## Edition 1.

20 September 2011

## Observations on Tenses in Psalms

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## See Tenses or Aspects in Biblical Hebrew

## Table E PC<sub>pretWC¹</sub> and SC in the Same Verse Referring to the Past

Chapter/ Verse	Comments and Time  Reference (Reconstructed JEH Style Spelling; */EBHP/+ where stress phonemic)	English Translation(s) <sup>2</sup>	Masoretic Text <sup>s</sup>
A) At Leas	st One PC <sub>pretWC</sub> was Distinguished	from the <u>PC<sub>imp</sub> in */EBHP/</u> *	by the Placement of Stress
33:9	ויעמד - ''i <b>q</b> ra' ( <u>:</u> 'iq <b>'ra'</b> <u>PC<sub>imp</sub>)</u>	For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.	כִּי הוּא אָמַר וַיֶּהִי הוּא־צָוָה וַיַּעֲמֹד
37:36	וַיּעֲבׂר but note stress in ואבקשהו distinctive	Then he passed away, and lo, he was no more; I sought for him, but he could not be found.	וַיַּעֲבֹר וְהָנֵּה אֵינֶנּוּ וָאֲבַקְשֵׁהוּ וְלֹא נִמְצָא
38:3	ותנחת	For your arrows have sunk into me, and your hand has come down on me.	פִי־חָצֶיךּ נִחָתוּ בִי וַתִּנְחַת עָלַי יָדֶדּ
40:2	ויט וישמע	I waited patiently for the LORD; And He inclined to me and	קוֹה קוּיתִי יְהוָה וַיֵּט אֵלֵי וַיִּשְׁמֵע שַׁוְעָתִי

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Chapter/ Verse	Comments and Time  Reference (Reconstructed JEH Style Spelling; */EBHP/+ where stress phonemic)	English Translation(s)	Masoretic Text
		heard my cry.	
40:3	ויקם but note stress in ויעלני distinctive	He brought me up out of the pit of destruction, out of the miry clay, And He set my feet upon a rock making my footsteps firm.	יַּעֲלֵנִי מִבּּוֹר שָׁאֹון מִטִּיט הַיָּוַן וַיָּקֶם עַל־סֶלַע כּוֹנֵן אֲשֶׁרָי רַגְלַי
45: 8	ותשנא	You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of joy above Your fellows.	אָהַרָתָּ צֶּדֶק וַתִּשְׂנָא רָשַׁע עַל־כֵּן מְשֶׁחָּה אֱלֹהָיךּ שֶׁמֶן שֶׁשׁון מַחֲבֵרֶיךּ אֱלֹהִים
50:16	ותשא	But to the wicked God says, "What right have you to tell of My statutes And to take My covenant in your mouth?	וְלָרָשָׁע אָמַר אֱלֹהִים מַה־לְּךּ לְסַפֵּר חֻקָּי וַתִּשָּׂא בָרִיתִי עֲלֵי־פִיךּ
73:13	וארחץ	Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure And washed my hands in innocence	אַדְּ־רִיק זְכִּיתִי לְבָבִי וָאֶרְחַץ בְּנָקֶיוֹן כַּפָּי
78:31	ויהרג	The anger of God rose against them And killed some of their stoutest ones, And subdued the choice men	וְאַף אֱלֹהִים עָלָה בָהֶם וַיַּהָרֹג בְּמִשְׁמַנֵּיהֶם וּבַחוּרֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל הָכְרִיעַ

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Chapter/ Verse	Comments and Time  Reference (Reconstructed JEH Style Spelling; */EBHP/* where stress phonemic)	English Translation(s)²	Masoretic Text
		of Israel.	
78:59	וימאס	When God heard, He was filled with wrath And greatly abhorred Israel	שָׁמֵע אֱלֹהִים וַיִּתְעַבָּר וַיִּמְאַס מְאֹד בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל שָׁ
78:60	ויטש	So that He abandoned the dwelling place at Shiloh, The tent which He had pitched among men,	וַיִּטשׁ מִשְׁכַּן שָׁלֹו אֹהֶל שָׁכֵּן בָּאָדָם
78:62	ויסגר	He also delivered His people to the sword, And was filled with wrath at His inheritance.	וַיַּסְגֵּר לַחֶּרֶב עַמֹּו וּבְנַחֲלָתוֹ הִתְעַבָּר
78:66	ויך	He drove His adversaries backward; He put on them an everlasting reproach.	וַיַּד־צָרָיו אָחֹור חֶרְפַּת עֹולָם נָתַן לָמֹו
78:67	וימאס	He also rejected the tent of Joseph, And did not choose the tribe of Ephraim,	וַיִּמְאַס בָּאֹהֶל יוֹסֵף וּבְשֵׁבֶט אֶפְרַיִם לֹא בָחָר
78:68	ויבחר	But chose the tribe of Judah, Mount Zion which He loved.	וַיִּבְחַר אָת־שֵׁבֶט יְהוּדָה אֶת־הַר צִיּוֹן אֲשֶׁר אָהֵב
78:69	ויבן	And He built His sanctuary like the heights, Like the earth which He has founded forever.	וַיָּבֶן כְּמֹו־רָמִים מִקְדָּשׁוֹ כְּאֶבֶץ יְסָדָהּ לְעוֹלָם

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Chapter/ Verse	Comments and Time  Reference (Reconstructed JEH Style Spelling; */EBHP/* where stress phonemic)	English Translation(s)	Masoretic Text
80:10	ותשרש ותמלא	You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.	פָּנִיתָ לְפָנֶיהָ וַתַּשְׁרֵשׁ רָשֶׁיהָ וַתְּמַלֵּא־אָרֶץ
89:20	ותאמר	Then you spoke in a vision to your faithful one, and said: "I have set the crown on one who is mighty, I have exalted one chosen from the people.	אָז דִּבַּרְתָּ־בְחָזון לַחֲסִידֵיךּ וַתּאׁמֶר שִׁוִּיתִי עֵזֶר עַל־גִּבּור הֲרִימוֹתִי בָחוּר מֵעָם:
89:44	תשיב	Moreover, you have turned back the edge of his sword, and you have not supported him in battle.	אַף־תָּשִׁיב צוּר חַרְבּוֹ וְלֹא הָקֵימֹתוֹ בַּמִּלְחָמֶה
92:11	ותרם	But you have exalted my horn like that of the wild ox; you have poured over me fresh oil.	וַתָּרֶם כִּרְאֵים קַרְנִי בַּלֹּתִי בְּשֶׁמֶן רַעֲנָן
102:5-6	Table A  SCpast - past - הכה - huk'kâ  י שכחתי - ša'kaḥtī  PCpretwc - past - ויבש - way'yîbaš (:wayî'baš PCimp)  SCstate - present - דבקה - da'baqâ.	My heart has been smitten like grass and has withered away, Indeed, I forget to eat my bread. Because of the loudness of my groaning My bones cling to my flesh.	הוּבֶּה־בָּעֵשֶׂב וַיִּבְשׁ לִבֵּי בִּי שָׁבַׁחְתִּי מַאֲכְל לַחְמִי: מִקּוֹל אַנְחָתִי דְּבְקָה עַצְמִי לִבְשָּׁרִי:
106:33	ויבטא	for they made his spirit bitter, and he spoke words that were rash.	כִּי־הָמְרוּ אֶת־רוּחֹו וַיְבַטֵּא בִּשְׂפָתָיו

Chapter/ Verse	Comments and Time  Reference (Reconstructed <u>JEH</u> Style Spelling; */ <u>EBHP/</u> * where stress phonemic)	English Translation(s)	Masoretic Text
109:16	וירדף	For he did not remember to show kindness, but pursued the poor and needy and the brokenhearted to their death.	יַעַן אֲשֶׁר לֹא זָכַר עֲשׂות חָסֶד וַיִּרְדּרָּ אִישׁ־עָנִי וְאֶבְיוֹן וְנִכְאֵה לֵבָב לְמֹותֵת
109:17	ויאהב ותרחק but note stress in ותבואהו distinctive	He also loved cursing, so it came to him; And he did not delight in blessing, so it was far from him.	וַיֶּצֶהַב קְלָלָה וַתְּבוֹצֵהוּ וְלֹא־חָפֵץ בִּּבְרָכָה וַתִּרְחַק מִמֶּנוּ
109:17		The LORD <b>protects</b> the simple; when I <b>was</b> brought low, he <b>saved</b> me.	שֹׁמֵר פְּתָאיֵם יְהוֶֹה זַּלּוֹתִׁי וְלֵי יְהוֹשִׁיעַ:
119:52	ואתנחם	I have remembered Your ordinances from of old, O LORD, And comfort myself.	זַכַרְתִּי מִשְׁפָּטֶיךְ מֵעוֹלֶם יְהוָה וָאֶתְנֶחָם
119:90	ותעמד	Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast.	לְדֹר וָדֹר אֱמוּנָתֶדְּ כּוֹנַנְהָּ אֶרֶץ וַהַּצְּמֹד
139:5	Table A  SC <sub>pest</sub> - past  צרתני - ṣar'tanī  PC <sub>pretwc</sub> - past - תשת -  wat'tašit (:wata'ši:t PC <sub>imp</sub> )	You <b>have enclosed</b> me behind and before, And <b>laid</b> Your hand upon me.	אָחִוֹר וָנֶקֶדֶם צַּרְתָּנִי וַתָּשֶׁת עָלַי בַּפֶּּכָה:
B) PCpretWo	C Was not Distinguished from the	PC <sub>imp</sub> in */EBHP/+ by the Plac	ement of Stress
7.5	ואחלצה	If I have rewarded evil to my	אָם־גָּמַלְתִּי שׁוּלְמִי רָע וָאֲחַלְצָה צֹורְרִי רֵיקּם

Chapter/ Verse	Comments and Time  Reference (Reconstructed JEH Style Spelling; */EBHP/+ where stress phonemic)	English Translation(s)²	Masoretic Text
		friend, Or have plundered him who without cause was my adversary,	
7:13	Table A  PCimp_prfut - present/future - ישב - ya'šu:b (:'yašub PCjus/ PCpret_sim)  שילי - yil'ṭuš (:'yilṭuš PCjus/ PCpret_sim)  SCpast - past  שרר da'rak  PCpretwc - past - זיכננה - wayyakōni'niha(:). Stress not distinctive in this form.	If one does not repent, God whets/will whet his sword; he has bent and strung his bow;	אָם־לָא יֶשׁוּב חַרְבָּוֹ יִלְטֻוֹשׁ קַשְׁתְּוֹ דְרַדְּ וַיְכוֹנְנֶנֶהָ:
30:12	ותאזרני	You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; You have loosed my sackcloth and girded me with gladness,	הָפַּכְהָ מִסְפְּדִי לְמָחוֹל לִי פִּתַּחְתָּ שַׂקּי וַתְּאַזְּרֵנִי שִׁמְחָה
37:40	ויעזרם ויפלטם ויושיעם	The LORD helps them and delivers them; He delivers them from the wicked and saves them, Because they take refuge in Him.	וַיַּעְזְרֵם יְהֹוָה וַיְפַלְּטֵם יְפַלְּטֵם מֵּךְשָׁעִים וְיֹושִׁיעֵם כִּי־חָסוּ בֹו
41:13	ותציבני	As for me, You uphold me in my integrity, And You set me in Your presence forever.	וַאֲנִי בְּתֻמִּי תָּמַכְתָּ בִּי וַתַּצִּיבֵנִי לְפָנֶיךּ לְעוֹלֶם

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Chapter/ Verse 44:3	Comments and Time  Reference (Reconstructed <u>JEH</u> Style Spelling; * <u>/EBHP/</u> +  where stress phonemic)  בּחַקְשַׂאָם וַמְּשָׂאָם	English Translation(s) <sup>2</sup> You with Your own hand	Masoretic Text אָתָה יָדָך גֹּוִיִם הוֹרַשָּׁתָּ וַתִּטָּעֵם תָּרַע לְאֵמִּים וַתִּשַׁלְחֵם
		drove out the nations; Then You planted them; You afflicted the peoples, Then You spread them abroad.	ញ វ តិ វ <sup>រ</sup> . ī
66:12	ותוציאנו	You brought us into the net; You laid an oppressive burden upon our loins.	הָרְכַּבָתָּ אֱנוֹשׁ לְרֹאשֵׁנוּ בָּאנוּ־בָאֵשׁ וּבַמַּיִם וַתּוֹצִיאֵנוּ לָרְוָיָה
78:3	ונדעם	Which we have heard and known, And our fathers have told us	אָשֶׁר מַעְנוּ וַנֵּדָעֵם וַאָבׂותֵינוּ סָפְּרוּ־לָנוּ
78:11	וישכחו	They forgot His deeds And His miracles that He had shown them.	וַיִּשְׁכְּחוּ עֲלִילוֹתָיו וְנִפְּלְאוֹתָיו אֲשֶׁר הֶּרְאָם
78:13	ויעבירם	He divided the sea and caused them to pass through, And He made the waters stand up like a heap.	בָּקַע יָם וַיַּעֲבִירֵם וַיַּצֶּב־מֵיִם כְּמוֹ־נֵד
78:19	וידברו	Then they spoke against God; They said, "Can God prepare a table in the wilderness?	וַיְדַבָּרוּ בֵּאלֹהִים אָמְרוּ הַיוּכַל אֵל לַעֲרֹךְּ לְחָן בַּמִּדְבָּר
78:24	תקחני	With Your counsel You will guide me, And afterward receive me to glory.	נְנְחֵנִי וְאַחַר כָּבוֹד תִּקְּחֵנִי מְנָחָנִי וְאַחַר

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Chapter/ Verse	Comments and Time  Reference (Reconstructed JEH Style Spelling; */EBHP/* where stress phonemic)	English Translation(s)	Masoretic Text⁵
78:41	וישובו	Again and again they tempted God, And pained the Holy One of Israel.	וַיָּשׁוּבוּ וַיְנַסּוּ אֵל וּקְדוֹשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל הָתְווּ
78:56	וינסו וימרו	Yet they tempted and rebelled against the Most High God And did not keep His testimonies,	וַיְנַסּוּ וַיַּמְרוּ אֶת־אֱלֹהִים עֶלְיוֹן וְעֵדֹותָיו לֹא שָׁמֶרוּ
78:57	ויסגו ויבגדו	But turned back and acted treacherously like their fathers; They turned aside like a treacherous bow.	וַיָּסֹגוּ וַיִּבְגְּדוּ כַּאֲבותָם נֶהְפְּכוּ כְּקֶשֶׁת רְמִיֶּה
80:6	ותשקמו	You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure.	הָאֶכַלְתָּם לֶחֶם דִּמְעָה וַתַּשְׁקֵמֹו בִּדְמָעֹות שָׁלִישׁ
106:38	וישפכו	they poured out innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; and the land was polluted with blood.	וַיִּשְׁפְּכוּ דָם נָקִי דַּם־בְּנֵיהֶם וּבְנוֹתֵיהֶם אֲשֶׁר זִבְּחוּ לַעֲצַבֵּי כְנָעַן וַתְּחֲנַף הָאֶרֶץ בַּדָּמִים
109:3	וילחמוני	They have also surrounded me with words of hatred, And fought against me without cause	וְדָבְרֵי שִׁנְאָה סְבָבוּנִי וַיִּלְּחֲמוּנִי חַנָּם

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Chapter/	Comments and Time	English Translation(s)	Masoretic Text
Verse	Reference (Reconstructed <u>JEH</u> Style Spelling; */ <u>EBHP/</u> * where stress phonemic)		
109:17	ותענני	When I told of my ways, you answered me; teach me your statutes.	דְּרָכֵי סָפַּרְתִּי וַתַּעֲנֵנִי לַמְּדֵנִי חֻקֶּיךְּ
119:55	ואשמרה	I remember your name in the night, O LORD, and keep your law.	זָכַרְתִּי בַלַּיְלָה שִׁמְךּ יְהוָה וָאֶשְׁמְרָה תּוֹרָתֶךְּ
119:59	ואשיבה	I considered my ways And turned my feet to Your testimonies.	חְשַּׁבְתִּי דְרָכָי וָאָשִׁיבָה רַגְלַי אֶל־צֵדֹתֶיךְ
119:73	ויכוננוני	Your hands have made and fashioned me; give me understanding that I may learn your commandments.	יָדֶיךּ עָשׂוּנִי וַיְכֹונְנוּנִי הַבִינֵנִי וְאֶלְמְדָה מִצְוֹתֶיךּ
119:106	ואקימה	I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to observe your righteous ordinances.	נְשָׁבַּעְתִּי וָאֲקַיֵּמָה לְשְׁמֹר מִשְׁפְּטֵי צִּדְקֶךְּ
119:131	ואשאפה	I opened my mouth wide and panted, For I longed for Your commandments.	פִּי־פָעַרְתִּי וָאֶשְׁאָפָה כִּי לְמִצְוֹתֶיךּ יָאָבְתִּי
148:6	ויעמידם	He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.	וַיַּצְמִידֵם לָעַד לְעוֹלָם חָק־נָתַן וְלֹא יַצְבֹור

- <sup>1</sup> IN EBHP and LBHP THE JUSSIVE (PC<sub>jus</sub>), COHORTATIVE (PC<sub>coh</sub>), IMPERFECT (PC<sub>imp</sub>) AND PRETERITE (PC<sub>pret\_sim</sub>/PC<sub>pretWC</sub>) are, in some forms, distinguished by the placement of syllabic stress when not carrying object suffixes. See -
- http://www.adath-shalom.ca/history\_of\_hebrew3a.htm#indic\_jus AND
- http://www.adath-shalom.ca/history\_of\_hebrew3a.htm#Prefix\_Conjugation
- <sup>2</sup> For convenience, I have used NASB or NRSV as the basis of my translation modifying the wording and layout as appropriate.
- 3 From The Westminster Leningrad Codex http://www.tanach.us/ .