

# Swine

## Definition:

Hebrew & Greek  
Translation

Chaziyr: from an unused root probably meaning to inclose; a hog (perhaps as penned):—boar, swine.

Choiros: of uncertain derivation; a hog:—swine.

Smith's Bible  
Dictionary

The flesh of swine was forbidden as food by the Levitical law, (Leviticus 11:7 ; 14:8) the abhorrence which the Jews as a nation had of it may be inferred from (Isaiah 65:4) and 2 Macc 6:18,19. No other reason for the command to abstain from swines flesh is given in the law of Moses beyond the general one which forbade any of the mammalia as food which did not literally fulfill the terms of the definition of a clean animal" viz,, that it was to be a cloven-footed ruminant. It is, however, probable that dietetical considerations may have influenced Moses in his prohibition of swines flesh: it is generally believed that its use in hot countries is liable to induce cutaneous disorders; hence in a people liable to leprosy the necessity for the observance of a strict rule. Although the Jews did not breed swine during the greater period of their existence as a nation there can be little doubt that the heathen nations of Palestine used the flesh as food. At the time of our Lords ministry it would appear that the Jews occasionally violated the law of Moses with regard to swines flesh. Whether "the herd of swine" into which the devils were allowed to enter, (Matthew 8:32 ; Mark 5:13) were the property of the Jewish or of the Gentile inhabitants of Gadara does not appear from the sacred narrative. The wild boar of the wood, (Psalms 80:13) is the common *Sus scrofa* which is frequently met with in the woody parts of Palestine, especially in Mount Tabor.

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Webster's Dictionary

Any of various stout-bodied short-legged omnivorous artiodactyl mammals (family Suidae) with a thick bristly skin and a long flexible snout; especially : a domesticated one descended from the wild boar; a contemptible person

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## **Supporting Biblical Scriptures:**

### **Leviticus 11:7**

And the swine, though he divide the hoof, and be clovenfooted, yet he cheweth not the cud; he is unclean to you.

### **Deuteronomy 14:8**

And the swine, because it divideth the hoof, yet cheweth not the cud, it is unclean unto you: ye shall not eat of their flesh, nor touch their dead carcase.

### **Proverbs 11:22**

As a jewel of gold in a swine's snout, so is a fair woman which is without discretion.

### **Isaiah 65:4**

Which remain among the graves, and lodge in the monuments, which eat swine's flesh, and broth of abominable things is in their vessels;

### **Isaiah 66:3**

He that killeth an ox is as if he slew a man; he that sacrificeth a lamb, as if he cut off a dog's neck; he that offereth an oblation, as if he offered swine's blood; he that burneth incense, as if he blessed an idol. Yea, they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delighteth in their abominations.

### **Isaiah 66:17**

They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the Lord.

### **Matthew 7:6**

Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls

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before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

### **Matthew 8:30**

And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding.

### **Matthew 8:31**

So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine.

### **Matthew 8:32**

And he said unto them, Go. And when they were come out, they went into the herd of swine: and, behold, the whole herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and perished in the waters.

### **Mark 5:11**

Now there was there nigh unto the mountains a great herd of swine feeding.

### **Mark 5:12**

And all the devils besought him, saying, Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them.

### **Mark 5:13**

And forthwith Jesus gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, (they were about two thousand;) and were choked in the sea.

### **Mark 5:14**

And they that fed the swine fled, and told it in the city, and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that was done.

### **Mark 5:16**

And they that saw it told them how it befell to him that was possessed with the devil, and also concerning the swine.

### **Luke 8:32**

And there was there an herd of many swine feeding on the mountain: and they besought him that he would suffer them to enter into them. And he suffered them.

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### **Luke 8:33**

Then went the devils out of the man, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the lake, and were choked.

### **Luke 15:15**

And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

### **Luke 15:16**

And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

