The 5 Laws of the Hebrew Syllable

*Sparky's simplified approach to syllables (non-dagesh splitting)

- A syllable will <u>always and only begin with one consonant</u>; it cannot begin with a vowel. (*The only exception is with 'which frequently occurs as the first syllable in many words.)
- A syllable <u>may end with either a consonant or a vowel</u>. If it ends with a consonant, it is said to be "closed". If it ends with a vowel, it is said to be "open."
- A syllable will always have <u>one and only one vowel</u>, whether that vowel be short or long.
- A syllable may be stressed or unstressed.
- A syllable CAN in some instances have 2 consonants back-to-back, without a vowel between them.