

# Word Study <sup>H2803</sup> *chasab* count, devise, think, imagine, cunning, reckon

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## Introduction

### Gen 15:5-6 | by believing in YHVH, he counted it to him for righteousness

<sup>5</sup> And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. <sup>6</sup> And he believed in YHVH; and he counted

וַיַּחְשְׁבֶהָ *vai yach she-ve ha* <sup>H2803</sup> it to him for righteousness.

## H2803 *chasab*

### חָשַׁב

count (23x), devise (22x), think (18x), imagine (9x), cunning (8x), reckon (7x), purpose (6x), esteem (6x), account (5x), impute (4x), forecast (2x), regard (2x), workman (2x), conceived (1x), miscellaneous (9x).

## Word Study H2803

*hōšēb*: A verb meaning to think, to devise, to reckon, to regard, to invent, to consider, to be accounted, to consider, to reckon oneself. When the subject of this verb is God, the verb means to consider, to devise, to plan, to reckon. Job cried out to God and asked why God considered him His enemy ([Job 13:24](#); [Job 33:10](#)); however, Job was falsely accusing his Creator. Through the evil actions of Joseph's brothers, God had intended good for all of them ([Gen 50:20](#); [Psa 40:17](#) [18]). Against a wicked people, the Lord planned destruction ([Jer 18:11](#); [Mic 2:3](#)). God also "reckoned" Abraham's faith as righteousness ([Gen 15:6](#)).

When humans are the subjects of this verb, the word has similar meanings: the king of Assyria thought he would destroy many nations ([Isa 10:7](#)); people devised or planned evil ([Gen 50:20](#); [Psa 35:4](#); [Eze 38:10](#)); Shimei begged David not to reckon his behavior as sin against him ([2Sa 19:19](#) [20]; [Psa 32:2](#)). In addition, the word is used to mean to regard or to invent: the Medes did not esteem gold or silver as the Persians did ([Isa 13:17](#)); and the Servant of Isaiah's passage was not highly esteemed by men ([Isa 53:3](#)). God endowed people with the ability to invent new things, such as artistic and practical devices ([Exo 31:4](#); [Exo 35:32](#), [Exo 35:35](#); [2Ch 2:14](#) [13]); and instruments for music ([Amo 6:5](#)).

When the verb is passive, the word expresses being valuable or being considered. Silver was not considered valuable in Solomon's reign ([1Ki 10:21](#)). In the time of Israel's wandering, the Emmites were reckoned to be Rephaites or Moabites ([Deu 2:11](#), [Deu 2:20](#)).

This verb can also mean to plot, to think upon, to think out something. A person could think out his or her course of life ([Pro 16:9](#); [Hos 7:15](#)); the evil person in [Dan 11:24](#) plotted the overthrow of all resistance to him; the boat that Jonah shipped out in came to the point of destruction in the storm ([Jon 1:4](#), lit., "it was thinking to be destroyed")

