

Copper, Brass, and Bronze

COPPER

Metal element, atomic number 29

Copper is useful in its pure form, especially for conducting electricity and conducting heat.

But historically it has been especially useful when mixed with another metal to form an alloy.

BRASS

Copper can be alloyed 2:1 with zinc to make a metal that is shiny gold, and hard, but not all that hard.

- decorations
- plumbing fittings
- musical instruments

BRONZE

It can be alloyed about 8:1 with tin to make a metal that is reddish-brown, and very hard, and very resistant to corrosion.

- tools
- armor
- weapons
- sculptures

“Copper,” “Brass,” and “Bronze”

COPPER

The word “copper” was originally from the Island Cyprus, where copper was mined

-Latin cuprum (hence chemical symbol Cu)

-this word has been in our language since Old English

BRASS

etymonline:

“brass” is an Old English word, of no known foreign origin

etymonline: “originally any alloy of copper”

BRONZE

“bronze” is the French form of an Italian word of Latin origin;

in English from 1721

OED: “came into use to distinguish this ‘ancient brass’ from the current alloy

In the Hebrew OT and the Greek NT, these three things are not called by three different names, but all are called by the same one word.

The Hebrew word H5178 *necosheth* appears in the OT many times.

The Greek word G5475 *chalkos* appears in the NT five times.

So we are left to determine from the context which of these three things is meant.

KJV

“In Middle English, the distinction between bronze (copper-tin alloy) and brass (copper-zinc alloy) was not clear, and both were called *bras*.”

Uses “brass” all but one time.

Uses “copper” one time; I don’t know why.

Does not use the word “bronze,” as it was not in use until 100 years later.

ESV

Uses “bronze” when it seems that’s what the substance would have been.

Uses “copper” when it seems that’s what the substance would have been.

Uses “brass” once for ?

Genesis 4:22 And Zillah, she also bare Tubalcain, an instructor of every artificer in brass and iron: and the sister of Tubalcain was Naamah.

-ESV: bronze and iron

Deuteronomy 8:6-10 Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him. 7 For the LORD thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills; 8 A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey; 9 A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass. 10 When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the LORD thy God for the good land which he hath given thee.

BRASS AS DEALING WITH SIN

Numbers 21:5-9

BRASS IN THE TABERNACLE

Exodus 27:1-8 The brasen altar

Exodus 27:9-11 The sockets for the posts of the outer veil

Exodus 30:18-17-21 The brasen basin

This is about dealing with sin:

-sacrifices

-washing

-the place where these things are done

[ended here 2022-01-26]

BRASS AS STRENGTH

Deuteronomy 33:25 Thy shoes shall be iron and brass; and as thy days, so shall thy strength be.

Micah 4:13 Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion: for I will make thine horn iron, and I will make thy hoofs brass: and thou shalt beat in pieces many people: and I will consecrate their gain unto the LORD, and their substance unto the Lord of the whole earth.

THE VISION SHOWN TO DANIEL AND JOHN

Daniel 10:5-6 I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain man clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz! 6 His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in color, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude.

Revelation 1:12-15 Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. 14 His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; 15 His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters;

chalcone

Knollys:

1 Corinthians 15:20-26 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. 21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. 24 Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. 25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

G5475 *chalkos*

-Strong: copper, brass, money

-Thayer: 1) brass 2) what is made of brass