

Learning the Hebrew Language

Session 1

With that said, let's begin Phase 1, "Introduction to the Hebrew Language. >

Did you know that Hebrew was taught at Harvard since the 1720s and at William and Mary in Williamsburg Virginia? Did you know there was a time that Columbia College in New York required all teachers to know Hebrew? Did you know that a Yale student wrote these words in 1788, "The President [Ezra Stiles] insisted that the whole class should undertake the study of Hebrew. For the Hebrew he possessed a high respect." As it turns out, Stiles' prescription was not popular and by 1790, he modified his mandate: He said, "From my first accession to the Presidency, I have required all the freshmen to study Hebrew. This has proved very disagreeable to a number of the students. This year I have determined to instruct only those who offer themselves voluntarily." While enrollment in his courses dropped, the valedictorians of the classes of 1785 and 1792 did deliver their formal speeches in Hebrew.

There is perhaps no more central symbol of the university's early devotion to Hebrew learning than its official seal, at the heart of which are the Hebrew words "Urim" and "Thummim." With the Latin terms "Lux et Veritas" [*light and truth / owr & ehmeth*].

The earliest **knowledge of Hebrew** being proposed as America's national language is from 1620. At that time, William Bradford was the leader of the pilgrims who set off to the New World. They set sail on the Mayflower seeking to find freedom from religious persecution. They saw their journey as a re-enactment of the Jewish exodus from ancient Egypt.

Bradford sought to unify the group before they disembarked. He is recorded as being fanatical about the Hebrew language as he believed that after his death he would speak "the most ancient language", Hebrew, with God and the angels.

It is noted that a vote was taken on the Mayflower as to which language the new settlers would speak in the New World. Hebrew apparently lost by only one vote.

In 1780, Hebrew was once again proposed as the official American language as the pioneers had an extreme dislike of anything British, including the English language. Marquis de Chastellux, a companion to George Washington, recorded that Americans "have seriously proposed to introduce a new language; and some, for the public convenience, would have the Hebrew substituted to the English, taught in the schools, and used in all public acts."

Marquis de Chastellux writes that at the time of the American Revolution, “certain members of Congress proposed that the use of English be formally prohibited in the United States, and Hebrew substituted for it.”

Roni Segal, the academic adviser for eTeacher, a online language academy, told *Breaking Israel News* that Hebrew was taught in many of the top American universities in the late 17th and early 18th centuries. Columbia, Brown, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Princeton, University of Pennsylvania, William and Mary, and Yale even gave students the option to deliver commencement speeches in Hebrew, Latin or Greek.

As many of the Founding Fathers attended these universities, including Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and Alexander Hamilton, it seems clear that they were well acquainted with both the Bible as well as the Hebrew language. Additionally, some Hebrew words or phrases were included in official university emblems or seals. [We showed you the Seal of Yale]

So strong is America’s attachment to Hebrew, that it is common practice to give babies Biblical Hebrew names such as Sarah, Aaron, Miriam, David, Adam, and Eve. There are no less than fifteen places in the US called Zion, along with twenty-six Salem’s, which is a derivative of “Jerusalem”: Genesis 14 states that Jerusalem was called Salem and that this was the city of Melchizedek. Other American cities named from Hebrew include Eden, Rehoboth, Sharon, Bethel, Canaan, Hebron, Mamre and Mt. Moriah.

“Today, with Israel being recognized as ‘the startup nation’ along with the wonders of technology, there is a growing interest in traditional Bible study and learning Hebrew,” shared Segal to *Breaking Israel News*. “Hebrew has never been easier to learn with courses provided online or more relevant. It’s never too late to connect back to God’s language, even 300 years after America’s Founding Fathers’ first proposal.” [End Quote] israel365news.com/category/biblical-news

Jan 7th, 2010, Headline: Israel honors the man who revived the Hebrew language, a language that disappeared 2000 years ago.

Eliezer Ben Yehuda wrote... A clear incandescent light flashed before my eyes and a mighty inner voice sounded in my ears, **the resurrection of Israel on its ancestral soil**. Because of that voice, a single ideal drove my life, manifest in two words “Yisrael b’artso” – Israel in its own lands. I realized what a common tongue could

do to unite a people, just as the Jews could not become a living nation except by returning to their ancient homelands, so also, they could not become a living nation except by returning to the language of their ancestors.

Listen to this article I mentioned from January 7th 2010... Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, the father of modern-day Hebrew, has been honored by Israel as the leaders of the Jewish state declared Ben-Yehuda's birthday as Hebrew Day, a day when the Jewish people reflect on how one man could almost single-handedly revive the language of the ancient Jewish people. Ben-Yehuda, in the late 1800's and early 1900's, was one Jewish man living in Israel that believed the chosen people living in God's chosen land should speak God's chosen language and he developed the method of teaching Hebrew to all new immigrants arriving in Israel. Hebrew, a dead language, is now spoken daily by the Jewish people in the Jewish state of Israel, a fact that has an interesting connection to Bible prophecy.

Rev 22:13 I am Alpha [Aleph] and [Tav], the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

Jer 16:19 O Adonai, my strength, and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction, the Gentiles shall come unto THEE from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely OUR fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit.

2 Cor 13:5 Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Yeshua HaMashiach is in you, except ye be reprobates?

Ro 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of Elohim dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Mashiach, he is none of his.

Jn 8:37 I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you.

Jn 6:65-69 And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father. From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Then said Yeshua unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Mashiach, the Son of the living Elohim.