

46 HEBREW AAB FORM REDUPLICATE ROOTS

Most Hebrew reduplicate form roots are either of the form ABAB - as in גלגל wheel from base גל [round] - זלזל cheapen, deride of base זל [flow freely] - or קעקע tattoo of base קע [deep] – Or they are of the form ABB - as in כלל [include] of base כל [all] and as סבב [to surround] of base סב [around] – However the following specimens are of a more rare and obscure form, namely – the form AAB

הטף hang down - טפ base = hang, drip – [droplets hang before they drip]¹

פה mouth - פה = mouth

כוכב star - כב base = control, mastery – stars are regarded as controlling luck

תותח base denotes extend - תותח is a military catapult

ממזר bastard - from base זר - strange, estrange

כר - כר base = round – כר a round area, a loaf –

קילון disgrace - קילון is disgrace

לולב Ernest Klein attributes this to לב [heart]

Possibly derived from קין ? - קין קיין

שש base denotes continue - שש = remain
Dye extracted from an insect that remains in its place for months - שש

The biblical מדה [a measure, dimension – Job 38:5 מדיה] of base מד measure - ממות [a death - Jer. 16:4] of base מת death - and perhaps also ממר [a rebelliousness, irritation – Prov.17:25] perhaps of מר [bitter] all likely belong to this same AAB reduplicate category.²

¹ And therefore I interpret the phrase עיניך לטוטפת בין - as a hanging between your eyes

² i.e. being seen as reduplicative as opposed to having their first מ memm regarded as formative.