

## The Bible has errors, since it says that corn existed in the Middle East over 2,000 years ago

The word “corn” appears 102 times in 94 verses in the KJV Bible. How is this possible, since corn was never in the Middle East until introduced from the Americas many centuries later? However, you will not find the word “corn” in any of the modern translations of the Bible. Why is this? Here is a list of every instance of the word “corn” in the KJV Bible, listing the original Hebrew and Greek words from which it came:

### Hebrew:

- H1715. dagan, [186b]; from an unused word; grain (of cereals):-- food(m)(1), grain(38).
- H7641. shibbol, shibboleth, [987c]; from the same as H7640; ear (of grain):-- branches(m)(1), ears(13), grain(4).
- H1250. bar, [141b]; from H1305; grain, corn:-- grain(11), wheat(2).
- H7668. sheber, [991c]; from H7665; grain:-- grain(9).
- H7054. qamah, [879b]; from H6965; standing grain:-- grown up(2), standing grain(8).
- H24. abib, [1b]; from an unused word; fresh, young ears, also Canaanite name for the first month of the Jewish calendar:-- Abib(6), ear(1), fresh heads(1), grain(1).
- H1643. geres, [176c]; from an unused word; a crushing:-- grits(2).
- H7039. qali, qali, [885d]; from H7033; parched (grain):-- parched(2), roasted grain(4).
- H1715. dagan, [186b]; from an unused word; grain (of cereals):-- food(m)(1), grain(38).
- H1637. goren, [175b]; from an unused word; threshing floor:-- threshing floor(34), threshing floors(2).
- H1758. dush, dish, [190b]; a prim. root; to tread, thresh:-- continue to thresh(1), thrash(1), thresh(3), threshed(2), threshing(4), trample(2), trodden down(2).
- H5669. abur, [721a]; from H5674a; produce, yield:-- produce(1).
- H8393. tebuah, [100a]; from H935; product, revenue:-- crop(4), crops(6), gain(1), harvest(4), income(4), increase(5), produce(10), product(3), revenue(1), yield(6).
- H6194. aremah, [790d]; from H6192; a heap:-- heap(2), heap of grain(1), heaps(5), rubble(m)(1), sacks of grain(1).
- H7383. riphah, riphah, [937d]; of unc. der.; perh. grain:-- crushed grain(1), grain(1).
- H3759. karmel, [502a]; from the same as H3754; a plantation, garden land, fruit, garden growth:-- fertile field(5), fertile fields(1), fresh ears of grain(1), fruitful(1), fruitful field(3), fruitful garden(1), fruitful land(1), new growth(2), thickest(2).
- H2682. chatsir, [348b]; from an unused word; green grass, herbage:-- grass(19), leeks(1), plant(m)(1).
- H1430a. gadish, [155c]; from an unused word; a heap, stack:-- grain(1), shocks(1), stacked(1).
- H1098. belil, [117d]; from H1101a; fodder:-- fodder(3).
- H1253b. bor, [141b]; of for. or.; a field:-- open field(1).
- H3899. lechem, [536d]; from H3898b; bread, food:-- bread(193), food(82), fruit(m)(1), loaves(3), meal\*(m)(1), meal(m)(7), meals(m)(2), prey(m)(1), provision(1), showbread\*(4), something(m)(1).

## Greek

- G4702. sporimos, from G4687; sown, i.e. a sown field:-- grainfields(3).
- G4621. sitos, a prim. word; wheat:-- grain(2), wheat(12).
- G4619a. sition, dim. of G4621; grain:-- grain(1).
- G248. aloaw, from G257; to thresh:-- thresher(1), threshing(2).

One unusual thing one notices in the definitions above is that the word translated “corn” sometimes refers to threshing. Now, real corn is not usually threshed. This kind of treatment is usually reserved for grains like wheat or barley. Another peculiar verse is found in the book of John:

Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a **corn** of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. (*John 12:24*)

What is a “corn of wheat?” This seems to make no sense from our common use of the English language today. Maybe the word “corn” is not really referring to maize?

It turns out that there is a very simple explanation why the word “corn” is found in the KJV Bible. The reason is that the word “corn” has existed in the English language for a very long time – even before Europeans discovered maize in the Americas. Were these people using their psychic powers to know what would be found in the future? No! Actually, like many other English words found in the KJV, the word “corn” had a different meaning in 1611 than it does now. The word “corn” used to refer to any grain, but especially wheat. When the early English settlers came to the Americas, they needed a word for the new grain that the native Americans ate. They called it “Indian corn,” which translated into our common English, meant “Indian grain.” The word “Indian” was eventually dropped, and maize is now called “corn.” Here is an explanation from a website that has more information:

The process is even more clearly shown in the history of such words as *corn* and *shoe*. *Corn*, in orthodox English, means grain for human consumption, and especially wheat, *e. g.*, the *Corn Laws*. The earliest settlers, following this usage, gave the name of *Indian corn* to what the Spaniards, following the Indians themselves, had called *maíz*. The term appears in Bradford’s “History of Plymouth Plantation” (1647) and in Mourt’s “Relation” (1622). But gradually the adjective fell off, and by the middle of the eighteenth century *maize* was called simply *corn* and grains in general were called *breadstuffs*. Thomas Hutchinson, discoursing to George III in 1774, used *corn* in this restricted sense, speaking of “rye and *corn* mixed.” “What corn?” asked George. “Indian corn,” explained Hutchinson, “or, as it is called in authors, *maize*.” (from [Changed Meanings](http://www.bartleby.com/185/10.html), <http://www.bartleby.com/185/10.html>)

Because of the problem of changed meanings and numerous other original manuscript problems, I am very hesitant to recommend the KJV Bible for people to read. Unless one is an expert in 15<sup>th</sup> century Shakespearian English, one is going to get confused by many of the words and make serious mistakes in term of understanding what the Bible actually says.