

I watch when I look at somebody. More particularly in English I watch to see if something is going to happen. When we say Watch for you know not the day or hour, the impression it gives is to many people is keep your eyes open and see what Stalin is doing now and what the Poles are doing and what evidence there is that the Lord is coming tomorrow. The exact opposite of what the verses mean.

Because he says watch because you don't know when he's coming. Many think to watch means to keep your eyes open so you'll know when he's coming. People ask me, Do you think the Lord will come this year? Or next year? I say there's one thing I absolutely sure of: That the return of Christ is one day closer than it was yesterday. This year is one year closer than it was last year.

This word watch when you look up these words translated watch, it's old English watch, not today's English watch. It means: Be wide awake. Paul says, I was in watchings often. By which he meant he stayed awake whole nights active in the Lord's service. Keep wide awake; be on the job because you don't know if the Lord will come very soon and you want Him to find you active in His service when he comes.

If a person doesn't know the languages at all he can do a great deal in this area about precise meanings of words with a concordance. I personally think Young's Concordance is an instrument that could be used tremendously by Christian people to get a better understanding of Scripture more than any other I know of. If you want to find a verse and do not recall exactly where it was but you remember one of its words, Cruden's Concordance is of course the quickest way to find it. There you just have the English words and you look it up and find the English verses that use that word.

Young's is not nearly as useful for that purpose. But it's wonderful if you really want to find what it means means if in Young's you look up your English word and then underneath you find the various Hebrew and Greek words and all the cases where that Hebrew or Greek word is translated that way in English (KJV) Then you look up in the back under the Greek or Hebrew word which is there given in Latin letters and under it you'll find that this word a certain way 150 times, in another way 5 times. If you have one of the 5 it's pretty natural to think am I perhaps not getting the real word. Is it an unusual case - this English word, or is it an old English usage in this particular word, or is it something the translator thought that word meant and in the context it more likely had the meaning that it has in most cases?

So even as you start, even as you are not taking Hebrew yet in using Young's Concordance you could learn a great deal that would be helpful to you in getting a real understanding of the meaning of the ~~words~~ words in OT passages.