



The Mysteries of Trees – Algum/Almug Tree

By

Kathy L McFarland

Mark 8:22–26 (KJV 1900)

²² And he cometh to Bethsaida; and they bring a blind man unto him, and besought him to touch him. ²³ And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes, and put his hands upon him, he asked him if he saw ought. ²⁴ And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking. ²⁵ After that he put *his* hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly. ²⁶ And he sent him away to his house, saying, **Neither go into the town, nor tell *it* to any in the town.**

Our study first started from the healed blind man who saw men as trees, walking in Mark 8:22-26. We have studied many of the tree “parts” and learned their symbolic representations in Scripture. In the upcoming weeks, we are going to study some different types of spiritual lives, represented by different trees in Scripture. As we mature as Christians, we find ourselves fitting into a very specific place in a very specific way in the Kingdom of God, and we learn about the spiritual lives of others that surround us in our Church led by Christ with each of us having a “path” to walk upon. As we learn to walk expertly as trees walking with Christ, we are developed by the Lord to our full potential. We give up more and more of ourselves and get out of the way of the Holy Spirit as He creates the living works. Knowing our places spiritually walking in the Kingdom of God is an exciting step that grounds us and encourages us to improve our walking even more! Looking forward to the next walking journey with you!

Up to this point, our Scripture text has identified the different parts of a tree specifically. Most references to the different parts came right from our Lord Jesus Christ’s teachings. Now that we are moving to specific trees, it will become more difficult to find specific explanations. It is important that mature Christians, interpret conservatively, analyze correctly, and consider reliability when trying to understand the next studies. I will always be honest with you and tell you how likely or troublesome the interpretation is. As mature Christians, you get to figure the weight of Truth for yourselves. But I promise you that everything I teach, I am convinced upon 100% because of my advanced studies, and the Holy Spirit inside me that confirms it to me. I pray that as you study with me, you have that amount of surety also.

From this point on in our studies together, I will add to the chart below, as we study the different trees. I will support all my teachings with the evidence I have to confirm the meaning. Even then, some are lacking in enough firm evidence to confidently declare that as Truth of God. Please refer

to this chart each time you study, so you can understand the degree of my certainty in the deep and hidden meanings of the different trees.

Typology Known as fully God's Truth

Trees in Scripture identify the different Spiritual Lives that are lived on this Earth

Typology Known Confidently

Almond Tree – The spiritual life of an almond tree is the greatest spiritual role a believer can have on this earth. The believer, as an almond tree, is a Christian leader, chosen by God, that watches over the works of Christians guided by the Lord, and the people he serves. He ensures the very best spiritual works of the Lord are accomplished and lets the lights of the Lord Jesus Christ shine the brightest.

Almug/Algum Tree – A Spiritual Life level that honors the LORD God and guides Believers to come closer to Him toward the beauty of His Holiness through the Lord Jesus Christ. Musical worship and high praise are often expressed through these types of Believers.

Typology Known Probably

Typology Known Not

454 אֲלֻמִּים (’*āl-gûm·mîm*): n.[masc.]; ≡ Str 418; TWOT 89b—LN 3.2–3.12 a **species of valued tree**, transliterated as algumwood, traditionally sandal-wood but some suggest a species of Juniper, see also 523 (2Ch 2:7[EB 8]; 9:10, 11+)¹

2 Chronicles 9:9-11 (KJV)

⁹ And she gave the king an hundred and twenty talents of gold, and of spices great abundance, and precious stones: neither was there any such spice as the queen of Sheba gave king Solomon. ¹⁰ And the servants also of Hiram, and the servants of Solomon, which brought gold from Ophir, brought algum trees and precious stones. ¹¹ And the king made of the algum trees terraces to the house of the LORD, and to the king's palace, and harps and psalteries for singers: and there were none such seen before in the land of Judah.

Teaching Notes of Kathy L McFarland

¹ James Swanson, [*Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Hebrew \(Old Testament\)*](#) (Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997).

Please first note the definition as it is translated into Hebrew. The transliterated noun shows that Hebrew Scripture calls this tree either *Almug* or *Almugwood*, while English speakers know it as *Algum*. Transliteration is what happens to a word in one language that does not correspond to another language perfectly and must use different or different-ordered letters. We will be studying both *Algum* and *Almug* because of this translation difficulty.

Worksheet #1

1. Why do we study two different words, “*Almug*” and “*Algum*” for this specific tree?
 - a. The noun is transliterated
 - b. The noun is added later in translation
 - c. English words mean less than Hebrew
 - d. All the above

2. What does the Hebrew word **אַלְגֻּמִּים** (*’ăl-gûm·mîm*) definition for this tree?
 - a. Species of hard wood
 - b. Species of white wood
 - c. Species of valued tree
 - d. Species of ancient tree

3. What is the transliterated word for **אַלְגֻּמִּים** (*’ăl-gûm·mîm*)?
 - a. *Algum*
 - b. *Almug*
 - c. *Almug* or *Almugwood*
 - d. *Algum* or *Algumwood*

4. What species of tree is probably its type as represented by Scripture? (Will be more than one answer)
 - a. Cedar
 - b. Pine
 - c. Sandalwood
 - d. Juniper
 - e. All the above

5. What famous woman met with the King in 2 Chronicles 9:9-11?
 - a. Ruth
 - b. Sheba
 - c. Delilah
 - d. Rebekah

6. What famous King is spoken about in 2 Chronicles 9:9-11?
 - a. Solomon
 - b. David

- c. Pontius
 - d. Zechariah
7. What were the gifts brought to King Solomon by Queen Sheba directly?
- a. One hundred and twenty talents of gold
 - b. Spices of great abundance
 - c. Precious stones
 - d. All the above
8. What was the nature of spices Queen Sheba given to King Solomon?
(More than one answer)
- a. They were not known by Solomon before then
 - b. They were the same spices of Israel
 - c. They were unimportant because they represented natural life
 - d. They were valued as gifts from the LORD God to provide sustenance for Natural Life
(Remember the teachings hints on the previous lesson about spices?)
9. What gifts were brought by servants separate from what Queen Sheba brought directly?
- a. Gold
 - b. Algem Trees
 - c. Precious Stones
 - d. All the above

2 Chronicles 3:3, 6a

3 Now these are the things wherein Solomon was instructed for the building of the house of God.... 6 And he garnished the house with precious stones for beauty:

1 Corinthians 3:11–17 (KJV 1900)

¹¹ For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; ¹³ Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. ¹⁴ If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. ¹⁵ If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. ¹⁶ Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? ¹⁷ If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which *temple* ye are.

Revelation 21:10–11 (KJV 1900)

¹⁰ And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, ¹¹ Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;

Precious Stones, Silver, and Gold

Teachings of Kathy L McFarland

Solomon built the House of God. No longer confined to a large tent structure as a Tabernacle, Solomon built the Temple to contain the essence of the LORD God in the Ark of the Covenant, in the Holiest of Holy rooms. Precious Stones were used to add beauty to the structure.

Later, we learn that a Christian works are tried by fire on their day of examination; those that did great works for the LORD God upon the Foundation of Christ would show either Gold, Silver, or Precious Stones for a reward. Those works that suffer loss would reveal Wood, Hay or Stubble (but their salvation would not be touched.)

We also learn the Holy Spirit of God dwells in each believer that has been baptized by the Holy Spirit Baptism, and that Holy Spirit dwells inside a temple of God and that temple is inside a believer. Guess where the gold, silver, and precious stones are exactly inside a Believer?!? That's right folks; those precious stones, gold, and silver are used to make beautiful the temple of God, inside a Follower of Christ doing great works for Him. It is the Holy Spirit that guides all works of a Christian to the highest levels, and it is the temple inside each believer that these different brilliant rewards are placed, awaiting the testing of fire. Isn't that cool when Scripture comes together so perfectly?

Much later in Scripture, we learn that the Holy Jerusalem will have the glory of God inside her. Her light will shine through a precious stone that it is made with, clear as crystal! Thanks be to God for sharing the beauty of His rewards and decorations for His Temple.

Worksheet #2

10. Who built the House of God?
 - a. David
 - b. Moses
 - c. Abraham
 - d. Solomon

11. When the House of God was completed, what Holiest of Holy things of God was contained within?
(More than one answer)
 - a. The Ark of the Covenant
 - b. The actual Presence of the LORD God
 - c. Nothing
 - d. None of the above

12. What is the room named that contains the Ark of the Covenant in the House of God?
 - a. Holiest of Holies
 - b. Priest room
 - c. Tabernacle
 - d. Sacrificial tent

13. What is tested by fire for Christians during Christ's judgment?
 - a. Faith
 - b. Praise
 - c. Worship
 - d. Works

14. Whose works are tested by fire?
 - a. Works done through Christian
 - b. Works directed by the Holy Spirit
 - c. Spiritual works led by the Spirit through the Christian
 - d. All the above

15. What houses the Holy Spirit inside every Believer?
 - a. A Temple of God
 - b. An active blood system
 - c. The Holiest of Holies
 - d. None of the above

16. Where are the rewards for works placed in every Believer before the trying of fire?
 - a. Inside the Holy Spirit
 - b. Inside the Temple of God inside the Believer
 - c. The entire body of the Believer
 - d. None of the above

17. Who guides spiritual works of the LORD God to the highest level inside a Believer?
 - a. Believer in faith
 - b. Believer in doing works
 - c. Holy Spirit
 - d. None of the above

18. What will the precious New Jerusalem be built with?
 - a. Gold
 - b. Silver
 - c. Precious Stones
 - d. Wood

19. What will the nature of the Precious Stones have in New Jerusalem construction?
 - a. Holy
 - b. Clear as crystal
 - c. Every color of the rainbow
 - d. None of the above

Herbs

Genesis 1:29–31 (KJV 1900)

²⁹ And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which *is* upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which *is* the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein *there is* life, *I have given* every green herb for meat: and it was so. ³¹ And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, *it was* very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

We have NOT yet studied Herbs, yet they are an important symbol that touches the same Scriptures often that our Trees touch. Simply put my eager students, Herbs support Natural Life and Trees are the Spiritual Life of man. Just remember that small part about Herbs as we move on.

Worksheet #3

20. When did the LORD God give the herbs and trees?
 - a. In the beginning of creation
 - b. In the arrival of Christ upon Earth
 - c. After Christ's Resurrection
 - d. Will arrive with the New Earth and New Jerusalem

21. What purpose are herbs made?
 - a. Natural Life Meat
 - b. Spiritual Life Meat
 - c. There is no hidden, deep meaning
 - d. Eternal Life Meat

22. What purpose are trees made?
 - a. Natural Life Meat
 - b. Spiritual Life Meat
 - c. There is no hidden, deep meaning
 - d. Eternal Life Meat

2 Chronicles 9:9-11 (KJV)

⁹ And she gave the king an hundred and twenty talents of gold, and of spices great abundance, and precious stones: neither was there any such spice as the queen of Sheba gave king Solomon. ¹⁰ And the servants also of Hiram, and the servants of Solomon, which brought gold from Ophir, brought algum trees and precious stones. ¹¹ And the king made *of* the algum trees terraces to the house of the LORD, and to the king's palace, and harps and psalteries for singers: and there were none such seen before in the land of Judah.

Gold, Spices, and Precious Stones vs. Gold, Algum Trees, and Precious Stones

Teachings by Kathy L McFarland

Notice how Queen Sheba's gifts brings the best herbs ever known to Solomon as a gift to him and his wisdom. It was a special gift to enhance his Natural Life and show favor by Sheba. The presence of these herbs suggest that it was Natural Life treasures that was given by Sheba.

Notice how the servants of Hiram and Solomon brought Gold from Ophir, Algum Trees, and Precious Stones. The presence of Algum Trees suggest that it was Spiritual Life treasures given by the servants.

Both were the greatest of gifts. But we can be certain that with the inclusion of the type of trees brought by the servants as Algums, that Algum Trees are definitely a Spiritual Life level that honors God.

Why did the servants of Hiram (Hiram) and Solomon bring Spiritual Life gifts?

King Hiram of Tyre provided materials to David for building his palace and to Solomon for building His temple. Tyre is renown for their giant Cedar Trees, and they figured predominately in the buildings. But, this time, during Queen Sheba's giftings to discover Solomon's wisdoms, King Hiram continues to send King Solomon Spiritual Life supplies worthy of the House of God that Solomon was building.

King Solomon used the gifted Algum Trees, to build terraces to the house of the LORD God, and to his palace, harps and psalteries for his singers. The text slightly suggests that Solomon gifted some of these special items made from Algum Trees to Queen Sheba since she had not brought those materials (2 Chronicles 9:12)

Terraces - 5019 מַלְּאָחַ (m^esil·lā(h)): n.fem.; ≡ Str 4546; TWOT 1506d—**1.** LN 1.99–1.105 **main road**, highway, i.e., an open-country thoroughfare used much, that is relatively wide and maintained (Nu 20:19); **2.** LN 7.26–7.53 **raised structure**, i.e., an unknown raised construction made of wood which has many differing translations (2Ch 9:11+) (NASB, RSV, NRSV, NJB, NIV) **steps**, (NAB) **stairs** (Tanakh) **ramps**; (NEB, REB) **stands**; (NKJV) **walkways**; (WBC) **gateway**; (KJV) terraces, see also 5026; **3.** LN 41.1–41.24 **conduct in life**, formally, highway, i.e., the way one lives life as a figurative extension of traveling down a highway (Pr 16:17; Isa 59:7); **4.** LN 1.26–1.33 **star course**, i.e., a normal path which is routinely followed, as pertaining to a heavenly body (Jdg 5:20); **5.** LN 15.101–15.106 **pilgrimage**, religious trek, formally, highway, i.e., the act. of religious, often processional, travel to a holy place or site (Ps 84:6[EB 5])²

² James Swanson, [*Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Hebrew \(Old Testament\)*](#) (Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997).

Terraces

Teachings by Kathy L McFarland

Note the tremendous amount of symbology contained within the word “Terrace” as applied to its meaning in Hebrews. You can be assured that every bit of the deeper meaning of Terrace is applied to the House of God that Solomon was building. He chose the Algum Tree to make the Terraces, because that was the steps that led into the House of God. Figuratively, steps that lead to the house of God, made from Algum Trees, represent the steps of the journey of a Spiritual Life leading toward the LORD God.

Harps (Zithers)

4036 קִנּוֹר (*kin·nôr*): n.masc.; ≡ Str 3658; TWOT 1004a—LN 6.83–6.95 stringed instrument: translated as; harp, lyre, lute, zither (or cither), kithara (or cithara), i.e., a musical instrument with a strong frame to place tension on strings as a tone, then plucked to make music, though some could be quite large, generally of a portable size (1Sa 10:5)³

Psalteries for Singers

5574 I. נֶבֶל (*nē·bēl*): n.masc.; ≡ Str 5035; TWOT 1284a—1. LN 6.118–6.151 **leather vessel**, i.e., a container made of animal skin (as a sheep), tied at the legs, with the neck as the spout to hold liquid (1Sa 1:24; 10:3; 25:18; 2Sa 16:1; Jer 13:12+); 2. LN 6.118–6.151 **earthen vessel**, jar, jug, pot, i.e., a container made of clay used to hold liquid (Job 38:37; Isa 22:24; 30:14; Jer 48:12; La 4:2+)

5575 II. נֶבֶל (*nē·bēl*): n.masc.; ≡ Str 5035; TWOT 1284a, 1284b—LN 6.83–6.95 **stringed instrument**, lyre, harp, kithara, i.e., a musical instrument consisting of a strong frame, taut strings of animal or plant material, plucked to make melodic sounds, usually of a portable size (1Sa 10:5; 2Sa 6:5; 1Ki 10:12; 1Ch 13:8; 15:16, 20, 28; 16:5; 25:1, 6; 2Ch 5:12; 9:11; 20:28; 29:25; Ne 12:27; Ps 33:2; 57:9[EB 8]; 71:22; 81:3[EB 2]; 92:4[EB 3]; 108:3[EB 2]; 144:9; 150:3; Isa 5:12; 14:11; Am 5:23; 6:5+)⁴

We have our famous one Hebrew word that means two different things. Or does it? You must wait for advanced lessons to find the depth of this combination!

³ James Swanson, [*Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Hebrew \(Old Testament\)*](#) (Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997).

⁴ James Swanson, [*Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Hebrew \(Old Testament\)*](#) (Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997).

Worksheet #4

23. What are the gifts of Queen Sheba to King Solomon?
- Gold
 - Spices
 - Algum Trees
 - Precious Stones
24. What are the gifts of Queen Sheba to King Solomon?
- Gold
 - Spices
 - Algum Trees
 - Precious Stones
25. What do the Herb gifts represent that are given by the Queen?
- Natural Life
 - Spiritual Life
 - Eternal Life
 - None of the above
26. What do the Tree gifts represent that are given by the King of Tyre?
- Natural Life
 - Spiritual Life
 - Eternal Life
 - None of the above
27. What type of tree did King Solomon use to build his Terraces to the House of God?
- Algum/Almug Tree
 - Cedar Tree
 - Pine Tree
 - None of the above.
28. What does a Terrace symbolize in original Hebrew?
- A Spiritual Journey
 - A Natural Journey
 - An Eternal Journey
 - All the above

Almug/Algum Tree – A Spiritual Life level that honors the LORD God and guides Believers to come closer to the beauty of His Holiness through the Lord Jesus Christ. Musical worship and high praise are often expressed through these type of Believers.