

(3) Identifying Procedures

The chief clues are largely negative. There are no tell-tale dageshes, no lengthened preformatives, no "i-class" vowels helping in the joining of sffs. However:

- (a) the preformative vowel may be different from what you expect.
- (b) there are only two unmarked radicals in the stem
- (c) a strong holem vowel may be used to add cons. sffs.
- (d) and there may be no alternative form reasonable!

(4) Some representative forms

קָאָל ..Q. Part Act or Q. 3 m.s. Pf.
 אֶקוּם ..impf Qal with waw retained
 הִיקוּם ..Hiphil pf.
 נִשׁוּב ..Niphal Pf.
 בָּשַׁרְתִּי ..Q. Pf.
 הִבְנִי ..Hophal

- (5) Finally: One of the most important features is that the new preformative vowels are also used for ayin-ayin, the next system we tackle.

e. The Ayin-Ayin system(1) The Irregularity

The second and third radicals are the same! The weakness is the tendency of the third radical to assimilate with the second. This leaves but two radicals...enough for a revolution but not for a Hebrew verb. If your imagination is strong, you can see that the ayin ayin is about the reverse of the pe nun but if your imagery is weak, forget that I said it.

- (a) the third radical always assimilates with the second when any sufformative is joined to the stem. The second radical is appropriately marked with a dagesh.
- (b) the third radical is retained in the Qal Participles and the infinitive absolute, otherwise it is just gone. There are intensive stems where it occurs but these are apparent occurrences to be treated later.
- (c) preformative vowels like those of the ayin waw system are used in forming the words.