

The English Bible and the Days of Creation:

When Tradition Conflicts with Text

Hebrew Text

- 1:5 יום אֶחָד (adjective numeral masculine singular) - one day
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- 1:8 יום שֵׁנִי (adjective masculine numeral ordinal) - a second day
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- 1:13 יום שְׁלִישִׁי (adjective masculine numeral ordinal) - a third day
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- 1:19 יום רְבִיעִי (adjective masculine numeral ordinal) - a fourth day
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- 1:23 יום חֲמִישִׁי (adjective masculine numeral ordinal) - a fifth day
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- 1:31 יום הַשֵּׁשִׁי (definite article - adjective masculine numeral ordinal) - the sixth day
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- 2:2 בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי (definite article – adjective masculine singular numeral ordinal) – the seventh day
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The Definite Article

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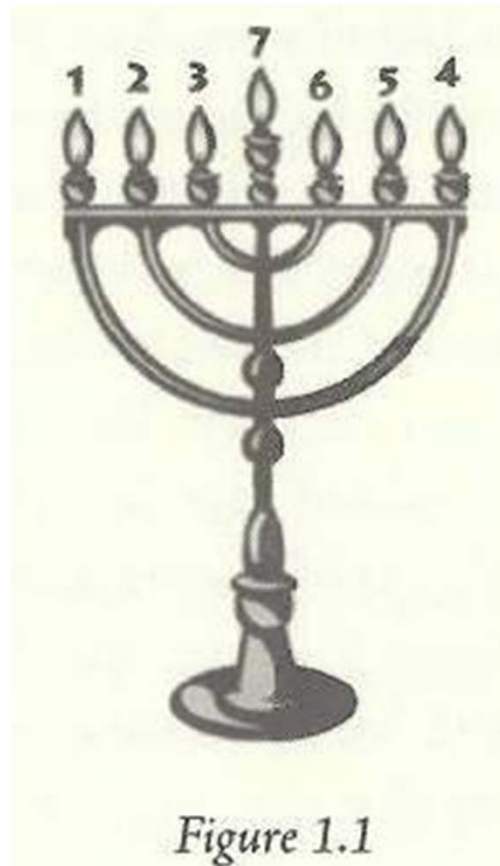
The Days of My Life

- One day I was born.
- A second day I started preaching.
- A third day I started being married to Mary Anne Whitten.
- A fourth day I started being a father to Rebecca and then to Mary Ellen.
- A fifth day I started living in Minnesota.
- The sixth day I started working at Union.
- The seventh day I die.

Hebrew Verbs

- No temporal tenses – past, present, or future
- Based on action
- Imperfect tense – incomplete or ongoing action
- Perfect tense – completed action in past, present, or future
- Waw consecutive – sequential action
- Perfect of relation – simultaneous or subsequent action

Hebrew View of God and Time



The Greek Text – LXX

- 1:5 ἡμέρα μία (feminine nominative singular adjective) - day one
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- 1:8 ἡμέρα δευτέρα (feminine nominative singular adjective) - day second
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- 1:13 ἡμέρα τρίτη (feminine nominative singular adjective) - day third
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- 1:19 ἡμέρα τετάρτη (feminine nominative singular adjective) - day fourth
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- 1:23 ἡμέρα πέμπτη (feminine nominative singular adjective) - day fifth
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- 1:31 ἡμέρα ἕκτη (feminine nominative singular adjective) - day sixth
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- 2:2 τῆς ἡμέρας τῆς ἕκτης (definite article - feminine dative singular adjective) – the day the sixth
- τῆς ἡμέρας τῆς ἑβδόμης (definite article - feminine dative singular adjective) -
the day the seventh

The Latin Text - Vulgate

- 1:5 dies unus (adjective nominative masculine singular cardinal) - day one
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- 1:8 dies secundus (adjective nominative masculine singular ordinal) - day second
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- 1:13 dies tertius (adjective nominative masculine singular ordinal) - day third
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- 1:19 dies quartus (adjective nominative masculine singular ordinal) - day fourth
-
- 1:23 dies quintus (adjective nominative masculine singular ordinal) - day fifth
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- 1:31 dies sextus (adjective nominative masculine singular ordinal) - day sixth
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- 2:2 die septimo (adjective dative masculine singular ordinal) - day seventh

The English Text – Wycliffe's Bible

- 1:5 o daie
-
- 1:8 the seconde dai
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- 1:13 the thridde dai
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- 1:19 the fourthe dai
-
- 1:23 the fyueþ dai
-
- 1:31 the sixte dai
-
- 2:2 the seuenthe dai