



Scripture Study

There are tons of ways to study a passage, so all I want to offer here is a few simple Internet resources that have helped me delve into Scripture. I like to use the website:

<http://www.studylight.org>

because I find it user friendly and full of resources. I will demonstrate three tools I regularly consult on this site.

TOOL #1:

STRONG'S CONCORDANCE AND DEFINITIONS: This is a great resource for helping us understand the full meaning of a word.

1

GO TO STUDYLIGHT.ORG ON THE WEB AND TYPE PASSAGE OR SINGLE VERSE HERE.

2

CLICK ON DOWN ARROW ON RIGHT, THEN CLICK ON "NAS with Strong's Numbers" FROM THE LIST

3

CLICK ON 'SEARCH' HERE

The screenshot shows the Studylight.org website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like 'Statement of Faith', 'Tell a Friend about Us', and 'Color Scheme: Honeydew'. Below that is a date 'Monday, January 12, 2009' and a banner for 'ChristianMingle.com'. The main content area is titled 'Search the Bible' and includes a search form with three steps: 1) Enter search text (John 17:20-26), 2) Choose section (Whole Bible), and 3) Choose Bible translation to search (New American Standard). A dropdown menu is open for step 3, showing various Bible versions, with 'NAS with Strong's Numbers' highlighted. A 'Search' button is to the right of the dropdown. Below the search form, there are sections for 'LiveAsIf's Columns' featuring an article 'A Prophet Always Has That D To Please God the Father' and 'Weekly Columns' with links to 'Is Gad Jacob's son, a troop, fortune or a pagan deity?' and 'The Peshitta of the Old Testament - Part 8'.



CLICK ON ANY UNDERLINED WORD



A POP-UP WINDOW WITH THE ORIGINAL HEBREW OR GREEK DEFINITIONS WILL APPEAR

The screenshot shows the StudyLight.org website interface. At the top, it says "StudyLight.ORG" and "Tuesday, January 13, 2009". Below that is a banner for "Sharing Christ through Baseball". The main content area displays "The NAS Strong's Version Book of John Chapter 17" with verse 17:20. The verse text is: "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word;". The word "ask" is underlined. A red arrow points from the number 4 to this underlined word. A pop-up window titled "New Testament Greek - Stud..." is overlaid on the right side of the page. It shows the Strong's number 4100 for the Greek word "pisteu/w". The pop-up window contains a table with the following information:

Strong's		pisteu/w	
Number:	4100		
Original Word	pisteu/w	Word Origin	from (4102)
Transliterated Word	Pisteuo	Phonetic Spelling	pist-yoo'-o
Parts of Speech	Verb	TDNT	6:174,849
Definition			
1. to think to be true, to be persuaded of, to credit, place confidence in			
a. of the thing believed			
1. to credit, have confidence			
b. in a moral or religious reference			
1. used in the NT of the conviction and trust to which a man is impelled by a			

A green arrow points from the number 5 to the word "pisteu/w" in the pop-up window. The website footer shows a URL: "ck/zone?zid=24&cid=0&mid=0&pid=0&default=true&random=95409608×tamp=20090113092643". The taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications: Microsoft..., John 17:20 - ..., Gmail - Inbox..., New Testame..., Scripture stud..., and Adobe Re...

Once I find a definition, I like to jot down the various possibilities in my journal, to aid in meditation later. When I finish an entire verse, I often re-write it in my own words, using what I have learned from the word studies.

TOOL #2:

ROBERTSON'S WORD

PICTURES: While this resource involves a lot of information about verb tenses etc. that I don't understand, there are often incredible insights into how the word was formed, or where it was used within the culture of that day. It is worth checking out!

FOLLOW THE SAME STEPS AS IN TOOL #1, BUT MAKE SURE THAT YOU CHECK 'INCLUDE RESOURCES' BEFORE YOU CLICK ON 'SEARCH'.



CLICK ON THE UNDERLINED 'RWP' FROM THE LIST ON THE RIGHT

2

Robertson's Word Pictures of the New Testament

John 17:20

Through their word (dia tou logou autwn).

Through the agency of conversation and preaching, blessed privilege open to all believers thus to win men to Christ, but an agency sadly limited by the lives of those who speak in Christ's name.

3

BROWSER WILL GO TO ROBERTSON'S WORD PICTURES FOR THAT VERSE.

COMMENTARIES: Instead of clicking on RWP, you can also click on any number of commentaries from the same list on the right. I like Matthew Henry's commentary, but there are several good ones. I would suggest you read only one, or maybe two at the most, to keep from getting bogged down. As you glean new insights from the commentaries, jot them in your notebook for future use.

OTHER HELPS: This site has many other good helps so have fun playing around with it until you feel at home there!.

MOVING BEYOND STUDY MODE

For heart transformation to take place when we study Scripture, the truths we are learning must penetrate beyond our mind through the ministry of God's Spirit to us. Here is a way to facilitate that happening, using the tools we've just seen:

1. Write a verse from the passage out in your notebook, leaving lots of space in the margins and between lines for notes.
2. Go to www.studylight.org and take notes, using the following three resources:
 - a. Strong's Concordance
 - b. RWP: Robertson's Word Pictures
 - c. Commentary: Choose one or two
3. Review your notes and then ask God to speak to your heart in answer to the following questions:

Lord, is there a truth here that you want to captivate my heart with?

Lord, is there a something you are calling me to do — a command to obey or a step of obedience to take, based upon this?

4. Write down whatever God might show you and take some time to process it, thanking Him for speaking.