

A Study of Translation Technique
in Septuagint Exodus 14:21-15:18

KI SOO ANDREW JUNG

Abstract

The purpose of this study is to produce both comprehensive descriptions and feasible explanations of phenomena occurring in Greek Exodus 14:21-15:18 by a comparison, on the basis of the method known as Descriptive Translational Studies (DTS), of two different versions: the MT as parent text and the LXX as daughter.

The LXX, as is well known, is not a compositional document but a translation. That is why it is important for us to grasp the intent of the translators. This is best done by paying attention to the LXX at its time of production rather than within the context of its reception history. That is, the study of the LXX must commence on the language level. This study will take three approaches to the language of the LXX. It has, firstly, a vertical dimension, since it is closely related to the original text. Secondly, it has a horizontal dimension, since LXX Greek is bound by grammatical and syntactic rules. The third approach pays attention to socio-cultural and theological matters influencing the translators' choice of words. This implies that identifying exegesis or interpretation in the LXX is only possible once the linguistic information has been fully described and analyzed.