

Word Study

Hebrew Words

- shachah
- 172 times in the Old Testament
 - To bow down, revere, fall down, stoop, crouch
 - * Gen. 18:1-2 - "The Lord appeared to Abraham...he looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them he hurried to meet them and bowed low to the ground."
 - * Gen. 24:52 - "When Abraham's servant heard what they said [that Rebekah could go to be the wife of Isaac] he bowed down to the ground before the Lord."
 - * Ex. 4:31 - "And when they heard that the Lord was concerned about them and had seen their misery, they bowed down and worshipped."
- hallal
- 99 times in the Old Testament
 - To praise, laud, boast of, celebrate, to be clamorously foolish.
 - "Hallelujah" is derived from hallal.
 - * Ps. 69:30 - "I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving."
 - * Jer. 20:13 - "Sing to the Lord! Give praise to the Lord! He rescues the life of the needy from the hands of the wicked."
 - * 1 Chr. 16:4 - "He appointed some of the Levites to minister before the ark of the Lord, to make petition, to give thanks, and to praise the Lord, the God of Israel."
- yadah
- Root "Yad" means "hand"
 - Over 90 times: 53 times as "praise", 32 times as "give thanks", 16 times as "confess" and 5 times as "thanks".
 - To worship with extended hands, to throw out the hands, to give thanks to God.
 - The use of hands is emphasized.
 - * 2 Chr. 20:21 - "After consulting the people, Jehoshaphat appointed men to sing to the Lord and to praise Him for the splendour of His holiness as they went out at the head of the army, saying, 'Give thanks to the Lord, for his love endures forever.'"
 - * Ps. 9:1 - "I will praise you, O Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonders."
 - * Ps. 52:9 - "I will praise you forever for what you have done; in you name I will hope, for your name is good. I will praise you in the presence of your saints."
- barak
- 70 times as praise to God
 - Over 200 times to declare God the origin of power for success
 - Denotes blessing or blessings from God, as well as between people
 - Emphasis is on blessing God

- * 1 Chr. 29:10 - David praised the Lord in the presence of the whole assembly, saying, 'Praise be to you, O Lord, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.'
- * Job 1:21 - "The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised."
- * Ps. 144:1 - "Praise be to the Lord, my Rock, who trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle."
- tehillah
 - Over 50 times in the Old Testament
 - To sing or laud
 - The singing of "hallal" (hallelujahs)
- * Neh. 9:5b - "Stand up and praise the Lord your God who is from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be your glorious Name, and may it be exalted above all blessing and praise."
- * Ps. 100:4 - "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise, give thanks to him and praise his name."
- * Isa. 42:12 - "Let them give glory to the Lord and proclaim his praise in the island."
- "shir" also means to sing and is found 31 times.
- Zamar
 - Approximately 40 times in the Old Testament
 - To pluck the strings of an instrument, to praise with song
 - Almost exclusively in the Psalms
 - Mainly involved with music
- * 1 Chr. 16:9 - "Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts."
- * Ps. 98:4-5 - "Shout for Joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music, make music to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing.."
- * Ps. 104:33 - "I will sing to the Lord all my life; will sing praise to my God as long as I live."
- Todah
 - To extend the hands in a sacrifice of praise, thanksgiving, offering thanks.
 - Sometimes refers to thanksgiving beforehand
- * Ps. 26:6-7 - "I wash my hands in innocence, and go about your altar, O Lord, proclaiming aloud your praise and telling of all your wonderful deeds."
- * Ps. 107:22 - "Let them sacrifice thank offerings and tell of his works with songs of joy."
- * Isa. 51:3 - The Lord will surely comfort Zion and will look with compassion on all her ruins; he will make her deserts like Eden, her wastelands like the garden of the Lord. Joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the sound of singing."

Other Hebrew words for praise and worship.

Transliteration	English Meaning	Times Used
samah	Rejoice, be glad	64
havah	Worship, kneel, prostrate	65
mizmor	Psalm	57
gil	Shout, circle in joy	29
ranan	Shout with joy	42
shir	Sing	31
kaved	Honour, glorify	12
zakar	Remember, acknowledge, praise	12
saphar	Recount, proclaim	18
rinnah	Shout of joy	18
rua	Shout in triumph	13
sus	Rejoice	10
shama	Proclaim	10

Greek Words

- aineo - Verb: To glorify or praise
- * Birth of Jesus, Lk. 2:13-14 - "Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favour rest. " [also when the shepherds worshipped, Lk. 2:20]
 - * Miracles, Lk 19:37 - "When they came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen" (see also v. 38-40)
 - * All people, Rom. 15:11 - "Praise the Lord all ye gentiles, and sing praises to Him, all you peoples."
 - * Early church, Acts 2:4 - "Praising god and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number..."
 - * Silver and gold, Acts 3:8 - "He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping and praising God."
- ainos - Noun/verb: praise
- * Blind man, Lk. 18:43 - "Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they also praised God."
 - * Ordained praise, Matt. 21:16 - "'Do you hear what these children are saying?' they asked him. 'Yes,' replied Jesus, 'Have you read, from the lips of children and infants, you have ordained praise.'"
 - * Sacrifice, Heb. 13:3 - "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise, the fruit of our lips that confess His name."
- Doxa - Noun: Glory, ascribing to God the honour due Him
- English word "doxology" is derived from doxa
 - Doxologies; signifies an opinion and an honour resulting from a good opinion.
 - * Rom. 11:36 - "For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen."
 - * Gal. 1:3-5 - "Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory forever and ever."
 - * See also 1 Pet. 4:11, 2 Pet. 3:18

- humeo, humnos - Verb: To sing praise to
- * Heb. 2:12 - "I will declare your name to my brothers, in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises."
 - * Acts 16:25 - "About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them."
 - * Eph. 5:19 - "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord."
 - * I will hymn you; hymn God
- megaluno - verb: To magnify; to make great, long or large
- * [Mary's song] Lk. 1:46 - "My soul praise the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour."
 - * [Holy Spirit poured out on the Gentiles] Acts 10:46 - "They heard them speaking in tongues and praising God."
 - * [Unsuccessful casting out of demons] Acts 19:17 - "When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honour."
- psallo - Verb: To sing praise in spiritual ecstasy or to make melody
- psalmos - Noun: A song of praise
- * Jas. 5:13 - "Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise."
 - * Eph. 5:19 - "Speak to one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord."
 - * 1 Cor. 14:15 - "So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind."
- proskuneo - Verb: To kiss towards, to turn toward to kiss, to fall down and worship
- Found over 57 times in the New Testament
 - Is a combination of two separate Greek words. "pros" - "toward" and "kuneo" - "to kiss" [proximity required for kissing]

Other Greek words for praise and worship

Transliteration	English Meaning	Times Used
eucharisteo	Give thanks	35
eucharistia	Thanksgiving	14
agallio	Exalt, be glad	10
pipton	To fall to the ground	15
chairo	To rejoice	28
kauchaomai	To boast	8
oda	Song	5
hosanna	Save, Lord	5
sebomai	To revere, hold in awe	8
latreuo	To worship publicly, to render religious service	4