

**BBH Workbook p. 228 # 5**  
**(Ex 3:2)**

וַיֵּרָא מִלְאָךְ יְהוָה אֵלָיו בְּלִבְתֹּאשׁ מִתּוֹךְ הַסֵּנֶה  
וַיֵּרָא וְהִנֵּה הַסֵּנֶה בֹּעֵר בְּאֵשׁ וְהַסֵּנֶה אֵינְנוּ אֹכְלִים

וַיֵּרָא מִלְאָךְ יְהוָה אֵלָיו

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וַיֵּרָא מִלְאָךְ יְהוָה אֵלָיו “And the angel of the LORD appeared to him...”, consists of a Niphal Imperfect 3ms of **רָאָה** (apocopated) with Waw Conversive, the subject, and the indirect object (the preposition **אֵל** with 3ms suffix).

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בְּלִבְתֹּאשׁ מִתּוֹךְ הַסֵּנֶה

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בְּלִבְתֹּאשׁ מִתּוֹךְ הַסֵּנֶה “...in a blazing fire from the midst of the bush...” consists of the inseparable preposition **בְּ** affixed to the feminine nouns (**לִבָּה** and **אֵשׁ** in construct, lit. “blaze of fire”), and the object (**הַסֵּנֶה**) of the preposition **מִתּוֹךְ**. The (thorn?) bush is of uncertain variety.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> KL Younger, “סֵנֶה” NIDOTTE III: 273 – “The word is used 4x in Exod 3 in connection with the theophany of the burning bush. In Deut 33:16 the reference is to the same event in the life of Moses. Some scholars think that this was a ‘varicolarous blackberry bush.’”

## וַיֵּרָא וְהִנֵּה הַסִּינָה בֵּיעַר בְּאֵשׁ

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וַיֵּרָא וְהִנֵּה הַסִּינָה בֵּיעַר בְּאֵשׁ "...And he looked and though the bush was blazing with fire...". This is composed of a Qal Imperfect 3ms of רָאָה with the Waw Conversive, the particle "behold," followed by the (amazing) bush which burned (Qal Participle ms of בֵּיעַר) with fire (אֵשׁ with the fs noun בֵּ).  

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## וְהַסִּינָה אֵינָנוּ אֹכֵל

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וְהַסִּינָה אֵינָנוּ אֹכֵל "... yet the bush was not consumed." The noun (repeated three times in this verse) is followed by the particle of (non-) existence with a 3ms suffix (see *BBH* §21.7, p. 254) and a Qal Passive Participle ms of אָכַל, (see footnote 5, p. 228; specifically that אֹכֵל = מֵאֹכֵל; and that Pual and Qal Passive Participles function similarly).  

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### FINAL TRANSLATION

"And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a blazing fire from the midst of the bush, yet the bush was not consumed."