

Song of Deborah (Judges 5)

by David Steinberg

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N.b. The Guidelines I Have Used in Reconstructing the Pronunciation of First Temple Period Hebrew are found at

http://www.houseofdauid.ca/anc_heb_6.htm#guidelines

In Paleo-Hebrew inscriptions: (a) the words are normally separated by dots; (b) there is no division by paragraph or sentence; and, (c) writing is generally continuous with the breaks between lines occurring whenever space runs out i.e. in any place within or between words.

Table 1 - [Reconstructed First Temple Vocalization \(EBHP\) and Transposition into Tiberian Graphemes](#)

Table 2 - [Reconstructed Pre-Exilic Orthographies](#)

Table 3 - [Proto-Masoretic Orthography](#)

Table 4 - Metrics

Table 4

Metrics

vs. 2-6

| Verse | [EBHP] | 1. Primary stress | 2. Words in Construct | 1+2 |
|-------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----|
| 2 | bepu,ruf pere'fo:t beyt+ra:'?e:l | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| | behitned,dib 'fo:em | 1 | 1 | 2 |

| Verse | [EBHP] | 1. Primary stress | 2. Words in Construct | 1+2 |
|-------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----|
| | ber'riku yeh'we: | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 3 | ʃu'muʃu mele'ki:m | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| | he?'zi:nu ro:zi'ni:m | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| | ?e'no:ki leyh'we: | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| | ?e'no:ki ?e'ʃi:re' | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| | ?ezem'mir leyh'we: | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| | ?elo:,hey yirre:'?e:l | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 4 | yeh'we: bes'ir'teke mitte'ʃi:r | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| | bes'eʃdeke mitte,də: | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| | ?e'do:m | | | |
| | '?ers' re'ʃeʃe' | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| | 'gem ʃe'meym ne't'epu' | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| | 'gem ye'bi:m ne't'epu' 'meym | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| 5 | her'ri:m ne'zullu' | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| | mippe,ney yeh'we: | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| | ,ze: si:'ney | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| | mippe,ney yeh'we: | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| | ?elo:,hey yirre:'?e:l | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 6 | beye,mey fem'ger ,ben ʃe'ne:t | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| | beye,mey ye'ʃe:l | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| | xe'dilu' ?o r'xo:t | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| | weho:I,ky neti:'bo:t | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| | ye'liku' ?o r'xo:t ʃek'elk'e'lo:t | 3 | 0 | 3 |

ⁱ This is clearly evident in e.g. the Samaritan Ostraca, [Mesha Stele](#), Siloam Inscription, Arad Ostraca, and [11QpaleoLev](#).