

Biblical Hebrew Course 101

– Boot Camp –

Learning to Read Biblical Hebrew

Lesson 1 -- supplement

לְשׁוֹרָא

Practice the Hebrew Aleph-Bet



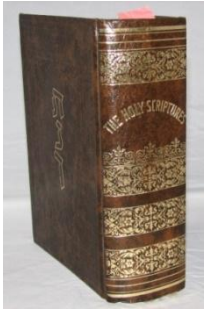
Congregation Faithful Stewardship Torah Scroll. (Written in Romania, circa 1936, during the rise of extreme anti-Semitism which led to WWII and the Holocaust.)

- 1.01 supplement Introducing the first 5 consonants: aleph - hay
- 1.02 supplement Practice saying the first 5 consonants & the first two vowels
- 1.03 supplement Now, practice saying and writing
- 1.04 supplement Practice reading actual Hebrew words
- 1.05 supplement Extra practice

Did You Know: *What did Yeshua study?*

During the time of Yeshua (Jesus), all followers of Yeshua including Yeshua Himself, the Apostles, Paul, James, etc. each read weekly from the Hebrew Scriptures (the Torah and the TaNaKh, (aka Old Testament)) on a table (which is called the Bema) in the synagogues.

1.01 supplement *First 5 consonants (aka letters) in the Aleph-Bet* (אָלֶפֶת-בֵּית)



The objective of this course is to learn to read -- write -- study in the Hebrew language of the LORD. Our desire is to learn to study God's Word effectively, which includes studying in the original language.

In this lesson, we will:

- Begin to learn to pronounce Biblical Hebrew with Sephardic pronunciation.
- (Sephardic is the pronunciation that is used in Israel today.)
- Begin to print in Hebrew with Block (aka Square) letters.
- Sound out the first 5 letters of the Aleph-Bet with the first 2 vowels (aka nikkud).

1.02 supplement *Practice the first 5 consonants (aka letters)*

1. Read the name of each letter below. (Refer to Sound of Letter column for pronunciation.)
2. Do *the hand*: make a fist with your right hand. Point thumb down and say *aleph*. Raise index finger - say *bet*. Lift middle finger - say *gimmel*. Lift ring finger – say *dalet*. And finally lift pinkie – say *hay*.
3. Print each letter. (Copy the Block print below & refer to Aleph-Bet chart for letter formulation.)



Consonants (aka letters) & Vowels (aka nikkudot נִקּוּדוֹת)					
Please note that there are two forms of the ב.					
The first is the בּ (<i>bet</i> , which has a dot/dagesh), while the second is the ב (<i>vet</i> , does not have a dot/dagesh).					
Book Print	Numeric Value	Name of Letter	Sound of Letter	Block Print (There are slight stylistic variations in the how each person writes a letter)	Write Each Hebrew Letter
א	1	aleph		א	
ב בּ	2	bet vet		ב בּ	
ג	3	gimmel		ג	
ד	4	dalet		ד	
ה	5	hay		ה	
Vowels (Note: the aleph is used below for illustration purposes. These vowels can be used with most consonants) NOTE: generally vowels are written below the consonant		Name of Vowel NOTE: Vowels cannot stand alone & must be preceded by a consonant	Sound of Vowel There are two “ah” vowels in Hebrew. This is similar to English words that may be pronounced the same but spelled differently: “sew” & “so”.	Block Print	Write
אָ		<i>kamats</i> : קָמֵץ		אָ	
אַ		<i>patach</i> : פְּתַח		אַ	

1.03 supplement *Now, practice saying and writing*

First 5 Letters (Consonants #1-5) & 2 vowels (nikkudot): patach & kamats				
Letter	Name	Sound	Block	Write Each Hebrew Letter & Vowel
א	aleph		א	
אָ	aleph with kamats		אָ	
אֲ	aleph with patach		אֲ	
ב	bet		ב	
בָּ	bet with kamats		בָּ	
בַּ	bet with patach		בַּ	
ו	vet		ו	
וָּ	vet with kamats		וָּ	
וַּ	vet with patach		וַּ	
ג	gimmel		ג	
גָּ	gimmel with kamats		גָּ	
גַּ	gimmel with patach		גַּ	
ד	dalet		ד	
דָּ	dalet with kamats		דָּ	
דַּ	dalet with patach		דַּ	
ה	hay		ה	
הָּ	hay with kamats		הָּ	
הַּ	hay with patach		הַּ	

1.04 supplement *Practice reading actual Hebrew words*

Our objective in Hebrew 101 is to become familiar with the letters and their sounds
 *not* to memorize words.



Always remember to read: right to left and top to bottom.

Read & Write words below		
Hebrew	Translation	Write each Hebrew word 5 times
NOTE: <i>generally vowels are written below the consonant</i>		
1) בְּהָ	in her (note: in Lesson 6, we will study why some Hebrew letters have a dot (dagesh) & why others do not.)	
2) אָב*	Av is the 5 th month of the Biblical year, counting from Nisan. (*note: there are 2 forms for this consonant. When there is no “dot,” it is a <i>vet</i> ב; when there is a “dot,” it is a <i>bet</i> בּ)	
3) אָב	father	
4) אָהֵב	he loved	
5) גָּד	Gad (as in the tribe of Gad)	
6) אָבַד	he was lost or perished	

1.05 supplement *Extra practice*

Extra Practice reading and writing (note this is 1.06 in Lesson 1)		
Hebrew	Translation	Practice Writing Each Hebrew Word Below
1) בָּא	I <u>come</u> (masculine); also he <u>came</u> ; arrived	
2) בָּאָה	I <u>come</u> (feminine); also she <u>came</u>	
3) אָבָה	he was willing	
4) בָּגַד	he acted deceitfully or treacherously – <i>verb</i> (1Sam 14:33)	
5) בָּדַד	alone (Lev 13:46)	
6) גָּאָה	he exalted, triumphed – <i>verb</i> (Ex 15:1, 21)	