

Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary Builder

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The lists herein present the terms occurring most often in the Hebrew Bible—more than one hundred times. Numbers and proper nouns are presented elsewhere.

How does the *Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary Builder* fit with other such works? It does not arrange the words based only on frequency of occurrence (*contra* first Pratico & Van Pelt list), and does not present the words grouped according to root (*contra* Landes, second Pratico & Van Pelt list). Moreover, there are not lists based on verb type or the like (*contra* Harper, fourth Pratico & Van Pelt list). Rather, the words are grouped by basic grammatical function (so Harper, Watts).¹

The approach here is minimalist, with Hebrew and English on facing pages (like Watts). The lists below differ from Watts in several ways: they are much shorter so they may be used as memory assignments; the verb and noun lists alternate as noted below eliminated the need to flip back and forth; the frequencies are based on BibleWorks; and the English glosses on BibleWorks and *HALOT*.

What should the user know about the *Vocabulary Builder*? The first list is made up of pronouns, prepositions, particles, and the like. The remaining odd number lists present nouns and adjectives (marked as such), and the even verbs. Verb glosses refer to Qal root unless stated otherwise. Noted when term occurs only or primarily in a stem other than Qal. The English glosses are the most common only. In the case of two roots with the same letters a semi-colon divides the definitions.

¹ Full references can be found in the bibliography on the “Resources” tab of ScriptureWorkshop.com.

one

pronouns, prepositions, particles

ב	1	in, at, by, with, against
ו	2	and, now, or, but
ה	3	the
כ	4	like, as, according to, when
ל	5	to, for
ש	6	who, which, whose, whom
או	7	or
אז	8	then, at that time
אחרי	9	after, behind
אין	10	there is/are not
אך	11	surely, howbeit
אל	12	to, into, towards
אל	13	not, nothing
אלה	14	these
אם	15	if
אנחנו	16	we
אני	17	I (אֲנִי 359X)
אשר	18	who, which, that
את	19	with; definite object marker
אתה	20	you (masc. sing.)
אתם	21	you (masc. pl.)
בין	22	between
בלי	23	not, except
בעד	24	away from, behind, about
גם	25	even, also, moreover

two

pronouns, prepositions, particles

כי	1	who, which, that, because
הוא	2	he, it; that
היא	3	she

הן	4	they; behold
הנה	5	lo! behold!
זאת	6	this, such
זה	7	this, these, such
יש	8	there is/are
כי	9	that, because, for, when
כל	10	all, each, every, any
כן	11	thus, so
לא	12	no, not
למה	13	what?
למען	14	in order that
מאד	15	very, force, abundance
מן	16	from, out of, more than
נא	17	I (we) pray, now
עוד	18	still, yet, again, beside
עד	19	as far as, until; forever
על	20	on, upon, above, over
עם	21	with
עתה	22	now
תוך	23	midst
תחת	24	under, below, instead of

three
nouns

בן	son, descendant	4932
אלהים	God, gods	2600
מלך	king, ruler, prince	2528
ארץ	earth, land, ground	2504
יום	day, time	2300
איש	human, each, humankind	2185
פנה	front, face, surface	2126
בית	house, dwelling-place	2050
עם	people, nation, tribe	1867

יָד	hand	1617	לָקַח	take	966
דְּבַר	word, matter, thing	1442	יָדַע	know	948
אָב	father, ancestor	1210	עָלָה	go up (Q); bring up, offer (Hif)	889
עִיר	city, town	1092	קָרָא	call; meet, encounter	871
עֵין	spring; eye	890	שָׁלַח	send	847
שֵׁם	name	881	מוֹת	die	842
שָׁנָה	year	875	אָכַל	eat	816
שָׁם	there	834			
עֶבֶד	slave, servant	806			
אִשָּׁה	woman, wife, female	781	five nouns		
נַפֶּשׁ	soul, living being, neck	754	מֵאָה	hundred	580
כֹּהֵן	priest	750	מֵיִם	waters, water	580
אֶחָד	one, another	710	כֹּה	here, now, thus	576
דֶּרֶךְ	way, road, journey, manner	706	אָדָם	human, humankind; Adam	562
אָח	brother; ah!, alas!; firepot	632	הֵם	they, these, the same	562
רֹאשׁ	head	612	הָר	mountain, hill	558
לֵב	heart, inner person, will	600	גּוֹי	nation, people	554
בַּת	daughter; bath	597	טוֹב	good, pleasant (adj)	539
			גָּדוֹל	great (adj)	523
four verbs			אַלְפָּה	thousand; cattle, ox	513
אָמַר	say	5309	קוֹל	sound, voice	505
הָיָה	be, become, is	3561	פֶּה	mouth	497
עָשָׂה	do, make	2629	צָבָא	army, war, warfare	485
בּוֹא	come (Q); bring (Hif)	2568	קִדְּשׁ	apartness, sacredness	469
נָתַן	give, set	2010	רַב	much, many, great (adj)	452
הֵלֵךְ	walk, go	1547	אֲדֹנִי	Lord	439
רָאָה	see	1302	עוֹלָם	for ever, antiquity	439
שָׁמַע	listen, hear	1159	מִשְׁפָּט	judgment	421
דִּבֶּר	speak (Piel)	1142	שָׂר	chief, ruler, official, prince	421
יָשַׁב	sit, dwell	1077	שָׁמַיִם	heaven, sky	421
יָצָא	go out	1068	חֶרֶב	sword	412
שׁוּב	turn, return	1059	אַף	yea; nostril, nose, anger	410
			כֶּסֶף	silver, money	403

מִזְבֵּחַ	altar	401	רָעָה	evil, misery	354
מָקוֹם	standing place, place	401	אֹהֶל	tent	346
יָם	sea	396	סָבִיב	circuit, round about	336
זָהָב	gold	389	אֲדוֹן	lord, master	334
six verbs			עֵץ	tree, trees, wood	329
נָשָׂא	lift, carry	656	שָׂדֶה	field, land	328
קוּם	arise, stand	627	כֵּלִי	article, utensil, vessel	325
שָׂם	put, set	584	מִלְחָמָה	battle, war	319
עָבַר	pass over	555	נָבִיא	prophet, spokesperson	316
עָמַד	stand	522	מִשְׁפָּחָה	clan, family	303
נָכָה	smite, strike (Hif)	500	לֶחֶם	bread, food	297
יָלַד	beget, sire (Hif); bear (Q)	495	עֵת	time	296
צִוָּה	command	493	חַטָּאת	sin, sin offering	293
שָׁמַר	keep, watch	468	עֹלָה	whole burnt offering; ascent	287
מָצָא	find	455	בְּרִית	covenant	284
נָפַל	fall	434	חֹדֶשׁ	new moon, month	284
עָנָה	answer; be afflicted	413	פָּרַעַה	Pharaoh	274
יָרַד	go down	380	צֹאן	flock, sheep	274
בָּנָה	build	375	אֶבֶן	stone	271
נִגַּד	(Hif) declare, tell (הִגִּיד)	370	בָּשָׂר	flesh	270
מָלַךְ	be king, rule, reign	348	מִדְבָּר	wilderness; mouth	270
בֵּרַךְ	bless, kneel	330	eight verbs		
יָרָא	fear	322	פָּקַד	attend, visit (Q); appoint (Piel/Hif)	303
seven nouns			סוּר	turn aside	298
רוּחַ	breath, wind, spirit	378	חֲזָק	be strong	290
אֵשׁ	fire	376	עָבַד	work, serve	289
נֹאם	utterance	376	כָּרַת	cut, destroy	288
שַׁעַר	gate; measure	373	אִיב	be hostile to	283
דָּם	blood	360	חִיָּה	live	280
			קָרַב	approach (Q); bring near (Hif)	280

מלא	be full, fill, fulfill	252	אֲדָמָה	ground, land	226
חטא	sin (Q); cause to sin (Hif); purify (Piel)	238	נַחֲלָה	possession, inheritance	224
זכר	remember	232	מוֹעֵד	appointed time, place	223
ירש	possess, inherit	231	אִם	mother	220
בקש	seek (בָּקַשׁ)	225	תּוֹרָה	teaching, instruction	220
רבה	be many, great	225			
כתב	write	223	ten verbs		
כּוֹן	fix, establish	218	אהב	love	215
שתה	drink	217	נטה	stretch, incline	214
עזב	leave, abandon	216	נצל	snatch, deliver (Hif)	213
			יסף	add, increase	212
nine nouns			שכב	lay	208
רָשָׁע	wicked, guilty (adj)	263	כלה	complete, finish, spent	207
אֶחָד	one, same, each	260	ישע	deliver, save (Hif)	205
חַי	alive, living (adj)	255	שפט	judge	203
לֵבָב	heart, inner person, will	252	אסף	gather; assemble	200
מִטָּה	staff, scepter, branch, tribe	252	רום	be high	193
אַמָּה	cubit	250	יכל	be able	192
אֵל	God, god	249	גלה	uncover, reveal	187
חֶסֶד	goodness, kindness	248	שבע	swear (Nif)	186
רֶגֶל	foot	245	אבד	perish (Q); destroy (Piel/Hf)	184
חֵיל	strength, wealth, army	243	לחם	fight, battle (Nif)	177
גְּבוּל	border, boundary, territory	241	הִשְׁתַּחֲוָה	bow down [stem unclear]	176
נֶעַר	boy, lad, youth; shaking	240	רעה	pasture, tend	175
שָׁלוֹם	complete, welfare, peace	237	שאל	ask, borrow	173
מַעֲשֵׂה	deed, work	235			
לַיְלָה	night	232	eleven nouns		
עוֹן	iniquity, guilt, punishment	232	בגד	garment; treachery	217
בַּד	separation; white linen; empty, idle talk	231	מַחֲנֶה	encampment, camp	215
זֶרַע	sowing, seed, offspring	229	בֹקֶר	morning	214
קֶרֶב	inward part, midst	227	מַלְאָךְ	messenger, angel	213

מִנְחָה	gift, tribute, offering	211	שִׂמַח	rejoice	154
צַדִּיק	just, righteous (adj)	206	כִּסֵּה	conceal; cover	152
אָרוֹן	chest, ark	202	שַׁחַת	spoil, ruin (Piel/Hif)	152
כְּבוֹד	abundance, honor, glory	200	נָגַע	touch, strike	150
כַּף	flat of the hand, palm, sole	193	נָסַע	pull up, set out	146
שֶׁמֶן	fat, oil	193	שָׂנֵא	hate	146
רֵעַ	friend; shouting; purpose	191	חָנָה	decline, encamp	144
בְּהֵמָה	beast, animal, cattle	190	פָּתַח	open	144
חֲצֵר	enclosure, courtyard; village	190			
שֵׁבֶט	rod, staff, club, scepter, tribe	190	thirteen		
אָזֶן	ear	187	nouns		
אֵיל	leader, chief; ram; terebinth	186	דּוֹר	generation, period, dwelling	174
סֵפֶר	document, writing, book	185	זֶבַח	sacrifice	174
בָּקָר	cattle, herd, ox	183	מַעַל	unfaithful or treacherous act	169
רִאשׁוֹן	former, first (adj)	182	אַחֵר	other, another (adj)	167
מִצְוָה	commandment	181	מְלָאכָה	occupation, work	167
מֶלֶךְ	king	180	בֹּעַל	owner, lord; Baal	164
זָקֵן	old (of persons only) (adj)	179	חוּץ	outside, street	164
שִׁפָּה	lip, speech, edge	176	פֶּתַח	opening, doorway, entrance	164
עֵדָה	witness; congregation	175	גִּבּוֹר	strong, mighty (adj)	159
			צְדָקָה	righteousness	157
			צָפוֹן	north	154
twelve			חֲכָמָה	wisdom	153
verbs			מוֹת	death	152
בָּחַר	choose	172	נִגַּד	in front of, opposite to	151
קָדַשׁ	be set apart	171	רַב	multitude, abundance	147
בִּין	discern, understand	169	יָמִין	right hand	146
שָׁבַר	break; buy grain	168	עֲבוּדָה	labor, service	145
הָרַג	kill	167	יַיִן	wine	141
הִלָּל	praise (Piel); be boastful (Q)	165	נְחֹשֶׁת	copper, bronze	140
דָּרַשׁ	seek, resort to	164	מִשְׁכָּן	dwelling place, tabernacle	139
טָמֵא	become unclean	162	נַחַל	torrent, torrent-valley, wadi	139
סָבַב	surround	162	סוּס	horse	139
נוֹס	flee, escape	158			

חַיִּים	life	138	עֲצָם	bone, substance, self	129
חָכָם	wise (adj)	138	אֱמֶת	truth, faithfulness	127
fourteen verbs			כֹּחַ	strength, power	126
חָלַל	pollute, profane; begin	143	חֶמֶה	heat, rage	125
רָדַף	pursue	143	חֲצִי	half	125
נוּחַ	rest	141	קָהָל	assembly, congregation	123
זָבַח	slaughter; sacrifice	134	אוֹר	light	120
נָשִׂיא	rising mist; one lifted up	134	בְּכוֹר	first-born	120
פָּנָה	turn	134	רֶכֶב	chariot, millstone	120
קָבַר	bury	133	יָשָׁר	straight, right (adj)	119
שָׁאֵר	remain	133	נָהָר	stream, river	119
שָׁכַן	settle, dwell	129	פֵּרוֹי	fruit	119
בוֹשָׁם	be ashamed	127	צֶדֶק	rightness, righteousness	119
קָבַץ	gather, collect	127	פֶּעַם	foot, anvil, occurrence	118
נִגַּשׁ	draw near	125	לָשׁוֹן	tongue	117
שָׁלַךְ	throw, cast (Hif)	125	מַמְלָכָה	kingdom, dominion, reign	117
חָשַׁב	think, devise, scheme	124	sixteen verbs		
גָּדַל	be great, grow	121	יָטַב	be good	117
לָכַד	capture	121	שָׁלַם	complete (Q/Hif); repay (Piel); be at peace	116
בָּטַח	trust	120	שָׁפַךְ	pour out	115
שָׂרַף	burn	118	בָּכָה	weep	114
fifteen nouns			גָּאֵל	redeem; pollute	114
עֶרֶב	evening	136	יָדָה	praise (Hif)	114
כִּסֵּא	throne, seat of honor	135	נִבֵּא	prophecy	114
מִסְפָּר	number, quantity	135	קָטַר	make sacrifices	114
שֶׁמֶשׁ	sun	134	כָּבַד	be heavy (Q); make heavy (Hif); honor (Piel)	113
חוֹמָה	wall	133	לָבַשׁ	put on, clothe	111
פֶּן	lest, not	133	נָחַם	be sorry (Nf); comfort (Piel)	108
פָּר	young bull, steer	133	סָפַר	count (Q); recount (Piel)	107
חֹק	statute	130	אָמַן	be firm (Nif); believe (Hif)	106

יֵתֵר	be left, remain (Nif)	106	יֵתֵר	cord; remainder, excess	111
רָעָה	be bad; break	105	עַמּוּד	pillar, column	111
רוץ	run	103	שַׁבָּת	sabbath	111
כָּפַר	cover, atone	102	נֶגֶב	south country, Negev, south	110
שָׁכַח	forget	102	עָפָר	dry earth, dust	110
seventeen			חַיָּה	living thing, animal	109
nouns			כַּנָּף	wing, extremity	109
תּוֹעֵבָה	abomination	117	כֶּבֶשׂ	lamb	107
קָדוֹשׁ	sacred, holy (adj)	116	חֻקָּה	statute	104
אֲחוֹת	sister	114	תְּמִיד	continuity	104
גִּבְעָה	hill	114	בִּמָּה	high place	103
מִגְרָשׁ	common land, open land	114	מַרְאֶה	sight, appearance, vision	103
שֶׁקֶר	deception, falsehood	113	מְעַט	little, few	101
צָר	narrow; flint; distress; foe	112	רֵחַב	breadth, width	101
רַק	thin, only, altogether, surely	112	רָעָב	famine, hunger	101
חֲמֹר	donkey	111			