

## Resources for Study

IT WOULD BE EASY to list dozens of books and articles that deal with the book of Isaiah as a whole or with its latter part. Such books have had only a small part in the preparation of the present volume, which is based on the author's careful study of the Hebrew text over a long period of years. In this study the most useful tools have been Hebrew dictionaries, Hebrew and Greek concordances, and Hebrew grammars. The most important of these are mentioned below.

### DICTIONARIES

Brown, F.; Driver, S. R.; and Briggs, C. A. *A Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Oxford: Clarendon, 1907.

This is still the most useful dictionary for study of the Old Testament, since it lists every occurrence of all except the most common words, arranging its citations according to variations of meaning and usage. Sometimes its interpretations rest upon guesses, and these are often affected by presuppositions of the writers. Such faults, which are present to at least an equal degree in later dictionaries, are more than compensated by the very full presentation of the evidence from usage. Where the evidence is abundant any dictionary would suffice; where such evidence is scanty, this dictionary makes it possible for the student quickly to become aware of this fact and places at his fingertips references to all pertinent instances.

Since modern linguistic study has led to the abandonment of etymology as a source for determination of meaning, and has shown that its value for interpretation is limited to suggesting possibilities, all trained linguists now recognize that only usage can determine the meaning of a word in any particular language. The very full presentation of such evidence makes this by far the most useful dictionary of ancient Hebrew. Its one drawback (and this has been a very substantial one) is the fact that its words are not arranged alphabetically but placed according to assumed three-letter roots,