

6.. Notes on the Hebrew Infinitive

On page 29 we promised you we would look these up some day and make a few notes on them. That day is now.

--The infinitive is a verbal noun ..a noun that embodies the idea of the action of the verb. It is a part of the verb system and is generally thought of as being part of the imperfect order.

--Hebrew verbs have two infinities:

The Infinitive AbsoluteThe Infinitive Construct

(the terms absolute and construct are not used as they are with nouns in normal declension)

The particular inflection of each must be learned in a course of Hebrew but...

The Infinitive construct is used with particular prepositions for special clauses like this:

- ל clauses of purpose, result, etc
- ב locative, instrument clauses
- כ temporal clauses

(these are not perfectly ordered so exceptions may exist.)

Note examples from page 21:

Line 5... **בַּיָּאָתָוּ** "when he went  
infinitive construct **יָאָתָוּ**

preposition **בְּ**

use is temporal

pronoun suffix **וּ** "he"

line 14:

**לַיָּוֵרָה** "to journey" purpose  
or result"