

“Casting lots” [Greek, *ballō klēron*] in the Bible

PSALM 22.18 (LXX 21.19): they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots [ebalon klēron].

JOEL 3.2c-3 (4.3 LXX): They have divided my land and **cast lots [ebalon klērous]** for my people, and traded boys for prostitutes, and sold girls for wine, and drunk it down.

OBADIAH 1.11b: foreigners entered his gates and **cast lots [ebalon klērous]** for Jerusalem...

JONAH 1.7: So **they cast lots [ebalon klērous]**, and the lot fell on Jonah

NEHEMIAH 3.10: Yet she became an exile, she went into captivity; even her infants were dashed in pieces at the head of every street; **lots were cast [balousin klērous]** for her nobles, all her dignitaries were bound in fetters.

LUKE 23.34: Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And **they cast lots [ebalon klērous]** to divide his clothing. [parallel Matthew 27.35; Mark 15.24]

JOHN 19.24: So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots [ebalon klēron]."