

Grammatical Mechanisms in Isa 30:18-26

18-19, Logical Relations

The logical particles “therefore,” “that,” and “for” emphasize the *logical relation* of the propositions.

And therefore will the LORD wait,

that he may be gracious unto you,

and therefore will he be exalted,

that he may have mercy upon you:

for the LORD *is* a God of judgment:

blessed *are* all **they that wait** for him.

For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem: **thou** shalt weep no more:

he will be very gracious unto thee at the voice of thy cry; when **he** shall hear it, **he** will answer thee.

20-26, Narrative Sequence

The usual narrative sequence in Hebrew is a series of verbs, each introduced immediately by the conjunction, with the subject *after* the verb. English grammar makes it awkward to reflect this in translation, but I've rearranged the words here so you can see where this structure appears. The effect is to emphasize the *temporal sequence* of the events described. The sequence continues an initial statement (“he will be very gracious” in v. 19) that does not begin with the conjunction (“and”).

20 **And shall give you** the Lord the bread of adversity, and the water of affliction, and thy teachers shall not be removed into a corner any more,

and shall see thine eyes thy teachers: 21 And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This *is* the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

22 **and shall defile** ye the covering of thy graven images of silver, and the ornament of thy molten images of gold: thou shalt cast them away as a menstruous cloth; thou shalt say unto it, Get thee hence.

23 **And shall give** he the rain of thy seed, that thou shalt sow the ground withal; and bread of the increase of the earth,

and shall be it fat and plenteous: **in that day** shall thy cattle feed in large pastures. 24 The oxen likewise and the young asses that ear the ground shall eat clean provender, which hath been winnowed with the shovel and with the fan.

25 **And shall be** upon every high mountain, and upon every high hill, rivers *and* streams of waters **in the day** of the great slaughter, when the towers fall.

26 **And shall be** the light of the moon as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, **in the day** that the LORD bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound.