Teraphim (idol). Figurines of a fertility goddess placed in ancient Canaanite houses to ensure health.

וַיָּשֶׂב אֶלֶף-וֹמָא הַכְּסֶפֶּר לְאִמָּהּ.

וַיֹּאמֶר לְאִמָּהּ אֶלֶף וּמָא הַכְּסֶפֶּר לְכָה לְפַרְשָׁהּ וּמָא הַכְּסֶפֶּר לְפַרְשָׁהּ וּמָא הַכְּסֶפֶּר לְפַרְשָׁהּ.

וַתִּעַשׂ אִמָּהּ מֵאִית אֵלֶּה הַכְּסֶפֶּר לְאִמָּהּ.

וַיָּשֶׂב אֶלֶף-וֹמָא הַכְּסֶפֶּר לְאִמָּהּ.

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 Judges 17:1-5

Now mother has the money

Now son has the money

Mother pays the refiner

Son took the money

Now mother has some money

Now son has the money

Mother had some money
Now mother has the money

Why does the mother give the money to her son, when she is going to pay the refiner in the next verse? He now has to give it back to her a second time so she can pay the refiner. (See NET Bible notes)
Now mother has the money

1:1 Now the Israelite man and his mother:
1:2 Then his mother had some money
1:3 Father paid the refiner
1:4 Now mother has the money
1:5 Son took the money
1:6 Son now has the money
1:7 Now mother has the money

Why does the mother give the money to her son, when she is going to pay the refiner in the next verse? He now has to give it back to her a second time so she can pay the refiner. (See NET Bible notes)
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NET Bible: In the Hebrew text the statement, "but now I am giving it back to you," appears at the end of v. 3 and is spoken by the mother. But v. 4 indicates that she did not give the money back to her son. Unless the statement is spoken by the woman to the LORD, it appears to be misplaced and fits much better in v. 2. It may have been accidentally omitted from a manuscript, written in the margin, and then later inserted in the wrong place in another manuscript.
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 Judges 17:1-5

Example of wayyiqtol as recapitulation?

• Summary remark
  • Gen 2:1
    וַיְכַלֶּ֖ה הַשָּׁמֵ֣י וְהָאָ֑רֶץ וְכָל־צְב֖וֹת אַֽלְמָ֑א
    Thus the heavens and the earth were completed.
  • Gen 23:20
    וַיְֽקַּמֵּֽהּ הַשָּׁמִ֣י וְהַמְעַ֗רֶשׁ אֵ֣ם שֶׁרֶבּוֹ לְאָבְרָהָ֑ם
    So the field and the cave in it were confirmed for Abraham.

• Pluperfect (controversial)
  • Num 1:47-49, Ex 4:11-12,18-19, 1 Kings 13:12
    (See Waltke/O’Connor p. 550 & 552)
When he gave the silver back to his mother,

1. Mother had some money

2. Son took the money

3. Son gives back the money

4. When he gave the silver back to his mother,

5. His mother said...

Example of wayyiqtol as recapitulation?

- **Summary remark**
  - Gen 2:1
    -ENCY:Thus the heavens and the earth were completed.
  - Gen 23:20
    -ENCY:So the field and the cave in it were confirmed for Abraham.

- **Pluperfect (controversial)**
  - Num 1:47-49, Ex 4:11-12,18-19, 1 Kings 13:12
(See Waltke/O’Connor p. 550 & 552)
Some Commentary

- Money is stolen
- The mother pronounces a curse on the thief
- The son gets scared and confesses his guilt
- The mother then quickly pronounces a blessing on her son
- The mother decides to thank YHWH, consecrates the money to YHWH but in making an idol brings herself under God’s curse and doesn’t seem to realize what she has done
  - ESV Deuteronomy 27:15 "'Cursed be the man who makes a carved or cast metal image, an abomination to the LORD, a thing made by the hands of a craftsman, and sets it up in secret.' And all the people shall answer and say, 'Amen.' (Deu 27:15 ESV)
- She dedicates only 200 of the 1100 to YHWH
  - Questionable motive as well as action?
- It seems that there are 2 idols
  - ESV Judges 18:14 Then the five men who had gone to scout out the country of Laish said to their brothers, "Do you know that in these houses there are an ephod, household gods, a carved image, and a metal image? Now therefore consider what you will do." (Jdg 18:14 ESV)
- Teraphim = household gods (e.g. Gen 31:19; 1 Sam 19:13)
- Ephod had been used for divination
  - ESV Judges 8:27 And Gideon made an ephod of it and put it in his city, in Ophrah. And all Israel whored after it there, and it became a snare to Gideon and to his family. (Jdg 8:27 ESV)
- Micah ordains his own priest (one of his sons) and sets up his own “house of God” in his own house
- “In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.” (v 6)

With the help of Expositor’s Bible Commentary
וַיְהִי שעָר מִבֵית לֶם יְהוּדָה מִמְשַׁפְתָּה יְהוּדָה וְהִוא לְעִיר מִבֵית לֶם יְהוּדָה וְהִוא גֵר שֵם׃

וַיָּלֶךְ הַאִיש מִבֵית לֶם יְהוּדָה לְגֵר וּרְבָא שֶׁר יִמְצָא וַיְבָא הַרְאֶפְרָאִים עַד בַּיִית מִיכֵי הֲלוֹךְ שֶׁרֶבֶת אֶת הַאִיש וַיְהִי הנַעַר לְכוֹ אֲחַד מִבֵית לֶם יְהוּדָה וַיְמַלְּא מִיכֵי הָאֹיֵן לְאֶחָד כֶּסֶף לַיִם וְעֶרֶךְ בְגַד יִם וּמִתֵּך וַיָּלֶךְ הַלְוֹ יַל שֶׁר אֶת הַאִיש וַיְהִי הנַעַר לְכוֹ וַיְהִי לְבָא מִבֵית מִיכֵי הֲלוֹךְ שֶׁר הָאֹיֵן לַעֲשֹׁת לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְךֶּן עָשָׂה לְיִוָא מִי הָאֹיֵן לְאֵת־לְ�
A Levite leaves Bethlehem to find some employment
  • Bethlehem not one of the 48 Levitical cities assigned by Moses
  • City of the future king David
  • City of a future Levite in the sordid tale of Judges 19
The Levite travels north and finds Micah who wants to upgrade his priest
Levite becomes both a “father” and a “son” to Micah
  • father = term of honour
    • Genesis 45:8 So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.
    • 2 Kings 6:21 As soon as the king of Israel saw them, he said to Elisha, "My father, shall I strike them down? Shall I strike them down?"
  • Micah gives Levite enough to live on
    • 10 silvers a year
    • The priestly clothes to do his job
    • Food
The Levite agrees
Micah ordains the Levite (second ordination)
The Levite, however, is a descended of Moses not Aaron
  • ESV Judges 18:30 And the people of Dan set up the carved image for themselves, and Jonathan the son of Gershom, son of Moses, and his sons were priests to the tribe of the Danites until the day of the captivity of the land. (Jdg 18:30 ESV)
Micah has a shrine, a Levitical priest and some idols.
  • Now surely YHWH will prosper him.
Worship exchanged for Idolatry; indicative of the age
  • Refusing to worship by God’s commands => blissful confusion and a mistaken sense of God’s blessing
  • Romans 1:21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

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