

WORKSHEET #3: Genesis 12:1-3

1. Write out your own translation of Genesis 12:1-3.

2. לָלֶךְ-לְךָ (v. 1):

a. Read two of the following (on the form לָלֶךְ):

F. Brown, S. R. Driver, C. A. Briggs, *A Hebrew and English Lexicon of the OT* (Oxford, 1907; Hendrickson, 1979), p. 515;

E. Kautzsch, ed., *Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar* (Oxford, 1910), par. 119s;

B. Waltke and M. O'Connor, *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax* (Winona Lake, 1990), par. 11.2.10d.

b. How do you explain this construction (in particular, how do you explain the nature and function of לָלֶךְ)?

c. Check verse 1 in three different English Bible versions. Do any of them capture the nuance(s) you have discovered for this phrase?

3. וְאָנֹכִי לָלֶךְ (v. 2) and וְאָבְרַכְךָ (v. 3):

a. These two verbs are cohortatives. What is the special significance (or the special nuances) of the cohortative as used here? How would you translate the two verbs to indicate this significance (or their nuances)?

b. Compare these two verbs with the other verbs in vv. 1-3 that indicate God's actions. Should these other verbs be understood as cohortatives? Why or why not?

Optional:

4. וְהָיָה בְרַכְּךָ (v. 2):

a. What is the literal translation of this clause? (Be careful.)

b. The BHS editor suggests repointing וְהָיָה to וְהָיָה (footnote "a"). Read E. Kautzsch, ed., *Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar* (Oxford, 1910), par. 110i. Discuss the advisability of BHS's suggestion in light of Gesenius' discussion.

c. What light do Genesis 20:7 and 42:18 shed on the translation and function of the clause here? (Read these in Hebrew.)