

ALEF TAV – AGAINST IN THE CONTEXT OF EXTERNAL INVASION OF ISRAEL

H758 of Syria ארם H4428 of the king מלך H5650 And the servants ועבדי 1Ki 20:23
H2022 of the hills; הרים H430 him, Their gods אלהי H413 unto אליו H559 said אמרו
H2388 they were חזקו H3651 therefore כן H5921 therefore על H430 gods אלהיהם
H854 אתם H3898 let us fight נלחם H199 we; but ואולם H4480 than ממנו stronger
H3808 we shall be לא H518 and surely, אם H4334 them in the plain, במישור against
H1992 :מהם H2388 we shall be stronger נחזק stronger

1Ki 20:23 And the servants of the king of Syria said unto him, Their gods are gods of the hills; therefore they were stronger than we; but let us fight against them in the plain, and surely we shall be stronger than they.

let us fight אתם H854 against

VERIFIED – ALEF TAV = AGAINST

1Ki 20:23

Alef tav without the mem is translated '[against](#)' many times in scripture when Israel was being invaded from outside. It is even translated "against" in our personal battles.

Eth is a very contextual word meaning with, against, etc. It is translated "against" a number of times having to do with battles and translated "with", "from", "in" in other circumstances. H854 and H853 are both Alef Tav and often have other Hebrew letters that change what they point to (Alef Tav is a directional pointer and is usually left untranslated in Hebrew). It get translated in English because English lacks context without it being translated.

(1)
KJV+ - Jdg 20:20 And the men H376 of Israel H3478 went out H3318 to battle H4421 against H5973 Benjamin; H1144 and the men H376 of Israel H3478 put themselves in array H6186 to fight H4421 **against H854** them at H413 Gibeah. H1390

Interlinear - Jdg 20:20 ויצא H3318 went out איש H376 And the men ישראל H3478 of Israel למלחמה H4421 to battle עם H5973 against בנימין H1144 Benjamin; ויערכו H6186 **put themselves in array אתם H853** איש H376 and the men ישראל H3478 of Israel למלחמה H4421 to fight אל H413 them at :הגבעה H1390 Gibeah.

CONTEXT: Battle. Alef Tav Mem, H854 & H853.

(2)

KJV+ - 1Ki 20:23 And the servants^{H5650} of the king^{H4428} of Syria^{H758} said^{H559} unto^{H413} him, Their gods^{H430} are gods^{H430} of the hills;^{H2022} therefore^{H5921} ^{H3651} they were stronger^{H2388} than^{H4480} we; but^{H199} let us fight^{H3898} **against^{H854}** them in the plain,^{H4334} and surely^{H518} we shall be stronger^{H3808} ^{H2388} than^{H4480} they.

Interlinear - 1Ki 20:23 ועבדי^{H5650} And the servants מלך^{H4428} of the king ארם^{H758} of Syria אמרו^{H559} said אליו^{H413} unto אלהי^{H430} him, Their gods הרים^{H2022} of the hills; על^{H5921} therefore אלהיהם^{H430} gods על^{H5921} therefore חזקו^{H2388} they were stronger מנו^{H4480} than ואולם^{H199} we; but נלחם^{H3898} let us fight **אתם^{H854} against** במישור^{H4334} them in the plain, ואם^{H518} and surely, לא^{H3808} we shall be stronger חזק^{H2388} we shall be stronger :מהם^{H1992}

CONTEXT: Battle. Alef Tav Mem, H854.

(3)

KJV+ - 2Ki 8:29 And king^{H4428} Joram^{H3141} went back^{H7725} to be healed^{H7495} in Jezreel^{H3157} of^{H4480} the wounds^{H4347} which^{H834} the Syrians^{H761} had given^{H5221} him at Ramah,^{H7414} when he fought^{H3898} **against^{H854}** Hazael^{H2371} king^{H4428} of Syria.^{H758} And Ahaziah^{H274} the son^{H1121} of Jehoram^{H3088} king^{H4428} of Judah^{H3063} went down^{H3381} to see^{H7200} (H853) Joram^{H3141} the son^{H1121} of Ahab^{H256} in Jezreel,^{H3157} because^{H3588} he^{H1931} was sick.^{H2470}

Interlinear - 2Ki 8:29 וישב^{H7725} went back יורם^{H3141} Joram המלך^{H4428} And king אלהים^{H7495} to be healed ביזרעאל^{H3157} in Jezreel מן^{H4480} of המכים^{H4347} the wounds אשר^{H834} which יכהו^{H5221} had given ארמים^{H761} the Syrians ברמה^{H7414} him at Ramah, נלחמו^{H3898} when he fought **את^{H854} against** חזהאל^{H2371} Hazael מלך^{H4428} king ארם^{H758} of Syria. ואחזיהו^{H274} And Ahaziah בן^{H1121} the son יהורם^{H3088} of Jehoram מלך^{H4428} king יהודה^{H3063} of Judah ירד^{H3381} went down לראות^{H7200} to see את^{H853} Joram יורם^{H3141} בן^{H1121} the son אחאב^{H256} of Ahab ביזרעאל^{H3157} in Jezreel, כי^{H3588} because חלה^{H2470} was sick. הוא^{H1931} he

CONTEXT: Battle. Alef Tav, H854.

(4)

KJV+ - 2Ki 19:9 And when he heard^{H8085} say^{H559} of^{H413} Tirhakah^{H8640} king^{H4428} of Ethiopia,^{H3568} Behold,^{H2009} he is come out^{H3318} to fight^{H3898} **against^{H854}** thee: he sent^{H7971} messengers^{H4397} again^{H7725} unto^{H413} Hezekiah,^{H2396} saying,^{H559}

Interlinear - 2Ki 19:9 וישמע^{H8085} And when he heard אל^{H413} of תרהקה^{H8640} Tirhakah מלך^{H4428} king כוש^{H3568} of Ethiopia, אמר^{H559} say הנה^{H2009} Behold, יצא^{H3318} he is come out להלחם^{H3898} to fight **אתך^{H854} against** וישב^{H7725} again

H7971 the: he sent H4397 messengers H413 unto H2396 חזקיהו
Hezekiah, H559 לאמר: saying,

CONTEXT: Battle. Alef Tav kof sofit, H854.

(5)

KJV+ - 2Ch 24:24 For H3588 the army H2428 of the Syrians H758 came H935 with a small company H4705 of men, H376 and the LORD H3068 delivered H5414 a very H3966 great H7230 host H2428 into their hand, H3027 because H3588 they had forsaken H5800 (H853) the LORD H3068 God H430 of their fathers. H1 So they executed H6213 judgment H8201 **against H854** Joash. H3101

Interlinear - 2Ch 24:24 For H3588 במצער H4705 with a small company אנשים H582 H935 came חיל H2426 ארם H758 of the Syrians והיה H3068 and the LORD H5414 delivered בידי H3027 into their hand, חיל H2428 the army הרב H7230 great H3966 a very כי H3588 because עזבו H5800 they had forsaken את H853 H3068 the LORD אלהי H430 God אבותיהם H1 of their fathers. **ואת H854 against** חזקיהו H3101 Joash. עשו H6213 So they executed שפטים H8201 judgment

CONTEXT: Battle. Vav Alef Tav, H854.

(6)

KJV+ - Jer 21:5 And I myself H589 will fight H3898 **against H854** you with an outstretched H5186 hand H3027 and with a strong H2389 arm, H2220 even in anger, H639 and in fury, H2534 and in great H1419 wrath. H7110

Interlinear - Jer 21:5 ונלחמתי H3898 will fight אני H589 And I myself **אתכם H854 against** בידי H3027 hand נטויה H5186 you with an outstretched וברזוע H2220 arm, חזקה H2389 and with a strong ובהאף H639 even in anger, ובחמה H2534 and in fury, ובהקצף H7110 wrath. גדול: H1419 and in great

CONTEXT: YHVH battling His own people. Alef kaf Tav Mem, H854.

(7)

KJV+ - Jer 37:10 For H3588 though H518 ye had smitten H5221 the whole H3605 army H2428 of the Chaldeans H3778 that fight H3898 **against H854** you, and there remained H7604 but wounded H1856 men H376 among them, yet should they rise up H6965 every man H376 in his tent, H168 and burn H8313 (H853) this H2063 city H5892 with fire. H784

Interlinear - Jer 37:10 For H3588 though H518 הכיתם H5221 ye had smitten כל H3605 the whole חיל H2428 army כשדים H3778 of the Chaldeans חלחמתי H3898 that fight **אתכם H854 against** ונשארו H7604 you, and there remained אנשים H376 men

among them, should they rise every man in his tent, wounded among them, should they rise and burn the city with fire: this

CONTEXT: Battle. Alef Tav Kaf Mem, H854.

(8)

KJV+ - Eze 38:22 And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.

Interlinear - Eze 38:22 And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; rain, him, an overflowing and great hailstones, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone. and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon people that against

CONTEXT: YHVH's battle against Gog. Alef Tav Vav, H854. Notice the difference from the translator of the Interlinear who uses "against" for the Alef Tav Vav and the KJV translator who uses the word "with" for the Alef Tav Vav. This is an important discrepancy to notice.

(9)

KJV+ - Dan 11:2 And now will I shew thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all: and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia.

Interlinear - Dan 11:2 And now I will show thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than all: and by his strength he shall stir up all against the realm of Greece.

CONTEXT: Battle. Alef Tav, H854 & H853.

The above are battles by invading forces into Israel. These next examples reference personal battles.

(1)

KJV+ - Psa 109:2 For^{H3588} the mouth^{H6310} of the wicked^{H7563} and the mouth^{H6310} of the deceitful^{H4820} are opened^{H6605} against^{H5921} me: they have spoken^{H1696} **against^{H854}** me with a lying^{H8267} tongue.^{H3956}

Interlinear - Psa 109:2 כי^{H3588} For פי^{H6310} the mouth רשע^{H7563} of the wicked ופי^{H6310} and the mouth מרמה^{H4820} of the deceitful עלי^{H5921} against פתחו^{H6605} are opened דברו^{H1696} me: they have spoken **אתי^{H854} against** לשון^{H3956} tongue. :שקר^{H8267} me with a lying

CONTEXT: Personal attack. Alef Tav Yod, H854.

(2)

KJV+ - Isa 54:15 Behold,^{H2005} they shall surely gather together,^{H1481} ^{H1481} but not^{H657} by^{H4480} ^{H854} me: whosoever^{H4310} shall gather together^{H1481} **against^{H854}** thee shall fall^{H5307} for^{H5921} thy sake.

Interlinear - Isa 54:15 הן^{H2005} Behold, גור^{H1481} they shall surely gather together, יגור^{H1481} they shall surely gather together, אפס^{H657} not מי^{H4310} me: whosoever גר^{H1481} **shall gather together אתך^{H854}** by עלך^{H5921} for יפול^{H5307} thee shall fall

CONTEXT: Any attack. Alef Tav Kaf, H854.

(3)

KJV+ - Isa 54:17 No^{H3808} ^{H3605} weapon^{H3627} that is formed^{H3335} against^{H5921} thee shall prosper;^{H6743} and every^{H3605} tongue^{H3956} that shall rise^{H6965} **against^{H854}** thee in judgment^{H4941} thou shalt condemn.

Interlinear - Isa 54:17 כל^{H3605} and every כלי^{H3627} weapon יוצר^{H3335} that is formed עלך^{H5921} against לא^{H3808} ^{H6743} thee shall prosper; וכל^{H3605} ^{H3956} tongue תקום^{H6965} shall rise **אתך^{H854} against** למשפט^{H4941} thee in judgment תרשיעי^{H7561} thou shalt condemn. זאת^{H2063} This נחלת^{H5159} the heritage עבדי^{H5650} of the servants יהוה^{H3068} of the LORD, וצדקתם^{H6666} and their righteousness מאתי^{H853} ^{H5002} me, saith יהוה^{H3068} the LORD.

CONTEXT: Battle. Alef Tav Kaf, H854.

Now let's look at Ezekiel 38:5.

Eze 38:5 Persia,^{H6539} Ethiopia,^{H3568} and Libya^{H6316} **with^{H854}** them; all^{H3605} of them with shield^{H4043} and helmet:^{H3553}

Eze 38:5 פרסH6539 Persia, שושניH3568 Ethiopia, ופוטH6316 and Libya אתםH854 with
כלםH3605 them; all מגןH4043 of them with shield :וכובעH3553 and helmet:

There are 9 other examples of battles in which the Alef Tav is translated “against”. In the battles of the Syrian invasion, the same Alef Tav configuration is used – Alef Tav Mem.

What was the bias or misunderstanding of the English translators?

In Judges 20:20, the men of Israel went “against” the tribe of Benjamin (H853 in the Interlinear and H854 in the KJV+).

In Syria’s invasion of Israel in 1 Kings 20:23, the Alef Tav H854 was translated as “against”.

The Syrians invaded Israel in 2 Kings 8:29. H854 was translated as “against”.