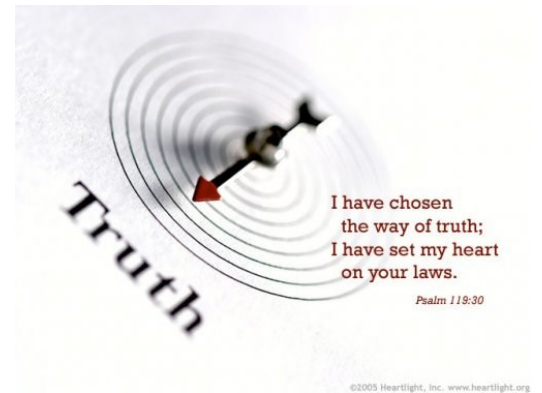
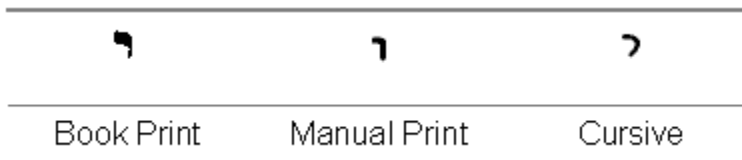


Psalm 119 & the Hebrew Aleph Bet - Part 10

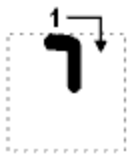


The tenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet is called “*Yod*” (rhymes with “mode”). *Yod* makes the same sound as “y” does in “yes”. In modern Hebrew, the *Yod* appears in three forms:



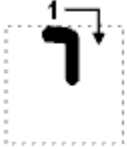
Write the manual print version (or "block" version) of *Yod* as follows:

MANUAL PRINT VERSION



Note that the stroke descends only about halfway toward the baseline.

Writing the Letter: *Yod*

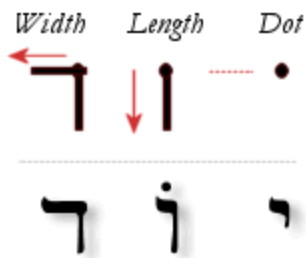
	<p><i>Practice making the Yod here:</i></p>
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Yod: The “Atom” of the Consonants

The letter *Yod* is the 10th letter of the Aleph-Bet, having the numeric value of 10. The pictograph for *Yod* looks like an arm or hand, whereas the classical Hebrew script is constructed of a single *tag* upward, a *kots* downward, and a middle portion. *Yod* is the most frequently occurring letter in the Scriptures as well as the smallest of the letters.

Suspended in mid-air, *Yod* is the smallest of the Hebrew letters, the “atom” of the consonants, and the form from which all of the other letters begin and end:

In Jewish tradition, *Yod* represents a mere dot, a divine point of energy. Since *Yod* is used to form all the other letters, and since God uses the letters as the building blocks of Creation, *Yod* indicates God's Omnipresence.

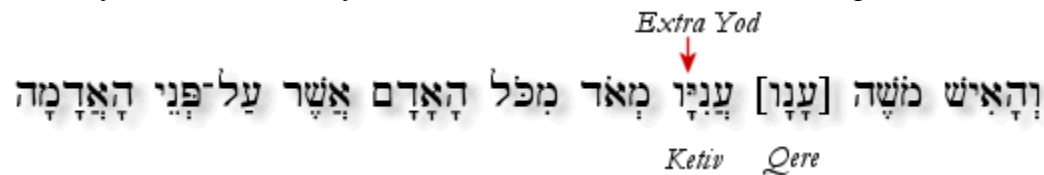


In fact, the word *יוד* (*yod*) itself depicts something of the geometry of Creation. It begins with the *Yod* itself, as a dot, and then moves downward, from the divine toward the created order to form *Vav* (the "hook" of creation). Finally it moves outward in the horizontal realm as *Dalet* (the "doorway" of creation). This can better be seen with the illustration on the left.

Since *Yahshua* upholds the world by the Word of His power (Hebrews 1:3), and *Yod* is part of every Hebrew letter (and therefore every word), *Yod* is considered the starting point of the presence of God in all things - the "spark" of the Spirit in everything.

Yod: The Letter of Humility

The letter *Yod*, being the smallest of the letters, is also a picture of humility. *Yod* can be seen as a mark of humility in the text that says Moses was "the most humble man" upon the face of the earth (Numbers 12:3):



The Jewish scribes say that an extra *Yod* is inserted in the word *ana* (meaning humble or meek) to emphasize the humility of Moses.

Israel is likewise called the "smallest of the nations" (Deuteronomy 7:7) and is considered a type of *Yod* before the great nations of the earth:

כִּי־אַתֶּם הַמְעַט מִכָּל־הָעַמִּים "for you are the smallest of the peoples."

Spiritual Meaning of the Yod

Yod = 10 and means "HAND" of *Yahweh* or "WORKS" of *Yah*.

The *Yod* is the Hand of *Yahweh*, reaching and grasping. It signifies the Father holding what is HIS.

God's special things, that He declares are "MINE", most often begin with *Yod* (Y):

His Holy, Covenant Name: **YHWH**

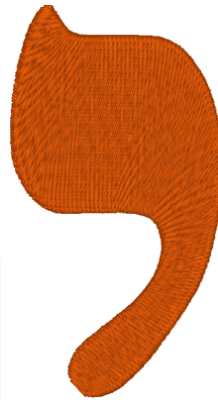
His Holy People: **Yisrael**

His only begotten Son: **Yahshua**

His holiest Day: **Yom Kippur**

Yod is also the first letter of "Yada" meaning "to KNOW INTIMATELY" – those who God calls "MINE" are privileged to know Him intimately.

Yod is related to WORK. With His Hands, Yahweh WORKED with man intimately, to personally form him from the dust of the earth (Genesis 2:7). The other things He simply spoke into existence. But with mankind, He stooped down and personally molded him.



Yahweh's concern for even the smallest details of Torah is reflected in the Words of Yahshua, Who said, "...not so much as a YOD or a stroke (tagiin) will pass from the Torah til all is fulfilled." (Matthew 5:18 – Jewish New Testament)

Though small and humble, the significance of the YOD is marked by the fact that each letter which follows it is a multiple (numerically) of ten.

Thus, the YOD is a factor of ALL the remaining letters, which in turn, reflect YOD's characteristics: SPIRITUALITY (YOD is elevated above the line), HUMILITY (YOD is the smallest letter), MATURITY and ORDER (YOD's numeric value is 10), and STRENGTH (YOD is "hand" or "power").

The letters *Yod* and *Kaph* denote different aspects of the hand. *Yod* is the Active Hand by which to grasp and hold things. It is a symbol of personal power and possession (ultimately showing the Power and Ownership of *Yahweh*). *Kaph* is the Open Hand meaning to give and receive things.

<p>Yod Suffix: י</p> <p><u>Active/Grasping Hand</u></p> <p>First Person Possessive</p> <p>מִפְתָּחִי</p> <p>Maph-te-chee (MY Key)</p>	
<p>Kaph Suffix: כ</p> <p><u>Open/Giving Hand</u></p> <p>Second Person Possessive</p> <p>מִפְתָּחֶךָ</p> <p>Maph-te-ach-kah (THY Key)</p>	





Hebrew Words Beginning with Yod:


Hebrew Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
יצחק	yitschâq (Isaac)	Yahweh Has Made Me Laugh <u>Genesis 17:19</u> And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac : and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.
יוסף	yôsêph (Joseph)	Yahweh Has Added to me and Taken Away my Reproach <u>Genesis 30:23-24</u> And she conceived, and bare a son; and said, God hath taken away my reproach. And she called his name Joseph ...
ידמעה	yirm ^e yâh (Jeremiah)	Yah will rise <u>Psa 69:14</u> Deliver ^{H5337} me out of the mire, ^{H4480 H2916} and let me not ^{H408} sink: ^{H2883} let me be delivered ^{H5337} from them that hate ^{H4480 H8130} me, and out of the deep ^{H4480 H4615} waters. ^{H4325}
ישוע	y ^e shû`âh (Yahshua)	Salvation of Yah <u>Psalm 21:5</u> His glory ^{H3519} is great ^{H1419} in thy salvation: ^{H3444} honour ^{H1935} and majesty ^{H1926} hast thou laid ^{H7737} upon ^{H5921} him.


The presence of the *Yod* also shows that a person is empowered by *Yahweh* to do His mighty Work. One example is found in the changing of the name Hoshea (הושע) to Joshua (יהושע) by the addition of a *Yod* at the beginning. When Moses placed his hands upon Hoshea, he was filled with the Spirit of *Yah*, empowered and given the authority to do His Work. This changed his name from "Salvation" (Hoshea) to "the Salvation of *Yahweh*" (Joshua or *Yahshua*).

Yod: The Creative Work of Yahweh is in the word "Exist"

Hey  Man w/arms raised

Yod  Arm w/closed hand

Vav  Tent peg

Tav  Two crossed sticks

-Havet-
Derivative of H1961
"Exist"



John 19:19 "And Pilate wrote a title too, and put it on the stake, and it was written: 'יהושע OF NATSARETH, THE SOVEREIGN OF THE YEHUDIM.'"

Isaiah 53:5 "But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our crookednesses. The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed."

The word "Exist" – a derivative of Strong's H1961- is in Hebrew, "Havet." The letters are *Hey*, *Yod*, *Vav*, *Tav*; and reading right to left, the word would look like this: היות or in pictographic ancient Hebrew (see the illustration on the left). These letters are an image of the crucifixion of Messiah when drawn together.

Hey, being a man with his arms raised, represents Messiah. **Yod**, shows his hand(s) clenched. **Vav** depicts the pegs driven into our savior's wrists, while **Tav** illustrates the Cross He died on, as described in John 19:19, and Isaiah 53:5. (All pictured on the left.)

Without the gift of Messiah we could not exist, for He is the "Lamb slain

from before the foundations of the world" (Rev. 13:8), who has taken upon himself the death penalty for our sin, as Sha'ul says "For the wages of sin is death, but the favorable gift of Elohim is everlasting life in Messiah *Yahshua* our Master" (Romans 6:23). This is *Yahweh's* ultimate WORK (the *Yod*) for mankind.

Yod: The Letter of Yah's Salvation



The most powerful Work of *Yahweh*, for lost mankind, is the Work of Salvation. This Work is signified in the letter *Yod*. *Yahshua*, the Name of the Son, is the Salvation of *Yahweh* – a *Yod* message threaded throughout the Old Testament – hidden only because Bible translators wrongly thought His Name was Jesus. Thus, they translated His Name to its meaning. But, let's restore His Name in the following verses about *Yahshua* – and about *Yod*:

Gen 49:18 I have waited^{H6960} for Thy Salvation (Yahshua),^{H3444} O Yahweh.^{H3068}

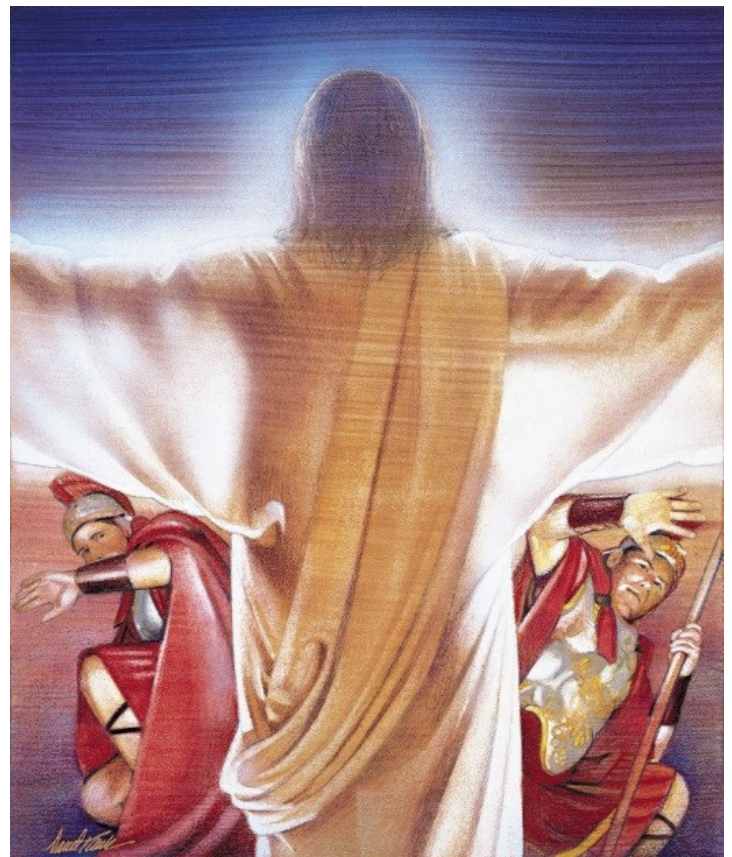
Exo 15:2 Yahweh^{H3050} is my strength^{H5797} and song,^{H2176} and He is become^{H1961} my Salvation (Yahshua).^{H3444} He^{H2088} is my God,^{H410} and I will prepare Him an habitation;^{H5115} my father's^{H1} God,^{H430} and I will exalt^{H7311} Him.

1Ch 16:23 Sing^{H7891} unto Yahweh,^{H3068} all^{H3605} the earth;^{H776} shew forth^{H1319} from day^{H4480} ^{H3117} to^{H413} day^{H3117} His Salvation (Yahshua).^{H3444}

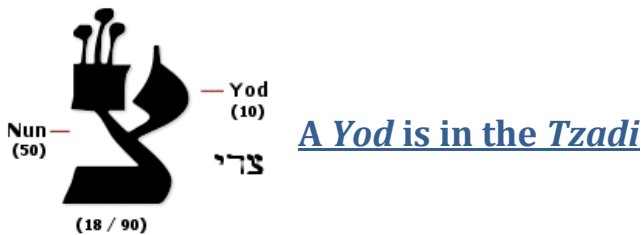
Psa 28:8 Yahweh^{H3068} is their strength,^{H5797} and He^{H1931} is the saving (Yahshua)^{H3444} strength^{H4581} of His anointed.^{H4899}

Isa 52:7 How^{H4100} beautiful^{H4998} upon^{H5921} the mountains^{H2022} are the feet^{H7272} of him that bringeth good tidings,^{H1319} that publisheth^{H8085} peace;^{H7965} that bringeth good tidings^{H1319} of good,^{H2896} that publisheth^{H8085} Salvation (Yahshua)^{H3444} that saith^{H559} unto Zion,^{H6726} Thy God^{H430} reigneth!^{H4427}

Isa 52:10 Yahweh^{H3068} hath made bare^{H2834} (H853) His holy^{H6944} Arm^{H2220} in the eyes^{H5869} of all^{H3605} the nations;^{H1471} and all^{H3605} the ends^{H657} of the earth^{H776} shall see^{H7200} (H853) the Salvation (Yahshua)^{H3444} of our God.^{H430}



Yod is Part of all the Other Letters



The Meaning of Yod as Ten

The word יוד (*yod*) means "arm" or "hand" and the numeric value is ten. Now ten is a number marking *shelemut*, or completion and order, as evidenced by the following:

- The base 10 number system is universal. Just as *Yod* is part of all of the previous letters of the alphabet (as a component), so *Yod* is part of all of the numbers. It is said by the sages the *Yod* does not mean 10 because we have ten toes and fingers but we have ten toes and fingers because *Yod* means 10.
- There were ten things created on the first day and ten things created at the end of the sixth day of creation.
- There were ten generations from Adam to Noah, suggesting that the godlessness of those generations was made complete.
- There were ten generations from Noah to Abraham, suggesting that the godliness of those generations was made complete.
- According to midrash, there were ten trials given to Abraham to demonstrate his merit as the father of the nations.
- There were ten plagues issued during the Exodus of Egypt.
- God gave us Ten Commandments.
- The "tenth part" shall be holy for the LORD (Leviticus 27:32).
- There are ten days of Awe - from Tishri 1 to Tishri 10, culminating in Yom Kippur, which occurs on the 10th day of Tishri.



Yod Mysteries in a Torah Scroll

- An *undersized* Yod appears in Deuteronomy 32:17:



Reason for the small Yod: "You neglected the Rock *who begat you*." *Yahweh* is made "small" when we turn away from Him through neglect.

- On the other hand, an *oversized* Yod appears in Numbers 14:17:



"Let the power of my Yah *be great*."

Reason for the large Yod: Here Moses' intercession for the people of Israel is made, and the oversized *Yod* depicts the mighty power of *Yahweh* to Save, even to the uttermost.

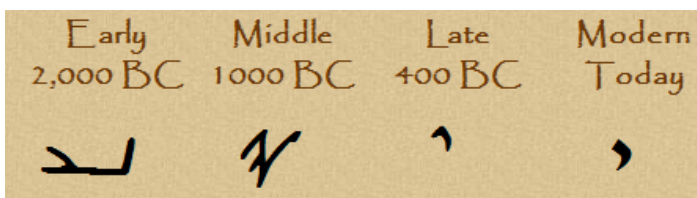
- Finally, a *Yod* is *missing* in Exodus 32:19:




"...Moses cast the tables *from his hands*."

Reason for the missing Yod (normally present in the spelling of Ketiv): This shows that when *Yahweh's* Law is broken, His indwelling Presence and Power is lost in our lives.

A Paleo-Hebrew Look at Yod



The Early Semitic pictograph of this letter is , an arm and hand. The meaning of this letter is work, make and throw, the functions of the hand. The Modern Hebrew name "yod" is a derivative of the two letter word "yad" meaning "hand", which was probably the original name for the letter.

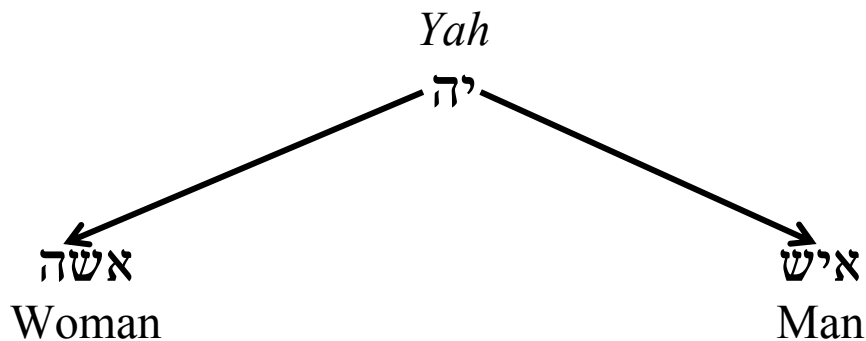
The ancient and modern pronunciation of this letter is a "y". In Ancient Hebrew this letter also doubled as a vowel with an "i" sound. The Greek language adopted this letter as the "iota", carrying over the "i" sound.

Spiritual Secrets of the Yod and Hei

The Word יה (*Yah*) is the shortened form of God’s Name יהוה (*YHWH*). The *Yod* represents the Power, Might, Ownership and Creative Work of *Yah*. The *Hei* represents the Holy Spirit. The *Yod* is more masculine while the *Hei* is more feminine.

The characteristics of these two letters are reflected in the Hebrew words for “man” (אִישׁ *ish*) and “woman” (אִשָּׁה *ishah*). *Hei* has the softest sound of all the letters – being a mere exhalation of breath. It is affixed to the ends of words to form a feminine ending. This is the letter found at the end of *ishah* (“woman”). But *Yod*, which means “hand” and represents power and the work of forming things. This is graphically seen in the word וַיִּצַד (vy’yitzer) which means “and He formed”. When we look closely at this word, we see two *Yods* in it, representing the two Hands of *YHWH* used to form man from the dust of the earth. *Yod* is the letter found in the CENTER of the word “man” אִישׁ – showing that not only was man created by *Yah*, but within man is to be the Power and Presence of *Yah*.

When God made man and woman, He placed the *Yod* (י) in man and the *Hei* (ה) in woman, causing them to display the corresponding characteristics of God in their natures. This is depicted in the diagram below.



One without the other is incomplete. But together, the husband and wife (empowered by *Yahweh* and indwelt by His Spirit) depict *Yahweh*’s Nature to the world. It is important that a man be a *Yah*-empowered man and that a woman be a Spirit-filled Woman. One sometimes meets men who are ashamed to be men and women who are ashamed to be women. Men and women individually belong to a very honorable gender and need not be ashamed of it. The *Yod* of the male and the *Hei* of the female, come directly from the Name of God – *Yah*!

When man loses the characteristic of the י, representing his Godly masculinity, and the woman loses the characteristic of the ה, representing her Spirit-filled femininity, then all that is left is *eesh* – “fire”, which consumes them in their unholy desires to live apart from God’s Grace.

איש	— י	= (<i>eesh</i> “fire”) אש
אשה	— ה	= (<i>eesh</i> “fire”) אש

YOD: Torah, Remembering Yahweh and Working Righteousness

Mal 3:16 Then ^{H227} they that feared ^{H3373} Yahweh ^{H3068} spake ^{H1696} often one ^{H376} to ^{H854} another; ^{H7453} and Yahweh ^{H3068} hearkened, ^{H7181} and heard ^{H8085} it, and a Book ^{H5612} of remembrance ^{H2146} (TORAH) was written ^{H3789} before ^{H6440} Him for them that feared ^{H3372} Yahweh, ^{H3068} and that thought ^{H2803} upon His Name. ^{H8034}

Mal 3:17 And they shall be ^{H1961} Mine (Yod shows possession), saith ^{H559} Yahweh ^{H3068} of hosts, ^{H6635} in that day ^{H3117} when ^{H834} I ^{H589} make up ^{H6213} My jewels; ^{H5459} and I will spare ^{H2550} ^{H5921} them, as ^{H834} a man ^{H376} spareth ^{H2550} ^{H5921} his own son ^{H1121} that serveth ^{H5647} him.

Psalm 119:73-80 Shows the Yod

In Psalm 119:73-80, we find the *Yod* section. In this part of Psalm 119, we see awareness of and praise for *Yahweh's* mighty Works – His *Yod* – *Yah's* Work (His Hand) not only formed us, but His Order and Ten-part *Torah* Keeps us protected in His Power, as true, obedient sons (and daughters).

<p>יָדְךָ עָשׂוּנִי וַיְכַוְנֵנִי הַבִּינֵנִי וְאַלְמֹדָה מִצִּוְתֶיךָ: MITSVAH</p> <p>יִרְאֶיךָ יִרְאוּנִי וַיִּשְׂמְחוּ כִּי לְדַבְרֶךָ יִחְלְתִי: DABAR</p> <p>יָדַעְתִּי יְהוָה כִּי־צֶדֶק מִשְׁפָּטֶיךָ וְאַמוּנָה עֲנִיתָנִי: MISHPAT YHWH</p> <p>יְהִינָא חַסְדֶּךָ לְנַחֲמֵנִי כְאִמְרֹתֶךָ לְעַבְדֶּךָ: IMRAH</p> <p>יְבֹאוּנִי רַחֲמֶיךָ וְאַחֲזֵיהַּ כִּי־תוֹרָתֶךָ שְׂעֻשָׁי: TORAH</p> <p>יָבֹשׁוּ יָדַיִם כִּי־שָׁקַר עָוֲתוֹנִי אֲנִי אֲשִׁיחַ בְּפִקּוּדֶיךָ: PIQQUWD</p> <p>יָשׁוּבוּ לִי יִרְאֶיךָ וַיִּדְעוּ וַיִּדְעוּ יְדַעֵי עֲדוּתֶךָ: EDUWTH</p> <p>יְהִלְבֵּי תַמִּים בְּחֻקֶיךָ לִמְעַן לֹא אֶבּוֹשׁ: CHOQ</p>	<p>73 Your hands have made me and formed me. Give me understanding, that I may learn your commandments.</p> <p>74 Those who fear you will see me and be glad, because I have put my hope in your word.</p> <p>75 Yahweh, I know that your judgments are righteous, that in faithfulness you have afflicted me.</p> <p>76 Please let your loving kindness be for my comfort, according to your word to your servant.</p> <p>77 Let your tender mercies come to me, that I may live; for your law is my delight.</p> <p>78 Let the proud be disappointed, for they have overthrown me wrongfully. I will meditate on your precepts.</p> <p>79 Let those who fear you turn to me. They will know your statutes.</p> <p>80 Let my heart be blameless toward your decrees, that I may not be disappointed.</p>
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Keyword Study: Psalm 119:73-74 (words starting with *Yod* are highlighted)

“JOD. **Thy Hands** **have made** me and **fashioned me**: **give me understanding**, that I may learn Thy Commandments. They that **fear Thee** **will be glad** when they **see me**; because I have hoped in Thy Word.”

Keyword	Strong's #	Hebrew Word	Meaning
Thy Hands			
Have made			
Fashioned me			
Give me Understanding			
Fear Thee			
Will be Glad			
See me			

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

Cross References:

Keyword Study: Psalm 119:75-76 (words starting with *Yod* are highlighted)

I know, O Yahweh, that **Thy Judgments [are] right**, and [that] **Thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me**. Let, I pray Thee, **Thy merciful kindness** be **for my comfort**, according to Thy Word unto Thy servant.”

Keyword	Strong's #	Hebrew Word	Meaning
I know			
Thy Judgments			
(are) Right			
Thou in Faithfulness			
Hast Afflicted Me			
Thy Merciful Kindness			
For my Comfort			

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

Cross References:

Keyword Study: Psalm 119:77-78

“Let Thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live: for Thy Law is my delight. Let the proud be ashamed; for they dealt perversely with me without a cause: but I will meditate in Thy Precepts.”

Keyword	Strong's #	Hebrew Word	Meaning
Let Thy Tender Mercies			
That I May Live			
Thy Law			
My Delight			
Be Ashamed			
They Dealt Perversely			
Without a Cause			
Meditate			

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

Cross References:

Keyword Study: Psalm 119:79-80 (words starting with *Yod* are highlighted)

“Let those that fear Thee **turn** unto me, and those **that have known** Thy Testimonies. **Let my heart** be **sound** in **Thy Statutes**; that I **be not ashamed**.”

Keyword	Strong's #	Hebrew Word	Meaning
Turn			
That have Known			
Let my heart			
Sound			
Thy Statutes			
Be Not Ashamed			

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

Cross References:

