GLOSSARY FOR FOOTNOTES

al – "other manuscripts"
BDAG – A first-class Greek lexicon
BDB – Hebrew/Aramaic lexicon
cf. – "compare" (also: abbr. for cross-reference)
Codex – An ancient version used for copying
ff – "following verse(s)"
Grk – "relates to the Greek text"
HALOT – A first-class Hebrew/Aramaic lexicon
IBHS – A Hebrew grammar textbook
Josephus – A first-century Jewish historian
Lit – "literal translation"
LXX – Septuagint (see info to the right)
L&N – A Greek lexicon
ms / mss — "manuscript(s)"
MT – Masoretic Text (see info to the right)
NA (*or* NA27, etc) – key critical Greek NT text
or — "an alternate translation"
pc — "a few manuscripts"
pm — "a great many manuscripts"
vid — "uncertain manuscript reading"
witnesses — "ancient manuscripts"

SEARCH THE BIBLE

Words that start a certain way

E.g.   `lov*`   finds love, loves, loving, etc.

Specific book(s) of the Bible

E.g.   `love in:1Jn`

E.g.   `love in:prophets`

Word combos

E.g.   `grace truth`   finds verses with both words

Exact phrases

E.g.   `"love of god"`

E.g.   `"cut * off"`   finds "cut them/me/him off"

E.g.   `"because ... love"`   ("followed by" search)

  Finds "because your steadfast love"
  Does NOT find "I love the Lord because"

One word or another

E.g.   `faith / belief`   finds faith, belief

E.g.   `2+ faith hope love`

  Finds verses with at least two of these words

Changing the scope

E.g.   `god love same:phrase`

  Finds "love of God"
  Does NOT find "love the brotherhood, fear God"

E.g.   `god love same:sentence`

  Finds "I thank God... [5] because of your love"

Complex searches

E.g.   `"word* of ("the lord" / god)"`

  Finds "word(s) of God" and "word(s) of the Lord"

TYPES OF CROSS-REFERENCES

Parallel passage
Original language
Refers back
Theme

WHY VERSIONS DIFFER

1. Ambiguity in the original
2. Ambiguity in the English
3. Alternative reading

ANCIENT OT VERSIONS
(with date of oldest living copy)

Masoretic Text – a critical text and primary OT source (~1008 AD)
Septuagint – OT translation to Greek (~150 BC)
Dead Sea Scrolls – from the Qumran Caves (~150 BC)
Samaritan Pentateuch – written in Samaritan script (1000 AD)

GREEK NT TEXT FAMILIES

Alexandrian text-type
Egyptian (100-400 AD)
Western text-type
Western Europe (200-900 AD)
Byzantine text-type (BYZ)
Eastern Roman empire (400-1600 AD)

GREEK NT TEXT TYPES
(most ancient first)

Papyri – written on papyrus
Uncials – uses uppercase letters
Minuscules – uses lowercase

THE 3-STEP DISCOVERY PROCESS
(for studying a passage)

1. Read the passages that the writer expects you to be familiar with
2. Study the passage of focus
3. Use Bible study tools to refine your study
  a. View cfs to *clarify* and get *context*
  b. Read the context of cfs as needed
  c. Consider footnotes
  d. Examine different translations
  e. Supplement with a search
  f. Check key original language words
  g. Do a deep dive into a citation or allusion

10 DANGERS TO AVOID

1. Do NOT ignore the plain meaning because of what the cross-references say.

2. Do NOT bank on a cross-reference whose context is unfamiliar to you.

3. Do NOT simply pick the translation of a verse that best suits your theology.

4. Do NOT fail to distinguish between facts and interpretations.

5. Do NOT treat your Bible like a car manual, referencing it but never reading.

6. Do NOT assume you are always asking the right question.

7. Do NOT get lost in searching when studying a passage.

8. Do NOT forget that word studies only tell half the story. (Grammar tells the other half.)

9. Do NOT arrive at an original language conclusion without double-checking.

10. Do NOT over-simplify the connection between two passages.

↑Biblearc EQUIP

Discovery!
CHEAT SHEET

CONCENTRIC CIRCLES OF CONTEXT

- Passage
- Paragraph
- Book
- Author
- Genre (e.g. Gospels)
- Testament
- Entire Bible