

***The Word “Merchant” as found in the Old Testament  
of the King James Version of the Holy Bible***

There are 38 occurrences of the word “merchant”, or a derivative, found in the Old Testament, translated from 5 different Hebrew words.

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**Sāḥar, Hebrew Strong's #5503**, is a verb found 20 times, and is translated as merchant (14), trade (2), about (1), merchantmen + [<H582>](#) (1), panteth (1), traffick (1). It is translated as “merchant” or “merchantmen” in the following verses:

**Genesis 23:16 –**

And Abraham hearkened unto Ephron; and Abraham weighed to Ephron the silver, which he had named in the audience of the sons of Heth, four hundred shekels of silver, current *money* with the merchant.

**Genesis 37:28 –**

Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty *pieces* of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.

**1 Kings 10:28 –**

And Solomon had horses brought out of Egypt, and linen yarn: the king's merchants received the linen yarn at a price.

**2 Chronicles 1:16 –**

And Solomon had horses brought out of Egypt, and linen yarn: the king's merchants received the linen yarn at a price.

**2 Chronicles 9:14 –**

Beside *that which* chapmen and merchants brought. And all the kings of Arabia and governors of the country brought gold and silver to Solomon.

**Proverbs 31:14 –**

She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar.

**Isaiah 23:2 –**

Be still, ye inhabitants of the isle; thou whom the merchants of Zidon, that pass over the sea, have replenished.

**Isaiah 23:8 –**

Who hath taken this counsel against Tyre, the crowning *city*, whose merchants *are* princes, whose traffickers *are* the honourable of the earth?

**Isaiah 47:15 –**

Thus shall they be unto thee with whom thou hast laboured, *even* thy merchants, from thy youth: they shall wander every one to his quarter; none shall save thee.

**Ezekiel 27:12 –**

Tarshish was thy merchant by reason of the multitude of all *kind of* riches; with silver, iron, tin, and lead, they traded in thy fairs.

**Ezekiel 27:16 –**

Syria was thy merchant by reason of the multitude of the wares of thy making: they occupied in thy fairs with emeralds, purple, and brodered work, and fine linen, and coral, and agate.

**Ezekiel 27:18 –**

Damascus was thy merchant in the multitude of the wares of thy making, for the multitude of all riches; in the wine of Helbon, and white wool.

**Ezekiel 27:21 –**

Arabia, and all the princes of Kedar, they occupied with thee in lambs, and rams, and goats: in these *were they* thy merchants.

**Ezekiel 27:36 –**

The merchants among the people shall hiss at thee; thou shalt be a terror, and never *shalt be* any more.

**Ezekiel 38:13 –**

Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?

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*'Enôsh, Hebrew Strong's #582, is a noun found 564 times, and is translated as man (520), certain (10), husbands (3), some (3), merchantmen (2), persons (2), miscellaneous translations (24). It is translated as "merchantmen" in the following verses:*

**Genesis 37:28 –**

Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty *pieces* of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.

**1 Kings 10:15 –**

Beside *that he had* of the merchantmen, and of the traffick of the spice merchants, and of all the kings of Arabia, and of the governors of the country.

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*Rākal, Hebrew Strong's #7402, is a verb found 17 times, and is translated as merchant in the following verses:*

**Nehemiah 3:31 –**

After him repaired Malchiah the goldsmith's son unto the place of the Nethinims, and of the merchants, over against the gate Miphkad, and to the going up of the corner.

**Nehemiah 3:32 –**

And between the going up of the corner unto the sheep gate repaired the goldsmiths and the merchants.

**Nehemiah 13:20 –**

So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged without Jerusalem once or twice.

**Song of Songs 3:6 –**

Who *is* this that cometh out of the wilderness like pillars of smoke, perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, with all powders of the merchant?

**Ezekiel 17:4 –**

He cropped off the top of his young twigs, and carried it into a land of traffick; he set it in a city of merchants.

**Ezekiel 27:3 –**

And say unto Tyrus, O thou that art situate at the entry of the sea, *which art* a merchant of the people for many isles, Thus saith the Lord GOD; O Tyrus, thou hast said, I *am* of perfect beauty.

**Ezekiel 27:13 –**

Javan, Tubal, and Meshech, they *were* thy merchants: they traded the persons of men and vessels of brass in thy market.

**Ezekiel 27:15 –**

The men of Dedan *were* thy merchants; many isles *were* the merchandise of thine hand: they brought thee *for* a present horns of ivory and ebony.

**Ezekiel 27:17 –**

Judah, and the land of Israel, they *were* thy merchants: they traded in thy market wheat of Minnith, and Pannag, and honey, and oil, and balm.

**Ezekiel 27:20 –**

Dedan *was* thy merchant in precious clothes for chariots.

**Ezekiel 27:22 –**

The merchants of Sheba and Raamah, they *were* thy merchants: they occupied in thy fairs with chief of all spices, and with all precious stones, and gold.

**Ezekiel 27:23 –**

Haran, and Canneh, and Eden, the merchants of Sheba, Asshur, *and* Chilmad, *were* thy merchants.

**Ezekiel 27:24 –**

These *were* thy merchants in all sorts *of things*, in blue clothes, and brodered work, and in chests of rich apparel, bound with cords, and made of cedar, among thy merchandise.

**Nahum 3:16 –**

Thou hast multiplied thy merchants above the stars of heaven: the cankerworm spoileth, and flieth away.

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***Kena'anî, Hebrew Strong's #3669***, is a noun found 73 times, and is translated as Canaanite (67), merchant (2), Canaan (1), Canaanitess (1), Canaanitish woman (2). It is translated as “merchant” in the following verses:

**Job 41:6 –**

Shall the companions make a banquet of him? shall they part him among the merchants?

**Proverbs 31:24 –**

She maketh fine linen, and selleth *it*; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant.

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***Kena'an, Hebrew Strong's #3667***, is a noun found 94 times, and is translated as Canaan (89), merchant (3), traffick (1), traffickers (1). It is translated as “merchant” in the following verses:

**Isaiah 23:11 –**

He stretched out his hand over the sea, he shook the kingdoms: the LORD hath given a commandment against the merchant *city*, to destroy the strong holds thereof.

**Hosea 12:7 –**

*He is a merchant*, the balances of deceit *are* in his hand: he loveth to oppress.

**Zephaniah 1:11 –**

Howl, ye inhabitants of Maktesh, for all the merchant people are cut down; all they that bear silver are cut off.