

Word Study H4976 *matan* gift

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Introduction

I was studying the poorly translated Joh 1:17 ^{KJV} and decided I needed a word study on giving/gift.

Num 18:11 | the heave offering of their gift

And this *is* thine;^A the heave offering תְּרוּמַת ^{te-ru-Mat} of their gift מִתְּנָם ^{mat-ta-Nam}, with all the wave offerings תְּנוּפֹת ^{te-nu-Fot} of the children of Israel: I have given נָתַתִּימָם ^{ne-tat-Tim} them unto thee, and to thy sons and to thy daughters with thee אֶתְּךָ ^{'it-te-Cha}, by a statute לְחֹק ^{le-chok-} for ever עוֹלָם ^{o-Lam}: every one that is clean טָהוֹר ^{ta-Hor} in thy house בְּבֵיתְךָ ^{be-vei-te-Cha} shall eat of it.

Number chapter 18 is titled “Duties of the Priests and Levites”. For the exchange of performing their office the heave and wave offering gift (*matan*) given by the sons of Israel was for them, if you will, for services rendered.

Joh 1:17 ^{KJV} | The Torah was given through Moses, grace and truth came by Yeshua

For the law was **given** by ^[through] Moses, *but*^B grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

^A The Priests and the Levites

^B This *but* is *butting* in! The *but* is added, and if removed (as it should be) For law ^{Torah} given by Moses...” compliments the grace and truth of the Messiah, if left in then it casts these ideas to be opposites of each other.

Joh 1:17 ^{OJB}

Because the *matan* Torah (giving of the Torah)^C was graciously bestowed **through** Moshe [Rabbeinu] ^[Deu 32:46 Exo 31:18; Exo 34:28], but *Chesed* and *Emes* (*Emets*) of Hashem came through [Rebbe,] Melech HaMoshiach Yehoshua ^[Exo 34:6; Psa 25:10; Psa 40:11; Psa 85:11; Joh 1:49].

The OJB version of Joh 1:17, ties this word *matan* to the giving of the Torah to Israel at Mt. Sinai, which I find interesting and is what prompted me to do this word study.

Why is John connecting the giving of the Torah to the graciousness of Yeshua? The primary beneficiary of his salvific work was the house of Israel who once was in covenant with YHVH but, at the time prior Yeshua's ministry, had the burden of the Bill of Divorce. The **graciousness** of YHVH was given by his son Yeshua i.e. it was a *mattan* / gift back to the House of Israel.

It's logical to me that once receiving this gift, the House of Israel needs to perform her priestly functions like they had done while in covenant (a direct result of receiving the law/Torah).

Mat 7:11 | Your heavenly father wants to bless you with a gift

¹¹ If ye then, being evil, know how to give good **gifts** unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Amongst the gifts from our Heavenly Father are the heave and wave offerings (Num 18:11). Why were they called evil? Because they were out of covenant... it's their legal status before YHVH. Yet even while out of covenant, the physical fathers would give gifts to his children.

Word Study

H4976 *mattan* ^{KCJ:5} gift(s)⁵

מתן

KJC: 5 gift:⁴ Gen 34:12, Num 18:11, Pro 18:16, Pro 21:14, gifts: Pro 19:6

Strong's: From H5414;^D a present: - gift, to give, reward.

LXX: G1390 *doma* ^[Mat 7:11, Luk 11:13, Eph 4:8 & Php 4:17], G1394 *dosis* ^[Php 4:15, Jas 1:17]

WordStudy ®

A masculine noun referring to a gift. It indicates what is given and comes from the root *natan*, to give: gifts (Gen 34:12; Num 18:11; Pro 18:16; Pro 19:6; Pro 21:14). Gifts could be a means of attaining favor or of creating problems (Pro 18:16; Pro 19:6; Pro 21:14).

^C *Matan* (alternative spelling: *Mattan*, Hebrew: מתן, Latin: *Matthan*) is a Hebrew name, mostly for males, coming from the word 'gift' and literally means "giving". It is part of the title of the Jewish^C holiday of *Shavuot* that is also known as "Z'man *Mattan Torah*" meaning the "time [of the] giving [of the] Torah." [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matan_\(given_name\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matan_(given_name))

^D *Nathan* see Word-Study-H5414-nathan-give-put, article #1365. This is in the intro to that article...

The first part, to give as an "exchange of tangible property", got my attention because of the legal concept *quid pro quo* (something for something). This is most important when honoring your sacred contract with YHVH by bringing a "presentation of an offering to the Lord".

Mat 7:11 ^{KJV} If ye then, being evil, know how to give good **gifts** unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Luk 11:13 ^{KJV} If ye then, being evil, know how to give good **gifts** unto your children: how much more shall *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Eph 4:8 ^{KJV} Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave **gifts** unto men.^[Psa 68:18]

Php 4:15-17 ^{KJV} ¹⁵ Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning **giving** and receiving, but ye only. ¹⁶ For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. ¹⁷ Not because I desire a **gift**: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.

Jas 1:17 ^{KJV} Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

H4979 mattanah ^{KJC:17} **gift(s)**¹⁶ Torah: Gen 25:6, Lev 23:38 (2), Num 18:29, able Deu 16:17

מתנה

Total KJV Occurrences: 17

gifts, 11 [Gen 25:6](#), [Lev 23:38](#) (2), [Num 18:29](#), [2Ch 21:3](#), [Est 9:22](#), [Psa 68:18](#), [Pro 15:27](#), [Eze 20:26](#), [Eze 20:31](#), [Eze 20:39](#)

gift, 5 [Ecc 7:6-7](#) (3), [Eze 46:16-17](#) (2)

shall give as he is able, 1 [Deu 16:17](#)

Strong's Feminine of [H4976](#); a *present*; specifically (in a good sense) a sacrificial *offering*, (in a bad sense) a *bribe*: - gift.

LXX: [G1390](#) doma *, [G1411](#) dunamis *, [G1435](#) doron *

WordStudy ®

A feminine noun designating a gift. It refers to what is given for various reasons: as compensation or for support ([Gen 25:6](#); [Est 9:22](#); [Eze 46:16-17](#)); as offerings, gifts, to the Lord ([Exo 28:38](#); [Lev 23:38](#); [Num 18:29](#); [Psa 68:18](#) [19]). Persons in Israel gave as they were able ([Deu 16:7](#)). The Levites were called the Lord's gift to the priesthood ([Num 18:6-7](#)). This word has the sense of a bribe in the wisdom literature ([Pro 15:27](#); [Ecc 7:7](#)).

Words with the same root

H4977 mattan ^{KJC:3 2Ki 11:18, 2Ch 23:17, Jer 38:1} **the name of a priest of Baal**

מתן

The same as [H4976](#); *Mattan*, the name of a priest of *Baal*, and of an Israelite: - Mattan.

H4978 *mattana* ^{chaldee KJC:3} **gifts** ^{3, Dan 2:6, Dan 2:48, Dan 5:17 LXX:G1431 dorea}

מתנא

Feminine of [H4976](#); a *present*; specifically (in a good sense) a sacrificial *offering*, (in a bad sense) a *bribe*: - gift.

H4980 *mattanah* a place, a proper noun ^{KJC:2, Num 21:18-19}

מַתָּנָה

WordStudy® A proper noun designating Mattanah ([Num 21:18-19](#)).