CLARIFYING MORE BAFFLING BIBLICAL PASSAGES

BY

THOMAS F. McDANIEL, Ph.D.
PREFACE

This volume, *Clarifying More Baffling Biblical Passages*, contains twenty-nine chapters which focus on problematic Hebrew and Greek biblical texts and terms that were not addressed in my two other books, entitled, respectively, *The Song of Deborah: Poetry in Dialect—A Philological Study of the Song of Deborah with Translation and Commentary* and *Clarifying Baffling Biblical Passages*. The former volume is a 2003 revision of *Deborah Never Sang: A Philological Study on the Song of Deborah* (Jerusalem: Makor. 1983). It is available now online at http://daniel.eastern.edu/seminary/tmcdaniel/Deborah.pdf. The latter volume is also available online at http://daniel.eastern.edu/seminary/tmcdaniel/CBBP.pdf.

The *Summary* chapter in *The Song of Deborah: Poetry in Dialect* has a “Supplemental Lexicon” containing fifty-five old Hebrew words which never made it into the standard lexicons of Biblical Hebrew. Fifty of these fifty-five lost words have been recovered thanks to Arabic cognates. Similarly, in the book *Clarifying Baffling Biblical Passages* fifty-eight old Hebrew words appearing in eighty-four phrases (in fifty-five different verses) were recovered—thanks again to Arabic cognates. A list of all fifty-eight words is provided in the *Summary* chapter of that book. In this volume, *Clarifying More Baffling Biblical Passages*, I present over seventy new translations of problematic Hebrew words, most of which are based upon Arabic cognates.

For the readers of this study the eight volume *Arabic-English Lexicon* of Edwin W. Lane and the two volume *Lexicon Heptaglotton* of Edmund Castell are available at http://daniel.eastern.edu/seminary/tmcdaniel/LaneLexicon.htm and http://daniel.eastern.edu/seminary/tmcdaniel/Castell.htm.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Having been retired now for seven years and thoroughly enjoying the role of a Professor Emeritus at the Palmer Theological Seminary in Wynnewood, Pennsylvania, I have had the opportunity to pull together more of my research notes and assorted articles for online publication in this volume, Clarifying More Baffling Biblical Passages, which follows the same format as its predecessor, Clarifying Baffling Biblical Passages, noted in the Preface above. In addition to the acknowledgments made in the earlier volume, I want to acknowledge here my indebtedness to my mentors back in the 1950’s and 1960’s whose instruction and inspiration provide me with the philological tools and a strong desire to participate in the critical study of biblical texts. The distinguished professors are name here in chronological order of when I studied under them, starting with my undergraduate work.

Pierce Ellis (University of Richmond)
Edward Dalglish (Eastern Baptist Seminary)
Ephraim Speiser (University of Pennsylvania)
Franz Rosenthal (University of Pennsylvania)
Moshe Greenberg (University of Pennsylvania)
Wilfred Lambert (Johns Hopkins University)
George Glanzman (Johns Hopkins University)
Samuel Iwry (Johns Hopkins University)
Delbert Hillers (Johns Hopkins University)
Herbert Huffmon (Johns Hopkins University)
George Krotkoff (Johns Hopkins University)

Narberth, Pennsylvania
June, 2008
## ABBREVIATIONS

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<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A-text</td>
<td>Codex Alexandrinus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB</td>
<td>Anchor Bible, New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>ABD</td>
<td>The Anchor Bible Dictionary</td>
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<tr>
<td>AJSL</td>
<td>American Journal of Semitic Languages and Literature, Chicago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AnBib</td>
<td>Analecta Biblica, Rome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AOS</td>
<td>American Oriental Society, New Haven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATD</td>
<td>Das Alte Testament Deutsch, Göttingen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AV</td>
<td>Authorized Version of the Bible, 1611 (same as KJV, 1611)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-text</td>
<td>Codex Vaticanus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASOR</td>
<td>Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Philadelphia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCTP</td>
<td>A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BHS</td>
<td><em>Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BibOr</td>
<td>Biblica et Orientalia, Rome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BR</td>
<td>Bible Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSC</td>
<td>Bible Student's Commentary</td>
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<tr>
<td>BibT</td>
<td>Bible Today</td>
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<tr>
<td>BTal</td>
<td>Bet Talmud</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAD</td>
<td>I. Gelb, L. Oppenheim, et al., eds., <em>The Assyrian Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>CBQ</td>
<td>Catholic Biblical Quarterly, Washington, D. C.</td>
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<td>CTM</td>
<td>Concordia Theological Monthly</td>
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<tr>
<td>CV</td>
<td>Communio Viatorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>DR</td>
<td>Downside Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>EBC</td>
<td>The Expository Bible Commentary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ET</td>
<td>Expository Times</td>
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<tr>
<td>HAT</td>
<td>Handbuch zum Alten Testament, Tübingen</td>
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<tr>
<td>HTR</td>
<td><em>Harvard Theological Review</em>, Cambridge, Massachusetts</td>
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<tr>
<td>IBCTP</td>
<td>Interpretation: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICC</td>
<td>International Critical Commentary, Edinburgh</td>
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<tr>
<td>IDB</td>
<td><em>The Interpreter’s Dictionary of the Bible</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>IVPNTC</td>
<td>IVP New Testament Commentary Series</td>
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<tr>
<td>JAOS</td>
<td>Journal of the American Oriental Society, New Haven, Boston</td>
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<tr>
<td>JBL</td>
<td>Journal of Biblical Literature, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Missoula, Montana</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JBS</strong></td>
<td><em>Journal of Biblical Storytelling</em></td>
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<td><strong>JETS</strong></td>
<td><em>Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JPSTC</strong></td>
<td><em>Jewish Publication Society Torah Commentary</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JQR</strong></td>
<td><em>Jewish Quarterly Review, Philadelphia</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JSOT</strong></td>
<td><em>Journal for the Study of the Old Testament</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JTS</strong></td>
<td><em>Journal of Theological Studies, Oxford</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>KJV</strong></td>
<td><em>King James Version of the Bible (same as the AV, 1611)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LTSB</strong></td>
<td><em>Lutheran Theological Seminary Bulletin</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LXX</strong></td>
<td><em>Septuagint</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MBC</strong></td>
<td><em>Mellon Biblical Commentary</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MT</strong></td>
<td><em>Masoretic Text</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NCB</strong></td>
<td><em>New Century Bible</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NITGTC</strong></td>
<td><em>The New International Greek Testament Commentary</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NRSV</strong></td>
<td><em>New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, New York, 1992</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NTL</strong></td>
<td><em>New Testament Library</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NTS</strong></td>
<td><em>New Testament Studies</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OTL</strong></td>
<td><em>Old Testament Library, Philadelphia and London</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PEFQS</strong></td>
<td><em>Palestine Exploration Fund, Quarterly Statement</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PEQ</strong></td>
<td><em>Palestine Exploration Quarterly, London</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>RSV</strong></td>
<td><em>Revised Standard Version of the Bible, London and New York, 1952</em></td>
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<td><strong>SC</strong></td>
<td><em>The Speakers Commentary</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TDNT</strong></td>
<td><em>Theological Dictionary of the New Testament</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TDOT</strong></td>
<td><em>Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>USQR</strong></td>
<td><em>Union Seminary Quarterly Review</em></td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>UT</strong></td>
<td><em>C. H. Gordon, Ugaritic Textbook, Rome</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>VT</strong></td>
<td><em>Vetus Testamentum, Leiden</em></td>
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<td><strong>VTSup</strong></td>
<td><em>Vetus Testamentum Supplements, Leiden</em></td>
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<td><strong>WTJ</strong></td>
<td><em>Westminster Theological Journal, Philadelphia</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ZAH</strong></td>
<td><em>Zeitschrift für Althebraistik</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ZAW</strong></td>
<td><em>Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft, Gießen and Berlin</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ZNT</strong></td>
<td><em>Zeitschrift für neuen testamentliche Wissenschaft</em></td>
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