

--But the beginning point with all inflected words is to first remove the inflection items and discover the original stem.

--And remember, the places where meanings are suggested...and suggested is the right word. The lexicon is not the final authority on every translation but a guide to assist us in determining word meaning and use. Your own good judgment and common sense are needed in forming a final opinion on meaning.

In Addition to BDB, the lexicon of William Holladay is very useful, smaller and compact and developed from Koehler and Baumgartner but very helpful. Also the pocket dictionaries of Langenscheidt and Bagster (two different books!) are good but due to their small size, are not at all exhaustive and occasionally allow the student to mix up words with similar radicals.

But with all of the Lexicons the work of Einspahr: INDEX TO BROWN, DRIVER, AND BRIGGS is a very critical work. The INDEX takes every form that occurs in the Old Testament and shows you the root and the page number in BDB where the discussion is given. This is an invaluable tool for the student who is not majoring in Hebrew. The material in the course will enable you to use this tool and it will open to you the treasures of the lexicon. Without it you will use the lexicon with difficulty since the lexicon and almost all lexicons list the words by root, not occurrence. The student must be able to reduce the form in the Bible to root and then to look up the root, sometimes not so easy as I try to make it sound. But with the INDEX you can find the form exactly as it occurs in your text. A basic meaning is indicated and the data needed for looking it up in the lexicon is available. A very great help for general Hebrew students. Expensive but it will last a lifetime.

Might note that these tools are intended for lifetime usage...care for them well and that is how long they will last. Look at mine! And they are used...some of them every day.