

HEAVIER, HEAVILY, HEAVINESS, HEAVY

When the Amalekites fought against Israel, the hands of Moses became **heavy**. He had to hold them up in order for the Israelites to prevail, but he wasn't strong enough to do so. (That's why Aaron and Hur helped him.)

- **Exodus 17:11-12:** "And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun."

Moses told God that taking care of the Israelites was too much for him. It was too **heavy** a responsibility.

- **Numbers 11:14:** "I am not able to bear all this people alone, because it is too heavy for me."

When Moses said that taking care of Israel was too **heavy** a responsibility for him, God provided 70 elders to help him.

- **Numbers 11:16:** "And the LORD said unto Moses, Gather unto me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom thou knowest to be the elders of the people, and officers over them; and bring them unto the tabernacle of the congregation, that they may stand there with thee."

Under the Mosaic Law, if a child was born out of wedlock then both it and its descendants bore a **heavy** price.

- **Deuteronomy 23:2:** "A bastard shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD; even to his tenth generation shall he not enter into the congregation of the LORD."

It seems that Samson was a **heavy** sleeper. (Delilah was able to wave Samson's hair without waking him up.)

- **Judges 16:13,14:** "And Delilah said unto Samson, Hitherto thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: tell me wherewith thou mightest be bound. And he said unto her, If thou weavest the seven locks of my head with the web. And she fastened it with the pin, and said unto him, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he awaked out of his sleep, and went away with the pin of the beam, and with the web."

While the Ark of the Covenant was in Ashdod, the hand of God was **heavy** upon the people of that city.

- **1 Samuel 5:6:** "But the hand of the LORD was heavy upon them of Ashdod, and he destroyed them, and smote them with emerods, even Ashdod and the coasts thereof."

When the Ark of the Covenant was in Ekron, the hand of God was very **heavy** upon the people of that city.

- **1 Samuel 5:10-11:** "Therefore they sent the ark of God to Ekron. And it came to pass, as the ark of God came to Ekron, that the Ekronites cried out, saying, They have brought about the ark of the God of Israel to us, to slay us and our people., So they sent and gathered together all the lords

of the Philistines, and said, Send away the ark of the God of Israel, and let it go again to his own place, that it slay us not, and our people: for there was a deadly destruction throughout all the city; the hand of God was very heavy there."

A king is a heavy **burden** upon the nation. Rulers take away people's children and use them as servants and soldiers. They take away people's property (and give it to whoever they choose). They also tax people and give the proceeds to whoever they wish.

- **1 Samuel 8:11-12:** "And he said, This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: He will take your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots. And he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and will set them to ear his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots."
- **1 Samuel 8:13:** "And he will take your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers."
- **1 Samuel 8:14:** "And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants."
- **1 Samuel 8:15:** "And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants."
- **1 Samuel 8:16:** "And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work."
- **1 Samuel 8:17:** "He will take the tenth of your sheep: and

ye shall be his servants."

The staff of Goliath's spear was like a weaver's beam. (In other words, it was **heavy** and thick.)

- **1 Samuel 17:4, 7:** "And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. ... And the staff of his spear was like a weaver's beam; and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron: and one bearing a shield went before him."

The reason Absalom cut his hair at the end of every year was because his hair became **heavy**.

- **2 Samuel 14:25-26:** "But in all Israel there was none to be so much praised as Absalom for his beauty: from the sole of his foot even to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him. And when he polled his head, (for it was at every year's end that he polled it: because the hair was heavy on him, therefore he polled it:) he weighed the hair of his head at two hundred shekels after the king's weight."

Solomon put a **heavy** yoke upon the Israelites. (He was an oppressive ruler.)

- **1 Kings 12:4:** "Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore make thou the grievous service of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, lighter, and we will serve thee."
- **2 Chronicles 10:4:** "Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore ease thou somewhat the grievous servitude of thy father, and his heavy yoke that he put upon us, and

we will serve thee."

The young men who grew up with Rehoboam told him to tell the Israelites that his father put a **heavy** yoke upon them, and he was going to make things even worse. (That didn't turn out well for him.)

- **1 Kings 12:11:** "And now whereas my father did lade you with a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke: my father hath chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions."
- **2 Chronicles 10:11:** "For whereas my father put a heavy yoke upon you, I will put more to your yoke: my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions."

When Jeroboam and the Israelites returned to Rehoboam on the third day, Rehoboam told them that his father had made their yoke **heavy**, and he would make things worse. (That decision split the nation into two kingdoms, and they remained divided until God sent them both into exile.)

- **1 Kings 12:14:** "And spake to them after the counsel of the young men, saying, My father made your yoke heavy, and I will add to your yoke: my father also chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions."
- **2 Chronicles 10:14:** "And answered them after the advice of the young men, saying, My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add thereto: my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions."

When the wife of Jeroboam arrived at the house of Ahijah the

prophet, he told her that he had been sent to her with **heavy** tidings. (Her son was going to die.)

- **1 Kings 14:6:** "And it was so, when Ahijah heard the sound of her feet, as she came in at the door, that he said, Come in, thou wife of Jeroboam; why feignest thou thyself to be another? for I am sent to thee with heavy tidings."

After a prophet told Ahab that God was going to kill him and destroy Israel because Ahab had spared Benhadad, Ahab was **heavy** and displeased. (In other words, he was upset.)

- **1 Kings 20:43:** "And the king of Israel went to his house heavy and displeased, and came to Samaria."

When Naboth refused to sell his vineyard to Ahab, he was **heavy** and displeased.

- **1 Kings 21:4:** "And Ahab came into his house heavy and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him: for he had said, I will not give thee the inheritance of my fathers. And he laid him down upon his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no bread."

When Ezra heard that the Jews had intermarried with pagans, his heart was **heavy**.

- **Ezra 9:2, 5:** "For they have taken of their daughters for themselves, and for their sons: so that the holy seed have mingled themselves with the people of those lands: yea, the hand of the princes and rulers hath been chief in this trespass. ... And at the evening sacrifice I arose up from my heaviness; and having rent my garment and my mantle, I

fell upon my knees, and spread out my hands unto the LORD my God,"

Job told Bildad that he didn't want to cast off his **heaviness** and sorrow. (He wanted to be upset over all the terrible things that had happened to him.)

- **Job 9:27:** "If I say, I will forget my complaint, I will leave off my heaviness, and comfort myself:"

Job said that the hand of God was **heavy** against him.

- **Job 23:2-3:** "Even to day is my complaint bitter: my stroke is heavier than my groaning. Oh that I knew where I might find him! that I might come even to his seat!"

Elihu said that his hand wouldn't be **heavy** upon Job.

- **Job 33:7:** "Behold, my terror shall not make thee afraid, neither shall my hand be heavy upon thee."

When we sin, God's hand is **heavy** upon us.

- **Psalm 32:4:** "For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah."

Our iniquities can become a **heavy** burden for us that we can't carry.

- **Psalm 38:4:** "For mine iniquities are gone over mine head: as an heavy burden they are too heavy for me."

There was a time when David was full of **heaviness** (sorrow).

- **Psalm 69:20:** "Reproach hath broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness; and I looked for some to take pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none."

When the soul of the psalmist was **heavy**, he prayed that God would strengthen him according to His word.

- **Psalm 119:28:** "My soul melteth for heaviness; strengthen thou me according unto thy word."

Solomon compares singing songs to those who have a **heavy** heart to pouring vinegar on soda (which results in an immediate and violent reaction). In other words, singing songs to a person who's very upset makes them feel worse.

- **Proverbs 25:20:** "As he that taketh away a garment in cold weather, and as vinegar upon nitre, so is he that singeth songs to an heavy heart."

The wrath of a fool is exceedingly **heavy**.

- **Proverbs 27:3:** "A stone is heavy, and the sand weighty; but a fool's wrath is heavier than them both."

Sand is **heavy**.

- **Proverbs 27:3:** "A stone is heavy, and the sand weighty; but a fool's wrath is heavier than them both."

Stones are **heavy**.

- **Proverbs 27:3:** "A stone is heavy, and the sand weighty; but a fool's wrath is heavier than them both."

When Isaiah preached the truth to the Jews and warned them about the coming judgment, he was actually making their heart fat, their ears **heavy**, and their eyes closed. God used his preaching to destroy the Jews instead of save them.

- **Isaiah 6:9-10:** "And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed."

The transgressions of mankind weigh **heavy** upon the world.

- **Isaiah 24:20:** "The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall be removed like a cottage; and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it; and it shall fall, and not rise again."

There are times when God sends **heaviness** upon cities.

- **Isaiah 29:2:** "Yet I will distress Ariel, and there shall be heaviness and sorrow: and it shall be unto me as Ariel."

God said that when He came to this world, the burden of His anger would be **heavy**. (This seems to be a reference to the tribulation.)

- **Isaiah 30:27-28:** "Behold, the name of the LORD cometh from far, burning with his anger, and the burden thereof is heavy: his lips are full of indignation, and his tongue as a devouring fire: And his breath, as an overflowing stream, shall reach to the midst of the neck, to sift the nations with the sieve of vanity: and there shall be a bridle in the jaws of the people, causing them to err."

God has weighed the mountains and the hills. He knows how **heavy** they are.

- **Isaiah 40:12:** "Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?"

It seems that the idols Bel and Nebo were **heavy**.

- **Isaiah 46:1:** "Bel boweth down, Nebo stoopeth, their idols were upon the beasts, and upon the cattle: your carriages were heavy laden; they are a burden to the weary beast."

The Babylonians laid a **heavy** yoke upon those who were very old.

- **Isaiah 47:6:** "I was wroth with my people, I have polluted mine inheritance, and given them into thine hand: thou didst shew them no mercy; upon the ancient hast thou very heavily laid thy yoke."

Fasting can undo **heavy** burdens.

- **Isaiah 58:6:** "Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?"

The Lord's ear isn't **heavy**. (In other words, He hears us.)

- **Isaiah 59:1:** "Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:"

One day the Messiah will give the Jews praise instead of **heaviness** (sorrow).

- **Isaiah 61:3:** "To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified."

God put a **heavy** chain on Jeremiah. (Since Jeremiah spent time in prison, this may be literal.)

- **Lamentations 3:7:** "He hath hedged me about, that I cannot get out: he hath made my chain heavy."

God compared Himself to a cart that was loaded down with a **heavy** cargo of sheaves. (In other words, God was upset with the wickedness of the Israelites.)

- **Amos 2:13:** "Behold, I am pressed under you, as a cart is pressed that is full of sheaves."

Jesus told all those who were carrying **heavy** burdens to go to Him.

- **Matthew 11:28:** "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

One of the ways the scribes and Pharisees honored God with their words but not their actions was by forcing people to carry heavy burdens but doing nothing to help carry them. Their incorrect interpretation of the law made life very difficult, and they did nothing to make it easier.

- **Matthew 23:4:** "For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers."

The reason the disciples of Jesus fell asleep when He asked them to pray with Him was because their eyes were **heavy**. (In other words, they were tired.)

- **Matthew 26:38,43:** "Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. ... And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy."

When Jesus went to pray, He was very **heavy**. (In other words, He was full of sorrow.)

- **Mark 14:33:** "And he taketh with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy;"

It seems the chief priests, scribes, and elders believed that it

would take a **heavily** armed group to arrest Jesus.

- **Mark 14:43:** "And immediately, while he yet spake, cometh Judas, one of the twelve, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders."

When Judas came with the **heavily** armed multitude, he went straight to Jesus and betrayed Him with a kiss.

- **Mark 14:45:** "And as soon as he was come, he goeth straightway to him, and saith, Master, master; and kissed him."

The **heavily** armed multitude arrested Jesus.

- **Mark 14:46:** "And they laid their hands on him, and took him."

The religious leaders of Israel hadn't arrested Jesus when He was in the temple each day. Instead they arrested Him at night, in the darkness, with a large crowd that was **heavily** armed.

- **Mark 14:48:** "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Are ye come out, as against a thief, with swords and with staves to take me?"

It seems that in ancient times, there were occasions when thieves were pursued by **heavily** armed groups of people.

- **Mark 14:48:** "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Are ye come out, as against a thief, with swords and with staves to take me?"

It seems that the **heavily** armed multitude tried to arrest the people who were with Jesus. (They didn't succeed.)

- **Mark 14:51-52:** "And there followed him a certain young man, having a linen cloth cast about his naked body; and the young men laid hold on him: And he left the linen cloth, and fled from them naked."

Jesus was under a great deal of stress and agony before His crucifixion. The suffering that was coming weighed **heavily** upon Him.

- **Luke 12:50:** "But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished!"

When the disciples took their ship to the shore, they dragged the net with fishes behind them. (It seems it was too **heavy** for them to bring it on board the fishing boat.)

- **John 21:8:** "And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits,) dragging the net with fishes."

Paul greatly longed for the salvation of the Jews and had great **heaviness** over the fact that they rejected Jesus. It deeply grieved him.

- **Romans 9:2:** "That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart."

Paul told the Corinthian church that he didn't want to visit them again in **heaviness** (sorrow).

- **2 Corinthians 2:1:** "But I determined this with myself, that I would not come again to you in heaviness."

Epaphroditus was full of **heaviness** because he knew the Philippian church had heard about his illness. (What upset him wasn't that he had been sick, but that the church had heard about his illness.)

- **Philippians 2:25-26:** "Yet I supposed it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants. For he longed after you all, and was full of heaviness, because that ye had heard that he had been sick."

Christians shouldn't rejoice when their life is full of sin. Instead they should mourn and weep over their sin. People's sin should lead them to a spirit of **heaviness** (sorrow).

- **James 4:8-9:** "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness."

Peter said that some people experienced **heaviness** (sorrow) due to the many trials that they faced. (In other words, there are seasons of suffering and sorrow in life.)

- **1 Peter 1:6:** "Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:"