

Genesis 18:1-5

וַיֵּרָא אֵלָיו יְהוָה בְּאֵלֵי מַמְרֵא וְהוּא יֹשֵׁב פֶּתַח-הָאֵהָל כְּחַם הַיּוֹם:
2 וַיֵּשֶׁא עֵינָיו וַיֵּרָא וְהִנֵּה שְׁלֹשָׁה אַנְשִׁים נֹצְבִים עָלָיו וַיֵּרָא וַיֵּרָץ
לְקִרְאתָם מִפֶּתַח הָאֵהָל וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ אַרְצָה: 3 וַיֹּאמֶר אֲדֹנָי אִם-נָא
מִצָּאתִי חַן בְּעֵינֶיךָ אֶל-נָא תִעָבֵר מֵעַל עֲבֹדְךָ: 4 יִקַּח-נָא מִעֵט-מִים
וְרַחֲצוּ רַגְלֵיכֶם וְהִשְׁעֵנוּ תַּחַת הָעֵץ: 5 וְאִקְחָה פֶתַח-לֶחֶם וְסַעֲדוּ לְבַבְכֶם
אַחַר תִּעָבְרוּ כִּי-עַל-כֵּן עֲבַרְתֶּם עַל-עֲבֹדְכֶם וַיֹּאמְרוּ כֵּן תַעֲשֶׂה
כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ:

Vocabulary

Verse 1

אלון "terebinth" (BDB, 18)

מרא name: "Mamre"

חם "heat" (BDB, 328)

Syntax & Miscellaneous

- The periphrastic construction of the second clause implies the copula, הִיָּה.
- The phrase, פֶּתַח-הָאֵהָל, is adverbial "by the door of the tent."
- The *kaf* preposition is temporal "when"; however, in idiomatic English one might say "in the heat of the day."

Vocabulary

Verse 2

נצב verb (Niphal participle mpl): "stand, take one's stand"

רוץ verb: "run"

Verse 3

חן "favor, grace"

Verse 4

שען verb (Niphal imperative mpl): "support oneself" (BDB, 1043)

Verse 5

פת "bit" (BDB, 837)

סעד "sustain" (BDB, 703)

Syntax & Misc.

Verse 2

- The first verb, וַיֵּשֶׁא, is a *waw*-consecutive imperfect derived from נִשָּׂא. The first root radical (*nun*) has assimilated.
- The participle, נֹצְבִים, is a substantive functioning as the predicate of a verbless clause.

Genesis 18:1-5

- The sequencing of *waw*-consecutive verbs, וַיֵּרָא וַיָּרַץ, is best understood as an ordered arraignment, “When he saw, he ran.”
- Because of stress retraction with a *waw*-consecutive imperfect form, the final he has apocopated causing the root letter *waw* to shift to a *sureq*—ו + יִשְׁתַּחוּהוּ → וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ.
- The final he of אֶרְצָה is a directional he, signaling that he fell “to the ground.”

Verse 3

- The first word of the quotation is a vocative, אֲדֹנָי “O my lord.”
- The negation, אֵל, marks a jussive even though morphologically תִּעָבֶר is not marked as such.

Verse 4

- The lack of a clause connector connects the first phrase to the previous one.
- The final clause, וְהִשְׁעֵנּוּ תַּחַת הָעֵץ, is idiomatic for “rest yourself under the tree.”

Verse 5

- GKC 158b (n1) states: “כִּי־עַל־כֵּן prop. for therefore, Genesis 18:5, 19:8, 33:10, 38:26; Numbers 10:31, 14:43; 2 Samuel 18:20.”

Genesis 18:6-10

וַיִּמְהַר אַבְרָהָם הָאֱלֹהִים אֶל־שָׂרָה וַיֹּאמֶר מַה־רִי שְׁלֹשׁ סָאִים קֶמַח
סֹלֶת לְוָשִׁי וְעֲשֵׂי 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
שֹׂמַעַת 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.”

Genesis 18:11-15

וַאֲבִרְהָם וְשָׂרָה זָקְנִים בָּאִים בַּיָּמִים חֲדָל לְהֵיוֹת לְשָׂרָה אֶרֶח כַּנְּשִׁים:
12 וַתִּצְחַק שָׂרָה בְּקִרְבָּהּ לֵאמֹר אַחֲרַי בְּלִתִּי הֵיטָה-לִּי עֵדֻנָּה וְאֵדְנִי
זָקֵן: 13 וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-אַבְרָהָם לְמָה זֶה צָחֲקָה שָׂרָה לֵאמֹר הֲאֵף
אֲמַנָּם אֵלֶּךָ וְאֲנִי זָקֵנָתִי: 14 הֲיִפְלֵא מִיְהוָה דְּבַר לְמוֹעֵד אֲשׁוּב אֵלֶיךָ
כַּעֲת חַיָּה וְלִשְׂרָה בֵן: 15 וַתִּכְחָשׁ שָׂרָה | לֵאמֹר לֹא צָחֲקָתִי כִּי |
יִרְאֶה וַיֹּאמֶר | לֹא כִּי צָחֲקָתִי:

Vocabulary

Verse 11

חֲדָל verb: “cease”

אֶרֶח noun: “way, path”

Syntax & Miscellaneous

- The *waw* plus non-verb breaks the typical narrative sequence to give some background information concerning the age of Abraham and Sarah.
- The initial verbless clause has a compound subject, אַבְרָהָם וְשָׂרָה.
- The following asyndetic clause/phrase is epexegetical, בָּאִים בַּיָּמִים “[that is] advancing in years.”
- The second main clause is an idiom describing Sarah’s inability (חֲדָל) to bear children (אֶרֶח כַּנְּשִׁים).

Vocabulary

Verse 12

צָחַק verb: “laugh” (BDB, 850)

בְּקִרְבָּהּ prepositional phrase (beth + קִרְבַּ + 3fs suffix): “to herself”

בְּלִתִּי verb: “become old and worn out” (BDB, 115)

עֵדֻנָּה noun: “delight” (BDB, 726)

זָקֵן verb: “be old” (BDB, 278)

Verse 13

צָחַק verb: “laugh” (BDB, 850)

אֲמַנָּם adverb “truly, indeed” (BDB, 53)

זָקֵן verb: “be old” (BDB, 278)

Verse 14

פִּלֵּא verb: “be beyond one’s power” (BDB, 810)

מוֹעֵד “appointed time”

Verse 15

כִּחַשׁ verb (*Piel waw*-consecutive imperfect 3fs): “acted deceptively” (BDB, 471)

Genesis 18:11-15

צחק verb: “laugh” (BDB, 850)

Syntax & Misc.

Verse 12

- The phrase, הֲיִתְהַלֵּי עִדְנָה, is a question marked by the initial interrogative *he*. Literally, it could be rendered: “Will delight be (come) to me?” Idiomatic translation: “Shall I be happy when I am old?”

Verse 13

- The ה prefixed to אֵל is an interrogative *he*.

Verse 14

- The ה prefixed to פֶּלֵא is an interrogative *he*.
- The verb פֶּלֵא sequenced with מִן means “something is too difficult for.”
- The phrase, כְּעֵת חַיָּהּ, probably refers to the time of birth, approximately one year from this time.

Verse 15

- The object of the 3ms verb, וַיֹּאמֶר, is Abraham.

Genesis 18:16-22

וַיִּקְמוּ מִשָּׁם הָאֲנָשִׁים וַיִּשְׁקְפוּ עַל־פְּנֵי סְדֹם וְאַבְרָהָם הִלֵּךְ עִמָּם
לְשַׁלְּחָם: 17 וַיְהִי אֲמַר הַמְּכַסֶּה אֲנִי מֵאַבְרָהָם אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי עֹשֶׂה:
18 וְאַבְרָהָם הָיָה לְגֹי גָדוֹל וְעֲצוּם וְנִבְרָכוּ בּוֹ כָּל גֹּיֵי הָאָרֶץ:
19 כִּי יִדְעֻתָיו לְמַעַן אֲשֶׁר יֵצֵא אֶת־בְּנָיו וְאֶת־בֵּיתוֹ אַחֲרָיו וְשָׁמְרוּ דְרָךְ
יְהוָה לַעֲשׂוֹת צְדָקָה וּמִשְׁפָּט לְמַעַן הִבִּיא יְהוָה עַל־אַבְרָהָם אֵת
אֲשֶׁר־דִּבֶּר עָלָיו: 20 וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה זַעֲקַת סְדֹם וְעִמְרָה כִּי־רַבָּה
וַחֲטָאתָם כִּי כִבְדָה מְאֹד: 21 אֲרַדְהָ־נָא וְאַרְאֶה הַכְּצַעֲקָתָהּ הַבָּאָה
אֵלַי עֲשׂוּ | כֻּלָּהּ וְאִם־לֹא אֲדַעָה: 22 וַיִּפְּנוּ מִשָּׁם הָאֲנָשִׁים וַיֵּלְכוּ
סְדֹמָה וְאַבְרָהָם עֹדְנָו עֹמֵד לְפָנָי יְהוָה:

Vocabulary

Verse 16

שָׁקַף verb: “look down” (BDB, 1054)

סְדֹם name: “Sodom”

Syntax & Miscellaneous

- The *waw* of the last clause is disjunctive (*waw*+ non-verb).
- The periphrastic clause, אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי עֹשֶׂה, excludes the verb הָיָה.

Vocabulary

Verse 17

כָּסָה verb (Piel participle ms): “cover”

Verse 18

עֲצוּם “mighty” (BDB, 783)

Verse 19

לְמַעַן “so, so that”

Verse 20

זַעֲקָה noun: “outcry against” (BDB, 277)

עִמְרָה name: “Gomorrah”

רָבַב verb: “be great” (BDB, 912)

Verse 21

צַעֲקָה noun: “outcry” (BDB, 858)

כֻּלָּהּ “completely, altogether” (BDB, 478)

Verse 22

פָּנָה verb: “turn”

עוֹד adverb (w/ 3ms suffix): “still”

Genesis 18:16-22

Syntax & Misc.

Verse 17

- The quotation, **מֵאַבְרָהָם אָנִי הַמְכַסֶּה אֹתוֹ**, begins with an interrogative *he*.

Verse 18

- The infinitive absolute plus finite verb (**הִיְוָה יְהִי**) is understood as “surely he will become.”
- The sequencing of the verb **הִיְוָה** with the preposition **לְ** means “become.”
- Both attributive adjectives, **גָּדוֹל וְעָצוּם**, modify the noun, **גֹּי**.
- The subject of the final clause is **כָּל גְּוֵי הָאָרֶץ**.
- The Niphal verb (**נִבְרַח**) is passive; the agent (him=Abraham) is marked by **בְּ**.

Verse 20

- GKC (148) calls the above usage of **כִּי** a weak exclamation or “corroborative **כִּי** *verily, surely*” (see also Genesis 33:11; Isaiah 7:9).

Verse 21

- The definite article **הַ** is functioning as a relative particle (GKC 138k).
- The phrase, **הַבְּאֵה אֵלַי**, is functioning as a participial phrase, but the verbal appears to be marked as a perfect and not a participle. The consonantal form of **בוא** is the same **בְּאֵה** for the perfect 3fs as the participle fs. The only difference is that the perfect has penultimate stress (**בְּאֵה**) whereas the participle has ultimate emphasis (**בְּאֵה**). Gesenius notes, however, that the article “usually takes the form **הַ** with *ā* and a strengthening of the next consonant” (GKC 35). Thus, the article causes the retraction of stress and the verbal is a participle.

Verse 22

- The final *he*, **סְדֹמָה**, is a directional *he* “to Sodom.”
- In the final clause, the proper name, **אַבְרָהָם**, is fronted and replaced in the sentence by the 3ms suffix attached to the adverb, **עוֹד**.

Genesis 18:23-26

וַיֵּגֶשׁ אַבְרָהָם וַיֹּאמֶר הֲאֵף תִּסָּפֶה צְדִיק עַם־רָשָׁע: 24 אוֹלֵי יֵשׁ
חַמְשִׁים צְדִיקִים בְּתוֹךְ הָעִיר הֲאֵף תִּסָּפֶה וְלֹא־תִשָּׂא לְמָקוֹם לְמַעַן
חַמְשִׁים הַצְּדִיקִים אֲשֶׁר בְּקִרְבָּהּ: 25 חָלְלָה לְךָ מַעֲשֵׂת | כַּדְּבַר הַזֶּה
לְהַמִּית צְדִיק עַם־רָשָׁע וְהָיָה כְּצְדִיק כָּרָשָׁע חָלְלָה לְךָ הַשִּׁפְטָה
כָּל־הָאָרֶץ לֹא יַעֲשֶׂה מִשְׁפָּט: 26 וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אִם־אֶמְצָא בְּסוֹדֵם
חַמְשִׁים צְדִיקִים בְּתוֹךְ הָעִיר וְנִשְׂאתִי לְכָל־הַמָּקוֹם בְּעִבּוֹרָם:

Vocabulary

Verse 23

נגש verb: “draw near”

אף “indeed”

ספה verb (Qal imperfect 2ms): “sweep away” (BDB, 705)

Verse 24

אולי “perhaps” (BDB, 19)

ספה verb: “sweep away” (BDB, 705)

למען “for the sake of”

Verse 25

חלילה “far be it” (BDB, 321)

מות verb (Hiphil infinitive construct): “kill”

Verse 26

סדם name: “Sodom”

בעבור (with 3mpl suffix): “on account of” (BDB, 721)

Syntax & Misc.

Verse 23

- The quotation is initiated by an interrogative ה and the interjection/particle אף.

Verse 24

- The word, יש, is called a predicator of existence translated “there is” or “there are.” It can also serve merely as a copulative verb.
- The plural form of חמש “five” is חמשים “fifty.”
- The verbal idea of לִּישָׂא לְ for לִּישָׂא עוֹן לְ “to take away any one’s sin,” i.e. to forgive (GKC, 117g)
- The 3fs suffix, בְּקִרְבָּהּ, refers back to the city.

Verse 25

- The word, דְּבַר, can mean “matter, deed, thing” (cf. BDB, 183 IV)

Genesis 18:23-26

- GKC (161c) notes concerning the sequence of כִּי—כִּי “when used in correspondence with one another, as—so (e.g. Leviticus 7:7; Judges 8:18; Isaiah 24:2; Hosea 4:9; also so—as, Genesis 18:25, 44:18; Deuteronomy 1:17; 1 Kings 22:4).”
- The interrogative הֲ is used in conjunction with the participle, הֲשֹׁפֵט.
- The final asyndetic clause is explanative, לֹא יַעֲשֶׂה מִשְׁפָּט “but not do justice.”

Verse 26

- The overall structure is a circumstantial clause marked by אִם וְ “if...then.”
- The repetition of בְּסֹדֶם and בְּתוֹךְ הָעִיר is interesting, any ideas?
- The sequencing of לְשֹׂאֵל means “to forgive” (see note on verse 24).

Genesis 18:27-33

וַיַּעַן אַבְרָהָם וַיֹּאמֶר הִנֵּה־נָא הוֹאֲלֹתִי לְדַבֵּר אֶל־אֲדֹנָי וְאַנְכִי עֹפֵר
וְאַפֵּר: 28 אֹלֵי יַחְסְרוֹן חַמְשִׁים הַצְּדִיקִים חַמְשָׁה הַתְּשֻׁחִית בַּחֲמֹשֶׁה
אֶת־כָּל־הָעִיר וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא אֲשַׁחִית אִם־אֶמְצָא שָׁם אַרְבַּעִים וַחֲמֹשֶׁה:
29 וַיִּסֹּף עוֹד לְדַבֵּר אֵלָיו וַיֹּאמֶר אֹלֵי יִמְצְאוּן שָׁם אַרְבַּעִים וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא
אֶעֱשֶׂה בְּעִבּוֹר הָאַרְבַּעִים: 30 וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־נָא יַחַר לֵאדֹנָי וְאֲדַבְּרָה
אֹלֵי יִמְצְאוּן שָׁם שְׁלֹשִׁים וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא אֶעֱשֶׂה אִם־אֶמְצָא שָׁם
שְׁלֹשִׁים:

Vocabulary

Verse 27

יֹאֵל verb (Hiphil perfect 1cs): “undertake” (BDB, 383)

עֹפֵר “dust”

אַפֵּר “ashes” (BDB, 68)

Verse 28

אֹלֵי “if perhaps” (BDB, 19)

חָסַר verb: “lack, be lacking” (BDB, 341)

שַׁחַת verb (Hiphil imperfect 2ms): “ruin, destroy”

Verse 29

יִסֹּף verb (Qal waw-consecutive imperfect 3ms): “add”

אֹלֵי “if perhaps” (BDB, 19)

בְּעִבּוֹר “on account of” (BDB, 721)

Verse 30

חָרָה verb (Qal jussive 3ms): “burn (with anger), be angry” (BDB, 354)

אֹלֵי “if perhaps” (BDB, 19)

Syntax & Misc.

Verse 27

- Sentence Typology 1 (וַיַּעַן אַבְרָהָם): V-S
- Sentence Typology 2 (וַיֹּאמֶר): V-O
 - The embedded object clause is an infinitival.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 1 (הִנֵּה־נָא הוֹאֲלֹתִי לְדַבֵּר אֶל־אֲדֹנָי): V-M
- Embedded Sentence Typology 2 (לְדַבֵּר אֶל־אֲדֹנָי): V
- Sentence Typology 3 (וְאַנְכִי עֹפֵר וְאַפֵּר): S-P

Genesis 18:27-33

- This *waw* + nonverb construction has a disjunctive nature, possibly best rendered by “yet.”
- GKC (141e) notes that a *waw* copulative connected to a verbal clause always describes a state contemporaneous to the principle action of the verbal clause (Genesis 18:1, 8, 16, 22, 27, 19:1, 25:26; Judges 13:9; 1 Samuel 1:9; 2 Samuel 4:7, 11:4).

Verse 28

- Sentence Typology 1 (אֲוֹלַי יַחְסְרוֹן חַמְשִׁים הַצְּדִיקִים חַמְשָׁה): V-S-O
 - The verb, יַחְסְרוֹן, ends with a paragogic nun (GKC, 47m).
- Sentence Typology 2 (הֲתִשְׁחִית בְּחַמְשָׁה אֶת־כָּל־הָעִיר): V-M-O
 - The clause is initiated by an interrogative *he*, הֲתִשְׁחִית.
 - The *beth* preposition, בְּחַמְשָׁה, is said to be an instrumental *beth*, or *beth instrumenti*, understood as “for the sake of,” also see 1 Samuel 3:13 (GKC 119p)
- Sentence Typology 3 (וַיֹּאמֶר): V-O
 - The object of the verb אָמַר is often a direct quotation.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 1 (לֹא אֲשַׁחֵית): V-[O]
 - The implied verbal object is עִיר.
 - The apodosis, לֹא אֲשַׁחֵית, of the circumstantial clause is mentioned before the protasis, אִם־אֶמְצָא שָׁם אַרְבָּעִים וְחַמְשָׁה.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 2 (אִם־אֶמְצָא שָׁם אַרְבָּעִים וְחַמְשָׁה): V-M-O
 - The implied object is forty-five “righteous men” צְדִיקִים.

Verse 29

- Sentence Typology 1 (וַיִּסֹּף עוֹד לְדַבֵּר אֵלָיו): V-[M:V-O]
 - This clause has a compound verbal idea. The verb, יִסֹּף, sequenced with a second verb (in this case an infinitive) means to do something again.
- Sentence Typology 2 (וַיֹּאמֶר אֲוֹלַי יִמְצְאוּן שָׁם אַרְבָּעִים): V-O
 - The object clause is an embedded clause.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 1 (אֲוֹלַי יִמְצְאוּן שָׁם אַרְבָּעִים): V-M-S
- Sentence Typology 3 (וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא אֶעֱשֶׂה בְּעִבּוֹר הָאֲרָבָעִים): V-O
 - The change in speaker require the repetition of אָמַר.
 - The object clause is an embedded clause.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 1 (לֹא אֶעֱשֶׂה בְּעִבּוֹר הָאֲרָבָעִים): V-M-O
 - The verb, עָשָׂה, is inserted for שָׁחַת used in verse 28.

Genesis 18:27-33

Verse 30

- Sentence Typology 1 (וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־נָא יַחַר לְאָדָנִי וְאִדְבַּרְהָ אוֹלֵי יִמְצְאוּן שָׁם) (שְׁלֹשִׁים): V-O
 - The object clause is an embedded clause.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 1 (אֶל־נָא יַחַר לְאָדָנִי): V-M
 - The negative participle, אֶל, is used with a jussive.
 - The verb, חָרַה, is apocopated losing its final root *he*.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 2 (וְאִדְבַּרְהָ): V
 - The form and function of the verb is cohortative: “If I might speak.”
 - The disjunctive accent, *zaqeph parvum*, links this word with the previous clause.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 3 (אוֹלֵי יִמְצְאוּן שָׁם שְׁלֹשִׁים): V-M-S
 - The Niphal verb, יִמְצְאוּן, is functioning as a passive wherein the agent is God.
 - The verb ends with a paragogic nun.
- Sentence Typology 2 (וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא אֶעֱשֶׂה אִם־אֶמְצָא שָׁם שְׁלֹשִׁים): V-O
 - The object clause is an embedded clause.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 1 (לֹא אֶעֱשֶׂה): V
 - The verb, עָשָׂה, is inserted for שָׁחַת used in verse 28.
 - As in verse 28, the apodosis, לֹא אֶעֱשֶׂה, of the circumstantial clause is mentioned before the protasis, אִם־אֶמְצָא שָׁם שְׁלֹשִׁים.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 2 (אִם־אֶמְצָא שָׁם שְׁלֹשִׁים): V-M-O

Genesis 18:31-33

31 וַיֹּאמֶר הַנְּהַנָּא הוֹאֲלִיתִי לְדַבֵּר אֶל־אֲדֹנָי אֲוִלִי יִמְצְאוּן שֵׁם עֲשָׂרִים
וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא אֲשַׁחִית בְּעִבּוֹר הָעֲשָׂרִים: 32 וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־נָא יַחַר לֵאדֹנָי
וְאִדְבָרָה אֶדְ־הַפְּעֵם אֲוִלִי יִמְצְאוּן שֵׁם עֲשָׂרָה וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא אֲשַׁחִית
בְּעִבּוֹר הָעֲשָׂרָה: 33 וַיֵּלֶךְ יְהוָה כַּאֲשֶׁר כָּלָה לְדַבֵּר אֶל־אַבְרָהָם
וַאֲבָרָהָם שָׁב לְמִקְמוֹ:

Vocabulary

Verse 31

יֹאמֶר verb (Hiphil perfect 1cs): “undertake” (BDB, 383)

אֲוִלִי “if perhaps” (BDB, 19)

שַׁחֲת verb (Hiphil imperfect 2ms): “ruin, destroy”

בְּעִבּוֹר “on account of” (BDB, 721)

Verse 32

אֲוִלִי “if perhaps” (BDB, 19)

חָרָה verb (Qal jussive 3ms): “burn (with anger), be angry” (BDB, 354)

פְּעֵם noun: “occurrence”

בְּעִבּוֹר “on account of” (BDB, 721)

Verse 33

כָּלָה verb (Piel perfect 3ms): “finish, complete”

Syntax & Misc.

Verse 31

- Sentence Typology 1 (וַיֹּאמֶר הַנְּהַנָּא הוֹאֲלִיתִי לְדַבֵּר אֶל־אֲדֹנָי): V-O
 - The embedded object clause is direct speech
- Embedded Sentence Typology 1 (הַנְּהַנָּא הוֹאֲלִיתִי לְדַבֵּר אֶל־אֲדֹנָי): V-M
 - The embedded clause is an infinitival.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 2 (לְדַבֵּר אֶל־אֲדֹנָי): V-O
 - This clause is exactly the same as verse 27
- Sentence Typology 2 (אֲוִלִי יִמְצְאוּן שֵׁם עֲשָׂרִים): V-M-S
 - The final letter of the verb, יִמְצְאוּן, is a paragogic nun.
 - The Niphal verb is passive with the agent as God.
- Sentence Typology 3 (וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא אֲשַׁחִית בְּעִבּוֹר הָעֲשָׂרִים): V-O
 - The embedded object clause is direct speech.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 1 (לֹא אֲשַׁחִית בְּעִבּוֹר הָעֲשָׂרִים): V-M-[O]
 - The implied object [O] is עִיר.

Verse 32

Genesis 18:31-33

- Sentence Typology 1 (וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־נָא יַחַר לְאֲדֹנָי וְאִדְבַּרְהָ אֶדְהֶפְעַם אוֹלֵי) (יִמְצְאוּן שָׁם עֲשָׂרָה): V-O
 - The embedded compound object is the quotation.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 1 (אֶל־נָא יַחַר לְאֲדֹנָי): V-M
 - The negative participle, אֶל, is used with the jussive verb.
 - The verb, חרה, is apocopated losing its final root *he*.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 2 (וְאִדְבַּרְהָ אֶדְהֶפְעַם): V-M
 - The verb is a cohortative.
 - The adverbial idiom, אֶדְהֶפְעַם, means “only once more” or “surely one more time.”
- Embedded Sentence Typology 3 (אוֹלֵי יִמְצְאוּן שָׁם עֲשָׂרָה): V-M-S
 - The final letter of the verb, יִמְצְאוּן, is a paragogic nun.
 - The Niphal verb is passive with the agent as God.
- Sentence Typology 2 (וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא אֲשַׁחִית בְּעִבּוֹר הָעֲשָׂרָה): V-O
 - The embedded object is direct speech.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 1 (לֹא אֲשַׁחִית בְּעִבּוֹר הָעֲשָׂרָה): V-M-[O]
 - The implied object [O] is עיר.

Verse 33

- Sentence Typology 1 (וַיִּלְדָּ יְהוָה בְּאִשֶּׁר כִּלְהָ לְדַבֵּר אֶל־אַבְרָהָם): V-S-M
 - The modifier contains a temporal clause.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 1 (בְּאִשֶּׁר כִּלְהָ לְדַבֵּר אֶל־אַבְרָהָם): V-M
 - The relative marker, בְּאִשֶּׁר, is used temporally, “when.”
 - The modifying clause is infinitival.
- Embedded Sentence Typology 2 (לְדַבֵּר אֶל־אַבְרָהָם): V-M
- Sentence Typology 2 (וְאַבְרָהָם שָׁב לְמִקְמוֹ): S-V
 - The waw + nonverb construction indicates a disjunctive or parenthetical relationship, “now.”
 - The verb, שָׁב, is from the root שׁוּב.