart from their men slaves and their slave girls, these being seven thousand three hundred and thirty-seven, and they had two hundred male singers and female singers. ([Ezra 2:65](#))
- And they completed this house by the third day of the lunar month Adar, that is, in the sixth year of the reign of Darius the king. ([Ezra 6:15](#))
- Now it came about that, as soon as it was told to Sanballat and Tobiah and to Geshem the Arabian and to the rest of our enemies that I had rebuilt the wall and there had not been left in it a gap, although up to that time the doors themselves I had not set up in the gates. ([Nehemiah 6:1](#))
- And it came about that, as soon as the wall had been rebuilt, I at once set up the doors. Then there were appointed the gatekeepers and the singers and the Levites. ([Nehemiah 7:1](#))
- King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon is known mainly for his military exploits. Nonetheless, he was a great **builder**. At Babylon he **built** many temples to false gods. He was also a notable **builder of public works**. His inscriptions concern themselves not with his military exploits but with his **building** projects, **including temples, palaces, streets, embankments, and walls**.
- He made Babylon the wonder city of the ancient world, and in all of Babylonia no building compared with the famous Hanging Gardens that King Nebuchadnezzar **built** to satisfy the homesick longings of his Median queen. Those gardens were rated as one of the seven wonders of the ancient world.
- King Herod the Great **rebuilt** the second temple of Yehowah at Jerusalem. Because of distrust on the part of the Jews, he was compelled to bring the materials in first, then to raze the second temple piecemeal as he constructed the new one.

- Due to their distrust and dislike of Herod, the Jews do not consider it the third temple, although it is often designated as such by others. By the year **30 C.E.** reconstruction in the temple area had been under way for 46 years
- Therefore the Jews said; This temple was **built** in forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days? (**John 2:20**)
- And it continued for many more years. Herod also **built** an artificial harbor city, Caesarea, and he rebuilt Samaria and carried on other vast **building** projects within Palestine as well as in other lands.
- Jesus, when on earth, was in the **building** trade, being referred to as a **carpenter**.
- This is the **carpenter** the son of Mary and the brother of James and Joseph and Judas and Simon, is it not? And his sisters are here with us, are they not? So they began to stumble at him. (**Mark 6:3**)
- **Building** materials used in Bible times were **earth, wood of various sorts, stone, precious stones, metals, fabrics, plaster, mortar, and bitumen**. Whitewash made of lime was also used, as were coloring for decorating wood, and dyes for fabrics. At times bricks were painted or enameled.

### See Also **BRICK**

- A number of **building tools and instruments** are mentioned in the Bible, including the **ax**.
- Or when he goes with his fellowman into the woods to gather wood, and his hand has been raised to strike with the **ax** to cut the tree, and the **iron** has slipped off from the wooden handle, and it has hit his fellowman and he has died, he himself should flee to one of these cities and must live. (**Deuteronomy 19:5**)
- **Hammer**
- And Jael the wife of Heber proceeded to take a pin of the tent and to put the **hammer** into her hand. Then she went to him stealthily and drove the pin into his temples and beat it into the earth, while he was fast asleep and weary. So he died. (**Judges 4:21**)

- **Forge hammer, anvil, nails**
- So the craftsman went strengthening the metalworker, the one doing the smoothing out with the **forge hammer** him that is hammering away at the **anvil**, saying regarding the soldering: It is good. Finally one fastened it with **nails** that it could not be made to totter. (**Isaiah 41:7**)
- **Saw**
- Will the **ax** enhance itself over the one chopping with it, or the **saw** magnify itself over the one moving it back and forth, as though the staff moved back and forth the one's raising it on high, as though the **rod** raised on high the one who is not wood? (**Isaiah 10:15**)
- **Stone-saw**
- All these were of expensive stones according to measures, hewn, sawed with **stone-saws**, inside and outside, and from the foundation up to the coping, and outside as far as the great courtyard. (**1 Kings 7:9**)
- **Measuring line or rope**
- Therefore this is what Yehowah has said; I shall certainly return to Jerusalem with mercies. My own house will be **built** in her, is the utterance of Yehowah of armies, and a **measuring line itself will be stretched out over Jerusalem**. (**Zechariah 1:16**)
- And I proceeded to raise my eyes and see, and, look! There was a man, and **in his hand a measuring rope**. (**Zechariah 2:1**)
- **Measuring reed**
- And he proceeded to bring me there, and, look! There was a man. His appearance was like the appearance of copper, and there was a **flax cord in his hand, and a measuring reed**, and he was standing in the gate. (**Ezekiel 40:3**)
- Now the one who was speaking with me was holding as a **measure a golden reed**, that he might measure the city and its gates and its wall. (**Revelation 21:15**)

- **Plummet**
- This is what he caused me to see, and, look! Yehowah was stationed on a wall made with a **plummet**, and there was a **plummet** in his hand. (**Amos 7:7**)
- Then Yehowah said to me; What are you seeing, Amos? So I said; A **plummet**. And Yehowah went on to say; Here I am setting a **plummet** in the midst of my people Israel. I shall no more do any further excusing of it. (**Amos 7:8**)
- The very hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house, and his own hands will finish it. And you will have to know that Yehowah of armies himself has sent me to you people. (**Zechariah 4:9**)
- For who has despised the day of small things? And they will certainly rejoice and see the **plummet** in the hand of Zerubbabel. These seven are the eyes of Yehowah. They are roving about in all the earth. (**Zechariah 4:10**)
- **Leveling instrument**
- And I shall certainly stretch upon Jerusalem **the measuring line applied to Samaria and also the leveling instrument** applied to the house of Ahab, and I shall simply wipe Jerusalem clean just as one wipes the handleless bowl clean, wiping it clean and turning it upside down. (**2 Kings 21:13**)
- And I will make justice the **measuring line** and righteousness the **leveling instrument**, and the hail must sweep away the refuge of a lie, and the waters themselves will flood out the very place of concealment. (**Isaiah 28:17**)
- **Wood scraper, compass**
- As for the wood carver, he has stretched out the measuring line, he traces it out with red chalk, he works it up with a **wood scraper**, and with a **compass** he keeps tracing it out, and gradually he makes it like the representation of a man, like the beauty of mankind, to sit in a house. (**Isaiah 44:13**)
- **Billhook**



- As for the carver of iron with the **billhook**, he has been busy at it with the coals, and with the **hammers** he proceeds to form it, and he keeps busy at it with his powerful arm. Also, he has become hungry, and so without power. He has not drunk water, so he gets tired. (**Isaiah 44:12**)
- For the customs of the peoples are just an exhalation, because it is a mere tree out of the forest that one has cut down, the work of the hands of the craftsman with the **billhook**. (**Jeremiah 10:3**)
- **Chisel**
- 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**)
- **Scales**
- Who has measured the waters in the mere hollow of his hand, and taken the proportions of the heavens themselves with a mere span and included in a measure the dust of the earth, or weighed with an indicator the mountains, and the hills in the **scales**? (**Isaiah 40:12**)

## •• Figurative Usage

- The Christian congregation is considered a **house or temple built** upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus as the foundation cornerstone. It is called **God's building, a place for God to inhabit by spirit**.
- For we are God's fellow workers. You people are God's field under cultivation, **God's building**. (**1 Corinthians 3:9**)
- And you have been **built** up upon the **foundation of the apostles and prophets, while Christ Jesus himself is the foundation cornerstone**. (**Ephesians 2:20**)
- In union with him the whole **building**, being harmoniously joined together, is growing into a holy temple for Yehowah. (**Ephesians 2:21**)
- In union with him you, too, are being **built** up together into a

- place for God to inhabit by spirit. (Ephesians 2:22)
- Jesus applied the fulfillment of,
  - The stone that the **builders rejected** has become the head of the corner. (Psalms 118:22)
  - To himself, as being **the stone** that the Jewish religious leaders and their followers, as **builders**, rejected.
  - Jesus said to them; Did you never read in the Scriptures: The stone that the **builders rejected** is the one that has become the **chief cornerstone**. From Yehowah this has come to be, and it is marvelous in our eyes? (Matthew 21:42)
  - But he looked upon them and said; What, then, does this that is written mean: The stone which the **builders rejected**, this has become the **chief cornerstone**? (Luke 20:17)
  - This is the stone that was treated by you **builders** as of no account that has become the head of the corner. (Acts of Apostles 4:11)
  - It is to you, therefore, that he is precious, because you are believers, but to those not believing, **the identical stone that the builders rejected** has become the head of the corner. (1 Peter 2:7)
  - The individual members of the congregation are spoken of as **living stones**.
  - You yourselves also as **living stones** are being **built** up a spiritual house for the purpose of a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 2:5)
  - The glorified congregation, also known as the bride of Jesus Christ, is pictured as a city, the New Jerusalem.
  - I saw also the **holy city, New Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God and prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. (Revelation 21:2)
  - And there came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls which were full of the seven last plagues, and he spoke

- with me and said; Come here, I will show you the bride, the Lambs wife. (**Revelation 21:9**)
- So he carried me away in the power of the spirit to a great and lofty mountain, and he showed me the **holy city Jerusalem** coming down out of heaven from God (**Revelation 21:10**)
  - And having the glory of God. Its radiance was like a most precious stone, as a jasper stone shining crystal-clear. (**Revelation 21:11**)
  - It had a great and lofty wall and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names were inscribed which are those of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel. (**Revelation 21:12**)
  - On the east were three gates, and on the north three gates, and on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. (**Revelation 21:13**)
  - The wall of the city also had twelve foundation stones, and on them the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. (**Revelation 21:14**)
  - Now the one who was speaking with me was holding as a measure a golden reed, that he might **measure the city and its gates and its wall.** (**Revelation 21:15**)
  - And the city lies **foursquare, and its length is as great as its breadth.** And he measured the city with the reed, **twelve thousand furlongs,** its length and breadth and height are equal. (**Revelation 21:16**)
  - Also, he measured its wall, one hundred and forty-four cubits, according to a man's measure, at the same time an angels. (**Revelation 21:17**)
  - Now the structure of its wall was jasper, and the city was pure gold like clear glass. (**Revelation 21:18**)
  - The foundations of the city's wall were adorned with every sort of precious stone. The first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald. (**Revelation 21:19**)

- The fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh hyacinth, the twelfth amethyst. (**Revelation 21:20**)
- Also, the twelve gates were twelve pearls. Each one of the gates was made of one pearl. And the broad way of the city was pure gold, as transparent glass. (**Revelation 21:21**)
- Jesus likened his hearers to two kinds of **builders**, one of which **built** his personality and way of **life on the rock-mass of obedience to Christ** and was, therefore, able to withstand the storms of opposition and tribulation. The other, **building on sand**, was unable to stand when pressure came.
- Therefore everyone that hears these sayings of mine and does them will be likened to a discreet man, who **built** his house upon the rock-mass. (**Matthew 7:24**)
- And the rain poured down and the floods came and the winds blew and lashed against that house, but it did not cave in, for it had been **founded upon the rock-mass**. (**Matthew 7:25**)
- Furthermore, everyone hearing these sayings of mine and not doing them will be likened to a foolish man, who **built** his house **upon the sand**. (**Matthew 7:26**)
- And the rain poured down and the floods came and the winds blew and struck against that house and it caved in, and its collapse was great. (**Matthew 7:27**)
- **Building** of Christian personalities in others also is discussed by the apostle Paul, a director of works.
- According to the undeserved kindness of God that was given to me, as a wise director of works **I laid a foundation**, but someone **else is building on it**. But let each one keep watching how he is **building** on it. (**1 Corinthians 3:10**)
- For **no man can lay any other foundation** than what is laid, which is Jesus Christ. (**1 Corinthians 3:11**)
- Now if anyone **builds** on the foundation **gold, silver, precious stones, wood materials, hay, stubble**. (**1 Corinthians 3:12**)

- Each one's work will become manifest, for the day will show it up, because it will be revealed by means of fire, and the fire itself will prove what sort of work each one's is. (1 Corinthians 3:13)
- If anyone's work that he has **built** on it remains, he will **receive a reward**. (1 Corinthians 3:14)
- If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, but he himself will be saved, yet, if so, it will be as through fire. (1 Corinthians 3:15)
- On one occasion Jesus said to the Jews; Break down this temple, and in three days I will **raise** it up.
- In answer Jesus said to them; Break down this temple, and in three days I will **raise** it up. (John 2:19)
- The Jews thought he was speaking of the temple of Herod and used this against him at his trial, witnesses against him saying; We heard him say; I will throw down this temple that was made with hands and in three days I will **build** another not made with hands.
- We heard him say; I will throw down this temple that was made with hands and in three days I will **build** another not made with hands. (Mark 14:58)
- Jesus was using figurative speech, referring to **the temple of his body**. He was put to death and on the third day rose again.
- But he was talking about the **temple of his body**. (John 2:21)
- From that time forward Jesus Christ commenced showing his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the older men and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised up. (Matthew 16:21)
- Saying that the Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be impaled and yet on the third day rise. (Luke 24:7)
- But we were hoping that this man was the one destined to deliver Israel, yes, and besides all these things, this makes the third day since these things occurred. (Luke 24:21)

- And he said to them; In this way it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from among the dead on the third day. (Luke 24:46)
- He was resurrected by his Father Yehowah God in another body, not one made with hands like the temple of Jerusalem, but a spirit body made or **built** by his Father.
- But God resurrected him by loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to continue to be held fast by it. (Acts of Apostles 2:24)
- Why, even Christ died once for all time concerning sins, a righteous person for unrighteous ones, that he might lead you to God, he being put to death in the flesh, but being made alive in the spirit. (1 Peter 3:18)
- This use of **building** as applied to one's body is not unique, for, speaking of Eves creation, it was said; And Yehowah God proceeded to **build** the rib that he had taken from the man into a woman.
- And Yehowah God proceeded to **build** the rib that he had taken from the man into a woman and to bring her to the man. (Genesis 2:22)
- Jesus Christ foretold that in the last days people would be involved in **building** operations and other activities of life, **oblivious to the real meaning of the times**, just as they were in the days of Lot, and that destruction would come upon them unawares in the midst of these activities.
- Likewise, just as it occurred in the days of Lot, they were eating, they were drinking, they were buying, they were selling, they were planting, they were **building**. (Luke 17:28)
- But on the day that Lot came out of Sodom it rained fire and sulphur from heaven and destroyed them all. (Luke 17:29)
- The same way it will be on that day when the Son of man is to be revealed. (Luke 17:30)

**See Also ARCHITECTURE**  
**See Also FORTIFICATIONS**

