

How to Use an Exhaustive Concordance in Personal Bible Study

What is an Exhaustive Concordance and how does it differ from other Bible Study Reference Books?

- An Exhaustive Concordance provides:
 - An alphabetical listing of every word in a particular English translation of the Bible.
 - The Hebrew or Greek work found in the original Biblical context.
 - A brief definition of the Hebrew or Greek words.
 - The various English words used to translate the words in the original text.
- Other Bible references provide other forms of helpful information.
 - A Bible Dictionary give brief articles on Biblical words, personalities, places and related ideas.
 - A Topical Bible lists verses related to topics.
 - A Bible Atlas gives geographical information and detailed maps.
 - A Bible Commentary gives interpretation and background information on each passage.

How do I use an Exhaustive Concordance?

- First, make certain that the Bible translation you are using corresponds to the Concordance you have. For instance, you will need an NIV Concordance to use with an NIV Bible.
- Next, determine the English word you want to research.
- Look up the English word just like you would in a dictionary.
- You will find a list of every verse that uses that English word.
- You will also find a number beside the verse which indexes that English word to the Hebrew/Greek dictionary in the back of the Concordance.
- By looking up that number, you will find the definition of the word in the original language, and other English words that are used to translate that word.

A Example of How to Use an Exhaustive Concordance

1. Compare these 3 translations of 2 Timothy 3:16-17. How are they different? Where do they differ?

<u>2 Timothy 3:16-17 (KJV)</u>	<u>2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NAS)</u>	<u>2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)</u>
<p>16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:</p> <p>17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.</p>	<p>16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;</p> <p>17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.</p>	<p>16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,</p> <p>17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.</p>

2. Look up the words in the left hand column using an Exhaustive Concordance. Beside each one list three other references that use that word, the definition of the Greek word, and any personal observations or applications you gain from this.

WORD	OTHER REFERENCES	DEFINITION	PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS & APPLICATION
<i>Inspired</i>	Used only once in NT 4154 (blew) Mt. 7:27 Luke 12:55 Jon 3:8; 6:18 Acts 27:40 Rev 7:1	2315=theopneustos From 2316 and a presumed derivative of 4154; divinely breathed in. KJV-given by inspiration of God	Inspired implies that scripture originates with God, rather than man. Thus, it is the word of God. It also implies that it is an active, moving force in my life.