

# Exegesis and Pausal Forms with Non-Pausal Accents in the Hebrew Bible

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It is well known that Hebrew words have both a pausal and non-pausal form, and that the pausal form of a word in the Hebrew Bible nearly always occurs when the word has a major disjunctive accent, either Athnach (ֿ) or Silluq (ֿ).<sup>1</sup> These accents occur at syntactically and rhetorically significant places in the text that influence exegesis. It is not so well known that the pausal form of words also occurs frequently with some of the other accents. An exhaustive computer analysis of the distribution of pausal forms among the various accents reveals that these pausal forms also occur at syntactically and rhetorically significant places.<sup>2</sup> This suggests the possibility that pausal forms, when they occur with non-pausal accents,<sup>3</sup> may have equal or greater significance for rhetoric and exegesis than the associated accents have. The analysis also identified the words that have both a major and minor pausal form. This paper deals with the implications of the distribution of pausal forms for translation and exegesis.

Hebrew words inflect according to the value of their grammatical attributes, usually having a specific spelling and pronunciation for each inflection a word may

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<sup>1</sup> In the prose books, Athnach nearly always marks the major syntactic division of a verse, and Silluq always occurs on the last word of a verse. In the poetic books (Job, Psalms, and Proverbs), Ole WeYored or Athnach mark the major division and Silluq occurs on the last word.

<sup>2</sup> The electronic text of the Hebrew Bible used for this study was the Westminster Hebrew Morphology Database, Release 4.4, distributed by the Westminster Hebrew Institute of Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, PA.

<sup>3</sup> In this work, the term non-pausal accent means any accent other than Athnach and Silluq, or Ole WeYored, including conjunctive accents.

assume. In addition, when in a pausal position,<sup>4</sup> the spelling and pronunciation of many Hebrew words are altered from that of their normal inflected form. Such altered forms are known as pausal forms.

Because of morphological restraints, not all Hebrew words have an alternate pausal form; but for the many that do, the pausal alteration is usually the lengthening of a short or diminished vowel, the shifting of the accent, or both.<sup>5</sup> For example, the word עֲשֹׂתָהּ becomes עֲשֹׂתָהּ in pause, experiencing both a lengthened vowel and shift of accent.

וַיִּגְדַּל לְדָוִד אֶת אֲשֶׁר-עָשְׂתָהּ רִצְפָּה בַת-אִיָּה פִלְגֶשֶׁת שְׂאִוֵּל:

And David was told what Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done. (2 Sam. 21:11)

וַתִּתֵּן אֶת-הַמִּטְעָמִים וְאֶת-הַלֶּחֶם אֲשֶׁר עָשְׂתָהּ בְּיַד יַעֲקֹב בְּנָהּ:

Then she gave the savory food and the bread, which she had prepared, into the hand of her son Jacob. (Gen. 27:17)

There are 34,718 unique morphological forms of the words in the Hebrew Bible.<sup>6</sup> Of those, 6,261 have both a normal form and a major pausal form. I anticipated that there would also be a number of words having minor pausal forms; that anticipation partly stimulated my interest in this study. But, as it turned out, only two have all three forms: normal (עֲשֹׂתָהּ אִתָּהּ), major pause (עֲשֹׂתָהּ אִתָּהּ), and minor pause (עֲשֹׂתָהּ אִתָּהּ). Table 1 lists the distribution of pausal forms<sup>7</sup> over Hebrew words based on the first letter of their lexical lemma. The table is arranged alphabetically by the first Hebrew letter of a word's lemma. That is, the first horizontal row contains the statistics for all words whose

<sup>4</sup> A pausal position is a place in the flow of thought where a pause is appropriate. It usually occurs where syntactic or rhetorical division occurs. Disjunctive accents usually mark pausal positions.

<sup>5</sup> Paul Joüon, *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*, translated and revised by T. Muraoka (Rome: Pontifical Biblical Institute, 1993), § 32. Wilhelm Gesenius, E. Kautzsch, and A. E. Cowley, *Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1910), § 29 i-v.

<sup>6</sup> This quantity is based on the number of unique lemmas in the electronic database. A lemma consists of the dictionary form of a word plus a particular combination of its morphological codes.

<sup>7</sup> The table is a distribution of unique forms, not words. A unique form of a word is counted only once. A unique grammatical form of a given word may occur many times in the Bible.

dictionary form begins with *aleph* (א) and so forth. The first vertical column contains the total number of unique words for the given alphabetic group. The second column contains the number of those words having the normal form. The third lists the number having both a normal form and a major pausal form, and the fourth lists the number having all three forms.

**Table 1**

Summary of total words by first letter of the lemma:

	Total Forms	Normal Form	Major Pause	Minor Pause
א	2574	2134	439	1
ב	1918	1540	378	0
ג	1170	957	213	0
ד	788	636	152	0
ה	747	597	150	0
ו	14	10	4	0
ז	681	576	105	0
ח	2562	2049	513	0
ט	369	303	66	0
י	2309	1860	449	0
כ	1358	1094	264	0
ל	765	604	161	0
מ	3026	2475	551	0
נ	2634	2203	431	0
ס	868	714	154	0
ע	2594	2138	455	1
פ	1345	1125	220	0
א	931	762	169	0
ק	1559	1321	238	0
ר	1805	1508	297	0
ש	767	628	139	0
שׁ	3109	2543	566	0
ת	825	678	147	0
Total:	34718	28455	6261	2

According to these numbers, only 18% of Hebrew words in the Bible have major pausal forms. This percentage may seem low on first reflection, but some words are semantically destined to never be syntactically or rhetorically prominent. The same is

true for certain grammatical forms such as constructs; they are grammatically bound to the word that follows, so they are never expected to coincide with syntactic division.

Table 2 displays the distribution of major pausal forms by part of speech. The first column of numbers indicates the total number of words having a major pausal form, including those with Silluq and Athnach. The second column includes only those with non-pausal accents.

**Table 2**  
Distribution of Major Pausal forms by Part of Speech

Part of Speech	All, Including Silluq & Athnach	Non-Pausal Only
Nouns	28115	564
Adjectives	2245	34
Adverbs	1007	7
Verbs	9283	412
Numbers	914	21
Pronouns	676	72
Prepositions <sup>8</sup>	3129	83
Interjections	112	5
Negatives	11	0
Interrogatives	8	0
פִּנְיָ <sup>9</sup>	294	6

### *Pausal Forms in the Prose Books*

Table 3 lists the distribution of the three types of word forms among the various accents for the prose books.<sup>10</sup> The first vertical column of numbers lists the total number

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<sup>8</sup> One does not expect a preposition to have a pausal form. However, these prepositions have pronoun suffixes that have a pausal form. The WTS morphological text does not separate pronoun suffixes from the words to which they are attached. So these should be counted as pronouns instead of prepositions.

<sup>9</sup> One does not expect פִּנְיָ to have a pausal form. However, these have pronoun suffixes, and like the prepositions, they should be counted as pronouns. The WTS morphological text regards accusative pronouns as פִּנְיָ plus a pronoun suffix.

<sup>10</sup> The prose books consist of all the books of the Old Testament except Job, Psalms, and Proverbs. These three books, called the books of poetry, have a different set of accents. In fact, the prose sections of Job (1:1-3:2, and 42:7-17) contain the prose accents.

of words in their normal form that are marked with the associated accent. The second column lists the total number of words in their major pausal form that are marked with that accent; and the third column lists the total number of words in their minor pausal form.

**Table 3**  
Distribution of Pausal Forms by Accent  
for the Prose Books

	<u>Accent</u> <u>Name</u>	<u>Normal</u> <u>Form</u>	<u>Major</u> <u>Pause</u>	<u>Minor</u> <u>Pause</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	Silluq	4	18655	0	18659
2	Athnach	8	17268	0	17276
3	Tiphcha	35744	91	5	35840
4	L-Zaqeph	24801	595	23	25419
5	G-Zaqeph	1629	22	0	1651
6	Segolta	915	0	0	915
7	G-Shalshleth	4	3	0	7
8	Tebir	7822	6	0	7828
9	Pashta	19121	16	2	19139
10	Yethib	1168	0	0	1168
11	Zarqa	916	1	0	917
12	Rebia	8775	87	2	8864
13	Geresh	4122	7	0	4129
14	Garshaim	1717	3	0	1720
15	Pazer	843	3	0	846
16	G-Pazer	17	0	0	17
17	G-Telisha	1142	0	0	1142
18	Legarmeh	1310	1	0	1311
19	Munach	31662	6	0	31668
20	Mahpak	11617	2	0	11619
21	Mereka	28652	0	0	28652
22	Merikaim	14	0	0	14
23	Darga	3262	0	0	3262
24	Azla	6886	0	0	6886
25	L-Telisha	1770	0	0	1770
26	Galgol	16	0	0	16
Totals		193937	36766	32	230735
Total non-accented words =		154,608			

Table 3 reveals interesting departures from expectation. Normally one expects a major pausal form to occur with Silluq and Athnach; that happens all but 12 times in the prose books. Likewise, words in their pausal forms are not normally expected to occur with the other disjunctive accents, and particularly that is true with the conjunctive accents. But in spite of expectations, many pausal forms occur with non-pausal accents.

This section discusses the syntactical and rhetorical significance of these unexpected departures in the Prose Books. Table 4 lists the minor pausal forms in the prose books. Only two words have both a major and minor pausal form.<sup>11</sup>

**Table 4**  
List of Minor Pausal Forms with Pausal Accents  
for the Prose Books

Word	Lemma		Normal Form		Major Pause		Minor Pause	
אֶתְּהָ <sup>12</sup>	)AT.FH@pi2ms	748	אֶתְּהָ	640	אֶתְּהָ	52	אֶתְּהָ	23
עֶתְּהָ <sup>13</sup>	(AT.FH@Pd	435	עֶתְּהָ	400	עֶתְּהָ	10	עֶתְּהָ	9

וְזָרַעְתִּיהָ לִי בָאָרֶץ וְרַחֲמֵי אֶתְּלָא רַחֲמָה

וְאָמַרְתִּי לְלֹא-עַמִּי עַמִּי-אֶתְּהָ וְהוּא יֹאמֵר אֱלֹהֵי:

“Then I will sow her for Myself in the earth, And I will have mercy on *her who had* not obtained mercy; Then I will say to *those who were* not My people, ‘You *are* My people!’ And they shall say, ‘You *are* my God!’” (Hos 2:23).

כִּי יִהְיֶה עֵינָיו מִשְׁטָטוֹת בְּכָל-הָאָרֶץ לְהִתְחַזֵּק עִם-לִבְבָם שָׁלֵם אֱלֹו נִסְכְּלָתָ עַל-זֹאת

כִּי מַעֲתָה יֵשׁ עִמָּךְ מִלְחָמוֹת:

“For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of *those* whose heart *is* loyal to Him. In this you have done foolishly; therefore from now on you shall have wars” (2 Chr 16:9).

<sup>11</sup> The column of numbers to the right of the forms lists the number of times the form occurs, not including those listed in the first column. Throughout this paper, initial *begad kephat* letters occur without dagesh lene in the tables; the analysis software edited them out in order to facilitate the comparison of forms. The references are listed in the full form used in the WTS electronic text: a two digit abbreviation for the name of the book, then chapter number, verse number, word-unit number, and word number within word-unit, with no spaces.

<sup>12</sup> gn3:19,14.1; gn22:12,17.1; gn29:15,6.1; gn32:18,12.1; gn49:3,3.1; ex33:3,14.1; ju12:5,18.1; ls17:33,15.1; ls20:8,17.1; ls30:13,5.1; 2s15:2,26.1; 2s15:19,17.1; lk1:42,15.1; 2k9:25,15.2; is41:9,10.1; is44:21,11.1; je2:27,4.1; je17:17,6.1; ho2:25,11.1; hb2:16,6.1; lc28:3,11.1; 2c14:10,28.1; er9:15,5.1.

<sup>13</sup> gn46:34,8.1; ju11:7,15.1; is48:6,9.2; je3:4,2.2; ek4:14,15.1; hg2:3,15.1; 2c16:9,16.2; ru2:7,13.1; da10:17,11.2.

The following is a list of the number of verses that have one or more major pausal forms besides those with Silluq and Athnach:

One pausal form:	758
Two pausal forms: <sup>14</sup>	39
Three pausal forms: <sup>15</sup>	2
Four pausal forms: <sup>16</sup>	1
Total	800

In all these places, the additional pausal form adds some rhetorical nuance to the word or phrase involved.

The pausal form of the word **וַיִּאמֶר** occurs 37 times (ten times in Genesis) with various non-pausal accents when the quotation it introduces begins immediately, without **לְאמֹר**.<sup>17</sup> The phrase **וַיִּאמֶר** occurs 22 times in the Prose Books, always with the pausal form **וַיִּאמֶר**, with various accents.

### *Silluq and Athnach*

Table 5 lists the 12 instances where a normal form occurs with a pausal accent: Four times it occurs with Silluq,<sup>18</sup> and eight times with Athnach.<sup>19</sup> These are unusual

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<sup>14</sup> Gen 27:36; Exod 7:28; Num 18:1; 18:2; Deut 2:7; 5:16; 32:13; 33:29; Judg 7:4; 2 Sam 14:7; 24:13; 1 Kgs 12:32; 18:12; 20:18; Isa 28:10; 28:13; 45:14; Jer 5:22; 9:2; 32:23; Ezek 2:6; 10:11; 11:20; 12:2; 14:16; 17:22; 26:16; 40:4; 44:5; Hos 10:6; Amos 1:2; 7:14; Zech 12:12; 12:13; 1 Chr 20:1; Eccl 5:5; Esth 3:12; 9:15; Nah 9:26.

<sup>15</sup> 1 Sam 1:11; Isa 65:1.

<sup>16</sup> Deut 13:5.

<sup>17</sup> Gen 16:8; 18:29; 20:4; 24:12; 27:36; 28:17; 33:5; 43:29; 47:30; 48:9; Exod 2:14; 32:5; Deut 33:2; Judg 6:18; 8:19; 15:18; 1 Sam 3:18; 7:12; 2 Sam 19:27; 1 Kgs 8:23; 17:10; 17:11; 2 Kgs 1:8; 2:14; 6:17; 6:18; 13:14; Isa 38:3; Amos 1:2; Jonah 3:4; 4:2; 2 Chr 6:14;; Job 1:7; 2:2; Dan 8:16; 9:22.

<sup>18</sup> ex15:7,8.3\*; dt17:3,16.1, 1s1:7,13.1; ne5:14,26.1\*; and. Those marked with \* are noted in the Masorah.

<sup>19</sup> gn45:2,4.2\*; ex8:24,14.2; ju19:5,7.2; ju19:7,3.2; 1s15:27,3.2; is33:11,4.1; ek1:20,10.2; ec5:9,10.1.

deviations from the norm that seem not to have any effect on interpretation; no alternative pausal forms occur in these verses.

### *Tiphcha*

Tiphcha is the near disjunctive companion of Zaqeph, being subordinate to Silluq and Athnach. It is the musical foretone for Athnach and Silluq, and by the laws of accentuation, it must stand on the first or second word before those accents. If a syntactic division is due on the first or second word before Athnach or Silluq, Tiphcha stands in place of an expected disjunctive accent, regardless of its hierarchy. Thus, if the main syntactic division of a verse occurs at the Tiphcha slot, Tiphcha stands in place of Athnach and evokes the pausal form Athnach would receive.<sup>20</sup> The same is true for disjunctive accents of lower hierarchic level, but without the pausal form of course.

**Table 5**

List of Normal Forms with Pausal Accents  
for the Prose Books

Word	Lemma		Normal Form		Major Pause		Minor Pause	
תֹּאכַל <sup>21</sup>	)KL@vqi3fs	21	תֹּאכַל	12	תֹּאכַל	5	none	0
אֶכְלֵתִי <sup>22</sup>	)KL@vqp1cs	10	אֶכְלֵתִי	7	אֶכְלֵתִי	1	none	0
בְּכִי <sup>23</sup>	B.:KIY@ncmsa	23	בְּכִי	14	בְּכִי	5	none	0
לִכְתּוּ <sup>24</sup>	HLK@vqc	109	לִכְתּוּ	93	לִכְתּוּ	4	none	0

<sup>20</sup> William Wickes, *Two Treatises on the Accentuation of the Old Testament* (New York: KTAV Publishing House, 1970), II 61. However, 56 times Athnach appears on the first word unit before Silluq. These are the only exceptions where Tiphcha fails before Silluq. Gen 1:3; 1:7; 1:9; 1:11; 1:15; 1:24; 1:30; 3:3; 5:5; 5:8; 5:11; 5:14; 5:17; 5:20; 5:27; 5:31; 9:29; 27:23; 33:4; 41:21; 41:47; 42:20; Exod 14:4; 23:23; 26:23; 36:7; 36:28; 39:24; Lev 13:18; 18:20; 21:4; Num 10:28; 15:21; 31:20; Deut 22:28; Josh 18:17; Judg 13:18; 1 Sam 25:9; 2 Sam 10:4; 1 Kgs 4:9; 13:27; 18:14; 2 Kgs 15:12; Jer 28:10; 41:13; 51:34; Ezek 16:17; Hos 11:6; Mic 6:3; Hag 2:5; Zech 8:15; 1 Chr 19:4; 2 Chr 26:9; 32:3; Ruth 4:2; Nah 8:11.

<sup>21</sup> Is1:7,13.1.

<sup>22</sup> ne5:14,26.1.\*

<sup>23</sup> gn45:2,4.2.\*

<sup>24</sup> ex8:24,14.2; ju19:5,7.2; ju19:7,3.2; Is15:27,3.2; ek1:20,10.2.



צִוִּיתִי <sup>25</sup>	CWH@vpp1cs	34	צִוִּיתִי	29	צִוִּיתִי	2	none	0
קֹשׁ <sup>26</sup>	QAS@ncmsa	16	קֹשׁ	11	קֹשׁ	2	none	0
תְּבוּאָה <sup>27</sup>	T.:BW.)FH@ncfsa	4	תְּבוּאָה	2	תְּבוּאָה	1	none	0

וַיֹּאמֶר אֶת־קִלְקֵל שָׁמַעְתִּי בְּגֵן וְאִירָא כִי־עִירָם אָנֹכִי וְאֶחְבֵּא:  
 So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden,  
 and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself." (Gen 3:10)

וַיֹּאמֶר פָּנֵי יֵלְכוּ וְהִנַּחְתִּי לָךְ:  
 And He said, "My Presence will go *with you*, and I will give you rest." (Ex 33:14)

Tiphcha ordinarily does not evoke a pausal form, but occasionally the word it marks is in its pausal form for rhetorical reasons, granting special attention to the syntax or semantics at its place in the verse. Tiphcha occurs with a major pausal form in this fashion 91 times in the prose books. It occasionally bears a pausal form in all the following cases: it marks the main division of a verse in which case it stands in place of Athnach.<sup>28</sup> It divides a Silluq segments as follows: (1) it divides two clauses;<sup>29</sup> (2) it divides a clause from a phrase;<sup>30</sup> (3) it divides two phrases;<sup>31</sup> (4) it divides two phrases after Zaqeph;<sup>32</sup> it marks the end of a clause in a sequence of clauses.<sup>33</sup> It divides an

<sup>25</sup> dt17:3,16.1.

<sup>26</sup> ex15:7,8.3\*; is33:11,4.1.\*

<sup>27</sup> ec5:9,10.1.

<sup>28</sup> Num 9:2; Deut 6:9; 11:20; 2 Sam 1:1; Isa 42:6; 2 Chr 25:6; Neh 1:2.

<sup>29</sup> Gen 3:10; 27:38; Exod 21:31; 33:14; Lev 20:13, 16, 20; Deut 212:10; Judg 17:1; 19:28; 2 Sam 2:23; 14:5; 1 Kgs 13:16; 20:18; Isa 65:13, 24; Hos 4:17; 7:11; Joel 2:8; Zech 8:13; Lam 3:30.

<sup>30</sup> Lev 16:32; 2 Sam 7:24; 1 Kgs 5:31; Jer 1:8; 8:1; 9:2; 13:13; 15:20; 31:14; 50:10; Ezek 32:29; Amos 7:14; 1 Chr 26:9; 28:1; Neh 13:20.

<sup>31</sup> Exod 39:28; Num 13:2; Num 35:16, 17, 18; Isa 24:4; 1 Chr 15:8, 9.

<sup>32</sup> 2 Chr. 28:13; Est 3:15.

<sup>33</sup> Deut 13:5.

Athnach segment as follows: (1) it divides two clauses,<sup>34</sup> (2) it marks the end of a clause in a series of clauses;<sup>35</sup> (3) it divides a clause from a phrase;<sup>36</sup> and (4) it divided two phrases.<sup>37</sup> Finally, it marks the word preceding a final vocative.<sup>38</sup>

### *Little Zaqeph*

Little Zaqeph is the remote disjunctive accent in the domain of Athnach and Silluq, occurring 595 times with a major pausal form. It is followed 286 times by the conjunction Waw, indicating the end of a clause or phrase—40 times it is Waw consecutive with an imperfect verb,<sup>39</sup> and 76 times it is Waw consecutive with a perfect verb.<sup>40</sup> In the other 170 instances the word following the Waw is not a verb. It occurs with the pausal form ׀ִיִּנְחֵי 14 times.<sup>41</sup> It is followed 7 times by ׀ִיִּנְחֵי, introducing a relative pronoun modifier.<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> Deut 13:5; Deut 26:2; Isa 9:9; 14:27.

<sup>35</sup> 2 Kgs 15:10; Ruth 3:13.

<sup>36</sup> Isa 30:20; 38:10; Jer 23:23; Hos 9:9; 1 Chr 17:22; Est 5:12.

<sup>37</sup> Gen 15:14; Judg 21:15; Isa 5:9; 13:3; 22:14.

<sup>38</sup> Gen 27:34.

<sup>39</sup> Gen 27:25; 29:33; 32:30; 35:10; 35:22; Deut 13:14; 32:13; Josh 5:14; Judg 3:19; 11:38; 12:5; 19:18; 1 Sam 28:17; 28:21; 2 Sam 1:7; 4:12; 12:3; 13:10; 17:20; 20:17; 1 Kgs 21:27; 2 Kgs 4:6; 10:15; 11:12; 12:22; 19:1; 23:34; Isa 24:18; 37:1; 42:25; 57:20; 66:2; Jer 35:17; Amos 2:4; Hab 2:5; Mal 3:16; 2 Chr 26:2; 28:5; Lam 2:4; 3:53.

<sup>40</sup> Note that the WTS Morf4.4 morphological text no longer encodes Waw consecutive with perfect. I have assumed that all the following are Waw consecutive with perfect without actually verifying all of them: Gen 24:40; 26:10; 26:24; 40:13; Exod 4:9; 4:14; 4:21; 6:7; 32:12; Lev 9:7; 19:18; 27:8; 27:27; Num 18:2; Deut 6:15; 6:18; 7:15; 7:24; 7:26; 17:14; 20:12; 21:13; 22:2; 22:7; 23:22; 23:25; 23:26; 24:5; 33:20; Judg 13:15; 19:9; 1 Sam 1:11; 16:2; 20:13; 24:5; 24:13; 28:22; 2 Sam 12:8; 12:11; 14:7; 1 Kgs 1:47; 8:33; 13:18; 18:12; 20:28; 2 Kgs 6:2; 9:1; Isa 14:21; Jer 5:22; 6:5; 16:19; 22:14; 29:28; Ezek 3:11; 3:26; 5:4; 17:23; 26:16; 28:7; 38:10; Hos 10:6; 13:4; Amos 1:14; 9:14; Zeph 1:13; Zech 3:4; 6:12; 8:10; 11:5; 12:1; 2 Chr 6:24; Ruth 3:9; Eccl 5:5; 11:10; Dan 9:11; Nah 1:11.

<sup>41</sup> Gen 18:29; 28:17; Exod 2:14; 32:5; Judg 15:18; 1 Kgs 17:10; 17:11; 2 Kgs 6:17; 6:18; 13:14; Jonah 3:4; Job 1:7; 2:2; Dan 8:16.

<sup>42</sup> Gen 30:2; Exod 32:11; Lev 16:23; Num 22:26; 1 Kgs 6:12; Eccl 8:12; Nah 9:26.

Zaqeph with a pausal form divides an Athnach segment in half 178 times, and a Silluq segment 234 times. Zaqeph with a pausal form is one of two Zaqeph in an Athnach segment 100 times; the pausal form with Zaqeph appears prior to the non-pausal form with Zaqeph 62 times; and the non-pausal form with Zaqeph appears prior to the pausal form with Zaqeph 38 times.<sup>43</sup> Twice a Zaqeph with a pausal form is one of three in an Athnach segment.<sup>44</sup>

חָצִיו שָׂרָף בְּמוֹ-אֵשׁ עַל-חָצִיו בְּשֶׁר יֹאכֵל יִצְלָה צָלִי וַיִּשְׂבַּע

He burns half of it in the fire; With this half he eats meat; He roasts a roast, and is satisfied. (Isa. 44:16)

עָנִי וְאֶבְיוֹן הוֹנָה גְזֻלוֹת גָּזַל חָבַל לֹא יָשִׁיב

If he has oppressed the poor and needy, Robbed by violence, Not restored the pledge (Ezek 18:12)

בְּלִכְתְּךָ לָשׁוּב מִצְרַיִמָּה רְאֵה כָּל-הַמִּפְתִּים אֲשֶׁר-שָׂמֵתִי בְיָדְךָ וַעֲשִׂיתָם לִפְנֵי פַרְעֹה

“When you go back to Egypt, see that you do all those wonders before Pharaoh which I have put in your hand.” (Exod 4:21)

Zaqeph with a pausal form is one of two in a Silluq segment 76 times; the pausal form with Zaqeph appears prior to the non-pausal form with Zaqeph 65 times; and the non-pausal form with Zaqeph appears prior to the pausal form with Zaqeph 17 times.<sup>45</sup> Seven times the Zaqeph with a pausal form is one of three in a Silluq segment.<sup>46</sup>

לֹא יִחְיֶה אֵת כָּל-הַתּוֹעֵבוֹת הָאֵלֶּה עָשָׂה מוֹת יוֹמָת דָּמָיו בּוֹ יִהְיֶה:

He shall not live! He has done all of these abominations, He shall surely die; His blood shall be upon him. (Ezek 18:13)

תַּחַת הַתְּפֹיחַ עוֹרְרִיתִיךָ שָׂמָה חֲבַלְתִּיךָ אִמְךָ שָׂמָה חֲבַלְתָּךְ יִלְדְתִיךָ:

I awakened you under the apple tree. There your mother brought you forth; There she *who* bore you brought *you* forth. (Song 8:5)

<sup>43</sup> Gen 27:36; Exod 3:11; 4:21; Lev 16:23; Num 18:1; Deut 20:19; 33:29; Judg 7:2; 19:19; 1 Sam 1:15; 15:33; 17:43; 20:13; 1 Kgs 13:8; Isa 4:1; 44:16; 45:14; Jer 2:19; 5:17; 24:7; 48:11; Ezek 7:12; 12:19; 15:7; 17:23; 18:12; 20:18; Hos 3:4; Amos 4:7; 7:14; 8:10; Mic 2:13; Hab 3:8; Zech 10:2; 2 Chr 32:21; Esth 9:13; 9:15; Nah 9:26.

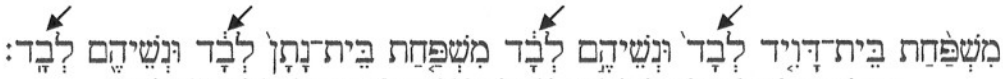
<sup>44</sup> Jer 24:7; Nah 1:11.

<sup>45</sup> Gen 42:36; Exod 18:14; 1 Sam 17:28; 2 Sam 14:19; 1 Kgs 5:19; Jer 22:14; 42:11; Ezek 17:22; 18:13; 37:23; 41:24; Jonah 1:8; Zech 12:12; 2 Chr 17:14; Song 5:2; 8:5; Nah 9:27.

<sup>46</sup> 1 Sam 28:21; 2 Sam 14:19; 2 Kgs 14:10; Joel 4:4; 2 Chr 17:14; 25:19; Nah 9:27.

In support of his law of continuous dichotomy, William Wickes stated: “In certain cases, indeed, the same accent is *repeated* in the division of the clauses; but, from the very nature of the continuous dichotomy, it *loses in disjunctive value* each time of repetition.”<sup>47</sup> However, the examples in this section, together with many more of like nature with or without pausal forms, have grammatically and musically equal segments set off by Zaqeph; there is no reason to suppose that the second Zaqeph has lesser disjunctive value than the first. In fact, in the example of Exodus 4:21 above, since the first clause is dependent and has a non-finite verb, one could suppose that the first Zaqeph has lesser disjunctive value than the second. In my opinion, a given disjunctive accent always has the same disjunctive value musically, but varying disjunctive value syntactically, regardless of the order in which they occur.

Fourteen verses have two Zaqeph with pausal forms,<sup>48</sup> and 23 verses have a Zaqeph with a pausal form together with one lower level disjunctive with a pausal form.<sup>49</sup> Two verses have a Zaqeph with two lower level disjunctives with pausal forms,<sup>50</sup> and one verse has three.<sup>51</sup> The following are examples of verses with multiple pausal forms.


  
 מִשְׁפַּחַת בֵּית־דָּוִד לְבָד וְנָשֵׂיהֶם לְבָד
 מִשְׁפַּחַת בֵּית־נָתָן לְבָד וְנָשֵׂיהֶם לְבָד
   
 the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves;
   
 the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves (Zech 12:12)

<sup>47</sup> William Wickes, *Two Treatises on the Accentuation of the Old Testament* (New York: KTAV Publishing House, 1970) II, 31; emphasis his.

<sup>48</sup> Exod 7:28; Num 18:1; 18:2; Deut 2:7; 5:16; 33:29; Isa 65:1; Ezek 2:6; 10:11; 11:20; Hos 10:6; Zech 12:12; 12:13; Eccl 5:5.

<sup>49</sup> Exod 7:28; Num 18:2; Deut 2:7; 5:16; 32:13; 2 Sam 14:7; 24:13; 1 Kgs 18:12; Isa 28:10; 28:13; Jer 32:23; Ezek 2:6; 10:11; 11:20; 12:2; 40:4; Eek 44:5; Hos 10:6; Amos 1:2; Zech 12:13; 1 Chr 20:1; Eccl 5:5; Esth 3:12.

<sup>50</sup> 1 Sam 1:11; Isa 65:1.

<sup>51</sup> Deut 13:5.

אַחֲרַי יִהְיֶה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם תֵּלְכוּ וְאַתּוֹ תִירָאוּ וְאֶת־מִצְוֹתָיו תִּשְׁמְרוּ  
 וּבְקִלּוֹ תִשְׁמְעוּ וְאַתּוֹ תַעֲבֹדוּ וְבוֹ תִדְבַקוּן:

"You shall walk after the LORD your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments and obey His voice, and you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him. (Deut 13:4)

### ***Great Zaqeph***

Great Zaqeph is the substitute for Little Zaqeph when the segment consists of one word. Occasionally, it stands on a word in its pausal form. In such cases the word has some rhetorical significance. It marks word וַיֹּאמֶר (and he said) introducing a direct quotation without the usual לֵאמֹר (saying) 3 times at the beginning of an Athnach segment,<sup>52</sup> and 10 at the beginning of a Silluq segment.<sup>53</sup> It does the same thing in the middle of an Athnach segment.<sup>54</sup> Great Zaqeph occurs with וַיֹּאמֶר<sup>f</sup> 162 times in its normal form, so in these few instances, some exegetical significance may be anticipated. It marks off a one-word clause at the beginning of an Athnach or Silluq segment,<sup>55</sup> or a one-word phrase.<sup>56</sup> The phrase וַיֹּאמֶר is always rhetorically set off with the pausal form of וַיֹּאמֶר; among other non-pausal accents, it is sometimes marked with Great Zaqeph.<sup>57</sup>

### ***Great Shalshleth***

Great Shalshleth is a rare substitute for Segolta, occurring only seven times in the prose books.<sup>58</sup> It always occurs with the first word of a verse and is traditionally regarded as a mark of special exegetical interest. In four of the instances, the word is in

<sup>52</sup> Judg 8:19; 2 Sam 19:27; Dan 9:22.

<sup>53</sup> Gen 20:4; 27:36; 33:5; 43:29; 47:30; 48:9; Judg 6:18; 1 Sam 3:18; 7:12; 2 Kgs 1:8.

<sup>54</sup> 2 Kgs 2:14.

<sup>55</sup> Gen 41:5; Mic 5:3; Ezek 34:11.

<sup>56</sup> 1 Sam 13:5; Ezek 45:21.

<sup>57</sup> Ezek 18:3; 20:33.

<sup>58</sup> Gen. 19:16; 24:12; 39:8; Lev. 8:23; Ezer. 5:15; Isa. 13:8; Amos 1:2.

its major pausal form.<sup>59</sup> In the other three instances, the form is the same in pause as in non-pause, so it is possible to assume that Great Shalsheleth always marks some rhetorical and exegetical significance.

### *Tebir*

Tebir is the near disjunctive companion of Rebia, being subordinate to Tiphcha. It appears to mark six major pausal forms. However, some instances may be accounted for by naturally variant forms not intended to express pause. The word אֵילֹת has an alternate form אֵילֹת (2 Kgs. 16:16), which mistakenly may be regarded as a normal form. Likewise, the word בְּקִדְשׁוֹ has an alternate form בְּקִדְשׁוֹ (Num. 18:29) which probably is not to be regarded as a normal form. So these two instances should probably be excluded.

In Jeremiah 9:2, Tebir marks the major pausal form אֵינִי, which closes a clause in the Silluq segment; note that it is the near subordinate of Tiphcha marking the pausal form in the next clause that ends the quotation. One would ordinarily expect Zaqeph instead of Tebir here. In Ezekiel 33:25, Tebir marks the major pausal form הִנְאֻכְלוֹ which closes a clause in an Athnach segment. In Esther 7:4, Tebir marks the major pausal form אֶנֶּךָ, which merely separates phrases in a clause; the pausal form here is rhetorically, not grammatically, significant. The referent is Haman, and the clause is part of Esther's exposure of him as her enemy.

### *Pashta*

Pashta is the near disjunctive companion of Rebia, being subordinate to Little Zaqeph. It occurs 16 times with a major pausal form. The phrase אֲנִי־אֵלֵי is always rhetorically set off with the pausal form of אֵלַי; among other non-pausal accents, it is marked with Pashta four times.<sup>60</sup> It marks the end of the first in a sequence of several

<sup>59</sup> Gen. 24:12; Lev. 8:23; Isa. 13:8; Amos 1:2.

<sup>60</sup> Num 14:28; Jer 46:18; Ezek 20:3; 26:16; see a similar function with Great Zaqeph.

dependent clauses in a Silluq segment.<sup>61</sup> In a Silluq segment, it marks the end of the first in a sequence of six independent clauses each ending with a pausal form.<sup>62</sup> In an Athnach segment, it marks the end of one in a sequence of several independent clauses;<sup>63</sup> still others have a sequence of independent clauses, several of which end with pausal forms.<sup>64</sup> It separates a clause from one or more adverbial modifiers or appositives.<sup>65</sup> In Ezekiel, the word מְרִי “rebellious” is used 16 times as compared with 3 times in the rest of the Old Testament. The pausal form מְרִי is used rhetorically rather than syntactically at times for emphasis on the rebellion of Israel.<sup>66</sup>

### *Zarqa*

Zarqa is the near disjunctive companion of Rebia, being subordinate to Segolta. It marks only one pausal form. In 2 Samuel 3:8, the personal pronoun אֲנִי is in the last (emphatic) position of a copulative clause, with a following dependant relative pronoun clause.

### *Rebia*

Rebia is the remote disjunctive accent subordinate to Tiphcha, Athnach, and Segolta. It occurs 87 times with a major pausal form. It marks the word וַיֹּאמֶר “and he said” in an Athnach segment introducing a direct quotation without לֵאמֹר.<sup>67</sup> It marks the

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<sup>61</sup> Deut 6:7; 11:19.

<sup>62</sup> Deut 13:5.

<sup>63</sup> Isa 45:14; Eccl 12:5.

<sup>64</sup> Isa 65:13; Jer 32:23; Ezek 34:3.

<sup>65</sup> 2 Kgs 5:7; Lam 1:3.

<sup>66</sup> With Tiphcha (2:8), with Rebia (12:25), with Zaqeph (17:2), and with Pashta (24:3; 44:6).

<sup>67</sup> Gen 16:8; Deut 33:2; 1 Kgs 8:23; Isa 38:3; Jonah 4:2; 2 Chr 6:14.

end of a clause in a series of similar clauses in an Athnach segment,<sup>68</sup> and in a Silluq segment.<sup>69</sup> It marks the end of a clause followed by additional supplementary phrases in an Athnach segment,<sup>70</sup> and in a Silluq segment.<sup>71</sup> It marks the end of a phrase in a series of related phrases in an Athnach segment,<sup>72</sup> and in a Silluq segment.<sup>73</sup> In an Athnach segment, marks the end of a subject followed by its predicate.<sup>74</sup> It marks an emphatic first person pronoun.<sup>75</sup> The phrase  $\text{אֲנִי־אֲנִי}$  is always rhetorically set off with the pausal form of  $\text{אֲנִי}$ ; among other non-pausal accents, it is sometimes marked with Rebia.<sup>76</sup>

### ***Geresh***

Geresh is the near disjunctive companion of Pazer, being subordinate to Tebir, Pashta, Zarqa, and Rebia. It marks a pausal form seven times. It marks the end of a clause with similar clauses following,<sup>77</sup> and it marks the end of a clause, with following supportive phrases.<sup>78</sup> The phrase  $\text{אֲנִי־אֲנִי}$  is always rhetorically set off with the pausal

<sup>68</sup> Gen 43:23; Lev 8:15; 16:4; Num 20:17; 21:22; Deut 13:6; Josh 10:13; Judg 11:17; 1 Sam 1:11; 17:49; 25:8; 2 Sam 14:7; 15:20; 1 Kgs 18:12; 2 Kgs 13:7; Isa 63:9; Jer 44:12; Ezek 44:2; Hos 7:12; Joel 4:16; Mic 3:11; 2 Chr 1:11; Esth 3:8; Esth 4:16; Dan 7:7; Nah 9:26, 29; 12:43.

<sup>69</sup> Judg 7:4; 1 Sam 8:11; Isa 6:10; Ezek 12:25; 14:11; 16:34; Joel 2:17; Zech 8:8; Lam 1:7.

<sup>70</sup> Gen 17:7; 20:17; Lev 10:9; Deut 5:14, 21; 14:29; 30:9; Judg 17:9; 1 Sam 20:42; 1 Sam 30:13; 1 Kgs 7:18; 2 Kgs 19:28; 20:17; Isa 39:6; Jer 9:9; Ezek 44:5; 2 Chr 2:3; 6:33; 20:6; Ruth 4:11; Song 8:6; Esth 9:15; Dan 9:24.

<sup>71</sup> 1 Kgs 8:43, 53; Isa 37:29.

<sup>72</sup> Lev 5:23.

<sup>73</sup> Dan 7:19.

<sup>74</sup> Esth 9:18.

<sup>75</sup> Gen 31:52; Exod 4:10; Mal 1:14; Eccl 5:17; Lam 1:21; Ezek 17:22; in the last one, note the same word in pause marked with Zaqeph in the same verse.

<sup>76</sup> Ezek 5:11; 14:16, 18, 20; 16:48; 17:16; 20:31; 35:6, 11.

<sup>77</sup> Ezek 20:13; note a following clause ending with a pausal form marked with Rebia in the same verse.

<sup>78</sup> Isa 16:8; Jer 5:22; Ezek 38:4; Ezek 40:4; in the last one, note that the clauses that follow also end with pausal forms marked with higher ordered accents.



form of  $\text{׃}^{\text{׃}}$ ; among other non-pausal accents, it is sometimes marked with Geresh.<sup>79</sup>

### *Garshaim*

Garshaim is a substitute for Geresh under certain phonetic conditions. It occurs three times with a pausal form. It closes a clause with similar clauses following.<sup>80</sup> In Isaiah 28:13, it marks the end of a phrase in a series of equal or similar phrases, each ending with a pausal form.

צוֹ לְצוֹ צוֹ לְצוֹ קוֹ לְקוֹ קוֹ לְקוֹ  
 "Precept upon precept, precept upon precept,  
 Line upon line, line upon line (Isa 28:13)

### *Pazer*

Pazer is the remote disjunctive accent in the domain of Tebir, Pashta, Zarqa, and Rebia. It marks three pausal forms. It closes a clause with similar clauses following.<sup>81</sup> The phrase  $\text{׃}^{\text{׃}}$  is always rhetorically set off with the pausal form of  $\text{׃}^{\text{׃}}$ ; among other non-pausal accents, it is sometimes marked with Pazer.<sup>82</sup>

### *Legarmeh*

Legarmeh is a disjunctive accent subordinate to Rebia, Pashta, and Geresh. I marks only one pausal form. Like several others, it also marks the phrase  $\text{׃}^{\text{׃}}$  "as I live" in Ezekiel 33:11.

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<sup>79</sup> Ezek 34:8.

<sup>80</sup> Ezek 33:31; Joel 2:16.

<sup>81</sup> 2 Sam 3:21; 24:13; in the last one, note several following clauses are closed with pausal forms with higher ordered accents.

<sup>82</sup> Zeph 2:9.



**Table 6**  
Distribution of Pausal Forms by Accent  
For Poetic Books

	Accent <u>Name</u>	Normal <u>Form</u>	Major <u>Pause</u>	Minor <u>Pause</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	Silluq	2	4449	0	4451
2	Ole WeYored	0	509	0	509
3	Athnach	346	3856	4	4206
4	G-Rebia	768	43	1	812
5	Rebia Mugrash	2951	2	0	2953
6	Sinnor	212	0	0	212
7	L-Rebia	188	0	0	188
8	Dechi	2426	0	0	2426
9	Pazer	88	3	0	91
10	Mahpak-Legarmeh	256	0	0	256
11	Azla-Legarmeh	320	1	0	321
12	Munach	6903	6	0	6909
13	Mereka	3740	0	0	3740
14	Illuy	180	0	0	180
15	Tarcha	1106	0	0	1106
16	Galgol	232	0	0	232
17	Mahpak	464	0	0	464
18	Azla	48	0	0	48
19	L-Shalsheth	39	0	0	39
20	Sin-Mer	28	0	0	28
21	Sin-Mah	180	0	0	180
22	Mugrash	1204	0	0	1204
23	Sinnorit	20	0	0	20
Totals		21763	8807	5	30575

Total non-accent = 13,388

Total words 432,347

### *Silluq and Ole WeYored*

Silluq lacks a pausal form only twice,<sup>86</sup> and one instance (Prov. 31:12) seems to be an error in the WTS text, because Dotan's edition of the Leningrad B<sup>19a</sup> manuscript has a pausal form.<sup>87</sup> Where a verse has no Ole WeYored, 17 times the Athnach fails to

<sup>86</sup> Psa 78:10; Prov 31:12.

<sup>87</sup> Aron Dotan, ed., *Biblia Hebraica Leningradensia* (Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 2001).

have a pausal form.<sup>88</sup> Where a verse has both Ole WeYored and Athnach, the Athnach also has a pausal form 22 times.<sup>89</sup>

Ordinarily, in longer verses, Ole WeYored marks the major division and bears the pausal form; in shorter verses, Ole WeYored is lacking and Athnach marks the major division and bears the pausal form. Athnach fails to succeed Ole WeYored 52 times, in which case it followed by Great Rebia in place of Athnach 44 times; there remain eight exceptions.<sup>90</sup>

There are 197 verses having neither Ole WeYored nor Athnach; most are the short first verses of Psalms having a title, or the short first verses of chapters in Job introducing a new speech. Excluding these unusually short verses, together with those that have a pausal form with Great Rebia, still 109 verses remain. These mainly include short verses having the major division marked by Great Rebia with a non-pausal form. Excluding these, only four verses remain: a short extension of a title,<sup>91</sup> and short verses divided by Rebia Mugrash without a pausal form.<sup>92</sup> There are 54 verses that have one or more major pausal forms besides those with Ole WeYored, Silluq, or Athnach.

### *Great Rebia*

A major pausal form occurs with Great Rebia 43 times. Once it occurs in a verse with both Ole WeYored and Athnach.<sup>93</sup> It appears prior to Athnach where Ole WeYored

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<sup>88</sup> Psa 17:10; 26:1; 35:1; 35:19; 48:5; 48:11; 83:11; 107:35; 110:5; 119:65; 120:2; 130:7; 140:5; 148:1; Job 9:22; 17:11; Prov 30:21.

<sup>89</sup> Psa 1:1; 27:14; 31:20; 40:4; 40:6; 50:1; 50:3; 65:5; 79:1; 86:16; 98:3; 102:3; 106:47; 116:16; 128:5; 138:7; Job 3:4; 18:4; 27:5; 30:12; 34:20; Prov 24:12.

<sup>90</sup> Psa 3:3; 4:7; 31:21; 58:3; 109:16; 125:3; Job 11:6; Prov 8:13.

<sup>91</sup> Psa 18:2.

<sup>92</sup> Psa 89:53; 137:9; Prov 1:10.

<sup>93</sup> Psa 79:1.

would be expected.<sup>94</sup> It appears after Ole WeYored once where Athnach would be expected.<sup>95</sup> It occurs 16 times in short verses having neither Ole WeYored nor Athnach, always on the second word before Silluq where Athnach would be expected,<sup>96</sup> with one exception where it is on the first word before Silluq;<sup>97</sup> musical reasons must explain these few exceptions, because otherwise Athnach occurs on the second word before Silluq 385 times.

### *Other Accents*

A major pausal accent occurs with Rebia Mughash twice, marking special rhetorical emphasis.<sup>98</sup> Pazer marks a major pausal form three times in places where an Ole WeYored would be expected; musical reasons must explain these rare exceptions.<sup>99</sup> Azla Legarmeh rests on a pausal form once, standing where Ole WeYored would be expected.<sup>100</sup> Finally, the conjunctive accent Munach accompanies a major pausal form six times, each apparently marking rhetorical emphasis.<sup>101</sup>

## **Conclusion**

Pausal forms normally mark the major syntactical divisions of a verse. When they occur in other places in a verse, they mark exegetically significant words or phrases in the text that are of rhetorical interest.

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<sup>94</sup> Psa 5:9; 7:7; 19:14; 20:6; 22:27; 28:9; 35:13; 37:20; 50:7; 56:7; 62:9; 68:19; 71:15; 72:4; 77:20; 79:1; 86:11; 96:10; 138:2; 146:6; Job 5:5; 21:17; 36:16; Prov 6:22.

<sup>95</sup> Psa 30:6.

<sup>96</sup> Psa 35:24; 52:8; 59:7; 59:15; 79:3; 116:19; 119:5; 119:24; 119:34; 119:48; 119:103; 119:124; 128:4; 137:5; Job 33:24.

<sup>97</sup> Psa 135:21.

<sup>98</sup> Job 9:20; 37:3.

<sup>99</sup> Psa 5:12; 18:2; Prov 30:4.

<sup>100</sup> Psa 25:5.

<sup>101</sup> Psa 3:9; 74:14; 106:28; Job 34:20; Prov 7:13; 7:22.