

旧約聖書における *gālā(h) 'ōzen* の意味

公文 光

**ABSTRACT** Hikaru KUMON, “The Meaning of *gālā(h) 'ōzen* in the Old Testament.” The idiom *gālā(h) 'ōzen* has proved difficult to understand. As with all idioms, the meaning of the whole cannot be understood wholly from its parts. Therefore, any analysis must first attempt to discern the meaning of the idiom in its contexts, and then show how the present form of the idiom is related to its overall meaning. In this paper, I show that in its contexts, the idiom means “to reveal information to somebody’s ear.” The idiom assumes a scenario of at least four different phases: a. Information is kept sealed within a document. b. Information is disclosed. c. A recipient who had not known the information is given privileged knowledge of the information. d. The recipient understands the information. The first two phases reflect an ancient way of understanding information. Information was conceived of as belonging in documents, which were sealed (*ḥātūm*) or revealed (*gālā(h)*). As a result of this conceptual world, information being disclosed was related to the word *gālā(h)*. The word *'ōzen* is related not only to the physical organ and physical hearing in the Old Testament. It is also attributed as having the capacity to understand the content of what is heard, unlike in the modern-day conception where this function is attributed to the brain. Thus, the *'ōzen* may have been seen as the ideal locus into which information was revealed.