

Root Letters

Lesson 5

Hebrew verbs are built upon
a three-letter root

זרע

To locate a Hebrew word in a lexicon, it is necessary to know these three letters.

בְּשֵׁכָבִי

Verbs with “missing letters”
are known as
hollow root verbs.

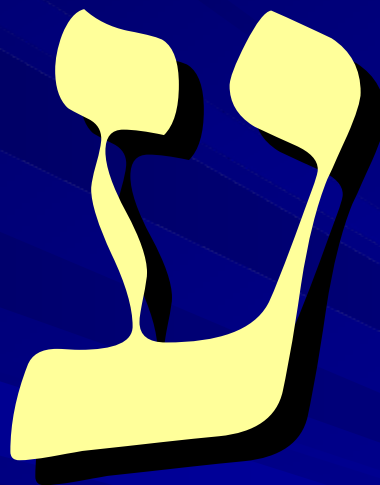
מרת

The three letter root is
designated by the Hebrew
letters פ ע ל

- פ is the 1st radical
- ע is the 2nd radical
- ל is the 3rd radical



Lamed =
3rd radical



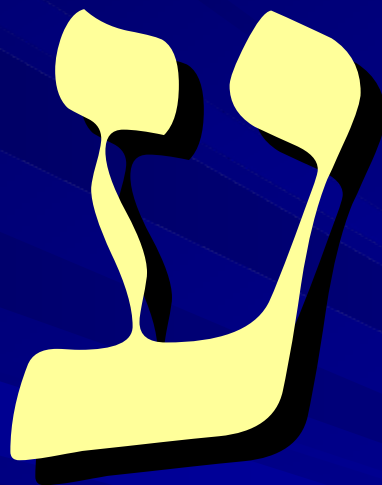
Ayin =
2nd radical



Pey =
1st radical



3



2



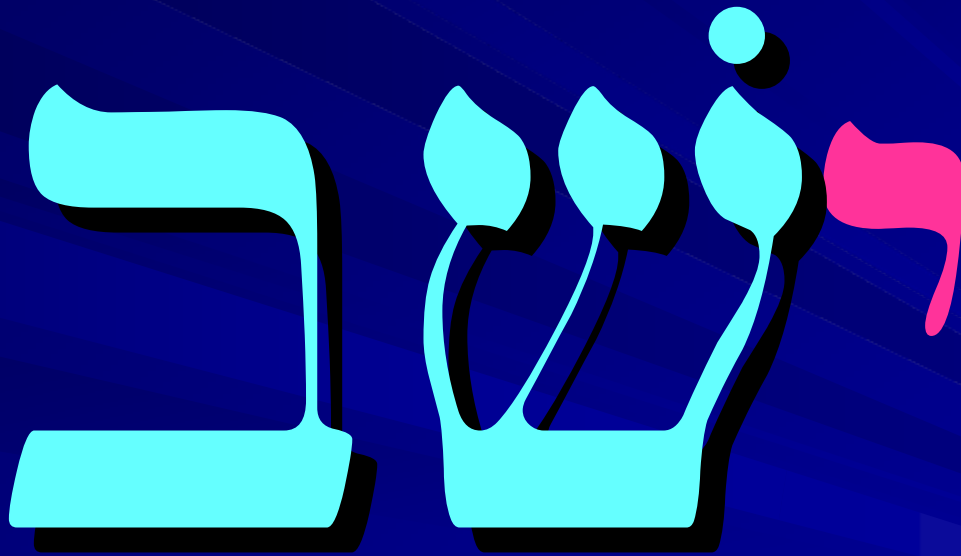
1

A **נ**/**פ** verb means the
word starts with a **נ**

נ**ש****א**

The **נ** is in the 1st or **פ** position

A פ/פ verb means the
word starts with a פ



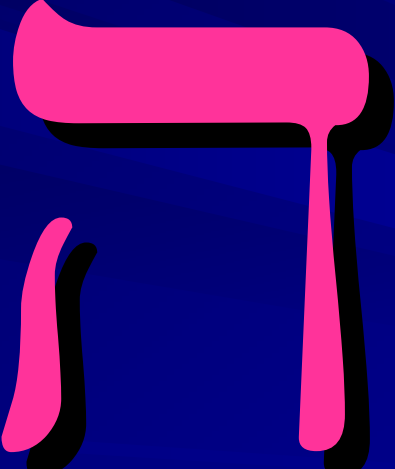
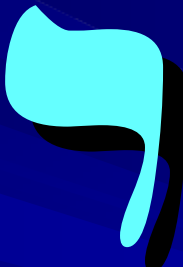

The פ is in the 1st or פ position

A **ע/ו** verb means the
middle letter is **ו**

מ **ו** **ת**

The **ו** is in the 2nd or **ע** position (II-vav)

A  verb means the
word **ends** with a 

The  is in the 3rd or  position