



WEIGHTS AND MEASURES IN THE BIBLE

 Measures found in the Old Testament or whole Bible

 Measures found only in the New Testament

Name in the NRSV
Equivalence to other biblical measures
US equivalent
Biblical example



WEIGHTS

talent 60 minas 75.558 pounds

Jesus tells a parable about the wise use of our talents, in this case referring to the monetary unit based on the weight in Matthew 25:14-30.



mina, pound
50 shekels
20.148 ounces



pound
.719 pound



shekel
2 bekas
176.29 grains



pim
.667 shekel
117.52 grains



beka
10 gerahs
half a shekel
88.14 grains



gerah
8.81 grains



pound

Weights such as shekel and talent also refer to monetary units of a precious metal (usually copper or silver).

DRY MEASURES



measure, kor, homer
2 letechs
6.524 bushels 229.7 liters



measure (H tse'ah G saton)
3.33 omers
6.959 dry quarts



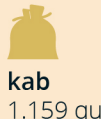
bushel
7.68 dry quarts

Jesus said that no one hides a lamp under a bushel basket in Matthew 5:15 and Mark 4:21



omer
1.8 kabs
2.087 quarts

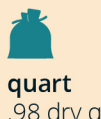
The Israelites were to gather one omer of manna per person per day in Exodus 16:16.



kab
1.159 quarts



dry quart



quart
.98 dry quart

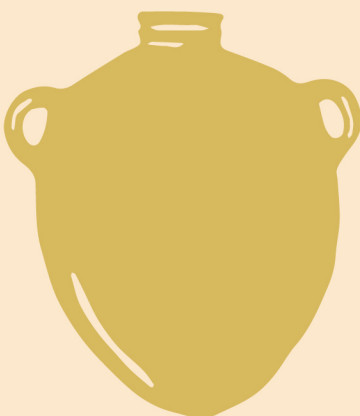


letech
5 ephahs
3.262 bushels



ephah, measure
3 tseahs
20.878 dry quarts

Ruth gleaned an ephah of barley in Ruth 2:17.



measure, kor
10 baths
60.738 gallons



measure (G metretes)
10.3 gallons



bath
6 hins
6.073 gallons

Isaiah 5:10 refers to ten acres of a vineyard yielding only a bath of wine.



hin
3 kabs
1.012 gallons



Gallon



kab
4 logs
1.4349 quarts



pot
.96 dry pint or
1.12 fluid pints



log
.674 pint

LENGTHS

foot



finger .728 inches



handbreadth 4 fingers
2.915 inches



span 3 handbreadths
8.745 inches



Exodus 25:25 explains that the rim for the table for the bread of the presence was to be a handbreadth wide.

In Genesis 6:15, Noah's ark is 300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, and 30 cubits high.

cubit 2 spans
1.5 feet



Acts 27:28 talks about using fathoms to measure the depth of water for sailing.

fathom 72.44 inches

DISTANCES

mile (5280 feet)



stadia 606 feet



mile
4854 feet



Bethany was about two miles from Jerusalem; Emmaus was about seven.

LIQUID MEASURES