

RUSSELL SANDERS

6-21-2022

REFERENCE HELPS – LESSON 3

BIBLE DICTIONARIES

Sometimes you may wish to look up an English word from the KJV to see what it means in the Hebrew or Greek. In situations where you do not need the scriptures where it can be found, a bible dictionary can be useful.

Strong's Complete Dictionary of Bible Words will give you the original word in Hebrew or Greek along with its meaning. What it does not do is list all the bible verses where that word is found as the concordance does. It simply focuses on a particular word and its variations. It uses Strong's number system.

Vines Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words also defines the original words and expands on the explanation of the words' definition. It is a very reputable resource.

Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament also deals with the Greek words, but it is difficult to use effectively if you are not well-schooled in Greek.

Strong's Concordance gives the definitions like the dictionaries listed above, but it also gives you scripture locations for the word which the dictionaries do not.

There is also the Pictorial Bible Dictionary published by Zondervan. This is my personal favorite. It does not focus on defining all the words as does the listed dictionaries or the concordances. It is somewhat of a blend between a bible dictionary and a bible handbook and a bible encyclopedia. It will take a location name, a person's name, a key subject word, or a bible book and give you detailed background information. Zondervan's Pictorial Bible Dictionary has been one of my most useful learning tools. I highly recommend it. I have used mine extensively over the last fifty years.