

1 בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת  
הָאָרֶץ:

2 וְהָאָרֶץ הִיְתָה תְהוֹ וְבָהוּ וְחֹשֶׁךְ עַל-פְּנֵי תְהוֹם  
וְרוּחַ אֱלֹהִים מְרַחֶפֶת עַל-פְּנֵי הַמַּיִם:

3 וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים יְהִי אֹר וַיְהִי-אֹר:

4 וַיֵּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת-הָאֹר כִּי-טוֹב וַיַּבְדֵּל אֱלֹהִים  
בֵּין הָאֹר וּבֵין הַחֹשֶׁךְ:

5 וַיִּקְרָא אֱלֹהִים | לְאֹר יוֹם וְלַחֹשֶׁךְ קָרָא לַיְלָה  
וַיְהִי-עֶרֶב וַיְהִי-בֹקֶר יוֹם אֶחָד

## Verbs

There are strong verbs and weak verbs. Right now, we are only concerned about strong verbs. Strong verbs preserve their three root letters. Weak verbs do not preserve their three root letters. Weak verbs can be identified by containing: ה י ר א, or an initial נ, is a weak verb.

### Perfect

When learning the perfect tense you must be able to distinguish between the root of the verb and the suffixes. Observe that in this conjugation, the root of the verb consists of three letters only, e.g. בדל. The other letters constitute the suffixes.

The root in itself בדל does not constitute a word. It is therefore pronounced with the vowels of the third person singular, masculine, of the perfect tense—this usually being the simplest of all verbal forms.

keep in mind that the Hebrew perfect tense expresses several past tenses in other languages. בָּדַלְנוּ may mean *we divided*, *we have divided*, *we had divided*, *we did divide* or *we have been divided*

### Imperfect

the second person masculine singular and third person feminine singular are always identical in Hebrew: תִּשְׁמֹר *you will keep* (m. sg.) or also *she will keep* (f. sg.) according to context;

תִּמְלֹךְ *you will reign* (m. sg.) and *she will reign* (f. sg.). Similarly, the second and third person feminine plural are also identical: תִּשְׁמְרֶנָּה *you or they will keep* (f. pl.), תִּמְלֹכְנָה *you or they will reign* (f. pl.). The meaning can be decided only in the context of the sentence.

If the second letter of the root one of the *BeGaD KeFaT* letters, it must take a dagesh when the imperfect is formed

אֲנִי בִדְלַתִּי	I have divided, I divided (m,s/f,s)
אַתָּה בִדְלַת	you have divided (2 m,s)
אַתְּ בִדְלַת	you have divided (2 f,s)
הוא בִדֵּל	he has divided
היא בִדְלָה	she has divided
אֲנַחְנוּ בִדְלָנוּ	we have divided
אַתֶּם בִדְלַתֶּם	you have divided 2mp
אַתֶּן בִדְלַתֶּן	you have divided 2fp
הם בִדְלוּ	they have divided 3mp
הן בִדְלוּ	they have divided 3mf

בָּדַל (bādāl) *divided*

וַיִּבְדֵּל (בָּדַל) - divide

### Perfect or Completed Action

**Suffixs reveal: Person, Gender and Number**

בָּדַל He has divided, He divided (3,m,s)  
בָּדְלָה She has divided, she divided (3,f,s)  
בָּדַלְתָּ you have divided (2 m,s)  
בָּדַלְתְּ you have divided (2 f,s)  
בָּדַלְתִּי I have divided, I divided (m,s/f,s)  
בָּדְלוּ they have divided 3cp  
בָּדַלְתֶּם you have divided (2,m,p)  
בָּדַלְתֶּן you have divided (2,f,p)  
בָּדַלְנוּ we have divided (1, m,p/f,p)

### Imperfect or incomplete action

יִבְדֵּל he will divide 3ms  
תִּבְדֵּל she will divide 3fs  
תִּבְדְּלוּ you will divide 2ms  
תִּבְדְּלִי you will divide 2fs  
אֶבְדֵּל I will divide 1m/f s  
יִבְדְּלוּ they will divide 3mp  
תִּבְדְּלֶנָּה they will divide 3fp  
תִּבְדְּלוּ you will divide 2mp  
תִּבְדְּלֶנָּה you will divide 2fp  
נִבְדֵּל we will divide 1m/f p

# Qal Imperfect: Strong

## Other Imperfect Strong Verbs

	זָכַר <i>to remember</i>	כָּתַב <i>to write</i>	שָׁמַר <i>to keep</i>	קָבַץ <i>to gather</i>
3ms	יִזְכֹּר	יִכְתֹּב	יִשְׁמֹר	יִקְבֹּץ
3fs	תִּזְכֹּר	תִּכְתֹּב	תִּשְׁמֹר	תִּקְבֹּץ
2ms	תִּזְכֹּר	תִּכְתֹּב	תִּשְׁמֹר	תִּקְבֹּץ
2fs	תִּזְכְּרִי	תִּכְתְּבִי	תִּשְׁמְרִי	תִּקְבְּצִי
1cs	אֶזְכֹּר	אֶכְתֹּב	אֶשְׁמֹר	אֶקְבֹּץ
3mp	יִזְכְּרוּ	יִכְתְּבוּ	יִשְׁמְרוּ	יִקְבְּצוּ
3fp	תִּזְכְּרֶנָּה	תִּכְתְּבֶנָּה	תִּשְׁמְרֶנָּה	תִּקְבְּצֶנָּה
2mp	תִּזְכְּרוּ	תִּכְתְּבוּ	תִּשְׁמְרוּ	תִּקְבְּצוּ
2fp	תִּזְכְּרֶנָּה	תִּכְתְּבֶנָּה	תִּשְׁמְרֶנָּה	תִּקְבְּצֶנָּה
1cp	נִזְכֹּר	נִכְתֹּב	נִשְׁמֹר	נִקְבֹּץ

# Qal Perfect: Strong

## Other Qal Perfect Strong Verbs

	יָשַׁב <i>to dwell</i>	זָכַר <i>to remember</i>	כָּתַב <i>to write</i>	שָׁמַר <i>to keep</i>	קָבַץ <i>to gather</i>
3ms	יָשַׁב	זָכַר	כָּתַב	שָׁמַר	קָבַץ
3fs	יָשְׁבָה	זָכְרָה	כָּתְבָה	שָׁמְרָה	קָבְצָה
2ms	יָשַׁבְתָּ	זָכַרְתָּ	כָּתַבְתָּ	שָׁמַרְתָּ	קָבַצְתָּ
2fs	יָשַׁבְתְּ	זָכַרְתְּ	כָּתַבְתְּ	שָׁמַרְתְּ	קָבַצְתְּ
1cs	יָשַׁבְתִּי	זָכַרְתִּי	כָּתַבְתִּי	שָׁמַרְתִּי	קָבַצְתִּי
3cp	יָשְׁבוּ	זָכְרוּ	כָּתְבוּ	שָׁמְרוּ	קָבְצוּ
2mp	יָשַׁבְתֶּם	זָכַרְתֶּם	כָּתַבְתֶּם	שָׁמַרְתֶּם	קָבַצְתֶּם
2fp	יָשַׁבְתֶּן	זָכַרְתֶּן	כָּתַבְתֶּן	שָׁמַרְתֶּן	קָבַצְתֶּן
1cp	יָשַׁבְנוּ	זָכַרְנוּ	כָּתַבְנוּ	שָׁמַרְנוּ	קָבַצְנוּ