

Chapter Twenty-Five

Third Guttural Weak Verbs

Vocabulary

בלע	to swallow, be consumed	פגוע	to meet, intercede
במה	high place (f)	פתח	to open
בקע	to split open	קץ	end
גבה	to be high, proud	קרע	to tare
זרע	to sow	רצח	to kill
קרע	to knell, bow down	שולחן	table
משח	to anoint	שמש	sun
סלח	to forgive	תולדות	generations (f)

Weak Verb Designations						
	III	II	I	← Modern designation	Modern	Description
	ל	ע	פ	← Traditional		
1	ד	מ	ט	Pe Guttural	I - Guttural	Guttural in 1 st root position
2	ל	א	ש	‘Ayin Guttural	II - Guttural	Guttural in 2 nd root position
3	ח	ל	ש	Lamed Guttural	III - Guttural	Guttural in 3rd root position
4	ל	כ	א	Pe ‘Alef	I – ‘Alef	‘Alef in 1 st root position
5	א	צ	מ	Lamed ‘Alef	III- ‘Alef	‘Alef in 3 rd root position
6	ה	נ	ה	Lamed He	III - He	He in 3 rd root position
7	ל	פ	נ	Pe Nun	I - Nun	Nun in 1 st root position
8	ב	ו	ש	‘Ayin Vav or Yod	II – Vav or Yod	II – Vav/Yod
9	ב	ש	י	Pe Vav or Yod	I - Vav or Yod	I – Vav/Yod
10	ב	ב	ס	Double ‘Ayin	Geminate	

Third Guttural Weak Verbs

A Third Guttural verb designated as Lamed Guttural or III-Guttural is one whose third or final root consonant is one of the *limited* gutturals: ה, ח, or ע. Final א, ה, or ו do not act as gutturals when placed in the final root consonant. Examples where the third root consonant is a guttural are:

3 rd Root Consonant	Word	
ה	גָּבַהּ	to be high, exalted
ח	בָּטַח	to trust
ע	זָרַע	to sow

Rules of Inflection

The III-Guttural has the following distinct characteristics.

1. When a III-Guttural verb has no suffix attached, the final guttural ה, ח, or ע, must be preceded by either a Patach (ַ) or a Patach-Furtive¹.
 - a. When a strong verb has a Patach or Qamets as its third root stem vowel, the III-Guttural will likewise contain a Patach or Qamets.

	Strong verb	III-Guttural
Nif. Perf. 3ms	גָּמַשׁל	גָּשַׁמַע
Pu'al Part. ms	מְגַמְשֵׁל	מְגַשְׁמַע

- b. When the perfect, imperfect, imperative, or infinitive construct of the strong verb has a third root stem vowel which is not of the “a” class, the vowel is changed to a Patach. This applies to all stems except the Hif'il.

	Strong verb	III-Guttural
Qal Impv. 2ms	גַּמְשֵׁל	גַּשְׁמַע
Pi'el Perf. 3ms	גָּמַשֵׁל	גָּשַׁמַע
Hitpa'el Perf. 3ms	הִתְגַּמְשֵׁל	הִתְגַּשְׁמַע

¹ A Patach Furtive is not a full vowel and has a short “a” sound. The vowel has a hurried sound and is raised in the transliteration as in רָקִיעַ *raqi'a*.

- c. When the III-Guttural verb contains י, ו, or ו as the third root stem vowel, the unchangeably long vowel remains but a Patach Furtive is inserted between this vowel and the final guttural. This rule applies to the Qal infinitive absolute, Qal passive participle ms, and all Hif'il forms.

	Strong verb	III-Guttural
Qal Inf. Abs.	מְשׁוֹל	שְׁמוֹעַ
Qal Pas. Part. ms	מְשׁוּל	שְׁמוּעַ
Hif. Perf. 3ms	הִמְשִׁיל	הִשְׁמִיעַ

- d. Dr. Kelley has remarked that although Holem and Tseré are not usually considered to be unchangeably long vowels, they function as such in certain forms of III-Guttural verbs.² The following rule applies:
- i) In all forms, a Patach Furtive is inserted between the stem vowel and the final guttural.

	Strong verb	III-Guttural
Qal Inf. Abs.	מְשׁוֹל	שְׁמוֹעַ
Qal Act. Part. ms	מְשׁוּל	שְׁמוּעַ
Hithpa'el Part. ms	מְתַשְׁלוֹ	מְשִׁתְּמוֹעַ

2. When suffixes are added to III-Guttural verbs, the forms are pointed like their strong verb counterparts.
- a. The third root stem vowel before all נָה suffixes are Patach.

	Strong verb	III-Guttural
Qal Impf 3fp, 2fp	תִּמְשַׁלְנָה	תִּשְׁמַעְנָה

- b. For 2 fs forms of perfects in all stems, a silent sheva stands beneath the final root consonant which is replaced with a Patach.

	Strong verb	III-Guttural
Qal Perf 2fs	מִשְׁלַתְּ	שִׁמַּעְתְּ

Practice

- I. Memorize the vocabulary
- II. What is a weak verb?
- III. Memorize the two rules of III-Gutturals

² Page Kelley, *Biblical Hebrew* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992), p.265