

by Rabbi Nathan, published as early as 1523. Of the New Testament it would be from the Greek. Henry Stephens issued one in 1624. A Latin Concordance of the Bible was issued by Robert Stephens in 1555, though a Concordance had been formed of the Vulgate some 300 years before. It is gratifying to see that England, which is not now behind any nation for its stock of Concordances, was soon honoured by possessing one of the New Testament; it was issued by Thomas Gypson in 1535. This was followed by others, and in 1631 one of the whole Bible, using the present Authorised Version, was published. For the Septuagint, one by Kircher was published in 1607. Many others must be passed over, and attention given to some of the principal ones of modern date.

Many persons use a Concordance simply to find a passage with which they are more or less familiar, but do not remember where it is to be found. A Sunday-school teacher, for instance, desirous of finding a subject for his class, may remember just a word or two of a sentence, but not its connection, nor how it is applied, and he opens his Concordance to ascertain where it is to be found.

Now it is certain that such a use of a Concordance, while perfectly legitimate and at times of great service, is one that may be abused. A person may make such a constant use of a Concordance that though he is fairly familiar with Scripture, and could repeat thousands of sentences, would yet be puzzled to find, off-hand, a score of them. It has been noticed that some persons who have never used, and perhaps never had a Concordance, can find almost any passage in the New Testament and many in the Old much more readily than those can who rely little on their memory and make a constant use of a Concordance. The great advantage of being able to find, unaided, every familiar passage should be impressed upon the students of Scripture; and it greatly helps one to do this by remembering, (1) the immediate context; (2) the subject treated of; and (3) the book in which it occurs. The young student will do well to spend a little time in search; and if he succeeds, such search will greatly aid him