IV. BASIC HELPS IN TRANSLATING

Content: The copula
              Four classes of action suggested in the Waw
          Prepositions
              Types
              Usage
              When to supply
          Idioms, Colloquialisms
          Proper Names
          Practice identifications

> All translators are interpreters although some interpreters
> are apparently not translators. If one merely takes the
> literal ideas of a form from one language to another, one is
> not translating but transferring...or something like that...
> and the work is likekly to be unintelligible to others as
> being letteristic. But if one adds to much in the rendering
> one may destroy the very ideas intrinsic to the work. It is
> necessary therefore that the translator select the shades of
> words, arrange the order of others, etc., and "insert" the
> particles, et al, that make the expressed ideas meaningful
> in a tongue other than the "native" language. The translator
> must not go to extreme positions and become an author. When
> one is able to see the difference in the extreme positions,
> one will see that the translator is a refined scholar who is
> seeking to represent thoughts expressed in one language in
> equitable terms in another. He is neither a letteristic
> copiest not a clever author.

> At BTS we do not seek to develop the student into a full-
> fledged translator but rather want one to become a researcher
> and student, competent to study the word for oneself in the
> "original" languages. With this competence we want one to
> be able in exegesis, research, preaching, etc. This does not
> require one to become a finished translator but does require
> one to have a general facility with the work to be done and offer
> the understanding of the text to others. The materials in
> this lesson are designed to start one in that direction but
> you must be warned, our materials represent only the tip of
> the proverbial iceberg.

A. The Copula

> The term describes the liguistic device used to put words and
> phrases together. In English such terms as "and" "but", etc.,
> serve this purpose and in Hebrew the most prominent copula is
> the waw. You might review its pointing and form in Harris: Hebrew
> Grammar, should you feel any uncertainty about this aspect of the
> work.