Biblical Hebrew Course 101
Learning to Read Biblical Hebrew
Lesson 7
שִׁעוּר ז

Diphthong & Dagesh Kal

Lighting candles & eating challah is a wonderful way to welcome in Shabbat.

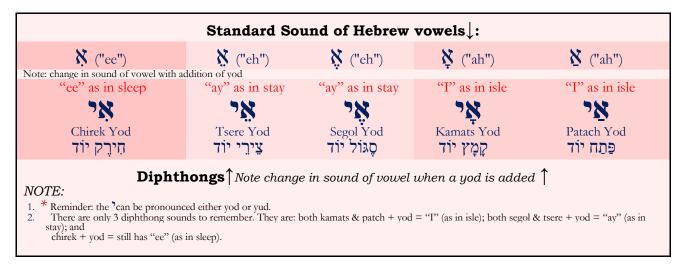"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy," Exodus 20:8 NASB, from the Ten Commandments

Continue reinforcing the Hebrew aleph-bet

7.01 *Sound-A-Like consonants: consonants with the same sound*

Notice these consonants which sound-a-like:		
Letter	**Name of letter**	**Sound**
ב	vet	v, as in vice
ו	vav	v, as in vice
ט	tet	t, as in tell
ת	tav	t, as in tell
ח	chet	ch, as in Bach
כ	chaf	ch, as in Bach
ך	chaf sofit	same sound as כ; only it is the final letter of a word
כּ	kaf	k, as in keep
ק	koof	k, as in keep
שׂ	sin (pronounced seen)	s, as in set
ס	samech	s, as in set

7.02 *Diphthongs: a "yod" plus another vowel act as a unit & form a new sound*

Standard Sound of Hebrew vowels↓:				
אִ ("ee")	אֵ ("eh")	אֶ ("eh")	אָ ("ah")	אַ ("ah")
Note: change in sound of vowel with addition of yod				
"ee" as in sleep	"ay" as in stay	"ay" as in stay	"I" as in isle	"I" as in isle
אִי	אֵי	אֶי	אָי	אַי
Chirek Yod	Tsere Yod	Segol Yod	Kamats Yod	Patach Yod
חִירֶק יוֹד	צֵירֵי יוֹד	סֶגּוֹל יוֹד	קָמָץ יוֹד	פַּתַח יוֹד

Diphthongs↑ *Note change in sound of vowel when a yod is added* ↑

NOTE:
1. * Reminder: the י can be pronounced either yod or yud.
2. There are only 3 diphthong sounds to remember. They are: both kamats & patch + yod = "I" (as in isle); both segol & tsere + yod = "ay" (as in stay); and chirek + yod = still has "ee" (as in sleep).

7.03 *Practice reading words with diphthongs*

Words with diphthongs (note: accented syllables are in bold & highlighted)		
Hebrew	**Translation**	**Transliteration**
1.מַיִם	water	**mi***-yeem (*"i" as in "isle")
2. יָם	Sea (REMINDER: indented Hebrew words signify that they are from the same root as the word above.)	yahm
3. שָׁמַיִם	heaven	shah-**mi**-yeem
4.אָדוֹן	lord, master (Josh 3:11, 13; Neh 7:61; Ps 12:5, 97:5, 105:21, 114:7, Jer 22:18, 34:5; Zech 4:14, 6:5)	ah-**dohn**
5. אֲדֹנִי	My Lord (Ps 110:1)	Ah-doh-**nee**
6. אֲדֹנֵי הָאֲדֹנִים	Lord of the lords, hosts (Deut 10:17; Ps 136:3)	Ah-doh -**nay*** -- hah-ah-doh-**neem** (*"ay": as in "stay")
7. אֲדֹנִי יהוה	Lord YHVH, Lord God (Gen 15:2, 8; Deut 3:24, 9:26; Jdg 6:22, 16:28; Ps 69:7, 71:5, 16; etc)	Ah-doh-**ni*** (*long "I" as in isle) -- Yah-**veh**
8. הָאָדוֹן יהוה	The Lord YHVH, the Lord God (Ex 23:17, 34:23)	hah-Ah-**dohn** --Yah-**veh**
9. אֲדֹנֵינוּ	our Lord (1Sam 16:16) Used to refer to leaders, eg King David (1Sam 25:14, 17; 1Ki 1:43, 47; Neh 10:30; Ps 8:2,10)	Ah-doh-**nay***-noo (*"ay": as in "stay")
10.הָיָה	he was	hiy-**yah**
11.חַגַּי	Haggai, as in the book of *Haggai*	chahg-**gi*** (*"i" as in "isle")
12.בֵּין	between	bayn (*"ay": as in "stay")
13.אֵיפֹה	where? (interrogative or question word)	**ay***-foh
14.סִינַי	Sinai	See-**ni*** (*"i" as in "isle")
15.אֱלֹהִים	God (Elohim)	Eh-loh-**heem**
16.וִיחֻנֶּךָּ	and He will be gracious to you, will give you favor (from the Aaronic blessing [aka Birkat Kohanim or Priestly Blessing], Num 6:26)	vee-choon-**neh**-chah
17. חֵן	grace, favor, pleasant	chehn
18.הִיא	she	hee
19.חַי	live (verb)	chi* (*"i" as in "isle")
20. חַיִּים	living or life	chiy-**yeem**
21. לְחַיִּים	to life! (a common Hebrew toast)	leh-**chiy**-yeem
22.אֵלֶיךָ	to you or upon you (this word is also in the Aaronic blessing [aka Birkat Kohanim or Priestly Blessing], Num 6:25)	eh-**lay***-chah (*"ay": as in "stay")

7.04 *INTERESTING FACT: Did you know?*

Generally, a "J" in English name is translated as a "yod/yud" in Hebrew. For example: Joseph in English is Yosef in Hebrew; Jacob, Yaakov; Jerusalem, Yerushalayim

7.05 *Introducing the dagesh & the dagesh kal*

1. **A dagesh is a dot within a consonant**
   - There are two types of dagesh in Hebrew: dagesh kal & dagesh chazak
2. **Dagesh kal (דָּגֵשׁ קַל) is also called dagesh lene (or a weak dagesh)**
   - **Where is dagesh kal found?** It is in 6 letters: ב, ג, ד, כ, פ, ת. BeGeD KeFeT (in Hebrew: בֶּגֶד כֶּפֶת) is the acronym for these letters. (Examples of acronyms in English are ASAP; FYI;)
     - Note: in only 3 of these 6 letters does the dagesh kal actually change the sound: the ב changes to בּ; the כ to כּ; the פ to פּ.
   - **What rules pertain to dagesh kal?**
     - It is found in the 1st letter of a word or in a consonant that opens a syllable.
     - Dagesh kal never follows a full vowel.

7.06 *Words with dagesh kal*

Hebrew	Translation	Transliteration (please try to read before looking at transliteration) Syllable that is accented is shown below with yellow bold highlight.
בְּרֵאשִׁית	In the beginning (Gen 1:1)	beh-reh-**sheet** * Dagesh Kal (bet is part of the בֶּגֶד כֶּפֶת. When a word begins with a bet, there is a change in pronunciation)
כִּי	When, because, or like (Ex 1:2)	kee * Dagesh Kal (caf is part of the בֶּגֶד כֶּפֶת . When a word begins with a chaf, the chaf changes to a kaf)
בַּמִּדְבָּר*	in the wilderness or desert (Dt 1:1)	bahm-meed-**bahr** * There are two dagesh kals: (each ב is part of בֶּגֶד כֶּפֶת . The 1st bet is in the 1st letter of the word; the 2nd bet opens the syllable) * the מ is not part of בֶּגֶד כֶּפֶת & will be explained in Lesson 8
דָּג	fish (Jonah 1:17)	dahg * Dagesh Kal (dalet is part of בֶּגֶד כֶּפֶת)
פַּרְעֹה	Pharaoh (Gen 47:10)	pahr-**oh** * Dagesh Kal (pay is part of בֶּגֶד כֶּפֶת)

7.07 *Hebrew Blessing:* practice reading & listening 🔊 www.faithfulstewardship.org/hebrew-blessings/

Blessed be YHVH for evermore! Amen and amen." (Psalms 89:52)		
Hebrew	**Translation**	**Transliteration** Note: accented syllable is bolded
בָּרוּךְ	blessed or praise	bah-**rooch**
יְהוָה	YHVH / LORD	YH**VH** (or Adonai)
לְעוֹלָם*	forevermore (***Notice:** sometimes the cholam floats to the right & isn't properly aligned over the vav. This is common when using left-to-right computers 🙄)	leh-oh*-**lahm**
אָמֵן וְאָמֵן	Amen and amen	ah-mehn veh-ah-**mehn**

CANDLELIGHT BLESSING:

**בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יהוה אֱלֹהֵנוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם

... אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְנָתַן-לָנוּ אֶת יֵשׁוּעַ מְשִׁיחֵנוּ אוֹר הָעוֹלָם. (אָמֵן)

" Blessed are You, YHVH, our God, King of the Universe Who makes us holy with His commandments; and gave to us Yeshua our Meshiach, the light of the world. Amen...

Hebrew	Translation	Transliteration Note: accented syllable is bolded
בָּרוּךְ	blessed or praise	bah-**ruch**
אַתָּה	you (masculine singular pronoun)	aht-**tah**
יהוה	YHVH / Lᴏʀᴅ	YH**VH** (or Adonai)
אֱלֹהֵנוּ	our God	Eh-lo-**heh**-noo
מֶלֶךְ	king (of)	**meh**-lech
הָעוֹלָם	the universe	hah-o-**lahm**
אֲשֶׁר	who or which	ah-**shehr**

קִדְּשָׁנוּ	makes us holy	keed-deh-**shah**-noo
		  (commonly pronounced
		  keed-dee-**shah**-noo)

*בְּמִצְוֹתָיו	in His commandments (*the i looks like a cholam vav, but it is a vav + cholam. It's sound is "vo". More info in Tip below. <u>Also</u>, the suffix יוֹ is pronounced "tahv")	beh-meetz-vo*-**tahv**
וְנָתַן	and he gave	veh-nah-**tahn**
לָנוּ	to us	**lah**-noo
*אֶת	(*This is a Definite Direct Object Marker, meaning a direct object follows the word "eht/אֶת" There is no equivalent term in English)	eht
יֵשׁוּעַ	Yeshua	Yeh-**shoo**-ah

מְשִׁיחֵנוּ	our Messiah	Meh-she-**cheh**-noo
		  (commonly pronounced
		  Meh-she-**chay**-noo)

אוֹר	light ('ohr' is included in construction of אוֹר)	ohr
הָעוֹלָם	the world	hah-o-**lahm**

Grammar-made-simple: בְּמִצְוֹתָיו

1. In the word (בְּמִצְוֹתָיו), the "tsade" has a sheva; the sheva closes the previous syllable.
   a. In many ways this word is a "sight word."
      i. Is the "vav" a consonant or part of a holam vav? It is the consonant vav & not part of the holam vav. We know because a syllable cannot begin with vowel (the holam vav, in this instance); therefore, this vav is be a consonant.
      ii. What about the holam that is above the vav? It is a holam which floated over the vav. It should be to the left of the vav. So, the cholam gives the vav the V-oh sound.
2. The pronominal suffix יוֹ is pronounced "tahv". This pronominal suffix ending is 3ʳᵈ person masculine singular & is translated as "his".

KIDDUSH BLESSING (blessing over grape juice/wine):

** בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יהוה אֱלֹהֵנוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
בּוֹרֵא פְּרִי הַגָּפֶן (אָמֵן)

" Blessed are You, YHVH, our God, King of the Universe
Who creates the fruit of the vine. Amen"

Hebrew	Translation	Transliteration Note: accented syllable is bolded
בּוֹרֵא	creates, makes, shapes, forms	bo-**reh**
פְּרִי	fruit of	p'ree
הַגָּפֶן	the vine	hahg-**gah**-fehn

MOTZI BLESSING (blessing over bread/food):

** בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יהוה אֱלֹהֵנוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
הַמּוֹצִיא לֶחֶם מִן הָאָרֶץ: (אָמֵן)

"Blessed are You, YHVH, our God, King of the Universe
Who brings forth bread from the earth. Amen"

Hebrew	Translation	Transliteration Note: accented syllable is bolded
הַמּוֹצִיא	(Who) brings forth	hahm-**mo**-tzee
לֶחֶם	bread	**leh**-chehm
מִן	from	meen
הָאָרֶץ	the earth	hah-**ah**-rehtz

Yonah Black is getting ready to light
Shabbat candles.

** The majority of Hebrew blessings all begin
with this phrase & then add to it:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יהוה אֱלֹהֵנוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
*Blessed are You, YHVH, our God, King of the
Universe …*