



Israelite Studies

PREFACE

Here at Israelite Studies©, we understand that for information to be provided which helps answer questions, that info must first be studied to give absolute conclusions based upon accurate examinations of any resource contributing to it.

HOW DO WE CONDUCT OUR STUDIES?

Our research team comes with a collective of 35+ years' experience in Biblical Studies and examination. Although each member holds a particular position for each topic, an unbiased approach is taken when applying the comparative research method to best harmonize concrete interpretations of scripture. Each topic is put under heavy scrutiny while taking into consideration language, cultural and historical backgrounds, parallel texts, etc. Once any study has been exhausted, our team finalizes the findings with a collective position, then it is submitted to our elected council of elders possessing a collection of 75+ years of Biblical Studies for initial review. Their feedback is then made available with our findings and, if necessary, amendments to the studies are applied. Once their feedback is provided, all the views expressed by our research team, council of elders, are made available for the public to form their own conclusions.

- Throughout some of our bible studies, we have replaced *LORD/the LORD* with *Yahawah*, *God* with *Alahayam*, and *Jesus Christ* with *Yahawashi Mashayach*.
- All Hebrew definitions referenced are listed in the *Tel-Dan Inscription* font, along with every Transliteration and Phonetic pronunciation provided in the earliest dialect of Hebrew studied by our team (commonly called '*Lashawan Qadash*' – Holy Language).

Shalam (Peace). We appreciate you taking the time out to read and review this study. This topic will cover the basics of how to read and study the Bible.

Opening Scripture

Isaiah 34:16

Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read: no one of these shall fail, none shall want her mate: for my mouth it hath commanded, and his spirit it hath gathered them.

The first part of this study will cover how to read the Bible, hence the opening scripture giving instructions on seeking out of the book of Yahawah and reading. To gain more understanding of this verse, we looked at how both *seek* and *read* are defined in Hebrew. Next are the definitions...

H1875 (seek)

Original: **וָדָשׁ**

Transliteration: Darash

Phonetic: da-rash'

Brown Driver Briggs Definition:

1. to resort to, seek, seek with care, enquire, require
 - a. (Qal)
 1. to resort to, frequent (a place), (tread a place)
 2. to consult, enquire of, seek

The BDB Lexicon provides several definitions that range in various Hebrew verb stems. As a matter of convenience, we have only listed the verb stem used in various Hebrew-Interlinear study bibles for Isaiah 34:16.

Strong's Definition:

A primitive root; properly to tread or frequent; usually to follow (for pursuit or search); by implication to seek or ask; specifically to worship:

The Strong's Lexicon definition has also been provided for comparison and contrasting. When doing so with BDB, we find harmony in the usage of the term *frequent*. This has brought us to the conclusion that one must frequently read the Bible to gain understanding.

H7121 (read)

Original: **קָרָא**

Transliteration: Qaraa

Phonetic: kwa-raw-ah'

Ancient Hebrew Lexicon Bible Definition:

To read a scroll in the presence of those called to a meeting.

The AHLB definition has been provided as a reminder of the overview of all Lexicon definitions that most accurately harmonize with the context of Isaiah 34:16. We believe in order for the spirit to gather a collective of individuals, frequent reading of the Bible must be done in the presence of them.

As for the rest of the verse, we affirm the word Yahawah speaks are a commanding force that doesn't fail nor can be matched with anything else opposing it, thus establishing the reasoning for this instruction.

1 Timothy 4:13

Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

Continuing with reading, 1 Timothy 4:13 provides instructions on giving attendance to reading. We examined the Greek Lexicon definitions of both words, which are listed next...

G4337 (attendance)

Original: προσέχω

Transliteration: Prosecho

Phonetic: pros-ekh'-o

The following Lexicon definitions are derived from Thayer's & Strong's. Please be advised that only one or the other may be provided as a means of convenience. During our research, we discovered that several definitions in both Lexicons are similar, so we elect the one that most thoroughly applies to the context in question.

Thayer Definition:

2. to turn the mind to, attend to be attentive
 - a. to a person or a thing: of caring for, providing for
 3. to attend to one's self, i.e. to give heed to one's self
 - a. give attention to, take heed
 4. to apply one's self to, attach one's self to, hold or cleave to a person or a thing
 - a. to be given or addicted to
 - b. to devote thought and effort to
- Part(s) of speech: Verb

From Thayer's, we have applied definitions 2 through 4 collectively to the context of 1 Timothy 4:13 regarding how one should read. It has been summarized as giving undivided attention by giving sufficient time to it, requiring discipline and dedication.

Strong's Definition:

From G4314 and G2192; (figuratively) to hold the mind (G3563 implied) towards that is pay attention to be cautious about apply oneself to adhere to: - (give) attend (-ance -ance at -ance to unto) beware be given to give (take) heed (to unto) have regard.

As with the previous, Strong's definition likewise shares a similar description of the Greek word for attendance, with its reinforcement of the phrase 'to be cautious' – a harmony that is well-paralleled.

G320 (reading)

Original: ἀνάγνωσις

Transliteration: Anagnosis

Phonetic: an-ag'-no-sis

Thayer Definition:

1. knowing

a. a knowing again, owning

b. reading

- Origin: from G314

With Thayer's as the sole Lexicon provided for the Greek word translated as 'reading', the simple definition states that reading means to know. We affirm that to know the Bible, it must be given sufficient attention.

Acts 17:11

These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

As we examined the concept of 'search' throughout the Bible, we investigated the Greek definition of the term 'searched' to understand the method applied to validate the scriptures in accordance with what the Apostle Paul was teaching.

G350 (searched)

Original: ἀνακρίνω

Transliteration: Anakrino

Phonetic: an-ak-ree'-no

Thayer Definition:

1. examine or judge
 - a. to investigate, examine, enquire into, scrutinise, sift, question
 1. specifically in a forensic sense of a judge to hold an investigation
 2. to interrogate, examine the accused or witnesses
 - b. to judge of, estimate, determine (the excellence or defects of any person or thing
- Part(s) of speech: Verb

Thayer's gives a solid description of how the Bereans searched out the scriptures to affirm what Paul was teaching. Much like how crimes are investigated (some requiring a depth of resources to find evidence), this very thing was done regarding scripture. This was done to determine if there was accuracy or mistakes.

Strong's Definition:

From G303 and G2919; properly to scrutinize that is (by implication) investigate interrogate determine: - ask question discern examine judge search.

Strong's provides a more concise description regarding the behavior of the Bereans, adding the term 'scrutinize'. We affirm that this must done regarding every subject of the Bible. This will be reinforced once the concept of 'study' is reviewed.

1 Thessalonians 5:21

Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

Due to uncovering the information regarding how to conduct a search while reading the Bible, we further examined 1 Thes. 5:21 by investigating the Greek definition of the word translated as 'Prove'. Thayer's and Strong's provide the following...

G1381 (prove)

Original: δοκιμάζω

Transliteration: Dokimazo

Phonetic: dok-im-ad'-zo

Thayer Definition:

1. to test, examine, prove, scrutinise (to see whether a thing is genuine or not), as metals
 2. to recognise as genuine after examination, to approve, deem worthy
- Part(s) of speech: Verb

Thayer's provides a similar description in comparison to G350 (searched), thus further affirming that establishing proof requires the same actions the Bereans took regarding their search of the scriptures.

Strong's Definition:

From G1384; to test (literally or figuratively); by implication to approve: - allow discern examine X like (ap-) prove try.

Strong's gives additional terminology by providing the usage of 'test' as a description. In comparison to Thayer's, testing would produce the recognition of that which is genuine.

2 Timothy 2:15

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Next, the aspect of how to study the Bible will be examined. Initially, 2 Tim. 2:15 was used as our opening scripture to this topic. Upon further examination, we have concluded that without understanding the Biblical concepts of reading and searching, an investigation of how to study the Bible will undoubtedly lead back to it. As we outlined this study, it was decided the information on how to study the Bible should be reviewed at this time. Next are the Greek definitions for 'study' and 'approved'...

G4704 (study)

Original: σπουδάζω

Transliteration: Spoudazo

Phonetic: spoo-dad'-zo

Thayer Definition:

1. to hasten, make haste
 2. to exert one's self, endeavour, give diligence
- Part(s) of speech: Verb

Strong's Definition:

From G4710; to use speed that is to make effort be prompt or earnest: - do (give) diligence be diligent (forward) endeavour labour study.

The definitions in both Thayer and Strong's for 'study' open with similar descriptive terms that identify the usage of time applied. We believe this to be the case because of the term's 'haste' in Thayer and 'speed' in Strong's. Just as it has already been explained previously regarding 1 Tim. 4:13 and reading, we believe that to study the Bible means to dedicate sufficient time to reading and searching it before the day of Yahawah is at hand. Furthermore, we also believe this is the reason additional descriptive terms diligence, endeavor, etc are used.

G1384 (approved)

- Original: δόκιμος
- Transliteration: Dokimos
- Phonetic: dok'-ee-mos

Thayer Definition:

1. accepted, particularly of coins and money.
 2. accepted, pleasing, acceptable
 - In the ancient world there was no banking system as we know it today, and no paper money. All money was made from metal, heated until liquid, poured into moulds and allowed to cool. When the coins were cooled, it was necessary to smooth off the uneven edges. The coins were comparatively soft and of course many people shaved them closely. In one century, more than eighty laws were passed in Athens, to stop the practice of shaving down the coins then in circulation. But some money changers were men of integrity, who would accept no counterfeit money. They were men of honour who put only genuine full weighted money into circulation. Such men were called *dokimos* or approved. **Donald Barnhouse**
- Origin: from G1380
 - Part(s) of speech: Adjective


For the Greek definition of the word translated as 'approved' we only included the Thayer Lexicon due to Strong's providing a redundancy of the terms used to describe δόκιμος – dokimos. Theologian Donald Barnhouse (3/28/1895 – 11/5/1960), is quoted, which provides historical insight on the usage of the Greek word. Just as the honorable men who made sure no counterfeit money was accepted, we believe the purpose of this word in 2 Tim. 2:15 is being used as a result of studying, thus showing honor to the highest. By putting in the work, truth is established. This is done by dissecting (dividing) the word of Alahayam correctly, which brings no shame to the individual applying this.

Proverbs 15:28

The heart of the righteous studieth to answer: but the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things.

As we examined parallel scriptures using the word 'study', Pro. 15:28 was found to be in harmony with 2 Tim. 2:15-16. When reviewing the Hebrew that has been translated into the word 'studieth', the following was uncovered...

H1897 (study)

- Original: 
- Transliteration: Hagah
- Phonetic: Hah-gah'

Ancient Hebrew Lexicon Bible Definition:

Ponder: To be in continual contemplation over a matter.

With our team having experience in Biblical Hebrew, the term הָגַח – hagah is not solely translated as ‘studieth’. According to the concordance, this word is used 24 times in the Old Testament. Our team had grown familiar with the use of this term when studying similar topics, which formulated this affirmation: To ‘hagah’ is to meditate/study/ponder, meaning one must do this with what is being read and searched; the scriptures. Next, the following parallel Bible verses will solidify this position.

Psalms 1:1-2

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

Joshua 1:8

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

If anyone will be reading and studying the Old Testament, it must be understood that the law within it will also be studied and thought upon frequently. These two passages reveal that blessings and success follow the person that does this and applies it in real time, because it’s delightful.

Psalms 119:104

Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.

Psalms 119:128

Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way.

As it is commonly known in the Israelite community, precepts have been understood as a Bible verse used in harmony with another Bible verse or certain subject matter. Also known as scripture references or parallel verses, we have discovered over time that this is not what a precept is, as the definition of it will explain further. We are uncertain as to when the term ‘precept’ began being used as a parallel term for other Bible verses that are in harmony with each other. While we are not against using this method to teach, we have likewise learned through our experience, a ‘precept’ can be used out of context if what this study has shown is not applied: reading and studying frequently enables the spirit to give understanding. Before explaining further, we have provided the Hebrew definition of ‘precept’ which is the following...

H6490 (precept)

Original: אָפָּקֵט

Transliteration: Paqawad

Phonetic: pa-kwa-wad'

Brown Driver Briggs Definition:

1. precept, statute

- Part(s) of speech: Noun Masculine

Strong's Definition:

From H6485; properly appointed that is a mandate (of God; plural only collectively for the Law): - commandment precept statute.

Ancient Hebrew Lexicon Bible Definition:

Statute: The orders and commands of the overseer.

BDB, AHLB, and Strong's all share the same descriptive term of a precept being a statute, with two of the three going a bit deeper in the definition, revealing that the precepts spoken of in Ps. 119:104, 128 are speaking of the laws of Yahawah. Knowing this, we further understand that every Bible verse essentially is not a precept. It must be a command from the most high for it to be a precept by definition. Ps. 1:1-2 and Jos. 1:8 have already stated that a study/mediation of the laws of Yahawah result in blessings. We affirm that the laws of Yahawah are to always be referenced for understanding all things that are correct. We did not include Isa. 28:9-11 due to our examination of it leading away from what this study has revealed. We have reserved that investigation as stand-alone study that our team will have compiled for review later.

Ecclesiastes 12:12

And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh.

The previous scripture is being used in contrast to what has already been explained regarding how to study the Bible. We examined the Hebrew for the term 'study' in this verse and discovered that it differs from what is in Pro. 15:28. While in context of many books being studied, the definition shows the following...

H3854 (study)

Original: לָמַד

Transliteration: Lahaga

Phonetic: la-ha-gah'

Brown Driver Briggs Definition:

1. study, studying, devotion to study
- Part(s) of speech: Noun Masculine

Strong's Definition:

From an unused root meaning to be eager; intense mental application: - study.

After examining both BDB and Strong's, ^{1A6} - lahaga has led our team to believe Ecc.9:12 is in opposition of Isa. 34:16. As it is written "none shall want her mate" - meaning, the study of many books will lead to unmatched information revealed in the word of Yahawah. As a research team, we have strict guidelines in the usage of other books outside the Bible. We always encourage every Bible reader to make Bible Study the main priority over learning other information, for the scriptures will act as a lens and filter against other texts. In addition, we also believe this verse is referring to what is now commonly known as 'information-overload'. In 1964, Bertram Gross, American social scientist, federal bureaucrat and Professor of Political Science at Hunter College, wrote "Information overload occurs when the amount of input to a system exceeds its processing capacity. Decision makers have fairly limited cognitive processing capacity. Consequently, when information overload occurs, it is likely that a reduction in decision quality will occur."

Romans 15:4

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

With just a few more Bible verses left, we are concluding this study with first examining how the term 'learning' is defined in Rom. 15:4, which reveals the following...

G1319 (learning)

Original: διδασκαλία

Transliteration: Didaskalia

Phonetic: did-as-kal-ee'-ah

Thayer Definition:

1. teaching, instruction
 2. teaching
 - a. that which is taught, doctrine
 - b. teachings, precepts
- Part(s) of speech: Noun Feminine

Strong's Definition:

From G1320; instruction (the function or the information): - doctrine learning teaching.

Διδασκαλία – Didaskalia is described as that which is taught, instructed, and/or provided as doctrine. The scriptures are meant to be used as teachings and instructions for the nation of Israel, providing all that is needed for comfort and hope as time draws near. These teachings must be read and studied frequently while being put under heavy scrutiny for correct understanding.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

As it is written in Rom. 15:4, the learning of the scriptures is meant to teach those who read and study it how to be perfect/complete and fully equipped to execute the precepts spoken by Yahawah.

Psalms 119:92-93

Unless thy law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction. I will never forget thy precepts: for with them thou hast quickened me.

Never forgetting Yahawah's precepts revealed to us that we are being given instructions on how to remember/retain the knowledge spoken by our Alahayam.

Closing Scripture

Revelation 1:3

Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

The final scripture ends with showing that blessings come to those who read, just as it was previously explained in Ps.1:1-2 and Jos. 1:8 regarding the law. We affirm that reading and studying the Bible as explained in this study will reap divine blessings from heaven.