

PITY

Pity is not a very common term in Scripture.
It occurs only 41 times in the entire KJV translation.
A full 40 times it occurs in Hebrew.
Only once does it occur in Greek.

Two of the terms are properly translated as **pity**.
Out of them, three terms are not properly considered pity or compassion.

The primary goal of this study,
and others like it that are being prepared,
is to help eliminate confusion within The Scriptures.
The current state of affairs
has left us with innumerable "translations"
that are not really "translations" at all.
Instead, they are misleading presentations
of the "traditions of men".

There's a special term for this.
It's called **eisegesis**.
It means placing one's own ideas into a text
to make it conform to one's own world view or belief system.
Exegesis, on the other hand,
is seeking to discover what the text actually says, and means.

In this word study the following conventions will be used:
term = best translation
{ } = Writer's insertions for purposes of clarity.
[not used] = the term is not translated in the KJV as the key word for this study.

HEBREW TERMS:

2347. **כּוּחַ** **chuwç**, *khoos*; a primitive root; **properly, to cover**, i.e. **(figuratively) to compassionate** **[occurs 8 times]**
{This is more closely related to **protect**, and where the context suggest such this is the translation to be used.}
:—pity, regard, spare.

Connected terms: **[occur 5 times]**
2550. **חָמַל** **chamal**, *khaw-mal'*; a primitive root; **to commiserate**; by implication, to spare: **[occurs 4 times]**
—have compassion, **(have) pity**, spare.

2551. **חֶמְלָה** **chemlah**, *khem-law'*; from 2550; **commiseration**: **[occurs 1 time]**
—merciful, **pity**.

Note: To commiserate means to feel or **show sorrow or pity for; sympathize in distress.**

2603. **כָּנַן** **chanan**, *khaw-nan'*; a primitive root (compare 2583); properly, to bend or stoop in kindness to an inferior; **to favor**, bestow; causatively to implore (i.e. move to favor by petition): **[occurs 4 times]**
—beseech, x fair, (be, find, shew) favour(-able), be (deal, give, grant (gracious(-ly), intreat, (be) merciful, have (shew) mercy (on, upon), have pity upon, pray, make supplication, x very.

5110. **נָדַד** **nuwd**, *nood*; a primitive root; **to nod, i.e. waver; figuratively, to wander, flee, disappear**; also (from shaking the head in sympathy), to console, deplore, or (from tossing the head in scorn) taunt: **[occurs 1 time]**
—bemoan, flee, get, mourn, make to move, take pity, remove, shake, skip for joy, be sorry, vagabond, way, wandering.

Connected terms: **[occur 2 times]**
Both deal with repentance; feeling sorry for what one has done.

5162. **נָחַם** **nacham**, *naw-kham'*; a primitive root; **properly, to sigh, i.e. breathe strongly**; **by implication, to be sorry**, i.e. (in a favorable sense) to pity, console or (reflexively) rue; or (unfavorably) to avenge (oneself): **[occurs 1 time]**
—comfort (self), ease (one's self), repent(-er,-ing, self).

5164. **נָחַם** **nocham**, *no'-kham*; from 5162; **ruefulness, i.e. desistance**: **[occurs 1 time]**
{Ruefulness means causing sorrow or pity. Desistance means to cease.}
—repentance.

Connected terms: **[occur 5 times]**

7355. **רָחַם** **racham**, *raw-kham'*; a primitive root; **to fondle; by implication, to love, especially to compassionate**: **[occurs 3 times]**
—have compassion (on, upon), love, (find, have, obtain, shew) mercy(-iful, on, upon), (have) pity, Ruhamah, x surely.

7356. **רָחַם** **racham**, *rakh'-am*; from 7355; **compassion** (in the plural); by extension, the womb (as cherishing the fetus); by implication, a maiden: **[occurs 2 times]**
—bowels, compassion, damsel, tender love, (great, tender) mercy, pity, womb.

GREEK TERMS:

1653. **ἐλεέω** **eleeo**, *el-eh-eh'-o*; from 1656; **to compassionate** (by word or deed, specially, by divine grace): **[occurs 1 time]**
— **have compassion** (pity on), have (obtain, receive, shew) mercy (on).

CONCLUSIONS:

Generally, the terms translated as **pity** should be more properly translated as **compassion** (and its variations.)

There is little Scriptural support for the concept of pity outside of the context of compassion.

By definition, the two terms are synonymous. For the sake of consistency in translation the use of **compassion** makes more sense.

H2347 - protect

Gen. 45:20 Also **do not protect** your stuff; for the good of all the land of Egypt *is* yours.

Deut. 7:16 And you shall consume all the people which YAHWEH, your Elohim, shall deliver to you. Your eye shall not **protect** them: neither shall you serve their gods; for that *will be* a snare to you.

Deut. 13:8 You shall not consent with him, nor listen attentively to him; and your eye shall not **protect** him; neither shall you spare, neither shall you conceal him:

Deut. 19:13 Your eye shall not **protect** him, but you shall put away *the guilt of* innocent blood from Israel, that it may go well with you.

Deut. 19:21 And your eye shall not **protect**; *but life shall go* for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.

Deut. 25:12 Then you shall cut off her hand, your eye shall not **protect her**.

1Sam. 24:10 Behold, this day your eyes have seen how YAHWEH had delivered you today into my hand in the cave: and *some* said kill you: but I **protected** you; and I said, I will not put forth my hand against my sovereign; for he *is* YAHWEH's anointed.

Neh. 13:22 And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse themselves, and *that* they should come *and* keep the gates, to sanctify the sabbath day. Remember me, O my God, *concerning* this also, and **protect** me according to the greatness of your kindness.

Psa. 72:13 He shall **protect** the poor and needy, and shall save the beingsd of the needy.

Is. 13:18 *Their* bows also shall dash the young men to pieces; and they shall have no **protection** on the fruit of the womb; their eye shall not **protect** children.

Jer. 13:14 And I will dash them one against another, even the fathers and the sons together, says YAHWEH. I will not **pity (2550)**, nor **protect (2347)**, nor **have compassion (7355)**, but will destroy them.

Jer. 21:7 And afterward, says YAHWEH, I will deliver Zedekiah king of Judah, and his servants, and the people, and such as are left in this city from the pestilence, from the

sword, and from the famine, into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those that seek their life: and he shall smite them with the edge of the sword; he shall not **pity (2550)**, nor **protect (2347)**, nor have **compassion (7355)**.

Ezek. 5:11 Wherefore, as I live, says YAHWEH Elohim; Surely, because you have defiled My sanctuary with all your detestable things, and with all your abominations, therefore will I also diminish you; neither shall My eye **protect**, nor will I have any **pity**.

Ezek. 7:4 And My eye shall not **protect** you, neither will I **pity**: but I will recompense your ways upon you, and your abominations shall be in the midst of you: and you shall know that I *am* YAHWEH.

Ezek. 7:9 And My eye shall not **protect**, neither will I have **pity**: I will recompense you according to your ways and your abominations *that* are in the midst of you; and you shall know that I *am* YAHWEH, who smites you.

Ezek. 8:18 Therefore will I also deal in fury: My eye shall not **protect**, neither will I have **pity**: and though they cry in mine ears with a loud voice, *yet* will I not hear them.

Ezek. 9:5 And to the others he said in my hearing, Go after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye **protect**, nor have **pity**:

Ezek. 9:10 And as for me also, mine eye shall not **protect**, nor will I have **pity**, *but* I will recompense their way upon their head.

Ezek. 16:5 No eye **protected** you, to do any of these unto you, to have **pity** upon you; but you were cast out in the open field, to the loathing of your being in the day that you were born.

Ezek. 20:17 Nevertheless my eye **protected** them from destroying them, nor did I make an end of them in the wilderness.

Ezek. 24:14 I, YAHWEH, have spoken *it*: it shall come to pass, and I will do *it*; I will not go back, neither will I **protect**, neither will I repent; according to your ways, and according to your doings, shall they judge you, says YAHWEH Elohim.

Joel 2:17 Let the priests, the ministers of YAHWEH, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, **Protect** Your people, O YAHWEH, and give not Your heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: why should they say among the people, Where *is* their Elohim?

Jonah 4:10 Then said YAHWEH, You have had **protected** the gourd, for the which you have not laboured, neither did you make it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night:

Jonah 4:11 And should not I **protect** Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixty thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and *also* much cattle?

H 2550 - commiserate - pity

Ex. 2:6 And when she had opened *it*, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had **pity** on him, and said, This *is one* of the Hebrews' children.

Deut. 13:8 You shall not consent to him, nor listen attentively to him; neither shall your eye have **protect** him, nor shall you **have pity on**, nor shall you conceal him:

1Sam. 15:3 Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and do not **have pity on** them; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.

1Sam. 15:9 But Saul and the people **had pity on** Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all *that was* good, and would not utterly destroy them: but every thing *that was* vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

1Sam. 15:15 And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people **had pity on** the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto YAHWEH, your Elohim; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.

1Sam. 23:21 And Saul said, Blessed *be* you by YAHWEH, for you had **pity** on me.

2Sam. 12:4 And there came a traveller unto the rich man, and he **had pity on** his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him.

2Sam. 12:6 And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no **pity**.

2Sam. 21:7 But the king **had pity on** Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan the son of Saul, because of YAHWEH's oath that *was* between them, between David and Jonathan the son of Saul.

2Chr. 36:15 And YAHWEH, The Elohim of their fathers sent to them by His messengers, rising up early, and sending; because He had **pity** on his people, and on His dwelling place:

2Chr. 36:17 Therefore he brought upon them the king of the Chaldees, who slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no **pity** upon young man or maiden, old man, or him that stooped for age: he gave *them* all into his hand.

Job 6:10 Then should I yet have comfort; indeed, I would harden myself in sorrow: let him not **have pity**; for I have not concealed the words of the Holy One.

Job 16:13 His archers compass me round about, he cleaves my reins asunder, and does not **have pity**; he pours out my gall upon the ground.

Job 20:13 *Though* he **has pity on** it, and forsakes it not; but keeps it still within his mouth:

Job 27:22 For *The Elohim* shall throw down upon him, and not **have pity**: he would absolutely flee out of his hand.

Prov. 6:34 For jealousy *is* the rage of a man: therefore he will not **have pity** in the day of vengeance.

Is. 9:19 Through the wrath of YAHWEH of Assemblies is the land darkened, and the people shall be as the fuel of the fire: no man shall **have pity on** his brother.

Is. 30:14 And he shall break it as the breaking of the potters' vessel that is broken in pieces; he shall not **have pity**: so that there shall not be found in the bursting of it a sherd to take fire from the hearth, or to take water *withal* out of the pit.

Jer. 13:14 And I will dash them one against another, even the fathers and the sons together, says YAHWEH: I will not **have pity on (2550)**, nor **protect them (2347)**, nor **have compassion (7355)**, but *shall* destroy them.

Jer. 15:5 For who shall have **have pity on you**, O Jerusalem? or who shall bemoan you? or who shall go aside to ask how you are doing?

Jer. 21:7 And afterward, saith YAHWEH, I will deliver Zedekiah king of Judah, and his servants, and the people, and such as are left in this city from the pestilence, from the sword, and from the famine, into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those that seek their life: and he shall smite them with the edge of the sword; he shall not **have pity for (2550)**, nor **have compassion on (2347)**, nor **have compassion (7355)**.

Jer. 50:14 Put yourselves in array against Babylon round about: all you that bend the bow, shoot at her, **have pity on** no arrows: for she has sinned against YAHWEH.

Jer. 51:3 Against *him that* bendeth let the archer bend his bow, and against *him that* lifts himself up in his brigandine: and **have no pity on** her young men; destroy utterly all her host.

Lam. 2:2 YAHWEH has swallowed up all the habitations of Jacob, and has not **had pity**: he has thrown down in his wrath the strong holds of the daughter of Judah; he has brought *them* down to the ground: he has polluted the kingdom and the princes thereof.

Lam. 2:17 YAHWEH has done *that* which he had devised; He has fulfilled His word that He had commanded in the days of old: He hath thrown down, and has not **had pity**: and He has caused your enemy to rejoice over you, he has set up the horn of your adversaries.

Lam. 2:21 The young and the old lie on the ground in the streets: my virgins and my young men are fallen by the sword; you have slain *them* in the day of your anger; you have killed, not **had pity**.

Lam. 3:43 You have covered with anger, and persecuted us: You have slain, you have not **had pity**.

Ezek. 5:11 Therefore, as I live, says YAHWEH ELOHIM, Surely, because you have defiled My sanctuary with all your detestable things, and with all your abominations,

therefore will I also diminish you; nor shall My eye **have pity**, nor will I have any sympathy.

Ezek. 7:4 And My eye shall not **protect (2347)** you, nor will I **have pity**: but I will repay your ways upon you, and your abominations shall be in the midst of you: and you shall know that I *am* YAHWEH.

Ezek. 7:9 And My eye shall not **protect (2347)**, nor will I **have pity**: I will repay you according to your ways and your abominations *that* are in the midst of you; and you shall know that I *am* YAHWEH, who smites you.

Ezek. 8:18 Therefore will I also deal in fury. My eye will not **protect**, neither will I **have pity**. And though they cry in My ears with a loud voice I will not hear them.

Ezek. 9:5 And to the others he said in my hearing, Go after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye **protect (2347)**, neither **have pity**:

Ezek. 9:10 And as for me also, my eye shall not **protect (2347)**, neither will I **have pity**, *but* I will recompense their way upon their head.

Ezek. 16:5 No eye **protected (2347)** you, to do any of these unto you, to have **pity** upon you; but you were cast out in the open field, to the loathing of your being in the day that you were born.

Ezek. 36:21 But I had **had pity on** My sacred name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the heathen wherever they went.

Joel 2:18 Then will YAHWEH be jealous for His land, and **had pity on** His people.

Hab. 1:17 Shall they therefore empty their net, and not **have pity** continually to slay the nations?

Zech. 11:5 Whose possessors slay them, and hold themselves not guilty: and they that sell them say, Blessed *be* YAHWEH; for I am rich: and their own shepherds do not **have pity on** them.

Zech. 11:6 For I will no longer **have pity on** the inhabitants of the land, says YAHWEH: but, behold! I will deliver the men every one into his neighbor's hand, and into the hand of his king: and they shall smite the land, and out of their hand I will not deliver *them*.

Mal. 3:17 And they shall be Mine, says YAHWEH of Assemblies, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will **have pity on** them, as a man **has pity** on his own son that serves him.

H 2551 - commiseration - pity

Gen. 19:16 And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; YAHWEH **having pity** on him: and they brought him forth, and set him outside the city.

Is. 63:9 In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his **pity** he redeemed them; and he bore them, and carried them all the days of old.

H 2603 - to favor

This term occurs very frequently in Scripture, but is only translated as **pity** four times. A list is not provided here for this term. See the word study on **Grace** for more detail on this term.

H 5110 - to wander

Only translated as pity one time, and that supposedly connected to shaking one's head in sympathy or compassion. The term occurs 23 other times, all with a different meaning. No list is provided here.

H5162 - to sigh; breathe strongly; by implication, to be sorry

This term occurs 108 times in the KJV Bible. It is translated as pity only one time. No list is provided here.

H7355 - to compassionate

Occurs five times as pity, and two of them are specialized names in Hosea. The balance have to do with mercy or compassion. See the word studies on those terms for more detail.

Psa. 103:13 Like as a father **has compassion on** *his* children, so YAHWEH **has compassion on** them that fear him.

Is. 13:18 *Their* bows also shall dash the young men to pieces; and they shall have no **compassion** on the fruit of the womb; their eye shall not spare children.

H7356 - compassion

Occurs 44 times in the KJV Bible. Only twice is it translated as pity.