

## Genesis 18:6-10

וַיִּמְהַר אַבְרָהָם הָאֱלֹהִים אֶל־שָׂרָה וַיֹּאמֶר מַה־רִי שְׁלֹשׁ סָאִים קֶמַח  
סֹלֶת לְוֹשִׁי וְעֵשִׂי עֲגוֹת: 7 וְאֶל־הַבָּקָר רֵץ אַבְרָהָם וַיִּקַּח בֶּן־בָּקָר רֶדֶד  
וְטוֹב וַיִּתֵּן אֶל־הַנְּעָר וַיִּמְהַר לַעֲשׂוֹת אֹתוֹ: 8 וַיִּקַּח חֶמְאָה וְחֹלֵב  
וּבֶן־הַבָּקָר אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה וַיִּתֵּן לַפְּנִיָּהִם וְהוּא־עֹמֵד עָלֵיהֶם תַּחַת הָעֵץ  
וַיֹּאכְלוּ: 9 וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֵלָיו אֵיךְ שָׂרָה אֲשֶׁתְּךָ וַיֹּאמֶר הִנֵּה בְּאֵהָל:  
10 וַיֹּאמֶר שׁוּב אֲשׁוּב אֵלֶיךָ כְּעֵת חַיָּה וְהִנֵּה־בֶן לְשָׂרָה אֲשֶׁתְּךָ וְשָׂרָה  
שֹׁמֵעַת פֶּתַח הָאֵהָל וְהוּא אֲחֵרָיו:

### Vocabulary

#### Verse 6

מהר verb (*Piel waw*-consecutive imperfect 3ms): “hasten”

סאה “measure of grain” (BDB, 684)

קמח “flour” (BDB, 887)

סלת “fine flour”

לוש verb: “knead” (BDB, 534)

עגה “bread cake” (BDB, 728)

### Syntax & Miscellaneous

- The final he suffixed to אהל is a directional he. It functions similarly as the following prepositional phrase marked by אל.
- The verb, לוש, implies an object (such as בצק “dough”) even if not stated.
- Each of the verbs in the quotation is a feminine singular imperative.

### Vocabulary

#### Verse 7

רדד “tender” (BDB, 940)

#### Verse 8

חמאה “curd” (BDB, 326)

חלב “milk” (BDB, 316)

#### Verse 9

איה interrogative: “where” (BDB, 32)

#### Verse 10

עת “time”

### Syntax & Misc.

#### Verse 7

## Genesis 18:6-10

- In the Pentateuch, the noun with the definite article, הַבָּקָר, refers to a herd or group of cattle. To refer to a single cow/bull one would use the expression, בֶּן־בָּקָר “son of the herd.”
- The adjective, יָרֵךְ, usually refers to a youth.
- The verb עָשָׂה connotes the idea of making preparations.

### Verse 8

- The periphrastic phrase, הוּא־עִמָּד עֲלֵיהֶם, does not have a copula. The prepositional phrase could mean “among them” or “beside them.”
- The final clause connection, וַיֹּאכְלוּ, may be understood as a dependent temporal clause “while they ate.”

### Verse 9

- The special accent markings under אֲלֵיוֹ (or over the word in BHS) designate it as one of the at least fifteen *puncta extraordinaria* mentioned in the Talmud.
- The response is short only giving the predicate, הִנֵּה בְּאֵהָל, “Behold, [she is] in the tent” (GKC 147b).

### Verse 10

- The sequencing of infinitive absolute plus finite verb is emphatic, שׁוּב אָשׁוּב, “I will surely return.”
- The *kaf* preposition marks a temporal clause with infinitive absolute (GKC 188u), כְּעֵת חַיָּיהָ “when the time/season lives.” This idiom is found elsewhere in the MT referring to the time of birth of a child (Gen. 18:14; 2 Kings 4:16, 17).
- The referent of the subject (הוא) of the final verbless clause is the פֶּתַח הָאֵהָל “the door of the tent.”