



The Lexham English Bible

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The Translation Process

The Lexham English Bible began life as an interlinear translation, based on the Lexham interlinear Bibles.

But these are interlinear translations with a twist: rather than provide only simple context-free glosses for each word (what you would typically find in a lexicon), these Lexham interlinears also provide a context-sensitive, grammatically informed translation of each word.

The interlinears, available separately, provide two translations. First, they give a simple, context-free gloss for each word—essentially the lexical or dictionary form of a word. This gloss answers the question, “What does this word mean?”

The second gloss is the English literal translation, a contextually sensitive gloss of the inflected form of the word. This gloss answers the question, “What does this word mean here?” The difference between these two glosses is subtle, but powerful.

An example is found in Matthew 6:9, the beginning of the Lord’s Prayer. The below starts with the Greek text, works through context-free to context-sensitive glosses, and ends with the LEB translation.

Greek text	οὕτως	οὖν	προσεύχεσθε	ὁμεῖς
Simple, context-free gloss	in this way, thus	therefore	to pray	you
Contextually sensitive gloss	in this way	therefore	pray	you
Literal translation	therefore you pray in this way			
LEB	Therefore you pray in this way:			

Greek text	Πάτερ	ἡμῶν	ὁ	ἐν	τοῖς	οὐρανοῖς
Simple, context-free gloss	father	we	the	in	the	heaven
Contextually sensitive gloss	Father	our	[who is]	in	—	heaven
Literal translation	our father [who is] in heaven					
LEB	“Our Father who is in heaven,					

Greek text	ἁγιασθήτω	τὸ	ὄνομά	σου
Simple, context-free gloss	to treat as holy, to reverence	the	name	you
Contextually sensitive gloss	be treated as holy	—	name	[may] your
Literal translation	[may] your name be treated as holy			
LEB	may your name be treated as holy.			

The final rendering of the LEB for Mt 6:9 is:

Therefore you pray in this way:
 “Our Father who is in heaven,
 may your name be treated as holy.

The end result is a relatively literal translation into English. But the process of creating the translation is also visible. This is what makes the LEB so useful and unique among modern English translations.

From Translation to Interlinear

While many people work from the original language text to the translation in their study, several others who do not have skill in the original languages are relatively bound to the English text. Interlinears, available separately, reveal the original language behind the

English translation. If you have a Logos Bible Software base package, you can start with the LEB and easily discern the underlying original language text.

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1 John 2:1

Interlinear

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i

» 1 John > Chapter 2 Article ↑ ↓ ×

2 My little children, I am writing these [things] to you in order that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous [one],² and he^a is the propitiation^b for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for [the sins of] the whole world.³ And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments.⁴ The one who says "I have come to know him," and does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in this person.⁵ But whoever keeps his word, truly in this person the love of God has been perfected. By this we know that we are in him.⁶ The one who says [that he] resides in him ought also to walk in this way: just as that one walked.



7 Dear friends, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment

Surface	to	you	in	order	that	you	may	not	sin.	And	if	anyone	sin
MSS	→	ὑμῖν 5	→	→	ἵνα 6	→	μὴ 7	ἁμαρτήτε 8	καὶ 9	ἐάν 10	τις 11	ἁμ	
MSS Trl		hym			hina		mē	hamartēte	kai	ean	tis	ha	
Lemma		σύ			ἵνα		μὴ	ἁμαρτάνω	καὶ	ἐάν	τις	ἁμ	
Lemma Trl		sy			hina		mē	hamartanō	kai	ean	tis	ha	
Morph		RP2DP			CAP		BN TN	VAAS2P	CLC	CAC	RX-NSM	VA	
Strong's		G5213			G2443		G3361	G264	G2532	G1437	G5100	G2	
Louw		LN 92.7			LN 89.59		LN 69.3	LN 88.289	LN 89.87	LN 89.67	LN 92.12	LN	

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Mark 1:1

  Interlinear

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» Mark > Chapter 1Article ↕ ↕ ✕

I The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² Just as it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“Behold, I am sending my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way,
³ the voice of one shouting in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths!’” ^a

⁴ John was there baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And all the Judean region and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem went out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. ⁶ And

Surface	age.”	Mk 1:1	The	beginning	of	the	gospel	of	Jesus	Christ,	the	So					
MSS	αἰῶνος	21	→	Ἀρχὴ	1	→ 3	τοῦ	2	εὐαγγελίου	3	→ 5	Ἰησοῦ	4	Χριστοῦ	5	→	υἱ
MSS Trl	aiōnos			Archē			tou		euangelion			lēsou		Christou			hu
Lemma	αἰών			ἀρχή			ὁ		εὐαγγέλιον			Ἰησοῦς		Χριστός			υἱ
Lemma Trl	aiōn			archē			ho		euangelion			lēsous		Christos			hu
Morph	NGSM			NNSF			DGSN		NGSN			NGSM		NGSM			NO
Strong's	G165			G746			G3588		G2098			G2424		G5547			G5
Louw	LN 67.143			LN 68.1			LN 92.24		LN 33.217			LN 93.169		LN 53.82			LN

The English and underlying Greek words are associated with one another. Using Logos Bible Software, it is easy to dig into lexicons, start searches, or dig even deeper using the Bible Word Study report.

Utilizes the Latest Lexical Resources

A *lexicon* is a dictionary based on a particular body of work (a "corpus"). The pre-eminent lexicon for the New Testament is Frederick Danker's *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (known as BDAG). For example, during the LEB's translation process, BDAG was consulted to ensure that the nuance and force of the translation was proper and verifiable. Other lexicons, such as Louw and Nida's *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament based on Semantic Domains*, proved immensely helpful as well.

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