

## ~WALLS (389)

### · City Walls

### · Other Walls

### · Symbolic Walls

· **Masonry structures that serve as barriers, mark boundaries, or form enclosures.** As long as man has been constructing houses and cities, he has been building walls out of many materials, in a variety of designs, to serve a number of purposes.

· The size and strength of structures largely depend on the construction of the walls and the materials used in making them.

· The walls of David's palace were of cut stone.

· 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)

· Similarly, the outside **walls** of Solomon's temple, it appears, were of quarried stone, with some of their interior surfaces covered over with cedar boards.

· And the house that King Solomon built to Yehowah was sixty cubits in its length, and twenty in its width, and thirty cubits in its height. (1 Kings 6:2)

· As for the house, while it was being built, it was of quarry stone already completed that it was built, and as for hammers and axes or any tools of iron, they were not heard in the house while it was being built. (1 Kings 6:7)

· And he proceeded to build the **walls** of the house inside it with boards of cedar. From the floor of the house up to the rafters of the ceiling he overlaid it with timber inside, and he went on to overlay the floor of the house with boards of juniper. (1 Kings 6:15)

· These interior wooden panels, in turn, were elaborately decorated with carvings and overlays of gold.

- And all the **walls** of the house round about he carved with engraved carvings of cherubs and palm-tree figures and engravings of blossoms, inside and outside. (**1 Kings 6:29**)
- 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**)
- And the porch that was in front of the length was twenty cubits in front of the width of the house, and its height was a hundred and twenty, and he proceeded to overlay it inside with pure gold. (**2 Chronicles 3:4**)
- And he went on to cover the house, the rafters, the thresholds and its **walls** and its doors with gold, and he engraved cherubs upon the walls. (**2 Chronicles 3:7**)
- The interior **wall** surfaces of Belshazzar's palace were plastered.
- At that moment the fingers of a man's hand came forth and were writing in front of the lampstand upon the plaster of the wall of the palace of the king, and the king was beholding the back of the hand that was writing. (**Daniel 5:5**)
- The **walls** of the homes of the people in general were usually of simple construction sun-dried bricks, uncut stones, or plastered material over a wooden framework. Sometimes the surface was whitewashed.
- Then Paul said to him; God is going to strike you, you **whitewashed wall**. Do you at one and the same time sit to judge me in accord with the Law and, transgressing the Law, command me to be struck? (**Acts of Apostles 23:3**)

## •• City Walls

- In ancient times fear caused people to erect protective **walls** around large cities to prevent enemy invasion.
- The son of Geber, in Ramoth-gilead, he had the tent villages of Jair the son of Manasseh, which are in Gilead, he had the region of Argob, which is in Bashan, sixty large cities with **wall** and copper bar. (**1 Kings 4:13**)

- And the fortified city, with your high **walls** of security, he must lay low, he must abase it, bring it into contact with the earth, to the dust. (**Isaiah 25:12**)
- The inhabitants of the small **dependent towns** round about.
- And the fortified city, with your high **walls** of security, he must lay low, he must abase it, bring it into contact with the earth, to the dust. (**Isaiah 25:12**)
- Likewise took refuge within the **walled** city if attacked. The Mosaic Law made a legal distinction between **walled** and **unwalled** towns, as to the rights of house owners.
- Now in case a man should sell a dwelling house in a **walled** city, his right of repurchase must also continue till the year from the time of his sale finishes out, his right of repurchase should continue a whole year. (**Leviticus 25:29**)
- But if it should not be bought back before the complete year has come to the full for him, the house that is in the city that has a wall must also stand in perpetuity as the property of its purchaser during his generations. It should not go out in the Jubilee. (**Leviticus 25:30**)
- However, the houses of settlements that have no **wall** about them should be accounted as part of the field of the country. Right of repurchase should continue for it, and in the Jubilee it should go out. (**Leviticus 25:31**)
- The **walls** not only provided a physical barrier between city residences and an enemy but also afforded an elevated position atop which the defenders could protect the **walls** from being undermined, tunneled through, or breached by battering rams.
- However, the houses of settlements that have no **wall** about them should be accounted as part of the field of the country. Right of repurchase should continue for it, and in the Jubilee it should go out. (**Leviticus 25:31**)
- As for cities of the Levites with the houses of the cities of their possession, the right of repurchase should continue to time indefinite for the Levites. (**Leviticus 25:32**)

- **And where property of the Levites is not bought back, the house sold in the city of his possession must also go out in the Jubilee, because the houses of the cities of the Levites are their possession in the midst of the sons of Israel. ([Leviticus 25:33](#))**
- **Moreover, the field of pasture ground of their cities may not be sold, because it is a possession to time indefinite for them. ([Leviticus 25:34](#))**
- **And in case your brother grows poor and so he is financially weak alongside you, you must also sustain him. As an alien resident and a settler, he must keep alive with you. ([Leviticus 25:35](#))**
- **And they proceeded to come and lay siege against him in Abel of Beth-maacah and cast up a siege rampart against the city, as it was standing within a rampart. And all the people that were with Joab were undermining the wall, to throw it down. ([2 Samuel 20:15](#))**
- **Day and night they go round about it upon its **walls**, and hurtfulness and trouble are within it. ([Psalms 55:10](#))**
- **The watchmen that were going about in the city found me. They struck me, they wounded me. The watchmen of the **walls** lifted my wide wrap off me. ([Song of Solomon 5:7](#))**
- **Upon your **walls**, O Jerusalem, I have commissioned watchmen. All day long and all night long, constantly, let them not keep still. You who are making mention of Yehowah, let there be no silence on your part. ([Isaiah 62:6](#))**
- **And you, O son of man, take for yourself a brick, and you must put it before you and engrave upon it a city, even Jerusalem. ([Ezekiel 4:1](#))**
- **And you must lay siege against it and build a siege wall against it and throw up a siege rampart against it and set encampments against it and put battering rams all around against it. ([Ezekiel 4:2](#))**
- **And the strike of his attack engine he will direct against your **walls**, and your towers he will pull down, with his swords. ([Ezekiel 26:9](#))**

- **As a countermeasure, attacking forces sometimes threw up siege walls as shields behind which to assault the city walls.**
- **And it came about in the ninth year of his being king, in the tenth month on the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon came, yes, he and all his military force, against Jerusalem and began camping against it and building against it a siege wall all around. (2 Kings 25:1)**
- **Finally it came about in the ninth year of his being king, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon came, he and all his military force, against Jerusalem, and they began to camp against her and to build against her a siege wall all around. (Jeremiah 52:4)**
- **And you must lay siege against it and build a siege wall against it and throw up a siege rampart against it and set encampments against it and put battering rams all around against it. (Ezekiel 4:2)**
- **And as for you, take to yourself an iron griddle, and you must put it as an iron wall between you and the city, and you must fix your face against it, and it must get to be in a siege, and you must besiege it. It is a sign to the house of Israel. (Ezekiel 4:3)**
- **In his right hand the divination proved to be for Jerusalem, to set battering rams, to open ones mouth for a slaying, to raise the sound in an alarm signal, to set battering rams against gates, to throw up a siege rampart, to build a siege wall. (Ezekiel 21:22)**

### **See Also FORTIFICATIONS**

#### **•• Other Walls**

- **Stone walls were often built to hedge in vineyards or fields, and to form corrals or sheep pens.**
- **In his right hand the divination proved to be for Jerusalem, to set battering rams, to open ones mouth for a slaying, to raise the sound in an alarm signal, to set battering rams against gates, to throw up a siege rampart, to build a siege wall. (Ezekiel 21:22)**
- **And it has become to them like an untrue divination in their eyes, those who are sworn with oaths to them, and he is calling error**

- to remembrance, in order for them to be caught. (**Ezekiel 21:23**)
- Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; By reason of your causing your error to be remembered by your transgressions being uncovered, in order, that your sins may be seen according to all your dealings, by reason of your being called to remembrance you people will be seized even by the hand. (**Ezekiel 21:24**)
  - I passed along by the field of the lazy individual and by the vineyard of the man in need of heart. (**Proverbs 24:30**)
  - And, look! All of it produced weeds. Nettles covered its very surface, and its stone wall itself had been torn down. (**Proverbs 24:31**)
  - And now, please, may I make known to you men what I am doing to my vineyard; There will be a removing of its hedge, and it must be destined for burning down. There must be a breaking down of its stone wall, and it must be destined for a place of trampling. (**Isaiah 5:5**)
  - I shall positively gather Jacob, all of you; I shall without fail collect the remaining ones of Israel together. In unity I shall set them, like a flock in the pen, like a drove in the midst of its pasture, they will be noisy with men. (**Micah 2:12**)
  - Although the fig tree itself may not blossom, and there may be no yield on the vines, the work of the olive tree may actually turn out a failure, and the terraces themselves may actually produce no food, the flock may actually be severed from the pen, and there may be no herd in the enclosures. (**Habakkuk 3:17**)
  - And there were also **walls** that served for embankment purposes along terraced hillsides.
  - Between the terrace **walls** they pass the noontime, winepresses they have to tread, and yet they go thirsty. (**Job 24:11**)
  - These **walls** were of a fairly permanent nature, built of undressed fieldstones and sometimes set in clay or mortar.

## · Symbolic Walls

- In the Scriptures, **walls** are sometimes mentioned in a figurative way as pictorial of protection and safety.

- A wall was what they proved to be around us both by night and by day, all the days that we happened to be with them, shepherding the flock. (**1 Samuel 25:16**)

- The valuable things of the rich are his strong town, and they are like a protective wall in his imagination. (**Proverbs 18:11**)

- As a city broken through, without a **wall**, is the man that has no restraint for his spirit. (**Proverbs 25:28**)

- Or as a symbol of separation.

- Offshoot of a fruit bearing tree, Joseph is the offshoot of a fruit bearing tree by the fountain, that propels its branches up over a **wall**. (**Genesis 49:22**)

- For the reason, yes, for the reason that they have led my people astray, saying; There is peace! When there is no peace, and there is one that is building a partition **wall**, but in vain there are those plastering it with whitewash. (**Ezekiel 13:10**)

- In this latter sense Paul wrote the Ephesians.

- For he is our peace, he who made the two parties one and destroyed the **wall** in between that fenced them off. (**Ephesians 2:14**)

- Paul was well acquainted with the middle wall in Jerusalem's temple courtyard, which carried a warning sign to the effect that no non-Jew was to go beyond that wall under penalty of death. However, when Paul wrote to the Ephesians in **60** or **61 C.E.**, though he may have alluded to it in an illustrative way, he actually did not mean that the literal **wall** had been abolished, for it was still standing.

- Rather, the apostle had in mind the Law covenant, which had acted as a dividing wall between Jews and Gentiles for centuries. On the basis of Christ's death nearly 30 years previously, that symbolic **wall** had been abolished.

- Jeremiah was told he would be like fortified **walls** of copper against those that opposed him.

- **But as for me, here I have made you today a fortified city and an iron pillar and copper walls against all the land, toward the kings of Judah, toward her princes, toward her priests and toward the people of the land. (Jeremiah 1:18)**
- **And they will be certain to fight against you, but they will not prevail against you, for I am with you, is the utterance of Yehowah, to deliver you. (Jeremiah 1:19)**
- **And I have made you to this people a fortified copper wall, and they will certainly fight against you, but they will not prevail over you. For I am with you, to save you and to deliver you, is the utterance of Yehowah. (Jeremiah 15:20)**
- **In another illustration, God's people, though dwelling as in a city without literal walls, therefore seemingly defenseless, enjoy peace and security because of God's invisible help.**
- **And you must say; I shall go up against the land of open rural country. I shall come in upon those having no disturbance, dwelling in security, all of them dwelling without wall, and they do not have even bar and doors. (Ezekiel 38:11)**
- **Or from another point of view, a strong city would be one having Yehowah as a wall of fire.**
- **Then he said to him; Run, speak to the young man over there, saying; As open rural country Jerusalem will be inhabited, because of the multitude of men and domestic animals in the midst of her. (Zechariah 2:4)**
- **And I myself shall become to her, is the utterance of Yehowah, a wall of fire all around, and a glory is what I shall become in the midst of her. (Zechariah 2:5)**
- **Or having walls of salvation set up by Yehowah, rather than ones of mere stone and brick.**
- **In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah; We have a strong city. He sets salvation itself for walls and rampart. (Isaiah 26:1)**



- **The holy city, New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven, is said to have a great and lofty wall of jasper, the height of which is 144 cubits (64 meters)(210 feet), and it is said to have 12 foundation stones consisting of precious jewels engraved with the names of the 12 apostles.**
- **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)**
- **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)**
- **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)**
- **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)**