

## The Law of Money– Part 3: Silver

### Since We're Talking *Kingdom*, We're Talking *Law*

Because we're talking about a coming *Kingdom*, and because that coming *Kingdom* is that of our LORD, SAVIOR, HIGH PRIEST, KING and GOD, namely YHVH, THE EVER-LIVING, YAHSHUA HA' MESHIACH, it makes good sense to inaugurate this column, THE SILENT PULPIT, with a discussion on Money. Why? Because the root of all evil is the “love of money.” 1 Tim. 6:10.

In Part 1, we studied into usury. In Part 2, we examined into the terms translated from Hebrew and Greek into *money*. Here, we study *silver*.

To address the “love of money” lesson, let's start with some Greek. This phrase, in 1 Tim. 6:10, actually comes from a compound word, *philarguria*.

### Philarguria

<<http://bible.crosswalk.com/Lexicons/Greek/grk.cgi?number=5365&version=kjv>>.

Strong's Number:	5365
Original Word	Word Origin
φιλαργυρια	from (5366)
Transliterated Word	TDNT Entry
Philarguria	None
Phonetic Spelling	Parts of Speech
fil-ar-goo-ree'-ah	Noun Feminine

#### Definition

1. love of money, avarice

King James Word Usage - Total: 1  
love of money 1

#### KJV Verse Count

<u>1 Timothy</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	1

From *philarguros* (φιλάργυρος)

<<http://bible.crosswalk.com/Lexicons/Greek/grk.cgi?number=5366&version=kjv>>.

Strong's Number:	5366
Original Word	Word Origin
φιλάργυρος	from (5384) and (696)

Transliterated Word	TDNT Entry
Philarguros	None
Phonetic Spelling	Parts of Speech
fil-ar'-goo-ros	Adjective

#### Definition

1. loving money, avarice

King James Word Usage - Total: 2  
covetous 2

#### KJV Verse Count

Luke	1
<u>2 Timothy</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	2

In its parts, *philarguros* comes from φίλος (philos) (*friend*) and ἄργυρος (arguros) (*silver*).

Thus, it's literally the *friend of silver* that we have come to know as the *love of money*. The point is simply that there

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was a time when there was no confusion about what Money was. Money was silver. The confusion (babel, as in babble-on, babylon) is only very recent.

Which is from *philos* (φιλος)

<<http://bible.crosswalk.com/Lexicons/Greek/grk.cgi?number=5384&version=kjv>>.

Strong's Number: 5384  
 Original Word Word Origin  
 φιλος a primitive word  
 Transliterated Word TDNT Entry  
 Philos 9:146,1262  
 Phonetic Spelling Parts of Speech  
 fee'-los Adjective

Definition

1. friend, to be friendly to one, wish him well
  - a. a friend
  - b. an associate
  - c. he who associates familiarly with one, a companion
  - d. one of the bridegroom's friends who on his behalf asked the hand of the bride and rendered him various services in closing the marriage and celebrating the nuptials

King James Word Usage - Total: 29  
 friend 29

KJV Verse Count

Matthew	1
Luke	14
John	6
Acts	3
James	2
<u>3 John</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	27

And from *arguros* (ἄργυρος)

<<http://bible.crosswalk.com/Lexicons/Greek/grk.cgi?number=696&version=kjv>>.

Strong's Number: 696  
 Original Word Word Origin  
 ἄργυρος from argos (shining)  
 Transliterated Word TDNT Entry  
 Arguros None  
 Phonetic Spelling Parts of Speech  
 ar'-goo-ros Noun Masculine

Definition

1. silver
  - a. 1 Cor. 3:12 refers to the silver with which the columns of noble buildings were covered and the rafters adorned
  - b. things made of silver
    1. vessels
    2. images of gods

King James Word Usage - Total: 5  
 silver 5

KJV Verse Count

Matthew	1
Acts	1
1 Corinthians	1
James	1
<u>Revelation</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	5

We find *philarguros* in Luke 16:14, and in 2 Tim. 3:2. Thus, where the KJV translators used the term *covetous*, the literal Greek is *friend of silver*, or, more popularly, *love(r) of money*, as used in 1 Tim. 6:10.

**Translation study**

In Part 2, we looked at the terms translated into *money*. Here we ask, what Hebrew and Greek terms are translated into *silver*? This study will look remarkably like the study in Part 2.

**Keseph (קֶסֶף),**

Silver, money, קֶסֶף keseph. YOUNG'S<sup>1</sup> at 666 (MONEY).

<<http://bible.crosswalk.com/Lexicons/Hebrew/heb.cgi?number=03701&version=kjv>>.<sup>2</sup>

Strong's Number: 03701  
 Original Word      Word Origin  
 קֶסֶף                      from (03700)  
 Transliterated Word    TDNT Entry  
 Keceph                      TWOT - 1015a  
 Phonetic Spelling    Parts of Speech  
 keh'-sef                      Noun Masculine

**Definition**

1. silver, money
  - a. silver
    1. as metal
    2. as ornament
    3. as colour
  - b. money, shekels, talents

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<sup>1</sup>ROBERT YOUNG, ANALYTICAL CONCORDANCE TO THE BIBLE (Wm. B. Eerdmans Publ. Co. 1936) ("YOUNG'S").

<sup>2</sup>The Hebrew lexicon is Brown, Driver, Briggs, Gesenius Lexicon; this is keyed to the "Theological Word Book of the Old Testament." These files are considered public domain.

King James Word Usage - Total: 403  
 silver 287, money 112, price 3,  
 silverlings 1

**KJV Verse Count**

Genesis	32
Exodus	37
Leviticus	11
Numbers	23
Deuteronomy	12
Joshua	6
Judges	8
1 Samuel	2
2 Samuel	6
1 Kings	17
2 Kings	28
1 Chronicles	16
2 Chronicles	26
Ezra	12
Nehemiah	6
Esther	4
Job	7
Psalms	9
Proverbs	13
Ecclesiastes	5
Solomon	4
Isaiah	17
Jeremiah	8
Lamentations	1
Ezekiel	9
Daniel	3
Hosea	5
Joel	1
Amos	2
Micah	1
Nahum	1
Habakkuk	1
Zephaniah	2
Haggai	1
Zechariah	6
<u>Malachi</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	343

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What these figures tell us is that the Hebrew term that means *silver* is found 403 times in the Old Testament, in 343 versus, and that depending upon the context, the KJV translators translated it into either *silver* or *money* 399 times, *price* three times and *silverlings* once.

Let's look at these same listings in another way. From (a) the beginning of the discussions of Abram, Gen. 13, all the way through to (b) the rebuilding of the temple after the Southern Kingdom's (Abraham's descendants through the lines of Judah and Benjamin) return from captivity in Babylon, thus in Ezra and Nehemiah, including (c) all of the Books of the Law, and in (d) the writings of all but two prophets, including (e) the specifically prophetic writings, e.g., Isaiah, Daniel and Ezekiel, and, thus, in 36 of the 39 books of the Old Testament (Ruth, Obadiah and Jonah don't use the term), *silver* and *money* were the same idea, the same concept, the same *thing*, as it were.

From Kesaph (Kacaph) (קספ).

Silver, money, קספ kesaph. YOUNG'S at 666 (MONEY).

<<http://bible.crosswalk.com/Lexicons/Hebrew/heb.cgi?number=3700&version=kjv>>.

Strong's Number: 03700  
 Original Word      Word Origin  
 קספ                      a primitive root  
 Transliterated Word      TDNT Entry  
 Kacaph                      TWOT - 1015  
 Phonetic Spelling      Parts of Speech  
 kaw-saf'                      Verb

Definition

1. to long for, yearn for, long after
  - a. (Qal) to long for
  - b. (Niphal)
    1. to long for (deeply)
    2. being longed for (participle)

King James Word Usage - Total: 6  
 desire 2, long 2, greedy 1, sore 1

KJV Verse Count

Genesis      1  
 Job            1  
 Psalms       2  
Zephaniah    1  
 Total           5

As mentioned in Part 2, the noun, *silver*, derives from the verb which means *to long for*.

**Kacaph (קספ)**

Strong's Number: 03702  
 Original Word      Word Origin  
 קספ                      corresponding to  
                                     (03701)

Transliterated Word      TDNT Entry  
 K@caph (Aramaic)      TWOT - 2794  
 Phonetic Spelling      Parts of Speech  
 kes-af'                      Noun Masculine

Definition

1. silver
  - a. as metal
  - b. as money

King James Word Usage - Total: 13  
 silver 12, money 1

KJV Verse Count

Ezra      7  
Daniel    6  
 Total      13

**Qesitah (קשׁ'טה)**

A qesitah, (a silver coin), קשׁ'טה qesitah. YOUNG'S at 667 (MONEY, piece of).

<<http://bible.crosswalk.com/Lexicons/Hebrew/heb.cgi?number=07192&version=kjv>>.

Strong's Number: 07192  
Original Word Word Origin  
קשׁ'טה from an unused root (probably meaning to weigh out)

Transliterated Word TDNT Entry  
Q@siytah TWOT - 2081a  
Phonetic Spelling Parts of Speech  
kes-ee-taw' Noun Feminine

Definition  
1. a unit of unknown value  
a. perhaps weight, money

King James Word Usage - Total: 3  
piece of money 2, piece of silver 1

KJV Verse Count  
Genesis 1  
Joshua 1  
Job 1  
Total 3

To illustrate the difference, and as was included in Part 2, there is another term also used for *money*.

**Qinyan (קנין)**

Acquisition, substance, קנין qinyan. YOUNG'S at 667 (MONEY, with).

<<http://bible.crosswalk.com/Lexicons/Hebrew/heb.cgi?number=07075&version=kjv>>.

Strong's Number: 07075  
Original Word Word Origin  
קנין from (07069)  
Transliterated Word TDNT Entry  
Qinyan TWOT - 2039a  
Phonetic Spelling Parts of Speech  
kin-yawn' Noun Masculine

Definition  
1. thing acquired, acquisition, possession, purchased property, wealth  
a. thing acquired (by purchase)  
b. creatures (more general)

King James Word Usage - Total: 10  
substance 4, of...getting 2, goods 2, riches 1, with 1

KJV Verse Count  
Genesis 3  
Leviticus 1  
Joshua 1  
Psalms 2  
Proverbs 1  
Ezekiel 2  
Total 10

From Qanah (קנה)

<<http://bible.crosswalk.com/Lexicons/Hebrew/heb.cgi?number=7069&version=kjv>>.

Strong's Number: 07069  
Original Word Word Origin  
קנה a primitive root  
Transliterated Word TDNT Entry  
Qanah TWOT - 2039  
Phonetic Spelling Parts of Speech  
kaw-naw' Verb

Definition  
1. to get, acquire, create, buy, possess  
a. (Qal)  
1. to get, acquire, obtain 1a

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- b. of God originating, creating, redeeming His people 1a
  - 1. possessor 1a
- c. of Eve acquiring 1a
- d. of acquiring knowledge, wisdom
  - 1. to buy
- e. (Niphal) to be bought
- f. (Hiphil) to cause to possess

King James Word Usage - Total: 84  
Buy 46, get 15, purchased 5, buyer 3,  
possessor 3, possessed 2, owner 1,  
recover 1, redeemed 1, miscellaneous 7

KJV Verse Count	
Genesis	12
Exodus	2
Leviticus	9
Deuteronomy	2
Joshua	1
Ruth	5
2 Samuel	3
1 Kings	1
2 Kings	2
1 Chronicles	1
2 Chronicles	1
Nehemiah	2
Psalms	3
Proverbs	11
Ecclesiastes	1
Isaiah	4
Jeremiah	11
Ezekiel	2
Amos	1
<u>Zechariah</u>	<u>2</u>
Total	76

In sum, while we can't say that every place in the Old Testament we find *money* in the KJV we may substitute *silver*, what we can say is that the terms *silver* and *money* described the very same concept to Abram/Abraham and all

his descendants through the times of the return from the second captivity. And, since we find nowhere any claim by Abram that he invented the concept,<sup>3</sup> we can reasonably expect that the use and practice existed *long* before Abram was even a player on the scene.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup>For example, the Egyptians used silver. The EVER-LIVING instructed Israel to ask from the Egyptians, for purposes of the Exodus, the items of silver and gold. Ex. 11:1-3, 12:35-36.

### <sup>4</sup>**Mesopotamia: The First Civilization**

"Authorities do not all agree about the definition of civilization. Most accept the view that "a civilization is a culture which has attained a degree of complexity usually characterized by urban life." In other words, a civilization is a culture capable of sustaining a substantial number of specialists to cope with the economic, social, political, and religious needs of a populous society. Other characteristics usually present in a civilization include a system of writing to keep records, monumental architecture in place of simple buildings, and an art that is no longer merely decorative, like that on Neolithic pottery, but representative of people and their activities. All these characteristics of civilization first [appeared] in Mesopotamia." ...

"The Sumerians had standard measures, with units of length, area, and capacity. Their standard weight was the mina, made up of 60 shekels--about the same weight as a pound. There was  
(continued...)

**Didrachmon**

<<http://bible.crosswalk.com/Lexicons/Greek/grk.cgi?number=1323&version=kjv>>.<sup>5</sup>

Strong's Number:	1323
Original Word	Word Origin
διδραχμον	from (1364) and (1406)
Transliterated Word	TDNT Entry
Didrachmon	None

<sup>4</sup>(...continued)

no coined money. Standard weights of silver served as measures of value and as a means of exchange.

“From the earliest times the Sumerians had a strong sense of private property. After they learned to write and figure, they kept documents about every acquired object, including such small items as shoes. Every business transaction had to be recorded. Near the gates of the cities, scribes would sit ready to sell their services. Their hands would move fast over a lump of clay, turning the stylus. Then the contracting parties added their signatures by means of seals. The usual seal was an engraved cylinder of stone or metal that could be rolled over wet clay.”

<<http://ragz-international.com/sumeria.htm>>.

<sup>5</sup>Greek lexicon based on Thayer's and Smith's Bible Dictionary plus others; this is keyed to the large Kittel and the "Theological Dictionary of the New Testament." These files are public domain.

Phonetic Spelling	Parts of Speech
did'-rakh-mon	Noun Neuter

**Definition**

1. a didrachmon or double drachma, a silver coin equal to two Attic drachmas or one Alexandrian, or one half a shekel

King James Word Usage - Total: 2  
tribute 1, tribute money 1

**KJV Verse Count**

<u>Matthew</u>	<u>1</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>

**From Dis (δεις)**

Strong's Number:	1364
Original Word	Word Origin
δεις	from (1417)
Transliterated Word	TDNT Entry
Dis	None
Phonetic Spelling	Parts of Speech
dece	Adverb

**Definition**

1. twice

King James Word Usage - Total: 6  
twice 4, again 2

**KJV Verse Count**

<u>Mark</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Luke</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Philippians</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>1 Thessalonians</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Jude</u>	<u>1</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>

(Dis is from Duo (δύο))

<<http://www.biblestudytools.net/Lexicons/Greek/grk.cgi?number=1417&version=kjv>>.

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Strong's Number: 1417  
 Original Word Word Origin  
 δύο a primary numeral  
 Transliterated Word TDNT Entry  
 Duo None  
 Phonetic Spelling Parts of Speech  
 doo'-o Noun

Definition  
 1. a drachma, a Greek silver coin about the same weight as a Roman denarius

King James Word Usage - Total: 3  
 piece 2, piece of silver 1

Definition  
 1. the two, the twain

KJV Verse Count  
Luke 2  
 Total 2

King James Word Usage - Total: 135  
 two 122, twain 10, both 2, two and two 1

(Drachme is from drassomai (δράσσομαι))

KJV Verse Count  
 Matthew 36  
 Mark 15  
 Luke 26  
 John 13  
 Acts 12  
 1 Corinthians 3  
 2 Corinthians 1  
 Galatians 2  
 Ephesians 2  
 Philippians 1  
 1 Timothy 1  
 Hebrews 2  
Revelation 10  
 Total 124

Strong's Number: 1405  
 Original Word Word Origin  
 δράσσομαι perhaps akin to the base of (1404) (through the idea of capturing)

Transliterated Word TDNT Entry  
 Drassomai None  
 Phonetic Spelling Parts of Speech  
 dras'-som-ahee Verb

Definition  
 1. to grasp with the hand, take  
 King James Word Usage - Total: 1  
 take 1

And from drachme (δραχμή)

KJV Verse Count  
1 Corinthians 1  
 Total 1

<<http://bible.crosswalk.com/Lexicons/Greek/grk.cgi?number=1406&version=kjv>>.

Strong's Number: 1406  
 Original Word Word Origin  
 δραχμή from (1405)  
 Transliterated Word TDNT Entry  
 Drachme None  
 Phonetic Spelling Parts of Speech  
 drakh-may' Noun Feminine



## Summary

Silver was the common medium of exchange throughout the entire history of the formation and development of Israel. We see just in this brief study that the Egyptians, Greeks and Romans all had silver as a regular part of their commercial and political existence, as a medium of exchange and as a sign of wealth. The use of silver as a medium of exchange dates back to the earliest known and recorded civilizations. It has fallen into disuse in our land only since about 1964, after the assassination of Kennedy, who had specifically ordered a bunch more silver quarters to be minted for circulation, which order LBJ cancelled as one of his first acts upon assuming the label of president.

The web contains all sorts of discussions on the difference between Scriptural Money and what passes these days as legal tender, and not just here but the world over. As just one example of those discussions, <<http://www.geocities.com/tthor.geo/debasedmoney.html>> also shows some additional features of the history of a few coins and how we've gotten, in *very* recent times, historically speaking, away from a competent economic system to the one that is presently working to destroy us, as a people.

We do have a choice, and, ultimately, it's a moral choice. The EVER-LIVING is very clear about the type of medium of exchange we are to be using, and it *ain't* worthless paper (promises in dischargment). The problem, which literally is an addiction, presently staring us in the face is not one we're

going to fix overnight. However, as we look just into our own backyards to try to find answers to the questions of the sources of that which vexes each of us today, we will more prudently come to terms with the problem as we start to take personal responsibility for it. We're being "led down the primrose path" to our own destruction, and while we may or may not prevent yet another bank-contrived ("beast" sponsored) economic disaster, we may at least get the ink dot on the forehead. *See* Ezekiel 8 and 9. The Money we use is a matter of choice.<sup>6</sup>

The Money we use is literally a Scriptural, moral issue. It truly *does* make *that* much difference. Without it, we have our present voluntary bondage. With it, we start to experience Liberty, as our Creator intended it to be.

Blessed be the reading of His word. ■

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<sup>6</sup>Those who respond by saying that there are "laws" making it "illegal" to possess gold, for example, are, of course, correct, *if* they're *also* saying that they are "United States citizens" and, therefore, subject to such God-hating "law." If it's an illegal act by a "United States citizen" to be an economically moral disciple of our God and Messiah, then maybe the problem isn't the "beast's" "law" quite so much as our adopting a label of "United States citizen," which, too, is a matter of choice.

## THE SILENT PULPIT

THE SILENT PULPIT is a column written for To Face West Ministries by Harmon L. Taylor (an American national, not a “United States citizen”) with the purpose of addressing topics that are addressed seldom, if at all, in the popular “Christian” activity of our day.

For there is no distinction between [Judean] and Greek; for He Himself is Lord of all, enriching all who call upon Him; for WHOEVER CALLS ON THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED.

But how can they call upon [W]hom they have not believed? And how can they believe about what they have not heard? And how can they hear without a preacher? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written:

HOW BEAUTIFUL THE FEET WHO PROCLAIM PEACE,  
WHO PREACH THE GOOD NEWS.

Yet all will not believe the good news. For Isaiah says:

LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?

Therefore, the faith comes from a report: but the report through the arrangement of God.

Romans 10:12-17 (Ferrar Fenton).

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Harmon L. Taylor, Chaplain