

Introduction to *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament* (Holladay)

1. There are two standard scholarly lexicons for the Hebrew Bible, *The Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon* (usually referred to as *BDB*) and *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament* (referred to as *HALOT* or Kohler-Baumgartner, after its editors).
2. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament* (Holladay) is an abridgement of Kohler-Baumgartner.
3. Holladay's advantage, especially for beginning students, is that it is organized alphabetically as opposed to by the root of the word. It omits certain details found in Kohler-Baumgartner, like possible cognate words, but in general it contains everything you will need to be able to translate.

Exercises:

- A. Look at the table of abbreviations at the beginning of the book.
 - a. What book of the Bible is represented by the abbreviation 1S? _____
 - b. What abbreviation does Holladay use to indicate that he is citing the Septuagint?

 - c. What does the abbreviation impv. mean? _____
- B. Look up the word רָאָשׁ.
 - a. What is the first listed definition? _____
 - b. You are reading Exodus 30:23 and come across the word רָאָשׁ. The first listed definition does not seem to make sense. Can this entry help you gain insight on the meaning of רָאָשׁ in this verse? _____
 - c. Can you tell how many times this word appears in the Hebrew Bible? _____
 - d. What is another, secondary meaning of רָאָשׁ, unrelated to the definitions given in entry I? _____

C. Look up the word דָּם

a. What is the plural form of this word? _____

b. What is its primary definition? _____

c. What is the connotation of דָּם in Deuteronomy 21:8? _____

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