

BBH Workbook p. 193 # 8
(Gen 28:14)

וְהָיָה זְרַעְךָ כְּעֹפֶר הָאָרֶץ וּפְרֻצֹת יָמָה
וּקְדָמָה וְצַפְנָה וְנִגְבָּה וְנִבְרָכֹוּ בְּךָ כָּל־מִשְׁפְּחוֹת
הָאָדָמָה וּבְזַרְעֶךָ

וְהָיָה זְרַעְךָ כְּעֹפֶר הָאָרֶץ

וְהָיָה זְרַעְךָ כְּעֹפֶר הָאָרֶץ “Your descendants will also be like the dust of the earth...” The temporal modifier וְהָיָה is followed by the subject (זְרַע with 2ms pronominal suffix) and the preposition בְּ affixed to the construct chain “the dust of the earth.”

וּפְרֻצֹת יָמָה וּקְדָמָה וְצַפְנָה וְנִגְבָּה

וּפְרֻצֹת יָמָה וּקְדָמָה וְצַפְנָה וְנִגְבָּה “... and you will spread out to the west and the east and the north and the south...”. The verb is Qal Perfect 2ms פָּרִץ with the Waw Conversive. The four cardinal directions each have the directional ending (see *BBH* § 7.6, p. 64).

וְנִבְרָכֹוּ בְּךָ כָּל־מִשְׁפְּחוֹת הָאָדָמָה וּבְזַרְעֶךָ

וְנִבְרָכֹוּ בְּךָ כָּל־מִשְׁפְּחוֹת הָאָדָמָה וּבְזַרְעֶךָ “...and all the families of the earth will be blessed in you and in your seed.” The verb is a Niphal Perfect 3cp of בָּרַךְ with the Waw Conversive and the subject (“all the families of the earth”) receives the action of the

passive verb. The preposition **בְּ** with the 2ms pronominal suffixes (“in you” and “in your seed”) indicates the means of the blessing.

FINAL TRANSLATION

“Your descendants will also be like the dust of the earth and you will spread out to the west and the east and the north and the south, and all the families of the earth will be blessed in you and in your seed.”