

## Case 19: Minerals of the Bible

Minerals are mentioned many times in the Bible in reference to the glory of God's creation. This display contains several of the minerals described from the breastpiece of the priestly garments in the Book of Exodus. Several are mentioned again in the description of the New Jerusalem in Revelation 21. Though we don't have a sample of every mineral named in the Bible, the ones in this case come from the following verses:



"His body was like **topaz**, his face like lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and his voice like the sound of a multitude."  
*Daniel 10:6*



"The crucible for **silver** and the furnace for **gold**, but the Lord tests the heart."  
*Proverbs 17:3*

Mineral	Reference
Agate	Exodus 28:19, 39:12, Revelation 21:19
Amethyst	Exodus 28:19, 39:12, Revelation 21:20
Beryl	Exodus 28:17, 39:10, Ezekiel 28:13, Revelation 21:20
Emerald	Exodus 28:18, 39:11, Ezekiel 28:13, Revelation 4:3, 21:19
Gold	Many references, but most notably Exodus 25:11-36, Proverbs 8:10
Onyx	Genesis 2:12, Exodus 25:7, 28:9, 20, 35:9, 27, 39:6, 13, 1 Chronicles 29:2, Job 28:16, Ezekiel 28:13, Revelation 21:20
Opal	Exodus 28:19, Revelation 39:12 (some translations)
Ruby	Revelation 4:3, 21:20
Silver	Many references, but most notably Genesis 44:1, 1 Chronicles 29:4
Topaz	Exodus 28:20, 39:13, Job 28:19, Ezekiel 1:16, 10:9, 28:13, Daniel 10:6, Revelation 21:20

Bruce Dice  
**MINERALOGICAL MUSEUM**

**Information from:**

\***The Bible** – New International Version

**Mindat.org** – The world's largest online mineral database.

\***"Rock and Gem: The definitive guide to rocks, minerals, gemstones, and fossils"** by Bonewitz, R. and the Smithsonian Institute, New York, NY: Dorling Kindersle. 2008.

\***"Simon and Schuster's Guide to Rocks and Minerals"** – edited by Martin Prinz, George Harlow, and Joseph Peters. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1978.

\*available for reference in the Dice Mineralogical Museum

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