

Helps for Parsing Weak Verbs in Gen 12: 10-14

Hebrew Grammar: Dr. Marshall

In this handout, I help you with several of the weak verbs that you have not studied yet. I will parse and translate them for you, so that you can use that knowledge to understand the rest of the clauses, given what you have studied.

12:10

a. לָגוּר From גוּר, Qal infc (+ prep ל): “to sojourn, live as a foreigner.” What is the function of this infin. cst. with the prep ל?

b. וְיִרְדַּד I will not parse this for you, but I will give you a small hint. Note that a Masoretic accent stands above the yod in this inflected verb form in your text. Because the stress is not on the last syllable, the unstressed closed syllable must have a short vowel (segol), but it was originally a sere: יִרְדַּד . When the waw-consecutive was added to it, the stress changed, moving up a syllable. So, which type of weak verb has a double-sere prefix form?

12:11

a. לָבוֹא From בּוֹא, Qal infc (+ prep ל): “to go in, enter.”

12:12

a. יַחֲיֵי From חָיָה, Pi impf 3mp: “they will let live.” This verb was introduced in Lesson 36; it is doubly-weak, being both I-gutt and III-he. However, in the Piel impf forms, the I-gutt weakness does not affect the front of the verb. What is the direct object of this verb?

12:13

a. וְחָיָה From חָיָה, Qal wcp 3fs: “(and) she/it will live.” This verb was introduced in Lesson 36; it is doubly-weak, being both I-gutt and III-he. However, in the Qal perfect forms, the I-gutt weakness does not affect the front of the verb except for the heavy consonantal endings 2mp and 2fp. What is the subject of this verb? It must be a grammatically feminine noun.

12:14

a. כָּבוֹא From בּוֹא, Qal infc (+ prep כ): “to go in, enter.” What is the function of this infin. cst. with the prep כ?