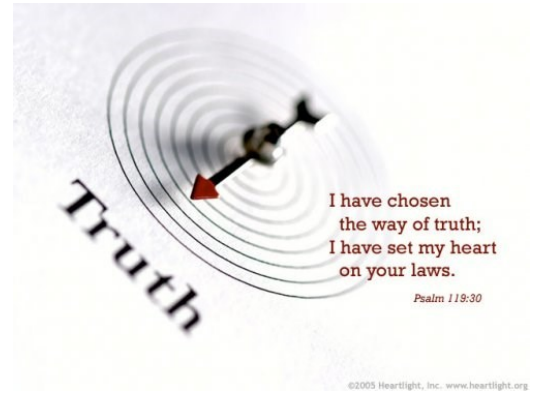


Psalm 119 & the Hebrew Aleph Bet - Part 14



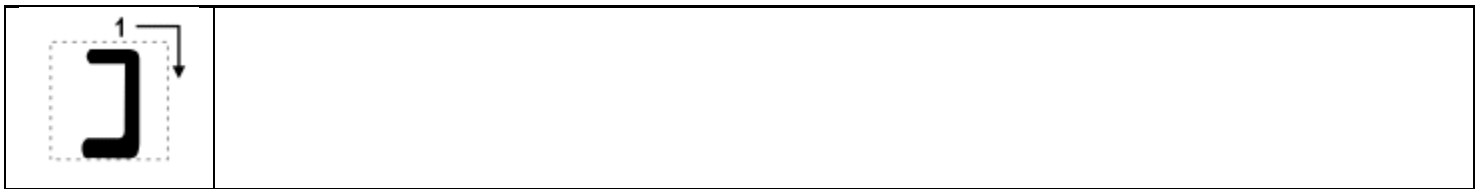
The fourteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet is called “Nun” (pronounced “noon”) and has the sound of “N” as in “now”. It has the numeric value of 50, the number of the Jubilee. There are two ways to write a *Nun*. A *Nun* appearing at the end of a word (sofit) looks like a *Vav*, but is longer, extending below the baseline. A regular *Nun* looks much like the *Kaph*, but is half its width. The *Nun* stands for FISH.



In modern Hebrew, the letter Nun can appear in three forms:

Book Print	Manual Print	Cursive

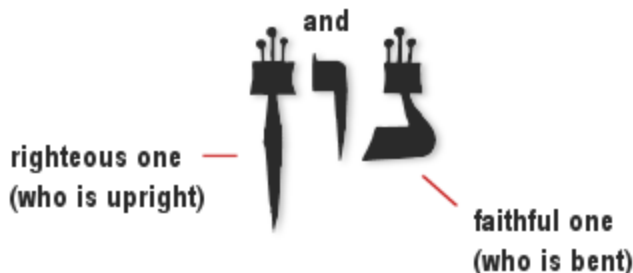
Writing the Letter: Nun – The *Nun* is half as wide as the *Kaph*



Nun: Letter of Faithfulness

Nun represents both faithfulness and the reward for faithfulness. Moses is seen as the iconic humble servant of *Yahweh*.

The word “*Nun*” itself is spelled *Nun-Vav*-(final) *Nun* and looks as follows:



The one who is humble before God will stand upright in the final Day. In the *olam hazeh* (present life), this means that the *tzaddik* (righteous man) will simultaneously affirm: “I am nothing but dust.” Humble yourself in the sight of *Yahweh*, and He shall lift you up (James 4:10).

Spiritual Meaning of the Nun

Nun = 50 and means “FISH” of *Yahweh* or “The **SAVED**”.



Our Messiah could be called “The Chief **FISHERMAN**.” He told His disciples that He would make them “**FISHERS** of men”, (Mark 1:17).

Like a **FLOURISHING**, darting school of **FISH** that continues to propagate, our Saviour’s Love causes us to multiply and grow in numbers as we share Him with others. *Yahshua*, as He **MULTIPLIED** the loaves & **FISHES** for the **MULTITUDES**, showed us a prophetic portrait of how those who were filled with Him, the **BREAD OF LIFE**, would become like active, darting, **MULTIPLYING FISH**.

“The **RIGHTEOUS** shall **FLOURISH** like a palm tree; he shall **GROW** like a cedar in Lebanon. Those that be planted in the House of *Yahweh* shall **FLOURISH** in the Courts of our God. They shall bring forth fruit in old age...” Psalm 92:12-14.



JACOB’S BLESSING ON MANASSEH AND EPHRAIM:

Genesis 48:16 Complete Jewish Bible (CJB)

“The Angel Who has rescued me from all harm, bless these boys. May they remember who I am and what I stand for, and likewise my fathers *Avraham* and *Yitz’chak*, who they were and what they stood for.

And may they grow (spawn) into teeming multitudes on the earth.”

Since Fish Represent the SAVED – Nun is the letter depicting God’s CHURCH:

The Church is never a place, but always a
 PEOPLE;
 Never a fold, but always a FLOCK,
 Never a sacred building, but always a BELIEVING
 ASSEMBLY.
 The Church is YOU WHO PRAY, not where you
 pray.
 A structure of brick or marble can no more be a
 church
 Than your clothes of serge or satin can be you.
 There is in this world nowhere sacred but the
 Spirit-filled man,
 No Sanctuary of YAH, but the submitted SOUL. -
 Anonymous



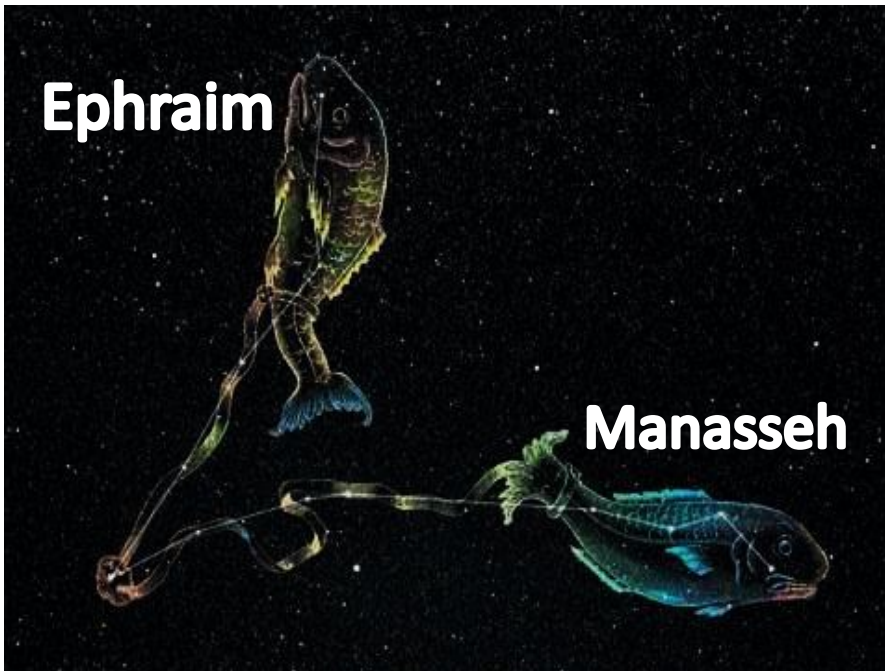
Hebrew Words Beginning with Nun:

Hebrew Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
נַחַת	Nachat	(NA-khat) n. Fulfillment; Joy over something.
נָכוֹן	Nachon	(nah-KHOHN) adj. Correct; right; <i>Nechonut</i> means correctness or willingness.
נָגִיד	Nagid	(nah-GEED) n. Prince; Leader.
נְחֻם	Nahum	(nah-KHOOM) n. 1) Nahum, book of the Nevi'im in the Tanakh. 2) A messenger to Judah during her declining years, Nahum foretells the doom of the Assyrian empire. Nachum means "Consolation," or "Comforter."
נִצְרוּת	Natzrut	(nats-ROOT) n. Christianity. The religion that evolved from the tenets given by <i>Yahshua ha Mashiach</i> . Sometimes transliterated as <i>Natzrut</i> . A Christian is called <i>notzri</i> .
נָבִיא	Navi	(nah-VEE) n. Prophet; a spokesperson for YHVH who delivered his God's messages and expressed his intentions toward the world (Deut. 13:1-5; 18:9-22; Amos 3:7; etc.). Plural form <i>nevi'im</i> . A female prophet is <i>neviah</i> (pl. <i>nevi'ot</i>).
נָבוֹן	Navon	(nah-VOHN) adj. Understanding; discerning (from the preposition <i>be in</i> , between).

THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE BIBLE: BEING A REVIEW OF THE PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY ... BY HENRY BAKER TRISTRAM, P 284

4. **ECONOMY OF FISHES.**—In the economy of fishes, the Hebrews had early noticed their marvellous fecundity; as when Jacob, in blessing the sons of Joseph (Gen. xlviii. 16), where the expression, “Let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth,” is in the original, “Let them grow as fishes do increase.”

“Let them grow as fishes do increase”



Genesis 41:51-52 “And Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh: For God, said he, hath made me forget all my toil, and all my father's house. And the name of the second called he Ephraim: For God hath caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction.”

The tribe of Ephraim so dominated the other northern tribes that it became synonymous with the Northern Kingdom of Israel itself, especially in the writings of the prophets. Eventually, after repeated prophetic warnings about the prevalence of “Baal worship,” the Northern Kingdom was conquered by the Assyrians (c 722 BC), and the tribes were

exiled. This has led to the idea of the “ten lost tribes” of Israel and the rise of various groups that have claimed that since Joseph's wife (Asenath) was an Egyptian (i.e., a Gentile), Ephraim metaphorically represents the “Gentile children of Israel.”

On *erev Shabbat* it's customary to bless our sons with the blessing: “May God make you like Ephraim and like Manasseh.” This comes from Moses' comment regarding Jacob's blessing imparted to his adopted sons: “By you Israel will pronounce blessings, saying, ‘God make you as Ephraim and as Manasseh’” (Gen. 48:20). Some of the sages have said that since these boys were born away from the Promised Land (and therefore never directly knew their grandfather Jacob), they represent Israel in exile, and the blessing is one of preservation for *Yahweh's* people.

The Message of the *Nun* is embodied in the constellation anciently called *Dagim* (now called Pisces). The two fishes, heralding back to Jacob's prophecy of them is a message to the saved today – those of the Lost 10 Ten Tribes, later called Ephraim. It is a special message to the Gentiles, who are saved:

“For thus saith *Yahweh*; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations: publish ye, praise ye, and say, **O Yahweh, save Thy people, the remnant of Israel.** Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the coasts of the earth... **a great company shall return thither.** They shall come with weeping, and with supplications will I lead them: I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way, wherein they shall not stumble: **for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.** Hear the word of *Yahweh*, O ye nations... He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock. For *Yahweh* hath redeemed Jacob, and ransomed him from the hand of him that was stronger than he,” Jeremiah 31:7-11.

Yahshua and the Letter Nun:

In Aramaic, the word *Nun* means “fish,” a symbol of activity and life. The first mention of the word is in Exodus 33:11, in reference to Joshua, the “son of *Nun*.” Joshua, the one who succeeded Moses and was able to enter the Promised Land, was the “Son of Life” - a clear picture of *Yahshua* our Messiah.

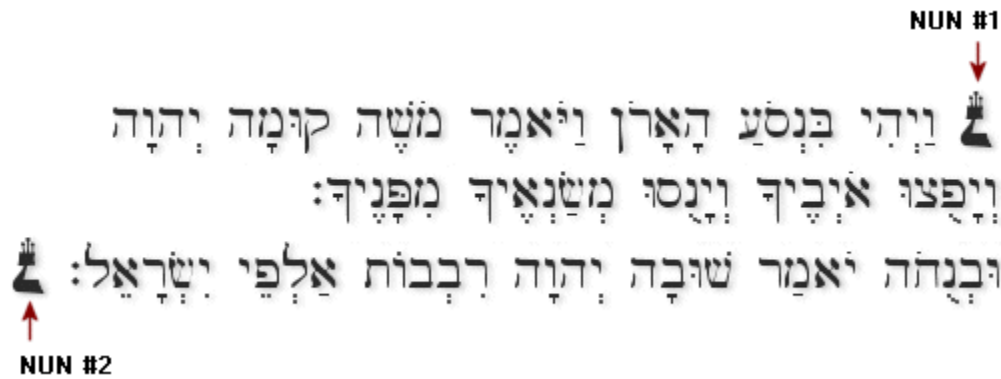
Notice that the form of the Nun represents a bent *Vav* (suggesting a humbled man) crowned with glory (the three *tagin* on the head of the letter). From the Messianic point of view, we see that *Yahshua* came as a man (*Vav*), was honored by His absolute humility while upon earth (as indicated by the crown of thorns), and is now exalted as the Righteous One who wears the Golden Crown of God upon His Head forever and ever (Rev 14:14).



The Inverted Nun and the “Seven” Books of Moses

The Inverted *Nun* and the “Seven” Books of Moses

The *Torah* includes a textual oddity that warrants a close look from believers in the *Mashiach Yahshua*. An inverted *Nun* (*Nun Hafuchah*) appears *both* before and after Numbers 10:35-36:



And whenever the ark set out, Moses said, “*Arise, O YAHWEH, and let Your enemies be scattered, and let those who hate You flee before You.*” And when it rested, he said, “*Return, O YAHWEH, to the ten thousand thousands of Israel,*” (Numbers 10:35-6).

קוּמָה יְהוָה וַיִּפְצוּ אֹיְבֵיךָ וַיִּנָּסוּ מִשְׁנֵאֲיֶיךָ מִפְּנֵיךָ

Arise, O LORD, and let your enemies be scattered,
and let those who hate you flee before you.

Hebrew sages teach that any part of the *Torah* with 85 or more letters is itself considered a “book,” and therefore, according to some of the Jewish sages, this passage of Scripture actually demarcates a separate book of the *Torah*! If so, instead of the five books of Moses, we would have seven:

1. Genesis
2. Exodus
3. Leviticus
4. Numbers (1:1-10:34)
5. Numbers (10:35-36) [set apart by the inverted Nuns]:
6. Numbers (10:37-ff)
7. Deuteronomy

לְתוֹרַ לְהֵם מִזִּוְזָה וְעַתָּה יְהוָה עֲלֵיהֶם יוֹמִם בְּנִסְעֶם
 בֶּן הַמִּזְזָה וְהִי בְּנִסְעֶךָ
 הָאָרֶץ וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה קוּמָה יְהוָה וַיִּפְצוּ אֹיְבֵיךָ וַיִּנָּסוּ
 מִשְׁנֵאֲיֶיךָ מִפְּנֵיךָ וּבָנָתָה יֹאמֶר שׁוּבָה יְהוָה רַבְבוֹת
 אֲלֵפֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְהִי הָעַם כְּמֹתֵהֶם רַע בְּאֶזְנֵי יְהוָה וְעֲלִיבֶן יְהוָה

Before Moses would lead the Israelites to a new station in the wilderness, he would order the ark to be moved by the Levites and then would pray “*Arise, O YAHWEH, and let your enemies be scattered, and let those who hate You flee before You!*” When the *Shekinah* rested, Moses would stop the procession of the camp and pray, “*Return, O YAHWEH, to the ten thousand thousands of Israel.*”

However, on account of the “Sin of the Spies,” Israel was refused entry into the Promised Land, and the story of what follows *after* Numbers 10:35-36 - namely, the outbreak of fiery judgment and the subsequent exile - was sadly written as history instead.

Why don't the Nun's face each other? According to the *Talmud* (Yoma 54a), the two *Nuns* picture the two *keruvim* (cherubs) which hovered over the Ark of the Covenant. When the Jewish people pleased God, the cherubs would face one another; if, however, they were disobedient, these angelic creatures would turn away from one another in the direction of the Holy Temple. Sin causes a rip in the fabric of spiritual reality, causing the angels of God (symbols of the Divine Presence) to turn away....

From a Messianic perspective, it is fascinating to see that what immediately *precedes* this “book” is the story of *Yitro* (Jethro), Moses' Gentile father-in-law, who was offered to partake of the blessings of Israel. This is a perhaps a picture of the so-called “Church age” - i.e., the time when God would offer His salvation to the nations of the world (as represented by Jethro) just before a time of purging of national Israel. In other words, we can read this parenthetical “book” as a time of special dispensation for the nations of the world to turn to the “Son of Life” and be saved.

Nun: the Message in the Gematria

According to Hebrew Gematria, *Nun* represents the number 50 - a number representing freedom and fullness of life.

- 50 days from the Exodus to the giving of the *Torah* (50 days for the count of the *Omer*)
- 50 years for a Jubilee Year (*yovel*)
- 50 references to Exodus in the *Torah*
- 50 years of age before one has wisdom

Nun is the fourteenth letter of the alphabet, which equals “David,” the forefather of the Kingdom of Israel. The heir to David is *Mashiach ben David*, of whom is said: “As long as the duration of the sun his name shall rule”:

יְהִי שֵׁמוֹ לְעוֹלָם לְפָנֵי-שָׁמֶשׁ יִנּוֹן שְׁמוֹ
וַיִּתְבָּרְכוּ בוֹ כָּל-גּוֹיִם יִאֲשְׁרוּהוּ

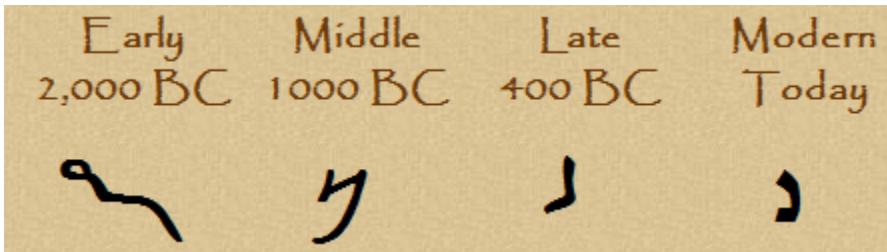
May His Name be eternal; while the sun lasts, may His Name endure; let men invoke His blessedness upon themselves; let all nations count him happy. Psalm 72:17

The sages interpret the verb *yinon* in this verse to refer to the Messiah, and may be literally read as “may His Name *Nun* (propagate).” Regarding the *Mashiach Yahshua*, one day all Israel will sing the final verses of Psalm 72 before Him and to the glory of the Father:

בְּרוּךְ יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל עֲשֵׂה נִפְלְאוֹת לְבָדּוֹ:
 וּבְרוּךְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹדוֹ לְעוֹלָם וַיִּמְלֵא כְבוֹדוֹ אֶת־כָּל הָאָרֶץ
 אָמֵן וְאָמֵן

Blessed be YAHWEH, the God of Israel, Who alone does wondrous things. Blessed be His glorious Name forever; may the whole earth be filled with His Glory! Amen and Amen! (Psalm 72:18-19)

Paleo-Hebrew Look at Nun:



The ancient pictograph נ is a picture of a seed sprout representing the idea of continuing to a new generation. This pictograph has the meanings of continue, perpetuation, offspring or heir.

The Modern Hebrew name is “nun”, a Hebrew word meaning continue, offspring or heir. This two-letter word is the original name for the letter. The phonetic sound for this letter is “n”. The Early Semitic נ evolved into נ in the Middle Semitic script and continued to evolve into נ in the Late Semitic script. The Late Semitic script became the Modern Hebrew נ and נ (final nun). The Middle Semitic script became the N (written in reverse direction) in both the Greek and Roman alphabets.

Psalm 119:105-112 Shows the Nun:

In Psalm 119:105-112, we find the *Nun* section. In this part of Psalm 119, we see what it means to be a FISH, teeming with the blessings of the Seed of Life – as promised to Ephraim and Manasseh. It is the essence of what it takes to be a true fisher of men.

נ	14 NUN
נִרְלִי דְבָרְךָ וְאוֹר לְנִתְיָבְתִי:	105 Your word is a lamp to my feet, and a light for my path.
DABAR	
נִשְׁבַּעְתִּי וְאֶקְיָמָהּ לְשֹׁמֵר מִשְׁפָּטֶי צְדָקָה:	106 I have sworn, and have confirmed it, that I will obey your righteous ordinances .
MISHPAT	
נַעֲנִיתִי עַד־מָאֵד יְהוָה חֲנִי כְדָבָרְךָ:	107 I am afflicted very much. Revive me, Yahweh, according to your word .
DABAR YHWH	
נִדְבַוּת פִּי רָצִיחָנָא יְהוָה וּמִשְׁפָּטֶיךָ לְמִדְנִי:	108 Accept, I beg you, the willing offerings of my mouth. Yahweh, teach me your ordinances .
MISHPAT YHWH	
נַפְשִׁי בְכַפִּי תָמִיד וְתוֹרָתְךָ לֹא שָׁכַחְתִּי:	109 My soul is continually in my hand, yet I won't forget your law .
TORAH	
נִתְנוּ וְשָׁעִים פֶּחַ לִי וּמִפְקוּדֶיךָ לֹא תִעֲיִתִי:	110 The wicked have laid a snare for me, yet I haven't gone astray from your precepts .
PIQQUWD	
נִחַלְתִּי עֲדוּתֶיךָ לְעוֹלָם כִּי־שִׂשׂוֹן לְבִי הֵמָּה:	111 I have taken your testimonies as a heritage forever, for they are the joy of my heart.
EDUWTH	
נִסִּיתִי לְבִי לַעֲשׂוֹת חֻקֶיךָ לְעוֹלָם עַקֵּב:	112 I have set my heart to perform your statutes forever, even to the end.
CHOQ	

Keyword Study: Psalm 119:105-106 (words starting with *Nun* are highlighted)

“NUN. Thy **Word** is a **Lamp** unto **my feet**, and a Light unto my **path**. **I have sworn**, and **I will perform it**, that I will keep Thy righteous Judgments.”

Keyword	Strong's #	Hebrew Word	Meaning
Thy Word			
Lamp			
My feet			
My Path			
I have sworn			
I will perform it			

Rewrite these 2 verses using the fuller meaning you found in your Keyword study above:

Cross References:

Keyword Study: Psalm 119:107-108 (words starting with *Nun* are highlighted)

“**I am afflicted** very much: **quicken me**, O LORD, according unto Thy Word. **Accept**, **I beseech Thee**, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, and **teach me Thy Judgments**.”

Keyword	Strong's #	Hebrew Word	Meaning
I am afflicted			
Quicken me			
Accept			
I beseech Thee			
Teach me			
Thy Judgments			

Rewrite these 2 verses using the fuller meaning you found in your Keyword study above:

Cross References:

Keyword Study: Psalm 119:109-110 (words starting with *Nun* are highlighted)

“**My soul** is continually **in my hand**: yet do I not forget Thy Law. **The wicked have laid** a snare for me: yet I **erred not** from **Thy Precepts**.”

Keyword	Strong's #	Hebrew Word	Meaning
My soul			
In my hand			
The wicked			
Have laid			
I erred not			
Thy Precepts			

Rewrite these 2 verses using the fuller meaning you found in your Keyword study above:

Cross References:

Keyword Study: Psalm 119:111-112 (words starting with *Nun* are highlighted)

“Thy Testimonies **have I taken as an heritage** for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart. **I have inclined mine heart to perform Thy Statutes** always(s), even unto **the end.**”

Keyword	Strong's #	Hebrew Word	Meaning
Thy Testimonies			
...heritage			
I have inclined			
Mine heart			
To perform			
Thy Statutes			
The end			

Rewrite these 2 verses using the fuller meaning you found in your Keyword study above:

Cross References:

