

THE BOOKS OF THE TANAKH

Hebrew Names, English Names, and Hebrew Script

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The Tanakh is the Hebrew covenant scriptures — the foundational text of all three Abrahamic traditions. The word **Tanakh** (תנ"ך) is an acronym of its three divisions: **Torah** (the five books of the covenant), **Nevi'im** (the Prophets), and **Ketuvim** (the Writings). In all Miqdash Bethel studies, every book is identified by its Hebrew name followed by the English name in parentheses — for example, **Bereishit (Genesis)** or **Yeshayahu (Isaiah)**. This table provides the complete reference.

Hebrew Name	English Name	Hebrew Script
TORAH — THE FIVE BOOKS OF THE COVENANT		
Bereishit	Genesis	בְּרֵאשִׁית
Shemot	Exodus	שְׁמוֹת
Vayikra	Leviticus	וַיִּקְרָא
Bemidbar	Numbers	בְּמִדְבָּר
Devarim	Deuteronomy	דְּבָרִים
NEVI'IM — THE PROPHETS		
Yehoshua	Joshua	יְהוֹשֻׁעַ
Shoftim	Judges	שׁוֹפְטִים
Shmuel I & II	Samuel I & II	שְׁמוּאֵל
Melachim I & II	Kings I & II	מְלָכִים
Yeshayahu	Isaiah	יְשַׁעְיָהוּ
Yirmeyahu	Jeremiah	יְרֵמְיָהוּ
Yechezkel	Ezekiel	יְחֶזְקֵאל
TREI ASAR — THE TWELVE MINOR PROPHETS		
Hoshea	Hosea	הוֹשֵׁעַ
Yoel	Joel	יוֹאֵל
Amos	Amos	עָמוֹס
Ovadyah	Obadiah	עוֹבַדְיָה
Yonah	Jonah	יוֹנָה
Mikhah	Micah	מִיכָה

Nachum	Nahum	נחום
Chavakuk	Habakkuk	חבקוק
Tzefanyah	Zephaniah	צפניה
Chaggai	Haggai	חגי
Zekharyah	Zechariah	זכריה
Malakhi	Malachi	מלאכי
KETUVIM — THE WRITINGS		
Tehillim	Psalms	תהלים
Mishlei	Proverbs	משלי
Iyov	Job	איוב
Shir HaShirim	Song of Songs	שיר השירים
Rut	Ruth	רות
Eicha	Lamentations	איכה
Kohelet	Ecclesiastes	קהלת
Ester	Esther	אסתר
Daniel	Daniel	דניאל
Ezra-Nehemiah	Ezra-Nehemiah	עזרא ונחמיה
Divrei HaYamim I & II	Chronicles I & II	דברי הימים

OUR RESEARCH LIBRARY

The Sources Behind Every Miqdash Bethel Study

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Every study, report, and teaching produced by Miqdash Bethel is built on a consistent body of primary and scholarly sources. This page tells you exactly what we use and why. The governing principle throughout is simple: **always go to the oldest, most authoritative source first**. Human commentary is useful for context and corroboration — but the covenant text itself is always the final authority.

1. Biblical Hebrew Lexicons

Every Hebrew word studied in our documents is traced through at least one of the following scholarly lexicons, all of which are specifically designed for **Biblical Hebrew** — not modern Israeli Hebrew, which has evolved significantly from the ancient language of the covenant scriptures.

Lexicon	Scholar / Date	Focus & Use
BDB — Brown-Driver-Briggs	Brown, Driver, Briggs / 1906	The standard scholarly Biblical Hebrew lexicon. Every word traced to its root with full range of usage across the Tanakh.
HALOT — Hebrew & Aramaic Lexicon of the OT	Koehler-Baumgartner / Updated 1994	Most comprehensive modern Biblical Hebrew lexicon. Used for precise word meanings and Aramaic cognates.
Gesenius' Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon	Wilhelm Gesenius / 1833	Classic foundational lexicon. Among the oldest major scholarly references still in active use.
TWOT — Theological Wordbook of the OT	R. Laird Harris, ed. / 1980	Word-by-word theological analysis rooted in the Biblical Hebrew text. Keyed to Strong's numbers.

2. Digital Research Platforms

These platforms provide free access to the Hebrew text, translations, commentaries, and lexical tools used throughout our studies.

Platform	URL	What It Provides
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Sefaria.org	sefaria.org	Complete Hebrew/English Tanakh, Aramaic Targum, Mikraot Gedolot (all major commentaries), fully searchable.
AlHaTorah.org	alhaTorah.org	Biblical Hebrew linguistic and literary analysis. Keyword searches, root-word tracking, thematic parallels across books.
Chabad.org	chabad.org	Verse-by-verse access to Rashi commentary. Traditional Orthodox perspective.
jewishencyclopedia.com	jewishencyclopedia.com	Jewish Encyclopedia 1906 — free, pre-modern, excellent for historical Hebrew meaning and background.
archive.org	archive.org	Encyclopedia Judaica (22 volumes) — comprehensive modern Jewish scholarship, free access.
arabiclexicon.hawramani.com	arabiclexicon.hawramani.com	47 classical Arabic lexicons including Al-Mufradat, Lisan al-Arab, and Maqayis al-Lugha — used for Quranic word studies.
newadvent.org	newadvent.org	Council of Nicaea texts, Church Father writings. Used for historical Christian tradition analysis.

3. English Translations of the Tanakh

When citing the covenant text in English, we use translations that prioritize accuracy to the Biblical Hebrew original. The JPS 1985 is our primary reference for academic citations. Robert Alter and Everett Fox are used when the literary or oral quality of the Hebrew needs to be illustrated.

Translation	Focus & Why We Use It
JPS Tanakh (1985)	Standard modern English translation used by most academic Jewish institutions. Renowned for fidelity to the Hebrew text.
Robert Alter — The Hebrew Bible	Celebrated literary translation focusing on the style, rhythm, and poetic structure of the original Hebrew.
Everett Fox — The Schocken Bible	Unique translation capturing the oral, poetic, and rhythmic quality of ancient Biblical Hebrew. Closest to how the text sounds in Hebrew.

Koren Steinsaltz Tanakh	Clear modern English with in-depth notes focused on the plain meaning (peshat) of the text.
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4. Traditional Commentaries

These commentaries are cited as **corroboration only** — never as doctrinal authority. Miqdash Bethel's sole doctrinal authority is the Tanakh itself. Where these commentators confirm what the covenant text establishes, their agreement is noted. Where they go beyond or contradict the text, the departure is identified and the text governs.

Commentary	Period	Strength — Used as Corroboration Only
Rashi	11th century	Verse-by-verse peshat (plain meaning) combined with Midrashic insight. Standard first reference in Jewish study.
Ibn Ezra	12th century	Grammar and linguistics. Excellent for word-level precision in Biblical Hebrew.
Radak (David Kimhi)	13th century	Grammar and literal meaning. Especially strong for Nevi'im (Prophets).
Ramban (Nachmanides)	13th century	Legal, philosophical, and mystical interpretation. Used with caution — always checked against text.
Malbim	19th century	Argues every Hebrew word has a unique meaning, eliminating false synonyms. Excellent for precise word distinctions.
Mikraot Gedolot	Compilation	All major commentaries surrounding the Hebrew text in one compendium. Available free on Sefaria.org.

5. Islamic Sources

Because Miqdash Bethel studies address all three major Abrahamic traditions — Judaism, Christianity, and Islam — our Islamic research draws on the most authoritative classical Arabic and Islamic scholarly sources. The Quran is used as the primary Islamic text. Hadith and scholarly commentary are used as corroboration, always clearly distinguished from the Quran itself.

Source	Description
The Quran	Primary Islamic revelation — used as primary text when studying Islamic parallels to covenant teaching.
Al-Mufradat (Al-Raghib al-Isfahani)	Premier lexicon of Quranic vocabulary. 11th century. Used for precise Arabic word meaning in Quranic study.
Lisan al-Arab (Ibn Manzur)	Most comprehensive classical Arabic dictionary. 13th century. Standard reference for Arabic root meanings.
Maqayis al-Lugha (Ibn Faris)	Foundational lexicon tracing every Arabic word to its 3-letter root and core semantic concept. 10th century.
Sahih al-Bukhari / Sahih Muslim	Two most authoritative Sunni Hadith collections. Used to distinguish what the Quran says from what tradition adds.
IslamQA.info / IslamWeb.net	Leading Sunni scholarly fatwa authorities. Used for accurate representation of Islamic legal positions.

6. Medical and Scientific Sources

Several Miqdash Bethel studies — particularly those addressing dietary covenant laws, human health, and modern environmental threats — draw on peer-reviewed medical and scientific research. These sources independently confirm what the covenant text established thousands of years earlier.

Source	Used For
Centers for Disease Control (CDC)	STI/HIV statistical data, trichinellosis, foodborne illness, shellfish poisoning syndromes.
World Health Organization (WHO)	Global STI statistics, microplastics health reports, public health data.
PubMed / NCBI	Peer-reviewed medical research — parasitology, seafood contamination, toxicology, reproductive health.
Mayo Clinic	Patient-facing clinical information on parasites, foodborne illness, and disease conditions.

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)	GMO and glyphosate policy statement (2024). Pediatric health implications of food system contamination.
IARC / WHO Cancer Research	International Agency for Research on Cancer — glyphosate carcinogenicity classification (2015).
Stanford Medicine / Harvard Medical School	Microplastics research in human tissue, pediatric tonsil findings, cardiovascular studies (2024–2025).
USDA Agricultural Research Service	Trichinella surveillance in commercial pork supply (2024 national study).
FDA — Total Diet Study	Heavy metal and contaminant levels in seafood and food products.
New England Journal of Medicine	Microplastics in arterial plaque — cardiovascular events study (March 2024).

7. Encyclopedia and Reference Works

Source	Description
Encyclopedia Judaica (22 volumes)	Comprehensive modern Jewish scholarly reference. Available free on archive.org.
Jewish Encyclopedia 1906	Pre-modern, pre-Zionist encyclopedia — excellent for historical Hebrew meaning and background. Free at jewishencyclopedia.com.
Britannica	General scholarly corroboration for historical and scientific claims.
Josephus — Antiquities of the Jews	1st century Jewish historian. Used for historical context. Available free at gutenber.org and ccel.org. Always corroborated due to known pro-Roman bias.
Encyclopedia of Aquatic Life	Shellfish and aquatic creature biology — scavenger and filter-feeder documentation.

Our Research Standard — Two or Three Witnesses

Every factual claim in Miqdash Bethel studies is supported by a minimum of two or three independent authoritative sources, in accordance with **Devarim (Deuteronomy) 19:15**. We do not rely on any single source alone, including Wikipedia (which is used for orientation only, never as a final authority). We always prefer the oldest available primary source before working forward through later scholarship.

Commentaries are cited as corroboration only — never as doctrinal authority. Where any commentary, Talmudic ruling, Church council decision, or Islamic hadith confirms what the covenant text itself establishes, it is cited as supporting evidence. Where it contradicts or goes beyond the covenant text, the departure is identified and the text governs.

All Biblical Hebrew lexical work uses Biblical Hebrew only — not modern Israeli Hebrew, which has evolved significantly and cannot be used to interpret ancient text meaning.

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The Tanakh and the Prophets are the sole doctrinal authority of this ministry.

Peace and Blessings