

בְּרֵאשִׁית

IN THE BEGINNING

A CHILD'S BEGINNER BOOK
OF BIBLICAL HEBREW

SAWYER D. MORANVILLE



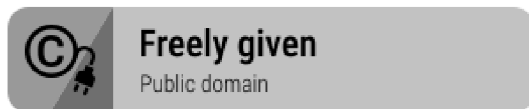
Sawyer D. Moranville, *In the Beginning: A Child's Beginner Book of Biblical Hebrew*

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Design: Sawyer D. Moranville

Artwork: AI image generator accessed through Canva.com



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General Notes

Every Hebrew word that is listed in this book appears in the Hebrew Bible with the exception of the word “colors” (צִבְעִים) and a few words in the dedication to my daughter, which were drawn from modern Hebrew because of their absence in the Hebrew Bible. For the most part, I attempted to stay away from the use of modern Hebrew words, because my main goal is that this book will serve students of the Hebrew Bible. The Hebrew words listed appear in both the singular and plural forms (the only exceptions are words that appear only in singular or plural forms in the Hebrew Bible).

The colors in Hebrew were challenging to present because, generally, colors are dependent upon concrete objects in the Hebrew Bible and are not seen as abstract colors as we may see them today. Further, the color תְּכֵלֶת was a challenge to represent. Many say that the color is a form of violet, while more modern evidence suggests that it may have been a sky blue. I went with the latter, though I am open to correction on this matter for any potential future edition.

I added images of the twelve precious gems that Aaron, the high priest, would have had on his breastplate to represent the twelve tribes of Israel before YHWH. Many translations differ on which Hebrew word represents which gemstone. I primarily used the Legacy Standard Bible’s (LSB) translation of Exodus 28:17-20 as the basis for deciding these matters.

Regarding the animals in the pictures, I am not fully aware how some of the animals would have looked during Bible times. For instance, how can we know what kind of cows were present in ancient Israel over three thousand years ago? Some suggest from bone evidence that they were a type of Zebu cow that originally migrated from India. Since this is a children’s book, I will not go further into this complex discussion. I chose a form of the Zebu cow as the model for the cows that appear in this book. Once again, I am open to correction at this point.

None of the categories that I presented in this book contain comprehensive lists. For instance, there are many more unclean and clean animals in the Hebrew Bible. I, generally, chose those animals which were most common (although, there are exceptions). The same goes for the geographical features, the body parts, types of food, etc.

It seems like the ancient Israel calendar was not divided into four main seasons but two. Perhaps this was dependent upon the important seasonal activities of planting and harvesting.

Finally, all of the images presented in this book were produced by an AI image generator through the book production application that I use. However, all other technical details and formatting work was done by my hand.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Andrew and Bethany Case who corrected errors in this book, gave helpful feedback, and provided access to necessary technological resources for the production of this book. Thanks to my good friend, Ben Eisenberg, who helped make this book better by providing spelling feedback. Also, thanks to my grandmother Sally for reviewing the English portions of this book and providing feedback on grammar and spelling. Thanks to my wife who always had good ideas about the structure and organization of this book. Also, for her labors of taking care of our children while I was working on this time-consuming project.

רבות בנות עשו חיל וְאֵת עֲלִית עַל-בְּלִנָּה (Proverbs 31:29)

Soli Deo Gloria

Introduction

This book is the product of combining two of my great loves in life: my family and the Hebrew Bible. My two year old daughter has recently been pulling books off the shelf at home and asking her mommy and me to go through them with her. Our household language is English and, therefore, she generally pulls English books off the shelf. This has been a joy. Sometimes, however, she pulls a modern Hebrew picture book off the shelf and wants to look through it with us. As time progressed, I realized that there seems to be a vacuum of Biblical Hebrew picture books that we can buy for her to use at home. Because of this, I began to imagine creating a book that would help her learn Biblical Hebrew. I also wanted her to be exposed to the rich beauty of the Word of God and the revelation of the glory of God as we see it presented in the Hebrew Bible. As I was producing other works related to the biblical languages (such as my Hebrew work on Jonah or my Greek work on 1 John), I began to realize that there is a huge need for easy Biblical Hebrew books. Most modern, Biblical Hebrew instruction is filled with challenging concepts that my two year old daughter could never learn. However, she learns very well by looking at pictures. It finally occurred to me that I should produce a Biblical Hebrew picture book for children (and adults!) that would be a delight to the eyes and aid reading comprehension.

My hope and prayer is that this book strengthens love for family, allowing parents who are studying Biblical Hebrew for hours on end to spend less time in their stale offices or dusty library cubicals, and more time reading with their children on the couch at home. That is, honestly, the main reason why I wanted to create this book. I do not want to be in my office all day. I want to be with my daughter and son as they grow up. They have only a few years with us before they mature and move away. Thus, I wanted to create fun ways for my work to intersect with my family. This is the best idea that I had. I hope and pray that this helps you do the same.

הספר הזה מקדש לבתי Mercy Waive ביום הולדתה
השני

תפילתי ליהוה
תאהבי את־אדני ברא השמים והארץ וישוע בנו ומשיחו
בכל לבבך לעולם ועד

אני אוהב אותך

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דְּבוּרָה - דְּבוּרִים



נְמָלָה - נְמָלִים



לְטָאָה



עֲקָרָב - עֲקָרָבִים



צְפַרְדֵּעַ - צְפַרְדְּעִים



נָחָשׁ - נְחָשִׁים



אַרְנֶבֶת



כָּלָב - כְּלָבִים



זֶאֵב - זְאֵבִים



אַרְיֵה



סוּס - סוּסִים



גַּמֵּל - גַּמְלִים



דב - דְּבִים



שוּעָל - שׁוּעָלִים



חֲמֹר - חֲמָרִים



חֲזִיר



נֵץ



נְשָׁר - נְשָׁרִים





דָּג - דָּגִים



בָּקָר



אֵיל - אֵילִים



עֵז - עֵזִים



צְבִי - צְבִיִּים



צֹאן



צָפּוֹר - צִפּוֹרִים



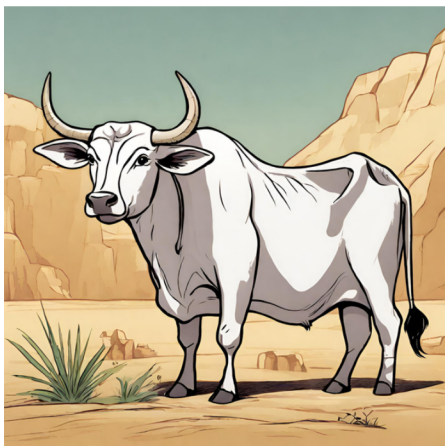
יוֹנָה - יוֹנִים



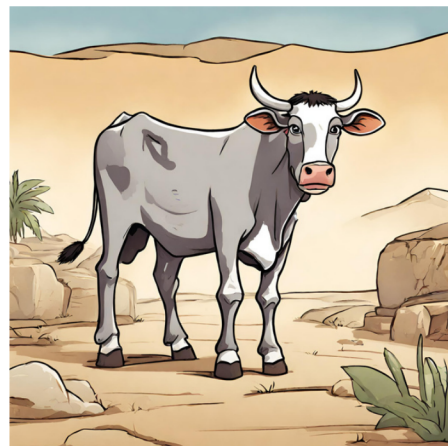
כֶּבֶשׂ - כְּבָשִׁים



חֲגָבִים - חֲגָב



פָּר - פָּרִים



פָּרָה - פָּרוֹת

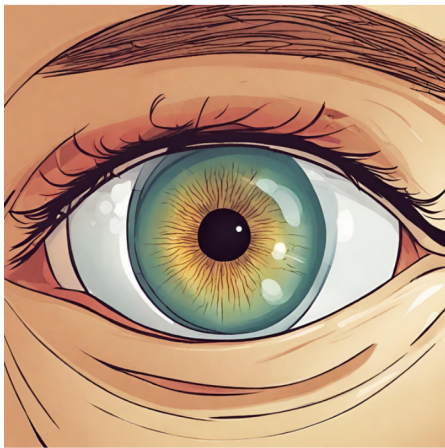




אָזן - אָזְנִים



אַף - אַפִּים



עֵין - עֵינַיִם



פֶּה - פִּיּוֹת



שִׁפְּה - שִׁפְּתַיִם



שֵׁן - שֵׁנַיִם



שֵׁעַר



זָקָן



רֵאשׁ - רֵאשִׁים



פְּנִים



יָד - יָדַיִם



רַגְלֵי - רַגְלָיִם



עֲבָעִים



אַרְגָּמָן



יָרֵק



לָבָן



שָׁחַר



אָדָם



תַּכְּלֵת



הַנְּשָׁמַיִם וְהָאָרֶץ



הַשָּׁמַיִם



הָאָרֶץ



נָהָר - נְהָרִים



יַעַר - יְעָרִים



מִדְבָּר



יָם - יַמִּים



נַחַל - נְחָלִים



גְּבֵעָה - גְּבֻעוֹת



עֲמֻק - עֲמֻקִּים



אֵי - אֲיִים



שָׂדֶה - שְׂדוֹת



הַר - הָרִים



שָׁלֵג



עָנָן - עָנָנִים



קֶשֶׁת



גְּשָׁמִים - גְּשֶׁם



עָשָׁן



אֵשׁ



אֶתֶת וּמוֹעֲדִים



חֵרֶף



קֵיץ



הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ



הַיָּרֵחַ



בֶּקֶר

עֶרֶב



כּוֹכָב - כּוֹכָבִים



יוֹם - יָמִים



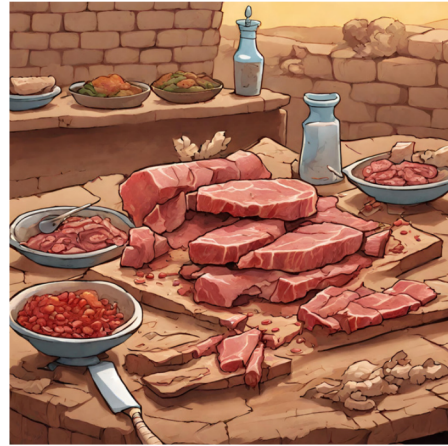
לַיְלָה - לַיְלֹת



מאכל



לֶחֶם



בֶּשָׂר - בְּשָׂרִים



עֵנָב - עֲנָבִים



רְמוֹן - רְמוֹנִים



תְּפֹאֵחַ - תְּפֹאֲחִים



תְּאֵנָה - תְּאֵנִים



זֵית - זֵיתִים



קֶמַח



תְּמָר - תְּמָרִים



חֹטָה - חֹטִים



יַיִן



מַיִם





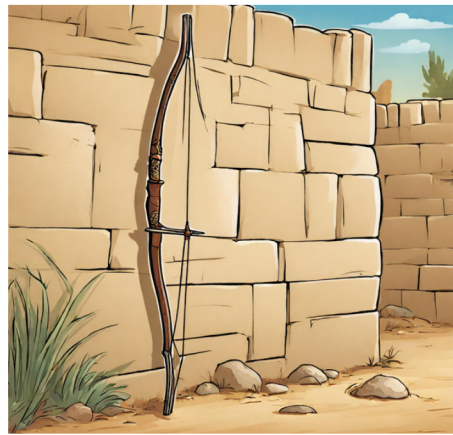
חָרֶב - חַרְבוֹת



חֲנִית - חַנִּיתִים



חֵץ - חַצִּים



קֶשֶׁת - קְשָׁתוֹת



כּוּבַע - כּוּבְעִים



מָגֵן - מְגִנִּים



אַבְנֵי יְקָרוֹת



ספיר - ספירים



אדם



בִּרְקָת



פְּטָדָה



תְּרִשִׁישׁ



שֶׁהָם



זָפִיר



יְהֵלֶם



שָׁבוּ



לָשֶׁם



יִשְׁפָּה



אַחֲלָמָה



פְּנִינִים



אֶבֶן - אֲבָנִים



בְּרִזָּל



נֶחֱשֶׁת - נֶחֱשֶׁתִּים



כֶּסֶף



זָהָב



עִיר וּבַיִת



בַּיִת - בָּתִּים



מִגְדָּל - מִגְדָּלִים



אֶהָל - אֶהָלִים



בְּאֵר - בְּאֵרוֹת



אַרְמוֹן - אַרְמוֹנוֹת



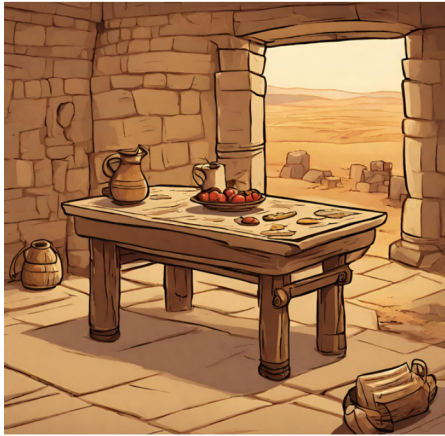
עִיר - עִירִים



מִטָּה - מִטּוֹת



כִּסֵּא - כִּסְאוֹת



שֻׁלְחָן - שְׁלֻחָנוֹת



בְּגָד - בְּגָדִים



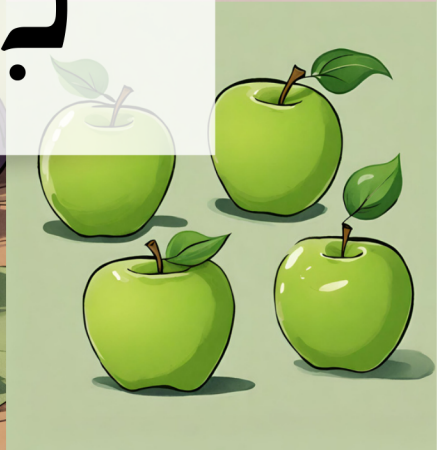
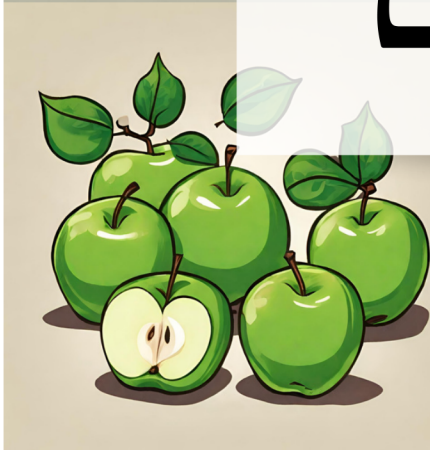
נְעָל - נְעָלִים



סֵפֶר - סִפְרִים



מִסְפְּרִים



נְקֻבָּה



שְׁתַּיִם - 2



אַחַת - 1



אַרְבַּע - 4



שְׁלֹשׁ - 3



נֶשֶׁשׁ - 6



חֶמֶשׁ - 5



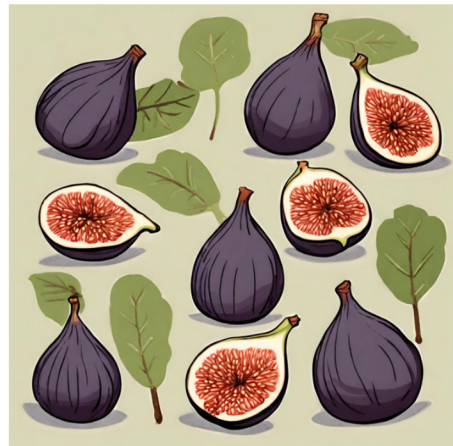
שְׁמֹנֶה - 8



שִׁבְעַת - 7



עֶשְׂרִים - 10



תֵּשַׁע - 9

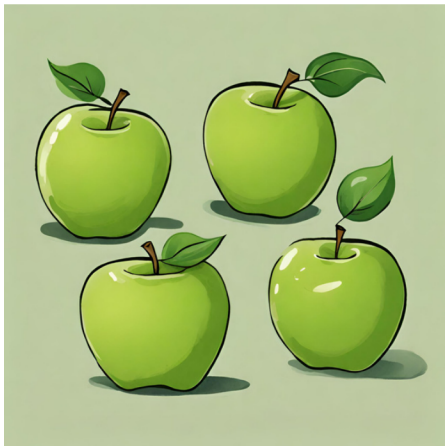
זָכַר



שְׁנַיִם - 2



אֶחָד - 1



אַרְבָּעָה - 4



שְׁלֹשָׁה - 3



שֵׁשׁ - 6



חֲמִשָּׁה - 5



שְׁמֹנֶה - 8



שִׁבְעָה - 7



עֶשְׂרֵה - 10



תְּשֻׁעָה - 9

Glossary

Page 11

colors - צְבָעִים

Page 12

purple - אֲרָגְמָן

green - יָרֵק

black - שָׁחֵר

white - לָבָן

red - אָדָם

sky blue - תְּכֵלֶת

Page 13

the heaven - הַשָּׁמַיִם וְהָאָרֶץ
and the earth

Page 14

river - נָהָר

the earth - הָאָרֶץ

the heavens - הַשָּׁמַיִם
the skies

ocean/sea - יָם

forest - יַעַר

desert/wilderness - מִדְבָּר

Page 15

hill - גְּבֻעָה

wadi - נַחַל

island/coastland - אִי

valley - עֲמָק

field - שָׂדֵה

mountain - הַר

flock (sheep or goats) - צֹאן

fish - דָּג

gazelle - צְבִי

hart, stag, deer - אֵיל

Page 7

cow (female) - פָּרָה

young bull/steer - פֶּרֶ

dove - יוֹנָה

bird - צִפּוֹר

sheep - כֶּבֶשׂ

locust/grasshopper - חֲגַב

Page 8

flesh/body - בָּשָׂר

Page 9

ear - אָזֵן

teeth - שֵׁן

nose/nostrils - אֶף

eye - עֵינַי

mouth - פֶּה

lip - שִׁפָּה

Page 10

beard - זָקָן

hair - שֵׁעָר

foot - רֶגֶל

hand - יָד

head - רֹאשׁ

face - פָּנִים

Page 1

unclean animals - חַיִּוֹת טְמֵאוֹת

Page 2

ant - נְמִלָּה

lizard - לְטָאָה

scorpion - עֲקָרָב

bee - דְּבַרְהָ

snake - נָחָשׁ

frog - צַפְרִידַע

Page 3

lion - אַרְיֵה

hare - אַרְנֵבֶת

wolf - זָאֵב

horse - סוּס

camal - גַּמֶּל

dog - כְּלָב

Page 4

vulture - נְשָׂר

hawk - נֶזֶן

bear - דֵּב

donkey - חֲמוֹר

fox - שׁוּעָל

pig - חֲזִיר

Page 5

clean animals - חַיִּוֹת טְהוֹרוֹת

Page 6

female goat - עֵז

cattle, herd - בָּקָר

Glossary Continued

Page 26 Cont.

beryl - תְּרִשִׁישׁ

Page 27

diamond - יְהֵלֶם

turquoise - נִפְדָּד

jacinth - לְשֵׁם

agate - שְׁבוּ

amethyst - אַחְלָמָה

jasper - יִשְׁפָּה

Page 28

rock - אֶבֶן

pearls - פְּנִינִים

copper/bronze - נְחֹשֶׁת

iron - בְּרִזָּל

gold - זָהָב

silver - כֶּסֶף

Page 29

city and house/home - עִיר וּבַיִת

Page 30

tower - מִגְדָּל

house/home - בַּיִת

a well - בְּאֵר

tent - אֹהֶל

city - עִיר

citadel/castle/palace - אֶרְמוֹן

Page 31

seat of honor/throne - כִּסֵּא

Page 21 Cont.

fig - תְּאֵנָה

apple - תְּפוּחַ

Page 22

flour - קֶמַח

olive - זַיִת

wheat - חֲטָה

date fruit - תְּמָר

water - מַיִם

wine - יַיִן

Page 23

war/battle - מְלָחָמָה

Page 24

spear - חֲנִית

sword - חֶרֶב

bow (weapon) - קֹשֶׁת

arrow - חֵץ

shield - מָגֵן

helmet - כּוּבַע

Page 25

precious stones - אֲבָנִים יְקָרוֹת

Page 26

carnelion - אֲדָם

sapphire - סַפִּיר

topaz - פְּטָדָה

emerald - בְּרָקֶת

onyx - שֹׁהַם

Page 16

cloud - עָנָן

snow - שֶׁלֶג

rain - גֶּשֶׁם

bow (rainbow) - קֹשֶׁת

fire - אֵשׁ

smoke - עָשָׁן

Page 17

signs and season - אֹתוֹת וּמוֹעֲדִים

Page 18

harvest-time, autumn - חֶרֶף

summer - קַיִץ

Page 19

the moon - הַיָּרֵחַ

the sun - הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ

star - כּוֹכָב

evening - עֶרֶב

morning - בֹּקֶר

night - לַיְלָה

day - יוֹם

Page 20

food - מְאָכָל

Page 21

meat/flesh - בֶּשָׂר

bread - לֶחֶם

pomegranate - רְמוֹן

grape - עֵנָב

Glossary Continued

Page 31 Cont.

couch/bed - מִטָּה

garment/clothing - בְּגָד

table - שֻׁלְחָן

scroll/book - סֵפֶר

sandal/shoe - נְעָל

Page 32

numbers - מִסְפָּרִים

Page 33

female/feminine word gender - נְקֵבָה

Page 35

male/masculine word gender - זָכָר

Free Biblical Hebrew and Greek Resources

Lingua Deo Gloria exists to serve the people of God by producing free Biblical Hebrew and Greek products. These comprehensible input tools assist pastors and laymen in their study of the Scriptures.

All of our works, including this book, are available for free PDF download at our website linguadeogloria.com.



1 John: A Visual Reader is the first Koine Greek project in the Lingua Deo Gloria Greek Readers series. This work is aimed at helping students grasp the Koine Greek text of 1 John by the service of visual aids and margin notes. The goal is to make the Biblical text understandable to all desiring to read the Word of God in the original Greek!



Jonah: A Visual Reader, is the first project in the Lingua Deo Gloria series. It serves Biblical Hebrew students by presenting "Comprehensible Input" (i.e. the use of intuitive pictures and margin notes to help serve readers). Students will feel more comfortable with the Hebrew language and enjoy reading the text without difficult translation.

Resources Continued



Ruth: A Visual Reader, is the second project in the Lingua Deo Gloria Hebrew series. This work is aimed at helping students grasp the Biblical Hebrew text of Ruth by the service of visual aids and margin notes. The goal is to make the Biblical text understandable to all desiring to read the Word of God in the original Hebrew!

κεφάλαιον α' 1

ΚΕΦΑΛΑΙΟΝ Α (1)

1.1 Παῦλος δέσμιος Χριστοῦ Ἰησοῦ καὶ Τιμόθεος ὁ ἀδελφὸς Φιλήμονι τῷ ἀγαπητῷ καὶ συνεργῷ ἡμῶν 2 καὶ Ἀπίφι τῇ ἀδελφῇ καὶ Ἀρχίππῳ τῷ συστρατιῶτῃ ἡμῶν καὶ τῇ κατ' οἶκόν σου ἐκκλησίᾳ· 3 χάρις ὑμῖν καὶ εἰρήνη ἀπὸ θεοῦ πατρὸς ἡμῶν καὶ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ. 4 Εὐχαριστῶ τῷ θεῷ πάντοτε μνηστὴν σου ποιούμενος ἐπὶ τῶν προσευχῶν μου, 5 ἀκούων σου τὴν ἀγάπην καὶ τὴν πίστιν ἣν ἔχεις πρὸς τὸν κύριον Ἰησοῦν καὶ εἰς πάντας τοὺς ἁγίους,

1 ἀγαπητῷ (dat. - to the beloved)
2 συνεργῷ (dat. - to the fellow worker)
3 ἐκκλησίᾳ (dat. - to the church)
4 χάρις - grace
5 εἰρήνη - peace
6 κύριον - (from) the Lord

7 Εὐχαριστῶ - I give thanks

Philemon: A Visual Reader, is the first Koine Greek project in the Lingua Deo Gloria series to include English glosses for difficult words. Like the Jonah Project, this work is aimed at helping students grasp the Koine Greek text of Philemon by the service of visual aids and margin notes. The goal is to make the Biblical text understandable to all desiring to read the Word of God in the original Greek!

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Errors and Corrections

If you find any errors in this book, please contact us directly at our email address. We are happy to receive your feedback and make this book better for the global Church. Your partnership with us in these matters is valuable!

About the Author

Sawyer was raised in Montana. He began to study Koine Greek, Classical Hebrew, and Classical Latin at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky which led to a Master's of Divinity. After graduating, he moved to Jerusalem with his wife to study more Hebrew (where their first child was born). He received a Master's in Classical Hebrew through the Institute for Biblical Languages and Translation (now, The Whole Word Institute). He is pursuing a ThM in Old Testament at Westminster Theological Seminary (WTS) and working for Graterford Bible Fellowship Church outside of Philadelphia.

