

Biblical Stones

"Biblical stones" called 12 stones gems, mentioned in the Bible in the books of the Old and New Testaments. From the Bible we know that the breastplate of the High Priest, in which he went to the service, was decorated with semi-precious stones. Breastplate itself was a bag of linen, which were mysterious Urim and Tumim, with whose help the high priest explained the ancient Hebrews commandment of Jehovah concerning the divine acts in their benefit. Suma was decorated with stones. There have been twelve, probably - a flattened oval-shaped stones were enclosed in gold filigree frames and they were engraved with the name of the twelve tribes of Israel.

Here is how these stones described in the Bible (Exodus, chapter 28):

28. 17. And set in it settings stones in four rows. Next: ruby, topaz , emerald , - it pervyi row.

28. 18. Vtoroi row an emerald, a sapphire and diamond.

28. 19. Third row: jacinth, agate and amethyst.

28. 20. Fourth row: a chrysolite, an onyx and jasper. In gold shall be enclosed them.

28. 21. Stones shall be twelve, the number of the children of Israel, by their names; on each, as shall they be according to his name for the twelve tribes.

The second time we find a list of stones already in the New Testament, in the book "Revelation" (Apocalypse). This again is a set of twelve stones, but it was already mentioned in the description of the walls "of the heavenly Jerusalem." This is basically the same stones, but not quite, namely: Unlike stones that adorned the breastplate of the High Priest, there appear instead of the diamond, the carbuncle, agate and onyx - beryl, chalcedony , onyx , chrysoprase and Hyacinthus (Hyacinth).

Read the Gospel, Apokalilisis (Revelation Bogoolova), Chapter 21:

21. 19. Foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all manner of precious stones: the first foundation yaskis, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald.

21. 20. Fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh; chrysolite, the eighth; beryl, the ninth; topaz, the tenth; chrysoprase, the eleventh; jacinth, the twelfth; amethyst.

21. 21. And the twelve gates - twelve pearls: every correlation was of one pearl. Street City - pure gold, like transparent glass.

To understand the contemporary reader below are those appearing in the Bible, the ancient names of the stones with the names of who they are likely to meet in modern mineralogical terminology;

Karbupkul - red garnet (pyrope and almandine).

Yakhont - ruby (red corundum).

Jasper - red (according to other sources - green) jasper.

Beryl - greenish yellow beryl.

Hyacinth - hyacinth (zircon, precious species).

Chalcedon - chalcedony.

Sardonyx - dark red chalcedony (carnelian) onyx.

However, the identification cannot be reduced to give an absolute value, since antiquity rocks mainly differ in color and to some extent on the hardness , so that often under the same name implies stones, related to various kinds of mineral ; while stones are varieties of the mineral could be considered different ...