

Bara (1254, Create) Word Study

A. Used of God

1. Creating the Heavens and Earth and Elements Thereof
 - a. Creating Heavens and Earth Initially
 - 1) Genesis 1:1 (NNAS) In the beginning God **created** the heavens and the earth.
 - 2) Genesis 2:4 (NNAS) This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were **created**, in the day that the LORD God made earth and heaven.
 - 3) Isaiah 42:5 (NNAS) Thus says God the LORD, Who **created** the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread out the earth and its offspring, Who gives breath to the people on it And spirit to those who walk in it,
 - 4) Isaiah 45:18 (NNAS) For thus says the LORD, who **created** the heavens (He is the God who formed the earth and made it, He established it *and* did not **create** it a waste place, *But* formed it to be inhabited), "I am the LORD, and there is none else.
 - b. Creative Work in General (in Creation Week)
 - 1) Genesis 2:3 (NNAS) Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had **created** and made
 - c. Creating Various Entities in the Original and Extant Physical Universe
 - 1) Creating the Heavens and the Waters Above Them: Psalms 148:4-5 (NNAS) Praise Him, highest heavens, And the waters that are above the heavens! {5} Let them praise the name of the LORD, For He commanded and they were **created**.
 - 2) Creating the Stars: Isaiah 40:26 (NNAS) Lift up your eyes on high And see who has **created** these *stars*, The One who leads forth their host by number, He calls them all by name; Because of the greatness of His might and the strength of *His* power, Not one of *them* is missing.

- 3) Creating the Ends of the Earth: Isaiah 40:28 (NNAS) Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the LORD, the **Creator** of the ends of the earth Does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable.
- 4) Creating the North and the South: Psalms 89:12 (NNAS) The north and the south, You have **created** them; Tabor and Hermon shout for joy at Your name
- 5) Creating Darkness (synonymous with Calamity) (See A. 2. a. below.): Isaiah 45:7 (NNAS) The One forming light and **creating** darkness, Causing well-being and **creating** calamity; I am the LORD who does all these.
- 6) Creating the Wind: Amos 4:13 (NNAS) For behold, He who forms mountains and **creates** the wind And declares to man what are His thoughts, He who makes dawn into darkness And treads on the high places of the earth, The LORD God of hosts is His name.

d. Creating a New Universe

- 1) Creating New Heavens and Earth: Isaiah 65:17 (NNAS) "For behold, I **create** new heavens and a new earth; And the former things will not be remembered or come to mind.
- 2) Creating (apparently New) Jerusalem as a Place of Joy and Gladness: Isaiah 65:17-18 (NNAS) "For behold, I **create** new heavens and a new earth; And the former things will not be remembered or come to mind. {18} "But be glad and rejoice forever in what I **create**; For behold, I create Jerusalem *for* rejoicing And her people *for* gladness.

2. Creating Perceptible Immaterial Conditions

- a. Creating Calamity (synonymous with Darkness) (See A.1.c. 4) above.): Isaiah 45:7 (NNAS) The One forming light and **creating** darkness, Causing well-being and **creating** calamity; I am the LORD who does all these.
- b. Creating (apparently) Righteousness: Isaiah 45:8 (NNAS) "Drip down, O heavens, from above, And let the clouds pour down righteousness; Let the earth open up and salvation bear fruit, And righteousness spring up with it. I, the LORD, have **created** it.

- c. Creating Events in Fulfillment of Prophecy: Isaiah 48:3-7 (NNAS) "I declared the former things long ago And they went forth from My mouth, and I proclaimed them. Suddenly I acted, and they came to pass. {4} "Because I know that you are obstinate, And your neck is an iron sinew And your forehead bronze, {5} Therefore I declared *them* to you long ago, Before they took place I proclaimed *them* to you, So that you would not say, 'My idol has done them, And my graven image and my molten image have commanded them.' {6} "You have heard; look at all this. And you, will you not declare it? I proclaim to you new things from this time, Even hidden things which you have not known. {7} "They are **created** now and not long ago; And before today you have not heard them, So that you will not say, 'Behold, I knew them.'
- d. Creating Human Praise in Response to Peace: Isaiah 57:18-19 (NNAS) "I have seen his ways, but I will heal him; I will lead him and restore comfort to him and to his mourners, {19} **Creating** the praise of the lips. Peace, peace to him who is far and to him who is near," Says the LORD, "and I will heal him."
- e. Creating a New Thing in the Earth (Perhaps referring to a woman courting a man, symbolizing that a rejuvenated Israel [daughter] will court Yahweh [a man], Charles H. Dyer, Jeremiah, *TBKC*): Jeremiah 31:22 (NNAS) "How long will you go here and there, O faithless daughter? For the LORD has **created** a new thing in the earth-- A woman will encompass a man."

3. Creating Animals

- a. In the initial creation week: Genesis 1:21 (NNAS) God **created** the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed after their kind, and every winged bird after its kind; and God saw that it was good.
- b. By creating conditions in which new animals are born: Psalms 104:30 (NNAS) You send forth Your Spirit, they are **created**; And You renew the face of the ground.

4. Creating Man

a. Creating Man Initially

- 1) Genesis 1:27 (NNAS) God **created** man in His own image, in the image of God He **created** him; male and female He **created** them.

- 2) Genesis 5:1 (NNAS) This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day when God **created** man, He made him in the likeness of God.
 - 3) Genesis 5:2 (NNAS) He **created** them male and female, and He blessed them and named them Man in the day when they were **created**.
 - 4) Genesis 6:7 (NNAS) The LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have **created** from the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky; for I am sorry that I have made them."
 - 5) Deuteronomy 4:32 (NNAS) "Indeed, ask now concerning the former days which were before you, since the day that God **created** man on the earth, and *inquire* from one end of the heavens to the other. Has *anything* been done like this great thing, or has *anything* been heard like it?"
 - 6) Isaiah 45:12 (NNAS) "It is I who made the earth, and **created** man upon it. I stretched out the heavens with My hands And I ordained all their host.
- b. Creating Humans through the Human Birth Process (Who Have Been or Will Be Born)
- 1) A Generation of People Not Yet Born: Psalms 102:18 (NNAS) This will be written for the generation to come, That a people yet to be **created** may praise the LORD.
 - 2) Individuals Already Born: Ecclesiastes 12:1 (NNAS) Remember also your **Creator** in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near when you will say, "I have no delight in them";
 - 3) Israel
 - a) Israel (Jacob): Isaiah 43:1 (NNAS) But now, thus says the LORD, your **Creator**, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine!
 - b) Isaiah 43:7 (NNAS) Everyone who is called by My name,

And whom I have **created** for My glory, Whom I have formed, even whom I have made."

- c) Isaiah 43:15 (NNAS) "I am the LORD, your Holy One, The **Creator** of Israel, your King."
 - d) Malachi 2:10 (NNAS) "Do we not all have one father? Has not one God **created** us? Why do we deal treacherously each against his brother so as to profane the covenant of our fathers?"
- 4) The Sons of Ammon: Ezekiel 21:28-**30** (NNAS) "And you, son of man, prophesy and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD concerning the sons of Ammon and concerning their reproach,' and say: 'A sword, a sword is drawn, polished for the slaughter, to cause it to consume, that it may be like lightning-- {29} while they see for you false visions, while they divine lies for you--to place you on the necks of the wicked who are slain, whose day has come, in the time of the punishment of the end. {30} 'Return *it* to its sheath. In the place where you were **created**, in the land of your origin, I will judge you.
- c. Creating Man or Segments of Mankind to Perform Certain Tasks
 - 1) Creating the Blacksmith and the Destroyer (perhaps a reference to Babylon, John A. Martin, Isaiah, *TBKC*): Isaiah 54:16 (NNAS) "Behold, I Myself have **created** the smith who blows the fire of coals And brings out a weapon for its work; And I have **created** the destroyer to ruin.

5. Creating Miracles

- a. Exodus 34:10 (NNAS) Then God said, "Behold, I am going to make a covenant. Before all your people I will perform miracles which have not been **produced** in all the earth nor among any of the nations; and all the people among whom you live will see the working of the LORD, for it is a fearful thing that I am going to perform with you.
- b. Numbers 16:30 (NNAS) "But if the LORD **brings about** an entirely new thing and the ground opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that is theirs, and they descend alive into Sheol, then you will understand that these men have spurned the LORD."

6. Creating in Man a Clean Heart: (Psa 51:10 NNAS) Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me.
7. Creating a New Environment in the Millennial Kingdom:
 - a. Isaiah 4:5 (NNAS) then the LORD will **create** over the whole area of Mount Zion and over her assemblies a cloud by day, even smoke, and the brightness of a flaming fire by night; for over all the glory will be a canopy.
 - b. Isaiah 41:18-20 (NNAS) "I will open rivers on the bare heights And springs in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water And the dry land fountains of water. {19} "I will put the cedar in the wilderness, The acacia and the myrtle and the olive tree; I will place the juniper in the desert Together with the box tree and the cypress, {20} That they may see and recognize, And consider and gain insight as well, That the hand of the LORD has done this, And the Holy One of Israel has **created** it.
8. Creating the Cherub Lucifer (a.k.a. Satan) Ezekiel 28:13 (NNAS) "You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The ruby, the topaz and the diamond; The beryl, the onyx and the jasper; The lapis lazuli, the turquoise and the emerald; And the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets, Was in you. On the day that you were **created** They were prepared.

B. Used of Man

1. Clearing Land (Creating a New Environment in Which to Live)
 - a. Joshua 17:15 (NNAS) Joshua said to them, "If you are a numerous people, go up to the forest and **clear** a place for yourself there in the land of the Perizzites and of the Rephaim, since the hill country of Ephraim is too narrow for you."
 - b. Joshua 17:18 (NNAS) but the hill country shall be yours. For though it is a forest, you shall **clear** it, and to its farthest borders it shall be yours; for you shall drive out the Canaanites, even though they have chariots of iron *and* though they are strong."
2. Clearing of People with the Sword: Ezekiel 23:47 (NNAS) "The company will stone them with stones and **cut them down** with their swords; they will slay their sons and their daughters and burn their houses with fire.

3. Making Himself Fat: (1 Sam 2:29 NNAS) 'Why do you kick at My sacrifice and at My offering which I have commanded *in My dwelling*, and honor your sons above Me, by **making yourselves fat** with the choicest of every offering of My people Israel?'
4. Creating a Signpost: Ezekiel 21:19 (NNAS) "As for you, son of man, make two ways for the sword of the king of Babylon to come; both of them will go out of one land. And **make** a signpost; **make** it at the head of the way to the city.

C. Conclusion

1. *bara*, whether used of God or man, means to create a new entity, situation, or condition.
2. Used of God, *bara* means to create the heavens and the earth and elements in it such as stars, animals, man, and cherub (Lucifer). He creates conditions such as darkness, calamity, righteousness, miracles, and events that fulfill prophecy. He creates new human beings and animals through the birth process, and he creates nations such as Israel and the sons of Ammon. He is asked to create in man a clean heart. He will create a new environment in the Millennial Kingdom and a new heavens and earth afterwards.
3. Used of man (only six times), *bara* means to create a usable parcel of land by chopping down trees, to use the swords of Babylon and Chaldea to cut down sinful people of Judah (in judgment clearing the land of Judah of sinners), to make a new condition of satisfied fatness by stealing the meat from peoples' offerings, and to create a new signpost.
4. *bara* does not require creating out of nothing, although it can mean that. The context must supply the material or lack of material. It stands to reason that in Genesis 1:1, *bara* means creation *ex nihilo*. Elsewhere, God created man out of the dust of the earth (Gen. 2:7).

Word Study of *bara, create*
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