

**BIBE WORD-BOOK: A GLOSSARY
OF SCRIPTURE TERMS WHICH
HAVE CHANGED THEIR POPULAR
MEANING, OR ARE NO LONGER
IN GENERAL USE**

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Bibe Word-Book: A Glossary of Scripture Terms Which Have Changed Their Popular Meaning, or Are No Longer in General Use by William Swinton

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WILLIAM SWINTON

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FOR THE USE OF SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHERS, BIBLE CLASSES,
AND BIBLE READERS GENERALLY.

BIBLE WORD-BOOK:

A Glossary of Scripture Terms

WHICH HAVE CHANGED THEIR POPULAR MEANING, OR
ARE NO LONGER IN GENERAL USE.

BY

WILLIAM SWINTON,

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"WORD-ANALYSIS," ETC.

EDITED BY

PROF. T. J. CONANT, D. D.



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BY PROFESSOR SWINTON.

LANGUAGE PRIMER. 102 pp., 40 cents.

LANGUAGE LESSONS. 176 pp., 50 cents.

SCHOOL COMPOSITION. 152 pp., 50 cents.

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P R E F A C E .

THE aim of this little manual is strictly practical. Though designed for the use of Bible-readers generally, it is specifically intended for Sunday schools and Bible-classes. The hope of the author is that it may be introduced as a *regular study* in Sunday schools and Bible-classes. The entire vocabulary of peculiar and obsolete terms, here given, does not much exceed three hundred words; so that a weekly lesson of six words would in a year carry the scholar through the whole list. This would give a definite and specific aim to Sabbath instruction; and the knowledge thus acquired could hardly fail to bear fruit both in the spiritual and the intellectual advancement of the student.

In the idea of this book there is nothing original. There have been several learned and elaborate works on the vocabulary of the Scriptures; and the merit, if any, of the present little hand-book is rather in the absence of learning and elaborateness,—that is to say, in such a treatment of the subject as shall bring the matter down to the comprehension of plain read-

ers who do not possess any special philological training, and as shall adapt it to the conditions of Bible-class recitation.

The general plan is, in the case of words that are obsolete, to give their significance; and in the case of the larger list of terms that have undergone transformations of meaning, to state the Bible sense of the word, and then to bring it into comparison with its modern definition. The Scripture significance of important words is further illustrated by the citation of passages from authors who wrote contemporaneously, or nearly so, with the publication of our translation. It may also be noticed that in each case the word is introduced either by the textual quotation of a Bible-passage in which the given word is found, or else by a reference; and in many instances additional references are given. It is recommended that students be encouraged to bring together all the passages in which the word is used, noting the meaning in each case.

The author has to express his obligations to the following works: Trench's Glossary, the Bible Word-Book of Eastwood and Wright, and Nares's Glossary, which have been freely drawn on.

W. S.

NOTE BY DR. CONANT.

At the request of my friend, Professor Swinton, I have looked over the manuscript of the following manual for Sunday schools, making such occasional suggestions as might further the author's design. Its value to Sunday-school teachers and pupils will be evident on the inspection of a few pages.

During the two and a half centuries since the first publication of the English version of the Scriptures in 1611 many words have gone nearly or quite out of use, and others have come to be used in a different sense from that intended by the translators. Both classes of words require explanation; and, in most cases, their meaning is best illustrated and most clearly apprehended by quotations from old English writers, where they are used in the same sense as in our version of the Scriptures.

The study of the Bible-texts referred to under the words given, and of other texts containing them, which may be found by the aid of a concordance, would be a useful and interesting exercise for Sunday-school classes, throwing unexpected light on many passages of Holy Scripture.

I heartily commend this little manual to Sunday school teachers and their classes, and to others who have not access to more expensive works largely devoted to literary discussions which have no direct bearing on the illustration of Scripture.

T. J. C.

Bible Word-Book.

A.

A.

An.

A, an. The use of *a* or *an* before a word beginning with vocal *h* was not uniform at the date (1611) of our authorized version; and the far greater frequency of the latter form indicates a feebler sound of the *h* than we now give it. Thus we find in *Ex.* xxv, 10, *a* half, but in *Dan.* xii, 7, *an* half; in *Gen.* xxvii, 11, *a* hairy man, but in *2 Kings* i, 8, *an* hairy man; in *2 Kings* xii, 9, *a* hole, but in *Ex.* xxviii, 32, *an* hole; in *1 Chron.* xxv, 3, *a* harp, but in *1 Sam.* xvi, 16, *an* harp; in *Jer.* xxiii, 29, *a* hammer, but in *Judges* iv, 21, *an* hammer.

An (abbreviated, *a*) seems to have been nearly related to *on*. Hence we find in *Acts* vii, 60 fell asleep, and in *Acts* xiii, 36 fell *on* sleep; and in *Ex.* xix, 18 it is said, "Mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke," — properly, all Mount Sinai smoked.

"To set the people *a* work" (*2 Chron.* ii, 18) means to set them to work, to keep them at work,