

INTRODUCTION

Goal

Beginning Biblical Hebrew provides students with a thorough introduction to Biblical Hebrew in an easy-to-learn format.

Familiarity with English and Hebrew grammatical terminology is not presumed. All essential terms are introduced throughout the grammar in clear, nontechnical language.

Students will learn the morphology (forms) and syntax (uses) of Hebrew adjectives, conjunctions, nouns, numbers, prepositions, and verbs.

Students will lay a solid foundation for studying the Hebrew Bible by mastering *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*, students will have:

- ▶ Mastered the pronunciation of Hebrew
- ▶ Mastered the forms and uses of Hebrew words
- ▶ Mastered a vocabulary of 400 Hebrew words
- ▶ Learned how to analyze any Hebrew word
- ▶ Learned how to translate standard Biblical Hebrew
- ▶ Grown in an enjoyment of the Hebrew language
- ▶ Grown in a commitment to use Hebrew in a lifelong study of the Hebrew Bible.

Method

Each lesson comprises three sections: *grammar*, *vocabulary*, and *practice*.

The *grammar* section introduces students to the elements of the Hebrew language in bite-sized chunks. Students will encounter all grammar essential for reading the Hebrew Bible.

The *vocabulary* section introduces students to ten words. The vocabulary is numerically keyed to Raymond B. Dillard, *Hebrew Vocabulary Cards* (Springfield, Ohio: Visual Education Association, 1981), so that beginning students can easily access this aid to mastering their vocabulary.

The *practice* section has four subdivisions:

1. Focusing on New Material isolates the new grammar, so that students can practice working with new elements without the distractions of other material.
2. Reviewing Previous Lessons ensures that students review all learned material on a systematic basis. This subdivision also often prepares students for the next lesson. So, for example, students review the form and uses of the adjective before the lesson on the participle, because of the high level of similarity.
3. Putting It All Together gives students the opportunity to synthesize all that they have learned at any given point.
4. Reading Your Hebrew Bible provides students with experience in the actual text of the Bible in every lesson from Lesson 1 to Lesson 40.

The back of the grammar contains a Hebrew-to-English vocabulary list, an answer key, and morphology charts for the verb.

Everything necessary for mastering the essentials of Biblical Hebrew is found in *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*.