

EXH-332: Hebrew Language Lab — Vicarage Year

For 15 March 2020: The Third Sunday in Lent (Series A)

Exodus 17.1–7

Part 1: Watch a Video *Estimated Time: 60 minutes*

Watch the two-part video presentation on the text by Dr. David Adams that is posted on the Blackboard site for this assignment. The videos are also on the seminary's Lectionary at Lunch web site and on Dr Adams' YouTube channel (search for Dr David L Adams on YouTube).

1. These events are set at Rephidim. Where is Rephidim in relation to the 'Wilderness of Sinai'?
2. What two events happen at Rephidim, and how are they related?
3. How is the Infinitive Construct of a 'Third-ה' verb formed in Hebrew.
4. What is the technical (legal) use of the Hebrew root ריב? How appropriate is that sense of the verb in this context?
5. What is the 'Volitive ה' in Hebrew grammar? (In addition to what is in the video, you may wish to see in your Logos library Gesenius' *Hebrew Grammar* §48.i and/or Waltke & O'Connor, *Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*, section 34.2.2.)
6. How is the fact that God is 'putting Israel to test' in Exodus chs. 15-17 (and later in the book as well) related to the petition of the Lord's Prayer, "Lead us not into temptation," and Luther's explanation of that petition in the Small catechism?
7. What are three different ways that one could understand the use of the preposition לְ on the form לָעַם in Ex 17.4?
8. What part of speech is the form עוֹד in 17.4? What are three common uses of this word?
9. What two different ways do interpreters understand the use of לְפָנַי in 17.5?
10. When a Hebrew verbal form from a weak verb has only one root letter remaining, how do you find the root?
11. What is the interpretive problem with the common understanding of בְּחִירָב in 17.6? How does the presenter understand the meaning of this phrase?
12. Who saw Moses strike the rock and water come out?

Part 2: An Advanced Logos Bible Software Exercise *Estimated Time: 30 minutes*

In the video Dr Adams observed that the Infinitive Construct forms of III-ה verbs are always formed with an *-ōth* at the end. Let's assume for the moment that you did not know that (or that you just don't trust authority figures and want to check it out for yourself). How could you check (or find) this information on your own? This is an advanced (i.e. not obvious) search in Logos. While it is still pretty easy to do, it does use features of the software that you probably have not used before. Follow these steps to do it for yourself:

1. Open a search pane and select a **Morph** as the search type.
2. Since this uses an advanced feature in the Logos Morphology Database, make sure that you select the **Lexham Hebrew Bible** as the resource to be searched. Otherwise the search will not work.
3. In the Query Box type the following string (as indicated in **bold type** — follow the spacing exactly):
{Section<GrammaticalConstructions III He Verb>} but do not press RETURN yet

This tells the software that you want to use the grammatical constructions database to select III-HE verbs. If

you ignored the instructions and pressed return at this point, go get a cup of coffee or a Coke while your computer churns away for a while — mine says it took 73.81 seconds, but I think it lied since it seemed a lot longer — before producing a list of all forms of all III-HE verbs (4,340 in 3,721 verses by my very careful counting). This will be very helpful to all of you who are planning to write your doctoral dissertation on III-HE verb forms, but not to very many others.

4. Continue the Query by typing the following string (as indicated in **bold type**):

ANDEQUALS (in all caps with no spaces) *but do not press RETURN yet*

This tells the software that you want limit the search to find only those things that match the search item that we are going to specify next.

5. Continue the Query by typing the following string (as indicated in **bold type**):

<LogosMorphHeb~@ *but do not press RETURN yet*

(This tells it we want to specify a morphological form in the database. As soon as you type the '@' sign the 'form picker' will pop down to let you select the morphological form that you want to search for).

6. In the 'form picker', select the following options:

From the 'Part of Speech' column select **Verb**.

From the 'Stem' column don't select anything. (This will give us all patterns)

From the 'Tam' column select **Infinitive**. (This gives us all infinitives, i.e. both the infinitive constructs and infinitive absolutes. By the way 'Tam' stands for 'Tense, Aspect, Mood'.)

From the 'Person', 'Gender', and 'Number' columns don't select anything. (Hebrew infinitives do not have person, gender, or number, so these do not apply to our search.)

Finally, from the 'State' column select **Construct**. (This limits our infinitive search to infinitive constructs.)

7. At this point, if you look at what is in the Query Box it should read as follows:

Section<GrammaticalConstructions III He Verb>ANDEQUALS<LogosMorphHeb~@V?F???C

8. Move your cursor up to the Query Box and delete the '@' symbol and then go to the end of the line and add a '>' (without the quotation marks) to balance the one that you entered earlier. The final edited search entry should read:

{Section<GrammaticalConstructions III He Verb>}ANDEQUALS<LogosMorphHeb~V?F???C>

9. *Now you can press enter!*

So Here are some follow-up questions:

1. How many total results did you find?

[Hint: I won't tell you how many you should have found, but I will say that if you did it right, the results should occur in 416 verses.]

2. How many occur in each pattern?

[Hint: To get this, click on the **Analysis** option (right side of the screen at the top of the results list, opposite the **+Add Versions** link on the left. Once the software switches to the analysis view, you should see where it says **Option + Click a column header and drag here to group by it** on the left (It may say **Alt + Click a column header and drag here to group by it** if you are using the Windows version). If you then Option/Alt click the column heading labeled **Stem** and drag it up there, the software will sort the list by stems (patterns) and tell you how many are in each group.

3. Scroll through the list looking at the forms. Are most of them written *plene* (תִּי) or *defectiva* (תִּי)?

[Hint: Don't count them, just get a general impression of the relative frequency of each.]

4. Now you know that you can always believe everything that Dr Adams tells you.

Part 3: Thinking About Preaching or Teaching the Text *Estimated Time: 30 minutes*

1. Craft an exegetical statement for this passage. Keep in mind that it is important to read this text in light of the overall narrative arc of the second half of the book of Exodus in order to understand why God is putting Israel to the test, and why it is wrong for them to put God to the test.