Word Study H5162 NaChaM Comfort or Repent

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Introduction

I was interested in this word because of the verses listed below. Notice how this word has an almost contradictory translation ... comfort and repent.

Gen 5:29 KJV

And he called his name Noah, saying, This *same* shall comfort H5162 nacham us concerning our work and toil of our hands, because of the ground which YHVH hath cursed.

Gen 6:6-7

⁶ And it repented *vaiynNachem* YHVH that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. ⁷ And YHVH said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me *Nichemti* that I have made them.

Exo 32:14

And YHVH repented H5162 nacham of the evil which he thought to do unto his people.

H5162 nacham Comfort^{ed/ers/er/eth/edts} 60%, Repent^{ed/eth/est/ing} 37%

Strong's A primitive root; properly to *sigh*, that is, *breathe* strongly; by implication to *be sorry*, that is, (in a favorable sense) to *pity*, *console* or (reflexively) *rue*; or (unfavorably) to *avenge* (oneself): - comfort (self), ease [one's self], repent (-er, -ing, self).

Word Study

A verb meaning to be sorry, to pity, to comfort, to avenge. The verb often means to be sorry or to regret: the Lord was sorry that He had made people (<u>Gen_6:6</u>); He led Israel in a direction to avoid war when they left Egypt, lest they became so sorry and grieved that they would turn back (<u>Exo_13:17</u>). The Lord had compassion on His people (i.e., He became sorry for them because of the oppression their enemies placed on them [<u>Jdg_2:18</u>]). While the Lord could be grieved, He did not grieve or become sorry so that He changed His mind

as a human does (<u>1Sa_15:29</u>). The word also means to comfort or console oneself. Isaac was comforted after Sarah, his mother, died (Gen 24:67).

The verb always means to console or comfort. Jacob refused to be comforted when he believed that Joseph had been killed (<u>Gen_37:35</u>). To console is synonymous with showing kindness to someone, as when David consoled Hanun, king of the Ammonites, over the death of his father (<u>2Sa_10:2</u>). God refused to be consoled over the destruction of His people (<u>Isa_22:4</u>; <u>Isa_40:1</u>); yet He comforts those who need it (<u>Psa_119:82</u>; <u>Isa_12:1</u>). The passive form of the word means to be comforted: the afflicted city of Zion would be comforted by the Lord (<u>Isa_54:11</u>; <u>Isa_66:13</u>). In the reflexive stem, it can mean to get revenge for oneself (<u>Gen_27:42</u>; <u>Eze_5:13</u>); to let oneself be sorry or have compassion (<u>Num_23:19</u>; <u>Deu_32:36</u>); and to let oneself be comforted (Gen_37:35; Psa_119:52).

Total KJV Occurrences: 109

Comfort(ed/ers/er/eth/edts) 60% 66 of 109

Repent(ed/eth/est/ing) 37% 41 of 109

comfort, 34 <u>Gen 5:29, Gen 27:42, Gen 37:35, 2Sa 10:2, 1Ch 7:22, 1Ch 19:2</u> (2), <u>Job 2:11, Job 7:13, Job 21:34, Psa 23:4, Psa 71:21, Psa 119:50, Psa 119:76, Psa 119:82, Isa 22:4, Isa 40:1</u> (2), <u>Isa 51:3</u> (2), <u>Isa 51:19, Isa 57:6, Isa 61:2, Isa 66:13, Jer 16:7, Jer 31:13, Lam 1:2, Lam 1:17, Lam 1:21, Lam 2:13, Eze 14:23, Eze 16:54, Zec 1:17, Zec 10:2</u>

comforted, 20 <u>Gen_24:67, Gen_37:35, Gen_38:12, Gen_50:21, Rth_2:13, 2Sa_12:24, 2Sa_13:39, Job_42:11, Psa_77:2, Psa_86:17, Psa_119:52, Isa_49:13, Isa_52:9, Isa_54:11, Isa_66:13, Jer_31:15, Eze_5:13, Eze_14:22, Eze_31:16, Eze_32:31</u>

repent, 19 Exo 13:17, Exo 32:12, Num 23:19, Deu 32:36, 1Sa 15:29 (2), Job 42:6, Psa 90:13, Psa 110:4, Psa 135:14, Jer 4:28, Jer 18:8, Jer 18:10, Jer 26:3, Jer 26:13, Jer 42:10, Joe 2:14 (2), Jon 3:9

repented, 17 <u>Gen_6:6, Exo_32:14, Jdg_2:18, Jdg_21:6, Jdg_21:15, 1Sa_15:35, 2Sa_24:16, 1Ch_21:15, Psa_106:45, Jer_8:6, Jer_20:16, Jer_31:19</u> (2), <u>Amo_7:3, Amo_7:6, Jon_3:10, Zec_8:14</u>

comforters, 5 2Sa_10:3, 1Ch_19:3, Job_16:2, Psa_69:20, Nah_3:7

comforter, 3 Ecc_4:1, Lam_1:9, Lam_1:16

comforteth, 3 Job 29:25, Isa 66:12-13 (2)

repenteth, 3 Gen_6:7, 1Sa_15:11, Joe_2:13

comfortedst, 1 Isa 12:1

ease, 1 <u>Isa_</u>1:24

receive, 1 Isa_57:6

repentest, 1 Jon 4:2

repenting, 1 Jer_15:6