

Appendix:

INSTANCES OF סָרִיס IN THE HEBREW BIBLE

Following is a listing of all passages in the Hebrew Bible that contain the words סָרִיס (*sārîs*) or סָרִיסִים (*sārîsîm*). Quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version, with italic to indicate the English phrase used to translate *sārîs/sārîsîm*.

Gen 37:36 Meanwhile the Midianites had sold him [Joseph] in Egypt to Potiphar, one of Pharaoh's *officials*, the captain of the guard.

Gen 39:1 Now Joseph was taken down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an *officer* of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there.

Gen 40:2–3 Pharaoh was angry with his two *officers*, the chief cupbearer and the chief baker, and he put them in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, in the prison where Joseph was confined.

Gen 40:7 So he [Joseph] asked Pharaoh's *officers*, who were with him in custody in his master's house, "Why are your faces downcast today?"

1 Sam 8:15 He [the king] will take one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his *officers* and his courtiers.

1 Kgs 22:9 Then the king of Israel summoned an *officer* and said, "Bring quickly Micaiah son of Imlah."

2 Kgs 8:6 When the king questioned the woman, she told him. So the king appointed an *official* for her, saying, “Restore all that was hers, together with all the revenue of the fields from the day that she left the land until now.”

2 Kgs 9:32 He [Jehu] looked up to the window and said, “Who is on my side? Who?” Two or three *eunuchs* looked out at him.

2 Kgs 18:17 The king of Assyria sent the Tartan, the *Rab-saris*, and the Rabshakeh with a great army from Lachish to King Hezekiah at Jerusalem. They went up and came to Jerusalem. When they arrived, they came and stood by the conduit of the upper pool, which is on the highway to the Fuller’s Field.

2 Kgs 20:18 Some of your own sons who are born to you shall be taken away; they shall be *eunuchs* in the palace of the king of Babylon.”

2 Kgs 23:11 He [King Josiah] removed the horses that the kings of Judah had dedicated to the sun, at the entrance to the house of the LORD, by the chamber of the *eunuch* Nathan-melech, which was in the precincts; then he burned the chariots of the sun with fire.

2 Kgs 24:12 King Jehoiachin of Judah gave himself up to the king of Babylon, himself, his mother, his servants, his officers, and his *palace officials*. The king of Babylon took him prisoner in the eighth year of his reign.

2 Kings 24:15 He [King Nebuchadnezzar] carried away Jehoiachin to Babylon; the king’s mother, the king’s wives, his *officials*, and the elite of the land, he took into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon.

2 Kgs 25:18–19 The captain of the guard took the chief priest Seraiah, the second priest Zephaniah, and the three guardians of the threshold; from the city he took an *officer* who had been in command of the soldiers, and five men of the king’s council who were found in the city; the secretary who was the commander of the army who mustered the people of the land; and sixty men of the people of the land who were found in the city.

1 Chr 28:1 David assembled at Jerusalem all the officials of Israel, the officials of the tribes, the officers of the divisions that served the king, the commanders of the thousands, the commanders of the hundreds, the stewards of all the property and cattle of the king and his sons, together with the *palace officials*, the mighty warriors, and all the warriors.

2 Chr 18:8 Then the king of Israel summoned an *officer* and said, “Bring quickly Micaiah son of Imlah.”

Esth 1:10–12 On the seventh day, when the king was merry with wine, he commanded Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha and Abagtha, Zethar and Carkas, the seven *eunuchs* who attended him, to bring Queen Vashti before the king, wearing the royal crown, in order to show the peoples and the officials her beauty; for she was fair to behold. But Queen Vashti refused to come at the king’s command conveyed by the *eunuchs*. At this the king was enraged, and his anger burned within him.

Esth 1:15 “According to the law, what is to be done to Queen Vashti because she has not performed the command of King Ahasuerus conveyed by the *eunuchs*?”

Esth 2:3 And let the king appoint commissioners in all the provinces of his kingdom to gather all the beautiful young virgins to the harem in the citadel of Susa under custody of Hegai, the king's *eunuch*, who is in charge of the women; let their cosmetic treatments be given them.

Esth 2:14–15 In the evening she [the girl] went in; then in the morning she came back to the second harem in custody of Shaashgaz, the king's *eunuch*, who was in charge of the concubines; she did not go in to the king again, unless the king delighted in her and she was summoned by name. When the turn came for Esther daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had adopted her as his own daughter, to go in to the king, she asked for nothing except what Hegai the king's *eunuch*, who had charge of the women, advised. Now Esther was admired by all who saw her.

Esth 2:21 In those days, while Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate, Bigthan and Teresh, two of the king's *eunuchs*, who guarded the threshold, became angry and conspired to assassinate King Ahasuerus.

Esth 4:4–5 When Esther's maids and her *eunuchs* came and told her [that Mordecai was mourning], the queen was deeply distressed; she sent garments to clothe Mordecai, so that he might take off his sackcloth; but he would not accept them. Then Esther called for Hathach, one of the king's *eunuchs*, who had been appointed to attend her, and ordered him to go to Mordecai to learn what was happening and why.

Esth 6:2 It was found written how Mordecai had told about Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's *eunuchs*, who guarded the threshold, and who had conspired to assassinate King Ahasuerus.

Esth 6:14 While they [Haman's wife and friends] were still talking with him, the king's *eunuchs* arrived and hurried Haman off to the banquet that Esther had prepared.

Esth 7:9 Then Harbona, one of the *eunuchs* in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that."

Isa 39:7 Some of your own sons who are born to you shall be taken away; they shall be *eunuchs* in the palace of the king of Babylon."

Isa 56:3-5 Do not let the foreigner joined to the LORD say,

"The LORD will surely separate me from his people";

and do not let the *eunuch* say,

"I am just a dry tree."

For thus says the LORD:

To the *eunuchs* who keep my sabbaths,

who choose the things that please me

and hold fast my covenant,

I will give, in my house and within my walls,

a monument and a name

better than sons and daughters;

I will give them an everlasting name

that shall not be cut off.

Jer 29:2 This was after King Jeconiah, and the queen mother, the *court officials*, the leaders of Judah and Jerusalem, the artisans, and the smiths had departed from Jerusalem.

Jer 34:18–20 And those who transgressed my covenant and did not keep the terms of the covenant that they made before me, I will make like the calf when they cut it in two and passed between its parts: the officials of Judah, the officials of Jerusalem, the *eunuchs*, the priests, and all the people of the land who passed between the parts of the calf shall be handed over to their enemies and to those who seek their lives. Their corpses shall become food for the birds of the air and the wild animals of the earth.

Jer 38:7–9 Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, a *eunuch* in the king's house, heard that they had put Jeremiah into the cistern. The king happened to be sitting at the Benjamin Gate, So Ebed-melech left the king's house and spoke to the king, "My lord king, these men have acted wickedly in all they did to the prophet Jeremiah by throwing him into the cistern to die there of hunger, for there is no bread left in the city."

Jer 39:3 When Jerusalem was taken, all the officials of the king of Babylon came and sat in the middle gate: Nergal-sharezer, Samgar-nebo, Sarsechim the *Rab-saris*, Nergal-sharezer the Rab-mag, with all the rest of the officials of the king of Babylon.

Jer 39:13–14 So Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, Nebushazban the *Rab-saris*, Nergal-sharezer the Rab-mag, and all the chief officers of the king of Babylon sent and took Jeremiah from the court of the guard. They entrusted him to Gedaliah son of Ahikam son of Shaphan to be brought home. So he stayed with his own people.

Jer 41:16 Then Johanan son of Kareah and all the leaders of the forces with him took all the rest of the people whom Ishmael son of Nethaniah had carried away captive from Mizpah after he had slain Gedaliah son of Ahikam—soldiers, women, children, and *eunuchs*, whom Johanan brought back from Gibeon.

Jer 52:24–25 The captain of the guard took the chief priest Seraiah, the second priest Zephaniah, and the three guardians of the threshold; and from the city he took an *officer* who had been in command of the soldiers, and seven men of the king’s council who were found in the city; the secretary of the commander of the army who mustered the people of the land; and sixty men of the people of the land who were found inside the city.

Dan 1:3–4 Then the king commanded his *palace master* Ashpenaz to bring some of the Israelites of the royal family and of the nobility, young men without physical defect and handsome, versed in every branch of wisdom, endowed with knowledge and insight, and competent to serve in the king’s palace; they were to be taught the literature and language of the Chaldeans.

Dan 1:7 The *palace master* gave them other names: Daniel he called Belteshazzar, Hananiah he called Shadrach, Mishael he called Meshach, and Azariah he called Abednego.

Dan 1:8–13 But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the royal rations of food and wine; so he asked the *palace master* to allow him not to defile himself. Now God allowed Daniel to receive favor and compassion from the *palace master*. The *palace master* said to Daniel, “I am afraid of my lord the king; he has appointed your food and your drink. If he should see you in poorer condition than the other young men of your own age, you would

endanger my head with the king.” Then Daniel asked the guard whom the *palace master* had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: “Please test your servants for ten days. Let us be given vegetables to eat and water to drink. You can then compare our appearance with the appearance of the young men who eat the royal rations, and deal with your servants according to what you observe.”

Dan 1:18–19 At the end of the time that the king had set for them to be brought in, the *palace master* brought them into the presence of Nebuchadnezzar, and the king spoke with them. And among them all, no one was found to compare with Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah; therefore they were stationed in the king’s court.