

definition of that word. A word is found where it doesn't show clearly its meaning and then again the same word can be used where it shows clearly the exact usage and has one special meaning. So usage is the means of learning what a word means, an expression means and many did not realize this until recent years and today the very best scholars are very careful to not prove in one language what the word means from another language. Some immediately start bringing you other illustrations as to what it means and others will try to avoid even that as they say we must be careful that we get our meaning within the language itself and that is the way to determine what something means. Ques.--Ans. is "Etymology would really go under the heading of cognates because the language spoken in another period is in a way another language. Etymology is something that can be exaggerated. It is interesting to see how a word has developed but it doesn't prove anything. How it is used today may be very different from anything that is etymology. Take the word 'mushroom'--etymology doesn't help any in the meaning of it. Etymology is interesting but not authoritative. About 50 years ago far more stress was put on etymology than it is today. Today we tend to go to the other extreme and we often think the only language that matters is the language of today and ignore the others while the authority is what it is now yet we're apt not to see everything that it is now. Etymology will give you ideas to look into and investigate. Etymology, like cognate, suggests things for you to look into and you need things suggested or there will be no study. Marco Polo--trip to China and told of things he saw in China and the Europeans, when they heard of the paper money there, were very interested and that meant they wouldn't have to carry about the heavy pieces they were used to having. He brought them paper money but he didn't tell them about its being printed and that was actually more important than the money itself and they later had to invent printing when they could have learned earlier and not had the trouble of having to invent it. Marco Polo should have noticed the value of the printing rather than just the money. So anything you go into it is important to know the possibilities and keep your mind open to all of them. That's why it is useful in the study of a book of the Bible to read all the translations you can get anywhere and then don't take any of them as authoritative but as suggestions. When you find a word giving a new meaning, a new thought on the translation, investigate that in the original and see if it really means it. The translation may be good or it may be bad but you would never have thought of it if it had not been suggested to you in the translation. Ques. and the Ans. is that it is used much more now in the