

THE SEPTUAGINT WITH APOCRYPHA: GREEK AND ENGLISH  
AND  
A CONCORDANCE OF THE SEPTUAGINT

The Septuagint (from the Latin *septuaginta*, meaning “seventy,” and frequently referred to by the roman numeral LXX) is a Greek translation of the Old Testament. The name derives from the tradition that it was made by seventy (or seventy-two) scholars at Alexandria, Egypt, during the reign of Ptolemy Philadelphus. The importance of the Septuagint to Biblical research is the frequent correspondence between its use of Greek words and the uses of those words in the Greek New Testament. Greek word studies that look at occurrences of words in both the Septuagint and the Greek New Testament can shed important light on the meaning of God’s Word in both the Old and New Testaments.

This edition of the Septuagint, *The Septuagint with Apocrypha: Greek and English*, gives the Greek text along with a parallel English translation. It is important to note that the Septuagint differs from the Hebrew Old Testament in certain ways; the Greek text varies at many points from the Hebrew text. The chapters and verses of the Septuagint are also different in many places from the King James Version. Therefore, a concordance specifically referenced to the Septuagint is essential for study.

*A Concordance of the Septuagint* allows the advanced Biblical student to pursue word studies and study textual variations in the Septuagint. A knowledge of the Greek alphabet is required for the use of this book. The Greek words are listed in the concordance, using the Greek alphabet without transliteration. In other respects it is like any other concordance, with the scripture references where each Greek word occurs listed under the word. These references can be looked up in an edition of the Septuagint like the one discussed above. A knowledge of the Greek language is not essential, since it is possible to look at the English translation parallel to the Greek text to see how a particular word was used. It is important to avoid using *A Concordance of the Septuagint* to look up references in a version (such as the King James) not based on the Septuagint. The reason for this is the differences in the text and in the arrangement of chapters and verses.

Suppose you were studying the Greek word *ischuō* in the New Testament and wanted to see how this word is used in the Old Testament. *Ischuō* is translated “prevail” in Acts 19:20: “So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.” The word “prevail” literally means to be or prove superior in power and influence, or to dominate in prevailing power. In addition to “prevail,” some of the other ways *ischuō* is translated in the New Testament are “be able,” “be of strength,” and “can do.”

The first step is to look up “prevail,” *ischuō*, in the Septuagint concordance. *Ischuō* is a transliteration of the Greek word ἰσχύω. You can figure out the spelling of a Greek word from the English transliteration, or you can look up “prevail” in an English concordance (for example, Young’s concordance) to find a New Testament occurrence for *ischuō*, and see how it is spelled in Greek. Once you know how the word you are looking for is spelled, it is simply a matter of locating it in the Septuagint concordance, which is arranged alphabetically in Greek. This word occurs on page 122 in the Septuagint concordance. Here there is a list of verses where ἰσχύω occurs. In Joshua (abbreviated “Jos.”) it occurs in 1:6,7,9,14,18; 10:25; 14:11,11. When a verse is referenced more than once, that indicates the word occurs that many times in the verse. (The superscripts “a” through “g” that appear next to scripture references under ἰσχύω refer to textual variations that are listed after the scripture references.)

Now open the Septuagint to the Book of Joshua. The list of verses from the Septuagint concordance tells you where to find ἰσχύω. If you are adept at translating Greek, then you can work directly from the Greek text. Otherwise, you can use the English transliteration and refer to the accompanying Greek to use it as much as you are able. Read the English translation of Joshua 1:6-18, 10:25, and 14:11, and note the occurrences of ἰσχύω. In the Book of Joshua *ischuō* is translated “strong.” Check the Greek text on each page to see where the word ἰσχύω is used in the verses.<sup>1</sup>

The Septuagint with Apocrypha: Greek and English and *A Concordance of the Septuagint* open many areas of research to the Biblical student. The same Biblical research principles apply here as in any other area of research. Just because a word occurs or is used a certain way in the Septuagint does not automatically override learning that has come from the Hebrew or from other avenues of study. Enjoy using these books to enhance your understanding of God’s Word.

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<sup>1</sup>You will notice on occasion there is a different ending—for example, ἰσχυε. This is not uncommon. That is why a knowledge of the Greek language is necessary to do in-depth research with the Septuagint.