

**INTRODUCTORY
HEBREW GRAMMAR:
HEBREW SYNTAX**

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Introductory Hebrew Grammar: Hebrew Syntax by A. B. Davidson

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A. B. DAVIDSON

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HEBREW SYNTAX**

Recently published, in demy 8vo, Eleventh Edition, price 7s. 6d.,

AN INTRODUCTORY HEBREW GRAMMAR

WITH PROGRESSIVE EXERCISES IN READING AND WRITING.

By A. B. DAVIDSON, M.A., LL.D.,

PROFESSOR OF HEBREW, ETC., IN THE NEW COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.

'A text-book which has gone into its tenth edition needs no recommendation here. . . . Certain changes, in the introduction to new examples and the enlargement of some parts where brevity tended to obscurity, will add to the already great merits and widely acknowledged usefulness of the book.'—*Critical Review*.

HEBREW SYNTAX

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Introductory Hebrew Grammar

HEBREW SYNTAX

BY

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NEW COLLEGE, EDINBURGH

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PREFACE

THE following pages consist of notes on Syntax, partly dictated for a number of years to a class. These notes have been expanded and connected together so as to complete my *Introductory Hebrew Grammar*. It was intended that the Syntax should be on the same scale as the earlier half of the Book, though it has become perhaps rather fuller. The main principles have been printed in larger type, and the less common, poetical or anomalous usages thrown into the form of notes. The illustrative examples, at least the earlier ones in each case, have been taken as much as possible from the classical prose, but references have been multiplied under the impression that they might be useful in forming exercises for prose composition, and the purposes of composition have been had in view in the form given to a number of the sections. Fuller details on individual points must be sought in special treatises, such as Canon Driver's *Tenses*, a work which the student should always keep beside him. The same author's treatment of the Particles in the new Oxford *Lexicon* promises to be of great utility.

A number of points in Syntax are still involved in obscurity, such as the use of the Imperf. and its interchange with other Tenses, especially in poetry; the use of the Conversive or Consecutive Tenses, and the use of the Jussive,

particularly in later writings. What has been said on these points, if it do nothing more, may make intelligible the state of the question regarding them.

From the assumption, perhaps, that the Predicate is the principal element in the Sentence, Arabic Grammars begin Syntax with the verb, and this order has been followed in some recent Hebrew Grammars. It may be disputed which order is the more logical in analysing the Sentence. The order here followed, Pronoun, Noun, Verb and Sentence, was adopted in order to make the book run somewhat parallel to the *Introductory Grammar*, and in the hope that the two might partly be read simultaneously. An occasional section on Syntax is felt by students to be a relief amidst the drudgery of committing forms and paradigms. In order to avoid repetition, treatment of Infin. and Ptcp., which have both a nominal and verbal character, was postponed till the sections on the Government of the verb had been completed.

Ewald's *Syntax* is a complete thesaurus of the language, and is indispensable. It is, however, not so well suited for practical teaching. The *Syntax* of Gesenius has recently been very successfully recast by Professor Kautzsch. An announcement made some time ago led to the hope that a translation of this work would come from the Oxford press. If this expectation had been fulfilled the present book might not have appeared. The *Syntax* of Müller's *Schulgrammatik*, so worthily rendered by Professor Robertson of Glasgow University, though rather defective in examples, can never be superseded. The fine sensibility of the author, too early lost to Oriental learning, for Shemitic idiom and expression is felt on every page. Useful contributions to Syntax have also