



Course Syllabus: 2 Samuel 12

BIBLE-ILAN

Advanced Exegesis and Philological Analysis of the Nathan Narrative.

Lesson	Focus	Core Objectives
Lesson 1	2 Samuel 12:1–4	Parable of the Ewe Lamb, lexical inversions, and the root <i>h-m-l</i> .
Lesson 2	2 Samuel 12:5–8	David's reaction, ben-mavet declaration, and scribal formulas.
Lesson 3	2 Samuel 12:9–12	Prophetic judgment, causation verbs, and the etymology of 'e-q-v.
Lesson 4	2 Samuel 12:13–15	Parable of the Ewe Lamb, lexical inversions, and the root <i>h-m-l</i> . scribal euphemisms, and terminal illness roots.
Lesson 5	2 Samuel 12:16–18	Technical idioms of entreaty (<i>biquesh Hashem</i>) and court etiquette.
Lesson 6	2 Samuel 12:19–21, 24	Confession (<i>chatati</i>), scribal euphemisms, and terminal illness roots. Narrative tension, emotional shifts, and the birth of Solomon.
Lesson 7	2 Samuel 12:21–24	Theological reflection on ba'avur and the conclusion of the arc.

Lesson 1: 2 Samuel 12:1–4

The Parable of the Poor Man's Ewe Lamb: Analysis of the literary framework contrasting the rich man ('ashir) and the poor man (rash / yarash).

Lexical Connections & Wordplay: Inversion of the key roots s-l-h (to send) and b-w- (to come) relative to chapter 11; the function of *ki im* and the root *h-m-l* (pity/spare).

Lesson 2: 2 Samuel 12:5–8

David's Reaction & Nathan's Rebutter: David's burning anger and declaration of ben-mavet ("marked for death").

Lesson 1: 2 Samuel 12:1–4

- **The Parable of the Poor Man's Ewe Lamb:** Analysis of the literary framework contrasting the rich man (*'ashir*) and the poor man (*rash / yarash*).
- **Lexical Connections & Wordplay:** Inversion of the key roots *s-l-h* (to send) and *b-w-* (to come) relative to chapter 11; the function of *ki im* and the root *h-m-l* (pity/spare).

Lesson 2: 2 Samuel 12:5–8

- **David's Reaction & Nathan's Rebuttal:** David's burning anger and declaration of *ben-mavet* ("marked for death").
- **Linguistic & Historical Analysis:** The root *h-r-y* (kindled/anger); the adverbial suffix *-am*; the royal scribal formula *koh amar Hashem*; and ancient Near Eastern parallels.

Lesson 3: 2 Samuel 12:9–12

- **Prophetic Judgment & Divine Retribution:** Sentence structure, direct object emphasis, and degrees of causation (*h-k-h v'cherev* vs. *h-r-g*).
- **Key Vocabulary & Concepts:** Etymology and usage of *'e-q-v* (consequence / heel) and *neged* (in broad daylight / before).

Lesson 4: 2 Samuel 12:13–15

- **Confession, Forgiveness & Punishment:** David's confession (*chatati*) and Nathan's response; the particle *gam* indicating retribution and addition.
- **Textual Issues & Etymology:** The term *ephes*; scribal euphemisms in biblical transmission (*'oyvei Hashem*); the root *y-'-n-sh* (terminally ill); and the etymology of *'ish / 'enosh*.

Lesson 5: 2 Samuel 12:16–18

- **Fasting, Entreaty & the Child's Death:** Technical idiom *biqesh Hashem* (seeking divine mercy) and *bara' lehem* (eating food/nourishment).



- **Court Dynamic & Servants' Reaction:** Court etiquette (*'alav*), David's refusal to rise, and the servants' fear of delivering bad news (*asah ra'ah*).

Lesson 6: 2 Samuel 12:19–21, 24

- **David's Acceptance & the Birth of Solomon:** Analysis of verb sequences indicating narrative tension and emotional shift; the affirmative particle *ken*.
- **Euphemistic Language & Restoration:** Nuances of *shakhav 'im* and the formal conclusion of the sin narrative leading to the birth and naming of Solomon.

Lesson 7: 2 Samuel 12:21–24

- **Theological Reflection & Conclusion:** Etymological examination of *ba'avur* (due to / for the sake of) and *'od* (while still / again).
- **Narrative Arc:** David's theological justification for ending his mourning and the divine favor shown to Solomon.