

[Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40](#)

(37:1)

תִּתְחַר – jussive and apocapated חרה = “burn, be kindled (of anger)” under BDB 354a. Arm חרי Pael “cause fire to burn (rare)”. Zinj חרא “anger”. Arb *ḥarwatu(n)* “burning sensation, in throat (rage and pain)”.

אֶל־תִּקְנֵא¹

מְרַעֵם - רעע I = “be evil, bad”, Hiphil “do an injury, hurt; do evil, wickedly” under BDB 949a. Note the form Hiphil participle mpa.

קנא = (denominative) Piel “be jealous, zealous” under BDB 888b. Root קנא = “be(come) intensely red (or black), jealous, zealous”.

עוֹלָה = “justice, unrighteousness, wrong” under BDB 732b.

(37:2)

קֶצִיר = II “green grass, herbage” under BDB 348a.

מְהֵרָה = “haste, speed” under BDB 555a. Usually as adverbial accusative = “hastily, quickly”.

מלל III = Qal “languish, wither, fade”, Polel “wither” under BDB 576b. Secondary root of אמל.

יֶרֶק = “green, greenness” under BDB 438b. Root ירק = “grow green, pale, yellow”.

דִּשָּׂא = “grass” under BDB 206a. Akk *dišu* “herb”. Sab דתא “fresh shoots”. Arm דתאָה.

נבל = II “sink or drop down, languish, wither and fall, fade” under BDB 615a. Note the paragogic nun.

(37:3)

¹ “A few manuscripts, versions ואל”.

בטח I = “trust” under BDB 105a. Arb *baṭaḥa* “to throw one down upon his face”.

שכן = “settle down, abide, dwell”, Piel “make settle down, establish” under BDB 1014b-. Ph שכן. Arm שְׁכִין. Arb *sakana* “rest, dwell”. Akk *šakānu* “set, lay, deposit, set up; be situated”. BDB notes *šakan šuma* as Canaanism (Amarna).

רעה II = “(probably) associate with” under BDB 945b. Akk *ru’ā, ruttu* = “neighbor, fellow”. Arb *rā’i(y)* = “master, owner”.

אָמוּנָה = “firmness, steadfastness, fidelity” under BDB 53b. Note vocalization of א before אָמוּנָה.²

(37:4)

ענג = “be soft, delicate, dainty”, Hitpael “be of dainty habit, take exquisite delight” under BDB 772a. Arb *ḡanija* “use amorous behavior, affect languor”.

מִשְׁאָלָה = “request, petition” under BDB 982b. Very rare. Root שאל = “ask, inquire”.

(37:5)

גלל = “roll, roll away” under BDB 164a. Note גול Qal imperative 2ms.³

על-⁴

דרכיך⁵

(37:6)

אור = “light” under BDB 21b. Akk *urru = ūru*.

צָהָרִים = “midday, noon” under BDB 843b.

ומשפטך⁶

² “[Septuagint](#) ἐπι τῷ πλουτῷ ἀντῆς = אָמוּנָה?”

³ “[Septuagint \(Targum\)](#) ἀποκάλυπον = גל”. How often does the Septuagint use a finite form when the MT uses an imperative?

⁴ “Cairo, several manuscripts על”.

⁵ “Cairo, a few manuscripts דרכיך”.

⁶ “Cairo, many manuscripts ומשפטך”.

(37:7)

דמם = “be or grow dumb, silent, still” under BDB 198b.

חול חיל I = “whirl, dance, writhe”, Hitpolel “whirling; writhing, suffering; wait longingly” under BDB 296b. Arm חול חיל = “dance”. Arb *ḥāla* = “change, turn”. Akk *ḥīlu* = “writhe (in fear)”.⁷

צלח = “advance, prosper”, Hiphil “make prosperous, bring to success” under BDB 852a. The use of the Hiphil here helps clarify the use of צלח Hiphil in Psalm 1.

מזמה = “purpose, discretion, device” under BDB 273b.

(37:8)

רפה - רפה = “sink, relax”, Hiphil “let drop, abandon” under BDB 951b. Arm רפה. Zinjirli רפה Aphel. Arb *rafāhatu(n)* “an easy life”(?). Somewhat difficult form רפה Hiphil imperative 2ms.

עזב = “leave, forsake, loose” under BDB 736b.

אף = (adverb) “surely; (with a restrictive force, emphasizing what follows); (asseverative); (restrictive)” under BDB 36b.

(37:9)

כרת = Niphal “be cut off, be cut down” under BDB 503b, 504a. Kittel calls the final ך a “paragogic ך” common in Deuteronomic texts. Sometimes the plural ending can be ך׃ not just ך׃. Scholars debate if the “paragogic ך” has any special meaning.

קוה = “wait for” under BDB 875b. Akk *qu'û* “wait”. Arb *qawi(y)a* “be strong”.

ירש = “take possession of, inherit, disposess”, Niphal “be impoverished, come to poverty” (very rare) under BDB 439b. ירש is one of the true 1st י verbs and its

⁷ “[Septuagint](#) ([Syriac](#)) και ἰκέτευσον; Aquila ([Targum](#)) και ἀποκαρδοκαει, red perhaps והוקל”.

principal parts chart looks a little different from other 1st י verbs that were originally 1st *ג.

⁸המה

(37:10)

מַעַט = “a little, fewness, a few” under BDB 589b.

בִּין = “discern”, Hitpael “shew oneself attentive, consider diligently; get understanding, understand; shew oneself to have understanding” under BDB 106b-. Arb *bāna* = “become separated, be distinct; Compare Sab בִּין = “(the) wise” (as epithet).

(37:11)

עָנָו = “poor, afflicted, humble, meek” under BDB 776b.

יָרַשׁ = “take possession of, inherit, dispossess”, Niphal “be impoverished, come to poverty” (very rare) under BDB 439b.

עָנַג = “be soft, delicate, dainty”, Hitpael “be of dainty habit, take exquisite delight” under BDB 772a. Arb *ǧanija* “use amorous behavior, affect languor”.

(37:39)

תְּשׁוּעָה = “deliverance, salvation” = יְשׁוּעָה (formed by false analogy as if from שׁוּע) under BDB 448a. Root ישע = “deliver”.⁹

צַדִּיק = “just, righteous” under BDB 843a. Root צדק = “be just, righteous”.

מְעוֹז = “place or means of safety, protection” under BDB 731b.

צָרָה = “straights, distress” under BDB 865a.

(37:40)

⁸ “Perhaps delete because of meter”

⁹ “Read with a few manuscripts, Hieronymous ת compare Syriac”.

עזר = “help, succor” under BDB 740a. Note the form Hiphil prefix + waw-consecutive + 3mp suffix = גִּיעֲזְרֶם

פלט = “escape”, Piel “bring into security, deliver, cause to escape” under BDB 812a.

רָשָׁע = “wicked, criminal” under BDB 957a.

ישַׁע = Hiphil “deliver”, Niphal “be liberated, saved” under BDB 446a. Arb *wasi‘a* “be capacious”, Ph PN ישַׁע. Sab יִתַּר. Note strange ת = Arb *s*.

חָסָה = “seek refuge” under BDB 340a.