

# APPENDIX

## MEASURES OF LENGTH

		span	cubit	rod
span		1	..	..
cubit		2	1	
rod	[Hebrew literally 'reed', the length of Ezekiel's measuring-rod]	12	6	1

The 'short cubit' was traditionally the measure from the elbow to the knuckles of the closed fist; and what seems to be intended as a 'long cubit' measured a 'cubit and a hand-breadth', i.e. 7 instead of 6 hand-breadths (Ezek. 40.5). What is meant by cubits 'according to the old standard of measurement' (2Chr. 3.3) is presumably this pre-exilic cubit of 7 hand-breadths. Modern estimates of the Hebrew cubit range from 12 to 25.2 inches, without allowing for varying local standards.

## MEASURES OF CAPACITY

<i>liquid measures</i>	<i>equivalences</i>	<i>dry measures</i>
'log'	1 'log'	..
..	4 'log'	'kab'
..	7.2 'log'	'omer'
'hin'	12 'log'	..
'bath'	72 'log'	'ephah'
'kor'	720 'log'	'homer' or 'kor'

According to ancient authorities the Hebrew 'log' was of the same capacity as the Roman *sextarius*; this according to the best available evidence was equivalent to 0.99 pint of the English standard.

## WEIGHTS AND COINS

heavy (Phoenician)  
standard

light (Babylonian)  
standard

	shekel	mina	talent	shekel	mina	talent
shekel	1	..	..	1	..	..
mina	50	1	..	60	1	..
talent	3,000	60	1	3,600	60	1

The 'gerah' was 1/20 of the sacred or heavy shekel and probably 1/24 of the light shekel. The 'sacred shekel' according to tradition was identical with the heavy shekel; while the 'shekel of the standard recognized by merchants' (Gen. 23.16) was perhaps a weight stamped with its value as distinct from one not so stamped and requiring to be weighed on the spot.

The weight and value of the shekel varied so greatly according to the district and with the passing centuries that its evaluation in modern terms is impossible. Recent discoveries suggest that it may have weighed approximately 11.5 grammes.

Coins are not mentioned before the Exile. Only the 'daric' (1Chr. 29.7) and the 'drachma' (Ezra 2.69; Neh. 7.70-72), if this is a distinct coin, are found in the Old Testament; the former is said to have been a month's pay for a soldier in the Persian army, while the latter will have been the Greek silver drachma, estimated at approximately 4.4 grammes. The 'shekel' of this period (Neh. 5.15) as a coin was probably the Graeco-Persian *siglos* weighing 5.6 grammes.