



## Rocine Lesson 49

בְּנֵי־פֶחַת מוֹאָב לְבְנֵי יִשׁוּעַ וְיֹאָב אֲלֻפִּים וְשִׁמְנָה מְאוֹת  
שִׁמְנָה עָשָׂר:

Nehemiah 7:11

# Goals

Identify and read

- dual numbers
- cardinal numbers above 10  
(for cardinal numbers 1-10 see Rocine 38.8, p. 218)

# What we already know

בְּנֵי־פַחַת מוֹאָב לְבְנֵי יִשׁוּעַ וְיֹאָב אֲלֻפִּים וּשְׂמֹנֶה מְאוֹת שְׂמֹנֶה עָשָׂר:

Let's translate the first 3 words.

Note that

- פַּחַת מוֹאָב could be a proper noun, or
- פַּחַת could be regarded as the construct of פָּחַח meaning *governor*.

# What we already know

בְּנֵי־פַחַת מוֹאָב לְבְנֵי יִשׁוּעַ וְיֹזָאב אֱלֹפַיִם וּשְׁמֹנָה מְאוֹת שְׁמֹנָה עָשָׂר:

Let's translate the first 3 words.

Note that

- בְּנֵי־פַחַת מוֹאָב could be a proper noun, or
- פַּחַת could be regarded as the construct of פָּחַח meaning *governor*.

The descendants of Pahath-moab...

The descendants of the governor of Moab...

# What we already know

בְּנֵי־פֶתַח מוֹאָב לְבְנֵי יִשׁוּעַ וְיֹאָב אֱלֹפַיִם וּשְׂמֹנָה מְאוֹת שְׂמֹנָה עָשָׂר:

The next phrase further pinpoints the identity of the people being talked about in this verse.

Translate לְבְנֵי יִשׁוּעַ וְיֹאָב

# What we already know

בְּנֵי־פַחַת מוֹאָב לְבְנֵי יֵשׁוּעַ וַיּוֹאֵב אֲלֻפִּים וּשְׂמֹנָה מְאוֹת שְׂמֹנָה עָשָׂר:

The next phrase further pinpoints the identity of the people being talked about in this verse.

Translate לְבְנֵי יֵשׁוּעַ וַיּוֹאֵב

the sons of Jeshua and Joab

# Dual numbers

בְּנֵי-פֶחֶת מוֹאָב לְבְנֵי יִשׁוּעַ וְיֹאָב אֱלֹפַיִם וּשְׁמֹנֶה מֵאוֹת שְׁמֹנֶה עָשָׂר:

Pronounce the following 3 words out loud and listen to the differences, especially #2 and #3.

1. אֱלֹף
2. אֱלֹפַיִם
3. אֱלֹפַיִם

# Dual numbers

בְּנֵי-פֶחֶת מוֹאָב לְבְנֵי יִשׁוּעַ וְיֹאָב אֱלֹפַיִם וּשְׁמֹנֶה מֵאוֹת שְׁמֹנֶה עָשָׂר:

Pronounce the following 3 words out loud and listen to the differences, especially #2 and #3.

1. אֶלֶף E-lef
2. אֱלֹפַיִם a-la-PHEEM
3. אֱלֹפַיִם al-PA-yim



# Dual numbers

בְּנֵי-פֶחֶת מוֹאָב לְבְנֵי יִשׁוּעַ וְיֹאָב אֱלֹפַיִם וּשְׁמֹנֶה מְאוֹת שְׁמֹנֶה עָשָׂר:

Pronounce the following 3 words out loud and listen to the differences, especially #2 and #3.

- |    |           |            |   |          |
|----|-----------|------------|---|----------|
| 1. | אֶלֶף     | E-lef      | ← | Singular |
| 2. | אֱלֹפַיִם | a-la-PHEEM | ← | Plural   |
| 3. | אֱלֹפַיִם | al-PA-yim  | ← | Dual     |

# Dual numbers

בְּנֵי-פֶחֶת מוֹאָב לְבְנֵי יִשׁוּעַ וְיֹאָב אֱלֹפַיִם וּשְׁמֹנֶה מֵאוֹת שְׁמֹנֶה עָשָׂר:

Pronounce the following 3 words out loud and listen to the differences, especially #2 and #3.

- |    |           |            |   |          |       |
|----|-----------|------------|---|----------|-------|
| 1. | אֶלֶף     | E-lef      | ← | Singular |       |
| 2. | אֱלֹפַיִם | a-la-PHEEM | ← | Plural   | EEM   |
| 3. | אֱלֹפַיִם | al-PA-yim  | ← | Dual     | A-yim |

# Dual numbers

בְּנֵי-פֶחֶת מוֹאָב לְבָנֵי יִשׁוּעַ וְיוֹאָב אֱלֹפִים וּשְׁמֹנֶה מְאוֹת שְׁמֹנֶה עָשָׂר:

Pronounce the following 3 words out loud and listen to the differences, especially #2 and #3.

- |    |          |            |   |          |       |
|----|----------|------------|---|----------|-------|
| 1. | אֶלֶף    | E-lef      | ← | Singular |       |
| 2. | אֱלֹפִים | a-la-PHEEM | ← | Plural   | EEM   |
| 3. | אֱלֹפִים | al-PA-yim  | ← | Dual     | A-yim |

## RULE:

- The אֱלֹפִים ending on a noun rather than the customary אֱלֹפִים plural ending is called the **dual** ending and denotes **two of a thing** which typically occurs in **pairs**.
- The **dual** ending can be found on
  - the masculine אֶלֶף as in אֱלֹפִים meaning **2000** or
  - on the feminine מֵאָה as in מֵאֹתַיִם meaning **200**
  - as well as many other nouns.

# Examples of Duals

Dual		Singular		Plural	Ref
עֵינַיִם	Both eyes (757x) Gen 49:12	עַיִן	Eye (123x) Ex 21:24 'eye for eye'	עֵינֹת עֵינֹת	Springs, Fountains (6x) Ex 15:17, Deut 8:7
שְׂפָתַיִם	Both lips (101x) Ex 6:12	שִׁפְהָ	Language, sea shore (68x) Gen 11:1, 22:17	שְׂפָתוֹת	Lips (7x) Ecc 10:12
אָזְנַיִם	Both ears (108x) Deut 29:3	אָזֶן	Ear (79x) 2 Sam 22:45	-	
אַפַּיִם	Nostrils (42x) Gen 2:7 nostrils Gen 19:1 face	אַף	Nose, anger (235x) Gen 24:47 nose Gen 27:45 anger	-	
שִׁנַּיִם	Teeth (29x) Gen 49:12 teeth 1 Sam 2:13 '3 pronged fork' ??	שֵׁן	Tooth (26x) Ex 21:24 'tooth for tooth'	-	Odd that it doesn't occur in plural
יָדַיִם	Both hands (251x) Gen 27:22	יָד	Hand (1346x) Gen 3:22	יָדוֹת	Hands (20x) Gen 43:34
רַגְלַיִם	Both feet (163x) Lev 11:42	רֶגֶל	Foot, leg (78x) Gen 8:9	רַגְלִים	Times (4x) Ex 23:14 '3 times a year ...'
מַתְּנַיִם	Loins (47x) Ex 28:42	-		-	
כַּנְּפַיִם	Both wings Ex 25:20	כַּנָּף	Wing (37x) Gen 1:21	כַּנְּפוֹת	Wings, corners (56x) Deut 22:12 '4 corners of garment'
קַרְנַיִם	Both horns (14x) Gen 22:13	קַרְוֹ	Horn (29x) Josh 6:5	קַרְנוֹת	Horns (32x) Zech 2:1
יוֹמַיִם	Two days (5x) Ex 16:29	יוֹם	Day (1451x) Gen 1:5	יָמִים	Days, time (846x) Gen 4:3

# Odds and Ends on Duals

## Apparent Duals

- ‘What we have in מַיִם *water, waters* and שָׁמַיִם *sky, skies* is not a dual, but an exceptional plural. In these two words the original plural ending *-eem* has been reduced to *-im* under the influence of the stress. This may be compared with the Biblical Aramaic plural participle of the type בְּנִין *building* of III-Yod verbs.

## Time Duals

- ‘The word עֶרְבַיִם in the phrase בֵּין הָעֶרְבַיִם ["the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight." Ex 12:6] can only be a dual: between the two evenings. Reference is probably made here to the end of one and the beginning of another עֶרֶב.’
- ‘In צַהֲרַיִם *noon* [Gen 43:16] the dual could perhaps be explained as reflecting the convergence of two time lines at noon;’

## Geographical Duals

- ‘The ending of נְהַרַיִם *Mesopotamia(?)* [Gen 24:10] is variously explained, as is that of מִצְרַיִם *Egypt* [Gen 10:6].’

# Tens, hundreds, and thousands

בְּנֵי-פֶחֶת מוֹאָב לְבָנֵי יִשׁוּעַ וְיֹאָב אֲלֻפִּים וּשְׁמֹנֶה מֵאוֹת שְׁמֹנֶה עָשָׂר:

If you know the basic number vocabulary most numbers are not hard to translate. What is the number in red above?

# Tens, hundreds, and thousands

בְּנֵי-פֶחֶת מוֹאָב לְבָנֵי יִשׁוּעַ וְיֹאָב אֲלֻפִּים וּשְׁמֹנֶה מֵאוֹת שְׁמֹנֶה עָשָׂר:

If you know the basic number vocabulary most numbers are not hard to translate. What is the number in red above? 800

# Tens, hundreds, and thousands

בְּנֵי־פַחַת מוֹאָב לְבָנֵי יִשׁוּעַ וְיֹאָב אֲלָפִים וְשִׁמְנֵה מְאוֹת שְׁמֹנֶה עָשָׂר:

A couple of notes:

- Hundred מֵאָה is always feminine
- Tens and Thousands are always masculine
  - אַרְבָּעִים, שְׁלֹשִׁים, עָשָׂרִים ...
  - אַרְבַּעַת אֲלָפִים, שְׁלֹשַׁת אֲלָפִים, אֲלָפִים ...

See Tables and Examples in Rocine.



# Numbers from 11 to 19

בְּנֵי-פֶתַח מוֹאָב לְבָנֵי יִשׁוּעַ וְיֹאָב אֲלֻפִּים וּשְׁמֹנֶה מֵאוֹת שְׁמֹנֶה עָשָׂר:

The last two words in the verse above are a good example of how the numbers 11 through 19 are formed.

- There are both masculine and feminine forms
- there is no *vav* used between the units number and the form for 10.

Translate שְׁמֹנֶה עָשָׂר

# Numbers from 11 to 19

בְּנֵי-פֶתַח מוֹאָב לְבָנֵי יִשׁוּעַ וְיֹאָב אֲלֻפִּים וּשְׁמֹנֶה מֵאוֹת שְׁמֹנֶה עָשָׂר:

The last two words in the verse above are a good example of how the numbers 11 through 19 are formed.

- There are both masculine and feminine forms
- there is no *vav* used between the units number and the form for 10.

Translate שְׁמֹנֶה עָשָׂר 18

See Tables and Examples in Rocine.

# Numbers with tens and units

בְּנֵי-פֶחֶת מוֹאָב לְבָנֵי יִשׁוּעַ וְיֹאָב אֲלֻפִּים וּשְׁמֹנֶה מֵאוֹת שְׁמֹנֶה עָשָׂר:

For numbers between 21 and 99 that include tens and units (21, 47, 99, etc.),

- the tens and units may be in either order,
- they will be joined by a vav,
- the gender of the units-word will match the gender of the thing numbered.

See Tables and Examples in Rocine.

Also see Animated Hebrew lecture 25.