The Ancient Pictographic Hebrew Language

It is generally thought that the Ten Commandments were written by the finger of YHWH when Moses retrieved the carved tablets upon Mt. Sinai. But what was the ancient script that YHWH used to write these? Some believe it was the Paleo script, but I tend to lean toward the Pictographic script as attested by the numerous examples engraved in stones around several locations in the Sinai Peninsula that have been suggested as Mt Sinai. There is some dispute as to whether the location of Mt Sinai, where the law was given, is in the Sinai Peninsula or whether it is in Saudi Arabia. There are actually 14 different sites identified as candidates for the real Mt Sinai.

We do have ample evidence that the ancient pictographic characters are the precursor to all later Hebrew alef bets. Since words change meaning over time, I believe an examination of the ancient script can reveal the true intent of any particular Hebraic word when it was originally written. However, caution must be used as some of these interpretations are purely subjective and should never be used to prove or disprove sound doctrine. They should be used as study aids only.

The ancient Hebrew language was a “senses” based language. They thought in agricultural terms and their language was based upon what they could see, feel, taste, smell or hear. All words made from any particular ancient two letter root have a similar meaning.

Hebrew thought is concrete where as Greek thought is abstract. Abstract thought is the expression of things that cannot be sensed with the 5 senses. Hebrew thought is circular whereas Greek thought is linear. The bible was written in Hebrew and is circular in nature as the end is declared from the beginning.

An example of concrete vs Abstract thought can be seen in the word “anger.” Anger to a Greek is an abstract concept. To a Hebrew, the word for anger is “Awph” which means “nose”. When a person gets angry, the nostrils flare and the breathing gets harder. The Hebrew sees anger when a person’s nostrils are flaring. (Benner)
Some of the concepts I present are with the help of Jeff Benners book “Ancient Hebrew Language and Alphabet”.

The very word Alphabet comes from the first two Hebrew letters - Alef Bet. Hebrew is the original Language of Eden and all languages stem from it. You can speak very little English that doesn’t have its roots in the ancient Hebrew.

It is simply amazing of the many words in Hebrew that are the same in English. For example, the word translated "vision" which is the Hebrew word “Marah”, is also translated “Mirror” in English. Here is a partial list of some of these words I have found:

- Nud Nod Shaking the head
- Moot Moot dead
- Shad Shad-ow demon
- Abak Aback to roll or turn
- Eviyl Evil foolish, licentious
- Fevere Fervent boil of become agitated
- Maschit Machete destroyer
- Amok Amok incomprehensible
- He (letter) Hey Behold
- Obed Obedience obey, servant
- Alas Alas alas, regret
- Kahal Call to call
- Ober Over over
- Dor Door door
- Gadar Gather collect
- Harap Harp musical instrument
- Darag Drag drag
- Shapah Shape to form, carve, create
- Saq Sack sack
- Tsad Side side
- Kol All all
- Ayin Eye eye
- Eesh Each each
- Naphal Fall fall
- Eleph Elephant Bull
- Tal Tall tall
- Eysh Ash fire
- Tor Tour travel
• Taph  Tap    beat
• Sak    Shack   shack
• Moq    Mock     mock
• Laq    Lick     lick
• Ashen  Ashen   smoking from ashes
• Erev   Eve      evening
• Kaph   Cup      palm of hand
• Ah teak Antique very old
• Bahair Bare expose, clear out
• Kabash Kabash subdue

I find this very common as some recent discoveries have led me to other words such as "zion" for "sign", "kaphar" for "cover", "Eloah" (title for Yahweh) and the English word "Hello". It is “Aloha” in Hawaii, and "Olah" in Spanish. The ancients greeted others with the title or name of their Elohim. The Anglo Saxons greeting was “God Daeg”. The Australians frequently use this form of greeting (G’day).

There is a great deal of evidence that Hebrew was the original language of the world before Babel. All languages contain Hebrew words, roots and spring from this ancient language.

It is the only language in the world that was both pictographic and "alefbetic." What I mean by this is that the first pictograph is an "ox head" \( \alpha \) and corresponds to the Hebrew letter alef and our letter "A". It means a "strong one or leader".

Below is a list of the entire ancient Hebrew alef bet and the characters for each letter and their possible meanings:

- **Aleph** \( \alpha \) Ox, Strength, Leader
- **Bet** \( \beta \) Family, house, in, tent floor plan
- **Gimmel** \( \gamma \) Foot, walk, gather, carry, camel, cause movement
- **Dalet** \( \delta \) Tent door, pathway, move, hang, entry
- **Hey** \( \epsilon \) Look, Behold, The, Reveal, breath, man
- **Vav** \( \digamma \) Nail, tent peg, add, hook, to secure, connect, Messiah
- **Zayin** \( \zeta \) Plow, weapon, cut off, sickle, harvest, food, feed, crown
Here is an example of how the ancient Hebrew words were formed. As we can see by the list above, the Alef is a pictograph of an ox head. This was the strongest animal known to the ancients as they used oxen to cultivate their crops. So this letter stood for strength and a leader. The old ox would frequently be yoked to a young ox to train him. Let’s make a word from the first 2 letters of the alef bet. AB – The first pictograph is Alef ♂ and means a strong one. The second pictograph is a "tent" floor plan ⫱. It corresponds to the letter "bet" (our B) and means "house
or home”. Put the two letters together and you have "Ab" which is the Hebrew word for "father" or the strong one of the house. Hebrew reads from right to left.

Similarly, the word for El (אֵל) is Alef Lamed. The alef is the strong one or authority and the lamed can mean leader, shepherd, bind and yoke. Our mighty El is all of these. He is the one who yokes himself to man to teach him how He wishes him to live.

The word “oath” is Alah (אֲלָה) which carries the meaning of a binding agreement and a curse for violating it. As the older or stronger ox binds or yokes himself to the younger ox to train him, through the covenant with man, Eloah binds Himself to us to teach us how to walk. The word alah is also used to mean a curse and is pronounced exactly like Allah, the god of Islam. And it is evident that Allah is a curse upon the earth.

While studying the word "manna" I found something interesting in the Proto Hebrew.

**Exo 16:14** And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground.

**Exo 16:15** And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is manna: for they knew not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which YHWH hath given you to eat.

"Man hu" is Hebrew for "What is it?" They asked "What is it?" and Moses explained it was the bread sent from heaven that YHWH had promised. Yahshua is also the promised bread that came down from heaven. This manna was their daily bread which we are to also pray for (John 6:31-58).

Actually, the word Manna does not appear anywhere in the Hebrew Scriptures. This word is found in the Greek Septuagint which the translators relied heavily upon in their later translations. The actual words here in Hebrew are "man hu" or “what is it” and in v.31, it is simply "man".

The (Jewish Publication Soc.) JPS version of the bible also translates the word as "manna" which shows that even the Jewish translation
was influenced by the **Septuagint**. Manna is not a Hebrew word, but is a Greek transliteration of the Hebrew words "man hu".

Looking at the word "man" or manna in the Pictographic Hebrew, we see a word picture. Remember, Hebrew thought is concrete and based upon things that can be perceived by the senses and is circular in nature. Greco/Roman thought is abstract rather than concrete and is linear in nature. This is why YHWH declared the end from the beginning and why most prophecy has a dual fulfillment.

The pictograph of "manna" is (hiếu) "man" (יָֽע). You have the picture of water יָֽע and a seed ע. What was it that the Hebrews saw? It was described as like a coriander seed and like hoar frost upon the ground. When the dew had gone up from the ground, the "man" was seen upon the face of the wilderness. Anyone have any idea why they depicted it as (hiếu)?

The "man" was the seed left by the dew? I think the pictograph is indicating "dew seed or seed left by the dew".

This demonstrates that words that have vague or questionable meanings can often be determined by looking at their ancient Pictographic Hebrew roots. The next example has been around before, but it still interesting. It was found in the Jewish Almanac of 1980.

Husband (Ish) is alef yod shin יָֽע in pictographic Hebrew. Wife (Isha) - is alef shin hey עַֽי. The husband and wife have similar spellings, but with slight differences. The husband is the strong protector of the union. The wife reveals the strong union. By following her husband, she shows that the two are now one (euch).

Notice, husband has a “yod” in the middle of it and the wife is spelled with an “hey”. Together the yod Hey spells “Yah” (YHWH). If you remove “Yah” from these two words, you are left with the Hebrew word for fire (esh). Both of these words, husband and wife now spell fire – a strong devourer. A marriage without Yah is a destructive fire. When Yah is in the marriage, the kavod (glory) of the Father is revealed.
Another example of how the pictographic Hebrew works is the word “oth” which is usually translated as “sign, token, mark”. It is spelled alef vav tav. The Pictographic characters are הָּלָּו. We have the alef which stands for the mighty one or Elohim, the vav indicating a nail and the tav which is a picture of a cross. The tav or cross symbol means “mark, sign and covenant”. The sign of the covenant (all covenants are cut) is our mighty one nailed to a tree or cross. Also, the keeping of the Sabbath is said to be a sign (oth) between YHWH and His people Israel forever. It is also saying that Yahshua is the Master of the Sabbath. (Matt 12:8, Mk 2:28, Luk 6:5) Our Sabbath keeping identifies us as being in a covenant relationship with Him.

Let’s look at the word translated “first born”. It is the word “bekor” in Hebrew and is spelled Bet kaf resh. In pictographic Hebrew, it would be written בֵּכֶר. We see the bet is symbolic of the “house or family.” The kaf means “to open” and the resh means “first” or “person”. The bet is the enclosure, in this case the womb. The first one that opens the womb is the first born, the first fruits of the womb. The word birthright is very similar – bekorah.

The Hebrew word for womb is “beten” בֵּטֶן. The first letter is bet which represents a house or tent, the second letter is Tet represented by a circle with an X in it. It means store, surround or contain – a basket and the last letter is the Nun which represents a seed. The ancient meaning of the word for the womb was the house or basket surrounding and protecting the seed or offspring. There is another word that is also translated “womb”. That word is “rechem”. The ancient pictographic Hebrew shows the word here רְכֵּחַ translated “womb” as that which protects the person (baby) from chaos (harm).

The Hebrew word for “pray” is “palal” פָּלָל. The root word is “pal” פָל written in the pictographic Hebrew as פָּל. The pe means mouth and the lamed or shepherds staff means “authority”. It means to speak to authority or the Shepherd. Perhaps the פָּל means to speak to the shepherd for guidance.

Another interesting word is “satam” סָתָם which is translated “hate”. The first two letters are Shin tet סָת. It means to hate in a guarded manner. The shin tet means the whipping back and forth to strike as a snake. Tet is to surround and the mem is the blood or life.
Satam literally means to surround and destroy. This is very descriptive of our adversary, Satan, who seeks to steal, kill and destroy. Satan (שלום) is spelled the same, but with a nun י instead of a mem ז. The nun represents the seed, so he is pictured as whipping back and forth as a serpent to strike the “seed” of man.

In Genesis 33 when Esau met Jacob, he ran and kissed him and they both wept according to scripture. But was this kiss sincere? Some think it was because they both wept in apparent reconciliation. But what does the root of the word translated “kiss” reveal. The word used in Gen 33:4 is Nashaq. This word comes from the same root as "Nachash" or snake. It is a kiss like a striking snake wanting to bite him. Esau had not forgotten his hatred for Jacob. Looking at the root in the pictographic ancient Hebrew shows ש-ל-ן which means behold teeth touch. I think he pressed down with his teeth wanting to bite. The kiss was probably like you see the vampire doing in the old horror films. Another thing that is interesting about this kiss is that in the original Hebrew texts, the word translated “and kissed him” is “vaiyishshakehu”and is marked with a series of dots, one over each letter of the word. These are called “jots” and they are used to call our attention that there is something important to be learned there. Jots such as this are used only 4 times in the Torah and remind one of fang marks above the letters.

The “grave” is represented in the ancient pictographic language with מ-וכ- ע which is the word “qeber.” The Qof means to gather, the beit is the house and the resh is inheritance or forefathers. In Hebrew the expression for the "grave" is gathering one to his fathers, which is exactly what the ancient pictographs indicate. The feminine passive participle of this is qeburah.

Look now at the word “Yisrael”. It consists of 2 words, Yasar, ל-פ-ר which means he turns, literally “move change man” and El פ meaning Eloah. It means turning to and being straight or right with Eloah.

Servant is the word “Obed” spelled in pictographic Hebrew as (ז-פ). It means one who watches at the door of the house. Another word related to watching is Ra’ah which means to see, or as the pictographic Hebrew would indicate (ש-ק), Man, behold or look! This
is a very common verb in Hebrew. The participle form of this verb is Ro’eh. This participle is used for a shepherd who watches over the flock. A pastor would be regarded as a Ro’eh.

The word translated “redeemer” is Go’el, It means redemption by a near kinsman. Yahshua is our Go’el, kinsman redeemer. Go’el is made up of the pictographic characters (ךַּיִל). You can probably recognize the EL part as our creator. The Gimmel (ג) is a pictograph of a foot. It means to “Walk with El” or the “El who shows the way”. Yahweh was considered to be the “Go’el” of Israel, delivering them from bondage.

Qahal is what is commonly called the church. It means “assembly” and is made up of the root word Qal ( ק). Qal means “call or voice” and Lamed (ל) is shepherd. So Qahal would mean “gathering to the voice of the shepherd.”

El Gibor is another description of Yahshua in his pre-incarnate state. It means “mighty El” in Hebrew. The Etymological dictionary says the word gibor means “overpowering”. The pictographic Hebrew shows that it has a deeper meaning. Gibor is spelled gimmel bet resh (גיבּ) which carries the idea of El gathering the family of man. El Gibor (mighty El) is found in Isa 9:6 which is describing Yahshua.

Next, we have the word “qadosh” which literally means to be set apart. We can see this form in the pictographic Hebrew (קַדְשָׁה) which means “gather to a separate walk.” There is another closely related word and that is Sodomite (קֹדֶשׁ). How can this word even be close to the word Qodesh, translated as “holy” in our bibles? It is because the male prostitute was also set apart for a special purpose.

I hope this whets your appetite for more ancient Hebrew roots. This is only a small sampling of the ancient pictographic Hebrew roots and their possible interpretations. There is still much to be learned in this area of study.

Shalom שלום serenity – lead to – secure – waters (lead to calm water) peace, health and prosperity.

Brick Parrish