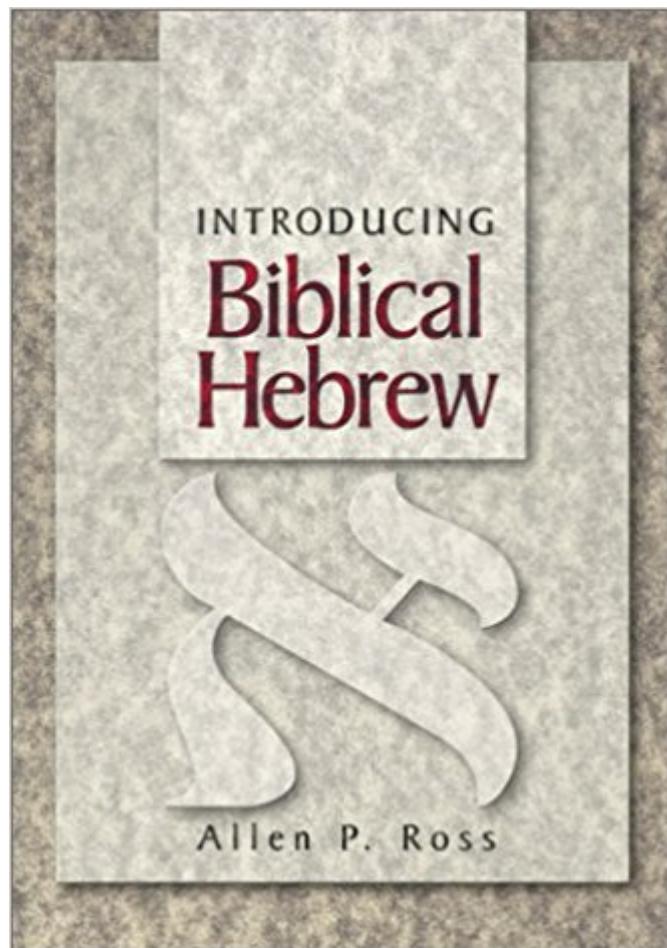


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# Introducing Biblical Hebrew



## **Synopsis**

The best of both deductive and inductive approaches introducing students to the basics of Biblical Hebrew.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 576 pages

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## **Customer Reviews**

"An absolutely superb textbook introducing Biblical Hebrew grammar. The grammar is crystal clear, paradoxically concise and copious, and most helpfully creative."-Bruce Waltke, Regent College "The clear, simple presentation in each chapter, the consistent and early use of biblical examples in the exercises, and an approach that combines the best in modern linguistics with older philological traditions reveals a pedagogical art seldom seen. Ross provides copious helps to jump-start the student in reading narrative and offers intermediate level information for the keen learner. I have used earlier versions of Ross's grammar over the past sixteen years with great success and highly recommend this text to others."-Peter J. Gentry, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary "Introducing Biblical Hebrew more than satisfies a one-year curriculum and may function especially well as a preparatory step for advanced studies. It is the best introductory volume available."-Ken Mathews, Beeson Divinity School, Samford University "Tested for years in the classroom, this is a welcome addition to our resources for teaching and learning Biblical Hebrew."-Richard E. Averbeck, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School Allen P. Ross (Ph.D., University of Cambridge) is the director of the Christian Leadership Center in Tallahassee, Florida, and the author of several books. He taught Hebrew at Dallas Theological Seminary and Trinity Episcopal School of Ministry for more than thirty

years.

Allen P. Ross (Ph.D., University of Cambridge) is professor of Old Testament at Beeson Divinity School and has taught Hebrew grammar to seminary students for over thirty years. His publications include *Creation and Blessing: A Guide to the Study and Exposition of the Book of Genesis* and *Holiness to the LORD: A Guide to the Exposition of the Book of Leviticus*.

**Pros:** The paradigms at the back of the book are first-class (better than Hackett, Jouon-Muraoka, etc.) There are lengthy explanations of every verb and noun form, so a student will almost never be left asking, "why does this vowel look different?" There are plenty of Hebrew-English and English-Hebrew exercises.

**Cons:** There is WAY too much detail in here for a first-year grammar book. My students were invariably perplexed when reading through the chapters because they didn't know how much of the information they were expected to learn (and there's no way a first-year student could learn even half of it). Ross loses the forest for the trees here. Just to give one example out of many, as he is discussing singular and plural nouns, he gives the students rules for 1) "words with a short vowel or a changeable long vowel exhibit doubling of the second letter when suffixes are added [...] preserv[ing] a short vowel in the first syllable" 2) monosyllabic words with unchangeable long vowels, and 3) monosyllabic words where a guttural is in the second letter, where we get "compensatory lengthening or implied doubling." This kind of information is great for a second- or third-year student, but not for a first year, and this level of detail is all throughout the book. Irregular verbs aren't introduced until the very end. For example, I-gutturals aren't introduced until chapter 32, whereas most other grammar books will introduce the easier irregulars (I-guttural, I-aleph, III-aleph, etc.) as the various stems are taught. My students would have had a much easier time if they didn't have to memorize all of these irregular verbs right in a row. While every grammar book has its pros and cons, I will not be teaching from Ross again.

I received this book and it was better than I expected. After reading just a short way into the book I was informed of something I never read in the other 6 books of Hebrew that I have. So the intro to the book by the Author was very informative and the insights he had elsewhere were well worth the price of the book. So it is not just another book on Hebrew.

This is a great book but a bit more difficult to understand if you are just starting to learn the language

Good book for learning the basics of Hebrew!

Ross' book had the perfect balance of scholarship and didactic accessibility for new students

Dr. Ross was my Hebrew professor; and I used this in pre-publication form. No longer having that format, I bought this book (which I was VERY glad to find). I still like this a lot. I have need to not only "review" my Hebrew, but to re-learn it. This does not reflect on the quality of the book, but more on my ability with Hebrew. Even though I greatly appreciate and respect Dr. Ross, I must say I have found Practico a bit better for self-study. However, you cannot go wrong with Ross. I highly recommend it, but rated it w/ only 4 stars, since Practico "may" be a bit better. But only a bit; just trying to be fair and honest. I like Ross a lot, but I must also say you can find Practico online for free. At least you may be able to find it. It seems it may have been removed. Weingreen -- the former standard -- is still available, but is not as good -- in my opinion -- as either Ross or Practico. But free is always good \*smile\*. Waltke is also online (again, at least it was). I hope this helps! And good luck in your studies.

Well written and a sea of information. Most beneficial.

If you are serious about learning the Hebrew language. this book breaks this intimidating language down into understandable terms. You will discover that several of our consonants and all of our vowels originated in and evolved from the Hebrew language. This is a great tool for the serious Bible student.

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