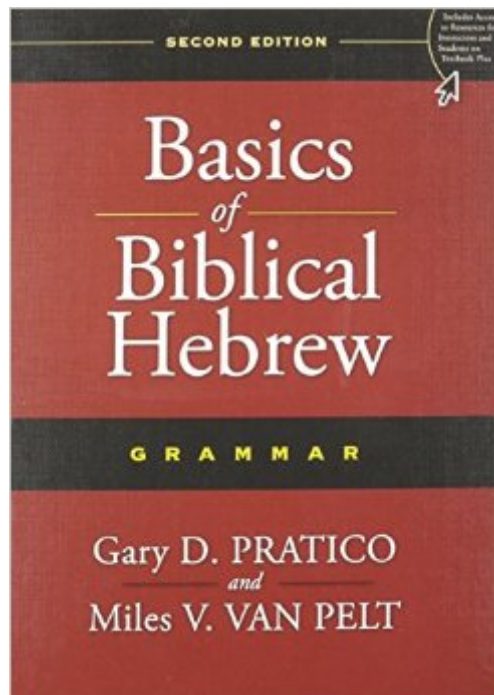# Basics Of Biblical Hebrew Grammar: Second Edition

Synopsis

Features of Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar, Second Edition text:â ¢ Combines the best of inductive and deductive approachesâ ¢ Uses actual examples from the Hebrew Old Testament rather than â œmade-upâ • illustrationsâ ¢ Emphasizes the structural pattern of the Hebrew language rather than rote memorization, resulting in a simple, enjoyable, and effective learning processâ ¢ Colored text highlights particles added to nouns and verbs, allowing easy recognition of new formsâ ¢ Chapters Two (Hebrew Vowels), Nine (Pronominal Suffixes), Seventeen (Waw Consecutive), Eighteen (Imperative, Cohortative, and Jussive), and Twenty-Three (Issues of Sentence Syntax) are revised and expandedâ ¢ Section of appendices and study aids is clearly marked for fast referenceâ ¢ Larger font and text size make reading easierâ ¢ Updated author website with additional Hebrew language resources and product information (www.basicsofbiblicalhebrew.com) Numerous student and instructor resources for Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar are available on Zondervan's resource website located at www.TextbookPlus.Zondervan.com. Â Â

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Customer Reviews

There are two basic approaches to language study. Deductive and Inductive. Most, like this one are deductive, and for ancient languages that has the additional implication of meaning no speaking or auditory learning.When I used this book in my first year Hebrew class, I found it very confusing. First, it has a tendency to give you lots of unusual cases and details which only rarely occur.

Second, it does not "connect the dots" between various things which are similar such as pronominal suffixes for nouns versus verbs. Third, it presents the paradigms for these things in different orders. Sometimes it starts with 3ms, and sometimes with 1ms. This makes it very difficult to remember things!Now that I am using it for review, I like it a bit better. It does clearly show every aspect of the language. I can easily turn to a certain place and get all of the relevant grammar information. I know enough to connect the dots more for myself, so that is less upsetting. So I guess I'm saying that this book makes a great reference, but a challenging introductory grammar. As a caveat, people who are very detail oriented like many linguists often are, may find the detail in this book actually helps them. I am a big picture person, and it frustrated me, but my friend who is detail oriented loved the book.When reviewing Hebrew this year, I got Learn Biblical Hebrew by John Dobson. It made a nice complement to Practico. Dobson is exactly the opposite. He has you jump right in. You listen to a CD which I find extremely helpful, and you read passages out of the bible which you do not even fully understand grammitically. This is closer to how we normally learn language.

This is a pretty good introductory grammar, as others havepointed out, but I just want to give a word of caution to anywho may be expecting it to be as good as the equivalent Greekintroductory grammar from the same series: it's not.BBHG is ostensibly patterned after BBGG, Mounce's excellentGreek grammar, but Pratico and Van Pelt are not Mounce, andit shows. There are similarities in the format, such as theinclusion of an Exegetical Insight section in each chapter andthe separation of some material as Advanced Information, butbeneath the surface there are differences. Mounce makes Greekas easy as a language can be, but BBHG does not do quite thesame thing for Hebrew -- and I don't believe it's just becausethe language is more difficult. (Quite the contrary; there arefewer cognates in the vocabulary, and the writing system ismore dissimilar from the Latin alphabet we use with English,but the actual grammar in Hebrew is from a student's perspectivemuch less tricky and involved than the Greek, IMO, especiallyin the beginning chapters dealing with the noun system.)I feel that I should go into detail here, and I will to somedegree, but overall I think that it is mostly a matter of careand polish. Mounce includes many more footnotes (even if theones about cognates are discounted, since Hebrew has fewer ofthose to note), and these offer useful explanatory material,insight that is sometimes wanting in BBHG.

When I saw Basics of Biblical Hebrew sitting on the shelf at the local Christian bookstore, I jumped with tingling excitement. I was used to the classic (and reliable) Weingreen, which was not conducive to amiable learning, to say the least. I noticed that the new grammar by Pratico and Van

Pelt was fashioned after the style of Mounces' Basics of Biblical Greek, and after perusing its pages, I knew this was a must have. First, the Hebrew font is very easy on the eye, and the highlighted particles and vowel changes in the verb paradigms make the differences in verbal forms easy to recognize and commit to memory. Secondly, the margins on the pages are neat and orderly, which make for friendly reading. Thirdly, the exegetical notes at the end of each chapter draw excellent applications of knowing the original languages. And this important, for not a few seminary students have wondered in frustration whether or not if "it's really worth it." But Pratico and Van Pelt have shown students of the Bible that it really is worth the effort, and they make it easier than their predecessors have. Some additional bonuses for example, are the number and size of the chapters. With thirty-six in all, students of Hebrew should be able to get through most if not all of the book within one school year, working through an average of one chapter per week. The chapters are reasonably sized and not too laborious. In addition, the table of contents sets forth the layout of the grammar simply and understandably as it goes systematically through all of the parts of speech, following through with a concise, detailed account of the different verb forms from the Qal to the Hithpael.

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