

## IV. Review. Wheel-tracks, Hebrews 12:5-13; Psalms 23:1-3; Neurology, 1-2

**Corrected Translation: Hebrews 12:5-Hebrews 12:13:**

**Hebrews 12:5** - And so you yourselves have forgotten the doctrinal instruction which teaches you as sons: “My son, stop making light of the Lord’s chastisement nor become discouraged when you are reproved by Him.

**Hebrews 12:6** - For you see, whom the Lord loves, he disciplines by means of chastisement and punishes to the maximum every son who He welcomes home.

**Hebrews 12:7** - **[Mandate]** Because of corrective discipline, endure!  
**[Explanation]** For God deals with you as sons. **[Question]** For what individual believer is a son whom the Father does not discipline?

**Hebrews 12:8** - But if you are without the corrective discipline, of which all believers have become participators, and it should happen to be that you are without such corrective discipline, then you are bastards and not sons.

**Hebrews 12:9** - Another point. We used to have our human parents for corrective chastisement and we looked on them with respect. To a greater degree, you will become subordinate to the Father of our human spirits and continue living.

**Hebrews 12:10** - For parents, on the one hand, disciplined us for a short time according to what seemed best to them, but God, on the other hand, disciplines us for our profit in order that we might receive a share of His character.

**Hebrews 12:11** - On the one hand, all discipline, while being applied, seems not to be an occasion for happiness but an occasion for sorrow. On the other hand, afterward, it pays back with interest prosperous gain from the source of integrity for those who are trained [*gumnazo*] by it.

**Hebrews 12:12** - Therefore, restore strength to the listless hands and to the disabled knees.

**Hebrews 12:13** - Be making straight wheel-tracks [*trochia*: a lifestyle based on biblical principles acquired through the three spiritual skills with emphasis on the Grace Apparatus for Perception] by means of your feet [positive volition to consistent daily regimen in the gymnasium of Christianity] in order that the crippled one [the believer in reversion recovery who is susceptible to distractions] might not again be dislocated [volitional treachery from submission to distractions] but rather let it [the listless and disabled soul] be healed and restored.”

Like it or not, Wheel-track is a Biblical Word: The Etymology of *Trochia* and *Ma’gal*: *trochia* is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew word *ma’gal* and both are best translated into the English by the hyphenated word “wheel-track.”

*trochia*’s root word is the verb, *trecho*. It is translated “run” in Matthew 27:48 but, metaphorically, in 1 Corinthians 9:24, “to run a race”:

**1 Corinthians 9:24** - Do you not know that those who run [*trecho*] in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run [*trecho*] in such a way that you may win.

The word is used to describe a person who made some advance in the Christian way of life but then spun off into reversionism.

**Galatians 5:7** - You were [*trecho*] running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?

Paul uses the word idiomatically to express his desire that the Gospel would spread rapidly throughout the world.

**2 Thessalonians 3:1** - Pray for us that the word of the Lord may [*trecho*] run rapidly and be glorified.

The noun *trochos*, means “a runner,” “a wheel,” “a course,” “anything orbicular.” James uses it metaphorically in:

**James 3:6** - ... the tongue is set among our members as that which defiles the entire body, and sets on fire the [*trochos*] course of our life ...

Our noun, used in Hebrews 12:13, is *trocia* and means a wheel-track; a way, or a path, as does its Hebrew equivalent *ma'gal*. The English translation “wheel-track” is supported by most of the standard biblical dictionaries, lexicons, and word studies:

1. **Johannes Botterweck & Helmer Ringgren, Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament, s.v. “wheel-track”:**  
*Wheel- or wagon-track, path. A double-tracked highway. A developed habit, good or bad, which will ultimately determine the fate of the person practicing it.*
2. **William Wilson, Old Testament Word Studies, s.v. “wheel-track”:**  
*A track in which wheels go, a way, path.*
3. **William Arndt & Wilber Gingrich, A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament, s.v. “wheel-track”:**  
*Wheel-track, course, way. 'Make straight paths' means that upon which one can advance quickly and in the right direction; symbolically of the moral life.*
4. **Henry Liddell & Robert Scott, Greek-English Lexicon, s.v. “wheel-track”:**  
*Wheel-track, rut, the round of a wheel [felloes], path.*
5. **George Wigram & Jay Green, The New Englishman's Greek Lexicon, s.v. “wheel-track”:**  
*A wheel-track, a path, way.*
6. **Zondervan's Analytical Greek Lexicon, s.v. “wheel-track”:**  
*Wheel-track, way, path.*
7. **A. T. Robertson, Word Pictures in the New Testament, s.v. “wheel-track”:**  
*Track of a wheel.*

8. **W. E. Vine, An Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words, s.v. “wheel-track”:**

*The track of a wheel.*

9. **Kenneth S. Wuest, Wuest's Word Studies, s.v. “wheel-track”:**

*A wheel-track.*

10. **R. O. Yeager, The Renaissance New Testament, s.v. “wheel-track”:**

*A path or rut, made by a wheel. Metaphorically, a way of life; course of action.*

So, “*wheel-track*” refers metaphorically to a way of life carved out by repetition. According to Proverbs 4:26, that wheel-track may establish the “*way of righteousness*” or the “*way of the wicked*.”

“*Be making straight wheel-tracks*” refers to the ongoing process of carving out a conscience based on God’s character with emphasis on divine righteousness: norms and standards which determine right and wrong from divine revelation.

“*Be making straight wheel-tracks*” refers to the development of an inventory of ideas based on God’s integrity: a lifestyle determined by the leadership and guidance of Bible doctrine. Thus, the word *trochia*, or “*wheel-track*,” refers to a well-worn path created by consistent usage. It is a rut.

**Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary, s.v. “rut”:**

*A track worn by a wheel or by habitual passage. A groove in which something runs. Channel or furrow. A usual or fixed practice.*

“*Be making straight wheel-tracks*” refers to the recovering reversionist fixing his sights on the objective of spiritual maturity. Through positive volition, the newly re-empowered believer begins to habitually develop a righteous lifestyle by means of repetition.

God has already built the tracks in principle: rebound recovery, the filling of the Holy Spirit, the Grace Apparatus for Perception, and availability of the ten problem-solving devices.

The recovering reversionist’s job is to repeatedly utilize these assets on a continual basis so as to develop these wheel-tracks in his soul. In other words, “*continue to follow the way of life established by divine righteousness by means of your own volition*.”

Let’s observe this process as it was established in the life of David and revealed in one of the more popular Psalms. David wrote Psalm 23 under what was probably the greatest pressure of his life. He was involved in a forced march from Jerusalem in the wake of the Absalom-Ahithophel Revolution. His own son sought to dethrone him and possibly to take his life. And so he was in retreat from his own kingdom and at war with his own son. In the midst of this catastrophe, David sits down and reflects upon the ever-present grace of God. Only a man in complete control of his spiritual life could write such a perfect piece. It is perfect poetry expressing perfect doctrinal principles put to what was probably perfect music.

**Psalm 23:1** - A psalm of David. The Lord is the One shepherding me. I cannot lack anything.

**Psalm 23:2** - He causes me to lie down in pastures of choice grass; He leads me to waters of refreshment.

**Psalm 23:3** - He leads and guides me in the wheel-tracks [*ma'gal / trochia*] of righteousness for His name’s sake.

In order to arrive at that objective, the believer must begin “*making straight wheel-tracks with his feet.*” David says that the Lord leads him in these wheel-tracks. This leadership is contained in the cryptographic message of the Bible.

As your knowledge of its mysteries increases there occurs a simultaneous enlargement of your capacity to function under the principles of righteousness. This capacity for righteous function means that you are consistently following the leadership of our Lord in the wheel-tracks established by Him in the incarnation and further revealed in Scripture.

Transforming one’s thinking from wheel-tracks of wickedness over to wheel-tracks of righteousness can be a very frustrating process. In fact, it is impossible to accomplish if attempted without accessing the two power options.

Nevertheless, we are under orders to complete this transformation—Romans 12:2 contains an imperative mood instructing us to undertake the difficult objective:

**Romans 12:2 - Stop being molded in association with this age but be transformed by means of the renovation of your thought, for the purpose of proving what the will of God is, namely, the good, the well-pleasing, and the complete.**

The frustrations which occur during the renovation process are the subject of Romans 7, the account of Paul’s Behavior Problem and his frustrating dilemma in dealing with the battle of wheel-tracks in his soul. To clearly understand how wheel-tracks are renovated required us to undertake a study of the Theology of Neurology.

## The Theology of Neurology

### I. Statistics & Vocabulary

This section has been systematically expanded, published as a glossary, and distributed at Sunday services during the course of the study. A five-page bibliography and glossary is available upon written request. I will assume that the vocabulary of our study is contained in permanent engrams stored in long-term memory traces of your cerebral cortex.

### II. Language: The Foundation of Thought Summary

The one characteristic which sets humans completely apart from all other animals is that they come into the world equipped with a biologically determined capacity for language development.

## Conclusion

The reason is that the human race is the only animal with whom God seeks to communicate. He does so in the languages of the Hebrew and Koine Greek. With an innate capacity to understand the structure and meaning of language, the believer is enabled to comprehend the thinking of the God of the universe.

Richard Thompson in his book **The Brain**, makes the following astounding statement on **page 391**:

*All languages, from English to obscure dialects, have the same degree of complexity and similar general properties. It is as though humans came into the world equipped with a well-elaborated, complex, and biologically determined language system. In short, it would seem that we may have speech and language centers in the brain that are in some ways predetermined or preprogrammed.*

*Thompson begins his chapter on language by saying, "Language is the one species-typical behavior that sets humans completely apart from all other animals."*