# Rocine Lesson 4

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

Exodus 18:1

# Goals

- Identify
  - a dependent clause by a relative pronoun.
- Identify and read
  - the relative past background
  - Qal qatal in a dependent clause.

# What we already know

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

- What form is the first verb?

- What genre does that form indicate?

- What is the
  – Subject?
  – Object?

# What we already know

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

- What form is the first verb?

- What genre does that form indicate?

- What is the
  – Subject?
  – Object?

wayyiqtol

Historical Narrative

# What we already know

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

- How is כָּל pronounced?

- Meaning of שמע (Vocab # 27, p 412)

- Translate what we can.

# What we already know

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

- How is כָּל pronounced?

- Meaning of שמע (Vocab # 27, p 412)

- Translate what we can.

'kol'
- short 'o' qamets-hatuph, not the long 'a' qamets.
- Remember 'closed, unaccented syllable' means qamets-hatuph.

# All-purpose Relative Pronoun

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־**אֲשֶׁר** עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

- **אֲשֶׁר** (Vocab # 2, p 411)
    - The 'all-purpose' relative pronoun in BH
    - Trans: *what, that, who, which, whomever…*
    - Signals a dependent clause

# All-purpose Relative Pronoun

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

- אֲשֶׁר (Vocab # 2, p 411)
  - The 'all-purpose' relative pronoun in BH
  - Trans: *what, that, who, which, whomever...*
  - Signals a dependent clause
- Two other words that start a dependent clause
  - אִם = "*if*" (Vocab # 39, p 412)
  - כִּי = "*when, because*" (Vocab # 8, p 412)
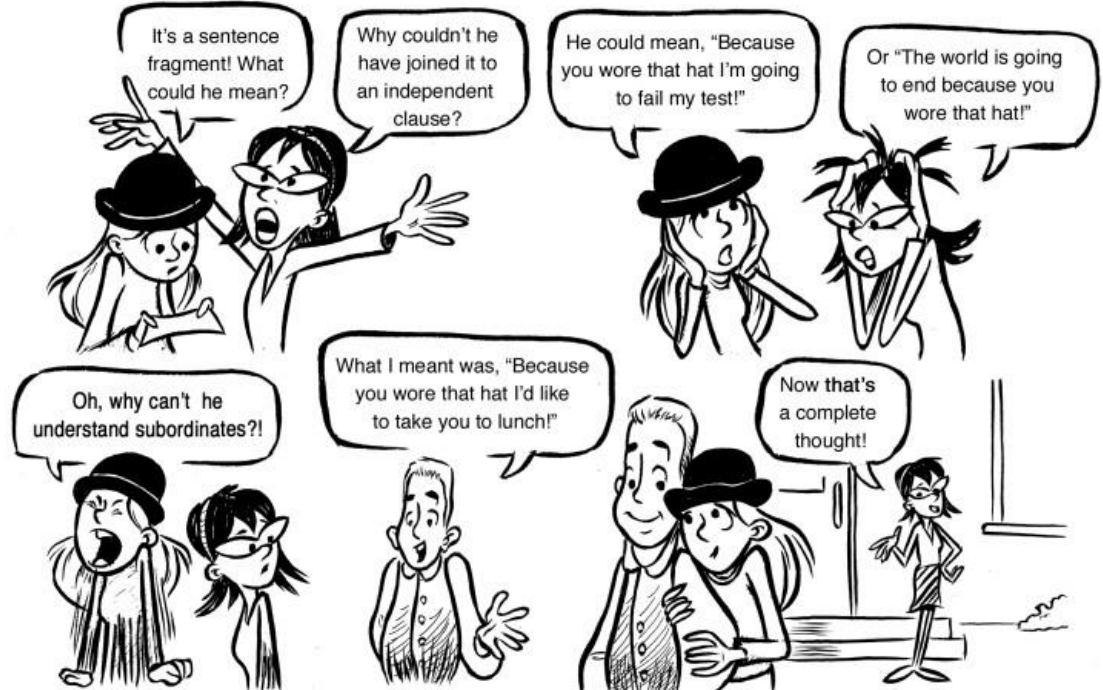
Find the dependent clause.

Why can't dependent clauses stand alone?

What's another name for a dependent clause?

# Qatal

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

- Qatal is a verb form (like wayyiqtol).
- Try to identify the qatal and the wayyiqtol.

# Qatal

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

- List as many similarities/differences as you can.

# Qatal

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

qatal                             wayyiqtol

- List as many similarities/differences as you can.

Differences
- prefix vs. no prefix
- waw/patach/dagesh forte front end
- vowels are different

Similarities
- 3 root letters
- subject follows

# Mainline vs. Off-the-line

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

qatal                                                                          wayyiqtol

RULE:

- Every genre of discourse has a <u>mainline</u> clause type constructed with a particular verb form. All other clause types (constructed with other verb forms) within that genre are <u>off-the-line</u>.

- Off-the-line clauses are subordinate to, or serve the mainline.

- Each off-the-line verb form has functions that are particular to it.

# Mainline vs. Off-the-line

וַיִּשְׁמַ֣ע יִתְרוֹ אֵ֣ת כָּל־אֲשֶׁ֣ר עָשָׂ֥ה אֱלֹהִים

qatal                                    wayyiqtol

- In this verse which verb form is
  - Mainline?
  - Off-line?

# Mainline vs. Off-the-line

וַיִּשְׁמַ֣ע יִתְר֗וֹ אֵת֩ כָּל־אֲשֶׁ֨ר עָשָׂ֤ה אֱלֹהִ֙ים

qatal                                    wayyiqtol

- In the Historical Narrative genre
  - Wayyiqtol is mainline
    - This is the tense used to move the story forward, to describe each event in sequence.
  - Qatal is off-line
    - Qatal will do things in the story <u>other than</u> tell us what the next event is.

# Qatal

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

<span style="color:blue">qatal</span>     <span style="color:magenta">wayyiqtol</span>

- Qatal can be used in 2 ways in Historical Narrative

- Both are off-line
  - In a dependent clause     (this lesson)
  - In an independent clause  (next lesson)

# Qatal in dependent clause

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

qatal                                                      wayyiqtol

- In a dependent clause, Qatal gives "relative past background" information
  - This is information set in the past, relative to the time frame of the story

# Qatal in dependent clause

<div dir="rtl">

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

</div>

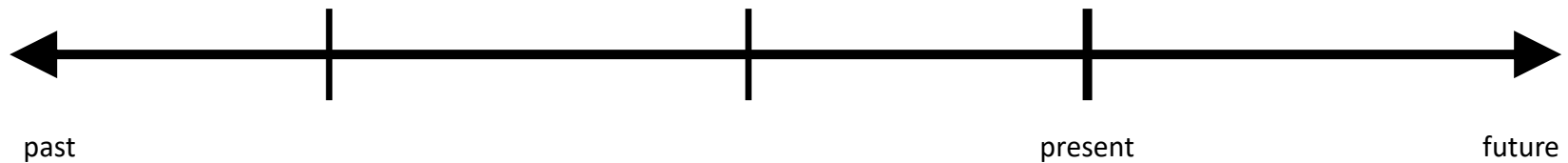qatal                  wayyiqtol

- In a dependent clause, Qatal gives "relative past background" information
  - This is information set in the past, relative to the time frame of the story
- The Qatal is in a dependent clause when it follows אֲשֶׁר or אִם or כִּי

# Qatal in dependent clause

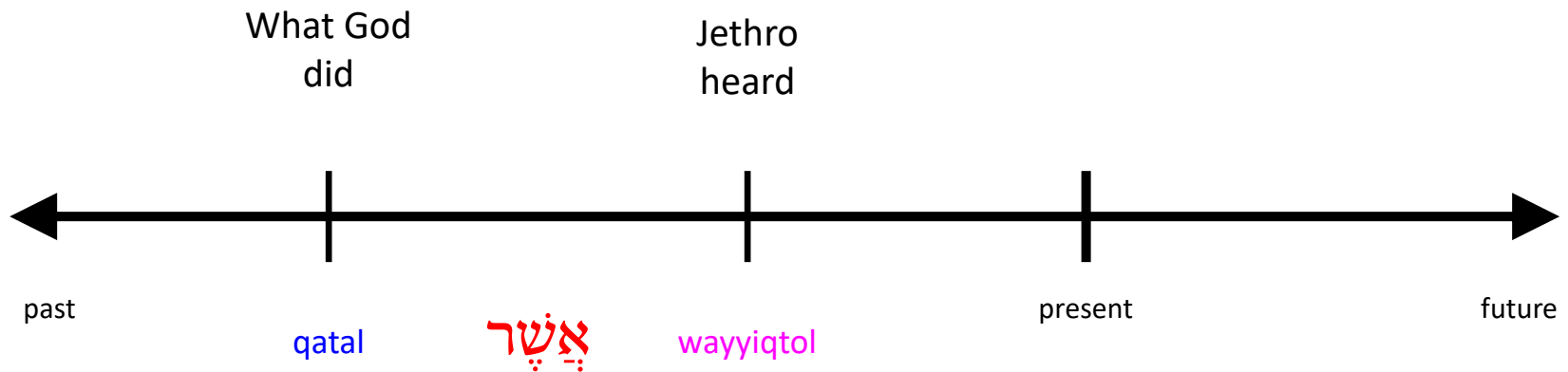וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

qatal            wayyiqtol



past         present        future

# Qatal in dependent clause

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

qatal           wayyiqtol

What God
did

Jethro
heard

past       present       future

qatal     אֲשֶׁר     wayyiqtol

# Qatal in dependent clause

וַיִּנָּחֶם יְהֹוָה כִּי־עָשָׂה אֶת־הָאָדָם בָּאָרֶץ

past                    present             future

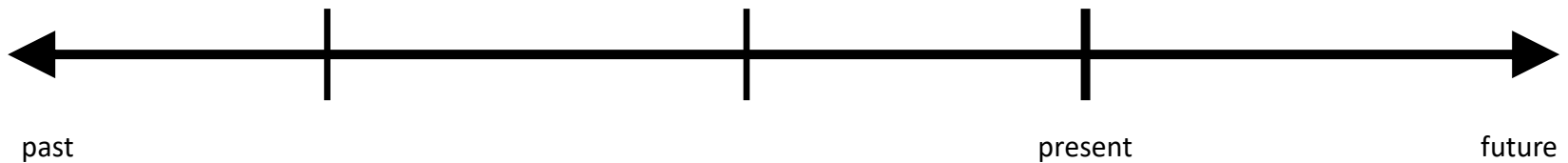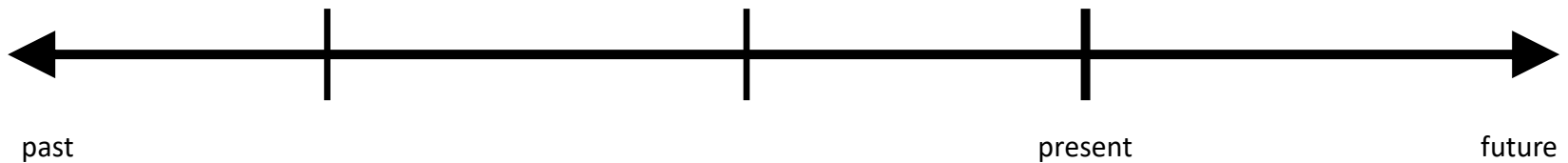# Qatal in dependent clause

וַיִּנָּ֫חֶם יְהוָה כִּי־עָשָׂה אֶת־הָאָדָם בָּאָ֫רֶץ

qatal         wayyiqtol



past                                          present                future

# Qatal in dependent clause

וַיִּנָּ֫חֶם יְהוָה֙ כִּֽי־עָשָׂ֤ה אֶת־הָֽאָדָם֙ בָּאָ֑רֶץ

<span style="color:blue">qatal</span>　　　　　<span style="color:magenta">wayyiqtol</span>



past　　　　　　　　　　　　　present　　　　　future

# Qatal in dependent clause

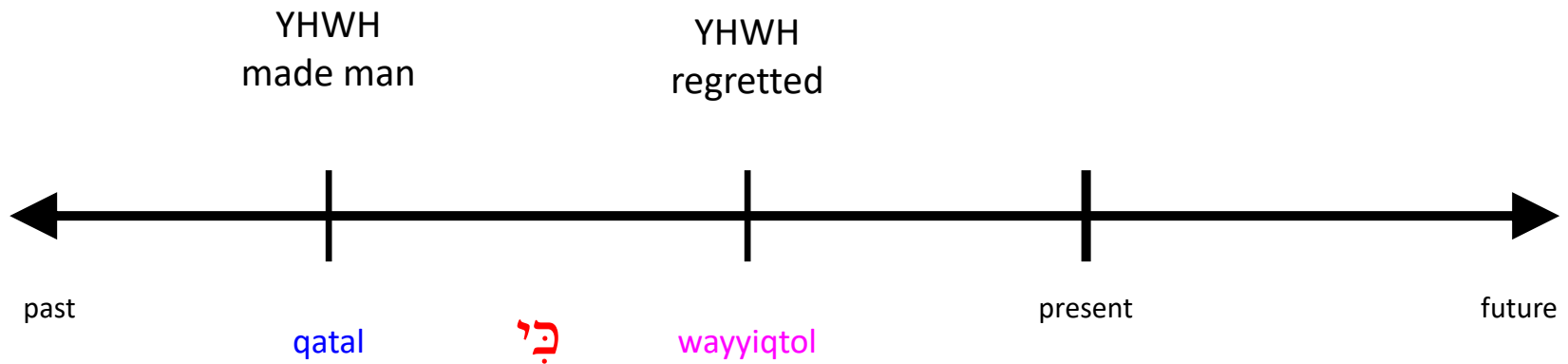וַיִּנָּחֶם יְהוָה כִּי־עָשָׂה אֶת־הָאָדָם בָּאָרֶץ

qatal          wayyiqtol



YHWH
made man

YHWH
regretted

past            qatal        כִּי       wayyiqtol       present        future

# Qatal in dependent clause

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרֹו אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

wayyiqtol                  qatal

וַיִּנָּחֶם יְהוָה כִּי־עָשָׂה אֶת־הָאָדָם בָּאָרֶץ

wayyiqtol            qatal



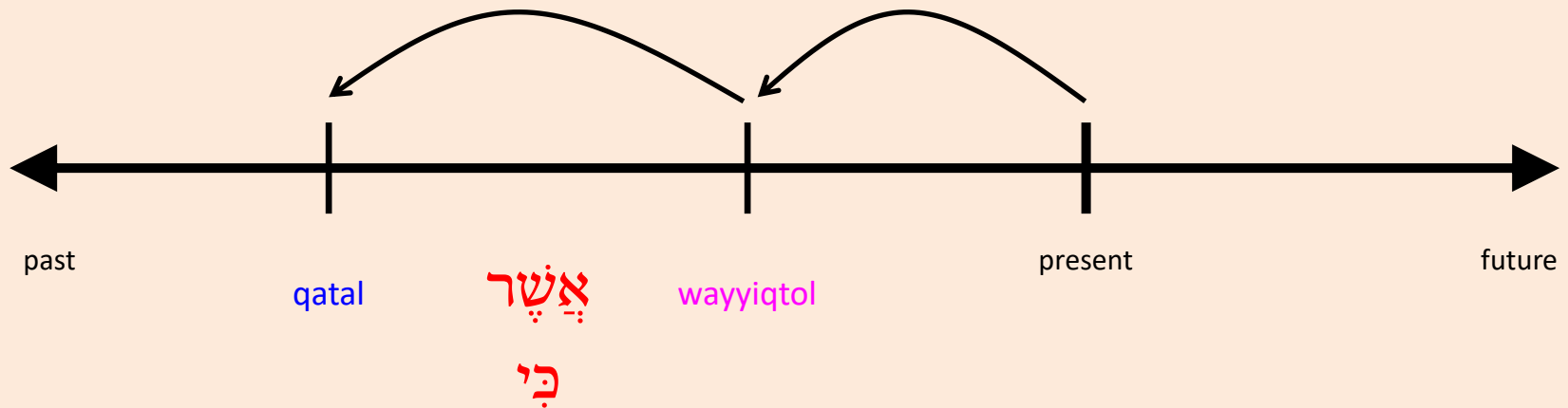past      qatal     אֲשֶׁר    wayyiqtol     present     future

כִּי

# Qatal in dependent clause

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

qatal       wayyiqtol

וַיִּנָּחֶם יְהוָה כִּי־עָשָׂה אֶת־הָאָדָם בָּאָרֶץ

qatal       wayyiqtol



Past relative to  ⟶  past

past               present          future

qatal      wayyiqtol

אֲשֶׁר

כִּי

# Qatal in dependent clause

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

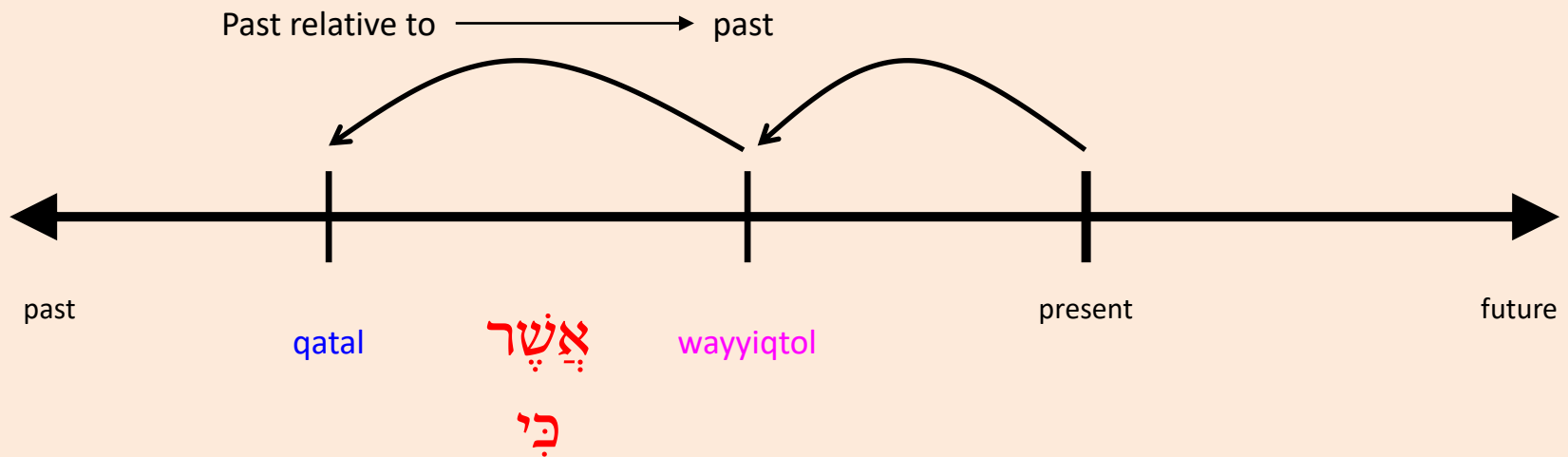qatal                                                    wayyiqtol

RULE:

- A qatal form, when in a dependent clause, functions in Biblical Hebrew by giving **background in the <u>relative past</u>**.

  – Relative past means past as compared to the main clause of the sentence.

- In Historical Narrative the main clause will most often be the wayyiqtol clause.

# Qatal – What does it look like?

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

qatal                                    wayyiqtol

- Wayyiqtol has prefixes.
  - (stuff that comes before the root)
- Qatal has affixes.
  - (stuff that comes after the root)
  - Note that in this particular qatal, the affix is "Null", in other words there isn't one. This is the base form. It's the form used for '*he*', 3<sup>rd</sup> masculine, singular.

# Qatal – What does it look like?

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

- Here are a couple more qatals just to see some of the variety. This is not a full list.

| שָׁמַע ,עָשָׂה | שָׁמַעְתָּ |
|:---:|:---:|
| | |
| [∅] affix meaning "he" | [תָּ] affix meaning "you" |
| | |

# Qatal – What does it look like?

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

- Let's try parsing these verbs.

| Root | Stem | Form | Person, Gender, Number | Function | Root meaning |
|------|------|------|------------------------|----------|--------------|
| שמע |  |  |  |  |  |
| עשה |  |  |  |  |  |

Note 1: A Qatal form in the Qal stem will have qamets under the first root letter.

Note 2: The word order with the Qatal here is the same as usual: V-S (verb then subject).

# Qatal – What does it look like?

וַיִּשְׁמַע יִתְרוֹ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֱלֹהִים

- Let's try parsing these verbs.

| Root | Stem | Form | Person, Gender, Number | Function | Root meaning |
|------|------|------|------------------------|----------|--------------|
| שׁמע | Qal | Wayyiqtol | 3ms | Historical Narrative Mainline | To hear |
| עשׂה | | | | | |

Note 1: A Qatal form in the Qal stem will have qamets under the first root letter.

Note 2: The word order with the Qatal here is the same as usual: V-S (verb then subject).

# Qatal – What does it look like?

וַיִּשְׁמַ֣ע יִתְר֗וֹ אֵ֤ת כָּל־אֲשֶׁ֣ר עָשָׂ֣ה אֱלֹהִ֔ים

- Let's try parsing these verbs.

| Root | Stem | Form | Person, Gender, Number | Function | Root meaning |
|------|------|------|------------------------|----------|--------------|
| שמע | Qal | Wayyiqtol | 3ms | Historical Narrative Mainline | To hear |
| עשה | Qal | Qatal | 3ms | Qatal in dep. clause = Rel. past background | To do |

Note 1: A Qatal form in the Qal stem will have qamets under the first root letter.

Note 2: The word order with the Qatal here is the same as usual: V-S (verb then subject).