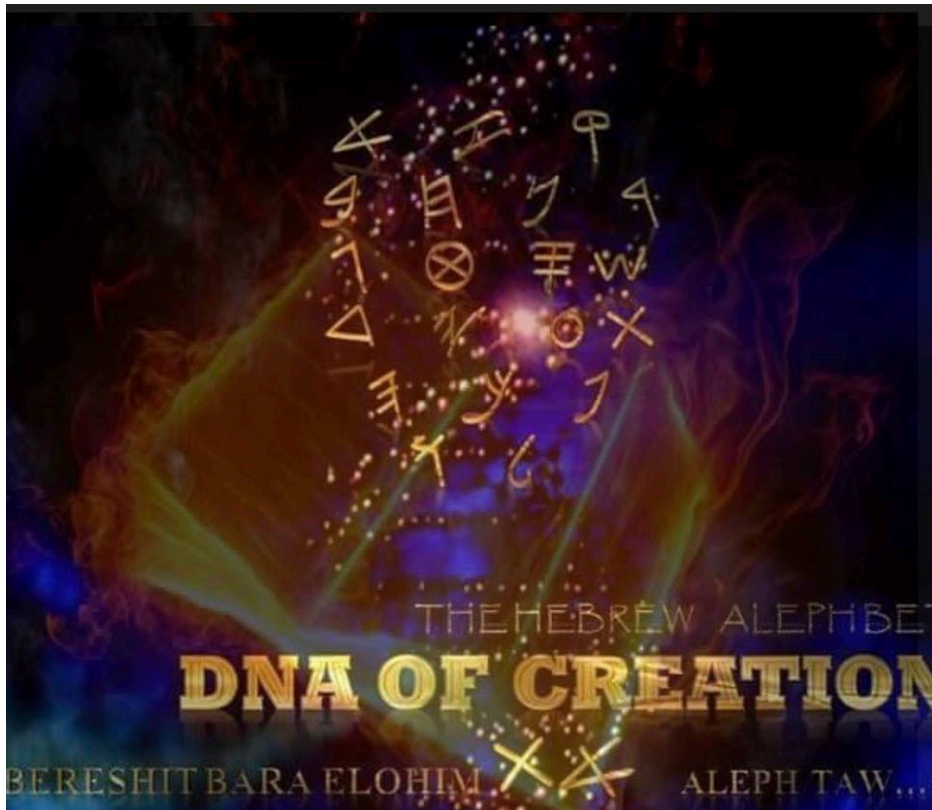


HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE FUNDAMENTALS

Everything in the Hebrew language of the bible is in reference to man's relationship with Yah, and man's relationship with mankind. Every Living Word comes alive because of our Father establishing that word, made of various letters. Those letters are like bricks that are locked together and filled with the mortar of the Ruach haKodesh (Holy Spirit). His Spirit combined with His words, come alive to bring into existence everything that is. It's that simple. That's why when people say Yahveh cannot lie it is simply the truth. When Yah speaks His works BECOME what they represent, or what they were spoken to be. It is literally impossible for Yah to lie.

Scientists say that everything is made of a combination of basic elements. There are about 118 elements on the elements chart (periodic table). Basically what man does is he combines various elements together to make something. Hydrogen, sulphur, oxygen are some of the fundamental elements of which important things are made.



In the same manner when you take the twenty two Hebrew letters and put them together, you create something. Plants, animals, etc. were created by Yah when He combined specific Hebrew letters. For this reason it is vitally important that we understand and use the original Hebrew letters so that we can understand creation. That's why the Scriptures are often called the Living Word. These letters must be used, arranged properly, to get the perfect combination to create something. By having the wrong combination the meaning is lost. That's why scripture says you shall not add to or take away from the Word. We are not to change one jot or tittle or we may change what is life to what could be death.

We know that water, H₂O is a life sustaining substance made when you combine two parts hydrogen with one part oxygen. This water is what sustains life on earth. If for example you took two parts hydrogen and one part sulphur and combined them, you would make hydrogen sulphide, which of course will kill you. As I just revealed, if you change any simple combination you can go from life to death in an instant. This is both a scientific and a spiritual concept that must always be considered when studying the Living Word.

Dad's Living Word is active and alive and creates as it is both read and written.

THE ORIGIN OF WORDS

In order to properly understand what is written in the scrolls we must go back to the original meaning of the words used at the time they were used. This is a basic step required to understand our bible to its fullest. In order to fully understand the context in which a particular word was used, we must first be able to understand its original meaning. We don't do this to support existing doctrine, we do this to understand the original meanings of scriptures. If one does not have a complete knowledge of these three criteria when it comes to

literally understanding the words of our good book, they will never grasp the deeper meanings of the precious message it contains. They may indeed grasp the over all gist of the message, which is the most important part, but they will never be able to get into the depths of the meanings of those verses. In this day and age we have what appears to be endless knowledge (information) available to us through technology, but all this knowledge is of little or no value if one doesn't have the wisdom to use it. The earth is the Word (soil), and we are to be the bondservants, gardeners Yah created to work the soil properly, so it can produce the best crop of understanding possible. This is part of the basic principle of Torah, sowing seeds (Hebrew Words), and gathering fruit.

Man's ways of watering down the true words of our Hebrew scriptures have taken away from the full meat of the original words in order to make various bible translations easier for some to grasp. This may be beneficial for many at first when they are babes in the Word, but in most cases you will find these individuals never really get into the meat and potatoes of the proper translations of the good book later on when they begin to mature in the word.

Isa. 28:9-10 *"To whom would He teach knowledge? And to whom would He interpret the message? Those just weaned from milk? Those just taken from the breast? 10 "For He says, '**Order on order, order on order, Line on line, line on line, A little here, a little there.**'"*

Hebr. 5:12-14 *For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of Yah, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes {only} of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. **But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.**"*

Hebr. 6:1 *"Therefore leaving the eliminatory teaching about Messiah **let us press on to maturity, not laying foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward Yahveh.**"*

Unfortunately many then choose the comfortable easy to read translations as true gospel, when in fact it is in most cases a very diluted message that only dabbles in the truth in order to make it easier for one to read. The bible itself says we are to mature in the word after we are "born again". What this means is that we are to advance in our studies in order to grasp the full meaning of the precious words Yah has managed to have written down on paper for the whole world to review. He managed this IN-SPITE OF the Roman Catholic church, not because of, as many immature christians have been brainwashed into believing.

When you take a word of the bible and trace it back to its origin you will always find that the meaning was part of everyday living in the original Hebrew culture. The concept of the Word representing a family, a home and a garden in which the family sowed its seeds, is still the foundational principle involved in the entirety of understanding torah. Everything we learn from scripture comes from this original context and how it applied to the everyday lives of the people.

All things written in the Renewed Testament are assumed beliefs. All Renewed Testament writers assume that those hearing their words believe in the Torah scrolls. These writers don't stop and explain the meanings of all the words they use in their letters because it is assumed those hearing understand what grace, truth, love, etc. mean in Hebrew. Writers like Paul assume that those present already know the meaning of the words he uses. Keep in mind, that Peter or Paul are not doing bible studies when they write these words, they are writing letters to people they know already understand the meanings of these words in Hebrew, Greek or any other commonly used language.

In order to do any kind of serious study of the literal translation of the specific words of our Living Bible one needs some basic tools. For many, learning and understanding the literal translations of words is the only way to grasp to the best of their ability, the true meaning and context being portrayed in our English language. Anyone who has done any serious amount of study understands that the English language is perhaps one of the poorest designed languages known to man. It is literally a language of memory, rather than a language of pictures like Yah's original language used to write our entire bible. How it has become such a popular language throughout the world is a mystery to me, but it is the reality that we have to deal with in our so-called Western civilized culture. Like it or not, we are stuck with this language and must do the best we can to translate the original Hebrew into this language so we can formally communicate its meanings in our day and time.

There is no doubt in my mind that I would rather have the Holy Spirit reveal to me what the words mean and what is meant in-between the lines, but not all have progressed to that point in their individual spiritual walk. This article is basically written for those who are not spirit filled and are still learning how to grasp the depth of our bible through literal translations. Any means that will help us understand our Living Scriptures is of great benefit to all of us Brothers and Sisters of Yeshua the Messiah.

The following are some basic tools used to do an in-depth study of the scriptures:

- 1) Interlinear
- 2) Strong's Exhaustive Concordance
- 3) Lexicon's Greek or Hebrew to English dictionary (Thayers is the most common).
- 4) Englishmen's Greek to English Concordance (Wigrams is a good one because it is coded to Strong's).

5) Englishmen's Hebrew to English Concordance (Wigrams is a good one because it is coded to Strong's).

6) Concordance to the Septuagint (Hatch & Redpath have a good one)

INTERLINEAR

An interlinear is a book that has the same text in different languages written on alternate lines. For example in a typical interlinear you will find the Bible in its usual order with half of each page in English and the other half in either Hebrew or Greek. To study properly one needs both an English to Hebrew and an English to Greek interlinear. In some cases you may even find a bible with both Greek and Hebrew, but it would obviously have to be a huge book in order to have the text printed three times. Some come with both Hebrew and Greek but use multiple volumes.



STRONG'S EXHAUSTIVE CONCORDANCE TO THE BIBLE

Strong's exhaustive concordance is a book that has an alphabetical listing of every word in the entire bible with its common literal English translation. It is based on the King James Version of the bible, so one must keep this in mind at all times. The KJV is full of errors, so obviously Strong's will have words that coincide with those errors. Each word is given a number which identifies it with its Hebrew or Greek meaning. There is a concordance for the KJV, the NAS, etc. according to their particular transliteration of a word. The most common Strong's used for bible study is no doubt the King James version concordance. These books list each word in alphabetical order and show where each and every one of these words is located by giving the appropriate scriptures. In the back of Strong's is located both a Hebrew and Greek dictionary which gives further details about the use and make-up of these words. This usually includes the root words from which they came. Also in the back of Strong's you will find the Hebrew and Greek alphabets listed. Unfortunately Strong's accommodates the popular belief that the Old Testament was written in Hebrew and the Renewed in Greek.

LEXICONS

Lexicon is a sophisticated way of saying dictionary. Lexicons are simply in-depth dictionaries for translations of either Hebrew or Greek words into its closest English counterpart. This is another basic tool for linguistic study of words. You may describe linguistic as the subconscious, intuitive knowledge of the rules of a language, whatever that language may be. This knowledge is used to understand the proper meaning of various words in their original language compared to other languages (transliteration). In Lexicons Hebrew words are always listed in their consonants appearance, not the vowels. You don't need to look up the vowels in Hebrew, just the consonants. Thayer's is perhaps the most well known Lexicon.

ENGLISHMEN'S GREEK OR HEBREW CONCORDANCE (WIGRAM)

In an Englishmen's Greek concordance you will find a list of all the Greek words used in the bible. Then if you will look up the Greek word you will find out where else this word was used in our English bible. It will give you all the English words that the Greek word comes from.

The Hebrew Englishmen's will do the exact same thing, only using Hebrew words. It will give you some insight as to exactly how many different ways that Hebrew or Greek word was used. When you see how this word is used elsewhere in scripture it helps you understand what meaning is trying to be conveyed. The Englishman's Greek and Hebrew concordance is coded to Strong's.

CONCORDANCE TO THE SEPTUAGINT

Very briefly, the Septuagint is a Greek version of much of the Hebrew Old Testament, including the Apocrypha, made for Greek speaking Jews in Egypt in the third and second centuries BC and adopted by the early christian churches. The Greek Septuagint was put together by seventy two Jewish Rabbis for the benefit of the Greek speaking people. These Rabbis did not translate all of the bible into the Septuagint. When you look into it you will see theres all kinds of scriptures they never even included in their compilation. The Messianic prophetic passages are the most obvious ones they never even included in their Septuagint. For example: the second half of Jer. 33 is not even in the Septuagint. The Rabbis had a reason for doing this. They didn't want the Greeks and the other gentiles going around trying to figure out who the Messiah written about, was. In simple english, they didn't want others competing with them in their knowledge and understanding of scripture. It all boils down to this; the Greek Septuagint is not a complete copy of the Old Testament.

The real problem came about when the churches went along with this Greek Septuagint, accepting it as whole and complete. These Greek pastors studied Greek, so naturally they wanted to study the Greek Septuagint even though it was not complete or properly translated. This included the Renewed Testament scriptures. Since then all the supposed christians have been taught that the bible was written in Greek, especially the Renewed Testament. This has caused serious problems with the preachers and teachers ever since. The book of Hebrews does not qualify as all the other cannon of scripture did back then, but because it used quotes from the Greek Septuagint, it was accepted as cannon. They have convinced the un-educated people that the Greek is a more viable translation then the original Hebrew. Only those who are truly mature in their spiritual walk will grasp how the cannon of scripture actually came about in the first place. When one looks into it they will see that these men who put this cannon together were not great born again set-apart men, they were secular.

The Septuagint is the accepted Greek words used by seventy two Hebrew scholars (working independently), to translate the Hebrew into its comparable more common at the time Koine Greek form. The Concordance to the Septuagint first lists the corresponding Hebrew words (without transliteration) and assigns each of them a number, with an additional letter to distinguish some verbal forms from others.

The work that was done by the Rabbis was for the most part, excellent work. However, one of the things that is not well known is that these Rabbis did not translate all the passages in scripture. They just did portions of it to give the Greeks a sense of what the scriptures said. For example, they didn't translate anything to do with the Messianic prophesies. The reason they didn't do this was; the Rabbis didn't want the Greeks to go in and question anything pertaining to the future events for Israel. The Septuagint has many great translations of certain events, but it is not a complete translation of anything. We put as much credence in the Greek Septuagint as we do in the other three hundred plus manuscripts out there available on what the ancient scriptures said. It is by no means equal to the original Hebrew scriptures. It is simply some partial works that give us some insight into how the Hebrew sources were translated into the Greek language. For the most part, the Greek Septuagint is not considered to be a very scholarly work. The Septuagint has been fairly accepted because the writer of Hebrews quotes from it extensively. The fact that the book of Hebrews is not a Ruach inspired writing, has caused much dilemma since. If the Book of Hebrews, which should not be included in the canon of scripture were removed, the Greek Septuagint would not be accepted as an accurate translation of the Hebrew original. It was given credibility only because the writer of Hebrews used it. It is in and by itself not anymore credible than many others sources. The Septuagint was not used by Hebrew scholars, only Greek.

HOW TO STUDY THE LIVING WORD

Those who are spirit filled and anointed to teach what the Word of Yah says and means, need a full understanding of what the words or verses in question mean in their original context. The first or original language was paleo Hebrew pictograph's, which evolved over the years through various stages to the modern Hebrew we have today. Hebrew is the seed (tree) from which almost all other languages (grafts) blossom. In the study of linguistics many use a tree as an example of the origin of languages. It is no coincidence that the Hebrew language is considered the seed of Yah. This seed that Yah gave us in the beginning also reveals to us the end. In the beginning was the Word and in that Word was revealed to us the end. **Isa. 46:9-10**

"Remember the former things long past, For I am Elohim, and there is no other; I am Elohim, and there is no one like Me, 10 Declaring the end from the beginning And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure';

Yah's truth is embedded in the original pictographs so that no matter what mankind would do to the

original language, the literal pictures (pictographs) would always be there for us to understand the original true meaning. Over the thousands of years since, we have seen exactly why He secured His Word (truth, "emet") in pictographs.

The in-depth study to extrapolate the true meanings of words in our bible is called hermeneutics, or theology. There are three basic things that have to be met in order to correctly understand how a particular word is used in scripture. They are:

- 1) The meaning of words.
- 2) The meaning of Hebrew idioms. An idiom may be described as a collection of words put together meaning something different than the individual words mean. "Eat your heart out", "he's not carrying a full load", "he's not a happy camper", etc. are examples of common idioms used in western culture that most in other cultures would not understand.
- 3) The context in which the above two things are used.

The importance of context cannot ever be pointed out too often. The reason most people have difficulty understanding the words of our bible is because they don't properly understand the context in which it was written when it was written originally, and when it was transliterated. The meaning of the word and the Hebrew idiom that may be used with the word or thought in question must all be in harmony with the context in order for everything to fit into place and make sense. If this doesn't occur one must go back and figure out what went wrong. You may have looked up the wrong word or root word, or you may have even only taken one part of an idiom involved. Either way, in order to make things right, everything must line up with the context. You may compare the meaning of the Hebrew word and the possible Hebrew idiom involved as multiple still pictures. If you take these still pictures (pictographs), line them up properly (put them in context), you will end up with a life like moving (living) movie type presentation. Yah's Hebrew Words (seeds) are ALIVE! When they are properly understood His Word comes ALIVE (produces fruit)! In the book of John we see an incredible scripture that explains to us how we will see this revelation of His Living word transform in our spirit. **John 14:21** (written in RED) **"He who has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me; and he who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I will love him, and will disclose Myself to him."** That is what this verse is talking about, making, having His pictures (meanings) of His Words come alive in our spirit so we can see His Living Word (Yeshua) in a full color movie. This revelation, disclosure, only takes place for those who are obedient to His commandments.

1Cor. 2:9-16 THE EYE HAS NOT SEEN NOR HAS THE EAR HEARD (1Cor. 2:6-8, 1Cor. 8:2) *but just as it is written, "THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD, AND WHICH HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HEART OF MAN, ALL THAT YAH HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."* 10 For to us Yah revealed them through the Spirit; **for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of Yah.** 11 For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man, which is in him? Even so the thoughts of Yah no one knows except the Ruach of Yah. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from Yah, that we might know the things freely given to us by Yah, 13 which things we also speak, **not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.** 14 **But a natural man does not accept the things of the Ruach of Yah; for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.** 15 *But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no man.* 16 **FOR WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF ADONAI, THAT HE SHOULD INSTRUCT HIM? But we have the mind of Messiah** If you ever want to study the Creator of the Universe, your not going to study theology, you are going to study the Ruach haKodesh of Yahveh. Then only will His Spirit teach your spirit about Him. You cannot learn of Yah academically, you must experience Him. In order to learn about Adonai, He must put His Spirit inside of us. He wants us to learn about Him and He wants His Spirit inside of us guiding us through the mysteries of His Living Word, which represents His Spirit. 11 *"For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man, which is in him? Even so the thoughts of Yah no one knows except the Ruach of Yah."* 12 *Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from Yah, that we might know the things freely given to us by Yah,* 13 *which things we also speak,* **not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words".** Yah says He knows us. He says this because His Spirit is inside us. We may not know so much about the Almighty, but we know Him. People study scripture to learn about Adonai. The key is presenting His Word to Him and asking Him to teach you what He means in those words. Will you teach us Your Word by guiding us with Your Spirit inside of us? Show us the things you want us to see, teach us the things you want us to know, explain things to us that we need to understand. Help us get to know You, not just about You. We must all, individually, have that personal relationship with Him and allow His Ruach to lead our spirit to the truth.

1Cor. 8:2 **If anyone supposes that he knows anything, he has not yet known as he ought to know;**
1Cor. 2:6-8 *Yet we do speak wisdom among those who are mature; a wisdom, however, not of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are passing away; 7 but we speak Adonai's wisdom in a mystery, the hidden wisdom, which Adonai predestined before the ages to our glory; 8 the wisdom which none of the rulers of*

this age has understood; for if they had understood it, they would not have crucified Adonai of glory;
 In other-wards, the men who crucified Yeshua didn't know or understand the plan of Yah. Many of them were religious men but they didn't understand the plan of Adonai's redemption, or how it would work, or how the lamb of Yah would come and take away the sins of the world. Their ignorance had them slay the lamb of Yahveh.



There are things that Yah will communicate with us that our ears have never heard before and our eyes have never seen before. We have not even been able to imagine such things. This spiritual world is beyond the dimensions we have on the three dimensional planet. The is the spiritual world where the spiritual warfare is always taking place available only to those who have ears to hear and eyes to see and understand the plan of Yah. ***"The Spirit searches all things, even the depths of Yah". Isa. 55:9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts."***

ACADEMIA KNOWLEDGE VERSES SPIRITUAL KNOWLEDGE

1Cor. 2:1-5 *And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of Adonai. 2 For I determined to know nothing among you except Yeshua, and Him crucified. 3 And I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. 4 And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 that your faith should not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of Elohim."*

When you study the bible you don't do it from an academic perspective. If you approach the study of torah from an academic study perspective, you will learn nothing. If you try to learn torah from an academic point of view it will not work. Adonai is Spirit, so if you want to learn His Word you must study it from a spiritual perspective as Paul explained in 1Cor. 1:1-5. Paul didn't try to teach them in the same manner a scholarly teacher would. Scholarly teachers teach in a specific way when they build things one upon another in order to set up the teaching in a specific order to come up with a certain result. This is the teaching based on the wisdom of men. Our faith should be based on the power of God. Paul was teaching them based on the Spirit and Power of Yah, not on the wisdom of academia. When many people get into the Word they are trying to understand it, trying to get a lot of knowledge, but instead they should be asking Yah to change them so they can understand His Word. The frustration of acquiring knowledge is simple; there is no end to it. The moment you think you are starting to understand something, that is the moment you realize you know nothing. And this after you have acquired a lot of knowledge of various things. The real path of learning scripture is allowing the Spiritual words and Spiritual thoughts that come from the text to reach into your soul and change you.

AN EXAMPLE: "GATHERING TOGETHER"..'EPISUNAGOGE"

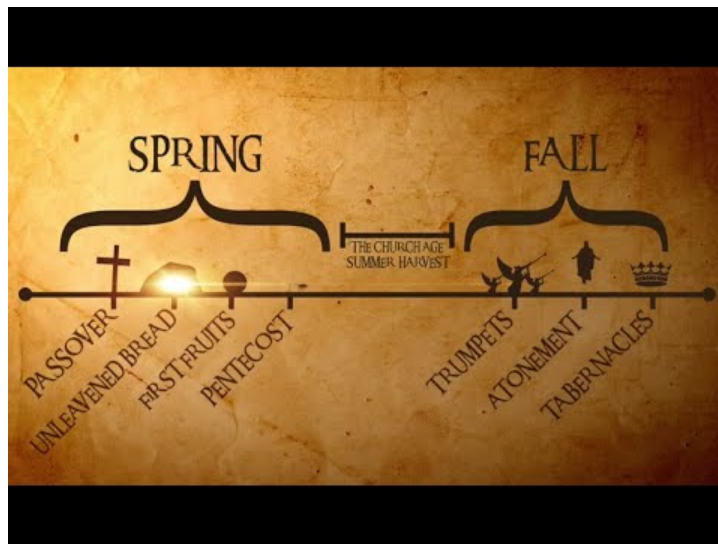
With all that said, let us now proceed with one example of a verse very commonly misunderstood by many. We will use the following word/words in a verse as an example of just how important the true meaning of a word is for its proper meaning.

2Ths. 2:1 *Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Messiah Yeshua and our **gathering together to Him,**" (NAS corrected)*

2Ths. 2:1 *But in connection with the coming of our Messiah Yeshua and our **gathering together to meet him,***

we ask you, brothers,” (CJB)

2Ths. 2:1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Messiah Yeshua, and by our **gathering together** unto him,” (KJV corrected)



Here we see Paul speaking of a FUTURE gathering together of the people. He is making it clear that this is in the future, it has not already happened. In verse seven and eight we see what he is referring to: **2Ths. 2:7-8** *For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. 8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom Adonai shall consume with the spirit of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming.”*

In order to begin the word study we are using in 2Ths. 2:1, we must first look at the meaning of the English word “gathering” used here as it is described in the Greek. Some people may prefer to start out with a concordance and some may start their study with an interlinear. In this case we will use Strong’s concordance to start our process. The word there translated into English, is Strong’s #1997 “episunnagoge”, a meeting (for worship) ..assembling (gathering) together.

Next to the Strong’s number 1997 you will see the actual Greek word “episunnagoge”. Right of that you will see written the closest English transliteration of that Greek word. This is the closest English equivalent. To the right of that we have in italic the closest phonetic spelling “ep-ee-soon-ag-o-gay”. To the right of that we have from what root that word is generally taken from. In this case it is Strong’s #1996.

Next to that we have a definition in italic. Being in italic it means that is the most literal translation. The bold words are NOT the literal translation. In this case it says a complete collection, a Chr. meeting (for worship):-assembling together. The Chr means “Christian” meaning.

We now look at the root word 1996 and we actually see two Greek words that this word comes from (1909 & 4863). That is a contraction of two Greek words which when put together collectively mean specifically some place put (united) together.

We now look at the Greek 1909 and we see “epi”. Next to it we see “a prim. prep. prop.”. That means it’s a prime root to superimpose. You are not going to break this word down any further than its prime root. The word “epi” means upon something, to superimpose, to place over something. In other words it is saying “the people were to gather over something at a certain time and place”.

You will sometimes notice in the concordance that words have a + (plus) or an x over them. If the word in bold has a plus in front of it it means that everything after the plus are words specific to King James English, something unique to the KJV. These words may not be translated this way in an NIV, NAS, etc. When you see the “x” in front of the bold word it means it is an idiom or part of an idiom in Greek. It means that the words following the “x” are words peculiar to the Greek, meaning something specific for that culture. You will find this a lot more in your Hebrew Lexicon rather than your Greek because there are a lot more idiomatic phrases in Hebrew than in Greek.

We now look at the Greek 4863 which is “sunago” which breaks it down just about as far as one can go. Anything beyond this point would be splitting hairs. Sunago means “to lead together, to collect or convene, to entertain”. To entertain is a way of saying “celebration, to be festive, to feast, to have fun together”.

Next, it’s followed with a + and it lists accompany, assemble, etc., words that are specific to the KJV. In other words, they are not translated that way in other translations.

To summarize what we have now discovered, we now see that the 1997 means to collect together, to

entertain, to convene, to celebrate in one place at a specific time. Remember we are still looking at the Greek only, we have not got into the Hebrew yet. Now we know why that particular word was used in the Greek to describe the Hebrew it was translated from. Paul is using words that he knows those listening already understand.

Now we take our Englishmen's Greek Concordance, look up the number 1996 to see the basic meaning of the word; "to gather together". Then generally they will give you examples of where this word is used in the bible. In this case it is used in Mark 13:27. Next to that meaning you will see a check mark. Then you will see two more numbers after that. That check mark means these are the words used as the root words. It lists 1996 and 4863. The verses listed using this word are all translated as "gathering together". In this particular case we see listed only two places where our original Strong's 1997 are used. They just happen to be 2Ths. 2:1 and Hebr. 10:24 where the gathering together is referring to a specific time to gather together for the Feast of Yah, back then and in the future when Yeshua returns. This is referring to the gathering together, assembling of all the twelve tribes for the Feasts on their special dates as per the lunar calendar. They did this three times a year. The "day of the Lord", or "the day of the coming of the Messiah" is referred to in every one of these Feasts. "As you see the "day" approaching is referring to the sliver of the moon marking the counting of days for the feasts. All these feasts (rehearsals) are given to us so that we can see the beginning to end written in the feasts, as Yah revealed in Isa. 46:9-10. It is also referring to the future feasts, because when Yeshua returns we will all gather together to celebrate the Wedding Feast and the other Feasts of Yah. This will start at the sound of the Trumpet on the Feast of Trumpets some day in the future.

You don't need to know Hebrew or Greek to do these things. It would obviously help a great deal, but it's not actually necessary. Knowing the order of the Hebrew and Greek alphabet is however necessary to go any further.

Letters in Greek run left to right the same as in English, but opposite the Hebrew. So all these things must be kept in mind when researching meanings.

Thayer's has a Hebrew to English Lexicon and a Greek to English Lexicon, two separate books. Thayer's is probably the best. Thayer's is also coded to Strong's. **Keep in mind that these books are compiled by secular people. They are using literal translations. They do not look at any of this from a spiritual perspective. They are not bias.** They study and understand the nature of words. If we look at the Strong's 1997 in Thayer's we will see to the right of it "episunagoge". Then to the right of that you have the word "episunago" which traces it back further to its root. Next to that you have 2. b.. This is a Latin term which means "which to see", or "go see". It wants you to see that form of the word which happens to be 1996. Then you see in italics "a gathering together in one place". Then you see an i. and a q.. This is a Latin term that means it is equal to the Greek word that follows that. Then it gives you a quote from 2Mac. 2:7. It also tells you to put it in context with 2Ths. 2:1 and Hebr. 10:25. The writers of Thayer's are clearly telling us that the Greek word used in 2Ths. 2:1 and Hebr. 10:25 is the same word used in 2Mac. 2:7. They are pointing to a direct connection in the use of this word. **2Mac. 2:7** "*Which when Jeremy perceived, he blamed them, saying, As for that place, it shall be unknown until the time that God gather His people again together, and receive them unto mercy.*" (KJV) This story in Maccabees is of course referring to the story of Hanukkah. In this particular verse Jeremiah is telling the people that the cave (Jeremiah's Grotto), in which he hid the Ark of the Covenant would be kept a secret until the last days, when Yah gathers His people (the remnant) together.

The reality is, these two words: episunagoge and episunago, are describing a synagogue. We are all familiar with the English word "synagogue". In other words it is saying; "do not forsake the synagoging together", if you will.

A concordance to the septuagint (a Greek version of the Hebrew bible), is another worthy study tool everyone should try to get a hold of. A good one is written by Hatch and Redpath. The concordance to the Septuagint operates in the same way in the Old Testament as the Englishmen's Greek Concordance does for the Renewed.

In other words in the Concordance to the Septuagint you find the Greek word that's in the Old Testament and it will show you the verses that that Greek word appears in, and it will show you all the Hebrew words that that Greek word came from. In a normal Strong's concordance you look up the English and it gives you the Greek. In the Concordance to the Septuagint it lists every single Greek word that's in the Old Testament in alphabetical order. Under every Greek word it gives you every verse in the Old Testament that that Greek word is found. Up above it it gives you all the Hebrew words that those Greek words were translated from. In this manner, one can go back and find what Hebrew word was used to translate the Greek. Unfortunately a Concordance to the Septuagint is not coded to Strong's. Eventually one will have to understand the order of the Greek alphabet to study properly.

When I look up the word episunagoge in the concordance to the Septuagint it will show me 19 different Hebrew words that are translated into the one Greek word episunagoge. Below that list it will show you every single verse that Greek word appears in the old Testament. To the right of that it will give you the verse location. Right of that location it will give you a number. That number to the right is telling you which one of

those 19 Hebrew words that Greek word comes from. In this particular case there are about four pages of verses where “episunagoge” is used in the Old Testament. Of those four pages you will find about 70% are translated from only two Hebrew words. The others are the ones that can sometimes teach you some very interested things in regards to understanding the language. When something only appears one time there is usually a specific reason for that, and due to this some great learning can take place here getting into the deep water of the language.

Let’s look at a couple examples of this word being used the most. It shows us

Gen. 28:3 *And Yahveh Almighty bless thee, and make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, that thou mayest be a multitude of people;*” In this verse the Hebrew word being used for multitude is “qahal”. Qahal is many times translated as ekklasia, or what many understand as the church. It’s also translated as the Hebrew word synagogue.

When we look up the word qahal in the Hebrew Lexicon we see that word written in Hebrew. Under the word it says “army of”, or a “multitude of nations”. It will also give you the Strong’s number (6951) so you can look up everywhere the word is used.

Now we look up 6951 in a Hebrew Englishmen’s Concordance and it will show you all the places that word “quahal” shows up in the Tenakh.

Let’s chose another verse using the word episunagoge listed in the Concordance to the Septuagint.

Isa. 40:11 *He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.*” The word “qabat” (6908) is used here for gather, assemble. In this verse Yeshua is being talked about in regards to gathering together His people at the end of time. When Yeshua came as the lamb the people were gathered together for the Feast of Passover. The gather together idea is always referring to the gathering together of one people at one place at one time for the Feast days. While we are here in Isaiah let’s have a look at our Hebrew Englishmen’s Concordance 6908. Here it shows us all the appearances of the Hebrew word “qabat”.

Qabat and qahal are the two words commonly used in Hebrew. Now let’s look at a couple not so commonly used words that are listed in the Concordance to the Septuagint. Let’s look at **Hosea 1:10-11** *Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured nor numbered; and it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people, there it shall be said unto them, Ye are the sons of the living Yah. “Then shall the children of Judah and the children of Israel be gathered together, and appoint themselves one head, and they shall come up out of the land: for great shall be the day of Jezreel.*” In the first part of this verse we see being talked about generations of mixed Israelites that had gone away from following Yah. Yah told them that they were no longer His people. Then He says through the prophet Hosea that years later there will be a gathering together of these people back to His Torah and He will call them the sons of the living Yahveh. This verse is thematically connected to **John 1:12** where Yeshua says “*But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of Yah, even to them that believe on His name:*” The “one head” in Hosea 1:11 is the shepherd Yeshua Himself pointed to in the last days.

Now lets look at **Exod. 25:21-22** *And thou shalt put the mercy seat above upon the ark; and in the ark thou shalt put the testimony that I shall give thee. 22 And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel.*” The Hebrew word “eduwth”(ay-dooth.. 5715) is used in these verses. Eduwth is throughout your bible used to describe witness, testimony and congregation. The Ark of the Covenant is called the testimony of Yah. The word used to describe the Ark is eduwth. The Ark was made with a mercy seat and the container for the three items (manna, Aaron’s rod and Ten Commandments). As the Ark was put together it became one thing, a witness for Yah. The Ark of the Covenant and the mercy seat became “echad”, one, united. It was and still is of course the most important material item there ever was to represent Yah. The testimony that was shown in the Holy of Holies was not just an object, but also symbolic of our testimony to others when we become children of Yah.

The following verse contains the one time occurrence of that same word.

Jer. 6:10-11 *Thus saith Yahveh of hosts, They shall thoroughly glean the remnant of Israel as a vine: turn back thine hand as a grapegatherer into the baskets. Therefore I am full of the fury of Yahveh; I am weary with holding in: I will pour it out upon the children abroad, and upon **the assembly of young men together**: for even the husband with the wife shall be taken, the aged with him that is full of days.*” Here we see Jeremiah talking about an evil assembly of young men. This word in the Greek is synagogue. Most think the word synagogue is only used in reference to Yah’s place of gathering. In the Book of Revelation (Rev. 2:9), we have the phrase “**the synagogue of satan**” for example. Here we see “assembly of young men together” as the Greek word “episunagoge” and the Hebrew word “sod”. Sod is commonly used to describe one of the four levels of interpretations the Rabbi’s had to interpret the scriptures. The sod level is referred to as the hidden secrets in the text. That’s how it is used grammatically, but that’s not the etymological meaning of the word. The actual etymological meaning of the word “sod” in Hebrew means the gathering together or counselling

together with like minded people. Like minded people are those who are hungry for the truth, those who like you search deep to understand the truth of the written word. In this case it is used for an evil purpose. The Hebrew word sod is almost the same as the Greek word "idios" where we get the word "idiom" from. These two words are almost synonymous. We discover the hidden things of Yah by getting like minded Believers together to study the word. The seed is the sod. The seed hidden in the ground (torah) is what transforms into fruit if it is looked after correctly, nourished, watered, and worked with. The root system is what supports the fruit of the plant that eventually develops if looked after.



We have available today copies of the Old Testament written in Koine Greek. This is the same Koine Greek that was used to translate the Renewed Covenant scriptures into English for our common bibles. This Koine Greek was translated from the original Hebrew which is not available today. There have been some of the original Hebrew scrolls of various books of the Renewed Testament made available today that are being properly interpreted. The Book of Matthew is one example. It has recently been discovered and is referred to as the Shem Tov Matthew scrolls.

We go back to the Old Testament Greek and we read the same Greek words used to translate the Renewed Testament. We have the original Hebrew scrolls used in the Old Testament, so we can now take the Greek words they were translated into for the Old Testament and compare them to the words used in the translation of the Renewed Testament.

We have taken a word used in the Renewed Testament and found its usage in the Old Testament. Now let's do the exact opposite. Let's take a word used in the Old Testament and see how it is used in the Renewed. Let's take the word "tsavah", (Strong's 6680), located in the Book of Psalms (Mismor). Mismor in Hebrew refers to each individual Psalm whereas "Tehillim" which is commonly used for Psalms, is referring to the entire Book. **Ps. 148:5** *Let them praise the name of Yahveh: for he **commanded**, and they were created.* The word "commanded" is related to Yah's creation. According to the Hebrew interlinear the word used here for commanded is tsavah. There are many definitions of this word but they all pretty much point to the word "command", or to "charge something". If you look at the Englishmen's Concordance you will see that tsavah is the root of a more important word in Hebrew. Strong's #4687 has the "mem" prefix to it. The mem prefix puts substance to a verb. It brings it into a person, place or thing. When you add mem to tsavah it takes it from a verb to a noun. It's a command, it puts substance to the verb. Another example of this "mem" is seen in the Hebrew word "orah", which means "light". When you add "mem" to "orah" you get "menorah" which brings substance to it. Most know how significant the lamps of the menorah are.

In the back of the Concordance to the Septuagint is listed all the three letter consonants of the Hebrew language and gives you all the Greek letters that Hebrew word is translated into. Tsavah in the back of the book shows us "he commanded". His commandments are "mitzvah". Among many other words, the Greek word "sunispemi" (Strong's 4921). Now we look at our Englishmen's Greek Concordance and look up this word sunispemi. I find it referred to "all things consist", in Colossians. **Col. 1:17** *And He is before all things, and by Him **all things consist.*** Notice the context here points us back to creation just like in Psa. 148:5. All things consist is also translated as "all things together", or "stand together". Paul is revealing to us that all things were created (held together) by Yah's commandments. Paul is saying that everything is continuing the way it is because of Yah's commandments holding all things together.

SUMMARY

I have very briefly tried to explain a system of studying scriptures. This is an in-depth way of getting the closest transliteration we can to the original meaning and context of the Living Words in our Holy Scriptures. As we all know, sometimes many things including personality, body language, and the emphasis given by a speaker all contribute to the true context and meaning of the message someone is trying to get across. Literal words of a speaker or writer are often unable to fully capture a message in its true context. In order to properly understand the true context of a message one needs to literally be present when that person is speaking or reading. This is not possible in regards to the written words of our Hebrew bible, so we must do the best we can to understand what is being said in its original context, as we are able to understand it in our Western World way of thinking. Many will spend their lifetime studying these words to digest and understand the literal translations to the best of their ability and yet never get to know the basic gist of the message being given in regards to our personal relationship and understanding of the Holy One of Israel. Words cannot define or explain properly the depth of our Living word but we do the best we can.

The only way one can get a more full meaning of the Word is to be spirit filled and this should be the goal of every person claiming to love their Jewish Messiah of the bible. Being baptized in the holy spirit is by far more important than knowing everything there is to know of the understanding of particular words of scripture. With the leading of the Ruach Hakodesh (holy spirit) one can grasp more from any word or text of scripture than any linguist can ever possibly provide. The "reading between the lines" aspect of one who is truly obedient to Yah's word and spirit filled, is no doubt the best way to go in order to understand the pictures of that Living Word Yah gave us in His holy bible. This is simply called "revelation", or "rema". "A pictures worth a thousand words" describes the reality of the Living Word Yah has given us as our instructions for life, and these living pictures reveal to us His message of salvation from the beginning of time to the last days. Each letter in the Hebrew bible is like one simple picture. If you take a bunch of these pictures and line them up as like in the written word you will get a slide show. A slide show is almost the same as a movie in the sense that it captures and makes alive the individual Hebrew words of our sacred text. If we look closely at this slide show we will see Yeshua the Messiah revealed in our living word made flesh (John 1:1). This is the ultimate revelation of our Savior's message to us as humankind. Whether or not we are willing to invite Yeshua into our lives, have faith, and be obedient to His written word is what makes us either "born again" or goyim (heathens). This is what separates His truly born again Believers from the secular world of Egypt. Born again Believers follow the cloud, not the crowd. When we are truly born again we Exodus Egypt (the pagan world around us) and become part of His Kingdom here on earth. You might say we are aliens living here awaiting the return of our Mashiach Yeshua. Soon we will be part of Exodus Part Two and join Him in the Heaven-lies.

Hopefully some of the things explained in this article will help you understand and deal with the Living Truth of our Living Messiah Yeshua as revealed in His Living Word.

I would like to thank Brad Scott (Wild Branch Ministry) for his teaching on this subject. It was Brad's teaching that has helped me understand more about basic bible study and how it is to be done.

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Excerpt from Bible Basics Book.