1. Qal wa-homer (from the lighter to the heavier) — If something is true in a lesser case then it is true in the greater, and vice versa.

2. Gezerah shawah (equal ordinance) — an argument based on an analogy between two similar passages.

3. Binyan ab mi-katub ehad (“founding of a family”) — “[A] specific stipulation found in only one of a group of topically related biblical passages is related to them all. Thus the main passage bestows on all the others a common character which combines them into a family.”

4. Biyan ad mi shnê ketubim (“founding of a family on two passages”) — Like middah #3 but the general rule is founded on two passages rather than one.

5. Kelal u-ferat u-ferat u-kelel (“the general and the particular, the particular and the general”).

6. Ke-yoîse bó be-maqom asher (“something similar to this in another passage”) — this middah is like number 2 but it less restrictive in usage.

7. Dabar ha-lamed me-’ inyanô (“the argument from context”).

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1This summary is taken from H. L. Strack and Günther Stemberger, *Introduction to the Talmud and Midrash* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1996), 16-20.

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