

# 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.Rashibyomi.com/The\\_Rashi\\_Database\\_Project.htm](http://www.Rashibyomi.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) )}

**COPYRIGHT STATEMENT:** (c) Rashiyomi.com 2025, Dr. Russell Jay Hendel, [www.Rashiyomi.com/copyrights.htm](http://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:** Jul 30th, 2025 Russell Jay Hendel DSJS, Ph.D.

**VERSION NUMBER: Version 2, 2025 (v1,2023)**

**THEME, THIS ISSUE: Rashi comments on the meanings of interjections, words like behold, please, etc..**

**RASHI ID: Gn22-02a, Gn38-25c, Gn40-14b, Ex11-02a, Nu10-31a, Nu12-06a, Dt03-25a, Nu12-13a, Gn19-18c**

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

**WHAT IS NEW IN THIS ISSUE: Rashi comments based on interjections**

Almost all languages have 4 basic types of sentences presented in Table Sentence Types

- Declarative sentences say something about the real world as observed by the speaker
- Interjections, words like *behold*, *ouch*, *please* express emotional or verbal reactions of the speaker
- Commands are a wished-for real world state that the speaker tells the listener
- Questions are sentences by the speaker designed to elicit responses from the listener

	Real world	Emotions, Verbal
Speaker	Declarative	Interjections
Listener	Commands	Questions

Table Sentence Types: Lists the four type of sentences present in most languages.

Rashi at a variety of places explains certain biblical narrative as indicating interjections. Interjections can take various forms as seen in the following English examples, *ouch*, *I swear*, *please*, *behold*.

We begin in this issue with the 9 Rashi comments explaining the Biblical word, *na*, usually translated as please. As usual we emphasize the need to review all Rashi comments to obtain a holistic perspective. In many Rashi comments we are simply told, “*na* can exclusively indicate a nuance of request.” In one Rashi comment, Rashi abbreviates, and says “A nuance of request.” Sometimes Rashi explains the request: e.g. “Tamar when sentenced to death for her affair, asked Judah to acknowledge that he was the father: ‘Please don’t cause 3 people to die: Me, you, and the unborn foetus;” or “When the Jews left Egypt, Moses was commanded to tell the Jews to borrow silver and gold utensils, ‘in order that God’s promise to Abraham, “and they shall leave the land where they were non-ciitizens with great wealth” ‘ “. In one Rashi, the comment focuses on the repetition *please..please*. Rashi explains that proper etiquette when requesting is to do so multiple times.

Rashi ID	Text of Verse
----------	---------------

Gn22-02a	<b>Please</b> take your unique, son, that you love [God to Abraham when he asked him to offer him on Mount Moriah]
Gn38-25c	<b>Please</b> acknowledge to whom these belong [Tamar, when being taken out for execution after her affair with Judah: Rashi adds: If you don't 3 people will die: me, you, and foetus]
Gn40-14b	<i>But remember me when it pleases you so that you can <b>please</b> do me kindness: remember me to Pharoh so I may be taken from this prison</i> [Joseph to the master mixer asking for clemency]
Ex11-02a	<b>Please</b> speak to the nation: ask them to borrow silver and gold utensils [God to Moses before the Exodus: Rashi adds: I promised Abraham that they would leave with great wealth so please have them borrow expensive utensils]
Nu10-31a	<b>Please</b> do not desert us [Moses to Jethro, his father in law, requesting he stay with them on their journey to Israel]
Nu12-06a	<b>Please</b> hear my thoughts [God to Miriam and Aaron when they slandered Moses]
Dt03-25a	<b>Please</b> let me pass over the Jordan [Moses' prayer to God when he was punished that he couldn't go into Israel]
Nu12-13a	<b>Please</b> God, <b>Please</b> heal her
Gn19-18c	<i>If you <b>please</b> find me in grace, <b>please</b> do not pass over [but let me give you food: Abraham to the Angels asking them to stay]</i>

---