

LESSON XI

I. Stative Verb

A. Definition of the Stative Verb

The stative verb describes the condition or state of the subject whether it be mental (e.g. אָװױסן - "to hate") or physical (e.g. זײַן אַלט - "to be old"), and it may or may not take an object after it (e.g. אָװױסן - "to hate" takes an object after it, but זײַן אַלט - "to be heavy" or "to be honoured" does not take an object after it).

NOTE: Many stative verbs are intransitive, i.e. they do not take an object after them (e.g. זײַן אַלט - "to be heavy" or "to be honoured"), but some intransitive verbs are active, i.e. they describe the action of the subject (e.g. זײַן אַלט - "to reign"). On the other hand, many active verbs are transitive, i.e. they take an object after them (e.g. װאַכטן - "to guard"), but some transitive verbs are stative (e.g. אָװױסן - "to hate").

B. Stem in which the Stative Verb Differs from the Active Verb

The Qal stem is the only stem where the stative verb differs from the active verb. The stative verb and the active verb are the same in all the other stems.

C. Formation of the Stative Verb in the Qal Stem

1. Perfect Tense

- a. Verbs Ending with a Pathah (e.g. זײַן אױפֿגעװײקט - "to be holy")

The verbs in this category are formed like the perfect tense of the active verb (e.g. זײַן אױפֿגעװײקט , זײַן אױפֿגעװײקט , and זײַן אױפֿגעװײקט).

- b. Verbs Ending with a Şere (e.g. זײַן אױפֿגעװײקט - "to be heavy" or "to be honoured")

The verbs in this category are formed like the perfect tense of the active verb except the third, masculine, singular where there is a şere after the second letter of the verbal root instead of a pathah (e.g. זײַן אױפֿגעװײקט , זײַן אױפֿגעװײקט , and זײַן אױפֿגעװײקט).

- c. Verbs Ending with a Holem (e.g. זײַן אױפֿגעװײקט - "to be small" or "to be insignificant")

The verbs in this category are formed as follows: