

Observations on Tenses in Psalms

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Table G

PC_{pretWC}¹ Should be Revocalized as PC_{imp} Due to Contextually Required Meaning

Chapter & Verse Hebrew Text	Comments and Time Reference (Reconstructed <u>JEH</u> Style Spelling; <i>*/EBHP/*</i> where stress phonemic)	English Translation(s) ²	Masoretic Text ³
A) PC_{pretWC} was Distinguished from the PC_{imp} in <i>*/EBHP/*</i> by the Placement of Stress			
16:9	ויגל - way'yagil (PC _{pretWC}) should be ויגל - waya'gi:l (PC _{imp})	Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.	לְכֹן שָׂמַח לִבִּי וַיִּגַּל פְּבוּדֵי אֶף-בְּשָׂרֵי יִשְׁכַּן לְבָטָח
29:5	וישבר - wayya'sabbir (PC _{pretWC}) should be וישבר - wayašab'bir (PC _{imp})	The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon	קוֹל יְהוָה שִׁבַר אֲרָזִים וַיִּשְׁבַּר יְהוָה אֶת-אֲרָזֵי הַלְבָנוֹן
29:9	ויחשף - way'yihšup (PC _{pretWC}) should be ויחשף - wayih'sup (PC _{imp})	The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, "Glory!"	קוֹל יְהוָה יְחוּלֵל אֵילֹת וַיִּחַשְׁפוּ יְעָרוֹת וּבְהִיכְלוֹ כָּלוּ אִמְרַת כְּבוֹד

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29:10	וישב - way'yīšib (PC _{pretWC}) should be וישב - wayi'šib (PC _{imp})	The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.	יְהוָה לְמַבּוּל יָשָׁב וַיֵּשֶׁב יְהוָה מִלְּקַדְּךָ לְעוֹלָם
39:12	ותמס - wat'tams (PC _{pretWC}) should be ותמסה - wātam'se: (PC _{imp})	"You chastise mortals in punishment for sin, consuming like a moth what is dear to them; surely everyone is a mere breath. Selah	בְּתוֹכָחֹת עַל־עוֹן יִסְרֹת אִישׁ וְתִמַּס כְּעֹשׂ הַבֵּל כָּל־אָדָם סָלָה תִּמְוִדוּ אֶף
50:16	ותשא - wat'tišá' (PC _{pretWC}) should be ותשא - wātiš'ša' (PC _{imp})	But to the wicked God says, "What right have you to tell of My statutes And to take My covenant in your mouth?	וְלִרְשָׁע אָמַר אֱלֹהִים מַה־לְּךָ לְסִפֵּר חֻקֵּי וְתִשָּׂא בְרִיתִי עַל־פִּיךָ
69:21	ואקוה - wa''āqawwe: (PC _{pretWC}) should be ואקוה - wā'āqaw'we: (PC _{imp})	Insults have broken my heart, so that I am in despair. I looked for pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none.	חֲרַפָּה שִׁבְרָה לִבִּי וְאֲנוּשָׁה וְאֶקְוֶה לְנוֹד וְאִין וְלִמְנַחֲמִים וְלֹא מִצְּאֹתַי
75:9	ויגר - way'yaggir (PC _{pretWC}) should be ויגר - wayag'gi:r (PC _{imp})	For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup with foaming wine, well mixed; he will pour a draught from it, and all the wicked of the earth shall drain it down to the dregs.	כִּי כּוֹס בְּיַד־יְהוָה וַיִּנּוּ חֶמֶר מְלֵא מְסֹךְ וַיִּגַּר מִזֶּה אֶף־שְׁמֵרִיָּה יִמְצֹו יִשְׁתּוּ כָּל רִשְׁעֵי־אֲרֶץ
77:7	Table G וַיַּחַפֵּשׂ (*EBHP/ wayya'happiś) should be read as וַיַּחַפֵּשׂ (*EBHP/	I commune with my heart in the night; I meditate and search my spirit:	וַגִּיֵּתִי בַלַּיְלָה עַם־לִבִּי אֲשִׁיחָה וַיַּחַפֵּשׂ רוּחִי:

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	wayḥap'piś)		
B) PC_{pretWC} Was not Distinguished from the PC_{imp} in */EBHP/* by the Placement of Stress			
22:30	וישתחוּ - wayyiš'taḥwū (PC _{pretWC}) should be וישתחוּ - wayiš'taḥwū (PC _{imp})	To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.	כָּל־דְּשָׁנֵי־אֶרֶץ לְפָנָיו יִכָּרְעוּ אֲכֹלוּ וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוּוּ כָּל־יֹרְדֵי עֶפְרָ וְנִפְשׁוּ לֹא הָיָה
29:6	וירקידם - wayyar'qi:dim (PC _{pretWC}) should be וירקידם - wayar'qi:dim (PC _{imp})	He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.	וַיִּרְקִידֵם כַּמֹּר־עֵגֶל לְבָנוֹן וְשִׁרְיֹן כַּמֹּ בֶן־רְאֵמִים
34:8	ויחלצם - wayaḥal'lišim (PC _{pretWC}) should be ויחלצם - wayaḥal'lišim (PC _{imp})	The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.	הַחַיָּה מֵלֹאֲדֹתֶיהֶן סָבִיב לִירְאָיו וַיַּחֲלֹצֵם
37:40	ויפלטם; ויעזרם wayyapal'lišim; wayyi'zūrim (PC _{pretWC}) should be ויפלטם; ויעזרם wayapal'lišim; wayi'zūrim (PC _{imp})	The LORD helps them and rescues them; he rescues them from the wicked, and saves them, because they take refuge in him.	וַיַּעֲזֶרֵם יְהוָה וַיַּפְלֹטֵם מִרְשָׁעִים כִּי־חָסוּ בוֹ וַיּוֹשִׁיעֵם
49:15	way'yirdū (PC _{pretWC}) should be way'yirdū (PC _{imp})	Like sheep they are appointed for Sheol; Death shall be their shepherd; straight to the grave they descend, and their form shall waste away; Sheol shall be their home.	כַּצֹּאֵן לְשְׂאוֹל שְׂתוּ מִן־יָרְעַם וַיִּרְדּוּ בָם יִשְׂרִים לְבִקָּר [וְצִירִים כ] [וְצוּרִים ק] לְבָלוֹת שְׂאוֹל מִזְבֵּל לוֹ
64:8	way'yawrim (PC _{pretWC})	But God will shoot his arrow	וַיִּרֶם אֱלֹהִים חֵץ פְּתָאוֹם הָיוּ מִכּוֹתָם

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	should be וירם way'yawrim (PC _{imp})	at them; they will be wounded suddenly.	
64:9	ויכשילוהו - wayyakši:'lu:hu(:) (PC _{pretWC}) should be ויכשילוהו - wayakši:'lu:hu(:) (PC _{imp})	Because of their tongue he will bring them to ruin; all who see them will shake with horror.	וּיְכַשִּׁילוּהוּ עָלֵימוֹ לְשׁוֹנָם וַתִּגְדְּדוּ כָּל־רֵאָהֶם בָּם
64:10	ויגידו; וייראו wayyīrā'ū; wayyag'gi:dū (PC _{pretWC}) should be ויגידו; וייראו wayīrā'ū; wayag'gi:dū (PC _{imp})	Then everyone will fear; they will tell what God has brought about, and ponder what he has done.	וַיִּירָאוּ כָּל־אָדָם וַיִּגִּידוּ פֶּעַל אֱלֹהִים וּמַעֲשֵׂהוּ הַשְּׁכִיחוּ
65:10	ותשקקה - wattašōqi'qiha(:) (PC _{pretWC}) should be ותשקקה - waṭašōqi'qiha(:) (PC _{imp})	You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.	פְּקַדְתָּ הָאָרֶץ וַתִּשְׁקְקֶהָ רַבַּת תַּעֲשֶׂרְנָהּ פֶּלֶג אֱלֹהִים מְלֵא מַיִם תִּכְיֶן דְגָנָם כִּי־כֹן תִּכְיֶנָּה

¹ IN EBHP and LBHP THE JUSSIVE (PC_{jus}), COHORTATIVE (PC_{coh}), IMPERFECT (PC_{imp}) AND PRETERITE (PC_{pret_sim}/PC_{pretWC}) 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

² 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/> .