



GOING TO THE NEXT LEVEL

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15, KJV).

The shepherd’s Rod

It is somewhat like a policeman’s club. It is often made of oak wood and has a knob on the end of it. Into this knob nails are sometimes driven in order to make a better weapon. It is very useful for protection, and no shepherd would be without it. It was no doubt the rod that David used in protecting his sheep from wild animals (1 Samuel 17:34-36). He mentions both the rod and the staff in his Shepherd Psalm (Psalm 23:4).

The prophet Ezekiel refers to the custom of the sheep passing under the shepherd’s rod for the purpose of counting or inspecting them. *“I will cause you to pass under the rod”* (Ezekiel 20:37). The law of Moses speaks of tithing the flock for a specific purpose at such a time. *“And concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the Lord”* (Leviticus 27:32). To do this Jewish writers tell us that the shepherd allowed the animals to come by him as they would under the rod at a narrow entrance. The head of the rod was dipped into some coloring fluid and was allowed to come down upon every tenth one that passed by, thus marking him as the one to be given to the Lord for sacrificial purposes.

The *scepter*, which the ancient kings of the East usually had with them, had its origin in the *shepherd’s rod*. Kings were considered to be shepherds of their people. Thus the scepter, or rod, of the king became a symbol of protection, power, and authority. Young translates Micah 7:14: *“Rule thou thy people with thy rod, the flock of thine inheritance.”* (Ancient Hebrew Research Center). *“The scepter of the wicked will not remain over the land allotted to the righteous, for then the righteous might use their hands to do evil.”* (Psalm 125:3).

The scepter represents the absolute and eternal supremacy of the Lord’s justice. *“Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.”* (Psalm 45:6). *“The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until he to whom it belongs shall come and the obedience of the nations shall be his.”* (Genesis 49:10)

If you are excited about learning a bit of Hebrew and raising the bar of understanding in your Christian life, in the next edition we will be providing you a new publication. Replacing OnWatch, we will be providing a newsletter entitled RAISING THE BAR.

We feel it is God’s Timing for the Church to become more familiar with reading the Scriptures through the original language of Hebrew. Do feel free to let us know how you feel about this new tool for educating our people in the Church.



Let Us Join in Prayer Around the World:

- **Seek the Lord** if the Lord would have you learn words from God's original language of the Bible. **"Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth"** (Proverbs 4:5).
- **Ask the Lord** to give you more understanding of His Ways through learning simple Hebrew. **"Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding"** (Proverbs 4:7).
- **Thank the Lord** for being able to learn a little Hebrew at home through this new CFI online publication. **"Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge"** (2 Peter 1:5).
- **Praise His Name** for every Hebrew word we learn together. **"This was because an extraordinary spirit, knowledge and insight, interpretation of dreams, explanation of enigmas and solving of difficult problems was found in Daniel"** (Daniel 5:12). **"Let them praise the name of the LORD, For His name alone is exalted; His glory is above earth and heaven"** (Psalm 148:13).
- **Watch and Pray** for Israel as this is God's Will that we pray for Jerusalem (**Psalm 122**), bless the Jewish people (**Genesis 12:3**) and pray for the redemption of Israel (**Romans 11:26**). **"The mind of the intelligent seeks knowledge..."** (Proverbs 15:14).

CFI Jerusalem looks forward to hearing from our prayer warriors around the world. If learning a bit of Hebrew, one word at a time, excites your heart and your understanding blossoms, please let us know. God bless you all.

Serving Him With Gladness,
Sharon Sanders

Christian Friends of Israel - Jerusalem



 Christian Friends of Israel • A Personal Invitation

Come to the Feast! 25, 26, 27, May 2020

THEME:
"Meat in Due Season" Matthew 24:45

PLACE:
Jerusalem, Israel

Come to Feast on **God's Word**
from top speakers
and scholars from Israel

UNCOVERING
**HEBREW
NUGGETS**

SAVE THE DATE!!!
CONTACT: events@cfijerusalem.org