

Genesis 15:1-21

Verse 15:2

וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְרָם אֲדֹנָי יְהוִה מַה־תִּתֶּן־לִי וְאַנְכִי הוֹלֵךְ עֲרִירִי וּבֶן־מֶשֶׁק בֵּיתִי
הוּא דַמְשֵׁק אֶלְיָעֶזֶר

תִּתֶּן (titten)	(Verb: Qal, 2ms, imperfect) - give, will-you-give, shall-you-give
עֲרִירִי (areeree)	(Adj) literally means 'stripped'. Idiom for 'childless'
מֶשֶׁק (mesheq)	uncertain (BDB). Idiomatically means acquisition or possession.
דַּמְשֵׁק (dameseq)	Damascus. Rhymes with mesheq (see above)

The words highlighted red are ones I had to look up in a lexicon. The first one I should have known and I knew it at one time, but didn't recognize until I looked it up.

Context:

This verse is Avram's reaction to God's previous statement in 15:1 that his reward will be very great. It was a difficult verse for me to translate because some of the vocabulary is obscure and made it difficult to determine the context. The main offender was the phrase, *uven mesheq beiti hu Dammesseq Eliezer*. Literally, *and-the-son-of acquisition-of my-house [is] Damascus Eliezer*. Meaning Eliezer is to be the one who will acquire Abram's house.

Translations

Mechanical:

And-spoke, Abram, "Adonai LORD, what-will-you-give-to-me? And I walking childless and-the-son-of acquisition-of my-house? He [is] Damascus Eliezer

Literal:

And spoke Avram, "LORD God, what will you give to me? I go-about childless and the son of acquisition of my house [will be] Eliezer of Damascus

Mine:

And spoke Avram, "LORD God, what will you give me? I am childless and he who will acquire my household [is to be] be Eliezer of Damascus

NIV

But Abram said, "Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit¹ my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?"

NRS

But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"