

How to Properly Use the Strong's Analytical Concordance

When translating Hebrew words into English, we can, and will, come up against some problems. The main problem is – finding the correct English word to define the original Hebrew word. In cases such as this, it is extremely important that we pay attention to the context, content and other grammatical uses, [of the Scripture passage], that will give us clues in identifying the correct English definition. (It is also helpful to use a good Hebrew/Greek Lexicon; 1828 Webster's Dictionary and an everyday dictionary.) Let's see how this works, using the word "daily," found 41 times in the Old Testament of the KJV.

Practise Exercise Using the Strong's Concordance & Hebrew Lexicon

From the books of Exodus to Hosea, the word "daily" is found 41 times. There are 3 Hebrew definitions for "daily" including:

- #H3117 [19 times]
- #H3605 & H3117 used together for the same word [15 times]
- #H8548 [7 times; 5 references in the book of Daniel alone.]

The following information for the Hebrew word "daily" is found in the Brown Driver & Briggs Hebrew Lexicon. [Red comments are my additional notes to you.]

1. **"daily"** can mean **H3117** – yowm -- **day**, time, year [11 different meanings given here.]
 - a) a day (as opposed to night) [Day season of approximately 12 hours.]
 - b) a day (24 hour period) [Day/night season of full 24 hours.]
 - 1) as defined by evening and morning in Gen 1 [Evening & morning only; night not included.]
 - 2) as a division of time; a working day, a day's journey [Take your pick.]
 - c) days, lifetime (plural) [e.g.: 70 years = the "days of ones life."]
 - d) time, period (general)
 - e) year [e.g.: 360 days in a Biblical year.]
 - f) temporal references [All 3 are extremely important.]
 - 1) today [Present Tense]
 - 2) yesterday [Past Tense]
 - 3) tomorrow [Future Tense]
2. **"daily"** can mean **H3605** – kol or kowl; all, **the whole** (see Jer 33:8; complete cleansing) [3 different meanings given here; read text to understand.]
 - a) all, the whole of
 - b) any, each, every, anything
 - c) totality, everything
3. **"daily"** can mean **H8548** – tamiyd -- **continuity, perpetuity, to stretch** [More information to follow.]

- a) continually, continuously (as an adverb)
- b) continuity (a substantive)

Lessons Learned From This Exercise

Now, the #3 definition of “daily” from the Strong’s Concordance will have some extra information. See if you recognize the extra information. It’s listed this way: [Note: I’ve added the notations in red to show the different meanings.]

“daily” H8548 – tamiyd (taw-meed’); [1] from an unused root meaning **to stretch**; [1a-noun] properly, **continuance** (as indefinite extension); but **used** only (attributively [2] **as adjective**) constant (or [3] **adverbially**, constantly); ellipt. [2a-adjective] the regular (daily) sacrifice: KJV - alway (-s), continual (employment, -ly), daily, ([**noun-**]) ever (-more), [1b-noun] perpetual.

1. Do you see that these 3 definitions of “daily” are all quite different? (There is a total of 17 different definitions. i) H3117 has 11 defs; ii) H3605 has 3 defs; iii) H8548 has 3 defs.)
2. Do you see that the 3rd definition of “daily” [H8548] has 3 **completely different** definitions? Remember, that 5 of the 7 Old Testament References for H8548 were in the book of Daniel. What does that mean?
3. That means that the 5 references in Daniel **will take the first definition** given for H8548 – that of a **noun**, rather than an adjective, or adverb. To determine correctly which definition of **noun, adjective or adverb** will be used, the content and context of the verses before and after the word “daily” must always be seriously considered.
4. Conclusion: In the case of the 5 Daniel verses where “daily” is used, it is **always** combined with the added word “*sacrifices.*” “*Sacrifices*” holds the place of the noun in every verse. But when this added word is removed, “daily” no longer serves as an adjective for the [added] noun “*sacrifices.*” “Daily” now becomes the noun of the verse, and correctly takes on the noun definition given in H8548. The adjective and adverb definitions **will never apply** to the English word “daily” in the book of Daniel!

I have given you a **VERY** complicated and detailed example just to demonstrate that in some cases it is extremely important to pay attention to the Hebrew definitions, no matter how many, or how varied they will be. This doesn’t happen all the time, but when it does, it is serious. We will definitely come across critical situations such as this in the upcoming studies – especially with the words “even” and “evening.” In these cases, concentrated attention must be used to determine the whole truth of the matter.