

## Hebrew and Torah

### Parshat: Lech Lecha: Gen 12.1-17.27

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Transliteration by **Rabbi David Hall**

Please excuse typos. Hebrew is often not able to be transliterated by the standard rules. Therefore we select the closest phonetic options we can to equate the Hebrew sounds to English. Sometimes it just doesn't work but we give it our best.

Translation

**THE NEW KING JAMES VERSION (NKJV)**

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----- Other Resources Where Used -----

**Strong's Exhaustive Numbers and Concordance (S)**

with Expanded Greek-Hebrew Dictionary.

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<http://biblesoft.com>

**The Analytical Hebrew and Chaldee Lexicon (L)**

*by Benjamin Davidson - ISBN 0-913573-03-5*

**The Soncino Midrash Rabbah (M)**

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## Reading Practice

[פרשת לך לך] א וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־אַבְרָם לֵךְ־לְךָ מֵאֶרֶץ עֵבֶר וּמִמּוֹלַדְתְּךָ וּמִבֵּית אָבִיךָ אֶל־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אֲרָאָךְ:

ב וַאֲעֹשֶׂה לְגֹי גְדוֹל וַאֲבָרְכֶךָ וְאֶגְדְּלֶה שְׁמֶךָ וְהָיָה בְרָכָה:

ג וַאֲבָרְכָה מְבָרְכֶיךָ וּמִקְלָלְךָ אֶאֱרָא וּנְבָרְכוּ בְּךָ כָּל מְשֻׁפָּחֹת הָאֲדָמָה:

ד וַיֵּלֶךְ אַבְרָם כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר אֱלֹהֵי יְהוָה וַיֵּלֶךְ אִתּוֹ לוֹט וְאַבְרָם בֶּן־חַמֶּשׁ שָׁנִים וְשִׁבְעִים שָׁנָה בְּצֵאתוֹ מִחָרָן:

ה וַיִּקַּח אַבְרָם אֶת־שָׂרִי אִשְׁתּוֹ וְאֶת־לוֹט בֶּן־אָחִיו וְאֶת־כָּל־דְּרוֹשָׁם אֲשֶׁר רָכְשׁוּ וְאֶת־הַנֶּפֶשׁ אֲשֶׁר־עָשׂוּ בְּחָרָן וַיֵּצְאוּ לְלֶכֶת אֶרְצָה כְּנָעַן וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶרְצָה כְּנָעַן:

## Verb Modifications

Hebrew verbs are modified by prefixing or appending to the words. Here are a few examples:

- בָּרַכּוּ *Barchu* “we bless” *Vav with Dagash* at the end of a word indicates 1st person plural.
- מְבַרְכֶּךָ *Mevarachecha* “who blesses you”. *Mem* in front of a verb indicates the person doing the blessing.
- אֲבַרְכֶּה *avarcha* “I will bless”. *Alef* in front of a verb indicates the person acting is 1st person singular.
- נִבְרַחְךָ *nivarchu* - “ya’ll will be a blessing.” *Nun* in front of a verb makes nifal: passive voice, particularly if the vowels are *hiriq + shiva + (patach or qumatz)*. The vowel under *resh* would normally be *patach* or *qamatz* but according to the Hebrew Chaldee lexicon this word is nifal.

The Prashat for today: **Lech Lecha**

[פרשת לך לך] א וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־אַבְרָם לֵךְ־לְךָ מֵאֶרֶץ־עֵי וּמִמּוֹלַדְתֶּךָ וּמִבֵּית־אָבִיךָ אֶל־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אֲרָאֶךָ:

*Vayomer YHWH el-Avram lech-lecha meartzecha umimoladtecha umibeyt avicha eo-haeret ash eracha.*

12.1 Now the Lord had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you.

Get out - Strong imperative use of shortened halech or go.

ב וַיַּעֲשֶׂה לִּי גֹי גָדוֹל וַאֲבַרְכֶּךָ וַאֲגַדְלָה שְׁמִי וְהָיָה בְרָכָה:

*Veesecha legoy gadol vaavarechecha vaagadla shemecha veye beracha.*

2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing.

ג וַאֲבַרְכֶּה מְבַרְכֶּיךָ וּמִקְלָלְךָ אֲאֹר וּנְבַרְכּוּ בְּךָ כֹּל מִשְׁפְּחוֹת הָאֲדָמָה:

*Vaavarcha mevarachecha umkalelecha aor venivrechu becha kol mishpechot haadama.*

3 I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

**curse** - OT:7043 קָלַל *qalal* (kaw-lal'); a primitive root; to be **(causatively, make) light**, literally (swift, small, sharp, etc.) or figuratively (easy, trifling, vile, etc.):

**curse** - OT:779 אָרַר *'arar* (aw-rar'); a primitive root; to execrate: KJV - **bitterly curse**.

ד וַיֵּלֶךְ אַבְרָם כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר אֵלָיו יְהוָה וַיֵּלֶךְ אִתּוֹ לוֹט וְאַבְרָם בֶּן־חַמֵּשׁ שָׁנִים וְשִׁבְעִים שָׁנָה בְּצֵאתוֹ מִחָרָן:

*Vayalech Avram kaasher diver elav YHWH vayalech ito Lot veavram ben-chamish shanim veshivaim shana betzeto meCharan.*

4 So Abram departed as the Lord had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

ה וַיִּקַּח אַבְרָם אֶת־שָׂרִי אִשְׁתּוֹ וְאֶת־לוֹט בֶּן־אָחִיו וְאֶת־כָּל־רְכוּשָׁם אֲשֶׁר רָכְשׁוּ וְאֶת־הַנֶּפֶשׁ אֲשֶׁר־עָשׂוּ בְּחָרָן וַיֵּצְאוּ לְלֶכֶת אֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן:

*Vayikach Avram et-Sarai ishto veet-Lot ben-achiv veet-kal-rechusham asher rachashu veet-hanefesh asher-asu beCharan vayetzu lalechet aritza Kanaan vayavou artza Kanaan.*

5 Then Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people whom they had acquired in Haran, and they departed to go to the land of Canaan. So they came to the land of Canaan.

ו וַיַּעֲבֹר אַבְרָם בְּאֶרֶץ עַד מְקוֹם שְׁכֵם עַד אֵילֹן מוֹרֵה וְהַכְּנַעֲנִי אַז בְּאֶרֶץ:

*Vayaavor Avram baaretz ad mekom Shechem ad elon Moreh vehakanaani az baaretz.*

6 Abram passed through the land to the place of Shechem, as far as the terebinth tree of Moreh. And the Canaanites were then in the land.

ז וַיֵּרָא יְהוָה אֶל-אַבְרָם וַיֹּאמֶר לְזַרְעֲךָ אֶתְּנוּ אֶת-הָאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת וַיְבַן שָׁם מִזְבֵּחַ  
לַיהוָה הַנִּרְאָה אֵלָיו:

*Vayera YHWH el-Avram vayomer lezaracha eten et-haaretz hazot vayiven sham mizbeach laYHWH hanire elav.*

7 Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." And there he built an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

ח וַיַּעֲתֶק מִשָּׁם הָהָרָה מִקְדָּם לְבֵית-אֵל וַיֵּט אֹהֶלָה בֵּית-אֵל מִיָּם וְהָעֵי מִקְדָּם  
וַיְבַן-שָׁם מִזְבֵּחַ לַיהוָה וַיִּקְרָא בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה:

*Vayatek misham hara mikedem leBeyt-El vayet ahalo beyt-el miyam vechaai mikedem  
vayiven-sham mizbeach leYHWH vayikra beshem YHWH.*

8 And he moved from there to the mountain east of Bethel, and he pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; there he built an altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord.

ט וַיִּסַּע אַבְרָם הַלּוֹךְ וַנְּסוּעַ הַנִּגְבָּה:

*Vayisa Avram haloch venasoa habegeba.*

9 So Abram journeyed, going on still toward the South.

י וַיְהִי רָעַב בְּאֶרֶץ וַיֵּרֵד אַבְרָם מִצְרַיִמָּה לָגוּר שָׁם כִּי-כָבֵד הָרָעַב בְּאֶרֶץ:

*Vaihi raav baaretz vayered Avram Mitzraima lagur sham ki-kaved haraav baaretz.*

10 Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to dwell there, for the famine was severe in the land.

יא וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר הִקְרִיב לָבוֹא מִצְרַיִמָּה וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-שָׂרַי אִשְׁתּוֹ הִנֵּה-נָא יוֹדְעֵתִי כִּי  
אִשָּׁה יִפְתֹּ-מְרִאָה אָתָּה:

*Vaihi kaasher hikriv lavo Mizraima vayomer el-Sarai ishto hine-na yadati ki isha yefat-mareh at.*

11 And it came to pass, when he was close to entering Egypt, that he said to Sarai his wife, "Indeed I know that you are a woman of beautiful countenance.

יב וְהָיָה כִּי-יֵרְאוּ אֹתְךָ הַמִּצְרִיִּים וַאֲמָרוּ אִשְׁתּוֹ זֹאת וְהָרְגוּ אֹתִי וְאַתָּה יַחְיִי:

*Vvehaya ki-yiru otach haMitzrim veamru ishto zot vehargu oti veotach yechaiu.*

12 Therefore it will happen, when the Egyptians see you, that they will say, "This is his wife"; and they will kill me, but they will let you live.

יג אִמְרִי-נָא אֶחְתִּי אָתָּה לְמַעַן יֵיטֵב-לִי בְּעַבְדוֹתֶיךָ וְחַיְתָה נַפְשִׁי בְּגִלְלֶיךָ:

*Imri-na achoti at lemaan yiytav-li maavurech vechayta nafshi biglalech.*

13 Please say you are my sister, that it may be well with me for your sake, and that I may live because of you."

[שְׁנִי] יָד וַיְהִי כְּבוֹא אַבְרָם מִצְרַיִמָּה וַיֵּרְאוּ הַמִּצְרִיִּים אֶת-הָאִשָּׁה כִּי-יָפָה הִוא מְאֹד:

*Vaihi kevo Avram Mitzraima vayiru hamitzrim et-haisha ki-yafa hiv meod.*

14 So it was, when Abram came into Egypt, that the Egyptians saw the woman, that she was very beautiful.

טו וַיֵּרְאוּ אֹתָהּ שָׂרֵי פְרָעָה וַיְהַלְלוּ אֹתָהּ אֶל-פְּרָעָה וַתִּקַּח הָאִשָּׁה בֵּית פְּרָעָה:

*Vayiru ota sarey Faroh vaihalalu otah el-Paroh vatukach haisha beyt Paroh.*

15 The princes of Pharaoh also saw her and commended her to Pharaoh. And the woman was taken to Pharaoh's house.

טז וּלְאַבְרָם הֵיטִיב בְּעַבְדוֹתָהּ וַיְהִי-לוֹ צֹאן וַיִּבְקַרְוּ וַחֲמֹרִים וְעֶבְדִּים וְשִׁפּוֹת וְאִתְּנָת  
וּגְמִלִים:

*UAvram heytiv baavura vaihi-lo tzon-uvakar vachamorim vaavadim ushfachot vaatonot ugamalim.*

16 He treated Abram well for her sake. He had sheep, oxen, male donkeys, male and female servants, female donkeys, and camels.

יז וַיִּנְגַע יְהוָה | אֶת־פְּרַעֲוֹה נְגַעִים גְּדֹלִים וְאֶת־בֵּיתוֹ עַל־דְּבַר שְׂרַי אִשְׁת־אַבְרָם:

*Vaigaga YHWH et-paroh negaim gadolim veet-beyto al-devar Sarai eshet Avram.*

17 But the Lord plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram's wife.

יח וַיִּקְרָא פְּרַעֲוֹה לְאַבְרָם וַיֹּאמֶר מַה־זֹּאת עָשִׂיתָ לִּי לָמָּה לֹא־הִגַּדְתָּ לִּי כִּי אִשְׁתְּךָ הוּא:

*Vayikra Faroh leAvram vayomer ma-zot asita li lama lo-higadta li ki ishtecha hiv.*

18 And Pharaoh called Abram and said, "What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife?"

יט לָמָּה אָמַרְתָּ אַחֲוֵי הִי וְאֶקַּח אֹתָהּ לִי לְאִשָּׁה וְעַתָּה הִנֵּה אִשְׁתְּךָ קַח וָלֵךְ:

*Lama amarta achoti hiv vaekach otah li leisha veata hine ishtecha kach valech.*

19 Why did you say, 'She is my sister'? I might have taken her as my wife. Now therefore, here is your wife; take her and go your way."

כ וַיִּצַו עָלָיו פְּרַעֲוֹה אֲנָשִׁים וַיִּשְׁלְחוּ אֹתוֹ וְאֶת־אִשְׁתּוֹ וְאֶת־כָּל־אֲשֶׁר־לוֹ:

*Vaitzav alav Paroh anashim vaishalchu oto veet-ishto veet-kal-asher-lo.*

20 So Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him; and they sent him away, with his wife and all that he had.