

The Numerical Features of the Book of Exodus

A New Approach to its Compositional Structure

Please read the [General Introduction](#)

Part V Exod 25,1-31,18 Directions for the Fabrication of the Tabernacle and its Equipment

Overview in Terms of Words, Letters, Divine Speeches and the Divine Name

The Masoretes divided the 7 chapters of Part V into 26 paragraphs, neatly demarcated by Petuchah and Setumah, and concluded by an Epilogue (31,18). This division coincides with the material content. The entire text is governed by the 7 divine speeches preceded by introductory formulae deliberately made up of altogether 34 (2x17) words. I detected and marked (in **bold face**) no less than 46 incidents of 17 and 26 and their multiples running as a red thread through the text, with a very high density in certain paragraphs and especially in the last 3 chapters (29-31). This also applies to the 40 occurrences of the name יהוה of which 31 are to be found in the last 3 chapters.

There is nothing significant about the total number of words, nor does the number of letters play any role, which in this case gave me a reason to delete the column 'Summation Letters'.

The divine speeches end at 31,17 and are rounded off by the Epilogue in 31,18. The Epilogue harks back to 24,18 with which it functions as a bracket round the seven divine speeches and as a bridge between Part IV (20,22-24,18) and Part VI (32,1-34,35).

	Text	Words	Letters	יהוה	Sum-W	Contents
						§ 1 Preparatory Measures I
1	Exod 25,1	5	18	1	5	וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר
2	Exod 25,2	16	56		21	List of 17 contributions: gold ¹ , silver ² , bronze ³ , violet ⁴ ,
3	Exod 25,3	8	33		29	Purple ⁵ , scarlet ⁶ yarn, linen ⁷ , goats' hair ⁸ , rams' skins ⁹ ,
4	Exod 25,4	6	28		35	porpoise hides ¹⁰ , acacia wood ¹¹ , lamp oil ¹² , spices
5	Exod 25,5	7	31		42	for anointing oil ¹³ and for the incense ¹⁴ , onyx stones ¹⁵ ,
6	Exod 25,6	7	32		49	other stones for the ephod ¹⁶ and for the breastpiece ¹⁷ .
7	Exod 25,7	6	26		55	From 7 categories: metal ¹ , textile ² , animal products ³ ,
8	Exod 25,8	5	21		60	wood ⁴ , oil ⁵ , spices ⁶ , stones ⁷ . Compare 35,5-9!
9	Exod 25,9	14/74	50		74	S Note the conspicuous use of the number 7 .
						§ 2 Directions for the Ark
10	Exod 25,10	13+	52		87	The Ark must be 2½x1½ cubits; it must be overlaid with gold inside and outside.
11	Exod 25,11	12+	47		99	Make four gold rings for its four feet.
12	Exod 25,12	19+	72		118	Make poles of acacia wood overlaid with gold.
13	Exod 25,13	7=51	26		125	Insert the poles into the rings.
14	Exod 25,14	11+	40		136	The poles must remain in the rings.
15	Exod 25,15	7+	28		143	Put the Testimony into the Ark.
16	Exod 25,16	8=26	26		151	
17	Exod 25,17	10	41		161	
18	Exod 25,18	10	41		171	
19	Exod 25,19	17	63		188	Make two gold Cherubim for the two ends of the Ark.
20	Exod 25,20	18	78		206	
21	Exod 25,21	14	49		220	
22	Exod 25,22	22/168	78		242	P
						§ 3 Directions for the Table
23	Exod 25,23	11	45		253	
24	Exod 25,24	9	31		262	
25	Exod 25,25	10	40		272	
26	Exod 25,26	14	52		286	
27	Exod 25,27	9	41		295	
28	Exod 25,28	12	43		307	
29	Exod 25,29	12	55		319	
30	Exod 25,30	7/84	26		326	P

						§ 4 Directions for the Lampstand
31	Exod 25,31	14	64		340	
32	Exod 25,32	14	57		354	
33	Exod 25,33	20+	87		374	There shall be 3 almond-like cups on each branch
34	Exod 25,34	6=26	34		380	but on the main stem there shall be four such cups
35	Exod 25,35	20	82		400	and a calyx under each of the six branches.
36	Exod 25,36	9	37		409	
37	Exod 25,37	11	42		420	
38	Exod 25,38	4	21		424	
39	Exod 25,39	9	30		433	
40	Exod 25,40	7/114	28		440	S
						§ 5 Directions for the Tabernacle
41	Exod 26,1	16+	64		456	Make bars of acacia wood for the frames.
42	Exod 26,2	15+	64		471	Each hanging must be 28x4 cubits, and 2 sets
43	Exod 26,3	13+	49		484	of 5 hangings must be joined to one another.
44	Exod 26,4	16+	72		500	Make violet loops for the two last hangings.
45	Exod 26,5	18=78	81		518	Make 50 clasps to join them to one another.
46	Exod 26,6	14/92	57		532	P
						§ 6 The Hangings
47	Exod 26,7	11+	45		543	Make curtains for a tent over the Tabernacle.
48	Exod 26,8	15=26	64		558	The 11 curtains must measure 30x4 cubits.
49	Exod 26,9	17	63		575	Join 5 and 6 of them by themselves.
50	Exod 26,10	16	71		591	
51	Exod 26,11	13	54		604	
52	Exod 26,12	11	47		615	
53	Exod 26,13	16+	63		631	The extra half cubit must hang over the sides.
54	Exod 26,14	10=26/109	45		641	P Make coverings of two different hides for the tent.
						§ 7 The Frames as Uprights
55	Exod 26,15	7+	30		648	Make frames of acacia wood to stand upright.
56	Exod 26,16	10=17	37		658	They shall measure 10x1½ cubits.
57	Exod 26,17	13	47		671	
58	Exod 26,18	9	39		680	
59	Exod 26,19	21	87		701	
60	Exod 26,20	7+	31		708	There shall be twenty for the north side.
61	Exod 26,21	13+	55		721	Under each frame must be 2 bases of silver.
62	Exod 26,22	6=26	27		727	Make 6 frames for the rear of the Tabernacle.
63	Exod 26,23	6	31		733	
64	Exod 26,24	17	71		750	The corner frames must be double.
65	Exod 26,25	18	73		768	
66	Exod 26,26	9	38		777	
67	Exod 26,27	13	61		790	
68	Exod 26,28	9	37		799	
69	Exod 26,29	14	59		813	
70	Exod 26,30	7/179	29		820	S

						§ 8 The Veil
71	Exod 26,31	13+	54		833	A seamster must make a veil of fine linen.
72	Exod 26,32	14+	54		847	Fasten it to the 4 posts of acacia wood.
73	Exod 26,33	20+	84		867	Hang the veil and bring the Ark in place.
74	Exod 26,34	8+	31		875	Place the cover over the Ark in the Holy of Holies.
75	Exod 26,35	18+	69		893	Put the Table in place and the Lampstand opposite it.
76	Exod 26,36	12=85	49		905	Make a screen for the entrance of the tent.
77	Exod 26,37	15/100	61		920	S
						§ 9 Directions for the Altar
78	Exod 27,1	17	65		937	Make the Altar of acacia wood: 5x5 cubits.
79	Exod 27,2	11	49		948	
80	Exod 27,3	11+	59		959	Make for it bronze utensils.
81	Exod 27,4	15=26	57		974	Make for it a grating of bronze.
82	Exod 27,5	11+	44		985	Put it below the ledge of the Altar.
83	Exod 27,6	9+	36		994	Make poles of acacia wood, overlaid with bronze.
84	Exod 27,7	12+	46		1006	Insert them into the rings to carry the Altar.
85	Exod 27,8	10=52/96	34		1016	S Make it hollow, of boards, as has been shown.
						§ 10 Directions for the Court
86	Exod 27,9	16+	60		1032	Make the Court of the Tabernacle:
87	Exod 27,10	9+	46		1041	bases of bronze with hooks and bands of silver.
88	Exod 27,11	16+	71		1057	There shall be hangings a 100 cubits long,
89	Exod 27,12	11=52	48		1068	50 cubits of hangings with 10 posts and 10 bases.
90	Exod 27,13	7+	29		1075	On the east side the Court is 50 cubits wide,
91	Exod 27,14	9+	41		1084	15 cubits of hangings with 3 posts and 3 bases
92	Exod 27,15	9+	43		1093	on both flanks of the Court.
93	Exod 27,16	17+	76		1110	The screen for the gate must be 20 cubits long.
94	Exod 27,17	10=52	43		1120	All the posts shall be banded with silver.
95	Exod 27,18	14	57		1134	
96	Exod 27,19	11/129	43		1145	S
						§ 11 Obligations Regarding the Lamp
97	Exod 27,20	15	55		1160	
98	Exod 27,21	22/37	82	2	1182	S
						§ 12 Directions for the Priestly Clothing
99	Exod 28,1	21	83		1203	
100	Exod 28,2	7	33		1210	
101	Exod 28,3	17	60		1227	Give instructions for making Aaron's vestments.
102	Exod 28,4	19	82		1246	
103	Exod 28,5	13/77	48		1259	P
						§ 13 The Ephod
104	Exod 28,6	12	45		1271	
105	Exod 28,7	9	32		1280	
106	Exod 28,8	14	59		1294	
107	Exod 28,9	10	39		1304	
108	Exod 28,10	13+	54		1317	Put 6 names on each stone in order of seniority.
109	Exod 28,11	18+	66		1335	Engrave the names and set the stones in rosettes.
110	Exod 28,12	21=52/97	80	3	1356	S Fasten them on the shoulderpieces for Aaron.
						§ 14 The Settings and the Chains
111	Exod 28,13	3	13		1359	
112	Exod 28,14	15/18	60		1374	S

						§ 15 The Breastpiece of Judgement
113	Exod 28,15	17	68		1391	Make the Breastpiece of gold, like the Ephod.
114	Exod 28,16	7	27		1398	
115	Exod 28,17	13+	50		1411	First row of stones: sardin, chrysolite, emerald,
116	Exod 28,18	5+	21		1416	second row: purple garnet, sapphire, crystal,
117	Exod 28,19	5+	23		1421	third row: turquoise, agate, jasper,
118	Exod 28,20	9+	45		1430	fourth row: topaz, cornelian, green jasper.
119	Exod 28,21	19+	71		1449	The stones bear the names of the 12 tribes.
120	Exod 28,22	9+	33		1458	Make chains of pure gold for the Breastpiece.
121	Exod 28,23	14+	50		1472	Make 2 gold rings; fix them on the upper corners.
122	Exod 28,24	11=85	38		1483	Fasten the 2 gold cords to the rings.
123	Exod 28,25	16	58		1499	
124	Exod 28,26	17	58		1516	Make 2 gold rings for the lower corners.
125	Exod 28,27	18	75		1534	
126	Exod 28,28	18	70		1552	
127	Exod 28,29	17	63	4	1569	Aaron will bear over his heart the 12 names.
128	Exod 28,30	26/221	93	5 6	1595	Put the Urim and Thummim into the Breastpiece.
		(13x17)				§ 16 The Mantle of the Ephod
129	Exod 28,31	6	24		1601	
130	Exod 28,32	16	56		1617	
131	Exod 28,33	15	64		1632	
132	Exod 28,34	10	39		1642	
133	Exod 28,35	14/61	54	7	1656	§ 17 The Medallion
134	Exod 28,36	10	40	8	1666	
135	Exod 28,37	13	47		1679	
136	Exod 28,38	24	92	9	1703	
137	Exod 28,39	10	40		1713	
138	Exod 28,40	12	57		1725	
139	Exod 28,41	17+	62		1742	Invest Aaron and his sons and consecrate them.
140	Exod 28,42	11+	44		1753	Make for them linen shorts to cover the private parts.
141	Exod 28,43	24=52/121	86		1777	They must wear them when they enter the Tent.
						§ 18 Directions for Ordaining the Priests
142	Exod 29,1	17	57		1794	Take a young bull and two rams without blemish
143	Exod 29,2	14+	57		1808	Take unleavened loaves smeared with oil.
144	Exod 29,3	13+	44		1821	Put them in a basket and bring also the animals.
145	Exod 29,4	12+	43		1833	Wash Aaron and his sons at the entrance.
146	Exod 29,5	19+	72		1852	Dress Aaron in the ephod mantle and breastpiece.
147	Exod 29,6	10=68	37		1862	Set the turban on his head and attach the symbol.
148	Exod 29,7	9	34		1871	
149	Exod 29,8	5	23		1876	
150	Exod 29,9	18	72		1894	
151	Exod 29,10	14	50		1908	
152	Exod 29,11	8	28	10	1916	
153	Exod 29,12	15	56		1931	
154	Exod 29,13	20	76		1951	
155	Exod 29,14	13	45		1964	
156	Exod 29,15	12+	44		1976	Let Aaron lay his hands on the head of one ram.
157	Exod 29,16	10+	37		1986	Slaughter it and fling its blood against the Altar.
158	Exod 29,17	12=34	50		1998	Cut it up and clean it to be burned as an offering.
159	Exod 29,18	13	50	11 12	2011	
160	Exod 29,19	12	44		2023	
161	Exod 29,20	29	110		2052	
162	Exod 29,21	26	100		2078	Sprinkle some blood of the second ram on Aaron.
163	Exod 29,22	27+	99		2105	Take the ram's fat, kidneys, liver and right leg,
164	Exod 29,23	14+	50	13	2119	and one loaf of bread and a waver from the basket.

165	Exod 29,24	13+	47	14	2132	Let Aaron present these as a special gift for God.
166	Exod 29,25	14=68	58	15 16	2146	Take these from him and burn them on the altar.
167	Exod 29,26	15+	60	17	2161	Present the breast of Aaron's ram as a special gift.
168	Exod 29,27	17+	72		2178	Hallow the breast and leg for Aaron and his sons.
169	Exod 29,28	20=52	86	18	2198	All this is for Aaron and sons, binding for all time.
170	Exod 29,29	13+	51		2211	Aaron's vestments must be kept to install his sons.
171	Exod 29,30	13=26	50		2224	His successor must wear them for 7 days.
172	Exod 29,31	9	33		2233	
173	Exod 29,32	13	45		2246	
174	Exod 29,33	16	49		2262	
175	Exod 29,34	17	59		2279	Destroy all holy leftovers of the installation.
176	Exod 29,35	12+	49		2291	Spend 7 days for the installation of Aaron.
177	Exod 29,36	14=26	57		2305	Offer a bull each day as a purification offering.
178	Exod 29,37	15/543	59		2320	S
						§ 19 The Offers
179	Exod 29,38	11	40		2331	
180	Exod 29,39	11	42		2342	
181	Exod 29,40	13	51		2355	
182	Exod 29,41	15	61	19	2370	
183	Exod 29,42	15	55	20	2385	
184	Exod 29,43	6+	28		2391	YHWH will meet the Israelites at the Tent
185	Exod 29,44	13+	47		2404	and consecrate Aaron and his sons as priests.
186	Exod 29,45	7=26	33		2411	He shall dwell there and be their God.
187	Exod 29,46	15/106	64	21 22	2426	P
						§ 20 Directions for the Incense Altar
188	Exod 30,1	8+	31		2434	Make the Altar of acacia wood:
189	Exod 30,2	10+	43		2444	1x1x1 cubit, with its horns one piece with it.
190	Exod 30,3	16=34	58		2460	Overlay it with gold and make a moulding for it.
191	Exod 30,4	20+	74		2480	Make the gold rings for the carrier poles, which
192	Exod 30,5	8+	30		2488	must be made of acacia wood overlaid with gold.
193	Exod 30,6	17+	59		2505	Put the Altar before the curtain of the Ark. Aaron
194	Exod 30,7	11+	50		2516	must burn incense when he trims the lamps, also
195	Exod 30,8	12=68	55	23	2528	when he tends them between dusk and dark.
196	Exod 30,9	11	40		2539	
197	Exod 30,10	18/131	74	24	2557	P 1st Speech: $5 + 2552 (232 \times 11) = 2557$
						§ 21 Directions for the Sanctuary Tax 2
198	Exod 30,11	5	18	25	2562	וַיִּדְבֹר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר
199	Exod 30,12	20+	72	26	2582	When you take a census, each man must give a
200	Exod 30,13	17+	68	27	2599	ransom for his life: half a shekel.
201	Exod 30,14	11+	42	28	2610	This applies to all men above twenty years.
202	Exod 30,15	15+	59	29	2625	Rich and poor must pay the same amount.
203	Exod 30,16	22=85/90	87	30	2647	P 2nd Speech: $5 + 85 (5 \times 17) = 90$
						§ 22 Directions for the Bronze Basin 3
204	Exod 30,17	5	18	31	2652 _{51x52}	וַיִּדְבֹר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר
205	Exod 30,18	16+	62		2668	Make a bronze Basin and fill it with water, with
206	Exod 30,19	8+	34		2676	which Aaron and his sons must wash hands and feet
207	Exod 30,20	16+	60	32	2692	when they enter the Tent and approach the Altar.
208	Exod 30,21	12=52/57	51		2704	P 3rd Speech: $5 + 52 (2 \times 26) = 57$

						§ 23 Directions for the Anointing Oil ⁴
209	Exod 30,22	5	18	33	2709	וַיִּדְבֹר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר
210	Exod 30,23	18+	72		2727	Take the spices myrrh, cinnamon, aromatic cane,
211	Exod 30,24	8=26+	29		2735	cassia and a hin of olive oil.
212	Exod 30,25	13+	47		2748	From these prepare the anointing oil.
213	Exod 30,26	8+	27		2756	Anoint with it the Tent ¹ , the Ark ² ,
214	Exod 30,27	12+	44		2768	the Table ³ , the Lampstand ⁴ , the Altar of Incense ⁵ ,
215	Exod 30,28	10+	33		2778	the Altar of Whole-offering ⁶ , and the Basin ⁷ .
216	Exod 30,29	9=78	33		2787	Consecrate them and they will be most holy.
217	Exod 30,30	9	32		2796	7 main objects with the Lampstand at the centre!
218	Exod 30,31	12+	44		2808	Tell the Israelites: all this is for every generation!
219	Exod 30,32	14=26	48		2822	Never use it for other purposes; it is holy!
220	Exod 30,33	11/129	39		2833	S 4th Speech: 5 + 124 = 129
						§ 24 Directions for Making Incense ⁵
221	Exod 30,34	16	57	34	2849	וַיִּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה
222	Exod 30,35	9	34		2858	
223	Exod 30,36	17	64		2875	Pound spices and put them in front of the Testimony.
224	Exod 30,37	11	43	35	2886	
225	Exod 30,38	8/61	31		2894	S 5th Speech: 4 + 57 = 61
						§ 25 Directions for the Craftsmen ⁶
226	Exod 31,1	5	18	36	2899	וַיִּדְבֹר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר
227	Exod 31,2	10	36		2909	
228	Exod 31,3	9	42		2918	
229	Exod 31,4	6	29		2924	
230	Exod 31,5	8+	35		2932	Bezalel is skilful in cutting stones & carving wood.
231	Exod 31,6	21+	71		2953	Aholiab is also a skilled craftsman.
232	Exod 31,7	14+	47		2967	They are to make everything : Tent, Ark, Cover,
233	Exod 31,8	13+	49		2980	Furnishings, Table, Vessels, Lampstand, Fittings,
234	Exod 31,9	10+	34		2990	Incense Altar, Offering Altar, Vessels, Basin,
235	Exod 31,10	12=78	46		3002	Stand, Vestments (2x), Anointing Oil, Incense. 17!
236	Exod 31,11	11/119	42		3013	P 6th Speech: 5 + 114 = 119 (7x17)
		119=7x17				
						§ 26 A Reminder Regarding the Sabbath ⁷
237	Exod 31,12	5+	18	37	3018	וַיִּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר
238	Exod 31,13	21=26	80	38	3039	Above all, keep the Sabbath as a sign between us!
239	Exod 31,14	20+	73		3059	Keep the day holy; whoever profanes it shall die.
240	Exod 31,15	17+	69	39	3076	Do your work for six days; the 7th is for YHWH.
241	Exod 31,16	11+	43		3087	This is a covenant for ever. God created for 6 days
242	Exod 31,17	20=68/94	75	40	3107	S and rested on the 7 th ! 7th Speech: 5 + 89 = 94
		26+68=94				Note the 7 occurrences of the noun שַׁבָּת.
Total	25,1-31,17	3107	12191	40	3107	Seven Speeches: 34 + 3073 = 3107
243	Exod 31,18	16	59		3123	Epilogue: Moses Receives the Two Tablets

Observation 1 In order to direct the attention of the readers to those sections of the text that are specifically emphasized by means of the divine name numbers and their multiples, I have marked the relevant verses in **bold face**. This is how the author/editor let these sections stand out as being of paramount importance in his view. For the interpretation of the text it is, in my opinion, of the utmost importance to take this compositional technique seriously into consideration. In terms of numerical composition five paragraphs stand out as particularly prominent:

§ 15 The Making of the Breastpiece of Judgement (28,15-30) which has **221** (13x17) words. Moreover, it has **17** words in the first verse and **17** and **26** in the two concluding verses, with **85** (5x17) words in eight successive verses in the middle (vs. 17-24).

§ 21 The Directions for the Sanctuary Tax (30,11-16) with **85** (5x17) words in YHWH's speech.

§ 22 The Directions for the Bronze Basin (30,17-21) with **52** (2x26) words in YHWH's speech.

§ 25 The Directions for the Craftsmen (31,1-11) with **119** (7x17) words in total. What is more, the craftsmen make altogether **17** objects of which the Lampstand is the **7th**.

Note that the Lampstand has also pride of place (at the centre!) among the **7** objects to be anointed by Moses in § 23 (30,22-33).

§ 26 A Reminder Regarding the Sabbath (31,12-17), YHWH's **7th** speech which has **94** words divided into **26** in vs. 12-13 and **68** (4x17) in vs. 14-17. These **68** words have **260** letters.

The 26 Paragraphs of Part V Exod 25,1-31,18

	Words	Endings
§ 1 25,1-9 Preparatory Measures	74	14 (2x7)
§ 2 25,10-22 Directions for the Ark	168	22
§ 3 25,23-30 Directions for the Table	84	7
§ 4 25,31-40 Directions for the Lampstand	114	7
§ 5 26,1-6 Directions for the Tabernacle	92	14 (2x7)
§ 6 26,7-14 The Hangings		26
§ 7 26,15-30 The Frames as Uprights	109	7
§ 8 26,31-37 The Veil	179	85 (5x17)+15
§ 9 27,1-8 Directions for the Altar	100	52 (2x26)
§ 10 27,9-19 Directions for the Court	96	11
§ 11 27,20-21 Obligations Regarding the Lamp	129	22
§ 12 28,1-5 Directions for the Priestly Clothing	37	13
§ 13 28,6-12 The Ephod	77	52 (2x26)
§ 14 28,13-14 The Settings and the Chains	97	15
§ 15 28,15-30 The Breastpiece of Judgement	18	17+26
§ 16 28,31-35 The Mantle of the Ephod	221 (13x17)	14 (2x7)
§ 17 28,36-43 The Medallion	61	52 (2x26)
§ 18 29,1-37 Directions for Ordaining the Priests	121	17+26+15
§ 19 29,38-46 The Offers	543	26+15
§ 20 30,1-10 Directions for the Incense Altar	106	18
§ 21 30,11-16 Directions for the Sanctuary Tax	131	85 (5x17)
§ 22 30,17-21 Directions for the Bronze Basin	90	52 (2x26)
§ 23 30,22-33 Directions for the Anointing Oil	57	26+11
§ 24 30,34-38 Directions for Making Incense	129	8
§ 25 31,1-11 Directions for the Craftsmen	61	78 (3x26)+11
§ 26 31,12-17 A Reminder Regarding the Sabbath	119 (7x17)	68 (4x17)
Total Part V Exod 25,1-31,17	94	68 (4x17)
<u>31,18</u> is the Epilogue 16 words	3107	---
	3123	

Let me now display YHWH's speeches in the Hebrew text. For practical purposes I shall limit myself to the last six speeches, leaving the first (long!) speech out of consideration.

The 2nd and 3rd Speeches (30,11-21)

<p>11 וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר: 2</p> <p>12 כִּי תֵשָׂא אֶת-רֹאשׁ בְּנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל לִפְקֻדֵיהֶם וְנָתַנּוּ אִישׁ כֹּפֶר נַפְשׁוֹ לַיהוָה בַּפְּקֹד אַתֶּם וְלֹא-יְהִי בָהֶם גִּנֵּף בַּפְּקֹד אַתֶּם:</p> <p>13 זֶה וַיִּתְּנוּ כָל-הָעֶבֶר עַל-הַפְּקֻדִים מַחְצִית הַשֶּׁקֶל בַּשֶּׁקֶל הַקֹּדֶשׁ עֲשָׂרִים גֵּרָה הַשֶּׁקֶל מַחְצִית הַשֶּׁקֶל תְּרוּמָה לַיהוָה:</p> <p>14 כָּל הָעֶבֶר עַל-הַפְּקֻדִים מִבְּנֵי עֲשָׂרִים שָׁנָה וּמַעְלָה יִתֵּן תְּרוּמַת יְהוָה:</p> <p>15 הָעֲשִׂיר לֹא-יִרְפָּה וְהַדֵּל לֹא יַמְעִישׁ מִמַּחְצִית הַשֶּׁקֶל לְתַתֹּת אֶת-תְּרוּמַת יְהוָה לְכַפֵּר עַל-נַפְשֹׁתֵיכֶם:</p> <p>16 וְלִקְחֹתָ אֶת-כֹּסֶף הַכֹּפָרִים מֵאֵת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְנָתַתָּ אֹתוֹ עַל-עֲבֹדַת אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד וְהָיָה לְבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לְזָכְרוֹן לִפְנֵי יְהוָה לְכַפֵּר עַל-נַפְשֹׁתֵיכֶם: 3</p> <p>17 וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר: 3</p> <p>18 וְעָשִׂיתָ כִּיֹּדֵר נְחֹשֶׁת וְכִנּוֹר נְחֹשֶׁת לְרַחֲצָה וְנָתַתָּ אֹתוֹ בֵּין-אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד וּבֵין הַמִּזְבֵּחַ וְנָתַתָּ שָׁמָּה מַיִם: 19 וְרַחֲצוּ אֹתָם וּבְנֵי מִמֵּנֵי אֶת-יְדֵיהֶם וְאֶת-רַגְלֵיהֶם: 20 בְּבָאֵם אֶל-אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד וְרַחֲצוּ-מַיִם וְלֹא יָמָתוּ: אִם בְּגִשְׁתֶּם אֶל-הַמִּזְבֵּחַ לְשֵׁרֵת לְהַקְטִיר אִשָּׁה לַיהוָה: 21 וְרַחֲצוּ יְדֵיהֶם וּרְגְלֵיהֶם וְלֹא יָמָתוּ וְהָיְתָה לָהֶם חֻק־עוֹלָם לֹא יִלְזָדְעוּ לְדַרְתָּם: 3</p>	<p>§ 21 Directions for the Sanctuary Tax</p> <p>$5 + 85 (5 \times 17) = 90$</p> <p>The name יְהוָה occurs in every successive verse.</p> <p>§ 22 Directions for the Bronze Basin</p> <p>$5 + 52 (2 \times 26) = 57$</p> <p>Until this point in the text, Part V has 2704 (4x26x26) words.</p>
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The 4th and 5th Speeches (30,22-38)

<p>22 וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר: 23 וְאֵתָהּ קַח לָךְ בְּשָׂמִים רֹאשׁ מֵרִדְרוֹר חֲמֵשׁ מֵאוֹת וְקִנְמֹן-בָּשֶׂם מִחֲצִיתוֹ חֲמִשִּׁים וּמְאֹתָיִם וְקִנְיָה-בָּשֶׂם חֲמִשִּׁים וּמְאֹתָיִם: 24 וְקִדְּהָ חֲמֵשׁ מֵאוֹת בְּשֶׁקֶל הַקֹּדֶשׁ וְשֶׁמֶן זֵית הָיִן: 25 וְעָשִׂיתָ אֹתוֹ שֶׁמֶן מִשְׁחַת-קֹדֶשׁ לְקַח מִרְקַחַת מַעֲשֵׂה לְקַח שֶׁמֶן מִשְׁחַת-קֹדֶשׁ יִהְיֶה: 26 וּמִשְׁחַת בּוֹ אֶת-אֹהֶל¹ מוֹעֵד וְאֶת-אֲרוֹן הָעֵדוּת²: 27 וְאֶת-הַשְּׁלֶחַן³ וְאֶת-כָּל-כֵּלָיו וְאֶת-הַמִּזְבֵּחַ⁴ וְאֶת-כָּלֵיהָ וְאֶת-מִזְבַּח הַקְּטֹרֶת⁵: 28 וְאֶת-מִזְבַּח הָעֹלֹת⁶ וְאֶת-כָּל-כֵּלָיו וְאֶת-הַכִּיֹּר⁷ וְאֶת-כַּנּוֹ: 29 וְקִדְּשִׁתָּ אֹתָם וְהָיוּ קֹדֶשׁ קֹדְשִׁים כָּל-הַנִּגְעֵ בָהֶם יִקְדָּשׁ: 30 וְאֶת-אֹהֶלן וְאֶת-בְּנֵי הַמִּשְׁחָה וְקִדְּשִׁתָּ אֹתָם לְכַתֵּן לִי: 31 וְאֶל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל תְּדַבֵּר לֵאמֹר שֶׁמֶן מִשְׁחַת-קֹדֶשׁ יִהְיֶה זֶה לִי לְדֹרֹתֵיכֶם: 32 עַל-בֶּשֶׂר אָדָם לֹא יִסָּד וּבְמַתְכַנְתֶּהוּ לֹא תַעֲשֶׂוּ כַמָּהוּ קֹדֶשׁ הוּא קֹדֶשׁ יִהְיֶה לָכֶם: 33 אִישׁ אֲשֶׁר יִרְקַח כַּמָּהוּ וְאֲשֶׁר יִתֵּן מִמֶּנּוּ עַל-זֶרַע וְנִכְרַת מֵעַמּוֹ: ◦</p>	<p>§ 23 Directions for the Anointing Oil</p> <p>5 + 124 = 129</p> <p>In vs. 24-29 the root קֹדֶשׁ, 'holy', occurs 7x in connection with the anointing of the 7 objects.</p> <p>There are 7 objects to be anointed, among which the Lampstand is positioned in pride of place at the centre. Note that the order corresponds to that in 40,2-7.</p> <p>In vs. 30-32 root קֹדֶשׁ, 'holy', occurs 4x in connection with the anointing of Aaron and his sons, altogether 11x. The number of fulfillment buttresses the idea of limitation: the use of the holy oil should strictly be limited to the anointing of holy objects and the consecration of priests!</p>
<p>34 וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה קַח-לָךְ סָמִים נְטָרוֹ וְשַׁחֲלֵת וְחִלְבֵנָה סָמִים וּלְבָנָה זָפָה בַּד בְּבַד יִהְיֶה: 35 וְעָשִׂיתָ אֹתָהּ קְטֹרֶת רִקְחָה מַעֲשֵׂה רִקְחָה מִמֶּלֶח טָהוֹר קֹדֶשׁ: 36 וְשַׁחֲקֵת מִמֶּנּוּ הַדֶּק וְנִתְתָה מִמֶּנּוּ לַפָּנֵי הָעֵדוּת בְּאֹהֶל מוֹעֵד אֲשֶׁר אוֹעֵד לָךְ שָׁמָּה קֹדֶשׁ קֹדְשִׁים תִּהְיֶה לָכֶם: 37 וְהַקְטֹרֶת אֲשֶׁר תַעֲשֶׂה בְּמַתְכַנְתֶּהוּ לֹא תַעֲשֶׂוּ לָכֶם קֹדֶשׁ תִּהְיֶה לָךְ לִיהוָה: 38 אִישׁ אֲשֶׁר-יַעֲשֶׂה כַמָּהוּ לְהַרְיִחַ בָּהּ וְנִכְרַת מֵעַמּוֹ: ◦</p>	<p>§ 24 Directions for Making Incense</p> <p>4 + 57 = 61</p> <p>For the choice for a 4-word introduction here, instead of the stereotyped 5-word ones, see Observation 2 above.</p>

The 6th and 7th Speeches (31,1-17)

<p>31,1 6 וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר:</p> <p>2 רֵא אֶת קַרְאֵי בָשֶׂם בְּצִלְאֵל בֶּן-אוּרִי בֶן-חֹר לְמִטָּה יְהוּדָה:</p> <p>3 וְאִמְלֵא אֹתוֹ רֵיחַ אֱלֹהִים בְּחִכְמָה וּבְתַבּוּנָה וּבְדַעַת וּבְכָל-מְלָאכָה:</p> <p>4 לְחֹשֶׁב מַחְשְׁבֵת לַעֲשׂוֹת בְּזָהָב וּבַכֶּסֶף וּבַנְּחֹשֶׁת:</p> <p>5 וּבַחֲרֹשֶׁת אֲבָן לְמִלֵּאת וּבַחֲרֹשֶׁת עֵץ לַעֲשׂוֹת בְּכָל-מְלָאכָה:</p> <p>6 וְאֲנִי הִנֵּה נֹתְתִי אֹתוֹ אֶת אֶחָיִאֵב בֶּן-אֶחֱסָמֶד לְמִטַּה־דָן וּבְלֵב כָּל-חֲכָמֵי לֵב נֹתְתִי חֲכָמָה וְעָשׂוֹ אֶת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתִךָ:</p> <p>7 אֶת־אֶהֱל מוֹעֵד 1 וְאֶת־הָאָרֶץ לְעֵדוֹת 2 וְאֶת־הַכַּפְּרֹת 3 אֲשֶׁר עָלָיו וְאֶת כָּל-כְּלֵי הָאֹהֶל 4:</p> <p>8 וְאֶת־הַשְּׁלֶחָן 5 וְאֶת־כְּלָיו 6 וְאֶת־הַמִּנְגֶּרֶת הַטְּהוֹרָה 7 וְאֶת־כָּל-כְּלֵיָהּ 8 וְאֶת־מִזְבַּח הַקְּטֹרֶת 9:</p> <p>9 וְאֶת־מִזְבַּח הָעֹלָה 10 וְאֶת־כָּל-כְּלָיו 11 וְאֶת־הַכִּיּוֹר 12 וְאֶת־כַּנּוֹ 13:</p> <p>10 וְאֶת־בְּגָדֵי הַשָּׂרָד</p> <p>וְאֶת־בְּגָדֵי הַקֹּדֶשׁ לְאַהֲרֹן הַכֹּהֵן 14 וְאֶת־בְּגָדֵי בָנָיו לְכַהֵן 15:</p> <p>11 וְאֶת־שִׁמֹן הַמִּשְׁחָה 16 וְאֶת־קְטֹרֶת הַסַּמִּים לְקֹדֶשׁ 17 כְּכֹל אֲשֶׁר-צִוִּיתִךָ יַעֲשׂוּ: ד</p> <p>12 7 וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר:</p> <p>13 וְאַתָּה דַבֵּר אֶל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר אֵךְ אֶת־שַׁבְּתוֹתַי 1 תִּשְׁמְרוּ כִּי אוֹת הוּא בֵינִי וּבֵינֵיכֶם לְדַרְתֵיכֶם לְדַעַת כִּי אֲנִי יְהוָה מְקַדְּשְׁכֶם:</p> <p>14 וּשְׁמַרְתֶּם אֶת־הַשַּׁבָּת 2 כִּי קֹדֶשׁ הוּא לָכֶם מִתְּלִילֵיהָ מוֹת יוֹמַת כִּי כָל-הָעֹשֶׂה בָהּ מְלָאכָה וּנְגַרְתָּה הַנֶּפֶשׁ הַהוּא מִקְרַב עֲמוּתָהּ:</p> <p>15 שֵׁשֶׁת יָמִים יַעֲשֶׂה מְלָאכָה וּבַיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי שַׁבָּת 3 שַׁבְּתוֹן 4 קֹדֶשׁ לִיהוָה כָּל-הָעֹשֶׂה מְלָאכָה בַיּוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת 5 מוֹת יוֹמַת:</p> <p>16 וּשְׁמְרוּ בְנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת־הַשַּׁבָּת 6 לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת־הַשַּׁבָּת 7 לְדַרְתֶּם בְּרִית עוֹלָם: 7</p> <p>17 בֵינִי וּבֵין בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אוֹת הוּא לְעָלַם כִּי-שֵׁשֶׁת יָמִים עָשָׂה יְהוָה אֶת־הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת־הָאָרֶץ וּבַיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי שָׁבַת וַיִּנְפֹשׁ: 8</p>	<p>§ 25 Directions for the Craftsmen</p> <p>$5 + 114 = 119 (7 \times 17)$</p> <p>Most fittingly the number of <i>fullness</i>, 7, together with the number 17, signifying YHWH's presence, express the idea that <i>all</i> the objects to be made by the craftsman fall under YHWH's authority.</p> <p>Exactly 17 objects have to be fabricated by the craftsmen. Here the Lampstand is mentioned in the 7th position, another place of prominence.</p> <p>This goes also for Aaron in the 14th position.</p> <p>The בגדי השָׂרָד, (10a) 'stitched vestments', cannot be counted: it is a general indication specified as Aaron's and those of his sons.</p> <p>§ 26 A Reminder Regarding the Sabbath</p> <p>$5 + 89 = 94$</p> <p>The 94 words divide into 26 + 68 (4×17).</p> <p>The noun שַׁבָּת, Shabbath, is clearly the key-word of the paragraph, therefore the author used it 7x.</p> <p>No wonder that the 7th day is being dealt with in the 7th divine speech!</p>
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Overview of YHWH's Seven Speeches

Speeches	Verses	Paragraphs	Introductions	Discourse	Total	
1	25,1-30,10	197+	1-20	5	2552	2557+
2	30,11-16	6+	21	5	85 (5x17)	90+
3	30,17-21	5=208 (8x26)	22	5	52 (2x26)	57=2704 (104x26)
4	30,22-33	12+	23	5	124	129
5	30,34-38	5=17	24	4 !	57+	61
6	31,1-11	11+	25	5	114+	119 (7x17)
7	31,12-17	6=17	26	5	89=260	94 (26 + 68)
Totals		242 (22x11)	26	34	3073	3107

Observation 2 Speeches 1, 2, and 3 (including their introductions) are numerically linked together on three levels: in terms of their **208 (8x26)** verses, their **22** paragraphs, and their **2704 (104x26 or 52x52)** words, which means that they are very strongly emphasized.

Speech 2 (§ 21), dealing with the directions for the sanctuary tax, stands out with its **85 (5x17)** words.

Speech 3 (§ 22), dealing with the directions for the bronze basin, stands out with its **52 (2x26)** words.

Speeches 4-5 (§§ 23-24) as well as speeches 6-7 (§§ 25-26) are linked together by having **17** verses each.

Speech 6 (§ 25), the directions for the craftsmen, stands out by its **119 (7x17)** words (including the intro).

Speeches 5 (§ 24), 6 (§ 25), and 7 (§ 26) have altogether **260 (10x26)** words.

Speech 7 (§ 26), the reminder regarding the Sabbath, is special, being the **7th** speech and the **26th** §.

Speeches 1-7 have altogether **34 (2x17)** words in their introductions. Note the **4-word** form in 30,34 in order to achieve **34** words instead of **35 (7x5)**!

The fact that YHWH's concluding speech deals with the Sabbath must be interpreted as having the specific function of a cliffhanger anticipating the first speech by Moses in Part VII Exod 35-40, which deals with the Sabbath! However, the readers, being left in suspense, must be patient: they will first be confronted with an unpleasant intermezzo: the Drama of the Golden Calf: Part VI Exod 32-34.