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ADVERBIAL PHRASES USING *WITH*

"filled with joy" (1 Nephi 5:1)

In English, adverbs are sometimes created by adding *-ly* to a word: *peaceful* becomes *peacefully*, for example. In Biblical Hebrew, such adverbs may be created by attaching a preposition to the word, thus creating a combination such as "with peace."[1] This construction is also found in the Book of Mormon.[2] Here are several examples:

"with all diligence" (3 Nephi 5:3), rather than *diligently*

"with compassion" (Alma 27:4), rather than *compassionately*

"with joy" (1 Nephi 5:1), rather than *joyfully*

"with much harshness" (1 Nephi 18:11), rather than *very harshly*

"with patience" (Alma 38:4), rather than *patiently*

"with sorrow" (Jacob 4:3), rather than *sorrowfully*

"with power" (2 Nephi 33:11), rather than *powerfully*

Such usage, rather foreign to English if employed frequently (and sometimes unnatural even when used in isolation), suggests a literal translation from Hebrew. John Tvedtnes points out that while the Book of Mormon contains many examples of this Hebraic adverb form, it "contains but few examples of true English adverbs."[3]

In our day, scholars and researchers aided by computers can conduct various corpus linguistic studies of large texts such as the Book of Mormon in order to identify and analyze morphological and lexical forms

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John A. Tvedtnes held master's degrees in linguistics and Middle East studies (Hebrew) from the University of Utah, where he taught Biblical Hebrew from 1968 to 1971 and then pursued graduate studies in Egyptian and Semitic languages in Israel until 1979. He was a senior researcher at the Foundation for Ancient Research and Mormon Studies (FARMS) and a senior resident scholar with its successor institution, the Neal A. Maxwell Institute for Religious Scholarship at Brigham Young University. John also taught at the Brigham Young University Jerusalem Center for Near Eastern Studies and lectured in Israel and the United States. He wrote several books and more than three hundred articles. Some of his works have been published by the Magnes Press of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, the Pontifical Biblical Institute, and the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*. John had an active role in researching and writing on Hebraisms in the Book of Mormon. His early study "Hebraisms in the Book of Mormon: A Preliminary Survey" (1970) remains a significant study.

that would be difficult to research any other way. For example, Dr. Monte Shelley, from Brigham Young University's WordCruncher team (www .wordcruncher.com), conducted several computerized studies of the Book of Mormon corpus to assist me as I was writing this book. He utilized the computer to locate examples of cognate verb-object phrases in the Book of Mormon, such as "I have dreamed a dream" (see chapter 22); he also located multiple instances of the emphatic first-person pronoun, including the expression "I, even I" (see chapter 27).

As a side note, over the years I have conducted numerous corpus linguistic studies on the Hebrew Bible and the Dead Sea Scrolls as I have researched various aspects of the scriptures. Many of these computer-assisted studies have been published as articles or books. We can look forward to seeing technology harnessed in this way to increasingly expand our knowledge of adverbial forms and other Hebraisms in the Book of Mormon.

Notes

1. "Much more frequently the adverbial notion is expressed by a substantive preceded by a preposition, especially [*bet*] and [*lamed*]." Joüon and Muraoka, *Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*, 331.

2. See Tvedtnes, "Since the Book of Mormon Is Largely the Record of a Hebrew People [. . .]," 64; and Ricks, "Converging Paths," 400.

3. Tvedtnes, "Hebraisms in the Book of Mormon: A Preliminary Survey," 56.