

# Abomination

## Definition from Webster's dictionary:

That which is exceptionally loathsome, hateful, sinful, wicked, or vile

- a person who is loathsome or disgusting
- an action that is vicious or vile; an action that arouses disgust or abhorrence;

The meaning of **Hebrew word** To'ebah is often translated as "abomination" or "detestable" in English. It can refer to the breaking of either a moral or ritual law.

When "to'ebah" refers to the breaking of a ritual law it might be better translated "ritually improper," or "involves foreign religious cult practice." Some of the "to'ebah" passages are considered without significance to believers today. Many activities which were "to'ebah" transgressions to the ancient Israelites simply do not apply to modern cultures.

English term used to translate the Scriptural Hebrew terms shiqquwts, ("shiqqûts") and sheqets which are derived from shâqats

A-bom-i-na'-shun (piggul, to`ebhah, sheqets (shiqquts): Three distinct Hebrew words are rendered in the English Bible by "abomination," or "abominable thing," referring (except in **Genesis 43:32; 46:34**) to things or practices abhorrent to **Yahuah**, and opposed to the ritual or moral requirements of His religion. It would be well if these words could be distinguished in translation, as they denote different degrees of abhorrence or loathsomeness.

The word most used for this idea by the Hebrews and indicating the highest degree of abomination is To`ebhah, meaning primarily that which offends the religious sense of a people. When it is said, for example, "The Egyptians might not eat bread with the Hebrews; for that is an abomination unto the Egyptians," this is the word used; the significance being that the Hebrew were repugnant to the Egyptians as foreigners, as of an inferior caste, and especially as shepherds **Genesis 46:34**.

The feeling of the Egyptians for the Greeks was likewise one of repugnance. Herodotus (ii.41) says the Egyptians would not kiss a Greek on the mouth, or use his dish, or taste meat cut with the knife of a Greek. Among the objects described in the Old Testament as "abominations" in this sense are heathen gods and everything connected with the worship of such gods. When Pharaoh, remonstrating against the departure of the children of Israel, exhorted them to offer sacrifices to their Elohim (God) in Egypt,

Moses said: "Shall we sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians (i.e. the animals worshiped by them which were taboo, To`ebhah, to the Israelites) before their eyes, and will they not stone us?" **Exodus 8:26**.

It is to be noted that, not only the heathen idol itself, but anything offered to or associated with the idol, all the paraphernalia of the forbidden cult, was called an "abomination," for it "is an abomination to **Yahuah** thy Elohim" **Deuteronomy 7:25,26**.

The writer here adds, in terms quite significant of the point of view and the spirit of the whole law: `Neither shalt thou bring an abomination into thy house and thus become a thing set apart (cherem = tabooed) like unto it; thou shalt utterly detest it and utterly abhor it, for it is a thing set apart' (tabooed). To`ebhah is even used as synonymous with "idol" or heathen deity, as in **Isaiah 44:19; Deuteronomy 32:16; 2 Kings 23:13; and Exodus 8:22**.

Everything related to magic or divination is likewise an abomination To`ebhah; as are sexual transgressions **Deuteronomy 22:5; 23:18; 24:4**, especially Incest and other unnatural offenses; Homosexuality (Sexual relations between a man and another man or a woman and another woman), Sodomy (any contact between the genitals and anus of another), Bestiality (sexual relations between a human and a animal), Pedophilia (recurrent sexual urges, fantasies or acts towards children), Voyeurism (a psychosexual disorder in which a person derives sexual pleasure and gratification from looking at the naked bodies and genital organs or observing the sexual acts of others (pornography). The voyeur is usually hidden from view of others.

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of **Yahuah**? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites . . . will inherit the kingdom of Yahuah. **1 Corinthians 6:9-10**

It is to be noted, however, that the word takes on in the later usage a higher ethical and spiritual meaning: as where "divers measures, a great and a small," are forbidden **Deuteronomy 25:14-16**; and in Proverbs where "lying lips" (12:22), "the proud in heart" (16:5), "the way of the wicked" (15:9), "evil devices" (15:26), and "he that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the righteous" (17:15), are said to be an abomination in **Yahuah's** sight. At last prophet and sage are found to unite in declaring that any sacrifice, however free from physical blemish, if offered without purity of motive, is an abomination: `Bring no more an oblation of falsehood an incense of abomination it is to me' **Isaiah 1:13, Jeremiah 7:10**.

"The sacrifice of the wicked" and the prayer of him "that turneth away his ear from hearing the law," are equally an abomination **Proverbs 15:8; 21:27; 28:9.**

Another word rendered "abomination" in the King James Version is sheqets (detestation, detestable thing) or shiqquts (detested thing, abominable idols (1), abomination (4), abominations (5), detestable (1), detestable idol (3), detestable idols (2), detestable things (10), detested things (1), filth). It expresses generally a somewhat less degree of horror or religious aversion than [to`ebhah], but sometimes seems to stand about on a level with it in meaning.

In **Deuteronomy 14:3**, for example, we have the command, "Thou shalt not eat any abominable thing," as introductory to the laws prohibiting the use of the unclean animals, and the word there used is [to`ebhah].

But in **Leviticus 11:10-13,20,23,41,42, Isaiah 66:17, Ezekiel 8:10** sheqets is the word used and likewise applied to the prohibited animals; as also in **Leviticus 11:43** sheqets is used when it is commanded, "Ye shall not make yourselves abominable."

Then sheqets is often used parallel to or together with to`ebhah of that which should be held as detestable, as for instance, of idols and idolatrous practices **Deuteronomy 29:17; Hosea 9:10; Jeremiah 4:1; 13:27; 16:18; Ezekiel 11:18-21; 20:7, 8** to Milcom, the god of the Ammonites, which is spoken of as the detestable thing sheqets of the Ammonites **1 Kings 11:5.**

Still even in such cases to`ebhah seems to be the stronger word and to express that which is in the highest degree abhorrent. The other word used to express a somewhat kindred idea of abhorrence and translated "abomination" in the King James Version is piggul (foul thing, refuse, offense (1), offensive thing (1), unclean (1), unclean meat (1) ; but it is used in the Hebrew Bible only of sacrificial flesh that has become stale, putrid, tainted **Leviticus 7:18; 19:7; Ezekiel 4:14; Isaiah 65:4.**

Driver maintains that it occurs only as a "technical term for such state sacrificial flesh as has not been eaten within the prescribed time," and, accordingly, he would everywhere render it specifically "refuse meat." Compare lechem megcho'al, "the loathsome bread" (from ga'al, "to loathe") **Malachi 1:7.**

A chief interest in the subject for believers grows out of the use of the term in the expression "abomination of desolation" **Matthew 24:15 and Mark 13:14.**

**Partial list of scriptures referring to Abominations:**

...because the Egyptians could not eat food with the Hebrews, for that is an abomination to the Egyptians." If Egyptian religious belief were unchanged to the present time, this would imply that if the President of Egypt sat down with the Prime Minister of Israel for a meal, the President would consider this an abomination. Fortunately, the religious beliefs of Egyptians have changed significantly from Old Testament times. **Genesis 43:32**

And all that have not fins and scales in the seas, and in the rivers, of all that move in the waters, and of any living thing which is in the waters, they shall be an abomination unto you: . **Leviticus 11:10**

Whatsoever hath no fins or scales in the waters that shall be an abomination unto you. **Leviticus 11:12**

And these are they which ye shall have in abomination among the fowls; they shall not be eaten, they are an abomination: the eagle, and the ossifrage, and the ospray. **Leviticus 11:13**

All fowls that creep, going upon all four, shall be an abomination unto you **Leviticus 11:20**

But all other flying creeping things, which have four feet, shall be an abomination unto you. **Leviticus 11:23**

And every creeping thing that creeps on the earth shall be an abomination. It shall not be eaten." **Leviticus 11:41**

Whatsoever goeth upon the belly, and whatsoever goeth upon all four, or whatsoever hath more feet among all creeping things that creep upon the earth, them ye shall not eat; for they are an abomination **Leviticus 11:42**

And thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to Molech, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy Elohim: I am **Yahuah**.<sup>22</sup>Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.<sup>23</sup>Neither shalt thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: neither shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto: it is confusion **Leviticus 18:21-23**

Ye shall therefore keep my statutes and my judgments, and shall not commit any of

these abominations; neither any of your own nation, nor any stranger that so journeth among you:<sup>27</sup> For all these abominations have the men of the land done, which were before you, and the land is defiled **Leviticus 18:26-27**

If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.  
**Leviticus 20:13**

The graven images of their gods shall ye burn with fire: thou shalt not desire the silver or gold that is on them, nor take it unto thee, lest thou be snared therein: for it is an abomination to **Yahuah** thy Elohim (God). **Deuteronomy 7:25**

Neither shalt thou bring an abomination into thine house, lest thou be a cursed thing like it: but thou shalt utterly detest it, and thou shalt utterly abhor it; for it is a cursed thing. **Deuteronomy 7:26**

Take heed to thyself that thou be not snared by following them, after that they be destroyed from before thee; and that thou inquire not after their gods, saying, How did these nations serve their gods? even so will I do likewise.<sup>31</sup> Thou shalt not do so unto **Yahuah** thy Elohim: for every abomination to **Yahuah**, which he hateth, have they done unto their gods; for even their sons and their daughters they have burnt in the fire to their gods.<sup>32</sup> What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it. **Deuteronomy 12:30-32**

There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch. <sup>11</sup> Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.<sup>12</sup> For all that do these things are an abomination unto Yahuah: and because of these abominations **Yahuah** thy Elohim doth drive them out from before thee.<sup>13</sup> Thou shalt be perfect with **Yahuah** thy Elohim. **Deuteronomy 18:10-13**

A woman shall not wear anything that pertains to a man, nor shall a man put on a woman's garment, for all who do so are an abomination to **Yahuah** your Elohim." Some might consider that this prohibition would include a woman wearing male jeans or a man wearing a kilt. **Deuteronomy 22:5**

Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore, or the price of a dog, into the house of **Yahuah** thy Elohim for any vow: for even both these are abomination unto Yahuah thy

Elohim. **Deuteronomy 23:18**

But thou shalt have a perfect and just weight, a perfect and just measure shalt thou have: that thy days may be lengthened in the land which **Yahuah** thy Elohim giveth thee.<sup>16</sup> For all that do such things, and all that do unrighteously, are an abomination unto **Yahuah** thy Elohim. **Deuteronomy 25:15-16**

Should we again break thy commandments, and join in affinity with the people of these abominations? wouldst not thou be angry with us till thou hadst consumed us, so that there should be no remnant nor escaping? **Ezra 9:14**

Frowardness is in his heart, he deviseth mischief continually; he soweth discord. <sup>15</sup> Therefore shall his calamity come suddenly; suddenly shall he be broken without remedy.<sup>16</sup> These six things doth **Yahuah** hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him:<sup>17</sup> A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,<sup>18</sup> An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief,<sup>19</sup> A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.<sup>20</sup> My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: **Proverbs 6:14-20**

Envy thou not the oppressor, and choose none of his ways.<sup>32</sup> For the froward is abomination to **Yahuah**: but his secret is with the righteous.<sup>33</sup> The curse of **Yahuah** is in the house of the wicked: but he blesseth the habitation of the just. **Proverbs 3:31-33**

Hear; for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things. <sup>7</sup> For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips. <sup>8</sup> All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them. **Proverbs 8:6-8**

They that are of a froward heart are abomination to **Yahuah**: but such as are upright in their way are his delight. **Proverbs 11:20**

Lying lips are abomination to **Yahuah**: but they that deal truly are his delight. **Proverbs 12:22**

Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honoured.<sup>19</sup> The desire accomplished is sweet to the soul: but it is abomination to fools to depart from evil. <sup>20</sup> He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed. **Proverbs 13:18-20**

The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to **Yahuah**: but the prayer of the upright is his delight. **Proverbs 15:8**

The way of the wicked is an abomination unto **Yahuah**: but he loveth him that followeth after righteousness. **Proverbs 15:9**

The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to **Yahuah**: but the words of the pure are pleasant words. **Proverbs 15:26**

Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to **Yahuah**: though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished. **Proverbs 16:5**

He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to **Yahuah**. **Proverbs 17:15**

He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination. **Proverbs 28:9**

Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among them that fall: at the time that I visit them they shall be cast down, saith **Yahuah**.<sup>16</sup> Thus saith **Yahuah**, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, we will not walk therein. **Jeremiah 6:15-16**

Will ye steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense unto Baal (The Lord), and walk after other gods whom ye know not; 10 And come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, We are delivered to do all these abominations?<sup>11</sup>Is this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, even I have seen it, saith **Yahuah**. **Jeremiah 7:9-11**

Now is the end come upon thee, and I will send mine anger upon thee, and will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense upon thee all thine abominations. **Ezekiel 7:3**

Now will I shortly pour out my fury upon thee, and accomplish mine anger upon thee: and I will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense thee for all thine abominations. **Ezekiel 7:8**

Wilt thou judge them, son of man, wilt thou judge them? cause them to know the abominations of their fathers. **Ezekiel 20:4**

When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) **Matthew 24:15**

And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life. **Revelation 21:27**

In conclusion; we should consider all that is written within these Holy scriptures and begin to consider how we should make a concerted effort to eliminate anything in our lives that could be considered an abomination, so not to be held accountable for choosing to ignore these very clear warnings to us about our lives and the choices we make each and every day. These scriptures are given not to condemn us but to convict us of our sins so we can see the error of our ways so we can repent and desire change.

I believe this study was inspired to show how these abominations are in complete alignment with the 10 commandments and also to show that we must surrender our lives daily to the will of our Father, to crucify our flesh daily, plead the Blood of the Lamb over our lives so we can be purified and forgiven of our sins daily, and ask the Ruach ha Kodesh to help us make changes in how we view our relationship and responsibility of living a life pleasing to our Savior, to honor him and be thankful for what he has done to save us.

**IF AFTER READING THIS STUDY YOUR EYES ARE OPENED TO HOW YOU MAY BE SINNING AGAINST YOUR CREATOR, IT WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO REPENT AND TURN AWAY FROM THESE ABOMINATIONS, IT WILL TAKE YOUR EFFORT AND PRAYER, ASKING THE RUACH HA ODESH TO HELP MAKE THESE CHANGES IN YOUR LIFE, BUT I CAN ASSURE YOU YOUR EFFORT WILL BE REWARDED AND BLESSED AND BY DOING THIS YOU WILL ENTER INTO A DEEPER MORE MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR LORD AND SAVIOR YAHUSHA**