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Two Issues in the Masora

Two problematic issues, in which there are many varying opinions and discussion, are discussed here.

The first issue is the stress of syllable in the word **וַיֹּאמֶר** in the book of Job. According to many Mss. and printed editions this word should be pronounced in some verses (e.g. Job 3:2) **וַיֹּאמֶר** (*Mil'el*, with *Pataḥ* under the *Mem*), a form that is grammatically abnormal. Other Mss. punctuate **וַיֹּאמֶר**, according to the rules. This phenomenon is explained as a mistake, which is due to the special way of description of the Masora rubrics.

The second issue is the word **הֵלֵךְ** in Deut. 32:6. The writing of this word is grammatically abnormal: Some Masoretes write the letter **ה** as a

separate word; others write **הֵל** as a separate word. The letter **ה** is written in some sources as a large letter. The reading of the word is opposed to the rules of prefix letters. It is read **הֵלֵךְ** instead of **הֵלֵךְ**. All these phenomena are explained as a result of two different textual traditions, and an attempt is made to describe all these historical developments of the Masoretic and Halakhic Literature.