

# The Rashi Database Project

**GOALS:** \* Show that all Rashid comments are spontaneous, instant, effortless reactions of a native speaker to the biblical text.

\*This is accomplished by skillful English translations instantly suggesting the Rashi comment to the reader PUBLICATION: [www.Rashiyomi.com/The\\_Rashi\\_Database\\_Project.htm](http://www.Rashiyomi.com/The_Rashi_Database_Project.htm) from the Rashi website [www.Rashiyomi.com](http://www.Rashiyomi.com)

**MAIN BIBLIOGRAPHY:** DT = Doctoral Thesis ([www.Rashiyomi.com/Rashibook.htm](http://www.Rashiyomi.com/Rashibook.htm),

MG=Modern Grammar with Applications to Rashid ([www.Rashiyom.com/Rashibook2.htm](http://www.Rashiyom.com/Rashibook2.htm) )}

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**THEME, THIS ISSUE: Rashi comments Explaining Verb Conjugations (Binyanim)**

**RASHI ID: Gn27-42b, Gn37-18a, Gn37-18b, Ex08-05a, Ex32-03a, Ex32-03b, Lv26-46a, Gn27-42b**

**PESHAT: THE SPONTANEOUS REACTION TO SKILLFUL ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS**

**WHAT IS NEW IN THIS ISSUE: Rashi comments explaining the Hitpael conjugation**

1)Biblical Hebrew allows verbs to be conjugated in 7 constructions (binyanim). This happens in English. For example the three voices, *active* e.g. I dressed myself, *passive* e.g. the nurse dressed me, *causative* e.g. I dressed my son. Hebrew similarly has *binyanim* indicating *active, passive, causative. Etc.*

2) There are 7 major binyanim. Even today they are not perfectly understood. In my doctoral thesis and article I explain that the *hitpael* indicates an active voice *under the influence* of some possible emotion. As a simple example, *getting undressed* would use the active Qal *binyan*; but getting undressed while drunk indicates activity while *under the influence* and uses the *hitpael binyan*.

3)The article enumerates at least five types of influence which require the *hitpael binyan*. For example, when Adam and Eve (Gn03) hid themselves from God after eating the forbidden fruit the bible uses the *hitpael binyan* since they were hiding while under the influence of guilt over sinning and fear of punishment.

**(NOTE: This material is based on my doctoral thesis and my article which appeared in the Jewish Bible Quarterly (and has a lot more details)**

**VERSES: Gn27-42b, Gn37-18a, Gn37-18b, Ex08-05a, Ex32-03a, Ex32-03b, Lv26-46a,**

**TABLE: Hitpael Conjugation indicates an active voice *under some powerful influence***

**(NOTE: This material is based on my doctoral thesis and my article which appeared in the Jewish Bible Quarterly (and has a lot more details)**

Biblical Chapter	Translation of verse with meaning of <i>hitpael</i> in italics	What is the activity	Under what influence is the activity operating
Gn27-42b	Rivkah [Speaking to Jacob her son after Jacob had stolen the blessings from his father Isaac by disguising himself as Esau] spoke to Jacob her son: Look I found out, Esau your brother is steaming himself up in order to kill you.	Plotting to kill you	Jealousy and outrage of Jacob stealing the blessings
Gn37-18a, Gn37-18b	They (Joseph's brothers) saw Joseph far away and <i>began steaming themselves up</i> to plot to kill him	Plotting to kill Joseph	Hatred of Joseph

Ex08-05a	Moses said to Pharaoh, "Dare me! (Steal yourself up to try and outsmart me) By suggesting the time when the frogs will depart"	Testing whether the time Pharaoh requests for frog removal will be the time they disappear	An attempt to outsmart Moses
Ex32-03a	The nation acting under herd pressure and influence unloaded all ear jewelry	Gathering jewelry for making an idol	Herd hysteria (whole nation wanted an idolatrous holiday)
Lv26-42b	(Paragraph discusses slaves and bondmaids of Jewish owners) Preserve them under the specific influence that these will be inherited and bequeathed to your children as inheritance	Preservation of assets	Specific awareness that these assets will be inherited by their children