



Reading the entire bible from cover to cover is one of the most important things a Christian can do. Without the help of the Holy Spirit, the true meaning behind much of the scriptures is impossible to completely understand. The original Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek scriptures were written by men who were moved by the Holy Spirit. The words in the original manuscripts were absolutely perfect. What we read today are translations and all translations have minor corruptions (errors) and poorly chosen words. As you continue to prayerfully read the bible throughout your life, the Holy Spirit will point out amazing truths to you. It's critical to review the original Hebrew and Greek words behind our translations to gain deeper insight. There are many resources that can help a student of the bible gain a better understanding of the scriptures. One of these tools is called e-sword and can be downloaded for free at (www.e-sword.net).

Original Manuscripts

The sources that are closest to the original "God Breathed" words are known as:
 - "Masoretic Texts" which are the basis for the Old Testament and written in Hebrew.
 - "Textus Receptus" which is the basis for the New Testament and written in Greek.

Commentaries

Not everyone has the gift of teaching, knowledge, or wisdom so it's important to have an expert's opinion on many of the more difficult passages in the bible. You should never base your understanding on only one commentary. In fact, in my opinion, you should always use 3 or more commentaries. It's also very important that if the Holy Spirit is leading you to something that disagrees with all of the commentaries you have read...keep looking and praying for direction. E-Sword comes with several good commentaries and you can purchase your own favorites as well. I recommend E.W. Bullinger (CBNotes), Dr. Thomas Constable, and Reverend Clarence Larkin for graphical references.

e-Sword allows you to quickly jump to any Book, Chapter, or Verse with a mouse click.

Bible Translations

e-Sword comes with several basic translations including the King James Version (KJV), Hebrew Old Testament (HOT), Greek New Testament (GNT), Latin Vulgate, Septuagint (LXX), and more. Any translation with a "+" after the name (i.e. KJV+) has links to the original Hebrew and Greek words used.

*****SCREENSHOT OF E-SWORD*****

The screenshot displays the e-Sword application window. The main pane shows the Bible text for Genesis 1:1-13. The text is color-coded with green and red markers indicating word occurrences. A red box highlights the word "created" in Genesis 1:1. To the right, a "Commentaries" pane is open, showing the text of Genesis 1:1 and a commentary by Dr. Thomas Constable. Below the main text, a "Dictionaries" pane is open, showing the Strong's # H1254, the Hebrew word בָּרָא (bā'ra'), the English word "create", and the pronunciation "baw-raw'". The dictionary also provides a definition: "A primitive root; (absolutely) to create; (qualified) to cut down (a wood), select, feed (as formative processes); - choose, create (creator), cut down, dispatch, do, make (fat)." and notes "Total KJV occurrences: 54".

Types of Concordances

English – Basic English concordances list every unique word found in the bible and every verse number that each particular word can be found in. There are **14,564** unique English words used in the King James Version.

Strong's – The "Strong's" concordance was written by James Strong in 1890 and indexes every unique Hebrew and Greek word in the Old and New Testaments. There are **8674** unique Hebrew words in the Old Testament and **5624** unique Greek words in the New Testament. They are labeled H1234 or G1234 as shown above in green.

Vines – The "Vines" concordance was written by William Edwy Vine in 1940 and covers both Hebrew and Greek word references. This is similar to the Strong's concordance and can be used in conjunction with it to help understand the original word definitions more concisely.

Dictionaries & Concordances

Jesus is referred to as "The Word", we will all be held accountable for the words we use during our lives, the bible is "The Word of God". Obviously, words are extremely important. Especially the interpretation of the literal, figurative and contextual meanings of the words. E-Sword contains several important "Word Tools" including basic dictionaries (Webster) as well as English, Greek, and Hebrew Concordances.

Other Resources

The most common e-Sword software is for Windows platforms (XP, 7, 8, 10) but it also comes in several new versions.

- e-Sword X – Runs on MAC computers.
- e-Sword HD – Runs on iPads.
- e-Sword LT – Runs on the iPhone.

ALL VERSION ARE FREE!

