



BIBLE SYMBOLS MEANING

Why cloak Bible prophecies in Symbols?

“And He said, To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that 'Seeing they may not see, And hearing they may not understand.'”

Luke 8:10

Many of the apocalyptic prophecies were given while the prophets were in a hostile foreign land. One reason God cloaked the prophecies in symbols was to protect the messages.

A-B-C-D-E-F-G-H-I-J-K-L-M-N-O-P-Q-R-S-T-U-V-W-X-Y-Z

A

1. **Air** = Holy Spirit — *John 3:8; John 20:22*
2. **Angel** = Messenger of God — *Daniel 8:16; 9:21; Luke 1:19, 26; Hebrews 1:14; Matthew 11:10; Mark 1:2; Luke 7:24; 2 Cor 12:7*
3. **Antipas** = “Anti” meaning opposed to and “Pappas” meaning father or pope — *Revelation 2:13*
4. **Ark of Testimony** = Ark of the covenant / Mercy seat where God dwells — *Exodus 25:10-22; Psalms 80:1*

B

5. **Babylon** = Religious apostasy / Confusion — *Genesis 10:8-10; 11:6-9; Revelation 18:2-3; 17:1-5*
6. **Balaam, Doctrine of** = Advancing our own interests, Compromise, Idolatry — *Numbers 22:5-25*
7. **Beast** = Kingdom, Government, Political power — *Daniel 7:23*
8. **Bear** = Destructive Power / Medo-Persia — *Proverbs 28:15; 2 Kings 2:23-24; Daniel 7:5*
9. **Binding of Satan** = A symbolic chain of circumstances — *Isaiah 14:12-20*
10. **Black** = Moral darkness, Sin, Apostasy — *Exodus 10:21-23; Jeremiah 4:20-28; 8:21; Acts 26:18; John 12:35; Joel 2:1-10*
11. **Blood** = Life — *Leviticus 17:11; Deuteronomy 12:23*
12. **Blue (color)** = Law; Obedience — *Numbers 15:38-39*
13. **Bottomless pit** = Earth in chaos, Torn up, Dark and empty / A barren wasteland / Arabia — *Genesis 1:1-2; Jeremiah 4:23-28; Isaiah 24:1-4, 19; Revelation 20:1-3*
14. **Bow** = Success in battle against evil — *Psalms 7:11-12; Psalms 45:4-5*
15. **Bread** = Word of God — *John 6:35, 51-52, 63*
16. **Brass, Tin, Iron, Lead, Silver dross** = Impure Character — *Ezekiel 22:20-21*

C

17. **Corrupt Woman** = Corrupt, Apostate church — *Ezekiel 16:15-58; 23:2-21; Hosea 2:5; 3:1; Revelation 14:4*
18. **Crowns** = Kingship, Victory — *1 Chronicles 20:2; 2 Kings 11:12; Ezekiel 21:26-27; James 1:12; 2 Timothy 4:7-8; 1 Corinthians 9:25*
19. **Clothing** = Character — *Isaiah 64:6; Isaiah 59:6*
20. **Cup** = Meted out suffering and judgments — *Psalms 11:6; Isaiah 51:12; 22-23; Jeremiah 25:12-17; 49:12*

D

21. **Day** = Literal year — *Ezekiel 4:6; Numbers 14:34*
22. **Doctrine of Balaam** = Corrupt Doctrine / False Teaching / Idolatry — *Rev 2:14; Numbers 22, 23, 24, 25:1-9*
23. **Door** = Opportunity / Probation — *2 Corinthians 2:12; Revelation 3:20; Luke 12:24-25*
24. **Dove** = Holy Spirit — *Mark 1:10*
25. **Dragon** = Satan or his agency — *Isaiah 27:1; 30:6; Psalms 74:13-14; Rev. 12:7; 9; Ezekiel 29:3; Jer. 51:34*



E

- 26. **Eagle** = Speed, Power, Vision, Vengeance, Protection — [Deut 28:49](#); [Hab 1:6-8](#); [Rev 12:1-4](#)
- 27. **Eating of the book** = Assimilating the message — [Ezekiel 3:1-3](#); [Jeremiah 15:16](#)
- 28. **Egypt** = Symbol of atheism — [Exodus 5:2](#)
- 29. **Ephesus (church)** = Desirable (Greek)
- 30. **Eyes** = Spiritual Discernment — [Matthew 13:10-17](#), [1 John 2:11](#)
- 31. **Eyes like a flame of fire** = Intensity of gaze and power — [Psalm 34:15](#); [2 Chronicles 16:9](#)
- 32. **Eye salve** = Holy Spirit to help us see truth, Discernment to understand word,
Antidote for spiritual blindness — [Eph 1:12-19](#); [Psalms 119:18](#); [1 John 2:20](#); [27](#); [John 16:7-13](#)

F

- 33. **Faithful witness** = Christ — [John 18:37](#); [John 3:11](#); [Revelation 1:5](#); [3:14](#); [19:11](#)
- 34. **False Prophet** = Apostate Protestantism — [Revelation 16:13-14](#); [13:13-14](#); [19:20](#)
- 35. **Famine** = Death of Truth — [Amos 8:11](#)
- 36. **Feet** = Your Walk / Direction — [Genesis 19:2](#), [Psalms 119:105](#)
- 37. **Forehead** = Mind — [Deuteronomy 6:6-8](#); [Romans 7:25](#); [Ezekiel 3:8-9](#)
- 38. **Fornication** = Illicit connection between church and world — [Ezekiel 16:15,26](#); [Isaiah 23:17](#);
[James 4:4](#); [Revelation 14:4](#)
- 39. **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](#)
- 40. **Four corners of Earth** = Four directions of compass — [Jeremiah 49:36](#)
- 41. **Fire** = Holy Spirit — [Luke 3:16](#)
- 42. **Fig Tree** = A Nation that should bear fruit — [Luke 13:6-9](#)
- 43. **Field** = World — [Matthew 13:38](#), [John 4:35](#)
- 44. **Fruit** = Works / Actions — [Galatians 5:22](#)

G

- 45. **Garments** = Covering of righteousness — [Genesis 35:2](#); [Isaiah 61:10](#); [52:1](#); [Zechariah 3:3-5](#); [Romans 13:14](#)
- 46. **Gold** = Pure Character Precious and Rare — [Isaiah 13:12](#)
True riches of heaven, Faith, Scripture — [Ps 19:7-10](#); [Gal 5:6](#); [James 2:5](#); [Job 23:10](#); [Isaiah 13:12](#)
- 47. **Goat** = Greece — [Daniel 8:21](#)

H

- 48. **Hades** = The place of the dead / The grave (Greek)
- 49. **Hand** = Symbol of Deeds / Works / Actions — [Ecclesiastes 9:10](#), [Isaiah 59:6](#)
- 50. **Harvest** = End of World — [Matthew 13:39](#)
- 51. **Harlot** = Apostate Church / Religion — [Isaiah 1:21-27](#); [Jeremiah 3:1-3](#); [6-9](#)
- 52. **Heads** = Major powers / Rulers / Governments — [Revelation 17:3](#), [9](#), [10](#); [Daniel 7:6](#); [8:8](#), [22](#)
- 53. **Healing** = Salvation — [Luke 5:23-24](#)
- 54. **Hidden Manna** = Christ — [John 6:49](#), [50](#), [53](#); [Matthew 13:44](#)
- 55. **Honey** = Happy life — [Ezekiel 20:6](#), [Deuteronomy 8:8-9](#)
- 56. **Horn** = King or kingdom / Power and Strength — [Daniel 7:24](#); [8:5](#), [21](#), [22](#); [Zechariah 1:18](#), [19](#);
[Revelation 17:12](#)
- 57. **Horse** = Strength and Power in Battle / Special representatives / Angel
— [Job 39:19](#), [Psalms 147:10](#), [Proverbs 21:31](#); [Exodus 15:21](#);
[Isaiah 43:17](#); [Jeremiah 8:6](#); [Zechariah 1:8-10](#); [6:1-8](#)

I

- 58. **Image** = A likeness — [Exodus 20:4](#); [Genesis 1:26](#); [5:3](#)
- 59. **Incense** = Prayers of God's people — [Psalms 141:2](#); [Revelation 5:8](#)



60. **Israel** = True Followers of Christ — [Romans 9:6-8](#); [2:28, 29](#); [Galatians 3:29](#)

J

61. **Jar / Vessel** = Person — [Jeremiah 18:1-4](#), [2 Corinthians 4:7](#)
62. **Jews** = Christians — [Revelation 2:9](#); [Romans 2:28-29](#); [Galatians 3:28-29](#)
63. **Jezebel** = Immorality, Idolatry, Apostasy — [1 Kings 21:25](#); [2 Kings 9:22](#)
64. **Jordan** = Death — [Romans 6:4](#), [Deuteronomy 4:22](#)

K

65. **Key of David** = Power to open and close the sanctuary — [Revelation 3:7-9](#); [Isaiah 22:22](#)
66. **Keys** = Control / Jurisdiction / Authority / Power — [Isaiah 22:22](#); [Matthew 16:19](#)

L

67. **Lamb** = Jesus / Sacrifice — [John 1:29](#); [1 Corinthians 5:7](#); [Genesis 22:7-8](#)
68. **Lamp** = Word of God — [Psalms 119:105](#)
69. **Lamb's Wife** = New Jerusalem — [Revelation 19:7-9](#); [21:2, 9-10](#)
70. **Lion** = Jesus / Powerful King i.e. Babylon — [Revelation 5:4-9](#), [Jeremiah 50:43-44](#), [Daniel 7:4, 17, 23](#)
71. **Locusts** = Destruction / Saracens — [Joel 1:4](#); [Deuteronomy 28:38](#)
72. **Leopard** = Greece — [Daniel 7:6](#)
73. **Leprosy / Sickness** = Sin — [Luke 5:23-24](#)
74. **Lords Day** = The Sabbath — [Isaiah 58:13](#); [Matthew 12:8](#); [Exodus 20:10](#)

M

75. **Man Child** = Jesus — [Psalms 2:7-9](#); [Revelation 12:5](#)
76. **Mark** = Sign / Seal / Mark of approval or disapproval — [Rom 4:11](#); [Eze 9:4](#); [Rev 13:17](#); [14:9-11](#); [7:2-3](#)
77. **Measuring Rod** = God's Law, God's Word — [James 2:10-12](#); [Ecc 12:13-14](#); [Isa 8:19-20](#); [2 Tim 3:16-17](#)
78. **Merchants** = Advocates of Babylon's teachings — [Isaiah 47:11-15](#); [Nahum 3:16](#); [Revelation 18:3, 11, 15, 23](#)
79. **Moon** = Permanence / Moses' system of types of sacrifices — [Psalms 89:35-37](#); [Hebrews 10:1, 11](#)
80. **Morning star** = Jesus — [Revelation 22:16](#)
81. **Mountains** = Political or religion-political powers — [Isaiah 2:2-3](#); [Jere 17:3](#); [31:23](#); [51:24-25](#); [Ezekiel 17:22-23](#); [Daniel 2:35, 44-45](#)
82. **Mystery of God** = The gospel — [Ephesians 1:9-10](#), [3:9](#), [6:19](#); [Colossians 1:26-27](#)

N

83. **New Jerusalem** = The Holy city of Heaven — [Revelation 3:12](#), [21:2](#)
84. **Nicolaitans** = Fake Christians, practices adultery, idolatry and violating God's Law — [Rev 2:15](#); [Mark 7:6-7](#)

O

85. **Oil** = Holy Spirit — [Zechariah 4:2-6](#); [Revelation 4:5](#)
86. **Open Door** = Unlimited Opportunity — [1 Cor 16:9](#); [Acts 14:27](#); [John 10:7-9](#); [Hosea 2:15](#); [Colossians 4:3](#)
87. **Overcomer** = Doer of the Word — [James 1:22-23](#); [Revelation 22:2](#); [Genesis 3:24](#)

P

88. **Prophetic Day** = Literal Year — [Ezekiel 4:6](#); [Numbers 14:34](#); [Genesis 29:27](#)
89. **Pure Woman** = True Church — [Jeremiah 6:2](#); [2 Corinthians 11:2](#); [Ephesians 5:23-27](#)
90. **Purple (color)** = Royalty — [Mark 15:17](#), [Judges 8:26](#)

R

91. **Rainbow** = Token of covenant keeping — [Genesis 9:11-17](#)
92. **Ram** = Medo-Persia — [Daniel 8:20](#)
93. **Reapers** = Angels — [Matthew 13:39](#)
94. **Red / Scarlet (color)** = Sin / Corruption — [Isaiah 1:18](#); [Nahum 2:3](#); [Revelation 17:1-4](#)



95. **Refined / Fine Brass, Silver, Gold** = Purity through trial, Precious, Rare — [Zechariah 13:9](#); [Isaiah 13:12](#)
96. **Reins** = Seat of will, Affections — [Psalms 7:9](#), [16:7](#), [26:2](#), [73:21](#); [Proverbs 23:16](#); [Jeremiah 17:10](#)
97. **Right Hand** = Power and Strength — [Isaiah 41:10](#)
98. **Ring** = Authority — [Genesis 41:42-43](#), [Esther 3:10-11](#)
99. **Rock** = Jesus / Truth — [1 Corinthians 10:4](#); [Isaiah 8:13-14](#); [Romans 9:33](#); [Matthew 7:24](#)

S

100. **Scorpions** = False prophets / Demonic power — [Ezekiel 2:6](#); [Luke 10:19](#)
101. **Seal** = Sign or mark / Ruler with office and territory / Authority
— [Romans 4:11](#); [Rev 7:2-3](#); [Matt 27:65-67](#); [Isaiah 8:16](#); [Exodus 20:11](#)
102. **Seed** = Descendants / Jesus — [Romans 9:8](#), [Galatians 3:16](#)
103. **Second Death** = Lake of fire — [Revelation 21:8](#); [20:2](#)
104. **Serpent** = Satan — [Revelation 12:9](#); [20:2](#)
105. **Seven Candle sticks** = 7 candlesticks in Holy Place of Sanctuary / Seven Churches — [Ex 25:31-40](#); [Rev 1:20](#)
106. **Seven Heads** = Seven Political Powers — [Revelation 17:9-10](#); [Isaiah 2:2-4](#)
107. **Seven Lamps** = Jesus, Word of God — [John 9:5](#), [1:9](#); [Psalms 119:105](#); [Revelation 4:5](#)
108. **Seven Stars** = The Angels to the Seven Churches — [Revelation 1:20](#)
109. **Sickle** = Symbol of Harvest / End of world — [Matthew 13:39](#); [Revelation 14:14](#)
110. **Silver** = Pure Words & Understanding — [Proverbs 2:4](#), [3:13-14](#), [10:20](#), [25:11](#), [Psalms 12:6](#)
111. **Smoke** = Errors / False teachings (see 1 & 114 smoke darkens the air and the sun)
112. **Sodom** = Moral degradations — [Ezekiel 16:46-55](#); [Jeremiah 23:14](#); [Genesis 19:4-14](#)
113. **Stars** = Angels / Messengers / Leader / Person of high rank — [Rev. 1:16](#), [20](#); [12:4](#), [7-9](#); [Job 38:7](#), [Gen 37:9](#)
114. **Sun** = Jesus / The gospel — [Psalms 84:11](#); [Malachi 4:2](#); [Matthew 17:2](#), [5:45](#), [24:14](#); [John 8:12](#); [9:5](#)
115. **Skin** = Christ's righteousness — [Exodus 12:5](#), [1 Peter 1:19](#), [Isaiah 1:4-6](#)
116. **Sword** = Word of God / Bloodshed, Destruction — [Eph 6:17](#); [Heb 4:12](#); [Is 3:25](#), [13:15](#); [Acts 12:1-2](#); [Jer 48:2](#)

T

117. **Tail** = False Prophet / Lying Prophet — [Isaiah 9:15](#)
118. **Testimony of Jesus** = Holy Spirit / Gift of prophecy / Assurance of salvation
— [Rev 12:17](#); [19:10](#); [22:9](#); [1 Corinthians 13:2](#); [1 John 5:11-12](#)(nkjv); [Isaiah 8:16](#)
119. **The First and the Last** = Jesus — [Isaiah 44:6](#)
120. **The sound of many waters** = The voice of the Creator — [Revelation 14:2](#)
121. **Thief** = Suddenness of Jesus' coming — [1 Thessalonians 5:2-4](#); [2 Peter 3:10](#)
122. **Thorns / Thorny Ground** = Cares of this life — [Mark 4:18-19](#)
123. **Tongue** = Language / Speech — [Exodus 4:10](#)
124. **Time** = 360 Day (Literal Years) — [Daniel 4:16](#), [23](#), [25](#), [32](#); [7:25](#); [Daniel 11:13](#) margin
125. **Times** = 720 Days (Literal Years) — [Daniel 7:25](#), [Revelation 12:6](#), [14](#), [11:1-2](#), [13:5](#)
126. **Trumpet** = Warning / Judgment — [Exodus 19:16-17](#), [Joshua 6:4-5](#), [1 Thessalonians 4:16](#)
127. **Tree** = Cross; People / Nation — [Deut. 21:22-23](#), [Psalms 92:12](#), [37:35](#)
128. **Torment** = Test, prove by trial — [1 Corinthians 3:13](#); [Hebrews 12:29](#); [Isaiah 33:14](#)
129. **Twenty-four elders** = A group of people redeemed from earth — [Revelation 5:9-10](#), [4:4](#); [7:9-14](#)
130. **Two-edged Sword** = God's word — [Ephesians 6:17](#); [Hebrews 4:12](#); [Matthew 10:34](#); [John 12:48](#)
131. **Two witnesses** = Old and New Testaments — [John 5:39](#), [Zech. 4:1-14](#); [Psalms 119:130](#), [105](#); [John 12:48](#)

V

132. **Vineyard** = Church that should bear fruit — [Luke 20:9-16](#)

W

133. **Waters** = Inhabited Area-People / Nations — [Revelation 17:15](#)
134. **Water** = Holy Spirit / Everlasting Life — [John 7:39](#), [4:14](#), [Rev. 22:17](#), [Ephesians 5:26](#)
135. **White (Color)** = Purity — [Revelation 12:9](#); [20:2](#)
136. **White Hair** = Wisdom and Purity — [Isaiah 1:18](#)



- 137. **White Robes** = Victory / Righteousness — [Revelation 19:8](#); [3:5](#); [7:14](#)
- 138. **Winds** = Strife, Commotions, “winds of war” — [Jeremiah 25:31-33](#), [49:36-37](#), [4:11-13](#); [Zechariah 7:14](#)
- 139. **Wings** = Speed / Protection / Deliverance — [Deuteronomy 28:49](#), [Matthew 23:37](#)
- 140. **Wine** = Blood / Covenant / Doctrines — [Luke 5:37](#), [Isaiah 5:1-7](#)
- 141. **Woe** = Misery
- 142. **Wolf** = Disguised Enemies that hunt in a time of darkness — [Matthew 7:15](#)
- 143. **Woman** = Church
- 144. **Woman, Corrupt** = Apostate church — [Ezekiel. 16:15-58](#); [23:2-21](#); [Hosea. 2:5](#); [3:1](#); [Revelation 14:4](#)
- 145. **Woman, Pure** = True Church — [Jeremiah 6:2](#); [2 Corinthians 11:2](#); [Ephesians 5:23-27](#)
- 146. **Wormwood** = Sorrow / Bitterness — [Jeremiah 9:15](#), [23:15](#); [Lamentations 3:19](#)
- 147. **Wrath of God** = Seven Last Plagues — [Revelation 15:1](#)