

Words with identical radicals appear in the general order of their frequency. (Derivatives follow the verbs)

In BDB common radical roots are identified with Roman numerals (I) (II) (III), etc. and these occur in various sizes ..meaning occasionally you need micrometer eyes to align the various roman numerals. The Roman numerals used to identify the roots are found in the margin to the left of the root.

Observe the following examples:

The radicals ג.ו.ס have three major roots and meanings:

- ג.ו.ס /sojourn/ 157
- ג.ו.ס /stir up strife/ 158
- ג.ו.ס /dread/ 158

Note that each has its derivatives following the verbal identification. Note the derivative on page 158 and 159. The form on 158 never occurs in its basic form (always inflected in some way) but the two are identical and context is the big helper. You might not find the form on 159 at all if you only consulted page 158. ג.ו.ס

The student needs to remember this..it is crucial to the better use of the lexicon and keeps you from looking for the wrong word in the wrong place!

b. Within the word listing, words are identified by stem and form

(1) Verbs

--they are listed by the stem of occurrence, since not every verb occurs in every stem. Following the listing of the stem (Qal, etc.), an example of every type of occurrence will be cited. This is done in the order of:

perfect, imperfect, imperative, infinitive, participle,

and, naturally, if the form (word) is never used in any of these, no citation will be given. With the citation will be given a biblical reference (or maybe many such) and exceptions will also be noted.

--After BDB has shown all the stems and given the occurring forms, it will give examples of usage and suggested translation. An asterisk in the margin indicates that all occasions of use are listed. BDB will often mention a form and tell one place of its use and then indicate "19 t" which means it occurs nineteen other places! At this point a concordance proper is needed to find all the listings.