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SYMBOLS IN THE BIBLE

WHAT DO THEY MEAN?



PIONEER
Health and Missions

SYMBOL	MEANING	REFERENCES
Angel	Messenger	Da. 8:16; 9:21; Luke 1:19,26; Heb. 1:14
Ark of Testimony	Ark of the covenant/mercy seat where God dwells	Exodus 25:10-22; Psalms 80:1
Babylon	Religious apostasy/confusion	Genesis 10:8-10; 11:6-9; Revelation 18:2-3; 17:1-5
Balaam, Doctrine of	Compromise, idolatry	Numbers 22:5-25
Beast	Kingdom, government, political power	Daniel 7:23
Bear	Destructive Power / Medo-Persia	Proverbs 28:15; 2 Kings 2:23-24; Daniel 7:5
Binding of Satan	A symbolic chain of circumstances	Isaiah 14:12-20
Black	Moral darkness, sin, apostasy	Ex. 10:21-23; Jer. 4:20-28; 8:21; John 12:35; Joel 2:1-10
Blood	Life	Leviticus 17:11; Deuteronomy 12:23
Blue (color)	Law	Numbers 15:38-39
Bottomless pit	Earth in chaos, torn up, dark and empty	Gen. 1:1,2; Jer. 4:23-28; Isaiah 24:1-4, 19; Rev. 20:1-3
Bow	Success in battle against evil	Psalms 7:11,12; Psalms 45:4,5
Bread	Word of God	John 6:35, 51, 52, 63
Brass, Tin, Iron, Lead, Silver dross	Impure Character	Ezekiel 22:20-21
Corrupt Woman	Corrupt, apostate church	Ezekiel 16:15-58; 23:2-21; Hosea 2:5; 3:1
Crowns	Kingship, victory	1 Chr. 20:2; 2 Kings 11:12; Ez. 21:26,27; James 1:12;
Clothing	Character	Isaiah 64:6; Isaiah 59:6
Cup	Meted out suffering and judgments	Psalms 11:6; Isaiah 51:12,22-23; Jeremiah 25:12-17
Day	Literal year	Ezekiel 4:6; Numbers 14:34
Door	Opportunity/Probation	2 Corinthians 2:12; Rev. 3:20; Luke 12:24, 25
Dove	Holy Spirit	Mark 1:10
Dragon	Satan or his agency	Isaiah 27:1; Ps. 74:13,14; Rev. 12:7,9; Ez. 29:3; Jeremiah 51:34
Eagle	Speed, Power, vision, vengeance, protection	Deut 28:49; Habakkuk 1:6-8; Revelation 12:1-4
Eating of the book	Assimilating the message	Ezekiel 3:1-3; Jeremiah 15:16

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Egypt	Symbol of atheism	Exodus 5:2
Eyes	Spiritual Discernment	Matthew 13:10-17, 1 John 2:11
Eye salve	Holy Spirit to help us see truth (discernment)	Eph. 1:12-19; Ps. 119:18; I John 2: 20,27; John 16:7-13
Faithful witness	Christ	John 18:37; John 3:11; Revelation 1:5; 3:14; 19:11
False Prophet	Apostate Protestantism	Revelation 16:13,14; 13:13,14; 19:20
Famine	Dearth of Truth	Amos 8:11
Feet	Your Walk / Direction	Genesis 19:2, Psalms 119:105
Forehead	Mind	Romans 7:25; Ezekiel 3:8,9
Fornication	Illicit connection between church and world	Ezekiel 16:15,26; Isaiah 23:17; James 4:4; Rev. 14:4
Four Beasts of Living Creatures	Heavenly beings with special responsibilities	Revelation 5:8-10; 4:6-9; 6:1-7; 14:3; 15:7; 19:4
Four corners of Earth	Four directions of compass	Jeremiah 49:36
Fire	Holy Spirit	Luke 3:16
Fig Tree	A Nation that should bear fruit	Luke 13:6-9
Field	World	Matthew 13:38, John 4:35
Fruit	Works / Actions	Galatians 5:22
Garments	Covering of righteousness	Gen. 35:2; Isaiah 61:10; 52:1; Zech. 3:3-5; Romans 13:14
Gold	True riches of heaven, faith, scripture	Ps. 19:7-10; Ga. 5:6; James 2:5; Job 23:10; Isaiah 13:12
Goat	Greece	Daniel 8:21
Hand	Symbol of Deeds / Works / Actions	Ecclesiastes 9:10, Isaiah 59:6
Harvest	End of World	Matthew 13:39
Harlot	Apostate church/religion	Isaiah 1:21-27; Jeremiah 3:1-3; 6-9
Heads	Major powers/rulers/governments	Revelation 17:3, 9, 10; Daniel 7:6; 8:8,22
Healing	Salvation	Luke 5:23-24
Hidden Manna	Christ	John 6:49,50,53; Matthew 13:44

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Honey	Happy life	Ezekiel 20:6, Deuteronomy 8:8-9
Horn	King or kingdom, Power and Strength	Daniel 7:24; 8:5, 21, 22; Zechariah 1:18, 19; Rev. 17:12
Horse	Strength and Power in Battle	Job 39:19, Ps. 147:10, Pr. 21:31; Ex. 15:21; Isaiah 43:17;
	Special Representatives (angel)	Jeremiah 8:6; Zechariah 1:8-10; 6:1-8
Image	A likeness	Exodus 20:4; Genesis 1:26; 5:3
Incense	Prayers of God's people	Psalms 141:2; Revelation 5:8
Israel	True Followers of Christ	Romans 9:6-8; 2:28,29; Galatians 3:29
Jar / Vessel	Person	Jeremiah 18:1-4, 2 Corinthians 4:7
Jezebel	Immorality, Idolatry, Apostasy	1 Kings 21:25; 2 Kings 9:22
Jordan	Death	Romans 6:4, Deuteronomy 4:22
Key of David	Power to open & close the sanctuary	Revelation 3:7-9; Isaiah 22:22
Keys	Control/jurisdiction	Isaiah 22:22; Matthew 16:19
Lamb	Jesus/sacrifice	John 1:29; 1 Corinthians 5:7; Genesis 22:7,8
Lamp	Word of God	Psalms 119:105
Lamb's Wife	New Jerusalem	Revelation 19:7-9; 21:2,9,10
Lion	Jesus/Powerful King i.e. Babylon	Rev. 5:4-9, Jer. 50:43-44, Dan. 7:4,17,23
Locusts	Destruction	Joel 1:4; Deuteronomy 28:38
Leopard	Greece	Daniel 7:6
Leprosy	Sin	Luke 5:23-24
Lords Day	The Sabbath	Isaiah 58:13; Matthew 12:8; Exodus 20:10
Man Child	Jesus	Psalms 2:7-9; Revelation 12:5
Mark	Sign/seal/mark of approval or disapproval	Romans 4:11; Ez. I 9:4; Rev. 13:17; 14:9-11; 7:2, 3
Measuring Rod	God's Law	James 2:10-12; Ecclesiastes 12:13,14
	God's Word	Isaiah 8:19,20; 2 Timothy 3:16,17

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Merchants	Advocates of Babylon's teachings	Isaiah 47:11-15; Nahum 3:16; Rev. 18:3,11,15,23
Moon	Permanence	Psalms 89:35-37
	Moses' system of types of sacrifices	Hebrews 10:1,11
Morning star	Jesus	Revelation 22:16
Mountains	Political or religion-political powers	Isaiah 2:2, 3; Jer. 17:3; 51:24, 25; Dan. 2:35, 44, 45
Mystery of God	The gospel	Ephesians 1:9,10, 3:9, 6:19; Colossians 1:26,27
New Jerusalem	The Holy city of Heaven	Revelation 3:12, 21:2
Oil	Holy Spirit	Zechariah 4:2-6; Revelation 4:5
Open Door	Unlimited Opportunity	1 Corinthians 16:9; Acts 14:27; John 10:7-9
		Hosea 2:15; Colossians 4:3
Purple	Royalty	Mark 15:17, Judges 8:26
Rainbow	Token of covenant keeping	Genesis 9:11-17
Ram	Medo-Persia	Daniel 8:20
Red / Scarlet (color)	Sin/corruption	Isaiah 1:18; Nahum 2:3; Revelation 17:1-4
Reapers	Angels	Matthew 13:39
Reins	Seat of will, affections	Ps. 7:9, 16:7, 26:2, 73:21; Pr. 23:16; Jer. 17:10
Ring	Authority	Genesis 41:42-43, Esther 3:10-11
Rock	Jesus/truth	1 Cor. 10:4; Isaiah 8:13,14; Rom. 9:33; Mat. 7:24
Seal	Sign or mark of approval or disapproval	Romans 4:11; Revelation 7:2, 3
Seed	Descendants / Jesus	Romans 9:8, Galatians 3:16
Second Death	Lake of fire	Revelation 21:8; 20:2
Serpent	Satan	Revelation 12:9; 20:2
Seven Candle sticks	Seven Churches	Exodus 25:31-40; Revelation 1:20
Seven Heads	Seven Political Powers	Revelation 17:9,10; Isaiah 2:2-4

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Seven Lamps	Jesus, Word of God	John 9:5, 1:9; Psalms 119:105; Revelation 4:5
Sickle	Symbol of Harvest-End of world	Matthew 13:39; Revelation 14:14
Silver	Pure Words & Understanding	Proverbs 2:4, 3:13-14, 10:20, 25:11, Psalms 12:6
Sodom	Moral degradations	Ezekiel 16:46-55; Jeremiah 23:14; Genesis 19:4-14
Stars	Angels/messengers	Revelation 1:16, 20; 12:4, 7-9; Job 38:7
Sun	Jesus/the gospel	Ps. 84:11; Malachi 4:2; Matthew 17:2; John 8:12; 9:5
Skin	Christ's righteousness	Exodus 12:5, 1 Peter 1:19, Isaiah 1:4-6
Sword	Word of God	Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12
	Bloodshed, Destruction	Isaiah 3:25, 13:15; Acts 12:1,2; Jeremiah 48:2
Testimony of Jesus	Holy Spirit/ Gift of Prophecy	Revelation 19:10; 22:9; 1 Corinthians 13:2
Thief	Unexpected	1 Thessalonians 5:2-4; 2 Peter 3:10
Thorns / Thorny Ground	Cares of this life	Mark 4:18-19
Tongue	Language / Speech	Exodus 4:10
Time	360 Day (Literal Years)	Daniel 4:16, 23, 25, 32; 7:25; Daniel 11:13 margin
Times	720 Days (Literal Years)	Daniel 7:25, Revelation 12:6,14, 13:5; 11:1,2
Trumpet	loud warning of God's approach	Exodus 19:16-17, Joshua 6:4-5
Tree	Cross; People / Nation	Deut. 21:22-23, Psalms 92:12, 37:35
Torment	Test, prove by trial	1 Corinthians 3:13; Hebrews 12:29; Isaiah 33:14
Twenty-four elders	A group redeemed from earth	Revelation 5:9-10, 4:4; 7:9-14
Two-edged Sword	God's word	Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12; Matthew 10:34
Two witnesses	Old and New Testaments	John 5:39, Zech. 4:1-14; Ps.s 119:130, 105; John 12:48
Vineyard	Church that should bear fruit	Luke 20:9-16
Waters	Inhabited Area-People/ Nations	Revelation 17:15
Water	Holy Spirit / Everlasting Life	John 7:39, 4:14, Rev. 22:17, Eph. 5:26

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White (Color)	Purity	Revelation 12:9; 20:2
White Robes	Victory/righteousness	Revelation 19:8; 3:5; 7:14
Winds	Strife, Commotions, "winds of war"	Jeremiah 25:31-33,49:36,37, 4:11-13; Zech. 7:14
Wings	Speed / Protection / Deliverance	Deuteronomy 28:49, Matthew 23:37
Wine	blood/covenant/doctrines	Luke 5:37, Isaiah 5:1-7
Woman, Pure	True Church	Jeremiah 6:2; 2 Corinthians 11:2; Eph. 5:23-27
Woman, Corrupt	Apostate church	Ezk. 16:15-58; 23:2-21; Hos. 2:5; 3:1; Rev. 14:4
Wolf	Disguised enemies in a time of darkness	Matthew 7:15
Wormwood	Sorrow/bitterness	Jeremiah 9:15, 23:15; Lamentations 3:19
Wrath of God	Seven Last Plagues	Revelation 15:1