

1-2019

Question 17 - What are some symbols for the Bible?

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Recommended Citation

Willmington, Harold, "Question 17 - What are some symbols for the Bible?" (2019). *101 Most Asked Questions*. 33.

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101 MOST ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BIBLE

17. What are some symbols for the Bible?

- A. A Mirror – *“For if a person just listens and doesn’t obey, he is like a man looking at his face in a mirror; as soon as he walks away, he can’t see himself anymore or remember what he looks like. But if he keeps looking steadily into God’s law for free men he will not only remember it, but do what it says, and God will greatly bless that man in everything he does”* (James 1:23-25, TLB). It is called a mirror because it reflects the mind of God and the true condition of man.
- B. A Seed – *“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever”* (1 Pet. 1:23). *“Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures”* (James 1:18). *“But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty”* (Matt. 13:23). It is called a seed because, once properly planted, it brings forth life, growth, and fruit.
- A. Water – *“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish”* (Eph. 5:25-27). *“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word”* (Psa. 119:9). *“For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater”* (Psa. 55:10). *“And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely”* (Rev. 22:17). It is called water because of its cleansing, quenching, and refreshing qualities.
- D. A Lamp – *“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path”* (Psa. 119:105). *“For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life”* (Prov. 6:23). *“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts”* (2 Pet. 1:19). It is called a lamp because it shows us where we are now, it guides us in the next step, and it keeps us from falling.
- B. A Sword – *“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart”* (Heb. 4:12). *“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God”* (Eph. 6:17). It is called a sword because of its piercing ability, operating with equal effectiveness upon sinners, saints and Satan! Of the various armour pieces

mentioned in Eph. 6:11-17, all to be worn by the believer, the only offensive piece is the “sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.”

C. Precious Metals –

1. Gold (Psa. 19:10; 119:127) – *“Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold”* (Psa. 119:127).
2. Silver (Psa. 12:6) – *“The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times”* (Psa. 12:6). It is referred to as precious metals because of its desirability, its preciousness, its beauty, and its value.

D. Nourishing Food --

1. Milk – *“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby”* (1 Pet. 2:2).
2. Meat – *“For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil”* (Heb. 5:12-14).
3. Bread – *“I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world”* (John 6:51).
4. Honey – *“More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb”* (Psa. 19:10). It is referred to as nourishing food because of the strength it imparts. The Bible is the original “soul food.”

E. A Hammer – *“Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?”* (Jer. 23:29). It is referred to as a hammer because of its ability to both tear down and to build up. (See Acts 9:4; Jude 20).

F. A Fire – *“Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay”* (Jer. 20:9). *“And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?”* (Luke 24:32). It is called a fire because of its judging, purifying, and consuming abilities.