

**Biblical Hebrew 102**  
*Introduction to Grammatical Concepts*  
Lesson 14  
שְׁעוֹר יד

**Introduction to Stand-Alone Prepositions  
& Introduction to Translation**



“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path,” Ps 119:105.

***What we will learn in Lesson 14***

- 14.01 Hebrew prepositions
- 14.02 Intro to stand-alone propositions
- 14.03 Homework Worksheet Vocabulary (stand-alone prepositions)
- 14.04 Homework Worksheet Exercise (answers on 14.05)
- 14.05 Answers to Homework Worksheet (Exercise 14.04)
- 14.06 Three essential fundamentals of Scripture study
- 14.07 Introduction to translating the Biblical text
- 14.08 Vocabulary Words for Lesson 14
- 14.09 Weekly Parasha Reading

## 14.01 Hebrew prepositions

A preposition is a word that precedes a noun, pronoun, or noun. Prepositions give direction, time, place, location in reference to the noun. Some examples of prepositions are words like "in," "at," "on," "of," and "to." For example: the book is *on* the table. (The preposition is *on*).

## 14.02 Intro to stand-alone prepositions (aka independent prepositions)

First, let's learn independent, or stand-alone, prepositions. These are words by themselves.

- Examples of independent or stand-alone prepositions:

עַל (on, upon\*), אֶל (to, for), תַּחַת (under), & אַחֲרַי (after)

*\* Note: Context is important. The English word you choose for translation can vary according to the context.*

- Examples of independent prepositions in a phrase:

before the father = לִפְנֵי הָאָב

after the man = אַחֲרֵי הָאִישׁ

until Israel = עַד יִשְׂרָאֵל

to the mountains = אֶל הַהָרִים

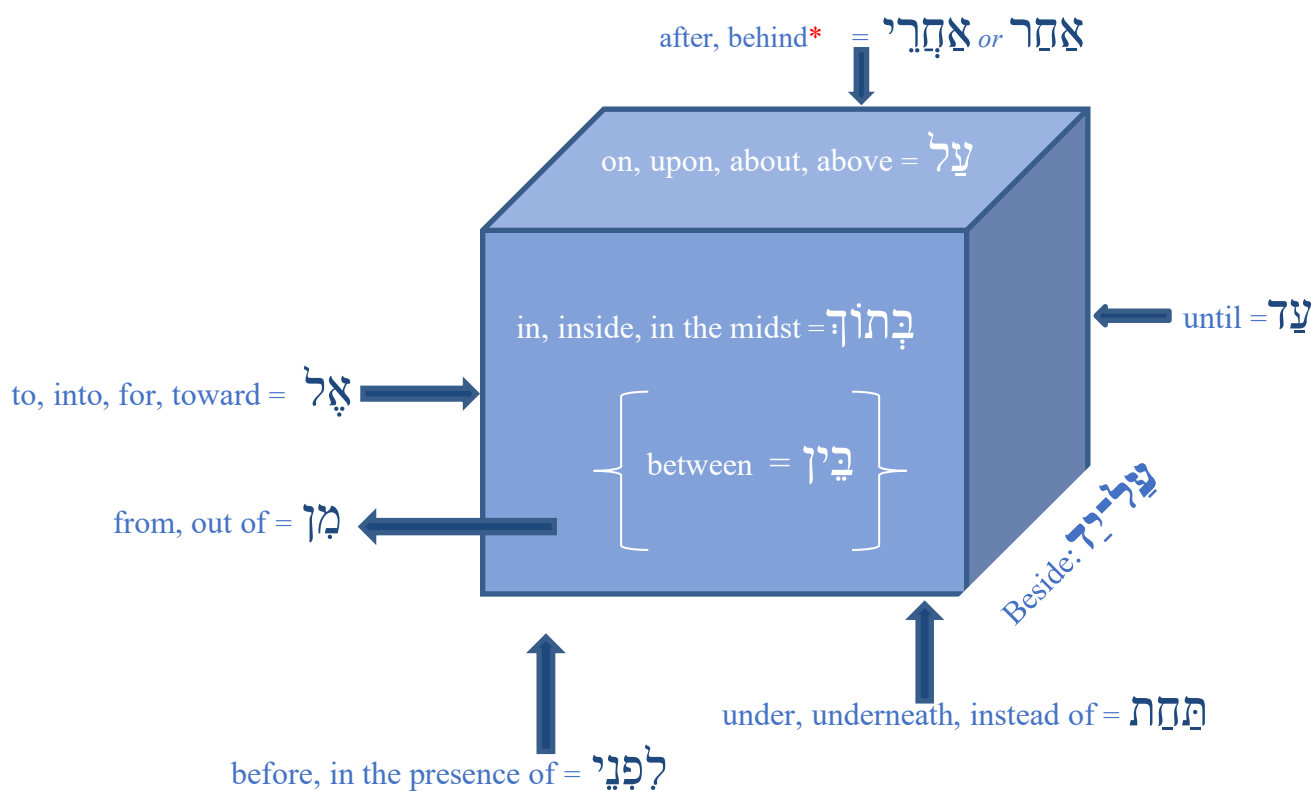
from the Torah = מִן הַתּוֹרָה

on the land = עַל הָאָרֶץ

under a mare (female horse) = תַּחַת סוּסָה

inside the heart (physical condition in the heart, not an emotion) = בְּתוֹךְ הַלֵּב

We encourage you to refer to the cube below often & even memorize it:



### 14.03 Homework Worksheet Vocabulary (stand-alone prepositions)

Vocabulary for basic stand-alone prepositions (refer to 14.02 for cube diagram)

אַחֵר	after or behind*	בֵּין	between
אַחֲרַי	after or behind	אֶל	to, into, for, toward
עַל	on, upon, about, above	מִן	from, out of
לִפְנֵי	before, in the presence of	תַּחַת	under, underneath, instead of
בְּתוֹךְ	in, inside, in the midst	עַד	until

\* **Reminder:** Context is important. *The English word you choose for the translation depending upon context.*

### 14.04 Homework Worksheet Exercise (answers on 14.05)

Write the English or Hebrew translation & abbreviation for the following words		
Write Hebrew Translation	Write English Translation	Write Hebrew Abbreviations/parsing
1. לִפְנֵי		prep (preposition)
2. סוּס		N-ms
3. לִפְנֵי הָאָב		prep; art; N-ms
4.	<u>after</u> the man	
5. אֶל		
6. עַל		
7.	<u>to</u> the mountains	
8. מִן		
9. עַד יִשְׂרָאֵל	<u>until</u> Israel (the country)	prep; N-prop-fs
10. מִן הַתּוֹרָה	<u>from</u> the Torah	
11. תַּחַת		
12.	<u>under</u> a mare (female horse)	
13. בְּתוֹךְ		
14. בְּתוֹךְ הַלֵּב		
15.	<u>after</u>	prep
16. מִן הַתּוֹרָה		
17.	<u>until</u>	
18. אֶל הַקָּרִים		prep; art; N-mp

#### 14.05 *Answers to Homework Worksheet (Exercise 14.04)*

ANSWERS to phrases with stand-alone prepositions		
1. לְפָנַי	before	prep
2. סוּס	horse (male)	N-ms
3. לְפָנַי הָאָב	before the father	prep; art; N-ms
4. אַחֲרֵי הָאִישׁ	after the man	prep; art; N-ms
5. אֶל	to, into, for, toward	prep
6. עַל	on, upon, about, above	prep
7. אֶל הַהָרִים	to the mountains	prep; art; N-mp
8. מִן	from, out of	prep
9. עַד יִשְׂרָאֵל	until Israel (the country)	prep; N-prop
10. מִן הַתּוֹרָה	from the Torah	prep; art; N-prop
11. תַּחַת	under	prep
12. תַּחַת סוּסָה	under a mare (female horse)	prep; N-fs
13. בְּתוֹךְ	inside	prep
14. בְּתוֹךְ הַלֵּב	inside the heart (physical condition, not an emotion)	prep; art; N-ms
15. אַחֲרֵי	after	prep
16. מִן הַתּוֹרָה	from the Torah	prep; art; N-prop
17. עַד	until	prep
18. אֶל הַהָרִים	to the mountains	prep; art; N-mp

#### 14.06 *Three essential fundamentals of Scripture study*

**Literal interpretation:** “Is my understanding of the passage literal?”

The literal interpretation of the Biblical text is reading the Scripture literally; understanding what the actual words mean within the context of that passage. The context informs if a passage is to be understood as a parable or an allegory.

**Historical:** “What did the passage mean during that time?”

Historical interpretation of the Biblical text is examining the passage within the setting in which it was written - from a social, economic, political, and religious perspective. It is also important to understand the historical timeline of the particular event.

**Contextual:** “Is my understanding of this passage consistent with all of Scripture?”

Contextual interpretation of the Biblical text is examining a word or phrase:

<sup>1)</sup> within the context of that passage,

<sup>2)</sup> within the book in which it is located, and

<sup>3)</sup> within entire Bible. (It is dangerous to pull out a verse without studying it within the Scripture at large.)

#### 14.07 *Introduction to translating the Biblical text*

We are often asked which translation of the Bible is best. Truthfully, the very best translation is your personal translation. While this may seem over-whelming, we will guide you step-by-step. Good news: the abbreviations and parsing that we began introducing in Lesson 11 is the first step!

***Parsing abbreviations we will use as we study the weekly parasha:***

##### ***Person***

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | 1st person (I or we (singular or plural))                       |
| 2 | 2nd person (you masculine or you feminine (singular or plural)) |
| 3 | 3rd person (he, she, or it (singular or plural))                |

##### ***Gender***

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| m | masculine                                     |
| f | feminine                                      |
| c | common (used for either masculine & feminine) |

##### ***Additional abbreviations***

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| adj      | adjective   |
| adv      | adverb  |
| art      | article   |
| c        | common gender   |
| conj     | conjunction   |
| consec   | consecutive   |
| cstr     | construct   |
| dem pro  | demonstrative pronoun   |
| do       | definite direct object marker (also abbreviated: DOM or DDOM) |
| inf      | infinitive  |
| inter    | interrogative   |
| N        | Noun  |
| N-prop   | Noun-proper (proper noun)                                     |
| part     | particle  |
| pers pro | personal pronoun  |
| (pf)     | prefix  |
| prep     | preposition   |
| pro      | pronoun   |
| ptc      | participle  |
| rel      | relative pronoun  |
| segh     | segholate   |
| (sf)     | suffix  |
| V        | Verb  |
| wci      | vav <i>Conversive</i> Imperfect (also abbreviated: conj-w)    |

### Example of how to utilize parsing

## Va'era (וָאֵרָא, & I appeared) - wk 14

Torah reading: שמות (Exodus) Exodus Ex 6:2-9:35

Haftarah reading: Ezekiel 28:25-29:21

Apostolic Scripture reading: Rom 9:14-17; 2Cor 6:14-7:1

פָּרָשָׁת וַאֲרָא (Parasha or portion of Torah reading) -- פְּרָקוּ (chapter) -- פְּסוּקוּ (verse) --

Hear *Va'era* read in Hebrew: [www.RestoringTorah.org](http://www.RestoringTorah.org)

- Classroom Hebrew reading of Exodus 6:2 & 3 by Les'a (go to link and scroll to appropriate reading):
- Shmuelof reading (wait until 0.13: <https://www.mechon-mamre.org/mp3/t0206.mp3>)

## Exodus 6:2

NIV <sup>2</sup>God also said to Moses, "I am the LORD [YHVH].

WEB<sup>2</sup> God spoke to Moses, and said to him, "I am Yahweh; (World English Bible)

YLT<sup>2</sup> And God speaketh unto Moses, and saith unto him, 'I am Jehovah, (Young's Literal Translation)

**YOUR TRANSLATION:**

\_\_\_\_\_

## Steps to parsing

1. Draw lines between the specific Hebrew & English words or phrases
  2. Draw vertical lines, signifying where breath marks (or pauses) are
  3. Below each Hebrew word in the verses, write the parsing, using the abbreviations
  4. Above each Hebrew word write the English word translation
- 5. DO NOT FRUSTRATE** yourself by attempting to fill in the parsing we've not yet covered in class 😊

**Westminster Leningrad Codex:** (note: the Hebrew Bible reference is: Ex 6:2 שְׁמוֹת, ו', ב)

YHWH I | To him and He | Moses To | God and said  
 : וַיְדַבֵּר אֱלֹהִים אֶל-מֹשֶׁה וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אֲנִי יְהוָה:  
 N- prep pers pro 1cs prep 3ms (sc) N- prep N- prep N- prep  
 וַיְדַבֵּר אֱלֹהִים אֶל-מֹשֶׁה וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אֲנִי יְהוָה:

#### 14.08 *Vocabulary Words: stand-alone prepositions* (refer to 14.02 for cube diagram)

We encourage you to learn these stand-alone prepositions. They are used throughout the TaNaKh.

אַחֵר	after or behind	בֵּין	between
אַחֲרַי	after or behind	אֶל	to, into, for, toward
עַל	on, upon, about, above	מִן	from, out of
לִפְנֵי	before, in the presence of	תַּחַת	under, underneath, instead of
בְּתוֹךְ	in, inside, in the midst	עַד	until

#### 14.09 *Weekly Parasha reading* listed on CFS website: [www.FaithfulStewardship.org](http://www.FaithfulStewardship.org)

GO to CFS website: [www.FaithfulStewardship.org](http://www.FaithfulStewardship.org)

CLICK on **Calendar**.

THEN, select **Yearly Calendars**.

NOW, select the **current year** (eg: 2025 Calendar & Readings)

THEN, scroll down to the **current month** (eg Aug 2025 calendar).

FINALLY, click on **current week** (eg 08/30/2025)