

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT IN GRADUATE HEBREW

For purposes of this assignment, refer to Bible passages as follows: I K.8:12-1 will mean the line of the Hebrew Bible on which I Kings 8:12 begins. I K.8:12-2 means the next line, I K.8:12-3, the following one, etc. Keep on numbering this way as long as you are in that verse, but when you start a new verse, put a new number with "1" for the line in which the verse begins. After the number of the verse put a small "a" to represent approximately the first third of the line, a small "b" to represent approximately the middle third of the line, a small "c" to represent approximately the last third of the line. Do not bother about trying to be exact on these figures. They are just an approximation to make it easier to find the place.

The first part of this assignment involves practice in recognizing Hebrew letters and words quickly. Take out your watch and note the exact time. Work for exactly two minutes and then stop. Do not refer to the English Bible before you begin. Look at the Hebrew of I K.8:12. Run your eye over the lines looking for the particle **וְ**. Every time you see it, indicate the reference on a piece of paper. Go on for two minutes and see exactly how many lines and approximately how many thirds of a line you have covered by that time. Then finish out the line. Look at your watch again, start with the next line, and do the same thing keeping track of how many lines you cover each time. It is desired that you find the references for **וְ** for quite a distance, by working fast this way you are speeding up the ability of your eyes to recognize Hebrew letters.

After you have gone far enough this way to have covered about a page, start the second part of the assignment. Look up each use of **וְ**, comparing your English Bible, instead of looking up words. Carefully note the exact use of **וְ** in the sentence. Use your Hebrew Bible if you find it necessary. List the relation of the antecedent of **וְ**, whether expressed or not, to the main sentence. See whether it is the subject of the sentence, as in "the man whom he killed rode a black horse," or the object of the main sentence, as in, "I saw the man who killed him. Perhaps it is the object of a preposition in the main sentence, as in, "the son of the man whom he disliked was there." Also