

Donkey

This small mammal, genus equus, with some similarity to a horse (though usually smaller) has served mankind for thousands of years. Abraham's journey of testing, with son Isaac, was made with a donkey. (Gen.22; 3,5) Balaam's donkey was given the temporary power of speech to rebuke the foolish prophet. (Numbers 21-33). Donkeys were a fundamental part of the economy, and a man's wealth was measured by the number he owned. Sometimes donkeys were acquired in battles as plunder, was when the Israelites were commanded to neither covet a donkey nor to attempt to plow with a donkey and an ox together. (Duet.5: 21; 22-10) Donkeys understood heavy work on the farm but were used for personal transportation too. Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, celebrated on Palm Sunday in the Church calendar, (Matt.21:2-17) fulfilled prophecy (Zech 9:9). Riding a donkey was considered an appropriate choice for a procession such importance. (JDR adds Jesus born in Bethlehem, *Luke Chapter 2* and the flight to, Egypt, and *Matthew Chapter 2*. The mule is the offspring of a male donkey and a female horse more, and is itself sterile. The Israelites were forbidden to breed mules under a general prohibition on mating different animals. (*Lev.19: 19*) but mules were secured in the course of trading and we used for carrying goods, as well as for personal transportation. (*3Sam.13: 29,18*) (My Compact Dictionary of the Bible, JD Douglas & Merrill C. Tenney, Page 31)



JDR has more clip-art but will 'let it be' with the above.



Donkey(s)132 times, Mule(s)11, Colt 13

"Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!"
[John 12:15]