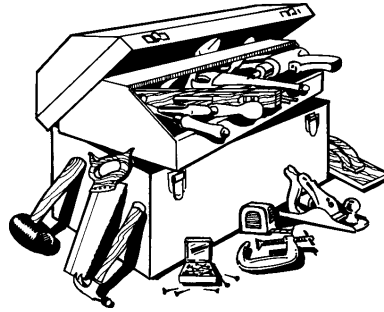


A Hebraic Toolbox

Knowing what it means by first learning what it meant



If your desire is to view the Scriptures through Hebrew eyes and possess the worldview that Yeshua and the apostles had when they studied the Scriptures, then below are fundamental "tools" with which you will need to become intimately familiar.

1. *PaRDeS* (פַּרְדֵּס)(P'shat, Remez, D'rash, So'od). The four levels of Biblical interpretation; layers of an onion; all true simultaneously. A working knowledge of *PaRDeS* is essential in order to fully grasp a thorough Hebraic understanding of the Scriptures
2. Names are never just names
3. Places are never just places
4. Numbers are rarely just numbers. Often, numbers also tell a story (Gematria)
5. *Gezerah Shavah* (גזירה שוה)(aka Verbal Tallies) - the ancient reference system and how biblical writers often make reference to other biblical passages. A fundamental way Biblical writers structured and strengthened their point
6. *Kal V'chomer* (קל וחומר)(lit. "light and weighty"). A principle of scriptural interpretation whereby a conclusion is drawn from a minor premise or more lenient condition (light) to a major or more strict one (weighty) or vice versa. An *a fortiori* argument. In common parlance, "all the more so..."
7. The *Mesorah* (מסורה) - the accepted and authoritative extra-Biblical oral and written traditions. The stories and events that go along with the transmission of the Jewish faith from one generation to another
8. Strong Emergence. The whole is greater than the sum of the individual parts. It is imperative to understand that Hebraic thought is non-dualistic ("both/and plus more" thinking). *Elu v'elu divrei Elohim chayim!*
9. Fractals - to have one portion is to have the whole
10. Time is cyclical, a progressive spiral of fractals (as opposed to linear). Time is NOT linear in the Hebraic worldview.
11. Knowledge and understanding of the Hebrew calendar, festivals, Temple and synagogue lectionary
12. As below, so above. As above, so below
13. The rule of firsts
14. Last in action is first in thought
15. Descent for the sake of ascent; run and return; expansion and contraction; *Chasadim* and *Gevurot*.
16. Hidden to be made known; concealed in order to be revealed (i.e. Mark 4:22)
17. The concept of *Tikkun Olam* (תיקון עולם) - the repair of the world and our role within it
18. Hebrew idioms and figures of speech. Crazy things happen and really bad interpretations occur when you understand an idiom literally. Imagine if another culture took "it's raining cats and dogs" as a literal historical event and not as idiomatic!!
19. *Mida kineged mida* (מידה כנגד מידה)("measure for measure"). A fundamental operating principle in the universe that reveals itself over and over again in the Scriptures. See Matthew 7:2
20. Do not confuse the symbolic as literal. Do not mistake poetry as historical narrative or prose.