

Genesis 20:1-3

1 וַיֵּסַע מִשָּׁם אַבְרָהָם אֶרֶץ הַנֶּגֶב וַיָּשָׁב בֵּין־קְדֵשׁ וּבֵין שׁוּר וַיֵּגֶר
בְּגֵרָר: 2 וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְרָהָם אֶל־שָׂרָה אִשְׁתּוֹ אַחְתִּי הוּא וַיִּשְׁלַח אָבִימֶלֶךְ
מֶלֶךְ גְּרָר וַיִּקַּח אֶת־שָׂרָה: 3 וַיִּבֹא אֱלֹהִים אֶל־אָבִימֶלֶךְ בַּחֲלוֹם הַלַּיְלָה
וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ הֲנִנִּי מִתּוֹ עַל־הָאִשָּׁה אֲשֶׁר־לָקַחְתָּ וְהוּא בָעֵלַת בְּעַל:

Vocabulary

Verse 1

נסע verb (Qal waw-consecutive imperfect 3ms): “depart, leave”

נגב name: “Negev (southern desert)”

קדש name: “Kadesh”

שור name: “Shur”

גור verb: “sojourn”

גרר name: “Gerar”

Verse 2

שרה name: “Sarah”

אבימלך name: “Abimelech”

גרר name: “Gerar”

Verse 3

חלום noun: “dream”

בעל verb (Qal passive particle fs): “marry” (BDB, 127)

Syntax & Misc.

Verse 1

- Sentence Typology 1 (וַיֵּסַע מִשָּׁם אַבְרָהָם אֶרֶץ הַנֶּגֶב): V-M-S-M
 - The verb, נסע, connotes the pulling up of tent pegs or departing on a journey.
 - The first noun of the final construct phrase, אֶרֶץ הַנֶּגֶב, is marked with a directive *he* suffix denoting the destination/goal of the journey (GKC 90c).
 - The word, נגב, can indicate the cardinal direction or designate a particular southern region. In this context, the latter is specified.
- Sentence Typology 2 (וַיָּשָׁב בֵּין־קְדֵשׁ וּבֵין שׁוּר): V-M
 - The sequencing of בֵּין ... וּבֵין indicates proximity “between ... and ...”
- Sentence Typology 3 (וַיֵּגֶר בְּגֵרָר): V-M
 - Notice the word play (aural similarity).

Verse 2

- Sentence Typology 1 (וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְרָהָם אֶל־שָׂרָה אִשְׁתּוֹ אַחְתִּי הוּא): V-S-IO-O

Genesis 20:1-3

- The appellation, אֲשֶׁתּוֹ, is in apposition to the proper name, שָׂרָה.
- The object is direct speech.
- Embedded Typology 1 (אֲחֹתִי הוּא): P-S
 - The particle, הוּא, is pointed as a 3fs pronoun; the perpetual *Kethib Qere* reads הִיא and not הוּא.
- Sentence Typology 2 (וַיִּשְׁלַח אֲבִימֶלֶךְ מֶלֶךְ גֵּרָר): V-S
 - The construct phrase, מֶלֶךְ גֵּרָר, is appositional to the proper name, אֲבִימֶלֶךְ.
- Sentence Typology 3 (וַיִּקַּח אֶת־שָׂרָה): V-O
 - The verb, לָקַח, indicates taking into his house/harem.

Verse 3

- Sentence Typology 1 (וַיָּבֹא אֱלֹהִים אֶל־אֲבִימֶלֶךְ בַּחֲלוֹם הַלַּיְלָה): V-S-O-M
 - The article functions as a demonstrative, הַלַּיְלָה “that night.”
- Sentence Typology 2 (וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ הַנֶּזֶק מֵת עַל־הָאִשָּׁה אֲשֶׁר־לָקַחְתָּ וְהוּא בְּעֵלְתָּ): V-IO-O
 - The object is direct speech.
- Embedded Typology 1 (הַנֶּזֶק מֵת עַל־הָאִשָּׁה אֲשֶׁר־לָקַחְתָּ): S-V-M
 - The a pronominal suffix attached to the particle הַנֶּזֶק functioning as the subject of the clause can be used with a participle to denote future time/events, so-called *futurum instans* (GKC 116p).
 - The preposition, עַל, is functioning as a causal, “because.”
- Embedded Typology 2 (אֲשֶׁר־לָקַחְתָּ): O-V
- Embedded Typology 3 (וְהוּא בְּעֵלְתָּ בְּעֵל):
 - See note on הִיא in verse 2.
 - The passive participle is used in a periphrastic construct—“was married.”
 - The term, בְּעֵל, is used of “husband.”