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Joshua Berman (Bar-Ilan University)

**JUXTAPOSED CONFLICTING COMPOSITIONS
(GEN 1-2:4A -2:4B-24, EXOD 14-15, JUDG 4-5): A NEW
KINGDOM EGYPTIAN PARALLEL**

ABSTRACT

The Hebrew Bible reveals several instances of juxtaposed conflicting accounts (Gen 1-2, Exod 14-15, Jud 4-5). To date no example from the cognate literature has been produced revealing differing accounts of the same event in juxtaposed fashion. In the Kadesh Inscriptions of Ramesses II, the pharaoh commissioned two differing accounts of the Battle of Kadesh, and had them carved side by side at several monumental sites. This study examines the discrepancies between the two texts and how Egyptologists have explained the juxtaposition of these accounts. The implications for our understanding of juxtaposed conflicting compositions in the Hebrew Bible are explored.

Sara Kipfer (Universität Bern)

**ANGST, FURCHT UND SCHRECKEN: EINE KOGNITIV-
LINGUISTISCHE UNTERSUCHUNG EINER EMOTION
IM BIBLISCHEN HEBRÄISCH**

ABSTRACT

This contribution examines the emotion of anxiety, fear and terror in the Hebrew Bible using cognitive linguistic methods. An in-depth analysis of the lexical field used to express this emotion is followed by the investigations of the most important metonymies and metaphor concepts. It will turn out that many of the physical expressions mentioned correspond very well with what Kövecses and others stated for modern languages. There are, however, some surprising cultural differences when it comes to metaphor concepts: anxiety, fear and terror are most often seen as something not coming from inside but from outside the human body.

Nicholas P Lunn (Wycliffe Bible Translators/Spurgeon's College)

DIFFERENTIATING INTENSIVE AND ABSTRACT PLURAL NOUNS IN BIBLICAL HEBREW

ABSTRACT

This study focuses upon the plural forms of intensification and abstraction, which have been inadequately defined in the relevant reference grammars. Following a brief introductory discussion of the notions of countability and abstractness, the intensive plural is characterised in terms of its relation to singular forms and its distribution over the various genres present in Biblical Hebrew literature. The same is then done for plurals of abstraction. The different results of these analyses enable a reasonably sure differentiation between the two forms in most instances. Lastly, several criteria are set down as guidelines for distinguishing between the two foregoing forms and the ordinary numerical use of the plural form.

Nadav Na'aman (Tel Aviv University)

KING MESHA'S OCCUPATION OF JAHAZ

ABSTRACT

In this article, I discuss Mesha's account of the city of Jahaz's occupation. I first present two cases of a king and governor who provide for the weak sector of their tribal society. I then interpret Mesha's statement that after the Israelite army withdrew from Jahaz, he brought to the city two hundred Moabites, כל רשה (line 20). I suggest that כל רשה [kōl rāšēhu] should be translated "all its [Moab's] poor (people)", rather than amending the text and rendering it "all its leaders/elite troops", as most scholars interpreted it. Mesha's inscription offers an example of a king who has settled the weak tribal sector of his kingdom, thereby reducing their pressure on his newly established kingdom.

Ernst Wendland (Stellenbosch University)

REVIEW ARTICLE: TRANSLATING THE ENGLISH BIBLE: FROM RELEVANCE TO DECONSTRUCTION

ABSTRACT

In this article, I present a rather detailed review of Translating the English Bible from the specific perspective of a Bible translator and consultant in Africa. This critique must be in-depth in order to adequately trace the author's exposition and application of relevance theory and the literary theory of deconstruction in selective reference to Bible translation in English, from the time of the KJV to the present day. While there are many important insights to be mined in this study, I also note a number of points of concern that relate to translation theory, E A Nida's "dynamic equivalence" approach in particular, and practice as well, namely, translating the Scriptures today with reference to a well-defined target language group of contemporary English speakers.

BOOK REVIEWS

Stocks, Simon P. 2012. *The Form and Function of the Tricolon in the Psalms of Ascents*. Eugene: Pickwick. xv + 274 pages. ISBN 9781610978088. Price: \$32.00.

This book is the author's PhD dissertation under supervision of David Firth who, in the foreword, says that Stocks brings "methodological rigour and clarity to this complex area" and describes it as a "clear and insightful study".

The purpose of the study is to identify and analyse on a consistent basis lines of Hebrew poetry, initially identified as tricola, and to explore their function. The corpus chosen is the Psalms of Ascents, especially as they are clearly identifiable as poetry, are seen to be quite discrete, with no ambiguity over their beginnings or endings, and are mostly quite short (p. 10).

Introducing his methodology in Chapter 1, the author notes that the editors of BHS made decisions regarding colometry and presented the text accordingly, but did not provide a basis or explanation of this. From a brief survey of the manner of presentation of poetic texts in some of the Masoretic, Qumran and Septuagint manuscripts he finds, *inter alia*, that the scribes of the Masoretic manuscripts "did not have any view of colometry other than that indicated by the accentuation or occasionally adduced from syntactic structure" (p. 15). He opts for a "canonical" approach within which it would be "appropriate to take cognisance of the accentuation as a starting point for poetic analysis, whilst also being open to underlying poetic structure that it has obscured" (p. 17). A consistent approach to the colometry of the text is essential in order to identify tricola and to understand the overall structure of a poem. Only when that has been done, an analysis of the internal structure of the tricola from both a syntactic and a semantic point of view can be undertaken, leading to characterisation of tricola and identification of their functions.

Given the above approach it is understandable that the bulk of the book is found in Chapter 2 on Theories of Poetic Structure (44 pp.), in Chapter 3 on Colometric and Structural Analysis of the Psalms of Ascents (116 pp.), and in Chapter 4 on Internal Analysis of Tricola and Para-Tricola (56 pp.). These chapters are followed by two brief ones, namely Chapter 5 on Functions of Tricola and Para-Tricola (16 pp.), and Chapter 6 presenting Conclusions (5 pp.). There also is a Glossary (1 and a half pp.), a Bibliography (9 pp. containing some 214 items in smaller print), and an Index (4 pp.).

It is to the author's credit that he takes the problem of colon delimitation seriously and seeks to synthesise the most reliable aspects of metrical, syntactical, stylistic and semantic theories of Hebrew poetic line form to facilitate a consistent means of colometry. He does this in his very informative theoretical Chapter 2 in which he also discusses, *inter alia*, parallelism, four-word cola, enjambment, and theories of poetic

macrostructure. He accepts the accentual analysis of Sievers, supplemented with maximum limits on stresses and syllables per colon set by Fokkelman. His arguments for these choices seem to be weak and the colon remains a vague entity, leaving room for subjective decisions (see below on Chapter 3). Early in Chapter 2 he introduces a new term “para-tricolon” to suggest “a line that looks like a tricolon but is not” and proposes a working definition:

Para-tricolon: A line comprising three phrases, each having two stresses. The rhythmical length of the line is measured as six stresses and two minor caesurae, being rhythmically equivalent to a bicolon of six stresses and one major caesura.

In Chapter 3, when introducing colometric analysis, Stocks almost immediately lists six further considerations to deal with the subjectivity of determining colon boundaries. It is certainly helpful that he spells them out upfront. Subsequent to the colometric analysis of each of Pss 120 to 134, he offers a thematic analysis, a strophic analysis (based on Van der Lugt’s theory), a rhetorico-structural analysis (based on Girard’s practice), and a short summary of his findings including a tabular comparison of these three types of structure. The chapter concludes with a table distinguishing tricola (5), possible tricola (5), para-tricola (10), possible para-tricola (9), rejected tricola (6), and rejected para-tricola (3).

In Chapter 4, he offers syntactic and semantic analyses of each of the 29 cases, i.e., excluding the nine rejected as not being tripartite. He assigns notional enjambment values to each caesura, adapted from Kirk’s research on hexametric lines, and summarises his findings in a table with further discussion, which includes a further classification of lines with integral enjambment (12 cases). The chapter ends with a summary table of semantic relationships between cola and with some conclusions of which the most general one should be repeated here: “... the semantic analysis of tripartite lines does not indicate any consistent characterization of them nor any clear distinction between tricola and para-tricola”. Of course, the detailed conclusions are more interesting.

The brevity of Chapter 5, in which he discusses the function of each tripartite line in the corpus, is perhaps a result of the fact that the Psalms of Ascents tend to be short. He identifies functions in five broad categories already postulated earlier (p. 20), namely prosodic, syntactic, structural, aesthetic and rhetorical. He finds that the functions of the para-tricolon vary less than those of the tricolon, and that often the para-tricolon does not perform a function of itself but supports and assists a function that is achieved by other means.

Stocks quite correctly says (p. 258) that his conclusions should be tested on a more extensive corpus and that an ongoing re-appraisal of the criteria used to determine colometry will need to proceed alongside analysis. In many respects complex research

such as undertaken by Stocks unavoidably involves subjective decisions. In particular this reviewer is not yet convinced that his identification of the para-tricolon is a step in the right direction. Irrespective of that, some readers will benefit from the research and its publication.

As a publication the book is disappointing, being marred by many typing or typesetting errors of various kinds on many pages, both in the Hebrew and in the English. Some errors are repeated as many as four times. Various misspellings of the same Hebrew word occur. In other instances English words are omitted or superfluously repeated. This is a frustration to the reader and an embarrassment to both the author and the publishers. These errors should have been eliminated by thorough proofreading and corrections.

W T Woldemar Cloete
Bellville