



The Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon

Francis Brown, C. Briggs, Samuel Rolles Driver

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A trio of eminent Old Testament scholars--Francis Brown, R. Driver, and Charles Briggs--spent over twenty years researching, writing, and preparing "The Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon." Since it first appeared in the early part of the twentieth century, BDB has been considered the finest and most comprehensive Hebrew lexicon available to the English-speaking student. Based upon the classic work of Wilhelm Gesenius, the "father of modern Hebrew lexicography," BDB gives not only dictionary definitions for each word, but relates each word to its Old Testament usage and categorizes its nuances of meaning. BDB's exhaustive coverage of Old Testament Hebrew words, as well as its unparalleled usage of cognate languages and the wealth of background sources consulted and quoted, render BDB an invaluable resource for all students of the Bible.

The Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon Details

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Author : Francis Brown , C. Briggs , Samuel Rolles Driver

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From Reader Review The Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon for online ebook

Marianne says

Indispensable for biblical Hebrew.

Adam says

A fantastic resource for researching the Hebrew definitions of the bible.
As a Preacher and a Christian author I recommend having this book to sharpen your sword.

But in the battle to grow in the Word of God you will need more than one method of sharpening. This book in and of itself is not enough. I recommend having several various dictionaries and lexicons to reference. That way you may have a more accurate understanding of the words you are trying to define.

Abbi says

Reference Book

Lauren says

A great dictionary, arranged in alphabetical order by root, with a section at the back for Biblical Aramaic. If the root you need is far from obvious, you can frequently find the word you're translating with a note saying what root to look under. If you're not sure you're looking under the right root, each definition comes with concordance info. Each entry contains cognates in other Semitic languages. Great for working with etymology.

Jacob Aitken says

There are both significant pros and cons with this volume. I will list them accordingly:

Pros:

- 1) It's reliable and better than nothing. I had lost or given away my Hebrew lexicons and when I started translating Hebrew again, I had found myself in trouble. This volume did come in handy.
- 2) This is arguably the most popular Hebrew lexicon, at least among intelligent laity. Because of its high supply, the reader will have no trouble in finding a very cheap copy somewhere.

3) I didn't notice this on my first use of the work, but it also has many Arabic root words listed in conjunction with the Hebrew ones. If one is learning other Semitic languages at the same time (Ugaritic, Aramaic), this is very helpful.

Cons:

- 1) There are simply better lexicons out there. While few mortals can afford Koehler and Baumgartner, Holloday's lexicon is available for under \$30. Holladay is one third the size of this and has roughly as many entries, and the entries are probably more accurate and user-friendly with regard to the changing morphology.
- 2) For serious exegesis one needs to move beyond this lexicon. Scholarship has come a long way and there are more accurate readings now.

Jamie says

BDB is /the/ lexicon of choice.

Steven Steele says

Another reference work for my Bible Study and it's a beauty! Now I can go deeper than what Strong's offers. Loving it!!!

R. Fox says

Still a great resource, but not as solid as HALOT (Kohler-Baumgardner). Can be hard to use because words are listed under their (sometimes theoretical) roots.

Phillip says

It's a bit dated and the formatting can be a bit confusing at first. Once you get used to it though it's super helpful. A BIG bonus for adding an index of Hebrew verbal roots in the back of this edition (published ~2010). It's made life way easier to find words I'm looking for, particularly verbs.

Kevin K. Gillette says

I haven't actually **read** the whole lexicon - I'm using it for my ongoing study of Biblical Hebrew. But it's pretty awesome - I'll say that much!

Greg says

Not the easiest to use, but my favorite reference book of all time.

Matthew Carlson says

Fabulous. It's helpful to have a Strong's to obtain the Strong's number in order to locate the corresponding entry in Brown-Driver-Briggs but each entry lists all of the uses to which the word is put and the specific passages in which a particular meaning is employed. An excellent tool for increasing one's understanding of the biblical text.
