חוֵה

Introduction

Grammatical Type: n. m. Occurrences: (Total: 25):¹

HB - 17 occurrences: 2 Sam 24:11, 2 Ki 17:13, 1 Chr 21:9, 25:5, 29:29, 2 Chr 9:29, 12:15,

19:2, 29:25, 29:30, 33:18, 33:19, 35:15, *Isa* 29:10, 30:10, *Am* 7:12, *Mic* 3:7.

Epigraphy - none

Qumran - 7 occurrences: 1QM XI:8, 1QHa X:15; XII:10; XII:20, 4QpIsac 16:2,

4Q174(MidrEschat^a) f5:4, 4Q280 f2:7. Ben Sira – 1 occurrence: *Sir* 46:15.

Text doubtful

A.1 The word החוה, entirely restored in 4Q266 f2ii:12 [=CD II:12-13] on the basis of T.-S. 10 K 6:12, is probably not to be connected directly with הוָה, as the term functions as a verbal participle ('those who see') in this text and not as a professional title ('seer'). The same is true for 4Q270 f2ii:14 where the word is reconstructed on the basis of CD II 12-13.

A.2 The two unidentified fragments 4Q517 Unidentified fragments f15:1 and 4Q518 Unidentified fragments f2:1, published in DJD 7, only contain one word each: חזים respectively. It is clear that in this fragmentary state it is impossible to assess whether they function as verbal participles or as professional titles here.

 $A.3 1QH^a$ 10:15 uses חוזי וכוחות in parallel with ל) but the term seems to have lost its force as a technical term for 'seer'.

A.4 In Isa 28:15 הֹיָה is used in parallel with בָּרִית. The older dictionaries (i.e. BDB, GES¹⁷) interpret הוה as 'vision' here.⁴ The recent dictionaries (HALOT, GES¹⁸, DCH) understand the term as a different noun with the meaning 'contract'. See also the versions: Vulgate: pactum, Targum: שֶׁלְמָא , LXX: συνθήκη. The Peshitta retains hzw.⁵

A.5 The two occurrences of the patronym פּל־חֹנָה in the lists of returnees in *Neh* 3:15 and 11:5 do not furnish us with further information. The commentators regularly understand this as a family name ('all seers'). The versions transliterate: LXX: Χολοζὲ, Χαλαζα and Vulg: Choloozai, Coloza.

¹ These numbers correct those given in DCH III:44 for this lemma (Clines lists 16 attestations in Biblical Hebrew, 1 in *Ben Sira* and 3 in Qumran).

² BAUMGARTEN *et al.* (1996:150). For the manuscripts of CD preserved in the Taylor-Schechter Genizah see SCHECHTER (1910) and QIMRON (1992).

³ There is no real equivalent to the content of 4Q270 f2ii in CD, see WACHOLDER (2007).

⁴ Thus also EWALD (1863:§156e). HOFFMANN (1883:95) disagrees and translates 'wir haben in der Hölle einen Propheten angestellt'.

⁵ DRIVER (1937:44) suggests deriving πựπ from Arabic hadā and Sabean hdyt here. WILDBERGER (1982:1065) urges caution when deriving Hebrew words from Arabic/Sabean but maintains the translation found in the LXX which is in line with Driver's suggestion. With reference to Isa 28:15 and elsewhere, WERNBERG-MØLLER (1959) suggests that what looks like an active participle can at times 'denote the action as such, or the abstract idea of a certain action or condition, with no reference to the agent.' While this may be the case generally, it does not appear plausible for our verse, as it would lead to a translation 'We have made a covenant with Death, concluded a seeing with Sheol.'

⁶ Vermeylen (1977:214-215), Rudolph (1949:118), Myers (1965:108-111), Fuhs (1978:67), Fensham (1983:170), Clines (1984:154), Williamson (1985:197 nt. 15b), Gunneweg/Jepsen/Oeming (1987), Blenkinsopp (1988:228), Becker (1990:71) and Schunck (1998-:81).

A.6 Similarly, in 2 Chr 33:19 MT has הוֹיָי, which NJPS understands as a name, while NRSV and most of the commentators follow LXX's ὁρώντων ('of the seers') and read הוֹיִיו, suggesting that the later dropped out due to haplography. The Peshitta has dḥnn nby' ('of Hanan the prophet'), while the Targum and the Vulgate support MT and read the name Hozai: הווי and Ozai.

- **B.1** Nitzan, the editor, restores the word in two fragments, 4Q286 f7ii:12 and 4Q287 f6:11, 4QBer^a and 4QBer^b respectively as they are very similar to 4Q 280 2 6-7.
- **B.2** The restoration 4QpIsa $^{\rm c}$ 15-16:2: [...ם is certain as it is a direct quote from Isa 29:10. $^{\rm 8}$

Qere/Ketiv: none

1. Root and Comparative Material9

A.1 The root hzy is the standard root for 'to see' in Aramaic and is thus widely attested in Aramaic inscriptions. ¹⁰ It refers to both normal seeing as well as seeing in a dream or having a vision. While the root itself (see under תָּהָה) is used frequently, there are only two texts which contain the nominalised participle in its meaning of the professional title: the Zakkur inscription (KAI 202A:12) has hzyn and Deir Alla i:1 hzh 'lhn. The general consensus is that תַּהָה is an Aramaic loanword in Hebrew. ¹¹

A.2 It is unclear whether Punic hzh in KAI 69:11 should to be linked to hzy_1 .

A.3 Hamilton has recently proposed to read seal UC 51354 from Deir Rifa in Egypt as written in proto-Canaanite. If that is the case and if his reading is correct, the seal bears the inscription $lqn \ hz$, which he interprets as 'belonging to Qn, the seer'. 12

A.4 The root is also operational in later forms of Arabic as $haz\bar{a}$ ('to see') and $h\bar{a}z\bar{\iota}$ ('seer, soothsayer'). This is normally attributed to Hebrew influence, but Aramaic influence or a mixture of the two could also have caused this development.

A.5 The root is attested in Ugaritic. Initially, opinions differed considerably whether Ugaritic hdy could be linked to Hebrew hzh because, according to Ginsberg, Phoenician (here: Ugaritic) and Hebrew share the sound-change of Proto-Semitic \underline{d} to z. Conversely, Dahood insists on the etymological relation between Hebrew hzh and Ugaritic hdy. Aistleitner's and Ginsberg's view is in part a critical reaction to Dahood's additional theory that Hebrew also knows a root II \overline{n} ('to see') which is linked to Ugaritic hdy. \overline{n}

A.6 On the basis of Ugaritic *hdy*, Wagner suggests that it is possible that the word is not an Aramaic loan but a genuinely Hebrew word. ¹⁷ He goes on to state that it is impossible to

⁷ NITZAN in ESHEL *et al.* (1998:27-31.57-58).

⁸ Allegro (1968).

⁹ A fuller version of the etymological discussion will be presented in the entry on הָּיָה. Contrary, to JEFFERS (1996:36) the etymology of הוה is not quite as straight forward as it appears.

¹⁰ For details see HOFTIJZER/JONGELING (1995:357-361).

¹¹ See Vetter (1971) and Jepsen (1976) (ET Jepsen (1980)).

¹² Hamilton (2009).

¹³ LANE/LANE-POOLE (1984:562-563).

¹⁴ E.g. GINSBERG (1938 and 1967) and AISTLEITNER (1963:905).

¹⁵ DAHOOD (1964:407-408); more cautiously GORDON (1965:839).

¹⁶ DAHOOD (1964:407) KBL³ (and therefore HALOT) followed this decision. See also BLAU (1970) Against such a view see e.g. BONNARD (1960:226).

¹⁷ WAGNER (1966:53-54).

verify this. Allowing for a Hebrew origin of the verb and its derivatives, he reasons that Aramaic influence is at least partly responsible for the increased number of post-exilic attestations. However, Fuhs argues that it is impossible that Hebrew had two entirely synonymous verbs (הוה and באם).

A.7 A further problem for the etymology of the Hebrew root I חוה ('to see') is that there is at least a second root חוה in Hebrew from which the word חוה ('chest') is derived, and which in other Semitic languages has a meaning 'to sit/be across'. The term והוָה in Isa~28:15 should be connected to that root, which is attested in the form hdyt in Old South Arabic with the meaning 'agreement'. 19

A.8 There is no etymological equivalent to הזה in Akkadian. Functionally, $am\bar{a}ru$, $bar\hat{u}$ and $nat\bar{a}lu$ are equivalents, expressing 'seeing' in the physical sense as well as in the divinatory sense (particularly in dreams and liver omens). The noun $b\bar{a}r\hat{u}$ ('seer') denotes a classical haruspex, a technical diviner.

2. Formal Characteristics

A.1 gōtēl of a ל"ה, nominalised gal masculine active participle.

3. Syntagmatics

A.1 הֹהָה is the subject of the following verbs: אכל ('eat') in $Am\ 7:12$, ברה (flee') in $Am\ 7:12$, יסף hif. ('continue/do again') in $Am\ 7:13$, הלך ('go') in $Am\ 7:12$, נבא nif. ('prophesy) in $Am\ 7:12$ and עוד ('warn') in $2\ Ki\ 17:13$.

A.2 Additionally, the following verbs are used with individuals who in the same pericope are identified as a אמר ('say') in 2 Chr 19:2, בוש ('be ashamed') in Mic 3:7, דבר ('speak') in Isa 30:10 and 2 Chr 33:18, הלך ('walk') in Am 7:13, הזה ('see') in Isa 30:10, יסף ('continue/add') in Am 7:12-13, שנא ('go out') in 2 Chr 19:2, סור ('turn aside') in Isa 30:10-11, שנה ('turn aside') in Isa 30:10-11 and, through apposition, כסה pi. ('cover') in Isa 29:10.

A.3 הֹזָה is the nomen regens for דָּוַד (2 Sam 24:11, 1 Chr 21:9, 2 Chr 35:15), מֶלֶּה (1 Chr 25:5, 2 Chr 29:25, 35:15), נכוחות (1QHa 10:15), רמיה (1QHa 12:20), תעות (1QM 11:8) 20 .

A.4 הֹהָה is the *nomen rectum* of דָּבְרֵי (1 Chr 29:29, 2 Chr 33:18) and כל (2 Ki 17:13, 4Q174 f5:4).

A.5 תוֹה is used as a prepositional augment for the verb עור hif. 'warn' (2 Ki 17:13).

A.6 Only Gad is described as a חֹזֵה חָנֵה ($2 Sam 24:11 \parallel$ נָבִיא, 1 Chr 21:9), while Gad ($2 Chr 29:25 \parallel$ נָתָן הַנְּבִיא), Heman (1 Chr 25:5) and Jeduthun (2 Chr 35:15)²¹ are described as חֹזֵה הַמְּלֶּךָה.

A.7 The following individuals are described as הַהַּהָ: Asaf (2 Chr 29:30), Gad (1 Chr 29:29), Iddo (2 Chr 9:29, 12:15)²², Jehu (2 Chr 19:2)²³. Amos is once referred to as הַהָּה by Amaziah (Am 7:12).

²⁰ See YADIN (1955:322-324) ET YADIN (1962:310-311).

¹⁸ For literature see FUHS (1978:58-66).

¹⁹ See also DRIVER (1937:44).

²¹ The LXX and Vulgate use a plural here and therefore understand Asaph, Aeman (Heman) and Idothom (Jeduthun) as prophets (προφήται/prophetae) collectively.

In the LXX the name of this seer is Joel, not Iddo.

²³ Syntactically, Hanani could be the seer here: יֵהוֹא בֶּרְחֲנָנִי הַחֹזֶה.

4. Versions

a. LXX:

ὁρῶν active participle present tense of ὁράω ('to see'): 2 Sam 24:11, 2 Ki 17:13,

1 Chr 21:9, 2 Chr 9:29, 12:15, 29:25, 33:18, 33:19, Am 7:12, Mic 3:7.

δράω *Isa* 30:10.

βλέπων active participle present tense of βλέπω ('to see'): 1 Chr 29:29.

προφήτης: 2 Chr 19:2, 29:30, 35:15.

πιστὸς ὁράσεως Sir 46:15.

ἀνακρουμένος medium participle present tense of ἀνακρούω (in music: 'to strike up'):

1 Chr 25:5.

ἀρχων *Isa* 29:10.

b. Peshitta

nby Isa 30:10, 1 Chr 21:9, 29:29, 2 Chr 29:25, 29:30, 33:18, 33:19 hzy 2 Ki 17:13, Isa 29:10, Am 7:12, Mic 3:7, 2 Chr 19:2, 35:15

Verse not extant: 1 Chr 25:5, 2 Chr 9:29, Sir 46:15

Differing text: 2 Chr 12:15 No equivalent 2 Sam 24:11

c. Targum

סזוי *2 Sam* 24:11

נבי 1 Chr 21:9, 25:5, 2 Chr 9:29, 12:15, 29:25, 33:18, 35:15, Am 7:12

נבי שקר *Mic* 3:7

סכוי *1 Chr* 29:29, *2 Chr* 19:2, 29:30,

קלֵיף pa part. אלף ('to teach'): 2 Ki 17:13, Isa 30:10

ספר Isa 29:10 הוזי 2 Chr 33:19 Not extant: Sir 46:15

d. Vulgate

videns active participle present tense of videre ('to see'): 2 Sam 24:1, 2 Ki 17:13,

1 Chr 21:9, 25:5, 29:29, 2 Chr 9:29, 12:15, 19:2, 29:25, 29:30, 33:18

videre Am 7:12, Mic 3:7, Sir 46:15

propheta: 2 Chr 35:15 aspiciens Isa 30:10

princeps Isa 29:10 (V understands the text differently here)

Ozai (pr.n.) 2 *Chr* 33:19

A.1 There is a clear distinction between the versions: LXX and the Vulgate render with an active participle of a verb 'to see' (LXX: ὁρῶν and βλέπων; Vulgate: *videns*) in almost all cases.

A.2 In most instances, the versions attempt to find a word in the semantic range of 'seeing' in their respective target languages. An exception is the Peshitta which prefers נבי, presumably to distinguish between normal 'seeing' and the seeing of visions. Alternatively, it may have picked up on the later use of the term נביא in Hebrew which seems to denote a range of diviners.

A.3 The LXX and the Vulgate understand וְלַחֹזִים in *Isa* 30:10 as a verbal participle and therefore translate as $\tau \tilde{\alpha}$ $\tilde{\alpha}$ \tilde

A.4 The case of Isaiah is interesting in the Peshitta. In the MT Isa 29:10 and 2 Ki 17:13 have נָבִיא and חֹהָה in parallel and the Peshitta translates them with nby and hzy respectively. In Isa 30:10, however, which in MT has הַּהָּה and הֹהָה in parallel, הֹאָה is translated with hzy and with nby, indicating that the meaning of these three terms is not clearly distinguished in the Peshitta of Isaiah.

A.5 In Isa 29:10 LXX and the Vulgate understand the syntax of MT differently and regard בְּּחָה as a participle expressing an entire relative clause; this requires them to understand as a pu'al (בְּּפָה). It is possible that they also had a text which supplied the normally required nota accusativi and the article: אָת הַבְּפָּה LXX has: καὶ τῶν ἀρχότων αὐτῶν οἱ ὁρῶντες τὰ κρυπτά ('and their princes who see that which is hidden'); the Vulgate has principes vestros qui vident visiones operiet ('your princes who see visions he covers').

A.6 In Am 7:12, the Vulgate understands הֹזֶה as a participle expressing a relative clause qui vides ('who sees'). The same also occurs in Mic 3:7: qui vident visiones ('who see visions').

A.7 The Targum of Am 7:12 uses the root נבי to translate the noun (נבא) and the verb (נבא), nif.) which Amaziah uses to describe Amos. This indicates that the difference between the two roots in Hebrew found no reflex in the translation

A.8 The Peshitta understands 2 Chr 12:15 completely differently and therefore does not translate the term חֹוָה.

A.9 The following verses are not attested in the Peshitta 1 Chr 25:5, 2 Chr 9:29 and Sir 46:15. ²⁴

5. Lexical/Semantic Field(s)

A.1 Can stand parallel with מליץ (1QH a 10:15) and with משיה in (CD 2:12, 1QM 11:8).

A.2 Occurs in parallel with other divinatory titles such as רֹאָה (*Isa* 30:10, *I Chr* 29:29), נָבִיא (*2 Sam* 24:11, *2 Ki* 17:13, *I Chr* 29:29, *2 Chr* 9:29, 12:15, *Isa* 29:10) and הָּסֶׁם (*Mic* 3:7).

A.3 Used almost as a term for historian when describing Gad (1 Chr 29:29 || שָׁמִיאָל אָמוּאָל פָּנְבִיא 3 נַתַן הָנָבִיא (שְׁמֵעִיָה הָנָבִיא בָּרָיא נַתַן הָנָבִיא 2 Chr 29:29 (שְׁמֵעִיָה הָנָבִיא 2 Chr 29:29):

A.4 Once, חֹנֵה is used in apposition to רֹאש (Isa 29:10).

A.5 According to Wilson the הֹנֶה represents a Northern ('Ephraimite') seer who disappeared shortly after the introduction of the monarchy.²⁵

A.6 According to the comprehensive study of the root חזה in biblical Hebrew by Fuhs, is used almost literally as someone who sees a revelation in Am 7:12 and Isa 30:10 and in I Sam 9:9-19 (5x), while it refers to the receiver of a revelation, without suggesting 'seeing' and in parallel to other divinatory titles, in Mi 3:7, 2Ki 17:13, Isa 29:10 and 2Chr 33:18-19.

²⁵ WILSON (1980:139-140).

²⁴ *1-2 Chronicles* according to GORDON (1998). For *Ben Sira* DE LAGARDE (1861) is correct, as has been affirmed by Wido van Peursen in a personal communication (May 7th 2010) for which I would like to thank Prof. van Peursen. The Peshitta of *Ben Sira* represents a modified form of the book, e.g. VAN PEURSEN (2007).

In 1 Chr 29:29, 2 Sam 24:11 and elsewhere it is used as a professional title in parallel to other such titles. Finally, in 2 Chr 29:30 it refers to a temple singer.

6. Exegesis

A.1 The dictionaries keep with the obvious (and correct) sense and translate הֹוָה as 'seer'. Zorell translates *videns* sc. Divina, a Deo sibi revelata, vates, propheta. ²⁶ KBL³ and GES¹⁸ translate 'Seher'. BDB and DCH have 'seer'. The only confusion is with *Isa* 28:15 which is not always distinguished, and often translated as 'vision' (BDB), while KBL and DCH list this word as II הֹוֶה ('agreement').

A.2 Adducing Lee and Jastrow, Paul and Zevit suggest that הַזָּה should be understood as a technical term for a court diviner, while נְבִיא refers to any kind of prophet.²⁷ Jastrow does not merely identify the הַזָּה as a court diviner, but argues that because the term is also used to describe (Levitical) singers Heman, Asaf and Ethan, it follows that it 'belongs to an early period in the religious history of the Hebrews, when divination formed a part of the priestly office and before the period of the differentiation of the diviner from the true prophet of Jahweh and the concomitant differentiation between "prophet" and "priest." This connection to music means, according to Jastrow, that they were of a lower status similar to those of the 'singing dervishes whom Saul encounters', i.e. בְּיִבְיאִים ²⁹ The difference between the הַזָּה and the הַזָּה lies in that the הַזָּה is available to everybody while the הַזָּה is the official diviner. Jastrow further distinguishes between the two titles and describes the הַזָּה as a technical diviner who works on materials which are to some extent controllable (i.e. hepatoscopy, where the diviner has access to the liver through slaughtering an animal), whereas the הַזָּה is a technical diviner who reads more haphazard signs such as bird-flight or clouds.

A.3 Many scholars take the term \overline{n} to be the Judean term for 'seer' and thus as the Southern equivalent of the Northern נביא.

A.4 While Fuhs interprets π as an old technical term he argues against Zevit's thesis that it is a loan from an Aramaic technical term on account of the few attestations in Aramaic inscriptions and because most of the biblical attestations for a court diviner are in the Chronistic History and therefore late.³¹ Further, according to Fuhs, Am 7:12 also militates against such a reading as in that verse Amaziah acknowledges Amos' office as 'seer'.³² Fuhs' argument here relies both on the antiquity of Am 7:12, that it relays the wording correctly, and that Amaziah uses the term correctly.

A.5 In 1 Chr 25:5, 2 Chr 29:30 and 35:15 הֹזֶה is applied to various individuals who are (according to 2 Chr 29:30, levitical) singers whose actions are described with גבא, nif. While

²⁷ JASTROW (1909:50), PAUL (1971) and ZEVIT (1975), WILSON (1980:254-256). This thesis is sometimes attributed to LEE (1860:458-459). Lee, however, says something slightly different. He distinguishes between the royal office of 'seer of the king' (who may or may not have a prophetic gift) and the prophetic 'office' which does not need to be connected to the court.

²⁶ ZORELL (1984:230).

²⁸ Jastrow (1909:50-51).

²⁹ Jastrow (1909:51).

³⁰ Jastrow (1909), Vanden Oudenrijn (1925), Haeussermann (1932:7-8), Orlinsky (1965), Zevit (1975), Wilson (1980:254-256), Petersen (1981:56-58) and Zobel (1985). Blenkinsopp (1995:125) acknowledges the predominance of the title in Jerusalemite circles but attributes it to the disrepute into which the title and surmises that it had been replaced by הַנָּה.

³¹ ZEVIT (1975) and FUHS (1978:245-248).

 $^{^{32}}$ Fuhs (1978:187-192). Smend (1963:416-418) also argues that Amos identifies with the title הֹוֶה and denies being a הָּנָה, but he does not elaborate on what a הַּנָה-seer is.

it is true that this seems to suggest that these singers are acting prophetically, it is equally likely that and sign and sign, nif. have changed their meaning sufficiently so that they can be used for the performance of cultic music and possibly dance.³³ If, following Mowinckel, there was an institution of cultic prophecy in pre-exilic (Israel and) Judah, the transfer of the two verbs to the musical cult performers appears plausible.

A.6 While most attestations of חֹנָה occurr in 1-2 Chronicles, a late text, it appears that Chronicles uses the word mostly in conjunction with court 'employees', more specifically specialists who are connected to David. This suggests that in Chronicles the term signifies some form of a court diviner. As the related verb has the meaning 'to see' it appears reasonable to assume a meaning 'seer' for חֹנָה. It must remain unclear whether or not this 'seeing' was necessarily transcendent ('seeing of visions') or could include the 'seeing' and subsequent interpretation of ominous signs.

7. Conclusions

The classical theory, as expressed by Lindblom, is that no distinction can be made in meaning between חוֹה and הַלְּה and הֹלֶה and that people described by either term are indistinguishable from the אַיבְיּא Contrary to this, Hölscher distinguishes between the ecstatic בְּבִיא and the non-ecstatic חוֹה and הַּבְיֹא and בְּבִיא almost interchangeably. Focussing on חוֹה and הַלָּה הֹוֹה distribution of the two titles within Chronicles indicates that the הַלָּה seems to have been a diviner available to the general public while the חוֹה was employed at the court – and in the case of the Levitical singers, at the temple. The connection with the verb חוֹה plausibly suggests that at least initially the translation 'seer' for חוֹה is correct, but it must remain unclear which form this 'seeing' took. It is likely that visionary experiences are implied, as they are with many of the other derivatives of the root חוֹה such as חוֹה. This holds true particularly in later texts, as by the time of their composition other forms of divination had acquired a negative status. Most of the attestations are late, suggesting the possibility that the term itself is either an Aramaic loanword or at least that the root became more productive as contact between Hebrew and Aramaic grew stronger.

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³³ FUHS (1978:248-249).

³⁴ LINDBLOM (1962:90). See also DAVIDSON (1903:81), VANDEN OUDENRIJN (1925), JEPSEN (1934:43-44) and HENTSCHKE (1957:150). See e.g. also BLAU (1970:439-440) and JOHNSON (1962:12) who understands the two verbs חָזָה and הַּזָּה as being slightly distinct in that הָּאָב is used more for normal seeing while הְּזָה refers more to the seeing of visions.

³⁵ HÖLSCHER (1914:125-126).

³⁶ See the table in FUHS (1978:245-249).

³⁷ Both verbs included synaesthetic perception, that is, they are used in contexts in which we may expect to find a verb 'to hear', see KEDAR-KOPFSTEIN (1988).

³⁸ WAGNER (1966:53-54).

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