

CLARIFYING MORE
BAFFLING
BIBLICAL PASSAGES
CHAPTER TWENTY NINE
“SUMMARY”

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XXIX SUMMARY

In the twenty-eight chapters above over seventy problematic words found in more than sixty different verses have been given a new interpretation. Only a few of the problematic words involved scribal errors, such as the confusion of a ו and a י, a ו and a ו, or a ב and a כ. There was just one example of haplography involving the loss of a ה. Otherwise emendation of the text was unnecessary in the determination of a contextually appropriate meaning. The primary basis for a new translation was provided by Arabic cognates of the Hebrew word under investigation. In summary, the following list contains the texts, the Hebrew word(s) investigated, and the proposed new translation based upon an Arabic cognate.

- Gen 2:1 וַיְכַלּוּ “they were *perfected*”
- Gen 2:2 וַיִּכַּל אֱלֹהִים “and God was *fatigued*”
- Gen 2:23 לְעִשׂוֹת “to sustain life”
- Gen 6:3 בְּשִׁנָּם הוּא בָשָׂר “humans are into skull bashing”
- Gen 6:4 אֲנָשֵׁי הַשָּׁם “men of violence”
- Gen 8:11 עֲלֵה-זֵית טָרֶךְ “fresh olive leaf”
- Gen 16:10 פְּרָא אָדָם “peacemaker, reconciler”
- Gen 39:6 וְלֹא-יָדַע אֹתוֹ מֵאִמָּה “he would *indeed entrust* to him whatever”
- Deut 26:5 אֲרַמִּי אֲבִד אָבִי “a prolific Aramean was my father”

- Num 20:7 וְדַבְּרֶתֶם אֶל-הַסֶּלַע לְעוֹנֵיהֶם “make channels up to the rock with their help”
- Num 20:10 שְׁמַעוּ-נָא הַמְּזֵרִים “Please listen! Behold, O water carriers!”
- Num 24:7 יִזַּל מִן זָרְעוֹ וַיְדוּל בְּאֲמִים רַבִּים LXX (*Vorlage*) “there shall come a man from his seed and he shall rule over many nations”
- Num 24:17 וְקָם שֶׁבֶט “a comet [i.e., a star having lank hair”] shall arise”
- Josh 24:10 וְלֹא אָבִיתִי לְשָׁמַע לְבַלְעָם “I was indeed willing to listen to Balaam”
- II Sam 12:13 חָטָאתִי לַיהוָה וְאֶתֵּיב “I have sinned against Yahweh, but I have shown myself to be repentant”
- I Chr 4:9 וַיְהִי יַעֲבִץ נִכְבָּד מֵאֶחָיו “and Jabez was more *afflicted* than his brethren”
- I Chr 4:9 קָרָאָה שְׁמוֹ יַעֲבִץ “she call his name *Preemie*”
- I Chr 4:10 אִם-בָּרַךְ תְּבָרַכְנִי “*Ah, Please! Would that you truly bless me*”
- I Chr 4:10 וְהִרְבִּית אֶת-גְּבוּלִי “increase my *people*”
- Psa 8:2 יִסְדַּת עֹז “you ordained strength” read as יִסְדַּת עֵן in the LXX *Vorlage* = κατηρτίσω αἶνον “you have perfected praise”
- Psa 19:5 לְשִׁמּוֹשׁ שָׁם-אֱהָל בָּהֶם “verily, in the skies

the scorching sun shines!”

- Psa 19:6 יֵצֵא מִחֶפְתּוֹ וְהוּא כְּחֹתֵן יֵצֵא מִחֶפְתּוֹ “he comes out like a fire-carrier from his canopy”
- Psa 40:2 וַיַּעֲלֵנִי מִבּוֹר שְׂאוֹן “he drew me up from the burial plot”
- Psa 40:2 וְלֹא־פָנָה אֶל־רְהָבִים וְשֹׁטֵי כָזָב “who does not turn to skeptics nor misleading myth”
- Psa 40:6 אָזְנִים כָּרִיתָ לִּי “ears you dug for me” became אִזְנֵי בְרִית לִי “you have freed me of faults”
- Psa 40:7 אָז אָמַרְתִּי הִנֵּה־בָאתִי “then he said ‘Behold I confessed [sin]”
- Psa 109:23 כָּצֵל־כִּנְטוֹתוֹ נִהְלַכְתִּי “like a fading shadow I became worn out”
- Psa 109:31 מִשֹּׁפְטֵי נַפְשִׁי (LXX *Vorlage* = נַפְשִׁי) מִשֹּׁפְטֵי נַפְשׁוֹ “to save from the ones pursuing my soul”
- Pro 30:31 וּמֶלֶךְ אֶל קוֹם עַמּוֹ “and a king governing / demagoguing a tribe of his people”
- Pro 31:1 מַה־בָּרִי וּמַה־בְּרִבֹּטְנִי וּמַה בְּרִנְדָּרָי “*Prosper, my son! Flourish, son of my womb! Thrive, son of my vows!*”
- Pro 31:3 אַל־תִּתֵּן לְנָשִׁים חֵיֶלֶד “give not your strength to women”
- Pro 31:3 וְדַרְכֵיֶיךָ לְמַחֹת מְלָכִין “nor your acquisitions to (women) who deceive kings”

- Pro 31:8 אֱלִים = אֵלִים “kith-and-kin”
- Pro 31:8 כָּל־בְּנֵי חֶלְוָה “all the sons of the covenant”
- Pro 31:8 כָּל־בְּנֵי־עֲנִי דִין “judge all of the sons of the rich”
- Pro 31:10 אִשְׁת־חַיִל “a woman of power” or “a woman of intellect” or “a generous woman”
- Pro 31:11 לֹא יִחָסֵר “he will not lack a son”
- Pro 31:15 וַתִּתֵּן טָרֶף לְבֵיתָהּ “she gave quality food to her household”
- Pro 31:30 שֶׁקֶר הַחַן “infidelity is deceitful”
- Isa 8:6 וּמִשּׁוֹשׁ (וּמִשּׁוֹשׁ or וּמִשּׁוֹשׁ) “barely visible”
- Isa 8:8 וְהָיָה מִטּוֹת פְּנָפִיו מְלֵא רֹחַב־אֲרָצְךָ “and his camp shall thus fill the breadth of thy land” (LXX)
- Isa 8:9 רַעוּ עַמִּים וַחֲתוּ “tremble with fear, O nations, and be terrified”
- Isa 8:14 מְקַדָּשׁ corrected to מְקַדָּשׁ “oppressor, grief-maker”
- Isa 53:9 עֲשָׂר / עֲשִׂיר “vile, ignoble”
- Jer 20:7 פָּתִיתַנִּי יְהוָה וְאָפַת “O Yahweh, you told me of the fiat (*fatwa*) and I was informed of the decree (*fatwa*)”
- Jer 20:7 חִזַּקְתַּנִּי “you made me eloquent”
- Jer 20:7 וַתִּוְכַל “and you entrusted”

- Jer 20:10 כָּל אֲנוּשׁ שְׁלוּמֵי שְׁמֵרֵי צַלְעֵי corrected to כָּל אֲנוּשׁ שְׁלוּמֵי שְׁמֵרֵי צַלְעֵי “an incurable weariness is my recompense; my being on guard is my undoing”
- Jer 38:31 וְאֲנֹכִי בַעֲלֹתֵי בָם “I was disgusted with them”
- Ezekiel (*passim*) בֶּן אָדָם “son of reconciliation” = “the reconciler” or “the son of authority” = “the One with Authority,” and בֶּן הָאָדָם = “the Son of the Sovereign”
- Eze 20:25 וְנָתַתִּי לָהֶם חֻקִּים לֵאמֹר טוֹבִים “I gave them statutes that were indeed good”
- Eze 20:25 וּמִשְׁפָּטִים לֹא יִחְיוּ בָהֶם “and ordinances by which they could *indeed* have life.”
- Eze 38:21 וְקָרָאתִי עָלָיו לְכָלֵה הָרִי חֶרֶב “and against him I have called for annihilation, demolition, desolation”
- Micah 5:1 בֵּית־לַחֶם אֶפְרָתָה “insignificant Bethlehem” or “preminent Bethlehem”
- Hab 2:3 כִּי יַעֲוֹד חֲזוֹן כִּי עוֹד חֲזוֹן לְמוֹעֵד becomes כִּי יַעֲוֹד חֲזוֹן לְמוֹעֵד “for a vision was promised to the protestant”
- Hab 2:3 וַיִּפְחַח לִקְוֹן “its intent would be understood by the preacher”
- Hab 2:3 לְמַעַן יִרְוַץ קוֹרָא בּוֹ “so that the one reading it may be disciplined!”

- Hab 2:4 עֲפֻלָּהּ לֹא־יִשְׁרָה נַפְשׁוֹ בּוֹ corrected to
 עֲפֻלָּהּ לֹא־יִשְׁרָה נַפְשׁוֹ בּוֹ “his unrighteous
 soul was cut off [from life]”
- Hab 2:5 גְּבוֹר יְהִיר corrected to יְהִיר גְּבוֹר “the strong
 man demolishes”
- Hab 2:5 וְלֹא יִרְוֶה וְלֹא יִנּוּה corrected to וְלֹא יִרְוֶה
 “and cannot be sated”
- Gospels (*passim*) ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου “the son of Man” =
 (1) בֶּר אַנְשׁ = “the son of man” or “the Most
 Pure person” or (2) בֶּן אָדָם = “son of man”
 or “the Concilator” or “One with Authority,”
 and בֶּן הָאָדָם = “the Son of the Sovereign”
- Matt 2:23 נִזְרֵת Nazaret / Nazareth = “Hamlet”
 נִזְרֵנִי Nazarene = “Helper/Victor”
- Matt 6:19 ὅπου σὴς καὶ βρωσὶς ἀφάνιζει =
 אֲשֶׁר שָׁם סָס וְאָכַל יֵאָכְלוּ
 “where the maggot and lice devour”
- Matt 8:9 וְאֲנִי אָדָם חֹטֵא (Shem Tob Text) “and I am
 a provost, a commander”
- Matt 21:9 הוֹשַׁעְנָא מוֹשִׁיעַ הָעוֹלָם (Shem Tob Text)
 (1) “Please save, O Savior of the poor,”
 (2) whereas the הוֹשַׁע־נָא of Succoth means
 “wave/mix branches,” and (3) the Aramaic
 הַשְּׂנָא means “Cheers! Hooray! Hurrah!”
- Matt 26:14 Ἰούδας Ἰσκαριώτης = יְהוּדָה אִישׁ קְרוּיֹת
 “Judas the Lector”

- Mark 3:17 Βοαηρηγές “shouters of thunder”
- Mark 9:49 πᾶς γὰρ πυρὶ ἀλισθήσεται = כִּי הַכֹּל
 יִלְמָה בְּבַעַר “for everyone *will be dragged*
 through the muck”
- Luke 19:9 ἑαυτοῖς ποιήσατε φίλους “make friends for
 yourselves” translates הִתְרַעַו in the *Vorlage*,
 as if it were from רַעַה, stem II, but it was a
hapax legomenon from רַעַה, stem IV, mean-
 ing “abstain yourselves.”
- Rev 13:18 ἑξακόσιοι ἑξήκοντα ἕξ = (1) σωτηρ “savior”
 or (2) סוֹתֵר = “knave, rogue.”