

**BBH Workbook p. 69 #4**  
**(Ps 52:10 [English 52:8])**

בְּטַחְתִּי בְּחֶסֶד־אֱלֹהִים עוֹלָם וָעֶד

בְּטַחְתִּי

---

בְּטַחְתִּי, "I trust," is the Qal Perfect 1cs of טַחַח.

TRANSLATION

Perfects denoting states of mind or affective actions may be translated by the English present tense. For example,

זָכַרְנוּ אֶת־הַדָּגָה  
אֲשֶׁר־נֹאכַל

we remember the fish  
which we used to eat  
(Num 11:5)

גּוֹי אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יָדַעַתָּ

a nation which  
you do not know  
(Deut 28:36)

שָׂנְאתִי מֵאֲסָתִי חַגֵּיכֶם

I hate, I reject  
your festivals  
(Amos 5:21)

עַל־מִי בְטַחְתָּ

on whom do you rely?

(2 Kgs 18:20)

## בְּחֶסֶד־אֱלֹהִים

---

בְּחֶסֶד־אֱלֹהִים, "in the lovingkindness of God," consists of

- the preposition בְּ, "in"
- the (masc.) construct noun חֶסֶד, "the lovingkindness of"
- the noun אֱלֹהִים, "God"

### MORPHOLOGY

The Bet of the preposition בְּ lacks a Daghesh Lene here because it is preceded by a vowel:

בְּטַחְתָּי בְּחֶסֶד־אֱלֹהִים

### TRANSLATION

חֶסֶד may also be translated "steadfast love" or "covenant faithfulness."

### GRAMMAR

Because the absolute noun in the construct chain **חֶסֶד-אֱלֹהִים** is definite (it is functioning as a proper noun), the entire chain is definite: “*the* lovingkindness of God.”

Construct nouns cannot take the definite article. The definiteness or indefiniteness of the construct noun(s) in a construct chain is determined by the definiteness or indefiniteness of the chain’s absolute noun.

## עוֹלָם וְעַד

---

The expression **עוֹלָם וְעַד**, “forever and ever,” consists of

- the noun **עוֹלָם**, “eternity, long time”
- the conjunction Waw
- the noun **עַד**, “eternity, perpetuity”

### MORPHOLOGY

Before certain monosyllables and certain polysyllabic words accented on their first syllable, the conjunction Waw is pointed with Qamets. E.g.,

כָּה + ׀	→	וְכָה
עָשָׂר + ׀	→	וְעָשָׂר

וְ + בָּהֶן → וְבָהֶן

When the conjunction Waw is prefixed to the noun עֵד, the Waw is pointed with Qamets and the Pathach of עֵד becomes Seghol: וְעֵד.

## Final Translation

---

*I trust in the lovingkindness of the Lord forever and ever.*