

The 10 RashiYomi Rules
Their presence in Rashis For Shavuoth
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GOALS

The goal of the Weekly Rashi Digest is to use the weekly Torah portion to expose students at all levels to the ten major methods of Rashi's commentary. Continual weekly exposure to these ten major methods facilitate the acquisition, familiarity, and facility with the major exegetical methods.

The most frequent questions I receive about the Daily Newsletter are the following.

- *What do the classical commentators on Rashi say about his reasons?*
- *If they say such and such what are you adding?*

If they don't say what you say, why are you saying it?

So the next year, or perhaps more, will be devoted to citing Rashi commentators and explaining how the methods of the Newsletter sharpen and crystallize them. We will be citing mostly from the 4-6 classical Rashi commentators: Sifsay Chachamin, Gur Aryeh, Mizrachi, and Chizkuni. We will occasionally add insights of Rav Hirsch and Malbim.

As usual, when making transitions in the Rashi Newsletter we welcome positive and negative comments as well as requests. Please send all comments to RashiYomi@GMail.Com.

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- *I received many positive comments on the Passover Weekly Rashi a few weeks ago (in fact 7 weeks ☺ ago) concerning the 4 sons. So today I am bringing a complete comparison of the two sets of the 10 commandments. Many of these differences are illuminated in Rashi and other midrashim. Today's digest is available at www.Rashiyomi.com/shavuoth.pdf*

Rashis and other midrashim for week of May 24-May 30th.

The two decalogues can be found in Ex20 and Dt05. There are 20 differences between the two decalogues. Extra words in one version are capped. Note: I have indicated full and deficient Hebrew spellings with corresponding queer English spellings. For example the Hebrew word *parents* is spelled Aleph-Beth-(Vav)-Tauv. If the word have an extra vav we would spell the English *Parents*. Rashi references are listed in the last column.

Difference Number	Ex VERSE	Ex Text (With Differences CAPPED)	Dt VERSE	Dt Text (With Differences CAPPED)	Brief Explanation	Principle Used
1	Ex20-03	Don't make an idol: Any image in heaven	Dt05-08	Don't make an idol OR any image in heaven	Emphasis that worshipping images of angel visions are idolatrous cf Ex20-20--supports Rambam and Rashi	Lack of OR equates the items
2	Ex20-05	Visits the sins of PARENTS on children	Dt05-08	Visits the sins of PAREENTS on children	Children morally responsible whether their upbringing is FULL or DEFECTIVE	PUN on FULL/DEFECTIVE spelling
3	Ex20-05	Visits the sins of parents on children: on 3rd and 4th generations	Dt05-09	Visits the sins of parents on children AND on 3rd and 4th generations	Sins of parents visited only when grandchildren like children (Follow in parents footsteps)	Lack of AND equates the items (Ex20-05b)
4	Ex20-07	God gives grace to thousands of generations to those who love me and observe MY commandments	Dt05-10	God gives grace to thousands of generations to those who love me and observe MY / HIS commandments	LOVE must be DIRECTLY with God (No intermediary); but OBSERVANCE may be thru the intermediary of the Rabbi	Alignment shows there are two cases
5	Ex20-08	Commemorate the Sabbath	Dt05-12	Guard the Sabbath	Famous Midrash: Two Requirements: Think of Sabbath during week (COMMEMORATE) and institute safeguards (Rabbinic enactments) to Guard Sabbath	Alignment shows 2 requirements (Rashi Ex20-08a)
6	Ex20-08	blank	Dt05-12	...(Observe..) the Sabbath AS GOD COMMANDED YOU	The phrase AS GOD COMMANDED YOU links the decalogue to the rest of the Bible: The DECALOGUE is a GENERAL requirement whose DETAILS are spelled out throughout Bible(Idea: Decalogue summarizes all commandments)	AS GOD COMMANDED YOU implies cross reference and linkage (Dt05-12b)

7	Ex20-10	Observe Sabbath...you and your children; your slaves and animals	Dt05-14	Observe Sabbath...you and your children AND you slaves and animals	Some types of Sabbath observance UNIFORM (and and) while some types of observance is DISTINCT for each party. eg. NO ONE can do work for you (UNIFORM). However only CHILDREN must be trained in Sabbath observance	Lack of AND IN LIST shows 2 cases in list items
8	Ex20-10	Observe Sabbath...and your ANIMALS	Dt05-14	Observe Sabbath...and your OXEN AND DONKEYS and all your animals	Prohibitions of LABOR (eg ploughing) and TRANSPORTATION (ox and donkeys)	ALIGNMENT alerts us to various details and subcases
9	Ex20-10	Observe Sabbath ...and your ANIMALS	Dt05-14	Observe Sabbath...and ALL your animals	Sabbath prohibitions BOTH on animals that traditionally help man (Like oxen) and on animals that traditionally dont do work	ALL emphasizes no exceptions
10	Ex20-11	Observe Sabbath...BECAUSE	Dt05-15	Observe Sabbath...AND COMMEMORATE	The reason for Sabbath observance is PURELY Symbolic---an affirmation of Gods sovereignty (cf Ex31-13)	ALIGNMENT equates the two items
11	Ex20-11	Observe Sabbath..because God CREATED THE WORLD	Dt05-15	Observe the Sabbath..COMMEMORATE THE EXODUS	Two reasons for Sabbath observance: Symbolically affirms that God created the world and symbolically affirms the God freed us from work/Slavery	ALIGNMENT emphasizes TWO aspects to cases
12	Ex20-11	..therefore God BLESSED the Sabbath and SANCTIFIED it	Dt05-15	...therefore God COMMANDED you to OBSERVE the Sabbath	Sabbath is BURDEN and BLESSING: BURDEN: Observe Sabbath and treat Slaves nicely; BLESSING: God created world; therefore you can afford one day off	ALIGNMENT emphasizes TWO aspects to cases
13	Ex20-12	Honor your parents	Dt05-16	Honor your parents AS GOD COMMANDED YOU	The phrase AS GOD COMMANDED YOU links the decalogue to the rest of the Bible: The DECALOGUE is a GENERAL requirement whose DETAILS are spelled out throughout Bible(Idea: Decalogue summarizes all commandments)	AS GOD COMMANDED YOU implies cross reference and linkage (Dt05-16b)
14	Ex20-12	Honor parents in order you HAVE a long life	Dt05-16	Honor parents in order you HAVEE a long life	If your honor is FULL-HEARTED then your long life will be FULL; if your honor is HALF-HEARTED then your long life will be DEFECTIVE	

15	Ex20-12	Honor parents in order you have a long life	Dt05-16	Honor parents in order you have a long life AND IT BE WELL WITH YOU	Confirms view of Radak that LONG LIFE refers not to NUMBER OF DAYS but QUALITY of life	ALIGNMENT equates the two items
16	Ex20-13	Dont murder; ...Dont steal	Dt20-17	Dont murder AND ...Dont Steal	All laws in the verse are SIMILAR.....context of capital crimes (eg STEAL=KIDNAPPING) (Rabbi Ishmael)	AND creates a UNIFORM context (Supports Rashi on Ex20-13b)
17	Ex20-13	Dont testify as a FALSE WITNESS	Dt20-17	Dont testify as an IRRELEVANT WITNESS	Don't testify falsely: YOU STOLE; Dont stand SILENTLY (IRRELEVANTLY) by someone who so claims (to increase witness weight and scare you) (Rambam)	ALIGNMENT emphasizes two cases
18	Ex20-14	Dont covet a HOUSE; Dont covet a WIFE	Dt20-18	Dont covet a WIFE; Dont desire a HOUSE	Prohibition of COVETING is independent of naturalty of desire	Different ORDERS shows equality of items
19	Ex20-14	Dont COVET a house; Dont COVET a wife	Dt20-18	Dont COVET a wife; Dont DESIRE a house	There are two prohibitions: COVET=Pestering someone to sell you something and DESIRING = fantasizing that it really belongs to you (Rambam)	ALIGNMENT emphasizes two prohibitions
20	Ex20-14	Don't covet ...slaves AND animals	Dt20-18	Don't covet ...slaves; animals	Prohibition of COVET=PESTERING for sale applies to COMBINED DEALS (slaves AND animals) as well as INDIVIDUAL DEALS(Slaves, animals)	Lack of AND IN LIST shows 2 cases in list items

APPENDIX

THE 10 RASHI RULE CATEGORIES / THE 30 RASHI RULES

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I-REFERENCE: Dt26-05d *We went down to Egypt with a few people* explained by Gn46-27: *with 70 people*

II-MEANING / Lexicography / Dictionary: **EXAMPLE (Connectives)** KI means IF,PERHAPS,RATHER,BECAUSE,WHEN,THAT (Rashi on Gn18-15a Gn24-33a) **EXAMPLE (Nuances):** YDA means FAMILIAR, not KNOW (eg Dt34-10a) eg Gn04-01 Adam was FAMILIAR with his wife **EXAMPLE (Idioms)** ON THE FACE OF means DURING THE LIFETIME (Rashi on Nu03-04a Gn11-28a Ex20-03c Dt05-07a) **EXAMPLE (Synonyms)** *Marchesheth* means pot; *Machavath* means frying pan (Lv02-05a, 07a) **EXAMPLE (Hononyms)** SHAMAH can mean listen, hear, understand: (Gn42-23a) *They didn't appreciate that Joseph understood them* (Note: They knew he was listening) **EXAMPLE (Metonymy)** (Lv02-11a) *Don't offer ...any honey as sacrifices* RASHI: *honey* includes any *sweet fruit juice*

III-GRAMMAR: **EXAMPLE:** BA-ah means CAME;ba-AH means COMING(Gn46-26a)
EXAMPLE: Hitpael conjugation has different rules if 1st root letter is Tzade (Gn44-16a)

IV-PARALLELISM: (Ex20-04) Don't **POSSESS** the gods of others Don't **MAKE** idols RASHI: So both **POSSESSion & MAKING** of idols are prohibited

V-CONTRADICTION: (Nu04-03, Nu08-24a)Levites start Temple work at 25; Levites start temple work at 30. RASHI: They apprentice at 25 but start actual service at 30.

VI-STYLE: RABBI ISHMAEL RULES: EXAMPLE: (Simple verses should be generalized): (Rashi Pesachim 6) (Dt25-04a) *Don't MUZZLE an OX while THRESHING* RASHI: Don't STOP any WORKING ANIMAL from eating

VII-FORMATting: EXAMPLE (BOLD indicated by Repetition): Ex12-09c) COOK COOK it in water (So COOKED-COOKED is understood the same way bold is understood by modern reader) RASHI: Preferred to COOK it in water; But COOK it at all costs(Even if you don't have water) **EXAMPLE: (BULLETS indicated by Repeating keywords)** (Ex03-11a) Who am I - **THAT I** should go to Pharaoh - **THAT I** should take the Jews out of Egypt RASHI: Repeated word **THAT** creates BULLET effect - Pharaoh was a difficult king (Bullet one) - Jews were not yet ready for freedom (Bullet two) **EXAMPLE (Climax assumed in any Biblical list):** (Dt19-11a) *If a man HATES, SPIES, CONFRONTS & KILLS.* RASHI: Bible identifies 4 stages to murder(indicated by capped words)

VIII-DATABASE: EXAMPLE: *God spoke to Moses to say over* introduces about 7 dozen biblical commandments; *God spoke to Aaron to say over* only introduces 2 commandments. RASHI: (Lv10-03b) Aaron was silent when his sons died because they served in the Temple drunk; hence he merited that the commandment prohibiting priests to work in the Temple drunk, was given to him

IX-NON VERSE: EXAMPLE: (Use of Algebra)(Ex38-26b) *Temple donations of silver were 100 Kikar and 1775 Shekel from 630,550 half-shekels* RASHI: So one Kikar of silver = 3000 Shekel.

X: SYMBOLISM: EXAMPLE: (Use of puns) Moses made a copper snake for people to look up to when bitten by snakes (so they should pray and recover) RASHI: (Nu21-09a) The Hebrew root for copper and snake are identical (Cf. The English *copperhead*) Moses made the metal snake copper colored to symbolize the snake