How to Use Greek & Hebrew Study Tools

Level 2 Lexical Analysis

Use the templates and guidelines in this section to complete a Level 2 lexical analysis. It is emphasized that while the templates and guidelines are less detailed than Level 1, Level 2 does not compromise on the details needed for analysis. The student should be familiar enough with what is needed so that he/she is thorough in analyzing words in context.

Analyzing a Noun

As with a verb, you should begin your study with your English Bible. Most of the steps are the same as with verbs, but the focus will be on the properties of nouns and their functions.

- 1. Write down the function for the noun you are studying. (Example: the word *redemption* in "we have redemption" (Eph. 1:7) is the object of the verb.).
- 2. Using the Bible Hub interlinear tool, what is Strong's number for your word?
- 3. Using the Bible Hub list of occurrences of the noun (or directly consult BDB for Hebrew words), find at least two same or similar uses of the noun and at least three different uses.

Similar usages of	Different usages of

- 4. What is the central idea of your noun as used in its context?
- 5. Use BDAG or BDB to look up the noun. Which entry/subentry best fits the meaning of your noun as used in its context and your answers to #4 above? Write out the definition from BDAG/BDB that describes the meaning of your noun in its context.

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- 6. Read through the top-level entries for your noun in Webster's Dictionary. Putting yourself in the place of the original audience of your passage, write out the Webster's dictionary definition that would have been the most likely meaning of your word to that audience. Avoid anachronisms and imposing NT theology into any OT passage.
- 7. Using Roget's Thesaurus (or Webster's if Roget's does not provide one), find a synonym study that explains the differences in words similar to your word defined in #6. Write out relevant information from the synonym study.

Conclusion

Write out a thorough conclusion for the meaning of your word as used in its context. Details should include contextual considerations in your book and other passages, nuances in light of synonyms, and any theological insights that show the author's intent in using this particular word. This is where comments about the relationship between OT theology and NT theology can be examined. It is significantly important not to read meanings into words where the context is historically uninformed by later revelation of Scripture. The student must always strive to understand meaning in the historical and cultural context of the original audience, but having done that clearly, the student is free to make reference to later understandings, fulfillments, connections, and other relationships.