

THE MATERIALS FOR THE STUDY

a. The Needed Tools

1. The Hebrew Bible

The Text studies in this course are based on BIBLIA HEBRAICA, Stuttgart edition (the Bible Societies Version), although BH of the seventh edition is still useful and permissible. One must have reference to this work if one is to understand the basic questions on text, textual variations, etc. One may not need to own it, but one must have access to it. The critical studies require BH. Since this is not a Hebrew course, per se, your preference for Hebrew Bibles otherwise is tolerated.

2. Lexicons

I am still using Brown, Driver and Briggs...due to its encyclopedic nature it is almost indispensable to me. More recent etymological data is in Koehler and Baumbartner and the shorter version of this two volume tome by Holladay is very useful. With BDB one may want the Index and something that helps spot little used words: McDaniel READER'S HEBREW-ENGLISH LEXICON. A pocket lexicon is not a bad thing to have for class...either that of Langenscheidt or Bagster is adequate and I prefer the latter. The most vital thing about the lexicon is to make sure that you read the introductory material and know how to handle the book. More people cannot find things in lexicons due to a lack of understanding on how to handle them than on a lot of other things.

3. Concordance

Another indispensable tool. Englishman's Hebrew/Chaldee Concordance is satisfactory although it does not show the Hebrew context....

Lisowski HANDKONKORDANZ (ABC) gives the better scope of the Hebrew text but it is prohibitive in cost and is "writ by hand!" It is thorough and a good tool.

Baumgartner gives the Hebrew context, is available now, and costs about 1/3 the price of Lisowski.

The annotations in the Concordances of Young and Strong are very accurate and will serve one well if used properly although they cannot be called convenient in any sense of the word.