

Resource: Bible Dictionary (Tyndale)

Aquifer Open Bible Dictionary

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Bible Dictionary (Tyndale)

Y

Yahweh (Yhwh), Year, Yeast, Yellow, Yiron, Yoke, Yom Kippur

Yahweh (Yhwh)

Most holy name for God in the OT, usually translated "Lord." *See* God, Names of (Yahweh).

Year

See Calendars, Ancient and Modern.

Yeast

A yeast is a tiny living fungus that makes bread rise and grow bigger when added to dough. In the Bible, it is also called leaven.

See Leaven.

Yellow

A color that appears as golden, or like the sun or ripe lemons. In the Bible's laws about skin diseases, priests looked for yellow (or blonde) hair as a sign of infection ([Leviticus 13:30, 32, 36](#)).

See also Color.

Yiron

One of the fortified cities of Naphtali's tribe ([Jos 19:38](#)). Some have identified Yiron with the present village of Jarun, southeast of Bint Jebeil.

Yoke

The wooden bar that linked two (or more) draft animals so they could work together ([Numbers 19:2; 1 Kings 19:19; Job 1:3](#)). Besides its literal use, the Bible often uses the term metaphorically. It

refers to work or bondage ([Leviticus 26:13](#)). Israel's own kings, not just foreign oppressors, applied the yoke of bondage ([1 Kings 12:4-14; 2 Chronicles 10:4-14](#)). In prophetic writings, the yoke of bondage was linked to divine judgment ([Lamentations 1:14](#)). So, deliverance was seen as God breaking the yoke that had enslaved Israel ([Isaiah 9:4; 10:27; 14:25; 58:6; Jeremiah 2:20; 5:5](#)). Jeremiah's dispute with Hananiah's prophecy was about the yoke of bondage. Hananiah claimed that Judah would soon be freed from Babylonian captivity ([Jeremiah 27:8-11; 28:1-17](#)).

In the New Testament, Jesus makes "yoke" a positive term. He asks people to take up his yoke, which is not burdensome. He will give them rest for their souls ([Matthew 11:29-30](#)).

Yom Kippur

Yom Kippur is the Hebrew name for the Day of Atonement. It was one of the most important holy days in ancient Israel. It was also called the Day of Atonement. On this day, the high priest performed special ceremonies to ask God to forgive the sins of the people. It was a day for the Israelites to stop working, fast, and show sorrow for their sins ([Leviticus 23:26-32](#)).

The name *Yom Kippur* means "Day of Atonement" in Hebrew. It comes from words that mean "day" (*yom*) and "to make atonement" (*kippur*). It was the only day each year when the high priest could enter the most holy place in the tabernacle.

See Feasts and Festivals of Israel.