

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 Rashid comment to the reader

* Additionally, each Rashid comment is examined using the 10 organs of the Rashid anatomy.

PUBLICATION: www.Rashibyomi.com/RashiDatabase.htm

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

MG=Modern Grammar with Applications to Rashid (www.Rashiyom.com/Rashibook2.htm))

OTHER COMMENTATORS (ABBREVIATIONS): R=Ramban, T=Baal Turim, K=Kli Yakar, I=Ibn Ezra, H=Hendel

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT: (c) Rashiyomi.com 2023, Dr. Russell Jay Hendel, www.Rashiyomi.com/copyrights.htm

ACCESS: The materials on this website are free; We accept no donations from anyone. Citation with Attribution is required.

DATE/AUTHOR: Sep 3rd, 2023, Russell Jay Hendel DSJS, Ph.D.

**RASHI ID: Ex30-13b, Ex30-18b, Ex30-23a, Ex30-23d, Ex30-28a:b:c, Ex30-32c:d,
Ex30-35a**

PESHAT, SPONTANEOUS, REACTION TO SKILLFUL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

RASHI vs. MIDRASH: We will continue with the *routine* Rashid comments begun recently. Although there are already encyclopedic works documenting Rashi's rich approach to dictionary meaning such as Avineri's *Rashi's Palace*, my emphasis will be on the half dozen principles and figures of speech used to explain meaning. Additionally, as done in my doctoral thesis, I will emphasize that *peshat* the straightforward meaning of the text coincides with what reading literacy examinations test.

The techniques covered in this *routine Rashid* series are: *Metonymy, hypernymy, synecdoche, meronymy, root meaning, grammar, parallelism, the paragraph, and reading literacy*. By repeatedly emphasizing these principles and reinforcing them with English examples it is hoped that the reader will acquire a natural skill for these approaches thereby leading to greater Rashid appreciation.

This table with this week's examples begins on the next page.

Verse	Translation of Verse with Rashi	Rule	Brief Explanation of Rule
Ex30-13b	All who count [lit. pass] those examined	Synecdoche	Synecdoche simply refers to naming something by a good example of it. In this case we are naming counting by the standard way (in ancient times) of counting: by letting the counted objects pass by the counter. Hence pass by is a good example of counting [synecdoche]. Rashi cites several other verses employing this synecdoche. This Rashi is one of those rare cases where Rashi explicitly identifies the synecdoche figure of speech [in most other cases he leaves it to the reader's understanding]
Ex30-18b	Make a copper wash basin with its foundation [lit. preparation, establishment] also of copper	Verbal Noun	From the verb to prepare or to establish we obtain the noun the foundation which prepares for the item to be placed on it, or, which establishes a place on which it is to rest. The noun corresponding to a verb is called a verbal noun. Similarly, in English, cookie is the verbal noun coming from the verb to cook
Ex30-23a	Take top [lit. head] perfumes	Synecdoche	Just as honey names anything sweet so too head names anything important or distinguished or the top examples. Here head is a good example [synecdoche] of something top-notch
Ex30-23d	Take perfume-reeds	Adjectives (intersective)	An intersective adjective modifies a noun by indicating the common (intersecting of) items of both the noun and adjective. For example red ball refers to an object that is both [intersection] red and a ball. Perfume reeds refer to objects that are both (intersection of) reeds (slender stalks) and perfumes. Rashi explains why one needs an intersective adjective: e.g. there are red objects that are not balls and balls that are not red; hence we need the term red-ball. Similarly, there are reeds that are not perfumes and perfumes that are processed and not reeds (in the raw form); hence we need the term perfume reeds

<p>Ex30-28a,b,c</p>	<p><i>Make these ingredients into pulverized-form by pulverization processes, the work of the Artisan Pulverizers</i></p>	<p>Grammar</p>	<p><i>A really nice Rashi. It illustrates how a verb gives rise to a variety of nouns. From the verb to pulverize, we obtain i) the noun, pulverized-form, the ii) abstract noun the pulverization process and iii) the person who is expert in this process, the Artisan Pulverizer. Note: Although these are listed as 3 separate Rashis I prefer to collect them as one Rashi comment showing how a single verb gives rise to three noun types. An English example would be to derive from the verb to cook, the i) noun, cookie, ii) the abstract noun, cookie standards, and iii) the person performing the activity, the cook. The analogous English sentence would be Make standardized cookies the work of cooks.</i></p>
<p>Ex30-32c,d</p>	<p><i>This oil is holy: Do not make personal oil with similar measurements [lit with similar preparations]</i></p>	<p>Synecdoche</p>	<p><i>Just as honey names anything sweet, because honey is a good example [synecdoche] of something sweet, so too, measurements are a good example of preparations.</i></p>
<p>Ex30-35a</p>	<p><i>Make these perfumes into incense...salted pure and holy</i></p>	<p>Synecdoche</p>	<p><i>Just as honey names anything sweet because honey is a good example [synecdoche] of something sweet so too, salting is a good example of tossing a salad or other collection of foods or perfumes. Although Rashi does not always explicitly explain synecdoche in this rare Rashi he does. And I say that this word salted comes from the same biblical root as sailors (who in Hebrew are called salters) because they navigate the boat with rudders that churn and toss the salted water like a person who tosses split eggs.</i></p>

Verse	Translation of Verse with Rashid	Rule	Brief Explanation of Rule
Ex21-13a	<i>But if a person [who killed someone] did not ambush [lit. hunt] himthen I [God] will create a city for him to seek refuge</i>	Synecdoche	<i>Just as honey can mean sweet, just as day [12-hour part] can refer to the 24-hour day because they are good examples [synecdoche] so too hunt can mean ambush since it is a good example of ambushing.</i>
Ex21-18b	<i>When two people fight, and one hits the other who gets sick and bedridden [lit. falls to bed]</i>	Synecdoche Idiom	<i>Just as honey can mean sweet, just as day [12-hour part] can refer to the 24-hour day because they are good examples [synecdoche] so too fall to bed can refer to a bedridden sickness</i>
Ex21-19a	<i>If [the smitten person] gets up [out of bed] and he walks outside in health [lit. on his cane]</i>	Synecdoche	<i>Just as honey can mean sweet, just as day [12-hour part] can refer to the 24-hour day because they are good examples [synecdoche] so too walks on a cane can refer to walking in health. Of note is that the Rambam explains this idiom in his legal code: "(It couldn't be literal (on a cane) since even a person about to die can walk on a cane. Rather it means the person can walk under conditions of normal health (Murder 4:4))"</i>
Ex21-19c	<i>If the smitten person gets up out of bed and walks outside in health, then the damager is only liable for unemployment [lit. sitting] and medical damage caused.</i>	Metonymy - Synecdoche	<i>Just as honey can mean sweet, just as day [12-hour part] can refer to the 24-hour day because they are good examples [synecdoche] so too sitting refers to unemployment since sitting vs. standing is a good example [synecdoche] of unemployment.</i>
Ex21-01a	<i>Nevertheless, if he survives [after being smitten by his master] for 24 hours [lit. day or days], his master is not executed [for the murder] because....</i>	Idiom Synecdoche	<i>Just as honey can mean sweet, just as day [12-hour part] can refer to the 24-hour day because they are good examples [synecdoche] so too day or days is an idiom meaning 24 hours since it is a good example of a time period that can span one day or two days. NOTE: Rashid seems to derive the meaning from a logical argument: Which day is like two days? A 24-hour period. Actually, Rashi's real point is that day or days is an idiom; the derivation he gives is a probable or reasonable way that the idiom could have developed.</i>

<p>Ex21-21a,b,c</p>	<p><i>[Damages are paid for] a burn, cut, or black-and-blue mark</i></p>	<p>Parallelism</p>	<p><i>The verse lists 3 categories of injury. Rashid translates them as burn, cut, or black-and-blue mark. Rashid does give some etymologies from root meanings for example the Hebrew root for cut, Pay-Tzade-Ayin means to split. However, in my opinion, Rashid is deriving the three meanings from the context and climactic parallelism. 1st: Certainly, damages must be paid for a burn where the skin is destroyed; 2nd: Damages must be paid even for a cut where the skin itself is not destroyed but cut; 3rd damages must be paid even for a black-and-blue mark where the skin is not damaged but clots underneath the skin cause discoloring.</i></p>
<p>Ex22-01a</p>	<p><i>If the thief was discovered in a tunnel (by the house owner) and he was smitten and died, the house-owner is not liable for a death penalty</i></p>	<p>Metonymy</p>	<p>The Hebrew word used, Mem-Cheth-Tauv-Resh-Tauv is a noun coming from the root Cheth-Tauv-Resh which means to dig. Rashid explains that the noun refers to a tunnel since one result or consequence associated with [metonymy] digging is tunnels</p>
<p>Ex22-02a</p>	<p><i>However, if it is clear [lit. the sun rises on him] the house owner is liable for a death penalty</i></p>	<p>Idiom Synecdoche</p>	<p>The verse uses the phrase if the sun rises on him [talking about a thief found in a tunnel under a house leading to the owner killing the thief]. Rashid explains that the sun rises on him is an idiom meaning clear that is it is clear that the thief would not harm the house owner (for example, if a son caught a father in a tunnel trying to steal from a son--in such a case - a son finds a father digging a tunnel into his house to steal from him, it is clear [that the father would not kill his son] and the son is liable if he kills his father). Here the rising sun is a good example [synecdoche] of clarity.</p>