

# English Words Beginning with the Letter **C** that have Parallels in the Hebrew Language.

## A Brit-Am/Hebrew Nations Study by Yair Davidiy

**Note:** The etymologies given below in most cases are adapted from the Online Etymological Dictionary  
<http://www.etymonline.com/>

Many of the definitions relied on the Free Dictionary by Farlex  
<http://www.thefreedictionary.com>

Word	Meaning	Conventional Etymology	Hebrew	Transcribed	Meaning	Comments
cabal	Secret group	Hebrew "kaballa"	קבלה	Kaballah	Receipt; received doctrine.	Once reserved to a few but now open to all.
cable	Thick rope or rope-like linkage	Old North French <i>cable</i> , from Medieval Latin <i>capulum</i> "lasso, rope, halter for cattle"	חבל	Chaval (chable)	rope	
cairn	Heap of stones usually over a dolmen	Scottish <i>carne</i> , from Gaelic <i>carn</i> "heap of stones, rocky hill," akin to Gaulish <i>karnon</i> "horn,"	קרן	Keren	horn	
chalk	A white substance used for marking	<a href="#">chalk (n.)</a> Old English <i>cealc</i> "chalk, lime, plaster; pebble,"	חלק	chalak	Pebble; smooth	
cake	Baked dough	early 13c., from Old Norse <i>kaka</i> "cake"	כך	cakh	Small cake	
call	To say in a loud voice; announce	Old English <i>ceallian</i> "to call, shout,"	קול	col	voice	The English call equals the Hebrew verbal form.
calm	Undisturbed, composed	late 14c., from Old French <i>calme</i> , <i>carme</i> "stillness, quiet, tranquility"	הלם, הלם	Helem i.e. suited, fitting. Chelem i.e. recovered, healed, dream		
Calf, calves (pl)	Young cow	cf. Middle Dutch <i>calf</i> , Old Norse <i>kalfr</i> , German <i>Kalb</i> , Gothic <i>kalbo</i>	חלב	chalav	milk	A calf is a cow that needs milk
can	Be able	Old English <i>cunnan</i> "know, have power to, be able,"	כן, יכון, יתכן	Ken, can, yicon, yitocaen	Be able, prepare,	
can	receptacle	cf. Old Saxon, Old Norse, Swedish <i>kanna</i> , Middle Dutch <i>kanne</i> , Dutch <i>kan</i> , Old High German	קנקן	kankan	receptacle	

		<i>channa</i> , German <i>Kanne</i>				
candor	openness of mind, impartiality, frankness	Latin <i>candor</i> "purity, openness,"	כָּן	ken	Honest, frank	
cane	Stick-like reed	Latin <i>canna</i> "reed, cane"	כְּנָה	kana	cane	
Cap, cape	Head covering	Latin <i>cappa</i> "a cape, hooded cloak"	כִּיפָה חִיפָא	Kipa, chapa	Yarmulke, skull cap. Chapa means cover	Chapa is pronounced more like capa
cape						
case	receptacle	Latin <i>capsa</i> , box	כֶּסֶה	CaSeH	cover	
<i>crease</i>	ridge, groove	<i>crease</i> "a ridge,"	חֲרָשׁ	charash	Plough, furrow, cut	
Car, carry, carriage, cart, carrier	Transport or vehicle	Anglo-French <i>carier</i> "to transport in a vehicle"	כָּר	car	wagon	
cat	Feline animal	Old English <i>catt</i> (c.700), cf. Old Frisian <i>katte</i> , Old Norse <i>köttr</i> , Dutch <i>kat</i> , Old High German <i>kazza</i> , German <i>Katze</i> , from Late Latin <i>cattus</i> .	חֲטוּל	chatul	cat	
Caulk see Chalk	to stop up crevices or cracks against leakage e.g. in a boat	Old North French <i>cauquer</i> , from Late Latin <i>calicare</i> "to stop up chinks with lime," from Latin <i>calx</i> "lime, limestone"	חֲלַק	Chalak	Make smooth	
cavil	To make irritating and trivial objections.	Middle French <i>caviller</i> "to mock, jest," from Latin <i>cavillari</i> "to jeer, mock; satirize, argue scoffingly"	קָבַל, קָבִיל	Kaval, Kabal, Kabil	complain	In Hebrew the same letter is used for the "v" and "b" sounds and they are used interchangeably
chair	Furniture for seating	Old French <i>chaiere</i> "chair, seat, throne" ... from Latin <i>cathedra</i> "seat"	כָּר	car	cushion	
cheek	The fleshy part of either side of the face	Old English <i>ceace</i> , <i>cece</i> "jaw, jawbone," in late Old English also "the fleshy wall of the mouth"	חַיִּיק	chayek	smile	Smiling is done with the cheeks
child	Young person	Old English <i>cild</i> "fetus, infant, unborn or newly born person," cf. Gothic <i>kilpei</i> "womb," <i>inkilþo</i> "pregnant;" Danish <i>kuld</i> "children of the same	יָלַד	yeled	Child, cf. Scottish "lad"	The scottish lad is seen to be even closer to the Hebrew "yeled" when it is realized

		marriage;" Old Swedish <i>kulder</i> "litter;"				that the "ye-" in "yeled" could have been dropped for grammatical reasons.
chip	A small broken or cut off piece, as of wood, stone, or glass.	Old English <i>forcippian</i> "to pare away by cutting, cut off," verbal form of <i>cipp</i> "small piece of wood"	שעף	Shaf, ship	Wood shaving	
chop	To cut by striking with a heavy sharp tool	Old French <i>coper</i> "to cut, cut off"	שעף	Shaf, ship	Wood shaving	
circle	A plane curve everywhere equidistant from a given fixed point, the center.	Latin <i>circulus</i>	כרך, כרר	Carac (encompass), carar (circle)		
claw	A sharp, curved, horny structure at the end of a toe.	cf. Old Frisian <i>klawe</i> "claw, hoe"	קרע	kera	tear	The L and R sounds are interchangeable.
collect	To bring together in a group or mass; gather	Latin <i>collectionem</i> "a gathering together,"	כולל	coel	Bring together	
cow	The mature female of cattle	cf. Old Frisian <i>ku</i> , Middle Dutch <i>coe</i> , Dutch <i>koe</i> , Old High German <i>kuo</i> , German <i>Kuh</i> , Old Norse <i>kyr</i> , Danish, Swedish <i>ko</i>	תאז	tow	buffalo	
crack	split	Old English <i>chine</i> , fissure	חרכ	charakh	fissure	The Hebrew would be pronounceable very similarly to the English.
crash	collide	c.1400, <i>crasschen</i> "break in pieces"	קרס	Karas Cf. Hebrew "haras" (הרס) meaning destroy	Collapse, make collapse	The Hebrew Karas and haras together make good possible sources for both crash and crush.
cream	Upper crust in milk	French <i>crème</i> , ointment	כרום	croom	Outer crust	
crush	Squash down, break	Old French, <i>esquasser</i>	קרס	karas	Collapse, make collapse	See crash above.
cry	To call loudly; shout, weep	Old French <i>crier</i> , from Vulgar Latin <i>*critare</i> , from Latin <i>quiritare</i> "to wail, shriek"	קורא	koray	call	
cuff	bottom of a sleeve; strike with palm of	unknown	כף	caf	Palm of the hand	

	the hand					
cup	A small open container, usually with a flat bottom and a handle, used for drinking	Latin <i>cupa</i> "tub, cask, tun, barrel,"	כף	caf	Palm of the hand	A cup is drinking vessel that fits in the palm (cuff) of the hand.
cull	1. To pick out from others; select. 2. To gather; collect. 3. To remove rejected members or parts	Old French <i>coillir</i> (12c., Modern French <i>cueillir</i> ) "collect, gather, pluck, select"	כולל	coel	Bring together	
cur	A dog considered to be inferior or undesirable; a mongrel.	Cf. Swedish dialectal <i>kurre</i> , Middle Dutch <i>corre</i> "house dog."	גור	gur	Young lion, puppy dog	
cut	To penetrate with a sharp edge.. 2. To separate into parts with or as if with a sharp-edged instrument; sever:	cf. Swedish dialectal <i>kuta</i> "to cut," <i>kuta</i> "knife," Old Norse <i>kuti</i> "knife"), or from Old French <i>couteau</i> "knife."	קטט, קט	Kat, kattat	Small piece, cut into small pieces, cf. כרת (carat) also meaning cut.	