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MINISTRIES

LEARN BIBLICAL HEBREW LESSON 2

SUMMARY:

- The first Hebrew letter is the Aleph : א
 - Aleph is silent
- The second Hebrew letter is the Bet : ב
 - Bet can make two different sounds. When it has a *dagesh*, that is, a dot in the center, it makes the sound of the letter B. Without a dagesh, it makes the sound of the letter V.
בּ = "B" ב = "V"
- One of the Hebrew vowel points is the Qamats : ׁ
 - Qamats is written underneath of a letter. It makes the sound "ah".
 - To pronounce the Qamats, first pronounce the sound of the letter above it, then pronounce the sound of the Qamats.
Example : בּׁ is pronounced "BA"
- With an Aleph, a Qamats, and a Bet, we can make a word, pronounced "Av", which means *father*. Hebrew is read from right to left, so the Aleph is pronounced first, then the Qamats, then the Bet.
בּׁא = "AV"
- The third letter is Gimel : ג
 - Gimel makes the sound of the letter G, as in *girl*.
- The fourth letter is Dalet : ד
 - Dalet makes the sound of the letter D.

- With a Dalet, a Qamats, and a Gimel, we can make a word, pronounced “Dag”, which means *fish*.

דָּג = “DAG”

- The fifth letter is Hey : ה
- Hey makes the sound of the letter H. At the end of a word, Hey is silent.
- Another Hebrew vowel point is the Patach : פָּ
- Patach is written underneath of a letter.
- It makes the sound “ah”, just like the Qamats.

EXERCISES:

Translation is taking a word from one language and conveying its *meaning* into another language.

Transliteration is taking a word from one language and conveying its *sound* by using the letters of another language.

Here is an example of transliteration:

Transliterate the name *Bob* into Hebrew : **בּוֹב**

Here, we have used Hebrew letters and vowels to make something that sounds like the name *Bob*. Practicing transliteration can help you remember the sounds that the Hebrew letters and vowels make.

Transliterate the following sounds using Hebrew letters and vowels:

1. Ha
2. Ga
3. Dada
4. Aha
5. Odd

Pronounce the following Hebrew words:

6. **אָב**
7. **אָב**
8. **אָב**
9. **אָבִי**
10. **אָבִי**

Answers can be found on the next page.

ANSWERS:

NOTE: In the answers to the transliteration exercises below, if you used Patach vowels instead of Qamats vowels, your answer is still correct, because these two vowels make the same sound.

When spelling *actual* Hebrew words, it is important to use the correct vowels.

1. בָּ

2. אָ

3. אָאָ

4. אָאָ

5. אָאָ

6. "BAH"

Ba is a real Hebrew word. It means *coming*.

7. "GAD"

This word is pronounced very similarly to the English word *god*, however, it is a Hebrew word that means *fortune*. It is also the name of one of Jacob's sons, one of the tribes of Israel.

8. "AD"

This is not pronounced "add," but is closer to "odd" (remember, Patach makes the sound "ah"). This is a word that means *until*.

9. "AH-BAH"

Frequently written *abba*, this is an informal way of saying *father* (similar to the English *daddy*).

10. "BA-AH"

This word has two syllables, "BAH", followed immediately by "AH". This word also means *coming*.