

Genesis 19:4-8

טָרָם יִשְׁכְּבוּ וְאֲנָשֵׁי הָעִיר אֲנָשֵׁי סְדֹם נִסְבּוּ עַל-הַבַּיִת מִנְעַר וְעַד-זֻקָן
כָּל-הָעַם מְקַצֵּה: 5 וַיִּקְרְאוּ אֶל-לוֹט וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ אֵיךְ הָאֲנָשִׁים
אֲשֶׁר-בָּאוּ אֵלֶיךָ הַלַּיְלָה הוֹצִיָאם אֵלֵינוּ וְנִדְעָה אֹתָם: 6 וַיֵּצֵא אֱלֵהֶם
לוֹט הַפֶּתַח וְהַדֶּלֶת סָגַר אַחֲרָיו: 7 וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-נָא אַחֵי תִרְעוּ:
8 הִנֵּה-נָא לִי שְׁתֵּי בָנוֹת אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יָדַעוּ אִישׁ אוֹצִיָא-הֵנָּה אֶתְהֶן
אֲלֵיכֶם וַעֲשׂוּ לָהֶן כַּטּוֹב בְּעֵינֵיכֶם רַק לֹא-תַעֲשׂוּ דָבָר
כִּי-עַל-כֵּן בָּאוּ בְּצַל קִרְתִּי:

Vocabulary

Verse 4

טָרָם adverb: “not yet” (BDB, 382)

שָׁכַב verb: “lie down”

סָבַב verb (Niphal perfect 3mpl): “surround”

קֶצֶה “end, extremity”

Verse 5

אֵיךְ “where?” (BDB, 32)

Verse 6

פֶּתַח “door, doorway, opening”

דֶּלֶת “door, gate”

סָגַר verb: “shut, close”

Verse 7

רָעַע verb (Hiphil jussive 3mpl): “act wickedly, do evil”

Verse 8

אֵל “these” (BDB, 41)

עַל-כֵּן “therefore”

צֶל “protection, shadow”

קוֹרֵה “roof” (BDB, 900)

Syntax & Misc.

Verse 4

- Sentence Typology 1 (טָרָם יִשְׁכְּבוּ): M-V
 - The adverb, טָרָם, is best understood temporally—“before” (cf. GKC 107c).
- Sentence Typology 2 (וַיִּקְרְאוּ אֶל-לוֹט וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ אֵיךְ הָאֲנָשִׁים אֲשֶׁר-בָּאוּ אֵלֶיךָ הַלַּיְלָה הוֹצִיָאם אֵלֵינוּ וְנִדְעָה אֹתָם:): S-V-O

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- The initial *waw* continues the temporal idea “when” from the previous clause.
- The construct phrase, אַנְשֵׁי הָעִיר, is appositional to סְדָם אַנְשֵׁי.
- The sequencing of מִזָּנַי ... מְזִקְנֵי is merismatic, “from young to old.”
- The last phrase further explains that everyone was there through apposition, כָּל-הָעָם מִקְצֵה מְקֻצָּה “all the people from the ends [of the city].”

Verse 5

- Sentence Typology 1 (וַיִּקְרָאוּ אֶל-לוֹט): V-IO-[O]
- Sentence Typology 2 (וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ אֵיךְ הָאֲנָשִׁים אֲשֶׁר-בָּאוּ אֵלֶיךָ הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה הוֹצִיאָם) (אֵלֵינוּ וְנִדְעָה אֹתָם): V-IO-O
 - The object is the quotation.
- Embedded Typology 1 (אֵיךְ הָאֲנָשִׁים אֲשֶׁר-בָּאוּ אֵלֶיךָ הַלַּיְלָה): S-P
 - This verbless clause begins with an interrogative (i.e. question, where?).
- Embedded Typology 2 (בָּאוּ אֵלֶיךָ הַלַּיְלָה): V-O-M
 - The verb, בוא, can mean, “going away from,” or in this case, “coming.”
 - The adverbial modifier, הַלַּיְלָה, with the definite article means “tonight.”
- Sentence Typology 1 (הוֹצִיאָם אֵלֵינוּ): V-O-IO
 - צא in the Hiphil, imperative form is “Bring.”
- Embedded Typology 4 (וְנִדְעָה אֹתָם): V-O
 - The verb, ידע, connotes “sexual relations” as in Genesis 4:1.

Verse 6

- Sentence Typology 1 (וַיֹּצֵא אֱלֹהִים לוֹט הַפֶּתַח): V-O-S-M
 - The final word is used adverbially with a directive he suffix, “at the door.”
- Sentence Typology 2 (וַהֲדַלֵּת סֹגֵר אַחֲרָיו): O-V-M

Verse 7

- Sentence Typology 1 (וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-נָא אַחֵי תַרְעוּ): V-O
 - The object clause is direct speech.
- Sentence Typology 1 (אַל-נָא אַחֵי תַרְעוּ):
 - The negation, אַל, is used with a jussive (modal) form.
 - The first person singular suffix attached to a plural noun is *patah yod*, אַחֵי “my brothers.”

Verse 8

- Sentence Typology 1 (הִנֵּה-נָא לִי שְׁתֵּי בָנוֹת אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יָדַעוּ אִישׁ): S-P
 - This verse continues the quotation begun in verse seven.
 - In English, one might render “there are to me two daughters” as “I have two daughters.”
- Embedded Typology 1 (אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יָדַעוּ אִישׁ): V-O

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- The relative particle, אשר, refers to the “two daughters.”
- Sentence Typology 2 (אוֹצִיאוּהָנָא אֶתְהֶן אֵלֵיכֶם): V-O-IO
 - The word, אתהֶן, is the 3fs pronominal suffix attached to the direct object marker, את.
- Sentence Typology 1 (וַעֲשׂוּ לָהֶן בְּטוֹב בְּעֵינֵיכֶם): V-O-M
 - The word, להֶן, is the 3fs pronominal suffix attached to the *lamed* preposition.
- Sentence Typology 3 (רְק לְאֲנָשִׁים הָאֵלֵּ אֶל־תַּעֲשׂוּ דְבָר): M-IO-V-O
 - The phrase begins with an adverbial restriction, רק “only, lest.”
 - The adjective follows the noun agreeing in gender, number and definiteness, הָאֵלֵּ, is “these men.”
 - The word, דְבָר, can mean word, matter or deed.
- Sentence Typology 4 (בִּי־עַל־כֵּן בָּאוּ בְּצֶל קִרְתִּי): V
 - The pronominal suffix on the final word is 1cs.