

Dean

A Dozen Days to Biblical Hebrew

CH111 *Access to Biblical Hebrew*

United Theological Seminary, January 2008

J.Limburg

Texts: *The First Hebrew Primer*, 3rd ed. (FHP) by Simon, Resnikoff and Motzkin
Langenscheidt's Pocket Hebrew Dictionary, K. Feyerabend
Our Tongues with Songs of Joy (Psalm 126:1; SJ), Limburg (supplied)
Gaining Reading Fluency in Biblical Hebrew (GRF) by J. Paradise (CD Rom)
(Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia [BHS] ed. K. Elliger and W. Rudolph)
Further bibliography to be supplied

Class Times: 8:45-12:00 MTThF, Jan 7-25. No class Jan 21 (Martin Luther King day)

Assignments: The lessons in FHP with selected exercises and daily vocabulary quizzes.
Reading practice and lessons with GRF as assigned
Songs and prayers in SJ as assigned
Visit a synagogue and write a report.
Visit "Elijah's Cup" bookstore: 4212 Minnetonka Blvd. St Louis Park
952 925 2446. Helen "Toots" Vodovoz.

Course Outline:

M Jan 7: FHP Chapters 1-2; note p. 414.

Sing: Hineh mah tov (SJ p. 6; Psalm 133:1)

Assignment: Learn the Hebrew alphabet, writing and reciting.

GRF: Learn Genesis 1:1. Learning the Hebrew Alphabet (1a. 1)

T Jan 8 : FHP: 3-4

Quiz on alphabet.

Vocabulary p. 26, 32, 40

GRF: 1.a

Th Jan 10: FHP 5-6

Quiz: vocab pp. 26, 32, 40

Sing: Shema (SJ p. 1, Deut. 6:4)

Vocab: pp. 51, 60

GRF: 1.b

F Jan 11: FHP 7-8

Quiz: vocab review + pp, 51, 60

Sing: Shema

Vocab: 71, 72

GRF: 1c

M Jan 14: FHP 9-10

Quiz: vocab review + pp. 71.72

Sing: Lo Yisa Goy (SJ p. 8, Isaiah 2:4)

Vocab: 94, 106

GRF: 1d

T Jan 15: FHP review 1-10

Quiz: vocab review + pp. 94,106

Vocab: 116, 127

GRF:1e

Th Jan 17 FHP 11-12

Quiz: vocab review + pp. 116, 127

Sing: Blessings over bread and wine (SJ p. 1)

Vocab: 139, 151

GRF: Review

F Jan 18 FHP 13-14

Guest: Professor Jonathan Paradise

M Jan 21 No Class; MLK day

T Jan 22 FHP 15-16

Quiz: vocab review + pp. 139, 151

Sing: 'Esa 'Aynai (SJ 4-5, Psalm 121:1)

Vocab. 166, 180

+ W Jan 23 — MAKEUP FOR MLKING DAY

Th Jan 24 FHP 17-18

Quiz: vocab review + pp. 166, 180

GRF: Read Jonah

F Jan 25 FHP 19-20

Review and Preview

Office Hours: BY APPOINTMENT

Telephone: 651 636 5148

Some Thoughts on Learning Hebrew

"I discovered that some Jewish men had married women from Ashdod, Ammon, and Moab. About half of their children could not speak Hebrew--they spoke only the language of Ashdod or some other foreign language. So in my anger, I called down curses on those men. I had them beaten and even pulled out the hair of some of them..." (Nehemiah 13:23-25, CEV)

"You are invited therefore to read it with goodwill and attention, and to be indulgent in cases where, despite our diligent labor in translating, we may seem to have rendered some phrases imperfectly. For what was originally expressed in Hebrew does not have exactly the same sense when translated into another language." (Sirach, Prologue, NRSV)

"At three I started Hebrew school,
at 10 I learned a trade.
I hear they picked a bride for me,
I hope she's pretty." ("Tradition," Act One, "Fiddler on the Roof")

The Hebrew of Your Poets, Zion

The Hebrew of your poets, Zion,
is like oil upon a burn,
cool as oil;
after work,
the smell in the street at night
of the hedge in flower.
like Solomon,
I have married and married the speech of strangers;
none are like you, Shulamite.

(Charles Reznikoff in *The Voice That Is Great Within Us: American Poetry of the Twentieth Century*, ed. Hayden Carruth. Bantam Books, 1970, p. 187.)

"We have gone a long way," laments a scholar, "since Ezra Stiles, President of Yale University, himself taught the freshman and other classes Hebrew and Greek, and in 1781 delivered his commencement address in Hebrew." (F. Danker, in *Multipurpose Tools for Bible Study*, 43)

"...it is worth studying the Hebrew language for ten years in order to read Psalm 104 in the original." (J.G. Herder, quoted in *Encyclopaedia Judaica*, "Psalms, Book of," p. 1325)

"In his old age he undertook the study of Hebrew, in order to see "the ancient oracles of God in their native beauty." (of William Bradford, Governor of Plymouth Colony, 1621 ff.; *The American Puritans: Their Prose & Poetry*, cited by P. Miller, p. 4 ??)

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2/14/81

UTS JAN 2008
J. LUKERS

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR BIBLICAL HEBREW

CH111
Winter Interim 2008
United Theological Seminary
J. Limburg

Text

Elliger, K. and Rudolph, W., eds. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia* (BHS). Stuttgart, 1967-77. Note the new inexpensive paperback edition.

Various editors. *Biblia Hebraica Quinto Edition* (BHQ). 2004 ff.

Scott, W. R. *A Simplified Guide to BHS*. Berkeley: Bibal, 1987.

Kelley, Page and Mynatt, Daniel and Crawford, Timothy. *The Masorah of BHS*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

Wuerthwein, E. *The Text of the OT*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2nd ed., 1995.

_____. *The Septuagint Version*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1970. Greek OT with English translation.

Dictionaries

Brown, F. and Driver, S. R. and Briggs, C. A., eds. *A Hebrew and English Lexicon of the OT*. Oxford: Clarendon, 1951.

Holladay, William L. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the OT*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1971.

Feyerabend, K. *Langenscheidt's Pocket Hebrew Dictionary*. Berlin: Langenscheidt, n.d.

Concordances

Even-Shoshan, A., ed. *A New Concordance of the Bible*. Jerusalem, 1990.

Lisowsky, G. *Konkordanz zum Hebraeischen Alten Testament*. Stuttgart, 2nd ed., 1981.

Grammars

Seow, C. L. *A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew*. Nashville: Abingdon, rev. ed., 1995.

Waltke, B. K. and O'Connor, M. *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*.
Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 1990.

Williams, R. *Hebrew Syntax: An Outline*. Toronto: University of Toronto, 2nd ed.,
1976.

For further bibliography, see *The First Hebrew Primer*, p. 366; Kelley, Mynatt, and Crawford, pp. 195-218; and/or speak with the instructor.

