

## Spirit: Linguistic Comment

Hebrew: <sup>KJV</sup> **Genesis 1:2** And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God **moved** upon the face of the waters.<sup>1</sup>

רָחַף **rachaph** (sounds like: *raw-khaf*) 1) to grow soft, relax 2) to tremble 3) to hover. The root, **rachaph**, is rarely used in the Old Testament—so rarely that it immediately calls to mind a famous parallel in Deut. 32:11, 12 “As an eagle stirreth up her nest, **fluttereth** over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings: So the LORD alone did lead him, and *there was no* strange god with him.” The two verses are linked by this unusual word and so illumine one another. The pre-creation scene of Genesis takes on a brooding sheltering tone while Deuteronomy’s image of nestlings is properly about the creation of Israel in the desert.

Onomatopoeia is the phenomenon of words that sound like what they represent, and the form used in Gen. 1:2 sounds fluttery if said quickly, **me-ra-kef'-et**.

Greek: <sup>KJV</sup> **1 Corinthians 2:4** And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in **demonstration** of the Spirit and of power.<sup>2</sup>

ἀπόδειξις **apodeixis** (sounds like: *ap-od'-ike-sis*) 1) a making manifest, showing forth 2) a demonstration, proof. Composed of a prefix, **apo** referring in this case to **the origin of a cause**, and a main verb, **deiknuo** (*dike-noo'-o*) meaning **to make visible, or metaphysically to give evidence or proof, and also to teach, show with words**. Paul is arguing that the cause is made manifest in its effects.

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<sup>1</sup> R95 **Genesis 1:2** La tierra estaba desordenada y vacía, las tinieblas estaban sobre la faz del abismo y el espíritu de Dios **se movía** sobre la faz de las aguas.

<sup>2</sup> R95 **1 Corinthians 2:4** y ni mi palabra ni mi predicación fueron con palabras persuasivas de humana sabiduría, sino con **demostración** del Espíritu y de poder,