

LESSON # 2: Making Identifications in the Text

It goes without saying that everyone would like to read Hebrew and use it in the most rapid fashion possible with as little work as necessary. But the lot is such that rapidity and ease are far from us. The ability to recognize some items in quick order is important, however, and this lesson is intended to help us in that. Exegesis is not just recognizing grammatical forms...it is leading out the meaning...but it is not easy to do that when the passage appears to be a jumble.

Below is a reproduction of Genesis 17:1-10 (I forgot to cut off the other verses!). Beside it, crudely typed on a tiny typewriter, is a very hands-on translation...just TVT sitting and typing without a lot of thought. It will allow you to see the Hebrew and the English.

Please read the Hebrew outloud...as best you can.

Then read the English and see if you can actually connect the English words with the Hebrew text.

Then observe certain things in the text as are pointed out on the following pages. Line numbers are on the right...verse numbers on the left.

Now Abram was a son of ninety years and nine years and the Lord appeared unto Abram and said unto him "I am El Shaddai; Walk before me and be complete. -2- And I will surely set my covenant between me and between you and I will bless you very greatly. -3- And Abram fell upon his face and Elohim spoke with him saying:

-4-I--behold my covenant with you will be for a father of many nations. -5-And your name will not be called longer Abram but your name will be Abraham because a father of many nations I will set you. -6-And I will make you very fruitful and I will set you for nations; and kings from you will go out. -7- And I will raise up my covenant between me and between you and between your seed after you to their generations for a covenant eternal to be for you for God and to your seed after you. -8- And I will give to you and to your seed after you the land of your wanderings --all the land of Canaan for an eternal possession and I will be to them for God. -9- And God said unto Abraham..and you my covenant will keep..you and your seed after you for their generations. -10- This is my covenant which you will keep between me and between you (all) and between your seed after you..to circumcise for you every male.

And if you can't read it...try your own Bible!

CAP. XVII. ז'

1	וַיְהִי אֲבָרָם בְּרֶתְשָׁעִים שָׁנָה וְהָשַׁע שָׁנִים וַיְלֵא יְהוָה אֶל־אֲבָרָם וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אֲנִי אֵל שַׁדַּי לִפְנֵי וְהָיָה הַמִּים: וְאָמַנְתָּ בְרִיתִי בֵינִי וּבֵינְךָ וְאַרְבַּח אוֹתְךָ בְּמֵאֹד מְאֹד: וַיִּפֹּל אֲבָרָם עַל־פָּנָיו וַיְדַבֵּר אֱלֹהִים לְאָמֵר: 2 אֲנִי הִנֵּה בְרִיתִי אִתְּךָ וְהָיִיתָ לְאָב תָּמוֹן גּוֹיִם: וְלֹא־יִקְרָא עוֹד אֶת־שִׁמְךָ אֲבָרָם וְהָיָה שִׁמְךָ אֲבְרָהָם כִּי אֲבִי תָמוֹן גּוֹיִם נִתְחַדָּךְ: וְהִפְרַתִּי אִתְּךָ בְּמֵאֹד מְאֹד וְנִתְחַדָּךְ לְגוֹיִם יְמֻלְכִים מִמֶּנּוּ יֵצְאוּ: וְהִקְמַתִּי אֶת־בְּרִיתִי בֵינִי וּבֵינְךָ בֵּין וְרַעְיָ אַחֲרֶיךָ לְדֹרֹתָם לְבְרִית עוֹלָם לְהִיוֹת לְךָ לְאֱלֹהִים וְלִרְעֵף אַחֲרֶיךָ: וְנִתְחַדָּךְ לְךָ וְלִרְעֵף אַחֲרֶיךָ אֶת־אֶרֶץ מִגְרִיד אֶת־כָּל־אֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן לְאַחֲזָה עוֹלָם וְהָיִיתִי לָהֶם לְאֱלֹהִים: וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים אֶל־אֲבְרָהָם וְאָמַח אֶת־בְּרִיתִי הַשְּׂמֹר אֶתְּךָ וְרַעְיָ אַחֲרֶיךָ לְדֹרֹתָם: וְאֵת בְּרִיתִי אֲשֶׁר תִּשְׁמְרוּ בֵינִי וּבֵינֵיכֶם וּבֵין וְרַעְיָ אַחֲרֶיךָ הַמּוֹל לָכֶם כָּל־זָכָר: וַיִּמְלֹתָם אֶת־בָּשָׂר עַרְלֹתְכֶם וְהָיָה לְאוֹת בְּרִית בֵּינִי וּבֵינֵיכֶם: וּבְרִיתֵיכֶם יִמּוֹל לָכֶם כָּל־זָכָר לְדֹרֹתֵיכֶם וַיֵּלֶד בְּיָתֵי וּמִקְנֵה־כֶסֶף מִכָּל בְּרִיתֵיכֶם לְאֵשֶׁר מִרְעֵף הוּא: הַמּוֹל יִמּוֹל וַיֵּלֶד בְּיָתֵי וּמִקְנֵה־כֶסֶף וְהָיָה בְרִיתִי בְּבָשָׂרְכֶם לְבְרִית עוֹלָם: וְעָרַל זָכָר אֲשֶׁר	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15
---	--	---