

Psalms 80:15

A very interesting translation is that which is found in Psalms 80:15. In the Authorized Version we read, quoting verses 14 and 15: "Return, we beseech thee, O God of Hosts; look down from heaven, and behold, and visit this vine; And the vineyard which thy right hand hath planted, and the branch that thou madest strong for thyself."

In the American Revised Version, the verse reads: "and the stock which thy right hand planted." And the branch that thou madest strong for thyself." There is a marginal reading after the word "stock", which says "or protect (or maintain) that which, etc." In connection with the word "branch" there is a marginal reading, Hebrew "son". This makes us wonder, if the Hebrew says "son", why did the Revised Version keep the reading of the Authorized Version, which says "branch". Our English Authorized Version translates eighteen Hebrew words as "branch" in the Old Testament. One of these, the Hebrew word for "son" is translated as "branch" only in this one instance. Since the Hebrew has the word for "son" here, we wonder why the Authorized or the Revised Version should have put in the English word "branch". This is particularly true when we note that verse 17 reads: "Let thy hand be upon the man of thy right hand, upon the son of man that thou madest strong for thyself." Surely this gives abundant warrant for the use of the word "son" in verse 15.

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