



Welcome to Biblical Hebrew

שְׁלוֹמִים

Hebrew Introduction



Some aims...

- א To learn to read Hebrew words.
- ב To begin to understand how Hebrew functions as a language.
- ג To become familiar with Hebrew word forms and basic vocabulary.
- ד To read several biblical passages together.
- ה To reflect on ways of translation.
- ו To enjoy ourselves together!



בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה אֱלֹהֵינוּ
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֶסֶדְךָ:

שִׁמְעֵ יִשְׂרָאֵל
יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ
Adonai

יְהוָה אֶחָד:



Genesis 1:1

בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים

אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ:



שָׁמַיִם heaven...

בָּרָא he created

הַשָּׁמַיִם the heaven...

רָאָה he saw

בָּרָא אֶת־הַשָּׁמַיִם

He created (object comes next) the heaven.

רָאָה אֶת־נָתָן

He saw Nathan.



לְ to

לִּי to me

singular

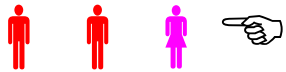
לָנוּ to us

plural



לוֹ to him s.

לָהּ to her



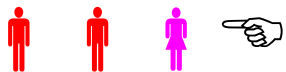
לָהֶם to them pl.

לָהֶן to them



לָךְ to you s.

לָךְ to you



לָכֶם to you pl.

לָכֶן to you



ו or ו to link words, phrases
and sentences

ו and, but
so, then

לא

not, no



מֶלֶךְ וּמַלְכָּה king and queen

בָּרָא וַיֵּתֵן He created, he gave

וַיֵּלֶךְ וַיְדַבֵּר and he went. Then he spoke.

וַיֹּאמֶר He said,

לֵךְ וּשְׁמַע "Go and listen!"

וְלֹא הָלַךְ הָאִישׁ But the man did not go



דָּבַר he spoke... he said...

דִּבְרָה she spoke... she said...

וַיִּדְבֹּר and he said...

וַתִּדְבֹּר and she said...

נָתַן he gave...

נָתְנָה she gave...

וַיִּתֵּן and he gave...

וַתִּתֵּן and she gave...

נָתַן he had given, he gave, he has given,
he gives, he will give
usually complete, definite or single action

יָתַן he was giving, he is giving, he gives,
he will give, (and) he gave
usually continued, continuing, repeated or indefinite action

נָתַן area of meaning: he gave, handed over, put, granted,
appointed, established, allowed, yielded...

שָׁמַר

he kept, watched, guarded...



וְ they



שָׁמְרוּ

he



שָׁמַר

הִ she



שָׁמְרָהּ

תְּ you



שָׁמְרֶתֶם

תְּ you



שָׁמְרֶתְךָ

תְּ you



שָׁמְרֶתְךָ

תְּ you



שָׁמְרֶתְךָ

נּוּ we

שָׁמְרֵנוּ

תִּי I



שָׁמְרֵתִי



אִישׁ טוֹב a good man

טוֹב הָאִישׁ the man is good

הָאִישׁ הַטוֹב the good man

הָאִישׁ טוֹב the man is good



טוֹב good

טוֹבָה good



m.

הַטוֹב

הַטוֹבָה

f.

the good man

the good woman

טוֹב אֶחָד

טוֹבָה אֶחָת

a good man, one good man

a good woman, one good woman

Adj.

טוֹב

good, beautiful, excellent, pleasant, lovely, convenient, fruitful, cheerful, kind...

In Psalm 23:6
note

Noun

טוֹב

the good, the right, virtue, happiness, pleasantness...

טוֹב וְחֶסֶד

Used in contexts related to **covenants** טוֹב expresses the reliable goodness and proper treatment guaranteed by the covenant (בְּרִית)

ישמר

he will keep, he was keeping...



they י-וּ

ישְׁמְרוּ

he יְ

ישְׁמַר

they ת-נָה

תְּשַׁמְרֶנָּה

she תְּ

תְּשַׁמַּר

you ת-וּ

תְּשַׁמְרוּ

you תְּ

תְּשַׁמַּר

you ת-נָה

תְּשַׁמְרֶנָּה

you ת-יְ

תְּשַׁמְרֵי

we וְ

נְשַׁמַּר

I אֲ

אֲשַׁמַּר

שמר keep!

שמר keeping



דָּבָר

word, thing...

דְּבַר

word of

דְּבַרִּי

word of **me**, **my** word

דְּבָרִים

words

דְּבָרַי

words of

דְּבָרַי

words of **me**, **my** words

שָׁמַע

Hear! 

שָׁמַר

Keep! 

רָדַף

Pursue! *or* Follow! 

שָׁמַר keeping 

הָאִישׁ שָׁמַר the man is/was keeping

הָאִישׁ הַשָּׁמֵר the man who is/was keeping
(the man, the one keeping)

<p>שָׁלַח he sent... שֶׁלַח he sends...</p>	<p>וַיִּשְׁלַח and he sent</p>	<p>יִשְׁלַח he was sending... יִשְׁלַח he will send... 🗣️</p>
<p>לָקַח he took... לִקַּח he takes...</p>	<p>וַיִּקַּח and he took</p>	<p>יִקַּח he was taking... יִקַּח he will take...</p>
<p>יָשַׁב he sat... יֹשֵׁב he dwells...</p>	<p>וַיֵּשֶׁב and he dwelt</p>	<p>יֵשֶׁב he was dwelling... יֵשֶׁב he will dwell...</p>
<p><i>usually</i> definite or complete(d) action past/present/future</p>	<p>next step in a continuing narrative</p>	<p>continuing indefinite or incomplete(d) action past/present/future</p>

<p>שָׁלַח וְהוּאִ! and he had sent.</p>	<p>שֶׁלַח וְהוּאִ! while he is/was sending</p>
<p>לָקַח וְהוּאִ! and he had taken.</p>	<p>לִקַּח וְהוּאִ! while he is/was taking</p>
<p>יָשַׁב וְהוּאִ! and he had dwelt.</p>	<p>יֹשֵׁב וְהוּאִ! while he is/was dwelling</p>
<p>previous action or state from which something follows on</p>	<p>action or state during which something else takes place</p>

LOOKING AT HEBREW WORDS



1. Look for the STEM

מֶלֶךְ

he is king, he reigned

מַלְכָּה

queen

מַמְלָכָה

kingdom

מַמְלַכְתּוֹ

his kingdom

2. Look at beginnings and endings

דָּבָר

a word

הַדְּבָרִים

the words

דְּבָרֵיהֶם

the words of them

וַיֹּדְבוּ

and they said

3. Look for modification of the verbal form



<p>קָטַל</p> <p>he killed</p>	<p>יָלַד</p> <p>he begat</p>	<p>QAL - ט / .. ט</p> <p>ACTION OR STATE</p>
<p>קָטַל</p> <p>he slew</p>	<p>יָלְדָה</p> <p>she acted as midwife</p>	<p>PIEL .. . / - . / : .</p> <p>STRONG ACTION... urgency, eagerness</p>
<p>הִקְטִיל</p> <p>he caused to kill</p>	<p>הוֹלִיד</p> <p>he begat</p>	<p>HIPHIL י . : . / ..</p> <p>CAUSATION OR INTENSIVE...</p>
<p>נִקְטַל</p> <p>he was killed</p>	<p>נִוֹלַד</p> <p>he was born</p>	<p>NIPHAL - נ - ה</p> <p>PASSIVE, REFLEXIVE OR RECIPROCAL (middle)</p>
<p>הִתְקַטַּל</p> <p>he killed himself</p>	<p>הִתְיָלַד</p> <p>he registered his ancestry</p>	<p>HITHPAEL - הַת - ית</p> <p>ACTION CONCERNING THE DOER (middle)</p>
<p>הִלָּךְ</p> <p>(he went) →</p>	<p>הִתְהַלָּךְ</p> <p>he walked to and fro</p>	<p>REFLEXIVE, RECIPROCAL, ACTING OR PRETENDING</p>



יש there is
there was

אין there isn't
there wasn't

יש לה ילדים
she had children

אין לה ילדים
she had no children

כל-אשר יש-לו
all that he has

אין לי כסף
I have no silver

ממני from me

כמוני like me

לך ממני
Go from me!

אין כמודך
There is none like you

טוב ממני
Better than me

מי כהם
Who is like them?



שִׁמַע Listen!

שָׁמַר Keep!

תֵּן Give!

שְׁמַעְהָ Listen!!

שְׁמַרְהָ Keep!!

תֵּנָה Give!!

שְׁמַע־נָא Please listen!

שְׁמַר־נָא Please keep!

תֵּן־נָא Please give!

יִשְׁמַר Let him (he should) keep

אַל־תִּשְׁמַר Do not keep!

יִתֵּן Let him (he should) give

אַל־תֵּתֵן Don't give!

COMPARE:

קוּם וְיֵטֵב לְבָבְךָ Get up and let your heart be glad!

וַיִּקָּם וַיֵּטֵב לְבוֹ And he got up, and his heart was glad

אֶשְׁמְרָה Let me keep, I will keep

אַל־תִּגְנוֹב Don't steal!

נִשְׁמְרָה Let us keep...

לֹא־תִגְנוֹב You shall not steal!

To be written...

To be written...

3ms	קָטַל	יִקְטֹל	Qal	InfCon	קָטַל
3fs	קָטְלָה	תִּקְטֹל		InfAbs	קָטוּל
2ms	קָטַלְתָּ	תִּקְטֹל	קָטַל	ms	קָטַל
2fs	קָטַלְתְּ	תִּקְטְלִי	קָטְלִי	fs	קָטְלָה
1cs	קָטַלְתִּי	אֶקְטֹל		mp	קָטְלִים
3mp	קָטְלוּ	יִקְטְלוּ		fp	קָטְלוּת
3fp		תִּקְטְלֶנָּה		ms	קָטוּל
2mp	קָטַלְתֶּם	תִּקְטְלוּ	קָטְלוּ	fs	קָטוּלָה
2fp	קָטַלְתֶּן	תִּקְטְלֶנָּה	קָטְלֶנָּה	mp	קָטוּלִים
1cp	קָטַלְנוּ	נִקְטֹל		fp	קָטוּלוּת

To be written...

Piel

To be written...

To be written...

To be written...

To be written...

To be written...