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Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary

THE CONTRIBUTION OF TERMINOLOGICAL PATTERNS TO THE LITERARY STRUCTURE OF LEVITICUS

A Dissertation

Presented in Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree

Doctor of Philosophy

by

Wilfried Warning

September 1997

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ABSTRACT

THE CONTRIBUTION OF TERMINOLOGICAL PATTERNS TO THE LITERARY STRUCTURE OF LEVITICUS

by

Wilfried Warning

Adviser: Richard M. Davidson

ABSTRACT OF GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

Dissertation

Andrews University

Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary

Title: THE CONTRIBUTION OF TERMINOLOGICAL PATTERNS TO THE LITERARY STRUCTURE OF LEVITICUS

Name of researcher: Wilfried Warning

Name and degree of faculty adviser: Richard M. Davidson, Ph.D.

Date completed: September 1997

The aim and purpose of this dissertation is to investigate both the microstructure and macrostructure of Leviticus on the basis of terminological patterns.

The first chapter deals with the method of analysis and the scope of the study. Aiming at detecting the structural outline, it is concerned only with terminology and not with the theology of Leviticus. The methodology employed is one aspect of rhetorical criticism.

Chapter 2 presents the basic working hypothesis: Leviticus has been structured by

means of thirty-seven divine speeches (DS). The plausibility of this hypothesis is tested by applying it to Lev 16:1, by investigating the terminological interrelationship of chaps.

1-3 and chap. 27, and by probing the terminology employed in Lev 11; in an excursus the interrelation of Lev 1-5 and 6-7 is investigated.

The third chapter is devoted to scrutinizing terminological patterns present on the microstructural level, that is, the level of the distinct DS, in the whole of Leviticus. This part shows that grasping the compositional outline of a given pericope is an indispensable prerequisite for understanding its content.

Chapter 4 examines the validity of the working hypothesis on the macrostructural level, that is, the terminological interrelatedness of the distinct and different DS. This part evidences the intricate terminological and hence theological cohesion of the extant text of Leviticus.

The fifth chapter gives a general summary and conclusions.

The appended concordance of Leviticus, which has been arranged according to the distribution of the vocabulary of the individual DS, presents the total vocabulary of Leviticus.

לסלוה ונאילה

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AB Anchor Bible

AUSS Andrews University Seminary Studies

ATD Altes Testament Deutsch

ATSAT Arbeiten zu Text und Sprache im Alten Testament

BDB Brown, F; Driver, S. R.; Briggs, C., A. A Hebrew and English Lexicon

of the Old Testament

Bib Biblica

BHS Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia, Elliger, K., and Rudolph, W., eds.

BKAT Biblischer Kommentar: Altes Testament

BWANT Beiträge zur Wissenschaft vom Alten und Neuen Testament

BZ Biblische Zeitschrift

BZAW Beiheft für die Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft

CBQ Catholic Biblical Quarterly

DS Divine Speech(es)

ExpTim Expository Times

f. feminine

H/HC "Holiness Code"

HUCA Hebrew Union College Annual

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IDB Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible

IDBSup Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible, Supplementary Volume

imp. imperative

Int Interpretation

JBL Journal of Biblical Literature

JSOT Journal for the Study of the Old Testament

JSOTSup Journal for the Study of the Old Testament Supplement Series

LB Linguistica Biblica

LXX Septuagint

MT Masoretic Text

NICOT New International Commentary on the Old Testament

NIV New International Version

OTL Old Testament Library

OTS Oudtestamentische Studien

P (PT) "Priestly Code" ("Priestly Torah")

pers. person

pl. plural

RB Revue Biblique

sgl. singular

TDOT Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament

TZ Theologische Zeitschrift

VT Vetus Testamentum

viii

VTSup Vetus Testamentum, Supplements

WBC Word Biblical Commentary

WMANT Wissenschaftliche Monographien für das Alte und Neue Testament

ZAW Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft

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The completion of this dissertation is an appropriate moment to remember those to whom I am greatly indebted, an opportunity to express appreciation and gratitude.

Had it not been for Prof. Dr. Rolf Rendtorff, who in his seminars challenged, inspired, and called upon his students to make the extant biblical text the sole foundation of any investigation; and

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many a blunder, but whose unfailing love and supporting care bring happiness and joy to my life, and my beloved daughter, Naila, whose love has taught me that there is more to life than studying even the Hebrew Bible; and

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ברוך יי אלהי ישראל מן העולם ועד העולם Ps 106:48

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Introduction and Statement of the Problem

In his recent commentary on Leviticus, E. S. Gerstenberger holds that "at first glance the external form of the third book of Moses exhibits strict uniformity," which according to him, however, is merely a superficial uniformity exhibiting anything but textual homogeneity. Although the phrase "and the Lord spoke to Moses" is "clearly conceived as an element of division" and therefore "all the material collected together in this book is divine discourse," Gerstenberger claims that "a precise analysis of textual details . . . leads to the . . . conclusion . . . [that] not a single chapter in this book has been composed in a single sweep or by a single hand."

The clear-cut contrast between the clearly conceivable structuring function of the

²Ibid.

³Ibid.

⁴Ibid.

¹E. S. Gerstenberger, *Leviticus: A Commentary*, The Old Testament Library, trans. D. W. Stott (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1996), 4.

"formulaic introductory addresses" or "framing formula" present in the text before us, and recognition of the "various stages of redaction, different concerns and different theological conceptions" —definite differences which are said to be discernible everywhere —distinctly disclose the basic issue of this study. To put it differently, on one hand the extant text of Leviticus has seemingly been homogeneously arranged by means of the framing formula introducing each of the thirty-seven divine speeches (DS), the formulaic introduction present throughout the Pentateuch that "reaches its peak in the book of Leviticus and the first part of Numbers." If on the other hand the textual details are carefully analyzed, we are—according to Gerstenberger—to admit that the exact opposite, that is, the palpable heterogeneity of the text, cannot be ignored. This dissertation is therefore aiming at ascertaining the structuring significance of terminological patterns and their respective contribution to the overall artistic outline of the extant text.

Besides the compositional organization pointed out by Gerstenberger, a structural outline based exclusively on distinct terminology reaching beyond the confines of the

¹J. M. Dupont, "Women and the Concept of Holiness in the 'Holiness Code' (Leviticus 17-26): Literary, Theological and Historical Context" (Ph.D. diss., Marquette University, 1989), 34.

²Gerstenberger, 4.

³Ibid.

⁴S. A. Meier, Speaking of Speaking: Marking Direct Discourse in the Hebrew Bible, VTSup 46 (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1992), 154, remarks: "This peculiarity reaches its peak in the book of Leviticus and the first part of Numbers. This section contains the only large block in the Bible where the phrase וידבר...לאמר with its variations is employed more frequently than the root אמר alone to introduce DD. From Leviticus 1:1 through Numbers 10:1, the phrase וידבר...לאמר appears 55 times."

third book of Moses, Leviticus has at the same time been placed in a conceptual/chronological context. A careful reading of the transmitted text reveals that Leviticus has been inseparably integrated into the larger structure of the Sinai pericope stretching from Exod 19 to Num 10, which itself is part and parcel of the Pentateuch. According to a carefully created conceptual/chronological *inclusio*—Exod 40:2, "the Lord said to Moses: 'set up the tabernacle . . . on the first day of the first month'," and Num 1:1, "the Lord spoke to Moses . . . on the first day of the second month of the second year"—the content of Leviticus purports to have been given to Moses during the first month of the second year after the Exodus.²

On the other hand Num 9:1, "the Lord spoke to Moses in the Sinai Desert in the first month of the second year after they came out of Egypt," seemingly shows that not

¹Unless otherwise stated, the translation in this dissertation is my own. Any other rendering is pointed out by giving the name of the translation or commentator in parentheses without any further bibliographical details; e.g., (NIV), (Milgrom).

²E.g., B. S. Childs, *Old Testament Theology in a Canonical Context* (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1985), 157, states: "The book of Leviticus has been given a definite historical setting as instructions to Moses in the context of the Sinai covenant. Even elements of the narrative are continued from the previous book (Lev.8-9 join Ex.29)." G. Larsson, "The Documentary Hypothesis and the Chronological Structure of the Old Testament," ZAW 97 (1985): 331, emphasizes "that the chronology is a strong connecting element in a great part of OT.... The study makes it probable that chronological data are such important elements, which can reveal structural features and internal links. I think it is rather obvious... that there is a strong coherence between the chronological data given in Genesis and also between the data given in the books Exodus—Joshua, quite irrespective of any source division into J, E, P or D." According to Larsson "there is much evidence that such a chronological system is of comparatively late origin" (331).

each law delivered to Moses during the first month has been placed in Leviticus.¹ This surprising fact seems to be corroborated by Num 7:1-11:

When Moses finished setting up the tabernacle, he anointed it and all its furnishings.² He also anointed and consecrated the altar and all its utensils. Then the leaders of Israel, the heads of families . . . made offerings . . . When the altar was anointed, the leaders brought their offerings for its dedication and presented them before the altar. For the Lord had said to Moses: "Each day one leader is to bring his offering for the dedication of the altar." (NIV)

If this observation is correct, a possible reason why this document describing the offerings of the chieftains at the dedication of the Tabernacle was placed here may have been that more emphasis was placed on the outline of this passage than on chronological factors,³ an outline which may have been conducive "for a clearer exposition of the

¹Cf. H. Jagersma, *Numeri*, vol. 1 (Nijkerk: G. F. Callenbach, 1983), 38: "Volgens dit vers moeten de hier vermelde gebeurtenissen een maand eerder hebben plaatsgevonden dan die waarop 1:1 betrekking hebben (cf. ook 7:1). De enig mogelijke verklaring hiervoor lijkt, dat bij den eindredactie van Num. 1:1-10:10 meer nadruk werd gelegt op de opbouw van dit geheel . . . dan op chronologische factoren."

²J. H. Sailhamer, *The Pentateuch as Narrative: A Biblical-Theological Commentary* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992), 329, points out that "the narrative (7:1) reestablishes the time as that of the erection of the tabernacle in Exodus 40:1, the first day of the first month of the second year." In contrast to this J. Milgrom, *Numbers*, The JPS Torah Commentary (Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 1990), 364, states: "The assumption that the chieftains began to bring their gifts on the date the Tabernacle was erected depends on translating the word *be-yom* in 7:1 as 'on the day.' Its accurate rendering is simply 'when'."

³Milgrom, *Numbers*, 53, remarks: "It is not clear why this document concerning the initiatory gifts of the tribal chieftains was placed here. . . . The altar gifts of the chieftains (vv. 10-88) are incidental and are included only because they form part of the same archival document." Scholars who infer the supplementary nature of Num 7-9 because of "chronological discrepancies" are apparently unaware of the fact that chronology is only one possible means of arranging an ancient text. According to T. R. Ashley, *The Book of Numbers* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993), 154: "It is possible that the (or an) author of the developing Pentateuch wished to add important materials to what was found

main themes of Leviticus."¹ Hence it is correct to conclude that the chronological outline is only *one* factor involved in the composition of a text.

Concerning the compositional context into which the third book of Moses has been put, we should notice that "the opening word of Leviticus, the very first consonant of which is a 'waw consecutive'," indicates a direct connection with the preceding verse, Exod 40:38. According to Exod 40:2-10 the tabernacle and the altar of burnt offering were to be anointed and consecrated "on the first day of the first month," and the execution of this divine command is related in Lev 8:10-11. Should the report of these offerings at the dedication of the tabernacle not have been placed in the same context? Whether the term ויהי ביום כלות משה is understood as "on the day when Moses had

in Lev.1-Num.6 without disturbing the order of these chapters as they stood." See further, M. Noth, Numbers: A Commentary, trans. J. D. Martin (Philadelphia: Westminster, 1968), 63; D. Kellermann, Die Priesterschrift von Numeri 1,1 bis 10,10 literarkritisch und traditionsgeschichtlich untersucht, BZAW 120 (Berlin: de Gruyter, 1970), 89.

¹G. J. Wenham, *Numbers: An Introduction and Commentary* (Leicester: Inter-Varsity Press, 1981), 92.

²R. K. Harrison, Leviticus, The Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries, vol. 3 (Leicester: InterVarsity Press, 1980), 13. Cf. W. Gesenius, Hebräische Grammatik—völlig umgearbeitet von E. Kautzsch (Leipzig, 1909; reprint, Hildesheim: G. Olms Verlag, 1985), 49b, n. 1. B. S. Childs, Introduction to the Old Testament as Scripture (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1979), 184, remarks: "Both the introduction (1.1) and conclusion (27.34) indicate that a continuity with the historical setting of the final section of Exodus is intended." B. K. Waltke and M. O'Connor, An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax (Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 1990), 554, state: "Wayyqtl apart from 'ירוֹר' introduces the books of Leviticus, Numbers, 2 Kings, and 2 Chronicles, but these are best regarded as secondary beginnings; that is, the books have a connection with the ones that precede them."

finished" or "when Moses finished" is not of major importance in the present context since in either case the erection of the tabernacle was finished sometime during the first month of the second year. Though the immediate context of Num 9:1 justifies translating the phrase בחדש הראשון as "on the first new moon" instead of "in the first month," the chronological puzzle still remains. If it is true that the chronological sequence is to be viewed as the "backbone of the Bible's narrative books, their most salient and continuous organizing principle," an intelligible explanation of this chronological breakup must be given. In case the literary structuring of Leviticus and Numbers at this point is more than "simply artificial device or literary elegance," but rather a key to better understanding the theological message, "oversight of structure may result in failure to grasp the true theme" of this highly individual outline.

Though in many a biblical study only "the 'original' text, freed from 'redactional'

¹P. J. Budd, Numbers, WBC 5 (Waco, TX: Word Books, 1984), 79.

²Milgrom, *Numbers*, 53, states that "*be-yom* in all of its occurrences in this chapter (vv. 10, 84)" has the meaning "when" rather than "on the day."

³Concerning the date mentioned in Num 1:1, Milgrom, *Numbers*, 67, notes: "The chronology is not out of link. The census of 2/1 (1:1) is followed by the observance of the second Passover on 2/14 (9:11) just before Israel departs from Sinai on 2/20 (10:11). And the prescription of the regular Passover (9:1-5) must be considered a flashback, inserted here to distinguish it and all subsequent Passover observances from the original one in Egypt."

⁴M. Sternberg, "Time and Space in Biblical (Hi)story Telling: The Grand Chronology," in *The Book and the Text: The Bible and Literary Theory*, ed. R. M. Schwartz (Cambridge, MA: Basil Blackwell, 1990), 82.

⁵B. Porten, "Structure and Theme of the Solomon Narrative," *HUCA* 38 (1967): 95.

additions and from 'secondary' linking to other texts" is made the starting point of exegesis, there is a growing number of scholars who attempt to interpret a given passage in its own right. In contrast to the *Erstgestalt* (i.e., the first shape) of originally small and independent literary units postulated by H. T. Sun, the present investigation is exclusively interested in the extant *Endgestalt* (i.e., the final shape). Whereas Sun, for example, claims four different compositional layers for Lev 26, W. D. Barrick in his dissertation on the relationship of Lev 26 to covenant contexts and concepts makes Mosaic authorship his starting point. In view of various scholarly attempts to come up with hypothetic prestages of the present text of the Pentateuch, K. Koch rightly remarks

¹R. Rendtorff, "Between Historical Criticism and Holistic Interpretation: New Trends in Old Testament Exegesis," VT Congress Volume (1986): 299.

²Cf. the comprehensive and classified bibliography prepared by D. F. Watson and A. J. Hauser, *Rhetorical Criticism of the Bible: A Comprehensive Bibliography with Notes on History and Method* (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1994), 21-98.

³H. T. Sun, "An Investigation into the Compositional Integrity of the So-Called Holiness Code (Leviticus 17-26)" (Ph.D. diss., Claremont Graduate School, 1990), concludes his inquiry into the structural integrity and the compositional history of Lev 17-26: (1) "Lev 17-26 had no originally independent existence as a legal corpus prior to its creation by those Priestly editors who inserted this material into the Sinai pericope" (564). (2) In some sections of the so-called Holiness Code he claims to have discovered up to seven different compositional layers (575-580). (3) "It is plausible that the hand which adds Lev 26:40-45 (clearly of post-exilic date) is ultimately responsible for the addition of Lev 25-26 to Lev 17-24" (563). (4) "The relationship of Lev 17-21 to 16 is uncertain, but perhaps one could suggest that the hand which created Lev 17-21 had Lev 1-16 al- ready before it" (565). (5) Sun maintains the order of Lev 22:1-16, 17-25, 26-33; 23:1-44; 24:1-9; 24:10-23; 25:1-45 (46); 27:1-34 to be of "rather haphazard order . . . save a chronological one" (565). (6) Lev 27 can be "clearly marked as secondary by the new subscription in Lev 27:34" (563).

⁴W. D. Barrick, "Leviticus 26: Its Relationship to Covenant Contexts and Concepts" (Th.D. diss., Grace Theological Seminary, 1981), 20.

that "nowadays each OT scholar concocts his own multi-layered Pentateuch."1

The undeniable incompatibility between the concept of Leviticus being a consciously and carefully created literary entity and the notion of gradual growth and/or final redactional reworking should be resolved. But I hasten to add that basically this question cannot be completely solved because it is maintained that any putative redactor or editor might as well be expected to produce a meaningful literary work into which different *Vorlagen* have been integrated.² In view of this definition of a putative editor, it might be better not to speak of the "redactor" or "editor" but rather of the "author" of a new literary entity.

The object of investigation is the transmitted MT, and the only objective is to bring to light any structures created by the author(s) present in the extant text.³ In the introduction to his commentary on Leviticus, R. Rendtorff states his explicit hermeneutic principle, which may prove profitable if applied to this study:

¹K. Koch, "P—Kein Redaktor! Erinnerung an zwei Eckdaten der Quellenscheidung," VT 37 (1987): 448. "Jeder Alttestamentler bastelt heutzutage an seinem eigenen, mehrfach geschichteten Pentateuch." Less pointedly E. Otto, "Gesetzesfortschreibung und Pentateuchredaktion," ZAW 107 (1995): 373, speaks of the "gegenwärtig forschungsgeschichtlich unübersichtlichen Situation der Pentateuchforschung."

²Cf. H. Van Dyke Parunak, "Structural Studies in Ezekiel" (Ph. D. diss., Harvard University, 1978), 38. L. Alonso-Schökel, *A Manual of Biblical Poetics* (Rome: Editrice Pontificio Istituto Biblico, 1988), 189, remarks: "A later writer could take already completed pieces and bring them together skillfully to form a new and complex unity."

³At this point it should be emphasized that the textual differences between the MT and the fragments of Leviticus from Qumran, the LXX and the versions are beyond the scope of this dissertation. Any significant structures should be recognizable in the Hebrew text before us.

A "reconstruction" of previous stages of the text... would be very hypothetical in most cases.... Moreover in conscious and categorical deviation from a widely practiced exegetic theory and praxis, the hermeneutic principle applied here is that the understanding of the biblical text in its present form is the preeminent task of exegesis.¹

Because this study focuses exclusively on the extant text, it neither follows nor claims nor attempts any source-critical or redaction-critical hypothesis. Its sole focus is to better comprehend the means by which the extant text has been artistically arranged, that is, to detect the distinct literary devices, deliberate terminological patterns which have been created by the writer(s) of the present text.

Purpose and Scope of Study

In order to understand and hence appreciate any possible significant structuration of Leviticus, it is our first task to recognize the present text as the only prerequisite. It is not simply any kind of conceptual outline, however, that is searched for but rather a structure based solely on solid terminological foundations. Since this study is to be seen solely as *preparatory work* for a theological exegesis of Leviticus, theological questions and questions of authorship, origin, and date of composition are therefore consciously left out of consideration. It is my conviction that before understanding the message of Leviticus we have to grasp the literary form into which it has been cast. Since any piece of

¹R. Rendtorff, Leviticus, BKAT 3, 1 (Neukirchen-Vluyn: Neukirchener Verlag, 1985), 4: "Eine 'Rekonstruktion' früherer Textstadien . . . wäre in den meisten Fällen ohnehin nur sehr hypothetisch möglich. . . . Zudem wird hier - in bewußter und ausdrücklicher Abweichung von einer weithin geübten exegetischen Theorie und Praxis - von dem hermeneutischen Grundsatz ausgegangen, daß das Verständnis des biblischen Textes in seiner jetzigen Gestalt vorrangige Aufgabe der Exegese ist."

literature has been structured or patterned in some way or another, it is our foremost task to search for those terminological patterns which will contribute to understanding the literary structure of Leviticus. Since in "literature the meaning exists in and through form," it is only after having grasped the form, the patterns and structures inherent in the extant text that we have a more objective foundation on which to base our exegesis.

Review of Literature

The diverse approaches in vogue in present-day Pentateuchal studies are most likely indicative of the ineluctable subjectivity inherent in each approach including the present one. A brief review of literature seemingly indicates that if the test for the respective method and its results were the literary phenomenon of the Pentateuch itself,² that is, if "the only fact available to us . . . [were] the text of the Pentateuch itself in all its complexity," the results would possibly be different. Most scholars would agree that the present text and the way it has been composed must have been somewhat meaningful to the person(s) by whom it was written. But whether the present arrangement is viewed as clumsy conjunction or valued as creative composition basically does not depend on the text per se, because the diverse and often contradictory conclusions probably prove that

¹L. Alonso-Schökel, "Hermeneutical Problems of a Literary Study of the Bible," VTSup Congress Volume 28: Edinburgh 1974 (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1975), 7.

²R. Knierim, "The Composition of the Pentateuch," in *SBL Seminar Papers 1985* (Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1985), 394.

³R. N. Whybray, *Introduction to the Pentateuch* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995), 27.

"any appraisal of the historical substance of the Pentateuch ultimately proves to be conditioned by a subjective assessment of the facts."

Recent Studies on "P" and "H"

Though there seems to exist an *opinio communis* among critical and conservative scholars, an agreement that Leviticus contains only priestly material,² the obvious lack of unanimity as to its origin, provenience, and homogeneity/heterogeneity cannot be overlooked. In reviewing the four recent introductions by Whybray, J. Blenkinsopp, A. F. Campbell and M. A. O'Brian, and E. Zenger,³ J. L. Ska pertinently remarks: "Four introductions, four theories, four ways of reading the Pentateuch."

Present-day Pentateuchal studies discussing the material commonly attributed to priestly writers could possibly be classified into four groups: (1) multilayered preexilic

¹C. Houtman, Exodus (Kampen: Kok, 1986), 85.

²M. Noth, *Leviticus*. A Commentary, trans. J. E. Anderson (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1972), 12, opines: "There exists not the slightest trace of the 'old sources', the 'Jahwistic' (J) or the 'Elohistic' (E), either in these chapters or anywhere else in the entire book." K. Elliger, *Leviticus*, HAT 4 (Tübingen: J. C. B. Mohr, 1966), 8, remarks: "Daß auch und gerade die gesetzlichen Partien - und damit als einziges im Pentateuch das gesamte Buch Leviticus - zu P, d.h. zur gleichen 'Schule,' gehören, ist in der kritischen Forschung heute allgemein anerkannt."

³J. Blenkinsopp, *The Pentateuch: An Introduction to the First Five Books of the Bible*, The Anchor Bible Reference Library (New York: Doubleday, 1992); A. F. Campbell and M. A. O'Brian, *Sources of the Pentateuch: Texts, Introductions, Annotations* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1993); E. Zenger, ed., *Einleitung in das Alte Testament* (Stuttgart: Kohlhammer, 1995).

⁴J. L. Ska, "Le Pentateuque: état de la recherche à partir de quelques récentes 'Introductions'," *Bib* 77 (1996): 248: "Quatre introductions, quatre théories, quatre façons de lire le Pentateuque."

P; (2) multilayered exilic/postexilic P; (3) P is not a formerly independent source but rather a "layer of priestly reworking"; (4) both the "priestly material" and all the other parts of the Pentateuch originated with Moses.

In his recent commentary on Lev 1-16, J. Milgrom distinguishes between four layers, P₁, P₂, P₃, and H (Holiness Code).² Whereas H used to be looked upon as an early level of the "Priestly Source," Milgrom and I. Knohl argue that H "represents a late level of priestly material, whose presence in the Pentateuch, moreover, is far more widespread than has hitherto been imagined." With regard to the provenance and time of composition of P—following Rendtorff's remarks concerning the interrelation of the narrative and legal sections of P one might ask, "Which P?"⁴—scholars claim to have linguistic,

¹R. Rendtorff, Das überlieferungsgeschichtliche Problem des Pentateuch, BZAW 147 (Berlin: W. de Gruyter, 1977), 141, uses the term "Bearbeitungsschicht." In the English edition, The Problem of the Process of Transmission in the Pentateuch, JSOTSup 89, trans. J. J. Scullion (Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1990), 169, the term has been rendered "layer of priestly reworking"

²J. Milgrom, Leviticus 1-16: A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary, Anchor Bible, vol. 3 (New York: Doubleday, 1991), 61-63.

³I. Knohl, "The Priestly Torah Versus the Holiness School: Sabbath and the Festivals," *HUCA* 58 (1987): 65.

⁴R. Rendtorff, "Two Kinds of P? Some Reflections on the Occasion of the Publishing of Jacob Milgrom's Commentary on Leviticus 1-16," *JSOT* 60 (1993): 75-81. In his response to Rendtorff's remarks, J. Milgrom, "Response to Rolf Rendtorff," *JSOT* 60 (1993): 84, maintains that "there are two Priestly schools, the earlier one I call P, and its redactor I have called H." In his recent article J. Blenkinsopp, "An Assessment of the Alleged Pre-Exilic Date of the Priestly Material in the Pentateuch," *ZAW* 108 (1996): 496, remarks that "in the most recent phase . . . arguments tend to be drawn from the legal material to the relative neglect of the P narrative. In any case, one of the problems most resistant to argument was . . . not least for the Kaufmann school, the relation between narrative and legislation in the P source."

terminological, and theological evidence favoring a preexilic date of P.¹ In scrutinizing the arguments adduced by these scholars, Blenkinsopp avers, however, "that no single argument adduced by the proponents of a preexilic P has probative value. . . . To establish this conclusion does not validate a postexilic date, though it certainly increases its attraction."²

The exilic/postexilic dating of P is adhered to by another group of scholars.³

¹Y. Kaufmann, The Religion of Israel: From Its Beginnings to the Babylonian Exile, trans. and abridged by M. Greenberg (New York: Schocken Books, 1960), 174-211; A. Hurvitz, A Linguistic Study of the Relationship Between the Priestly Source and the Book of Ezekiel: A New Approach to an Old Problem (Paris: Gabalda, 1982), 154, states that "(1) linguistically, they exhibit two distinct profiles, the gap between which is best described as reflecting two successive phases in the history of BH—classical and post-classical; (2) literarily . . . only P can be said to have exclusively employed expressions and idioms belonging to classical Hebrew and . . . the book of Ezekiel in contrast, avails itself of late Hebrew elements, thus betraying its post-classical milieu." See also T. M. Krapf, Die Priesterschrift und die vorexilische Zeit: Yehezkel Kaufmanns vernachlässigter Beitrag zur Geschichte der biblischen Religion, Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis 119 (Göttingen: Vandenhoek & Ruprecht, 1992), 210-230; R. Polzin, Late Biblical Hebrew: Toward an Historical Typology of Biblical Hebrew Prose (Missoula, MT: Scholars Press, 1976), 159, places the basic stratum of P "later than classical BH but quite conclusively before the Chronicler's language. Moreover Ps clearly revealed itself as later than Pg yet somewhat earlier than the Chronicler's language." Z. Zevit, "Converging Lines of Evidence Bearing on the Date of P," Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft 94 (1982): 510, concludes his study by stating: "The exile of 586 B.C.E. is the terminus ad quem for the composition of P. The presence of exilic and post-exilic accretions and additions in the source cannot be denied a priori, but the burden of proof is properly borne now by those advocating a late chronology for any given element." Concerning Polzin's chronological gap between Pg and Ps, Zevit maintains: "Thus, despite the fact that there appears to be a chronological gap between Pg and Ps, both reflect the technical terminology of the first Temple" (501).

²Blenkinsopp, "Assessment," 516-517.

³E.g., P. Weimar, Untersuchungen zur Redaktionsgeschichte des Pentateuch (Berlin: W. de Gruyter, 1977), 171; H. Utzschneider, Das Heiligtum und das Gesetz: Beobachtungen zur Bedeutung der sinaitischen Heiligtumstexte (Ex 25-40: Lev 8-9)

Among this group there is no unanimity, however, concerning the scope or the different stages of redaction.¹ While according to earlier studies the P narrative was viewed as the literary framework of the Pentateuch,² it has been claimed in recent years that the primal late-exilic Priestly Source did "not end in Deut 34, but with Ex 19:1; 24:15b, 16f, 18aα; 25:1, 8a, 9; 29:45f; 40:16.17a.33b."

In contrast to the notion of P as one of the Pentateuchal sources, a single but extensive priestly redaction of the Pentateuch has been proposed,⁴ an alternative which

(Göttingen: Vandenhoek & Ruprecht, 1988), 22-30.

¹Cf. P. P. Jenson, *Graded Holiness: A Key to the Priestly Conception of the World*, JSOTSup 106 (Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1992), 19-25, whose juxtaposing of the incompatible results of Noth, Elliger, Lohfink, Weimar, and Holzinger regarding Pg in Leviticus is most insightful (223); Zenger, 94-96; Utzschneider, 22-30.

²M. Noth, A History of Pentateuchal Traditions, trans. B. W. Anderson (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1972), 10: "Thus the P narrative ends with the death of Moses in Deut. 34, just as it begins with the creation story in Gen. 1; and it is no accident that it has precisely the scope of the transmitted Pentateuch, since it constitutes the literary framework for this Pentateuch." In his recent study, J. L. Ska, "De la relative indépendence de l'écrit sacerdotal," Biblica 76 (1995), 414, remarks: "Les derniers textes que la critique attribue sans trop de problèmes à P sont Nb 20, 1-13. . . . C'est sur cette base qu'il faudrait pouvoir discuter."

³T. Pola, Die ursprüngliche Priesterschrift: Beobachtungen zur Literarkritik und Traditionsgeschichte von Pg (Neukirchen-Vluyn: Neukirchener Verlag, 1995), 349: "Endet die spätexilisch in Babylonien entstandene ursprüngliche Priesterschrift also nicht mit den herkömmlich P zugeschriebenen Versen in Dt 34, sondern mit Ex 19₁ 24_{15b.16f.18aα} 25_{1.8a.9} 29_{45f} 40_{16.17a.33b}, so kann auch keine Rede mehr davon sein, der Rahmen von P^g habe bei der Schlußredaktion den Umfang des Pentateuch festgelegt." Cf. W. H. Schmidt, Old Testament Introduction, trans. M. J. O'Connell (New York: Crossroad, 1984), 93-109; Weimar, Redaktionsgeschichte, 171, maintains that the second part of the priestly history begins with Exod 1:13 and ends with Deut 34:9b.

⁴E.g., F. M. Cross, *Canaanite Myth and Hebrew Epic* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1973), 293-322; Rendtorff, *Transmission*, 169; J. van Seters, *Abraham in History and Tradition* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1975), 279; M. Vervenne,

according to E. Blum is likewise invalid.¹ While Rendtorff defines P as a "layer of priestly reworking," he does not proceed on the assumption that these layers are still recognizable.²

A fourth group, a minority indeed, makes the literary unity of the Pentateuch the starting point of their investigations. In a joint computer-assisted linguistic-statistical study, Y. T. Radday and others maintain that "the Documentary Hypothesis should either be rejected or at least thoroughly revised." Scholars like D. Hoffmann, W. H. Gispen, R. K. Harrison, and S. R. Külling, for example, adhere to the traditional view that the material in the Pentateuch, if not its final shape, should be attributed to Moses.

[&]quot;The 'P' Tradition in the Pentateuch: Document and/or Redaction? The 'Sea Narrative' (Ex 13,17-14,31) as a Test Case," in *Pentateuchal and Deuteronomistic Studies: Papers Read at the XIIIth ISOT Congress, Leuven 1989*, ed. C. Brekelmans and J. Lust, (Louvains: Leuven University Press, 1990), 67-90.

¹E. Blum, *Die Komposition der Vätergeschichte*, WMANT 57 (Neukirchen-Vluyn: Neukirchener Verlag, 1984), 229-285.

²R. Rendtorff to W. Warning, May 1997.

³Y. T. Radday, H. Shore, M. A. Pollatschek, and D. Wickmann, "Genesis, Wellhausen and the Computer," *ZAW* 94 (1982): 480-481. The results of this study have been contested, however; e.g., S. L. Portnoy and D. L. Petersen, "Statistical Differences among Documentary Sources: Comments on 'Genesis: An Authorship Study'," *JSOT* 50 (1991): 3-14.

⁴D. Hoffmann, Das Buch Leviticus, vols. 1 and 2 (Berlin: Poppelauer, 1905-1906); W. H. Gispen, Het Boek Leviticus (Kampen: Kok, 1950); R. K. Harrison, Introduction to the Old Testament (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1969); S. R. Külling, Zur Datierung der "Genesis P Stücke," namentlich des Kapitels XVII (Kampen: Kok, 1964), 43-130, shows in his investigation that the shift in dating P from preexilic to exilic/postexilic times was based less on linguistic foundations than on the prevalent Weltanschaung.

⁵G. J. Wenham, *The Book of Leviticus* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1979), 13, remarks: "I have tried to avoid making my exegesis dependent on any particular critical

The apparent lack of an *opinio communis* in studying Leviticus becomes likewise manifest in the numerous and mutually exclusive conceptual/thematic subunits suggesting to subdivide the text into two,¹ four,² five,³ six,⁴ seven,⁵ eight,⁶ nine,⁷ or eleven⁸

position. Each of the three main positions has its own difficulties.... Despite the broad scholarly consensus, it does seem to me that a postexilic date for Leviticus is difficult to maintain.... A much earlier date is required by the evidence."

¹Sun, 488, avers "that the major subdivision of the book of Leviticus is between chap.10/chap.11." Sailhamer, xii-xiii, maintains that the two parts consist of 1-17, offerings and sacrifices, and 18-27, holiness in the life of Israel.

²Wenham, Leviticus, 3-6, proposes these subunits: 1-7, 8-10, 11-16, 17-27.

³N. Micklem, "Leviticus," *The Interpreter's Bible* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1953), 3, subdivides the text thus: 1-7, 8-10, 11-15, 16, 17-26, "with a supplement on vows, ch. 27." Childs, *Introduction*, 182, on the other hand suggests this five-part outline: 1-7, 8-10, 11-16, 17-26, 27.

⁴Scholars suggesting a six-part structure propose the following subdivisions: 1-7, 8-10, 11-15, 16, 17-26, 27; e.g., B. Baentsch, Exodus—Leviticus—Numeri HKAT 2 (Göttingen: Vandenhoek & Ruprecht, 1903), 306; R. H. Pfeiffer, Introduction to the Old Testament (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1948), 129-130; O. Eissfeldt, The Old Testament: An Introduction; Including the Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha, and also the Works of Similar Type from Qumran; The History of the Formation of the Old Testament, trans. P. R. Ackroyd (Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1957), 157; Elliger, 7-10; Noth, Leviticus, 5-6, 10-14; J. E. Hartley, Leviticus, WBC 4 (Dallas: Word Books, 1992), xxxiv.

⁵B. D. Eerdmans, Alttestamentliche Studien 4: Das Buch Leviticus (Giessen: A. Töpelmann, 1912), suggests seven subdivisions: 1-7, 8-10, 11, 12-15, 16, 17-26, 27.

⁶Gerstenberger, 19, proposes this thematic structure: 1-7, 8-10, 11-15, 16-17, 18-20, 21-22, 23-25, 26-27.

⁷A. Noordtzij, *Leviticus* (Kampen: Kok, 1955), 277-278, comes up with the following subunits: 1-7, 8-10, 11-15, 16, 17, 18-20, 21-25, 26, 27.

⁸R. L. Harris, "Leviticus," *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*, vol. 2 (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1990), 534-535, suggests this outline: 1-5, 6-7, 8-10, 11-15, 16, 17-22, 23:1-24:9, 24:10-23, 25, 26, 27.

subunits. The diverse outlines seem to have one common denominator, however. The so-called Holiness Code, Lev (17) 18-26, or at least its major parts, is apparently viewed by many to constitute some form of literary unit. In concluding his investigation into the compositional integrity of the so-called Holiness Code Sun infers, however, that "Lev 17-26 had no originally independent existence as a legal corpus prior to the creation by those Priestly editors who inserted these legal materials into the Sinai pericope," and Gerstenberger calls the Holiness Code even "a wishful phantom of scholarly literature." While I would agree with the conclusions of the latter two scholars, I do not hold that the present shape of Lev 17-26 "is due to a gradual process of supplementation . . . which accounts for the rather haphazard order of the whole."

In view of the great doubts that have been "cast . . . on the existence of a 'Holiness Code' as an independent, self-contained document"—many a scholar would, of course, not subscribe to this hypothesis—J. E. Hartley concludes "that in whatever way this collection of speeches came together, they were assembled for their present position

¹Sun, 564. Cf. H. D. Preuss, "Heiligkeitsgesetz," *Theologische Realenzyklopädie* (1985), 14:713-718; F. Crüsemann, *The Torah: Theology and Social History of Old Testament Law*, trans. A. W. Mahnke (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1996), 278-279.

²Gerstenberger, 18.

³Sun, 564-565.

⁴Hartley, 259. Cf. R. Rendtorff, *The Old Testament: An Introduction*, trans. J. Bowden (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1986), 145; idem, "Is It Possible to Read Leviticus as a Separate Book?" in *Reading Leviticus: A Conversation with Mary Douglas*, ed. J. F. Sawyer JSOTSup 227 (Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1996), 22-39.

in Leviticus." A. Klostermann assesses Lev 18-26 as being incomparably fragmentary, disorderly and incomplete,² an appraisal which has been handed down to the present. With regard to the provenience of the Holiness Code and its flimsy historical foundation, Rendtorff has recently made some pertinent remarks:

It is well-known that it was August Klostermann who coined this term in 1877. I tried to find out where and how he did it, and when I finally found the place, I was surprised and amused to see that he did it "by the way" in the true sense of the word: in a parenthesis within a longer sentence. His topic was the refutation of the thesis that Ezekiel wrote these chapters of Leviticus: Ezekiel "ganz besonders mit den Worten unserer Gesetzessammlung, die ich von nun an kurz 'das Heiligkeitsgesetz' nennen will, redet . . ." (Ezekiel particularly speaks with the words of our collection of laws, which from now on I will call the "Holiness law" for short . . .). It was originally just an abbreviation, but eventually it became the title of a book. It became one of the most important law codes in the Hebrew Bible, alongside the so-called "Bundesbuch" (Book of the Covenant) in Exodus 20-23 and Deuteronomy.³

Moreover Klostermann unequivocally states that Lev 18-26 contains only fragments of an extensive law-code, parts of which can be found in Exodus and Numbers as

¹Hartley, 251-260, concludes his review of the history of research, 251-260, stating: "Unfortunately the conclusions of the bulk of these studies are built mostly on speculations, rather than on hard data, by the very nature of the documents that have survived from antiquity. This is evident in the wide diversity of these conclusions. Nevertheless, these studies are valuable as they probe the various stages in the development of Israelite culture and cultic practices. . . . The findings of these insights and postulations must, nevertheless, be held cautiously subject to adjustment in the light of further studies" (260).

²A. Klostermann, Der Pentateuch: Beiträge zu seinem Verständnis und seiner Entstehungsgeschichte (Leipzig: Deichert'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung, 1893), 376-377, appraises the "unvergleichlich fragmentarische Natur, die bunte Mischung der Stoffe, der sonderbare Kontrast zwischen der in den identischen Formeln zu Tage tretenden Absicht, alles zu erschöpfen, und zwischen der wirklichen Lückenhaftigkeit, Unordnung und Unvollständigkeit" as characteristic features of Lev 18-26.

³Rendtorff, "Separate Book," 27-28.

well. Hence it follows that the *forschungsgeschichtliche* foundation of the Holiness Code seems to be rather flimsy. Whereas the scientific foundation of the Holiness Code as an originally independent law-code has been weakened, Whybray even claims that there is no reason not to accept the *first* edition of the Pentateuch as its final edition, a work creatively composed by a single literary artist. Whybray's possibly precarious hypothesis may be supported if the investigation of the micro- and macrostructure brings to light substantial terminological patterns.

While the above studies have not provided any sure structural outline of Leviticus

—we must not fail to mention that they did not focus on this aspect—it is exactly this

aspect which is the focus of some recent studies.

Recently Suggested Structures

The different structural outlines recently proposed should be assessed as to their possible utility for the present investigation.

Y. T. Radday. In his recent study on chiasm in Hebrew biblical narrative, he declares Lev 19:18 "the summit of the entire Torah," because Leviticus as the center of

¹Klostermann, 378: "Ich denke, dieses genügt vorläufig, um zu zeigen, daß Lev 18-26 nur Fragmente enthält aus einer umfassenden Gesetzgebung, von der wir auch im Exodus und in Numeri einzelne Stücke wiederfinden."

²R. N. Whybray, *The Making of the Pentateuch: A Methodological Study*, JSOTSup (Sheffield: Sheffield JSOT Press, 1987), 232-233.

³Y. T. Radday, "Chiasmus in Hebrew Biblical Narrative," in *Chiasmus in Antiquity: Structures, Analyses, Exegesis*, ed. J. Welch (Hildesheim: Gerstenberg Verlag, 1981), 89.

the Torah culminates in chap. 19, the climax of the "Holiness Code." Neither Jew nor Christian would contradict the idea that according to Matt 22:40 "all the Law and the Prophets hang on" Deut 6:5 and Lev 19:18. But to boldly declare an undoubtedly significant text to be the summit of the Torah without substantiating this claim by concise textual proof should be assessed as an unsupported hypothesis. Because of the difference in approach, the chiastic structure suggested by Radday might be left out of account in an investigation based solely on terminological considerations.

W. H. Shea. In clear-cut contrast to the conclusions reached by Radday, Shea claims the fulcrum of an overall chiastic structure of Leviticus to be "the legislative instructions dealing with the Day of Atonement," a claim based primarily on conceptual similarities. Constitutive to his claimed chiastic structuration is the assumption that Lev 26 and 27 "round out the book but stand outside the literary chiasm." Because he does not take notice of the inseparable compositional and terminological coherence of Lev 25-26 and their respective relationship to chap. 27, his claim that Lev 26-27 stand "apart from the laws of Leviticus 17-25 just as the blessings and curses of the covenant

¹W. H. Shea, "Literary Form and Theological Function in Leviticus," in 70 Weeks, Leviticus, Nature of Prophecy, ed. F. B. Holbrook, Daniel and Revelation Committee Series, vol. 3 (Washington DC: Biblical Research Institute, 1986), 151. The ineluctable subjectivity of a chiastic structure based on a conceptual rather than on a terminological foundation comes perhaps clearly into view in his juxtaposing Lev 13 "miscellaneous diseases" and chap. 19 "miscellaneous laws."

²Ibid., 149.

³Ibid., 131.

com prise a separate section of Near Eastern covenant formulary" is probably weakened. Since his starting point is clearly conceptual/thematic and not terminological, the results of his investigation render no help for the present study.

M. Douglas. In two recent studies Douglas compares the poetic structure of Leviticus with the ring composition of the Greek classics.² In her 1993 article where she defines the ring composition as "comprehensive parallelism that incorporates the whole work," the following "parallelisms" have been proposed by her:

		27	latch: redeeming things and persons
			consecrated or belonging to the Lord
things and persons consecrated	1-9	25	things and persons belonging to the
to the Lord			Lord
the Holy Place defiled	10	24	the Name defiled
blemish, leprosy	11-15	21-22	blemish, leprosy
atonement for Tabernacle	16	23	holy times, Day of Atonement
bridge: summary	17		-
regulation of sex; Molech	18	20	regulation of sex; Molech
mid-turn: equity between the	19	26	ending: equity between God and
people			people
			- -

Since both this and the following table have been obviously based on conceptual rather than terminological considerations, the differences between her approach and the one taken in this study are pointed out briefly. While making the notion of consecration the main theme of Lev 1-9 (the Piel of the root קדש "holy" is present only in 8:10-12, 15,

¹Ibid., 147.

²M. Douglas, "The Forbidden Animals in Leviticus," *JSOT* 59 (1993): 3-23; idem, "Poetic Structure in Leviticus," in *Pomegranates and Golden Bells: Studies in Biblical, Jewish, and Near Eastern Ritual, Law, and Literature in Honor of Jacob Milgrom*, ed. D. P. Wright, D. N. Freedman, and A. Hurvitz (Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 1996), 239-256.

³Douglas, "Forbidden Animals," 10.

30, however), the more numerous references to the sanctification of Israel, the priests, and the high priest (20:8; 21:8², 15, 23; 22:9, 16, 32) should not have been left out of consideration. If Lev 11-15 and 21-22 are taken as "parallels" under the aspect of "blemish" and "leprosy" we must notice that the noun "blemish" (19 / 10) never occurs in Lev 11-15, and the nouns און "mark of leprosy" (78 / 61)—present only in Lev 13 and 14—and 14—and "leprosy" (35 / 29)—likewise present only in Lev 13 and 14—are altogether absent from Lev 21-22. In my opinion it seems doubtful whether the single occurrence of "to be struck with leprosy" (20 / 5) in 22:4,3 justifies Douglas's interpretation that Lev 11-15 closely parallels chaps. 21-22. It seems questionable to compare "things and persons belonging to the Lord' in Lev 25 with chaps. 1-9, especially in view of the two most explicit statements, both of which are unique in the Hebrew Bible: "the land is mine" (25:23) and "the Israelites are my servants" (25:55), which have no parallels in Lev 1-9. These examples may suffice to indicate the clear-cut differences between the approach taken by Douglas and the one applied in this study.

In her 1996 study Douglas proposes the following literary structure:

		27	latch: holy things
law of offerings, sins, holy	1-7	23-25	holy times, law of talion, sabbath of
places, and holy things			the land, Jubilee

¹The noun is rendered thus by F. Brown, S. R. Driver, and C. A. Briggs, *Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1955), 619, hereafter BDB.

²This is the translation given by BDB, 863.

³This is the translation given by BDB, 863-864. The verb appears four more times in Lev 13:44, 45; 14:2, 3.

consecration of Aaron and his sons, defilement of his sons	8-10	21-22	defiled and blemished priests, defiled priest's wife, blemished sacrificial animals
unclean and blemished things	11-17		
regulation of sex; Molech	18	20	Molech; regulation of sex
first turn: righteousness	19	26	second turn: righteousness

The incompatible contrast existing between the conceptual and the terminological approaches may be illustrated by the following. One of the two parallel rungs in her outline "covers the topic of the distinction between clean and unclean (chaps. 8-17) and its complement (chaps. 21-22), where the same categories have been applied to priests and oblations." As pointed out above, the lack of congruence in terminology should not be left out of account.

While pointing out the reference to the Lord's bringing Israel out of Egypt in 19:33-35; 26:44-46 (within the context of the "first turn" and "second turn") and 25:42; 23:43; 22:32-33 (in concluding the "first rung" and "second rung"),² the significant first mention of the Exodus with its "leitmotif 'holiness'" does not figure at all. If it is true that "Leviticus seems to have a more obviously unified overall theme: how to protect the holiness of the house of God," it is surprising that in Douglas's ring neither the distinct call for holiness (11:44; 20:8; 21:8, 15, 23; 22:9, 16, 32) nor the first reference to the Exodus—formulated like nowhere else in the Pentateuch—leaves any marks. Douglas is

¹Douglas, "Poetic Structure," 253.

²Ibid., 254-255.

³Milgrom, Leviticus, 695-696.

⁴Douglas, "Poetic Structure," 247.

quite correct in emphasizing the structural significance of the references to the Exodus but as is shown below, on the level of the extant text each reference to the Exodus has been ingeniously integrated in one of the most impressive macrostructural outlines of Leviticus. In contrast to the "themes" presented in her ring composition it should be underlined that there is probably more to Lev 11-17 than "unclean and blemished things," and Lev 21-22 has most likely a more positive theological ring to it than "defiled and blemished priests, defiled priest's wife, blemished sacrificial animals."

The brief review of the two studies has pointed to the ineluctable subjectivity of a purely conceptual approach: by focusing on one of the themes one cannot help but overlook the others. Since Douglas's starting point is clearly conceptual/thematic, the results of her studies render no help for the present investigation.

C. R. Smith. In another recent study on the literary structure of Leviticus, quite a different approach has been taken by Smith. According to his understanding Leviticus is "bookended" by Lev 1:1 ויקרא אל משה וידבר יי מאהל מועד לאמר "and he called Moses and the Lord spoke to him *from* the Tent of Meeting" and the corresponding text Num 1:1a וידבר יי אל משה במדבר סיני באהל מועד "and the Lord spoke to Moses in the desert of Sinai *in* the Tent of Meeting." Smith accepts "certain terms and concepts," "concluding summaries," and "exhortations at the end of distinct sections" as structural

¹C. R. Smith, "The Literary Structure of Leviticus," JSOT 70 (1996): 19.

²Ibid., 17.

³Ibid., 21; cf. Lev 7:37; 12:7; 13:59; 14:32; 14:54-57; 15:32.

⁴Ibid.; at this point he refers to Lev 22:32; 23:44; 16:34.

indicators. According to Smith the function of the divine speech formula should be carefully discerned depending on whether it is used "to mark the beginning of groupings of related material," or "within groups of laws." He claims that the "chapters of Leviticus are themselves organized into groups, giving the book a seven-part structure." The principle of division he uses to identify the largest literary units is the alternation between laws (L) and narrative (N):

A problematic point of Smith's hypothesis may be his calling Lev 16 "narrative." The narrative character of 16:1 cannot be overlooked, however, since the "lengthy closing episode of the first narrative section" depicting the death of Aaron's sons is clearly alluded to in 16:1. He continues by interpreting the mention of the "native" and "the stranger who sojourns among you" (16:29) as a link between Lev 16 and 24:10-23, a narrative which is likewise concerned with the equality of stranger and native.

Contrary to Smith's interpretation of Lev 16 as narrative, it has been claimed by Sailhamer that

the Holiness Code is not attached directly to the Priestly Code. Between these two legal codes lies a striking account of Israel's offering sacrifices to "goat idols."

Though brief and somewhat enigmatic, this short piece of narrative, usually taken to

¹Ibid.; at this point he makes reference to Lev 8:8; 11:1; 21:1

²Ibid.; regarding Lev 23 he remarks that the subject of appointed feasts is clearly introduced in vss. 1-2 and summarized at the end in vs. 44; "however, the 'The Lord spoke to Moses' formula also appears within the discussion at vv. 9, 23, 26 and 33."

³Ibid., 22.

⁴Ibid., 23.

be the work of the final composer, portrays the Israelites forsaking the tabernacle and sacrificing "outside the camp."

This unique interpretation of Lev 17:1-9 is surprising, seeing that Sailhamer subsumes the two most obvious narrative sections in Lev 8-10 and 24:10-23 under "Priestly Torah" and "Holiness Code" respectively. In view of the difficulty of defining a given passage as pure law or pure narrative, a different approach may be more promising.

The close similarity of Smith's approach with the one accepted in this dissertation cannot be denied. The two methodologies differ, however, from each other in that in the present study the *conditio sine qua non* could be expressed as *sola terminologia*, whereas for Smith conceptual considerations seem to be of equal significance.

If it is true that Leviticus "has been characteristically rendered by the repetition of key phrases," it might prove profitable to substantiate this hypothesis by searching for the decisive terms or phrases which "are vital for determining literary structure." It is my contention that one of the key phrases, perhaps even *the* key phrase in structuring Leviticus, is the so-called "divine speech formula," which is dealt with in the next chapter.

In view of the sheer diversity in present-day Pentateuchal studies it must be admitted that as far as the assured results are concerned we are no nearer to certainty

¹Sailhamer, 50.

²Childs, *Theology*, 158. Some of Child's suggested phrases turn out to be structural devices on the microstructural level, e.g., "a pleasing odor to the Lord" in Lev 1-3 or "my soul abhors" in Lev 26.

³Smith. 18.

than when critical study of the Pentateuch began. There is at the present moment no consensus whatever about when, why, how, and through whom the Pentateuch reached its present form, and opinions about the date of composition of its various parts differ by more than five hundred years.¹

Justification for the Study

In view of this lack of unanimity among scholars concerning the literary homogeneity/heterogeneity of the Pentateuch in general and Leviticus in particular, "the suspicion [arises] that the methods employed are extremely subjective." Neither the subdivisions suggested by commentators (two to eleven)—a partitioning based primarily on content and conceptual considerations—nor the incidentally proposed compositional outlines for certain sections of Leviticus, 3 nor the recently suggested structures of the third book of Moses by Radday, Shea, Douglas, and Smith are exclusively based on the actual terminology used in the text before us.

Besides, in their listing of recently published rhetorical-critical studies, Watson and Hauser state that in view of the ever-increasing number of such studies only a few investigate (certain passages of) Leviticus.⁴ Because of the above reasons I aver that a large-scale investigation of the artistic arrangement of the extant text of Leviticus is still

¹Whybray, Introduction, 12.

²Whybray, *Making*, 233.

³The recent dissertations by Barrick, Sun, Dupont, and T.-I. Wang, "Leviticus 11-15: A Form-Critical Study" (Ph.D. diss., Claremont Graduate School, 1991), neither focus on the entire book of Leviticus nor is their prime point of interest the investigation of its overall structure.

⁴E.g., J. W. Watts, "Rhetorical Strategy in the Composition of the Pentateuch," *JSOT* 68 (1995): 3-22.

pending, a study brought in line with the actual words chosen by the ancient writer(s).

Methodology and Delimitations

Since Leviticus has been couched in the framework of DS, it seems appropriate to employ concepts basic to rhetorical criticism in this study.

Considerations on Rhetorical Criticism

Because of some obvious differences regarding the foundations of rhetorical criticism among those who practice it, we should be cognizant of the fact that "the methodological boundaries between those who call themselves rhetorical critics and other literary critics with reasonably similar approaches are often very fuzzy." ¹ The canon of rhetorical criticism is said to be characterized by three emphases: "rhetoric signifies the art of composition; the method involves close reading of texts; the purpose is to discover authorial intent." In his presidential address to the Society of Biblical Literature in 1968 J. Muilenberg assigned two tasks to the rhetorical critic. The first task is to "define the limits or scope of the literary unit, to recognize precisely where and how it begins and

¹Watson and Hauser, 3, n. 1. In contrast to this and with regard to differences recognizable in the approach of scholars practicing rhetorical criticism, C. Black, "Keeping Up with Recent Studies: XVI. Rhetorical Criticism and Biblical Interpretation," *ExpTim* 100 (1988-1989): 254, remarks: "For Muilenberg 'rhetoric' is virtually synonymous with 'literary artistry'; for Kennedy, the term refers to the disciplined art of persuasion, as conceptualized and practised by Greeks and Romans of the classical and Hellenistic periods."

²P. Trible, *Rhetorical Criticism: Content, Method, and the Book of Jonah* (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 1994), 26.

³J. Muilenberg, "Form Criticism and Beyond," JBL 88 (1969): 8-18.

where and how it ends," and literary "devices such as climax, *inclusio*, and chiasm set the boundaries." The rhetorical critic's second major concern should be "to recognize the structure of a composition and to discern the configuration of its component parts."

The critical analysis of rhetorical criticism by its critics⁴ in recent years does not devaluate or diminish Muilenberg's proposal that "proper articulation of form yields proper articulation of meaning." The same idea has been expressed by Alonso-Schökel in his "one statement with variation," remarking that "in literature the form is meaningful.... In literature the form creates meaning.... In literature the meaning exists in and through form." If this idea that form and content are inextricably interrelated proves to be true, it should be our prime concern to search for and scrutinize the form in order to better grasp the meaning of the biblical text. Although this study focuses primarily and almost exclusively on aesthetic stylistic features and therefore encompasses only a small fraction of the wide scope of rhetorical criticism, the results gained may turn out to be not entirely insignificant as regards the rhetorical structure of Leviticus. The basic intention of this investigation has been well expressed by Watson and Hauser:

Rhetorical critics prefer to examine units of the text on the assumption that they may,

¹Ibid., 9.

²Trible, 27.

³Muilenberg, 10.

⁴Trible, 48-52, critically evaluates the critics' critique.

⁵Ibid., 91.

⁶Alonso-Schökel, "Problems," 7.

on close analysis, prove to be artfully-composed, coherent wholes designed to convey particular messages to their audiences, rather than on the assumption that these texts constitute coarsely-woven fabrics made up of various threads which need to be isolated and reformulated before they may be studied profitably.¹

Although by definition rhetorical criticism practices synchronic rather than diachronic analysis, conversation "with textual criticism and with historical disciplines like source criticism, tradition history, and redaction criticism" is included in full rhetorical reading. Because of the incompatibility between the approach taken here and source and redaction criticism respectively, the "conversation" between the two takes place primarily in the footnotes. Since more than once the results presented here contradict those proposed by source and redaction-critical studies, it is the reader who is called upon either to ascribe the skillful structures brought to light, structures often replete with theological meaning, to the person(s) who wrote for the extant text, or to accept them as the result of a long and complex redactional process.

Repeated reading of the biblical text and scholarly works on the text, attending closely to the beginning/end of units and carefully observing the repetition of words, phrases, and sentences, giving attention to design and structure and even to small words like particles (practical suggestions given by Trible³) should result in gaining a better grasp of the compositional structure of Leviticus; and in doing so "a principle long

¹Watson and Hauser, 6.

²Trible, 94.

³Ibid., 101-105.

honoured by conventional criticism: the coherence of biblical form and content" could be profitably applied.

Definitions

Since the two terms "microstructure" and "macrostructure" are closely related to the first and foremost working hypothesis of this dissertation—the text of Leviticus in its present shape has been artistically structured by means of thirty-seven distinct DS—these two terms should be defined first.

Microstructure: Whereas according to van Dijk the "local' sentential structure" (i.e., the sentence level) "may be called the micro-structure," in this dissertation the term is never applied to grammatical or syntactical entities on the sentence level, but is always and exclusively used with regard to the structural outline of a distinct DS. The term relates to the interrelation of distinct and different parts of a single DS, always referring to the overall organization and arrangement of the individual components of a distinct DS. This holds true, of course, even for those DS consisting of several distinct parts, sections which are closely related as far as content and concept are concerned, as is the case in Lev 1-3; 8:1-10:7; 25-26, each of which has been conceived as a single DS. It should be added, however, that in those cases where two or several DS have been juxtaposed because of their thematic/conceptual congruence, as is the case in Lev 4-5;

¹Black, 257.

²T. A. van Dijk, Some Aspects of Text Grammars: A Study in Rhetorical Linguistics and Poetics, Janua Linguarum: Series Major, 63 (The Hague: Mouton, 1972), 6.

6:1-7:21; 14; 21; 22; 23; and 24, the interrelation of the component parts is considered to be *micro*- and not macrostructural. The scope of each of the macrostructures presented below is much wider than the scope of the units just mentioned.

as a whole. . . [which] will be called macro-structure," that is, in using the term the structuration of the whole book of Leviticus is under consideration. In other words, macrostructure stands for the probably purposeful overall organization of the extant text of the third book of Moses. In making reference to the "the super- or macrostructure of the Pentateuch" R. Knierim uses the term in a similar way, and in speaking of the "sinaitic sanctuary texts in the macrostructures of the wilderness and the Sinai narrative," Utzschneider has likewise a large part of the present Pentateuch in mind. Concerning the interrelation of distinct pericopes beyond the confines of the individual DS the following example may serve as an illustration: by means of the elevenfold occurrence of the phrase מצרים "the land of Egypt" one of the most significant structures in Leviticus has been created, a structural outline reaching from Lev 11-26.

¹van Dijk, 5-6. In stating that "everybody will construct the macro-structure for a text which is relevant to him, personally, and these macro-structures will be different for the same text" (161), he points to the ineluctable subjectivity in reading a given text. In view of the many scholars who recognize the introductory formula to the DS as structuring device —most often as secondary and hence of "minimal value," however—the danger of subjectivity in reading Leviticus along these lines may be less marked.

²Knierim, "Composition," 393; idem, *Text and Concept in Leviticus 1:1-9: A Case in Exegetical Method* (Tübingen: J. C. B. Mohr, 1992), 3.

³Utzschneider, 76-77, speaks of the "sinaitischenHeiligtumstexte in den Makrostukturen von Wanderungs- und Sinaierzählung."

Author: Every modern reader of the book of Leviticus would subscribe to the hypothesis that the thematic and conceptual arrangement of the extant text must have made at least some sense to the person(s) who wrote it. The purpose of this investigation is not to verify or falsify the hypothesis that "not a single chapter in this book has been composed . . . by a single hand";¹ its sole aim is rather to understand the ancient author's artistic arrangement of the extant text, the term "author" being understood and used as referring to the person(s) responsible for the text before us, person(s) who composed the literary unit we call "Leviticus," a literary entity which did not exist prior to its composition, whatever the prehistory of its individual parts may have been.

Structure/Composition: In spite of the distinct differences between the two terms, this dissertation is not concerned with distinguishing between "structure" and "composition." Terms like structure, composition, compositional arrangement, or structural outline are used interchangeably and they are understood as the "sum of the relationships of the parts to each other" or "the network of relations among the parts of an object or a unit." This definition holds true both for the micro- and macrostructural levels. Since the structure of any given literary unit is "an indispensable aspect of narrative it goes

¹Gerstenberger, 4.

²J. A. Cuddon, *A Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory* (Oxford: Blackwell Reference, 1991), 921.

³S. Bar-Efrat, "Some Observations on the Analysis of Structure in Biblical Narrative," VT 30 (1980): 155. He continues by considering "four different levels [which] should be distinguished: (1) the verbal level; (2) the level of the narrative technique; (3) the level of the narrative world; (4) the level of the conceptual content" (157-163). In this dissertation, however, it is only the verbal level which is of interest.

without saying that its investigation will provide us with a fuller and richer understanding" of the narrative.

Keyword: A keyword is defined as "a word or root within a text, text-sequence, a text-context which is repeated meaningfully; in pursuing these repetitions a meaning of the text will be revealed, elucidated or simply strikingly manifest." Whereas W. G. E. Watson further differentiates between three types of keywords: dominant words (a lexical item), repeated words (frequency in a literary unit), and thematic words (synonymous words), Bar-Efrat advises to pay attention to the frequency of a word in the Bible, within the text or series of texts, and to how near the repeated words are with regard to their respective position in the text. At this point the question might arise as to the criteria according to which a given word/phrase is singled out or dismissed as a fitting keyword. Whereas Alonso-Schökel holds that a keyword "does not require regular repetition, simply a reiteration which is easily perceived," in this study primarily those words/

¹Ibid., 172.

²M. Buber, "Leitwortstil in der Erzählung des Pentateuchs," in Werke, 2, Schriften zur Bibel (Munich: Kösel Verlag, 1964), 1131: "Unter Leitwort ist ein Wort oder Wortstamm zu verstehen, der sich innerhalb eines Textes, einer Textfolge, eines Textzusammenhangs sinnreich wiederholt; wer diesen Wiederholungen folgt, dem erschließt oder verdeutlicht sich ein Sinn des Textes oder wird auch nur eindringlicher offenbar."

³W. G. E. Watson, *Classical Hebrew Poetry: A Guide to Its Techniques*. JSOTSup 26 (Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1984), 287.

⁴S. Bar-Efrat, *Narrative Art in the Bible* (Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1989), 212.

⁵Alonso-Schökel, *Manual*, 190. Concerning the effectiveness of the *Leitwortstil* he further remarks: "When the poem is recited aloud the resounding of the key word focuses on the crucial point, concentrates the vision, and engraves the theme in the

phrases with a definite patterning quality have been searched for, that is, terms which are foundational to an easily perceivable terminological pattern.

It seems appropriate and even necessary to emphasize once more that basically any word may hold a structuring function, be it a significant theological term or a common word like the verb היה "be" which, for example, is constitutive in a salient seven-part structure in Lev 22 climaxing in an unforeseen reference to the Exodus. In other words, whether a given term is fit for being the foundation of any terminological pattern, does not depend on the word per se; it is rather an underlying structure—still hidden but already present in the extant text—which matters. Therefore many terms that are essential and fundamental to a conceptual structure of Leviticus and to its theology do not fit into the category.²

Terminological pattern: This term applies to the many distinct and deliberate (?) aesthetic structures present both on the micro- and macrostructural levels. Each of these structures is based exclusively on verbal congruence, needless to say. Not one of them is founded on synonymous terms or phrases, not to mention conceptual correlations.

memory of the listener" (193).

¹R. Bartelmus, HYH, Bedeutung und Funktion eines althebräischen "Allerweltswortes": zugleich ein Beitrag zur Frage des hebräischen Tempussystems, ATSAT 17 (St. Ottilien: EOS Verlag, 1982).

²Cf. J. F. A. Sawyer, "The Language of Leviticus," in *Reading Leviticus: A Conversation with Mary Douglas*, JSOTSup 227, ed. J. F. A. Sawyer (Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1996), 18, remarks: "What I think might be significant and often overlooked, is that Leviticus contains some key-terms and phrases not found elsewhere, or very rare elsewhere, in the Bible."

In concluding this section on definitions we should be mindful of the truism that any investigation of a biblical text has to make the actual words used by the biblical writers its sole starting point.

Procedure

In order to obtain objective data in investigating into the structure of a given biblical literary unit, Watson suggests tabulating all the repeated words, thus establishing their comparative frequency and relative position. This tabulation should include particles, adverbs, and the like. In the process of repeatedly reading Leviticus and tabulating its vocabulary in a concordance, the preference for distinct literary devices—which are presented below—has become evident. It is exactly the frequency of words, their respective position within a literary entity, and their structuring function that has to be dealt with.

Before presenting the different artistic devices used by the ancient author, a brief explanation regarding the appended concordance and corresponding information given in the text proper should be set forth.

The appended concordance contains the vocabulary of Leviticus except pronouns, particles, and prepositions, although the pronoun "I" and a few particles have been included. The information given in the concordance as to how often a certain word occurs in the Hebrew Bible and in Leviticus—according to the concordance edited by

¹Watson, *Poetry*, 288, points out that the particle ⊃⊃ "all, every" occurring no less than seventeen times in Ps 145 is "obviously related to the universalist theme of the poem."

A. Even-Shoshan!—is presented as follows in the running text; needless to say, this information is provided for most of the structuring words but, of course, not for any phrase. The following example may serve as an illustration: "אני "I" (871 / 71). According to the concordance the pronoun "I" occurs 871 times in the Hebrew Bible, and has been used in Leviticus 71 times.

¹A. Even-Shoshan, ed., A New Concordance of the Old Testament: Using the Hebrew and Aramaic Text, 2d ed. (Jerusalem: Kiryat-Sefer, 1993).

In a second group the chiastic structures are analyzed. Several of the numerical structures, which have in part been arranged chiastically, have been assigned to the numerical and not to the chiastic structures.

The third, and by the way the largest, group includes structures which are meaningful because of their total occurrences and/or because certain positions (e.g., the seventh/twelfth) figure prominently. These three groups are followed by open-envelope and envelope structures, and finally the "verbal/nominal identical forms" structures.

Within these six groups the sequence of entries is arranged according to the chapters of Leviticus (microstructure) and to first occurrence of the word/phrase in the present text (macrostructure). There is, of course, more than one exception to this rule as well; for example, if a given word functions more than once as the basis for a terminological pattern, these structural outlines have been juxtaposed (e.g., there are four structures based on the particle \supset , two on the noun \supset , etc.).

Furthermore, in the running text the reader will come across explanatory remarks as to why a given terminological pattern has been inserted at a certain point, most often because they contribute to enhancing the literary artistry of the passage under discussion.

The Number "Seven"

In many eras and diverse cultures the predilection for certain symbolic numbers seems to have been present. The preference for the number seven in the Ancient Near East can hardly be questioned. In Ugaritic literature the number seven "was deliberately chosen . . . loaded with strenght [sic] and danger . . . indicate[d] intensity, quality, not

directly quantity . . . fulfillment, completion, finishing." In the epistolary style of the Amarna correspondence, the sheer classic significance of the number seven in the world of Asia Minor becomes evident. In the introductory formula of several letters the *seven-fold* prostration is referred to² and to this custom a biblical parallel is found in Gen 33:3, where it is stated that Jacob "went on ahead and bowed down to the ground seven times [וישתחו ארצה שבע פעמים] as he approached his brother" (NIV).

Besides the notable predilection for numerical symbolism in the Amarna letters and Ugaritic literature, "analogues are to be found in Egyptian, Sumerian, Akkadian, Canaanite, and Hittite literature." Apparently the number seven "was a sacred number in virtually all the ancient Semitic cultures." There can be hardly any doubt that the symbolic significance of numbers like three, ten, twelve, and their multiples is surpassed by "seven," rightfully having been called "the sacred number *par excellence*," not only among Semites but as well "among Egyptians, Assyrians, Persians and Vedic folk of

¹A. S. Kapelrud, "The Number Seven in Ugaritic Texts," VT 18 (1968): 499.

²The Amarna Letters, ed. and trans. W. L. Moran (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1987), EA 315-326, 328-331, 335, 362-366. A Ugaritic letter with an almost verbatim introduction is pointed out by G. S. Sauer, *Die Sprüche Agurs* (Stuttgart: Kohlhammer, 1963), 30.

³I. Abrahams, "Numbers, Typical and Important," *Encyclopedia Judaica* (1971), 12:1256.

⁴B. C. Birch, "Numbers," *The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia* (1986), 3:559.

⁵L. Jacobs, "The Numbered Sequence as a Literary Device in the Babylonian Talmud," *HAR* 7 (1983): 143.

India." Although in both the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament the number seven appears "in some manner in almost six hundred passages," it may be even more often that a keyword occurs *seven* times in a given passage, thus achieving numerical symmetry and harmony, as has been repeatedly pointed out by scholars. R. Gordis even states that the predilection for "grouping literary materials in heptads or units of seven . . . may be employed—in conjunction with other factors—in dealing with questions regarding the unity and authenticity of a given passage." In this context Sauer reminds

¹Abrahams, 1256.

²Birch, 559. Of the numerous examples I should like to refer to only a few: the seven days and the seventh day of the week; seven fat and seven gaunt cows, seven heads of healthy grain and seven thin heads of grain, seven years of abundance and seven years of famine in Gen 41; Job had twice seven sons and three daughters (Job 1:2; 42:13); in Lev 13-14 the numerals seven, seventh occur not less than twenty-two times, creating a significant structure.

³The prophet Jeremiah, for example, seems to favor this feature. In chap. 17:19-27 speaking of the Sabbath the term יום שבת "Sabbath day" is present seven times (vss. 21, 22², 24², 27²); chaps. 27-28 announcing Israel's servitude under Nebuchadnezzar are interlinked by means of the noun "y "yoke" (27:8, 11, 12; 28:2, 4, 11, 14); in the letter to the exiles in Jer 29 it is the name ירושלם "Jerusalem" (vss. 1², 2², 4, 20, 25); in Jer 32, the purchase of the field, the noun שדה "field" is present seven times (vss. 7, 8, 9, 15, 25, 43, 44).

⁴E.g., B. Jacob, *Das erste Buch der Tora* (Berlin: Schocken Verlag, 1934), 156-157, 235, 258, 309, 834-835; U. Cassuto, *A Commentary on the Book of Genesis*, vol. 1, trans. I. Abraham (Jerusalem: Magnes, 1961), 94; C. J. Labuschagne, "The Pattern of the Divine Speech Formulas in the Pentateuch," *VT* 32 (1982); J. Limburg, "Sevenfold Structures in the Book of Amos," *JBL* 106 (1987): 217-222; M. Tsevat, "Abzählungen in 1 Samuel 1-4," in *Die Hebräische Bibel und ihre zweifache Nachgeschichte: Festschrift für Rolf Rendtorff*, ed. E. Blum, C. Macholz, and E. W. Stegemann (Neukirchen Vluyn: Neukirchener Verlag, 1990), 207-214.

⁵R. Gordis, *Poets, Prophets, and Sages* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1971), 95.

us that the number seven is the absolute perfect figure "since it consists of the two numbers three (harmony and rest) and four (totality and completeness)." Repeatedly the author of Leviticus seems to have divided many a seven-part structure into three plus four or four plus three units, both on the micro- and macrostructural levels.

Whereas recent studies have directed our attention anew to the crucial role of sevenfold structures as a common feature in biblical texts, it is not only the sevenfold repetition of a term or phrase in a self-contained textual unit that has been used as a literary device by biblical writers. As is well known from ancient genealogies, the *seventh* slot has been reserved for a highly honored person. In addition to this feature, M. Paran has pointed out that in describing the sin offering in Lev 8:14-17 the writer emphasized the completion of the blood-rite in a special way by placing the verb "'pour''—in a list of ten verbs—in the *seventh* position. At times even in a seven-part structure the seventh spot features prominently. The significance of the number seven is therefore a

¹Sauer, 73.

²J. M. Sasson, "Generation, Seventh," *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible Supplement* (1976), 355. Cf. Gen 5:21-24 with Jude 14; Ruth 4:18-22.

³M. Paran, Forms of the Priestly Style in the Pentateuch: Patterns, Linguistic Usages, Syntactic Structures (Jerusalem: Magnes Press, 1989[Hebrew]), 204-205. In the further course of this study it will be seen that in certain structures the twelfth position within a list is significant as well. Birch, 560, observes that while in Mesopotamian cultures the number twelve was "significant because of the twelve months in the lunar year, the twelve signs of the Zodiac, and the Sumerian sexagesimal system, its further significance in the Bible is based almost entirely on the fact that there were twelve tribes in Israel."

⁴An exquisite extrapentateuchal example is Jer 18:1-12. In the description of the prophet's visit at the potter's house the term '(וצר "potter" occurs six times (vss. 2, 3, 4², 6²) with a special capper in vs. 12: אנכי יוצר רעה עליכם "I am preparing a disaster for

dual one: first, in groups of seven this pattern can correctly be seen "as a conscious striving for a literary usage based on this number," and, second, in a variable-length list often the *seventh* slot is emphasized by using a rare or even a unique term or phrase. It should be pointed out that the second group just mentioned, is analyzed in the section dealing with numerical structures.

Chiastic Structures

The definition of chiasm as "inverted correspondences between words, sentences, or larger units" serves as our point of departure. Chiasmus is said to be present to "one degree or another in the literature of most languages. Without denying the existence of chiastic structures based on conceptual similarities, it is imperative to note that within the scope of this investigation each and every structure will be based on *verbal* and not on conceptual congruence. At the same time it must be noted that the chiastic structures to be shown are based on single words and/or short phrases and most of the time they will be cited in conjunction with the immediate context.

In contrast to M. Butterworth and M. J. Boda,⁴ I think that even high-frequency

you" (NIV), thus completing the list to seven.

¹Jacobs, 13.

²Trible, 53.

³D. N. Freedman, "Preface," in *Chiasmus in Antiquity*, ed. J. W. Welch (Hildesheim: Gerstenberg Verlag, 1981), 7.

⁴M. Butterworth, *Structure and the Book of Zechariah*, JSOTSup 130 (Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1992), 56; M. J. Boda, "Chiasmus in Ubiquity: Symmetrical Mirages in Nehemiah 9," *JSOT* 71 (1996): 57.

words, technical terms, or common words have been used in creating significant chiastic structures in Leviticus, structures based on keywords within a given literary unit, units which in Leviticus seem to be formed by distinct DS. Therefore we do not need to depend upon any subjective delimitations, but we are in the enviable position of having a clear-cut division based solely on the biblical text.¹

In a recent study on the literary structure of Lev 16, A. M. Rodriguez has given most appropriate advice regarding the inherent risk of identifying chiastic structures solely "on the basis of the general content of a text rather than on linguistic and structural similarities. That approach tends at times to reveal the creativity of the researcher rather than the literary skills of the biblical writer." In accordance with this counsel each chiastic structure presented here is based on terminological rather than on conceptual/ideational congruence.

According to D. J. Clark, there should be rigorous criteria for identifying chiasms: content, the theme or themes of the respective passage; form or structure, the type of narration and/or dialogue the pericope is composed of; language, the occurrence of keywords; the setting of the respective pericope; and finally the theology exposed in the

¹J. W. Welch, "Introduction," in *Chiasmus in Antiquity*, 13, emphasizes the need for objective data for delimiting individual units.

²A. M. Rodriguez, "Leviticus 16: Its Literary Structure," *AUSS* 34 (1996): 283. Bar-Efrat, "Observations," 201, utters a similar word of warning: "Since themes or ideas are not stated overtly, but have to be extracted by means of interpretation, one should exercise a good deal of self-restraint and self-criticism before proceeding to the delineation of thematic or ideational structures."

given passage.¹ Probably he is quite correct in stating that with these "chiastic criteria as a whole, the impact is cumulative."² As moderns we shall never be able to definitely answer the often-asked question whether such chiastic patterning is deliberate or not.

Clark suggests that

sheer accident is indeed very unlikely, but such patterns may surely be the result of subconscious effort on the part of an author or redactor. . . . To suggest that such patterning is subconscious is not at all to say that it is accidental. Rather it is likely to be the response to a host of *stimuli* arising from a complex of cultural conditioning and individual psychology.³

Scholars do not agree as to whether the emphasis of a chiasm lies in the center of the structure,⁴ the outermost members,⁵ or whether a chiastic structure only integrates

¹D. J. Clark, "Criteria for Identifying Chiasm," LB 35 (1975): 63.

²Ibid., 66 (his emphasis).

³Ibid., 71-72. Parunak, 50, proposes that "the question of conscious or unconscious effort [may be answered] with 'both'."

⁴Radday, "Chiasmus," 51, states: "This leads to the second claim, that biblical authors and/or editors placed the main idea, the thesis, or the turning point of each literary unit, at its center. . . . If true, the significance of this salient feature cannot be overestimated. . . . It is therefore observed that the beauty and completeness of the chiastic construction bears a direct correlation to age: the older, the more chiastic." Milgrom, Numbers, xxii, calling an ABXB'A' structure an introversion, claims that "whereas the chiasm [ABB'A'] is purely an aesthetic device, the introversion can have didactic implications. In the scheme ABXB'A', the central member frequently contains the main point of the author, climaxing what precedes and anticipating what follows." D. J. A. Clines, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1984), 192, cautions: "It would be unwise in our present state of knowledge about Hebrew poetry to conclude that the centre of the strophic structure is also the centre of the thought of the poem."

⁵Cf. Parunak, 48.

the distinct parts into a single whole¹—at least on the level of the sentence. With regard to the point of debate whether the center or the outer members are being emphasized, two examples from Leviticus indicate that both are true, simply depending on the context.

While in Lev 6:1-7:21 the root קדש "holy" figures prominently in the center of a chiastic structure, the very same root forms the outermost members in a seven-part chiastic structure in Lev 16.

Numerological Structures

Whereas, in general, numerological structures comprise various kinds of literary structures "ordered by numerical symmetries or expressing number symbolism," in this study "numerical" and "numerological" are used in a more restricted sense. First, in the diverse parts of a self-contained literary unit, that is, a single DS (1:1-3:17) or within a group of DS that are thematically interrelated (23:1-43 consisting of *five* DS), certain terms/phrases have been patterned according to some numerical device, that is, numerical "compositions use as their basis certain numbers: four, ten, twelve, twenty-two; or the schema 'x plus one'." In Lev 1-3, for example, the phrase אשה [ריח ניחח] ליי a food gift [of pleasing aroma] to the Lord" (Milgrom) appears three times in chap. 1, in Lev 2-3 six times each, and hence comes up with a 3/6/6 design. Second, in a variable-length list

¹F. I. Andersen, *The Sentence in Biblical Hebrew* (The Hague: Mouton, 1974), 121-122.

²A. Fowler, Silent Poetry: Essays in Numerological Analysis (London: Routledge & K. Paul, 1970), 22.

³Alonso-Schökel, *Manual*, 191.

the *seventh* slot and, in case of a longer list, at times the *twelfth* position are emphasized by means of some special term/phrase. Another type of structure closely related to these numerical outlines is portrayed next.

Open-envelope Structures

In several instances in a given list, two positions are prominent because they have been placed equidistantly from both beginning and end, which in most cases is the *second* and *second-from-last* position. By analogy with the "envelope structure" and because of its unmistakably similarity with it, I should like to designate this construction "open-envelope structure." In a regular envelope structure the beginning and the end correspond to each other; hence the designation "inclusion" or "envelope structure." In contrast to this it is the words/phrases equidistantly positioned from beginning and end—almost always the second and second-from-last members of the open-envelope structure —that conspicuously correspond but distinctly differ from all others. This heretofore not very well-known literary phenomenon is met both on the micro- and macrostructural levels. Whereas in some cases it just seems to be a matter of stylistic aesthetics, at least to my present understanding, there are several examples in which the literary form enhances theological meaning.

Envelope Structures

The envelope structure or inclusio has been defined as "the repetition of the same

phrase or sentence at the beginning and end,"¹ a repetition brought into play "for rhetorical purposes in the speech of biblical characters."² While the repeated element may at times only be a word or consist merely of the same root employed, the function of the envelope structure is to delimit the beginning and end of a literary unit. Whereas the widespread use of this literary figure on the sentence level has been pointed out by S. E. McEvenue,³ Paran shows that at many points it comprises even larger textual units.⁴ But in clear contrast to the work of other scholars, the present study is interested in envelope structures only insofar as they function on the microstructural level, that is, the level of the individual DS, and the overall macrostructural outline of Leviticus. It should be stated that because of the undeniably subjective limitation only a few examples have been found, both on the micro- and macrostructural levels of Leviticus.

Identical Verbal/Nominal Structures

In a very few cases, verbs or nouns have been arranged according to their grammatical forms so that a clearly identifiable structure becomes evident. Interestingly, both pericopes where this literary device has been employed on the microstructural level, Lev 16 and 23, are said to consist of several redactional layers.

¹Watson, *Poetry*, 282-283. Cf. E. F. Campbell, *Ruth*, AB, vol. 7 (Garden City: Doubleday, 1975), 14.

²E. J. Revell, "The Repetition of Introductions to Speech as a Feature of Biblical Hebrew," VT 47 (1997): 93.

³S. E. McEvenue, *The Narrative Style of the Priestly Writer*, Analecta Biblica 50 (Rome: Biblical Institute Press, 1971), 43.

⁴Paran, 53-72.

In concluding this section presenting the diverse stylistic and artistic devices employed by the author of an ancient "priestly" book, attention should be drawn to the evaluation of the literary skills evidenced in the present "priestly" material of the Pentateuch. It has been stated that "beyond the shadow of a doubt . . . the Priestly authors possessed considerable artistic skills and that they consciously couched their dry, technical material in elegant, intricately fashioned, and aesthetically pleasing literary forms."

In closing this section on presenting the different stylistic means employed in Leviticus, it seem befitting to briefly explain the sequence according to which they are analyzed both on the micro- and macrostructural level.

As it were, the structures based on the number "seven" and the numerological structures "envelope" the chiastic structures. Subsequent to the numerical outlines follow the open-envelope and envelope structures, two types of compositional outlines in which the numerical position is likewise of significance. The sixth group, the identical verbal/nominal structure, has been placed last—as it were, as structural climax—because in my understanding this type may be called the most complex one, although the few examples detected have been created by way of incredibly simple and yet unusually well-devised means.

Summary

This chapter was designed to justify both a micro- and macrostructural analysis of

¹A. Hurovitz, review of Forms of the Priestly Style in the Pentateuch: Patterns, Linguistic Usages, Syntactic Structures, by M. Paran, in Hebrew Studies 32 (1991): 161.

Leviticus. The review of literature indicated a clear lack of unanimity concerning the scope and provenance of P and H and their interrelation, and the thematic/conceptual and structural outline of the third book of Moses.

Several recent studies focusing on the literary structure of Leviticus were briefly discussed and evaluated. The investigation by Smith proved to be compatible with the present study because of its emphasis on verbal similarity. The other studies proved to be of little help; it is their primarily conceptual approach which seems irreconcilable with the exclusively terminological approach pursued in this study. Hence it seems justified to scrutinize the extant text by paying close attention to the terminology actually used by the ancient author.

Following the presentation of the methodology applied—an approach employing intensively *one* aspect of rhetorical criticism—a definition of several important terms was given. The final part of the first chapter provided an explanation of the literary devices employed in Leviticus.

CHAPTER II

THE DIVINE SPEECHES

Whereas repeatedly the repetition of the formulaic phrase "and the Lord spoke to Moses" has been pointed out by scholars, I it has never been proposed that the possibly deliberate distribution of this introductory formula may be the key for deciphering the overall structural outline of Leviticus. It is my contention that if taken seriously as a structural device, the formulaic introductory addresses bring to light a significant structure encompassing the whole book of Leviticus. The present chapter is devoted to unfolding the basic working hypothesis of the dissertation: the thirty-seven occurrences of the formulaic address "and the Lord spoke/said to Moses/Aaron," by means of which each DS is introduced, are fundamental for understanding the structural composition of Leviticus. Repeatedly it will be shown that significant structures coming to light in a given DS make the compositional integrity of the extant text stand out and draw special attention to the theological message implied.

In his recent study on the composition of the Pentateuch, Knierim concludes that within the bipartite Sinai pericope (Exod 19:3-Num 10:10) "Lev 1:1 signals the highest

¹E.g., Dupont, 34; Gerstenberger, 4. Meier, 154, notes that the use of the formula "reaches its peak in the book of Leviticus and the first part of Numbers."

level in the macrostructure of the Sinai pericope." According to this structure the total narrative consists of two parts: the revelation from the mountain (Exod 19:3-40:38) and the revelation from the 'tent of meeting' (Lev 1:1-Num 10:10).² In this respect it has been rightly remarked by Rendtorff that "what precedes in Exodus 25-30 and 35-40 is the preparation for the central and cultic texts beginning in Leviticus 1," and therefore we may have good reasons to "speak of these texts as the centre or 'the heart' of the Pentateuch."

The Thirty-Seven DS of Leviticus

In a recent study Labuschagne proposes that whenever YHWH is the subject of the verbs אמר "say," דבר "speak," קרא "call," and "command," and wherever the noun "moun" is used in relation with the Lord, "these formulas have an unmistakable literary function" denoting distinct divine speeches in the Pentateuch. In contrast to the approach taken by Labuschagne⁶—DS based on the distribution of single words—the

¹Knierim, "Composition," 405.

²Ibid.

³Rendtorff, "Separate Book," 26-27. In his commentary, *Leviticus*, 22, he elaborates on the parallel between Exod 25-25 and Lev 1: "Die Parallele zwischen Ex 24,15f. +25,1 und Lev 1,1 läßt erkennen, daß im Gesamtaufbau der Sinaiperikope die Opferanweisungen in Lev 1ff. den zweiten großen Komplex nach den Anweisungen zum Bau des Heiligtums in Ex 25ff. bilden."

⁴Rendtorff, "Separate Book," 26.

⁵Labuschagne, "Divine Speech," 268.

⁶Ibid., 290-291: It is somewhat surprising that in his chart of Leviticus several texts with the formula (אשר צוה יי (את משה) are missing: 7:38; 9:7, 10; 10:15;

working hypothesis of this study can be formulated thus: Leviticus has been artistically structured by means of the phrase וודבר/ויאמר יי אל משה (ואל אהרן) לאמר "the Lord spoke/said to Moses (and Aaron):" and the phrase וידבר יי אל אהרן לאמר "and the Lord spoke to Aaron" (10:8), the only case in Leviticus where the Lord addresses Aaron directly. If it is true that repetition is a "persuasive device" having a "text-structuring" function, the recognition of the structural significance of the formulaic introductory addresses with which each DS begins may be path-breaking in deciphering the overall structural outline of Leviticus. Though there are many conceptual units which are

^{16:34; 24:23.} Likewise the phrase אשר לא צוה אתם (10:2) is not listed.

¹I. Knohl, *The Sanctuary of Silence: The Priestly Torah and the Holiness School* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1995), 194, n. 68, remarks: "Lev 1:1 apparently originated with HS editors who used the verse to link the corpus of the establishment of the Tabernacle (Exodus 35-40) with the corpus of Leviticus 1-7."

²The infinitive construct לאמר has been "rendered" by ":" since this is the way the Hebrew term is "translated" in the following table.

³Revell, 92.

larger than a single DS (e.g., the cultic calendar in Lev 23 has been cast in *five* distinct DS), the delimitation based solely on textual (i.e., terminological) evidence may prove to be more solid than making conceptual considerations the point of departure.

The predilection ancient writers are said to have had for casting their literary works in some "numerological mold" is described by A. Fowler:

In poetry, numerological structure often forms a level of organization intermediate in scale and externality between metrical patterns on the one hand and structure as ordinarily understood on the other. . . . It is probably no exaggeration to say that most good literary works—indeed, most craftsmanlike works—were organized at this stratum from antiquity until the eighteenth century at least. 1

It is my contention that the thirty-seven occurrences of the introductory address "and the Lord spoke/said to Moses/Aaron" create the numeric structure of Leviticus by means of which DS of different length are delimited: the shortest consists of one verse (16:1), the longest contains one hundred and one verses (25:1-26:46), and the central one (16:2-34), which is bracketed by eighteen DS, deals with the Day of Atonement.² The following table lists the introductory formulae and the addressees, which, by the way, have not been mentioned in each DS (designated by the horizontal line). It is not insignificant that the infinitive construct אונה ביים in the following table "rendered" by the colon ":"—is missing in Lev 16:1, 2 and 21:1, a fact that is of interest at a later point:

tension between this system of superscripts and the text itself." Meier, 74, n. 1, states that these repeated introductions to the DS function "as a structuring device for distinct cultic and legislative topics."

¹Fowler, 22.

²E.g., Hartley, 224, remarks: "The position of this speech as the keystone of the Pentateuch highlights the climax of the sacrificial system on this high, solemn day."

1.	1:1	And he called Moses and the Lord spoke to him:
	2	speak to the Israelites and say to them
2.	4:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses:
	2	speak to the Israelites:
3.	5:14	and the Lord spoke to Moses:
4.	20	and the Lord spoke to Moses:
5.	6:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses:
	2	command Aaron and his sons:
6.	12	and the Lord spoke to Moses:
7.	6:17	and the Lord spoke to Moses:
	18	speak to Aaron and his sons:
8.		and the Lord spoke to Moses:
	23	speak to the Israelites:
9.	28	and the Lord spoke to Moses:
	29	speak to the Israelites:
10.	8:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses:
		*
11.	10:8	and the Lord spoke to <u>Aaron</u> :
12	11:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses and to Aaron saying to them
12.	2	speak ² to the Israelites:
13.		and the Lord spoke to Moses:
15.	2	speak to the Israelites:
14	13:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses and to Aaron:
17.	13.1	and the Lord spoke to Moses and to Adron.
15.	14:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses:
16.	14:33	and the Lord spoke to Moses and to Aaron:
17	15.1	und the Landauaka to Managamid to day
17.	15:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses and to Aaron:
1.0	2	speak to the Israelites and say to them
18.	16:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses
19.	16:2	and the Lord <u>said</u> to Moses

 $^{^1}$ Because of the following למאר, אלהם has to be translated in this case.

²Imperative plural.

	2	speak to your brother Aaron	
20	17:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses:	
20.	2	•	nd to all the Israelites and say to them
21.	18:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses:	nd to an the istacines and say to them
21.	2	-	the Israelites and say to them
22.	19:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses:	the Islaemes and say to them
22.	2	· -	the Israelites and say to them
23.	20:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses:	the islacines and say to them
43.	20.1		the Israelites say
24.	21:1	and the Lord said to Moses	the Israelites say
	1	say to the priests the sons of	Aaron and say to them
25.	21:16	and the Lord spoke to Moses:	racii and say to mom
	17	speak to Aaron:	
26.	22:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses:	
	2	speak to Aaron and his sons	
27.	17	and the Lord spoke to Moses:	
	18	•	and to all the Israelites and say to them
28.	26	and the Lord spoke to Moses:	
29.	23:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses:	
	2	speak to	the Israelites and say to them
30.	9	and the Lord spoke to Moses:	
	10	speak to	the Israelites and say to them
31.	23	and the Lord spoke to Moses:	
	24	speak to	the Israelites:
32.	26	and the Lord spoke to Moses:	
33.	33	and the Landanales to Manage	
33.	33 34	and the Lord spoke to Moses:	Alex Tempellanes
24		speak to	the Israelites:
34.	24:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses:	.1 T 12.
2.5	2	command	the Israelites:
35.	13	and the Lord spoke to Moses:	
36.	25:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses on Mo	ount Sinai:
	2	speak to	the Israelites and say to them
37.	27:1	and the Lord spoke to Moses:	
	2	speak to	the Israelites and say to them

Considering that "our option consists of the alternative between more or less

substantiated hypotheses, not between a hypothesis and no hypothesis," we should be aware of the fact that the probability and "reliability of theories is conditioned by their degree of explanatory power." In rigorously applying this notion to the above table the plausibility and persuasiveness of the propounded hypothesis may be verified or falsified. The explanatory power of the hypothesis should be tested by scrutinizing every single DS with regard to its individual interior structure, and in a second step it should be tested whether there is indeed any terminological interrelatedness of diverse DS. In the following section of the present chapter the basic hypothesis is scrutinized in three steps:

- 1. Since Lev 16:1 has been listed as a distinct DS the correctness of this hypothesis should be tested with regard to this "one-verse-DS."
- 2. The structural role of the first (Lev 1-3) and last (Lev 27) DS for the overall compositional outline of Leviticus is investigated.
- 3. Lev 11 as a distinct DS is scrutinized because it is said to consist of several redactional layers. As a showpiece it may serve to illustrate whether the terminology used is in support of the theory of gradual literary growth or whether the hypothesis of literary integrity is sustained by terminological patterns.

Lev 16:1—A Distinct DS?

"And the Lord spoke [וידבר] to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron when

¹Knierim, Text and Concept, 2.

²A. G. van Aarde, "Historical Criticism and Holism: Heading Toward a New Paradigm?" in *Paradigms and Progress in Theology*, ed. J. Mouton et al. (N.p.: HSRC Studies in Research Methodology, 1988), 54.

they drew near before the Lord and died. And the Lord said [ויאמר] to Moses: Speak [דבר] to your brother Aaron . . ." (16:1-2).

Scholars view Lev 16:1 at times as "explanatory gloss," editorial link between chaps. 10 and 16," part of the priestly historical narrative in Exodus through Numbers, or in conjunction with vs. 2 forming the historical setting, and in combination with "vs. 34d... [creating] a literary envelope for the content of the chapter." Kiuchi concludes "that v.1, though its syntax is unusual, is naturally followed by v.2." If we scrutinize the

¹R. Péter-Contesse and J. Ellington, A Translator's Handbook on Leviticus (New York: United Bible Societies, 1990), 241, suggest to leave the phrase "and the Lord said to Moses" untranslated since it "is a repetition of information found in the previous verse. There is no reason to repeat it in the translation, if doing so would be unnatural in the receptor language. 'He said,' as in the TEV, may be perfectly adequate in many languages."

²E.g., K. Koch, *Die Priesterschrift: Von Exodus 25 bis Lev 16: Eine überlieferungsgeschichtliche und literarische Untersuchung* (Göttingen: Vandenhoek und Ruprecht, 1959), 92-93: "V.2 ist deutlich eine Doppelung zu V.1 mit dem Neueinsatz der Jahwerede, wie sie sonst bei P nicht üblich ist; einer der beiden Verse ist sekundär. Da V.2 vom folgenden Abschnitt unabtrennbar ist, V.1 aber ohne Störung des Zusammenhangs ausfallen kann, ist dieser Vers erläuternde Glosse."

³Milgrom, Leviticus, 1061. R. Péter-Contesse, Lévitique 1-16 (Geneva: Labor et Fides, 1993), 245, states: "Que ce verset soit rédactionnel ou non importe peu."

⁴Hartley, 227, remarks: "Vs 2, furthermore, is closely tied to the following material, while vs 1 may be separated from the speech proper without any loss. Therefore, vs 1 belongs to the historical narrative that runs throughout the priestly material in Exodus-Numbers. . . . Another possible fact may be communicated by vv 1 and 34b. They frame this speech in such a way that this is not only the regulation for this solemn fast; it is at the same time the report of the first observance of the Day of Atonement. V 1 then comes from the editor who assembled the priestly legislation."

⁵Rodriguez, "Leviticus," 272.

⁶N. Kiuchi, *The Purification Offering in the Priestly Literature: Its Meaning and Function*, JSOTSup 56 (Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1987), 78.

introductory formula, "and the Lord spoke to Moses," in relation to the "commission-to-speak formula" "speak to . . ." we become aware of the close relationship between 16:1, 2 and 21:1, because only in these three texts is the infinitive construct לאמר absent from the introductory formula.

The importance of this observation is seemingly corroborated by the fact that in each of the other thirty-four DS the infinitive construct לאמר is present, seventeen *prior* to Lev 16 and seventeen *following* the central DS. Therefore the conclusion may not be convincing that "the repetitive introduction in v. 2 in the form of ויאמר instead of the usual יאחרי מות וימתו is caused by the historical reference לאמר."

Second, only in 16:2 and 21:1—addressing Aaron alone, and the priests, the sons of Aaron, respectively—the regular introductory formula "and the Lord spoke [וידבר] to Moses" reads "and the Lord said [וימאר] to Moses." Whereas in 16:2 the commission-to-speak formula runs "speak [דבר] to Aaron your brother," Lev 21:1 reads "say [אמר] to the priests . . ." It may be presumed that this wording is neither accidental nor insignificant, since it is only in these two DS, 16:2-34 and 21:1-15, that the significance of the high priest's office is described in detail, employing similar terminology:

¹Hartley, 8.

²The three different types depend upon the addressees, Israelites (e.g., 1:2), Aaron alone (only in 16:2 and 21:17), Aaron and his sons (6:2; 6:18; 21:1; 22:2), or Aaron, his sons, and the Israelites (only in 17:2 and 22:18).

³Kiuchi, 78.

⁴Only twice in 6:2 and 24:2 is the verb צוה "command" used in the commission-to-speak formula.

16:32

21:10

והכהן הגדול מאחיו

the priest who is preminent among his

brothers

הכהן אשר ימשח אתו the priest who is anointed אשר יוצק על ראשו שמן המשחה

on whose head the anointing oil has been

poured

ואשר ימלא את ידו and who is ordained

ומלא את ידו

and who has been ordained

לכהן תחת אביו to be priest in his father's place

ולבש את בגדי הבד

he is to put on the linen garments

ללבש את הבגדים to wear the garments¹

In view of the verbal resemblance of Lev 16:2aa and 21:1aa, 16:2 should not be seen as a mere double of vs. 1, but the extant text points to the thematic interrelatedness of these two passages, an interrelation clearly based on *verbal* similarity.

Whereas the distinct function of 16:2 and its original connection with the following seems unquestioned, the peculiar position of 16:1 in relation to the preceding is very often attributed to the redactor.² The deliberate reference to the death of Aaron's sons in 16:1 together with 10:2 not only creates a significant "historical inclusion," but at the same time the bracketing function of 16:1 "obtains its meaning exactly as repetitive

¹The English translation follows closely the one by Hartley.

²E.g., Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 1011; Hartley, 227.

³M. Fishbane, "Biblical Colophons, Textual Criticism, and Alleged Analogies," *CBQ* 42 (1980): 439.

resumption enclosing the purity-toroth in 11-15."1

In Leviticus the verb מות "die" (780 / 39) occurs first in 8:35 and is present three more times in the DS (8:1-10:7) to which 8:35 belongs. The tragic death of Nadab and Abihu is reported in 10:2, and in 16:1 explicit reference is made to this fateful event. If we were to list all occurrences of the verb "die" in Lev 8-16, the following structure comes to light, an artistic outline which is probably intentional and surely insightful.

8:35	תמותו	<u>ולא</u>
10:2	וימתו	
6	<u>ולא</u> תמתו	
7	פן תמתו	
9	<u>ולא</u> תמתו	
11:39	וכי ימות	
15:31	<u>ולא</u> ימתו	
16:1	וימתו	
13	ימות	<u>ולא</u>

In view of the fact that reference to their dying is made only twice in Leviticus, the special position given to the two texts in the above list seemingly supports the structural significance of Lev 16:1 in relation to what precedes. The explicit references to their death have been placed *second* and *second-from-last* in the above list. The structural device of positioning a peculiar phrase or term in the *second* and *second-from-last* slots of a given list, a literary technique which I should like to label "open envelope structure," is an artistic device used repeatedly on the micro- and the macrostructural level. The positioning of Lev 16:1 may therefore be due to some design supporting the bracketing position of the resumptive repetition of the form of "CCCCC" "and they died."

¹Blum, Komposition, 318, n. 119.

Whereas some scholars hypothesize that "the likelihood is that originally chap. 16 immediately followed chap. 10, which recounts the death of Nadab and Abihu in the sanctuary, and chaps. 11-15 were inserted later," this interpretation is rejected by others because Lev 16:1 gains in significance as a deliberate repetitive resumption. In view of this artistic device and the structural perfection of the above list the hypothesis of textual heterogeneity is possibly weakened. In my opinion the presence of this artistic outline probably did not come about by way of an "editorial link between chaps. 10 and 16... [when] chaps. 11-15 were inserted later."

If these observations turn out to be true to the logically outlined extant text of MT, its inherent literary skillfulness should be acknowledged and appreciated. The "highly allusive sentence" Lev 16:2—on account of its connection with vs. 1—interlinks with what follows, whereas vs. 1 closely connects with a preceding DS in which the death of

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 1061. B. Janowski, Sühne als Heilsgeschehen: Studien zur Sühnetheologie der Priesterschrift und zur Wurzel KPR im Alten Orient und im Alten Testament, WMANT 55 (Neukirchen-Vluyn: Neukirchener Verlag, 1982), 266-267, maintains: "Danach bildete die Grundschicht von Lev 16, wie insbesondere die auf Lev 10,1ff. zurückverweisende Redeeinleitung v.1 noch zu erkennen gibt, die Fortsetzung der priesterlichen Geschichts- erzählung in Lev 8-10."

²Blum, *Komposition*, 119: "Im übrigen deutet der Rückgriff auf Lev 10 (den Tod der beiden Aaron-Söhne im Heiligtum) in Lev 16,1 keineswegs, wie gern argumentiert wird, auf einen ursprünglich unmittelbaren Anschluß an Lev 10, sondern gewinnt gerade als Wiederaufnahme über die Reinheitstorot in 11-15 hinweg seinen Sinn."

³Milgrom, Leviticus, 1061.

⁴Kiuchi, 81, infers that possibly "Lev 16.1-2 adds to אש in Lev 10.1-2 three more pieces of information on the sin of Nadab and Abihu: their entry into the adytum, its untimeliness and their trespass on Aaron's right. In fact Lev 10.9 may add another circumstance to the sin of Nadab and Abihu: they were drunk."

Aaron's sons is described. In other words, the eighteenth DS of the third book of Moses, that is, Lev 16:1, connects with 8:1-10:7, the inauguration of the priesthood, installation of the cultus, and the death of Nadab and Abihu, and the first verse of the central DS (16:2-34) interlinks with a subsequent DS (21:1-15) which focuses on instructions regarding purity and marriage for the priests and the high priest, including distinct regulations relative to the high office of the high priest.

In concluding this investigation of Lev 16:1 it may be stated that even in view of the fact that no theological/cultic instruction is given at all in this "one-verse-DS," the significant chronological and structural function of this verse cannot be gainsaid. For the reasons stated above and because of the congruence with the introductory formula "and the Lord spoke to Moses," Lev 16:1 may legitimately be considered a distinct DS.

The Structural Role of Lev 1-3 and 27

Seeing that even the one-verse DS has been given an important position in the overall structural outline of Leviticus, we may ask whether the first (chap. 1-3) and the last (chap. 27) DS have likewise been assigned important functions. How far can the claim be corroborated that on the level of the extant text Lev 1-3 and 27, the latter being generally regarded as an appendix, function as a grand *inclusio*? As far as their

¹E.g., Elliger, 9, calls it "Nachtrag." Wenham, *Leviticus*, 5, maintains: "Ch. 27 seems to be a sort of appendix." Childs, *Introduction*, 182, speaks of Lev 27 as "an appendix on various gifts to the sanctuary." Hartley, xxxv, states: "The sixth division, on vows, voluntary gifts, and tithes (chap.27), is an appendix." B. A. Levine, *Leviticus*, The JPS Torah Commentary (Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 1989), 192, remarks: "It is likely that chapter 27 was appended to the Book of Leviticus." In view of this scholarly "consensus" a plausible explanation has to be provided for Lev 27 being clearly

immediate textual context and general content are concerned, this hypothesis might seem both precarious and unfounded.

If one of the themes present in both DS is looked at carefully, a theme which may be one of the key themes of Leviticus, "holiness," the postulated interrelatedness of the first and last DS comes clearly into view. The sum total of all occurrences of the root "holy" in Leviticus, put in relation to all occurrences in the Hebrew Bible, seems to support this supposition. It is the peculiar use of the root "holy" in the first and last DS which may have been assigned a bracketing function encompassing the whole book of Leviticus.

In Lev 1-3 three different sacrifices are presented: עלה "burnt offering," "burnt o

¹E.g., Wenham, *Leviticus*, 18, remarks: "Be holy, for I am holy'... could be termed the motto of Leviticus." Harrison, *Leviticus*, 14, states: "The unifying theme of the book is the insistent emphasis on God's holiness, coupled with the demand that the Israelites shall exemplify this spiritual attribute to their own lives." According to Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 686, the call upon Israel "to be holy is the main thrust of H," whereas P holds "that only the priests (and temporary Nazirites) are holy"; cf. likewise 729-732. Hartley, lvi, states: "In Leviticus Yahweh makes himself known to Israel as their holy God. Holiness is not one attribute of Yahwe's among others; rather it is the quintessential nature of Yahwe as God." Budd, *Leviticus*, 34: "There can be little doubt that a theology of holiness is fundamental to Leviticus."

²According to the appended concordance approximately 20 percent of all occurrences of the root קדש appear in Leviticus.

³In translating the Hebrew terms for the different types of sacrifices this dissertation follows the rendering of the NIV. Since this study is only interested in terminological patterns and the resulting literary structures, there is no need to rehearse the pertinent scholarly discussion regarding the different translations suggested for אבח השלמים, and אבח השלמים; cf. Rendtorff, Leviticus, 118-126, 220-22, 214-215; Milgrom,

called קדש "most holy" several times in Leviticus, neither the burnt offering nor the fellowship offering per se ever receive the attribute "holy" in the Hebrew Bible, not to mention "most holy." At this point Milgrom observes that "the designations 'sacred' and 'most sacred' are always applied to the portions of the offering that are eaten. For this reason the burnt offering (never eaten by man) is nowhere called 'most sacred' but must be assumed to be so." In support of his thesis he points to the partitive mem in Num 18:9 "from the most sacred offerings."

In contradistinction to Milgrom's view N. Snaith supposes that "the whole-offering is not 'most holy'." Whereas Milgrom is seemingly concerned with functional holiness, the present investigation proceeds from the presence of terminological labels as an element for literary structure. Whatever the authorial intention of Num 18:9 may have been, it cannot be denied that throughout the Hebrew Bible the burnt offering is never expressis verbis called "holy" or "most holy."

In Lev 1-3, listing the burnt offering, the grain offering, and the fellowship offering, only one of the three "most holy" sacrifices is mentioned, and it is twice called

Leviticus, 220, 253-254, 339-345; Hartley, 37-39, 55-57, 76-80; Péter-Contesse, Lévitique, 61-62, 69-71, 91.

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 183.

²Ibid., 321.

³N. Snaith, "A Note on Numbers xviii 9," VT 23 (1973): 311, remarks: "Thus the whole-offering is not 'most holy', but the מנחה (grain-offering) is 'most holy' except for the priest's מנחה; (Lev. vi 12-16 ... and ix 4)." With regard to the fellowship offering it is only those parts belonging to the priests which are designated "holy," e.g., Lev 22:10-16.

"most holy" (2:3, 10). It is that part of the grain offering which is not burned on the altar but rather apportioned to Aaron and his sons that is termed קדש קדשים. While both times it is stated that the remaining portion of the grain offering לאהרן ולבניו "belongs to Aaron and to his sons," the root אכל "eat" is conspicuously missing.

At this point it might seem insignificant that one of the "most holy" sacrifices, the grain offering, is bracketed by the burnt offering and the fellowship offering, two sacrifices which expressis verbis never receive the grading "most holy." But in an excursus at the end of this chapter, where this point is discussed in detail, the structual significance of this minor detail is explored. It is shown that the distribution of the root "To" "holy"—in its relation to the sacrifices—has seemingly been employed to create significant structural outlines. Even the absence of the root "ACC" in Lev 2:3, 10 is probably due to some deliberate design in arranging the overall outline of chaps. 1-5 and 6-7.

In Lev 1-3 the root "holy" is present only twice, whereas it occurs almost twenty times in Lev 27. It is worth mentioning, however, that there is something unique about the term "most holy" in Lev 27:28b, כל חרם קדש קדשים הוא ליי "everything devoted, being most holy, belongs to the Lord." Since nowhere else in the Hebrew Bible is "חרם "the devoted thing" labeled "most holy," it may possibly be inferred that the author of the extant text deliberately employed the term "most holy" in the very first and last DS. If this is true to the intention of the text, the use of "most holy" in the first and last DS

¹Throughout this dissertation the expression קדש "most holy" is considered *one* mention of the root "holy," since this is the way the Hebrew Bible expresses the idea of "most holy."

functions as a literary and theological inclusion. Grasping the opening and ending of
Leviticus may be essential for a deeper understanding of the whole book. In this respect
M. Weiss maintains that

it is self-evident that the proper understanding of the function of the opening and conclusion of a work is essential for the comprehension of the whole. And of all the elements that make up the structure of the work, the conclusion is perhaps the most important.¹

The scrutiny of the structural significance of Lev 16:1 and the "bracketing" function of the first (chaps. 1-3) and last DS (chap. 27) seemingly substantiates the basic working hypothesis of this study. The next step to be taken is to investigate Lev 11 which is said to consist of several redactional layers. Any terminological patterns which may be present in this distinct DS could be taken as argument against the theory of gradual literary growth and in favor of the hypothesis proposing literary integrity.

Lev 11

Lev 11, which is said to consist of several redactional layers² or having originated in the Holiness Code,³ serves as an exemplary DS to verify or falsify the fundamental

¹M. Weiss, *The Bible from Within: The Method of Total Interpretation* (Jerusalem: Magnes Press, 1984), 274.

²Péter-Contesse, *Levitique*, 175, for example remarks that "on ne peut manquer d'en percevoir le manque d'homogénéité. . . . La seule conclusion possible est que le rédacteur de ce chapitre a regroupé (en les respectant autant que possible) des éléments assez disparates."

³Levine, *Leviticus*, xxi, remarks: "Actually, it may have originated in the Holiness Code, only to be shifted later on to the former division of Leviticus. This chapter is, after all, the only section of Leviticus outside the Holiness Code that emphasizes the theme of Israel's holiness." W. Houston, *Purity and Monotheism: Clean and Unclean Animals in*

working hypothesis. Milgrom hypothesizes that the basic priestly text P₁ (11:1-23, 41-42,

46) has been supplemented by P₂ (vss. 24-38, 47), an "unaccounted for interpolation

(vss. 39-40)" assigned to P₃,3 and H (vss.43-45).4 In taking both subject and content into

Biblical Law, JSOTSup 140 (Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1993), 55, hypothesizes: "The distinction of kinds, whatever its origin, is in Leviticus a mark of the dedication of Israel to Yahweh as their sole God. Though this chapter has found a place in the collection on purities because of its second half, its first half, with the conclusion to the whole, would belong more appropriately in the Holiness Code."

¹Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 691: "quadrupeds (vv 24-28), land swarmers (vv 29-38), quadrapeds (39-40). . . . The offending category here is the quadrupeds. Had they been grouped together, then each category would have been a discrete unit: quadrupeds (vv 2-8, 24-28, 39-40), fish (vv 9-12), birds (vv 13-19), flying insects (vv 20-23), land swarmers (vv 29-38, 41-45), all animals (vv 46-47)." Koch, *Priesterschrift*, 78, claims that in vss. 24-40 the writer "auf anderes Überlieferungsgut zurückgreift." Hartley, 154, surmises that vss. 39-40, "these laws about eating from the carcass of a clean animal circulated independently; otherwise they would have been attached to the first pericope on clean/unclean animals." E. Firmage, "The Biblical Dietary Laws and the Concept of Holiness," *VTSup* 46 (1990): 207, hypothesizes that "vv. 9-23 clearly interrupt what would be the logical sequence of categories if Lev. xi were a unitary composition with a single organizing principle" and he continues stating: "Vs. 2-23, then, are arguably not only conceptually but also historically independent of vv. 24-40" (207). Gerstenberger, 142, considers vss. 39-40 "an addendum directly connected" with vss. 24-38.

²Milgrom, Leviticus, 693.

³Ibid., 693-694.

⁴Ibid., 694. Knohl, Sanctuary, 69, considers vss. 43-45 "an auxiliary passage . . . which bears the distinctive traits of HS." In clear contradistiction to this Elliger, Leviticus, 148, n. 1, remarks: "An einen genetischen Zusammenhang von c 11 mit dem Heiligkeitsgesetz ist also nur wegen der Heiligkeitsformeln in 44f. noch nicht zu denken." Koch, Priesterschrift, 79, claims that "der Schluß von V.44 ist literarisch später. V.44f zeigt die Sprache des Heiligkeitsgestzes." Hence we may conclude that the investigation of 11:43-47 by four different scholars achieves four different results. Harris, 573, states: "The phrase 'be holy, because I am holy' is interesting because it is like the words of 19:2, which are said to be characteristic of the Holiness Code. . . . Actually the words are the characteristic of the laws of holy conduct wherever found. The use of the phrase here unifies stylistically the laws of cleanness and the laws of holiness." E. Blum, Studien zur Komposition des Pentateuch, BZAW 189 (Berlin: W. de Gruyter, 1990) 323, remarks:

account suggests the following conceptual outline:

Impure Animals	Purification Procedures
quadrupeds (vss. 2-8)	4 4 8 8 4 p = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = =
fish (vss. 9-12)	
birds (vss. 13-19)	
flying insects (vss. 20-23)	
	forbidden quadrupeds (vss. 24-28) eight land swarmers (vss. 29-38) permitted quadrupeds (vss. 39-40)
land swarmers (vss. 41-45).1	

While conceding "logic to the MT," Milgrom views vss. 24-40 as an "intrusive purification bloc." According to him the secondary character of the passage becomes apparent because different terminology implies different sources, and "because the entire bloc... sticks out like a sore thumb from the midst of an organically related

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 691.

²Ibid.

³Ibid., 694.

⁴Ibid., 693.

[&]quot;Die Positionierung der programmatisch-gewichtigen Aussagen/ Forderungen gerade in Lev 11 (v. 44f) hat freilich noch gewichtigere kompositorische Aspekte" in relation to 20:22-26 with its emphasis on the "Thema 'Aussonderung' (Thema' Hif.), das entsprechend dem Korrespondenzgedanken mehrfach variiert wird." With regard to the structural importance of Lev 11 within the compositional context of the Pentateuch Blum emphasizes: "Der hier [Lev 20:22-26] und in Lev 11 so betonte Sinn gerade der Speisegebote als Aspekt der privilegierenden Heiligung 'für' Jhwh lenkt aber insbesondere den Blick zurück auf die Bedeutung der Speisegebote in einem früheren Zusammenhang, Gen 1 und 9: Markierte dort die Freigabe tierischer Nahrung (nach dem ursprünglich strikten Verbot) die Distanzierung Gottes gegenüber seiner Schöpfungswelt, so ist hier seine erneute (partielle) Zuwendung verbunden mit einer Einschränkung der tierischen Nahrung" (323-324; emphasis his).

material, namely, laws dealing solely with diet." If by any chance, however, overall terminological patterns will show up in Lev 11, patterns which transcend the limits of the supplements supposed by Milgrom, his hypothesis of textual disintegrity would be weakened.

The Noun בהמה

While Milgrom's attributing logic to the outline of the extant text is substantiated by the text per se, his claim that different terminology evidences different sources is but a claim lacking any substantial textual proof. He views the noun בהמה (190 / 28) in vss. 24-28, which he renders as "quadrupeds," as being contrasted with "wild quadrupeds," implying that המה means 'domesticated quadrupeds'. Such use "stands in opposition to its function in v 2, where it embraces all quadrapeds, wild species as well." Thanks to Milgrom's critique, one of the chiastic structures of this chapter—based on the very term בהמה comes to light. In order to illustrate the contrast between structures proposed here and the conclusions of Milgrom's redaction-critical investigation of Lev 11, his sources have been put on the right margin of each of the following tables:

2	Α	אשר על הארץ	הבהמה	מכל	all quadrupeds	$\mathbf{P_1}$
3	Α	אתה תאכלו	בבהמה	כל	all quadrupeds	P_1
26	В	אשר הוא מפרסת פרסה	הבהמה	לכל	domesticated q.	$\mathbf{P_2}$
39	Α	אשר הוא לכם לאכלה	הבהמה	וכי ימות מן	all quadrupeds	P_3
46	A	על הארץ	הבהמה	זות תורת	all quadrupeds	$\mathbf{P_{t}}$

¹Ibid.

²Ibid.

³Ibid.

The fact that sections of the postulated P₁, P₂, and P₃ form a chiastic structure in which the focus of Milgrom's critique constitutes its very center, probably casts doubt on his hypothesis.

The Verb נגע

Scrutinizing the *seven* occurrences of the verb עגע "touch" (150 / 28), designated A, in relation to the noun בלה "carcass" (48 / 19), designated B, may call into question Milgrom's evaluation of vss. 24-40 as interpolation inserted by P_2 . In the following table the alleged addition turns out to be very well integrated into the extant text. It is almost inconceivable to appraise this *seven-part* structure, moreover a seven-part *chiastic* structure, as the chance result of redactional rearrangement of diverse *Vorlagen*. The alleged interpolation, vss. 39-40, which according to Milgrom was inserted in the fourth, that is, the last redactional stage, has also been integrated in the following terminological pattern.

8	AB			ענגעו	<u>יובנבלתם</u> לא	\mathbf{P}_{1}
24	AB	יטמא	<u>בנבלתם</u>	הנגע	<u></u> כל	$\mathbf{P_2}$
26	Α	יטמא	בהם	הנגע	כל	P_2
27	AB	יטמא	<u>בנבלתם</u>	הנגע	כל	P_2
31	Α	במתם יטמא	בהם	הנגע	כל	\mathbf{P}_{2}
36	AB	יטמא	<u>בנבלתם</u>	ונגע		P_2
39	AB	יטמא	בנבלתם	רונגע		P_3

Considering that vs. 39—part of the alleged interpolation—has likewise been intricately integrated in the preceding structure, probably weakens Milgrom's hypothesis.

¹Ibid., 697.

²This being a prohibition, a different syntactical word order is required.

If "the love and concern for literary devices such as chiasm and . . . inclusion . . . betrays the major hallmark of H," this artfully crafted structure should definitely be assigned to that source. It will be shown repeatedly, however, that literary devices such as chiasm, inclusion, etc., are present in all parts of Leviticus and therefore do not prove any supposed source.

The Verb עלה

In Pentateuchal studies there is no consensus with regard to the provenance of Lev 11:43-45. Does it constitute an original part of the chapter,² was it added by the final editor(s) belonging to H,³ or by some other redactor?⁴ In a recent article, G. A. Rendsburg⁵ has drawn attention to the *inclusio* created by the Hiphil participle מעלה, "chew the cud" (vss. 3, 4², 5, 6) and vs. 45. The semantic connotation in vs. 45 is quite different

¹Ibid., 886.

²E.g., Wenham, *Leviticus*, 180; Sailhamer, 332-334. Hartley, 154, states: "The third section (vv 41-45), which concerns 'edible swarmers,' joins with the opening section to frame the material on uncleanness from contact with carcasses. Such structure means that this chapter in its present form is a whole, not a composite of two distinct sets of cultic instructions about two distinct subjects."

³Milgrom, Leviticus, 694-696; Knohl, Sanctuary, 169.

⁴Elliger, 148, views vss. 44b-45 in contrast to vss. 43-44a as a "zweiten Schluß." Péter-Contesse, *Lévitique*, 176, claims "que ces trois versets, inspirés du style de la Loi de sainteté, ont été insérés par le rédacteur dans le chap.11." Wang, 42, likewise avers: "The fact that in vv. 43-45 we cannot see lengthy or emphatic phraseology for object or subject at the beginning of each sentence—this is the prevailing style in vv. 2b-42—lending support to the conclusion that these verses existed independently of what has preceded."

⁵G. A. Rendsburg, "The Inclusion in Leviticus XI," VT 43 (1993): 418-419.

from the rest, המעלה אתכם מארץ מצרים "who brought you up from the land of Egypt." In view of the fact that the Hiphil participle of עלה "go up" (890 / 14) occurs only here in the Pentateuch, the literary inclusion definitely gains in significance. If 11:26, "every quadruped that has hoofs but without clefts through the hoofs, or does not chew the cud [וגרה איננה מעלה]" (Milgrom) is taken into consideration, a text which Rendsburg did not include, the participle shows up exactly *seven* times:

3	<u>גרה</u> בבהמה	מעלת		$\mathbf{P_{i}}$	
4a	<u>הגרה</u>	ממעלי	אך את זה לא תאכלו	$\mathbf{P_i}$	
4b	<u>גרה</u> הוא	מעלה	כי	$\mathbf{P_1}$	
5a	<u>גרה</u> הוא	מעלה	כי	P_1	
6a	<u>גרה</u> הוא	מעלת	כי	$\mathbf{P_1}$	
26		מעלה	<u>וגרה</u> איננה	P_2	
45	אתכם מארץ מצרים	המעלה	כי אני יי	H	7^{th}

Israel is called upon to sanctify themselves by heeding the Lord's command to distinguish between ruminants and nonruminants, by discriminating between clean and unclean animals. Six mentions of the peculiar mark מעלה גרה "chewing [bringing up] the cud," provide the perfect foil for making reference to the Exodus, the purpose of which is for the Lord to be their God.¹ The reference to the Exodus gains in structural and theological significance if the composition of Lev 11:45 is scrutinized. "כי אני "for I am the Lord"—according to Milgrom "a favorite expression in H"—reveals that this

¹R. Rendtorff, *Die "Bundesformel": Eine exegetisch-theologische Untersuchung*, Stuttgarter Bibelstudien 170 (Stuttgart: Verlag Katholisches Bibelwerk GmbH, 1995), 43, remarks: "Hier erscheint das Gottsein Jhwhs für Israel als Zweck und Ziel der Herausführung aus Ägypten. Dabei ist der Kontext von Bedeutung, in dem es um die Heiligkeit Jhwhs und die aus ihm erwachsende Forderung an die Israeliten geht, selbst heilig zu sein."

phrase forms an inclusio with the end of the verse:1

A <u>כי</u> **אני** יי X המעלה אתכם מארץ מצרים להית לכם לאלהים והייתם קדשים A' <u>כי</u> קדש **אני**

The creation of this profound compositional setting, by means of which the theological significance of the Exodus from Egypt is enhanced, suggests both literary skill and theological insight.

The Noun ארץ

The compositional cohesion of Lev 11 is further supported by a numerical structure based on the very common noun ארץ "land" (2504 / 80). In this eight-part structure the *seventh* position seems to be of prime significance. The emphasis laid on the *seventh* position should not be surprising, since as will be seen in many passages of Leviticus it is exactly the *seventh*, and at times the *twelfth* occurrence of a word or a phrase which is emphasized on both the microstructural and macrostructural levels.² In this eight-part construction the noun ארץ "land," being used the first six times and the eighth time in the sense of "ground, dry land," gains its structural importance and theological significance by means of the one reference to the "land of Egypt" from whence the Lord brought up his people.

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 687.

²In some of the biblical genealogies the seventh spot is reserved for the specially honored and important ancestor (Gen 5:21-24; Jude 14; Ruth 4:21). Cf. J. M. Sasson, "A Genealogical 'Convention' in Biblical Chronography?" *ZAW* 90 (1978): 171-185; idem, *IDBS*, "Generation, Seventh," (1976), 354-356; R. L. Hubbard, *The Book of Ruth* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988), 283.

2	מכל הבהמה אשר על הארץ	P_1	
21	לנתר בהן על האר ץ	\mathbf{P}_{1}	
29	בשרץ השרץ על הארץ	P_2	
41	וכל השרץ השרץ על האר ץ	$\mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{i}}$	
42	לכל השרץ השרץ על האר ץ	$\mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{i}}$	
44	בכל השרץ הרמש על האר ץ	H	
45	כי אני יי המעלה אתכם מארץ מצרים להית לכם לאלהים	H	7^{th}
46	ולכל נפש השרצת על הארץ	\mathbf{P}_{1}	

Apparently the ancient author of the text before us employed a very common noun in creating textual cohesiveness. Commentators give no explanation as to why all of a sudden the Exodus is mentioned in Lev 11:45; 19:36 and 22:33. One cannot fail to notice that in each case very common words have been used to interlink the pointed reference to the Exodus with what precedes: in each of the three structures the Exodus is referred to in the *seventh* position. Since these structures with their significant *seventh* position can hardly be denied nor gainsaid, one cannot help but conclude that the sudden references to the Exodus, always placed in the *seventh* slot of a given list, seemingly originated in some biblical writer's deliberate structural and theological design.

In view of the fact that in Lev 11 even two structures culminate in the very same climactic statement, "I am the Lord who has brought you up from the land of Egypt," both clearly transcending the supposed P₁, P₂ and H *Vorlagen*, the redaction-critical hypothesis has probably lost ground.

The Noun נפש

Two additional chiastic structures can be seen in Lev 11, first, the interplay between singular and plural of the noun "living being" (753 / 60). This creates another chiastic structure which again transcends the limits of the alleged additions. In order to

include the two distinct groups of creatures, "every living creature that scurries about in the water, and every creature that crawls on the earth" (Hartley), the term נפש occurs both in vs. 46a and b. Thus the second mention of נפש in this verse functions as capping the first four which have been arranged chiastically:

10	Α	אשר במים	החיה	נפש	ומכל	P_1
43a	В		<u>ם</u>	<u>נפשתיכ</u>	אל תשקצו את	H
44b	В		<u>ם</u>	<u>נפשתיכ</u>	ולא תטמאו את	Н
46a	Α	הרמשת במים	החיה	נפש	וכל	P_1
46b	Α	ת על הארץ	השרצ	נפש	ולכל	$\mathbf{P_1}$

This structural outline is not based solely on the alternation of singular and plural but on the semantic meaning of U22. Whereas in the inclusion (vss.10, 46) reference is made to "living beings," that is, animals living in the water and on the earth, it is the *Israelites*¹ who are addressed and admonished in vss. 43-44 not to defile themselves nor to make themselves impure.

The Noun חיה

A second chiastic structure makes use of the noun חיה (96 / 10), a word rendered by Milgrom "wild quadrupeds" (A), and the f. sgl. of the adjective "living" (239 / 23), designated B—the consonantal and vowel pointing congruence of noun and adjective certainly should not be overlooked—in relation to the verb אכל "eat" (C) and the noun

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 684, renders the noun VOI as "throat" because the "context of ingestion of impure foods favors the more limited notion of nepeš as referring to the digestive system, more specifically, the throat." Whatever meaning was intended by the ancient author, the clear semantic difference (throat/[living]being) and the chiastic structure remain untouched by it.

מים "water" (D). Like the preceding example, the bipartite statement in vs. 47—differentiating between edible and nonedible animals—brings about an additional member standing outside the chiastic structure:

2	AC	זאת החיה אשר תאכלו	\mathbf{P}_{1}
10	BD	מכל נפש החיה אשר במים	רכ P _i
27	Α	בכל החיה ההולכת	$\mathbf{P_2}$
46	BD	וכל נפש החיה הרמשת במים	\mathbf{P}_{1}
47bα	AC	יל ובין החיה הנאכלת	להבדי P_2
47bβ	AC	ובין החיה אשר לא תאכל	P_2

This structure once more exemplifies the textual integrity of Lev 11. In view of six significant structural devices which have come to light in a single DS, this unique literary craftsmanship is to be attributed either to original design or to an incomparable final redaction.

The Particle つつ

In view of the remarkable ingenuity of the diverse literary designs present in the present text of Lev 11, one should no longer be surprised at the *fortyfold* mention of the particle 55 "all, every" (5408 / 254), the first and last in vss. 2 and 46 respectively, thus including the "whole animal kingdom" by numerical perfection.

In closing the discussion of Lev 11, a final remark concerning the proposed provenience of vss. 43-45 seems appropriate. Whereas in general the "religious parenetic

¹Cf. the appended concordance. Abrahams, 1258, states: "Forty is an important round number."

tone" is adduced as "chief argument" in support of a formerly independent Holiness Code, Milgrom and Knohl adduce terminological arguments: " " o" for I the Lord" is said to be "a favorite expression (with or without ki) in H," and the call upon Israel "to be holy is the main thrust of H." Since it has been shown, however, that 11:43-45 have been inseparably integrated into the structure and theology of Lev 11 by means of four significant structures, their arguments lose persuasive power. In addition to this the verbatim "repetition" of 11:44aβ "and sanctify yourselves and be holy" in 20:7a has to be given due attention, since some kind of interdependence cannot be denied.

In view of several significant ingenious structures, we are in no way overstating the case that these carefully construed patterns plus the additional fortyfold use of 50, both inextricably intertwining passages attributed to an alleged *Grundschrift* and several later redactional rewritings, do not support any analysis claiming the extant text to be "the final result of a long and complex growth process of oral/pre-compositional and written/ compositional traditions/transmissions which extended through centuries." 5

Excursus: Lev 1-5 in Relation to 6-7

In the above examination of Lev 1-3 and 27 the root קדש "holy" proved to be of

¹J. Wellhausen, Die Composition des Hexateuch und der historischen Bücher des Alten Testaments, 4th ed. (Berlin: G. Reimer, 1963), 150, quoted in Blum, Studien, 319.

²Blum, Studien, 319.

³Milgrom, Leviticus, 687, cf. 866; Knohl, Sanctuary, 169, n. 6, 184.

⁴Milgrom, Leviticus, 686; cf. Knohl, Sanctuary, 180-181.

⁵Wang, 27.

structural significance. It is my contention that the distribution of the root "holy" in the extant text of Lev 1-5 and 6-7 follows a deliberate design. In both sections five sacrifices are presented, in which a difference of focus and a slightly altered sequence in listing cannot be overlooked. As far as their order in chaps. 1-5 and 6-7 is concerned, two sacrifices, the burnt offering and the fellowship offering (both of which are never called "holy" or "most holy") bracket one sacrifice (the grain offering in Lev 1-3) and three sacrifices (the grain, sin, and guilt offerings in Lev 6:1-7:21) which have been called expressly "most holy." This hypothesis is developed in the following section.

In the list of the five sacrifices in Lev 1-5 the fellowship offering takes the third position, whereas in chaps. 6-7 it has been positioned fifth. Since we might proceed from the assumption that neither in chaps. 1-5 nor in 6-7 the change in order should be accepted as accidental or arbitrary, a plausible explanation for this change of sequence should be given. The question has been discussed whether the change of order might have arisen due to the varying significance ascribed to the various sacrifices in different

¹R. Rendtorff, Studien zur Geschichte des Opfers im Alten Israel, WMANT 24 (Neukirchen-Vluyn: Neukirchener Verlag, 1967), 10, maintains that in Lev 1-5 "diese Reihenfolge der Opfer nicht ursprünglich ist," and in summarizing he states: "Die Rituale für die 'ola und den zebach-schelamim zeigen einen ursprünglichen Zusammenhang beider Opferarten. Die mincha-Bestimmungen sind im Zuge literarischer Bearbeitung zwischen diesen beiden Opferarten eingeschoben worden. . . . Als vierte Opferart ist die chattat hinzugetreten, die hier an das Ende der Reihe gestellt worden ist. Schließlich erscheint als Anhang der ascham."

²Rendtorff, *Leviticus*, 8: "Da die Reihenfolge der Opfer gewiß nicht zufällig oder beliebig ist, stellt sich die Frage nach dem Grund der Veränderung."

eras. ¹ The following table may serve in illustrating the undeniable difference.

Lev 1-5		Lev 6-7	
1:1-17	burnt offering	6:1-6	burnt offering
2:1-16	grain offering	$6:7-16^2$	grain offering
3:1-17	fellowship offering	6:17-23	sin offering
4:1-5:13	sin offering	7:1-10	guilt offering
5:14-26	guilt offering	7:11-21	fellowship offering

Contrary to the hypothesis of chronological difference origin, A. F. Rainey in his study on the order of sacrifices suggests that Lev 1-5 are "didactic in nature," whereby two categories deal with the sacrifices of pleasing odor (Lev 1-3) and those pertaining to expiation (Lev 4-5). Furthermore Rainey remarks that their order reflects "a pedagogical classification for the training of sacerdotal specialists . . . the offerings are grouped

¹E.g., Koch, *Priesterschrift*, 60-61, claims: "Die Behauptung, Lv 6f., die weitere Bestimmungen über Opfer enthalten, ständen in ursprünglichem Zusammenhang mit Kap. 1-5, stellt ein Wagnis dar; so sehr hat sich in der alttestamentlichen Wissenschaft die Überzeugung durchgesetzt, daß in den beiden Kapiteln eine andere Schicht zu Wort kommt." Rendtorff, *Leviticus*, 8, remarks: "Man könnte vermuten, daß die beiden Opferreihen verschiedene Stadien in der Geschichte der israelitischen Opfer widerspiegeln, zwischen denen sich eine Verschiebung in der Bedeutung bzw. Bewertung der einzelnen Opferarten ergeben hat." Hartley, 93, claims that the "material found in 6:1(8)-7:35 comes from a different corpus from that of the sacrificial regulations in chaps. 1-5." In an insightful summary of the provenience of Lev 1-7, Péter-Contesse, *Lévitique*, 34, presents a chart according to which it took six redactional steps to compose the twenty-five originally independent different smaller literary units into the present text. Gerstenberger, hypothesizes that it seems "reasonable to view these two chapters [6-7] as an addendum to the collection comprising chaps, 1-5."

²In this structure the grain offering of the high priest is considered an integrated part of the מנחה "grain offering," whatever the prehistory and the provenance of 6:12-16 may have been. It should not be left out of account that these instructions for the anointed priest constitute a distinct DS.

³A. F. Rainey, "The Order of Sacrifices in Old Testament Ritual Texts," *Bib* 51 (1970): 486.

according to their *logical* or *conceptual* association." This "descriptive passage" is said to pay special attention to the proper conduct of the ritual, the place of slaughter, etc.

On the other hand, Lev 6:1-7:38 is said to have been ordered according to administrative details with special respect to the allocation of those parts of the offerings which were to be eaten.³ In a third group of texts dealing with the procedural order, that is, the actual "conduct of the rituals," a surprising alteration in the order can be seen. With regard to Lev 8-9 Rainey remarks that the instructions for the ordination of Aaron and his sons "preserve the *procedural* order in both the *prescriptive* (Ex 29) and the *narrative* descriptive (Lev 8) texts." Whether Rainey's classification in didactic, administrative, and procedural texts or the hypothesis of difference in provenience provides the best and most plausible solution may be at least a matter of debate. Possibly there are some verbal clues, that is, terminological indicators within the text itself pointing to some structural devices.

¹Ibid. (emphasis his). While Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 382, follows Rainey's division into "didactic" and "administrative" texts, he correctly emphasizes that Lev 1-5 informs "the laity of its role in the sacrificial service."

²Rainey, 487.

³Levine, *Leviticus*, 35, states: "We observe in chapters 6-7 an administrative order that begins with the most sacred public offerings and continues with other most sacred offerings that are usually relegated to private worship."

⁴Rainey, 494. He continues by stating that the most convincing case for this interpretation is present in the pericope on the Nazirite vow, Num 6:14-15. The Nazirite was "to *furnish* a burnt, sin and peace offering. . . . The priest *carried out* the sacrificial rite in a different order, viz. the sin offering first and then the burnt offering followed by the peace offering" (emphasis his).

⁵Ibid., 496 (emphasis his).

In Lev 1-5 the root קדש "holy" occurs only in 2:3, 10; 4:6 and 5:15², 16. In Lev 2:3, 10 the term is related to the priestly portions of the grain offering, in 4:6 it refers to the "curtain of the sanctuary," and in 5:15b to the "shekel of the sanctuary." In 5:15a and 16 the matter of concern is the sancta which somebody had inadvertently misappropriated. We can therefore conclude that as far as individual sacrifices are concerned, in Lev 1-5 "holiness" is ascribed expressis verbis only to the grain offering in 2:3, 10, while the other occurrences are related to some sancta, and to the shekel of the sanctuary and to the curtain of the tabernacle. In clear contrast to the sparse use of the root in the first five chapters, in Lev 6-7 the root קדש סכנויז twelve times if, as already stated above, the phrase של "most holy" is counted as one occurrence.

Close reading of Lev 6:1-7:21 consisting of three DS (6:1-11; 12-16; 6:17-7:21) arouses the suspicion that the distribution of the root קדש "holy" has again been used in creating a significant structure. The structural overlapping of three DS (6:1-11; 6:12-16; 6:13-7:21), each of which is introduced by the formula "the Lord spoke to Moses," and the fivefold statement אתר התורה "לאת התורה" this is the instruction of, " is said to evidence the composite nature of this passage. The allocation of the root קדש, however, to the distinct parts of this complex pericope is both profound and probably purposeful. Neither in the description of the burnt offering nor in the depiction of the fellowship offering does the root appear even once, and the frequent occurrence of the root in the three central sections proves instructive indeed. The structural role of the interplay of the terms

¹E.g., Milgrom, Leviticus, 438-439; Hartley, 93-96.

"clean" (A), a term found only in the context of the burnt and the fellowship offerings, "הרש "holy" (B), and קדש "most holy" (BB) may be instrumental in solving the enigmatic sequence of these five sacrifices, both in Lev 6-7 and in chaps. 1-5:

burnt offering	6:4	Α		<u>טהור</u>	והוציא אל מקום
grain offering	6:9	В		קדש	מצות תאכל במקום
	10	BB	קדשים הוא	קדש	
	11	В		יקדש	כל אשר יגע בהם
sin offering	6:17	BB	קדשים הוא	קדש	
	19	В	תאכל	קדש	במקום
	20a	В		יקדש	כל אשר יגע בבשרה
	20b	В		קדש	תכבס במקום
	22	BB	קדשים הוא	קדש	
	23	В		בקדש	אשר יובא מדמה לכפר
guilt offering	7:1	BB	קדשים הוא	קדש	
	6b	В	יאכל	קדש	במקום
	6Ъβ	BB	קדשים הוא	קדש	
fellowship offering	7:19	A	יאכל בשר	<u>טהור</u>	והבשר כל

While the bracketing function of טהור "clean" in 6:4 and 7:19 cannot be overlooked, a close look at the alternation of קדש קדשים "holy/most holy" reveals an antithetic outline, i.e., 6:9 is put against 7:6b β , 6:10 against 7:6b α , etc. An additional structural device, which is presented in the following table, elucidates the number of occurrences of קדש קדשים / קדש קדשים (קדש פור פור מהור מחל ביים) מהור ייטהור של מחל של ייטהור י

burnt offering	once <u>טהור</u>	
grain offering	קדש	three times
sin offering	קדש	six times
guilt offering	קדש	three times
fellowship offering	once <u>טהור</u>	

¹Knohl, Sanctuary, 105, n.154, avers: "The words והבשר כל טהור יאכל בשר are, in my opinion, an editorial edition of HS."

At this point it should be noticed that the term טהור "clean" and the root "קדש "holy" do not appear in the following two DS (7:22-27; 28-38) which, however, form an integral part of the larger unit Lev 6-7, a point that is elucidated later on in this study. It should be stated as well that the high-priestly grain offering (6:12-16) has not been integrated in this structure.

It was stated above that in Lev 2:3, 10 the verb "Act" was possibly avoided on purpose. The correctness of this supposition seems to be supported if one takes into consideration the twenty (or twenty-one) occurrences of the verb "eat" in Lev 6:1-7:21 including even the "secondary" section, the high-priestly grain offering (6:12-16). In clear contrast to this, the verb "eat" is found only once in Lev 1-5, where it is stated in 3:17: "you must not eat any fat or any blood." A possible reason why Lev 1-5 does not mention the eating of any portion of the sacrifices may be due not because such a rule

¹This would corroborate the thesis of Snaith, "Numbers," 373, that the high-priestly grain offering (Lev 6:12-16) is not most holy.

²Koch, *Priesterschrift*, 50, claims: "Was mit dem (größeren) Teil des Speisopfers geschieht, der nicht auf dem Altar verbrannt wird, wird nicht gesagt. Nach dem jetzigen Text V.3.10 soll er den Priestern zufallen; für die Zeit, in der die Rituale entstanden sind, war er vielleicht Zugabe zu einem feierlichen Mahl der Opfernden."

³Depending on whether האכל יאכל (7:18) is considered as one or two occurrences the verb appears twenty/twenty-one times in Lev 6:1-7:21; in 7:22-27, another distinct DS, it is found seven times (vss. 23, 24², 25², 26²). According to Waltke and O'Connor, 584, "the infinitive *usually* emphasizes not the meaning denoted by the verb's root but the force of the verb in context" (their emphasis).

⁴Burnt offering: 6:3 (the fire on the altar "eats" the burnt offering); grain offering: 6:9³, 11; high-priestly cereal offering: 6:16; sin offering: 6:19², 22, 23; guilt offering: 7:6²; fellowship offering: 7:16², 18⁽³⁾, 19², 20, 21.

was unnecessary but rather because of the conceptual composition of Lev 1-7. If it is true that in comparison with the first five chapters "the aspect of the 'sanctity' of the sacrifices predominates" in Lev 6:1-7:21, the above patterns may contribute to solving the problem of the general outline of this pericope.

In case these observations prove to be true, it may be concluded that in the extant text of Lev 1-7 deliberate artistic devices have been employed. As far as the order of sacrifices in chaps. 1-3 and 6-7 is concerned, seemingly similar stylistic devices structure both sections: in both cases the burnt and fellowship offerings bracket the one sacrifice (grain offering) and the three sacrifices (grain offering, sin offering, guilt offering) called expressly most holy:

Lev 1-3

Lev 6-7

burnt offering grain offering burnt offering grain offering

fellowship offering

sin offering

guilt offering

sin offering

fellowship offering

guilt offering

In Lev 1-5 three voluntary sacrifices (burnt, grain, and fellowship offerings) have been grouped together, followed by two mandatory sacrifices (sin and guilt offerings). In Lev 6-7 the notion of "eating" is conspicuously present: the burnt offering is totally consumed by fire on the altar, in the holy precincts certain parts of the grain, sin, and

¹Koch, *Priesterschrift*, 52: "Wie beim Speisopfer wird nicht gesagt, wie mit dem Teil des Opfers zu verfahren ist, der nicht auf dem Altar verbrannt wird. Dem Ritual war eine solche Bestimmung wohl überflüssig, weil das Übrige selbstverständlich der zum Opfer versammelten Kultgemeinde zufiel."

²Rendtorff, Leviticus, 230.

guilt offerings are consumed by the priests; the fellowship offering can be consumed by any ritually clean Israelite, be he a priest or a commoner.

In view of these findings the perplexing difference in the order of sacrifices in Lev 1-5 and 6:1-7:21, purportedly proving different origin and time of composition, may turn out after all, of course in conjunction with the distribution of the verb "eat," as the hall-mark of an outstanding structural outline.

Summary and Conclusions

The second chapter set out with presenting the fundamental working hypothesis for this dissertation: the whole of Leviticus has been carefully subdivided and clearly structured in thirty-seven DS, at which the central one, the nineteenth (16:2-34), constitutes the DS on Yom Kippur.

The plausibility and reliability of this hypothesis was put to the test in three distinct steps: First, is it true to the extant text and correct to consider Lev 16:1 a distinct DS? The question should be answered in the affirmative. In three DS (16:1; 16:2-34; 21:1-15) out of the thirty-seven, the infinitive construct אמר is missing in the divine address formula, "and the Lord spoke to Moses (:)" This "lack" seems to be indicative of deliberate design rather than authorial sloppiness. It is only in Lev 16:2 and 21:1 that the divine address formula is formed with אמר "speak" instead of the regular הבר "say."

The interrelation between these two DS is substantiated by the analogous theme: the functional role of the high priest is described explicitly only in these two texts. The terminological similarity existing between 16:32 and 21:10 is both illustrative and

significant. The lack of the infinitive construct לאמר in 16:1 creates a close relationship with the two texts just discussed.

With regard to the structural significance of 16:1 the chronological and thematic link with 10:2 is more significant. The reference to the death of Aaron's sons in 16:1 obviously functions as literary resumptive repetition constituting at the same time a clear-cut chronological link. The structural significance of the repeated reference to the death of Nadab and Abihu is further enhanced by the illuminating open-envelope structure based on the verb "die" in Lev 8-16. Lev 16:1 is anything but introductory in nature; it is rather an indispensable link to chap. 10 thus bracketing the purity *toroth* in Lev 11-15. While 16:1 closely connects to that which precedes, 16:2 intricately interlinks to what follows.

In a second step the functional role of the first and last DS (Lev 1-3 and 27 respectively) was discussed. I hypothesized that the unique use of "most "most holy" in 2:3, 10 and 27:28 justifies us to speak of "holiness," which scholars consider to be one of the main themes or even the central theological theme of Leviticus, as a structural and theological frame encompassing the whole of Leviticus.

Third, Lev 11, which is said to consist of several redactional layers, served as a "showpiece" in testing the plausibility and probability of the basic working hypothesis.

The significant structures—based on the sevenfold occurrences of a given word and/or clear chiastic structures—grounded on the terms "quadruped," עלה "touch," נגע "touch," בהמה "wild quadrupeds" and "ונח "wild quadrupeds" and "ונח "living," and the fortyfold occurrence of the particle "all, every" point to the literary

integrity of the extant text. Since all of the supposedly secondary and tertiary additions have been integrated into one or more of the terminological patterns, the dismembering of Lev 11 into several redactional layers should be seriously questioned.

In an excursus the crucial role of the root "GTO" "holy" as a structural device in the general outline of Lev 1-5 and 6-7 was scrutinized. It was concluded that the double description of the five sacrifices (burnt, grain, fellowship, sin, and guilt offerings) in chaps. 1-5 and 6-7, with a difference of focus and a slightly altered sequence, is most likely not due to a different provenience. As far as their order is concerned a deliberate literary device has seemingly been employed: both in Lev 1-3 and 6-7 two sacrifices, the burnt and fellowship offerings which are never called "holy" or "most holy" in the Hebrew Bible, bracket one/three sacrifices respectively which are explicitly labeled "most holy." In addition to the root "holy" the verb אכל "eat" may be of importance: whereas in Lev 1-5 no mention is made of the consumption of any part of the sacrifices, in 6:1-7:21 the verb has been used twenty (or twenty-one) times thus possibly indicating the "perfect" consumption of sacrificial meat; at the same time the twenty (twenty-one) occurrences of the verb bring about textual cohesiveness of the three distinct DS present in Lev 6:1-7:21.

CHAPTER III

MICROSTRUCTURAL ASPECTS OF LEVITICUS

The thorough testing of Lev 11 seemingly testified to the plausibility of the hypothesis that Leviticus has been artistically subdivided and structured by means of distinct DS. The same methodology applied in the last section of the previous chapter is utilized in investigating other DS as regards their interior literary design.

The Verb דבר as Structural Device

In contradistinction to the general notion that common words are of minimal value in indicating structure, the common verb הבר "speak" (1137 / 67) seems to function as a structural device in several DS. In each case the artistic device consists in alternating the subject of the verb: the Lord (A) and a human person (B). Lev 8:1-10:20, consisting of of two distinct DS (8:1-10:7; 10:8-20), reveals the following pattern:

8:1	Α	יי אל משה לאמר	וידבר	
9:3	В		<u>תדבר</u>	ואל בני ישראל
10:3	Α	יי לאמר	דבר	הוא אשר
5	В	משה	<u>דבר</u>	כאשר
8	Α	יי אל אהרן לאמר	וידבר	
11	Α	יי אליהם ביד משה	דבר	את כל החקים אשר
12	В	משה אל אהרן	<u>וידבר</u>	
19	В	אהרן אל משה	וידבר	

¹Cf. Butterworth, 56.

By means of this pattern the description of the ordination of Aaron and his sons, the inauguration of the cultus, the tragic death and the ensuing events on the eighth day have been couched into a distinct literary pattern.

An almost identical structure (only with one more AB structure) emerges in the extant text of Lev 23 which consists of five distinct DS (vss. 1-8; 9-22; 23-25; 26-32; 33-43). This structure is of special interest since Lev 23 is said to be a composite text consisting of different redactional layers of the so-called Priestly Code (P) and Holiness Code (H):

1	Α		יי אל משה	וידבר
2	В	אל בני ישראל ואמרת אלהם		<u>דבר</u>
9	A		יי אל משה	וידבר
10	В	אל בני ישראל ואמרת אלהם		דבר
23	Α		יי אל משה	וידבר
24	В	אל בני ישראל לאמר		<u>דבר</u>
26	Α		יי אל משה	וידבר
33	Α		יי אל משה	וידבר
34	В	אל בני ישראל לאמר		<u>דבר</u>
44	В	אל בני ישראל.	משה	וידבר

Lev 22 consists of three DS (22:1-16; 17-25; 26-33) and reveals a simple pattern with A and B alternating.

1	\mathbf{A}_{\cdot}	וידבר יי אל משה
2	\mathbf{B}	<u>דבר</u> אל אהרן ואל בניו
17	Α	וידבר יי אל משה
18	В	<u>דבר</u> אל אהרן ואל בניו ואל כל בני ישראל
26	Α	וי דבר יי אל משה

Lev 24, consisting of two DS (vss. 1-12; 13-23), is said to have "anomalous

¹E.g., Knohl, "Priestly Torah," 67; Hartley, 372; Elliger, 304-312.

features" within Lev 17-27. With regard to the structuring function of the verb "speak," it is no more anomalous than the two preceding chapters.

1	Α	יי אל משה	וידבר
13	Α	יי אל משה	וידבר
15	В		ואל בני ישראל <u>תדבר</u>
23	В	משה אל בני ישראל	וידבר

The preceding examples indicate that in several DS at different points of the third book of Moses the verb "speak" is the basis for structural outlines in the extant text. It seems important to notice that this is the case in both the so-called P and H sections.

Structures Based on the Number Seven

As already clearly noticed in Lev 11, the person(s) responsible for the extant text seemingly had a predilection for employing keywords *seven* times. In many cases where this literary device is used, the structural outline clearly corroborates the thematic cohesion and enhances the theological message.

The つっ Structure in Lev 1-3

As explained in the introduction, *Leitwortstil* signifies the deliberate (?) repeti tion of key words and/or roots in a given biblical pericope, a device which has been well known to biblical scholars.

In the tripartite first DS (Lev 1:1-3:16) the particle 55 "all, every" (5408 / 254) occurring in a 2/7/7 structure brings to light a clear-cut literary pattern. While in Lev 1

¹Hartley, 396. Budd, *Leviticus*, 330, even surmises that "it is best to conclude that it was not part of the original Holiness Code."

the particle is present only twice, in chap. 2 the *seven* occurrences have been couched in an envelope structure, and in Lev 3 another *seven* occurrences are closely connected with the *twelvefold* occurrence of the noun חלב "fat" (91 / 48):

1:9		המזבחה	הכל	והקטיר הכהן את
13		והקטיר המזבחה	הכל	והקריב הכהן את
2:2	נ אזכרתה המזבחה	<i>לבנתה</i> <u>והקטיר הכהן אח</u>	על כ ל	
lla		המנחה אשר תקריבו ליי	בל	
11b	•	שאר	כל	כי
11b	אשה ליי	דבש לא תקטירו מננו	וכל	
13	במלח תמלח	קרבן מנחתד	וכל	
13	מלח	קרבנך תקריב	כל	<u>והקטיר</u>] על
16	אשה ליי	לבנתה	על כ ל	<u>הכ" את אזכרתה</u>
2 21				
3:3bα		<i>החלב</i> המכסה את הקרב	.	את
3Ьβ		<i>החלב</i> אשר על הקרב	כל	ואת
4		<u>החלב</u> אשר על ה ן		ואת
9a		<i>חלבו</i> האליה תמימה	n	והקריב מזבח השלמי
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
9bα			0	•
		 <i>החלב</i> המכסה את הקרב		ואת ואת
9bα 9bβ 10				ואת
9bβ 10		<i>החלב</i> המכסה את הקרב <i>החלב</i> אשר על הקרב <i>החלב</i> אשר עלהן		ואת ואת ואת
9bβ 10 14bα		ה <i>חלב</i> המכסה את הקרב <i>החלב</i> אשר על הקרב <i>החלב</i> אשר עלהן <i>החלב</i> המכסה את הקרב	כל	ואת ואת ואת
9bβ 10 14bα 14bβ		ה <i>חלב</i> המכסה את הקרב החלב אשר על הקרב החלב אשר עלהן החלב המכסה את הקרב החלב אשר על הקרב	כל	ואת ואת ואת את ואת
9bβ 10 14bα		ה <i>חלב</i> המכסה את הקרב <i>החלב</i> אשר על הקרב <i>החלב</i> אשר עלהן <i>החלב</i> המכסה את הקרב	כל	ואת ואת ואת
9bβ 10 14bα 14bβ 15		החלב המכסה את הקרב החלב אשר על הקרב החלב אשר עלהן החלב המכסה את הקרב החלב אשר על הקרב החלב אשר על הקרב החלב אשר על הקרב	כל	ואת ואת ואת את ואת
9bβ 10 14bα 14bβ 15		החלב המכסה את הקרב החלב אשר על הקרב החלב אשר עלהן החלב המכסה את הקרב החלב אשר על הקרב החלב אשר על הקרב החלב ליי	כל כל כל	ואת ואת ואת את ואת
9bβ 10 14bα 14bβ 15		החלב המכסה את הקרב החלב אשר על הקרב החלב אשר עלהן החלב המכסה את הקרב החלב אשר על הקרב החלב אשר על הקרב החלב ליי	כל כל כל בכל	ואת ואת ואת את ואת
9bβ 10 14bα 14bβ 15 16bβ 17aβ		החלב המכסה את הקרב החלב אשר על הקרב החלב אשר עלהן החלב המכסה את הקרב החלב אשר על הקרב החלב אשר על הקרב החלב ליי	כל כל כל בכל	ואת ואת ואת את ואת

Considering Lev 1 one cannot fail to see the almost verbatim repetition of vs. 9ba in vs. 13ba. In Lev 2 an inclusion is created by the phrase על כל לבנתה "on all of its frankincense" (Milgrom) in the first and seventh slots. Besides it should be noticed that

the burning of the אזכרה "token portion," in vss. 2 and 16 stands in inverted syntactic order, once following and once preceding the noun לבנה "frankincense." Whereas vs. 11 forbids the addition of "any leaven" or "any honey" to "any grain offering," vs. 13a stresses that "you shall season all your grain offerings with salt" and vs. 13b adds that "on all your offerings you must offer salt" (Milgrom). The fact that two self-contained units, vss. 11 and 13, are bracketed by the inclusion formed by vss. 2 and 16 may be indicative of some deliberate design.²

The hypothesis that 3:16b-17 is a later supplement³ and vs. $16b\beta$, "all the fat is the

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 181-182, discusses four possible renderings: (1) "memorial," (2) the "burnt portion," (3) "the fragrant portion," and (4) "invocation portion." Since according to him no definite answer can be given, he interprets this portion of the grain offering to be "pars pro toto: it stands for the remainder; in other words, it is a 'token portion.' Alternatively it may derive from Akk. zikru 'image, counterpart, replica'... and hence yield 'token'" (182). Rendtorff, Leviticus, 99-101, concludes his investigation of in stating that Milgrom's translation "token-offering'... kommt m.E. dem Sachverhalt am nächsten. Die mincha wird ihrer Idee nach ganz geopfert. Darin steht sie der 'ola nahe. Im tatsächlichen Vollzug wird dies durch die askara ausgedrückt, die stellvertretend für die ganze mincha auf dem Altar verbrannt wird" (100-101).

²Elliger, 38-39, considers vs. 2b a gloss, vs.11 an "Anhang über Sauerteig," vs. 13 an "Anhang über das Salzen," and vs.16 to be part of the "Anhang über Erstlingskorn." Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 182-194, on the other hand attributes Lev 2:3, 10, 14-16 to P₂. With regard to chap. 2, Rendtorff, *Leviticus*, 84, states: "So trägt Kap.2 insgesamt stärker die Merkmale einer allmählichen Entstehung und Sammlung an sich, als dies in Kap.1 und 3 der Fall ist. Doch ist auch das Bestreben erkennbar, die formalen Strukturen der Rituale aufzunehmen und auf die andersartigen Opfervorgänge anzuwenden."

³Milgrom, Leviticus, 216, maintains that the hand (H) which added vs. 17 also inserted כל חלב in vs. 16b. Elliger, 51, avers: "Nur einen kurzen Anhang mußte sich das Heilsmahlopfergesetz des Po¹ noch gefallen lassen in Gestalt von v 17.... Im übrigen dürfte die Reihenfolge Fett - Blut zeigen, daß dem Ergänzer der Satz 16bβ tatsächlich bereits vorgegeben war."

Lord's," possibly "a case of a marginal notation that found its way into the final text" probably loses considerably in persuasiveness once the intricate structure is scrutinized based on the particle כל "all, every" and the noun חלב "fat" in Lev 3. The noun appears forty-eight times in Leviticus and *twelve* times in Lev 3, that is, 25 percent of all occurrences appear within a single chapter. In mentioning the "fat" of the burnt offering in Lev 1:8, 12, the term מבור as in Lev 3 makes it the best source of information as to what to do with the fat of any sacrificial animal. In the following chapters repeatedly reference is made to the "fat of the fellowship offering."

The above table clearly shows that within the structure of Lev 3 three units are verbatim: $3b\alpha-4$; $9b\alpha-10$; $14b\alpha-15$, and each time the particle \supset is present in the middle

¹Hartley, 37. Knohl, "Priestly Torah," 110, maintains that the "connection established by the words 'any fat' in verse 17 and the conclusion of the previous verse 'all fat to the Lord,'... to be a result of late editorial activity. The passage dealing with the peace-offering is composed of three sections: offerings of cattle (verses 1-5), of sheep (6-11), and of goats (12-16). The first section concludes with 'a fire offering of pleasing savor to the Lord'; the second, with 'food burnt in fire to the Lord.' Stylistic convention would lead us to expect the third section to conclude in such a way as to combine the elements of the two previous phrases, something on the order of 'food burnt in fire as offering of sweet savor to the Lord', the likes of which is used elsewhere by PT. It seems that this was indeed the original concluding formula in verse 16, but that the editors who added verse 17 inserted the words 'all fat' into the original conclusion."

²Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 205: "Suet... referring to the layers of fat beneath the surface of the animal's skin and around its organs, which can be peeled off, in contrast to the fat that is inextricably entwined in the musculature."

³Rendtorff, Leviticus, 58, remarks: "So wird man 779 als Ausdruck für einen bestimmten Teil des Fettes, das die Eingeweise umgibt, das 'Fettnetz,' betrachten können." Milgrom, Leviticus, 159, states that the exact meaning of 779 remains a mystery.

⁴Cf. 4:26, 31, 35; 6:5; 7:33.

part. The perfect sequence is "interrupted," however, by vs. 9a. Since in Lev 3:7-11 the sacrificing of a sheep as "fellowship offering" is described, some information is needed as what to do with its fat tail.¹ Obviously this remark functions as an anticipated summary of the fat portions following.² In the alleged addition, 3:16-17, >> "all, every" and >> "fat" appear another four and two times respectively. While in Lev 2 the particle functions as the basis for an envelope structure, in chap. 3 the intricate conjunction of "all" and "fat" testifies to a meaningful outline. The presence of this intricate outline calls upon the readers of the text to assign this *sevenfold* and *twelvefold* structure either to the author of Lev 3 or to a final redactor. Considering this careful composition, the burden of proof that vss. 16b-17 are secondary is on those who consider 3:16-17 a later addition. With regard to the structural significance of 3:17, Rendtorff rightly points to its function on the compositional level of Lev 1-3. The formal aspect of address—as in Lev 1:2 the *Israelites* are addressed in the 2nd pers. pl. in 3:17—which makes him conclude that "the now extant shape is a deliberate, homogeneous composition."

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 210-212, inquires into the different solutions offered to the crux of how to understand חלבר in this verse.

²Rendtorff, Leviticus, 132, remarks: "Nach der mit V.3a gleichlautenden Einleitung beginnt in V.9aβ die Aufzählung der darzubringenden Fettstücke mit betont vorangestelltem חלבות. Dies kann im Satzzusammenhang nur die Funktion einer vorwegnehmenden Zusammenfassung haben: sein Fett, nämlich... der dann die Einzelaufzählung der Fettstücke folgt."

³Ibid., 134: "V.17 ist in der 2. Pers. Plur. formuliert, wie sie auch schon am Anfang von Lev 1-3 in 1,2 begegnet. . . . Die Einführung der persönlichen Anrede an die Israeliten am Anfang und am Schluß dieses Abschnitts macht noch einmal deutlich, daß es sich bei der jetzigen Gestalt um eine bewußte, einheitliche Komposition handelt." Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 216, comments on Rendtorff's observations as implying "the

If these findings prove to be true, the acceptance of the MT acknowledges that by means of numerical perfection, based on terminological patterns, an important idea of Lev 3 has been placed at the climactic end, a notion which makes Gerstenberger even ask: "Does the key to chap. 3 reside in these strict prohibitions against consuming blood and fat?" In view of the fact that the terms "all" and "fat" appear seven and twelve times, which is possibly meant to signify completion and perfection, the structural and literary cohesion of Lev 3 is strongly substantiated. At the same time the overall distribution of "all" in the three distinct parts of this DS may testify to some purposeful planning.

The 50 Structure in Lev 8:1-10:7

In the DS in Lev 8:1-10:17 the particle "call, every" (5408 / 254) functions again as a unique structural device. With regard to the literary unity of this pericope it possibility that H not only supplemented but also redacted this chapter."

¹Gerstenberger, 49. He continues stating: "If so, then the tradents would have transformed an original prohibition with the Hebrew syntactical structure 'you shall not eat blood,' expanding it to 'you shall not eat any fat or blood."

²In view of the numerical balance in the above synopsis it may be asked whether the use of the following terms in the three distinct parts of this DS serves some kind of literary design:

	Lev 1	Lev 2	Lev 3
להקריב	9	8	9
לפני יי	3		3
אהל מועד	3		3

has, for example, been maintained that 8:3-5,¹ as well as 8:10-11² and 10:6-7³ are later additions. In the present passage a *sevenfold* structure (8:10, 11, 16, 21, 25, 27, 36) —part of which is chiastic—has been embedded in another *seven-part* structure. In clear contrast to the above critical remarks, 8:3-5; 8:10-11, and 10:6-7 are part and parcel of this out-line.

8:3			<u>כל העדה</u>
10	אשר בו	ואת כל	
11	כליו	בל	
16	חלב	כל	
21	האיל	כל	
25	חלב	כל	
27		את הכל	
36	הדברים	כל	
9:5			כל העדה
23		העם	בל
24		העם	כל י
10:3		<i>העם</i>	כל י
6a			כל <u>העדה</u>
6b		בית ישראל	כל

The term כל העדה "the whole congregation" not only serves as *inclusio* of the first seven occurrences of כל in Lev 8, but reaching even to 10:6a brackets Lev 9. The

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 499.

²Ibid., 514. Milgrom's argument is based on the absence of the anointing of the Tabernacle (vss. 10-11) in Exod 29 (it is prescribed in Exod 30:26-29; 40:9-11). Concerning Lev 8, Elliger, postulates six different redactional layers (106-115), he claims four for chap. 9 (122-128), and Lev 10:1-7 is said to contain "mindestens dreierlei verschiedene ältere Elemente. . . . Aber er gehört in seiner jetzigen Form schon zur Grundschicht der priesterlichen Geschichtserzählung Pgl"(136). Gerstenberger, 115, hypothesizes that "even a cursory reading reveals that Leviticus 10 has been put together by different tradents and groups."

³Péter-Contesse, *Lévitique*, 157.

triple usage of both כל העדה "the entire assembly" and כל העם "the entire people" is capped by כל בית ישראל "the entire house of Israel," and it should be added that at this point the term "the house of Israel" appears for the first time in Leviticus.

According to Lev 8:2, Moses is summoned to take three animals, the bull for the sin offering, the ram of burnt offering, and the ram of ordination, and it is in vss. 14-17 (bull), vss. 18-21 (ram of burnt offering), and vss. 22-25 (ram of ordination) where their sacrifice is described. Within the context of this tripartite passage the usage of the phrase "all the fat" is of interest. Whereas it is used in speaking of the fat of the bull and the ram of ordination, it is lacking with the ram of burnt offering. As already noticed in Lev 1:8, 12, throughout Scripture הלב is never used in connection with the burnt offering, and this applies to 8:20 as well. While the exact meaning of הלב (1:8,12; 8:20) evades us, vss. 18-21 (ram of burnt offering) have not only been included in the bost constitutes its very center.

The Particle כל in Lev 14

As in the two preceding DS, the particle 55 "all, every" (5408 / 254) has likewise a structuring function in the two DS of Lev 14, though in a different way. Whereas in the first triad in each verse "all his hair" to be shaved off is mentioned, in the second triad

¹In Exod 29:15-18 the fat of this ram is not mentioned at all.

²Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 159, discusses the possible etymological origin and the exact meaning of 779.

each statement is loosely linked to the house which is to be cleansed: everything which is in the house (36), all of the mortar (45), and all the days the house is locked (46). The *seventh* mention of the particle in vs. 54 introduces the subscript of Lev 13-14:

8 9a 9b		כל	וגלח את והיה ביום השביעי יגלח את את	
36	אשר בבית	כל	ולא יטמא	
45	עפר הבית	כל	ואת	
46	ימי הסיר אתו	כל	והבא אל הבית	
54	נגע הצרעת	וכל	זאת התורה ל	7 th

The aesthetics of Lev 14:54-57, as pointed out by Milgrom, reveal an artistically crafted design:

The first two of the final four verses of this chapter sum up all varieties of malignant scale diseases discussed in chaps. 13-14. The last two verses comprise inclusions—with the beginning of chap. 13, with the beginning of chap. 14, and with the summation (vv 54-55). Thereby, the subscript has skillfully and effectively locked in and enveloped chaps. 13-14, the entire unit on scale disease.

The attribution of this artful arrangement of Lev 13-14 to the redaction of H^2 is possibly weakened by the *seven-part* structure based on the noun "discoloration" (7/7) designated A, when immediately followed by בהרת "bright spot" (20/20) and

¹Ibid., 885. In contrast to this, Gerstenberger, 190, remarks: "The concluding remarks in vv. 54-56 are so complex that their developmental history cannot be clearly reconstructed, though the concern with construing a comprehensive subscript to chaps. 13-14 is clearly visible all the same."

²Milgrom, Leviticus, 885.

³Ibid., 773. Milgrom discusses the different translations suggested for this "obscure technical term" and renders it himself as "discoloration."

ספחת "scab/shiny mark" (2 / 2), designated X, and לבנה "white" (29 / 20) which occurs only in Lev 13 and is designated B:

13:2	AX	או <i>ספחת</i> או <i>בהרת</i>	שאת	אדם כי יהיה בעור בשרו
10a	AB	<u>לבנה</u> בעור	שאת	וראה הכהן והנה
10b	Α		בשאת	ומחית בשר חיו
19	AB	<u>לבנה</u>	שאת	והיה במקום השחין
28	Α	המכוה	שאת	והוא כהה
43	AB	הנגע <u>לבנה</u> אדמדמת	שאת	והנה
14:56	AX	ולספחת ולבהרת	לשאת	וי

These three technical terms are present twice ("scab"), seven times ("discoloration"), and twelve times ("shiny mark") respectively, and they are all mentioned first and last in 13:2 and 14:56.

The Particle כל in Lev 27

In the DS of Lev 27 we find a fourth structure based on the common particle, and it has therefore been consciously included here. In the final DS of Leviticus the particle \supset "all, every" (5408 / 254) is found *ten* times: vs. 9 (clean animals), vs.11 (unclean animals), and vs. 25 (standard of payment). The three texts are part and parcel of the passage dealing with valuations. Whereas Elliger considers vss. 30-33, a pericope dealing with tithes, as a self-contained unit² (\supset is found in vss. 30, 32²), he attributes vss. 28 and 29 to two different additions³ (the particle is present in vss. 28³, 29):

¹Ibid., 774. Milgrom discusses the different translations suggested for these two terms and translates them himself as "scab" and "shiny mark."

²Elliger, 382-385.

³Ibid., 384-385.

9	אשר יתן ממנו ליי	כל	
11	בהמה טמאה	כל	
25	ערכך יהיה בשקל הקדש	וכל	
28aα 28aα 28b 29	חרם אשר יחרם איש ליי אשר לו מאדם ובהמה חרם קדש קדשים הוא ליי חרם אשר יחרם מן האדם לא יפדה	כל מכל כל כל כל	אך
30	מעשר הארץ	וכל	
32	מעשר בקר וצאן	וכל	
32	אשר יעבר תחת השבט	כל	

If this structure is looked at from the point of view of content, the ten occurrences seemingly create a 3/4/3 structure.

The Noun D7 in Lev 6:1-7:37

Whereas the noun D7 "blood" (360 / 87) is employed twenty-five times in Lev 1-5, it appears but *seven* times in Lev 6:1-7:37. This passage consisting of five distinct DS (6:1-11; 12-16; 6:17-7:21; 22-27; 28-38) is mostly viewed as of composite nature. As to their respective content the seven texts should be classified in a triad and a group of four:

6:20	ד	<u>על</u> הבג	מדמה	ואשר יזה
23	והל מועד	אל א	מדמה	וכל חטאת אשר יובא
7:2	בח סביב	יזרק <u>על</u> המז	דמו	ואת
14	השלמים לו יהיה		דם	לכהן הזרק את
26		לא תאכלו	דם	וכל
27			דם	כל נפש אשר תאכל כל
33	השלמיםלו תהיה		דם	המקריב את

In the triad the blood is spattered על "upon" a garment, brought אל "into" the

 $^{^{1}}$ E.g., Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 439, attributes 7:8-10 to P_{2} and 6:12-18a α ; 7:22-27, 28-29a, 38b to H. Hartley, 94, assumes a composite nature of this section and maintains that "the material found in it was taken from different bodies of cultic instructions."

Tent of Meeting, and sprinkled "upon, against" the altar. Nobody would deny the artistic arrangement of the group of four, but since in general Lev 6:1-7:36 is not considered an original textual unit, the outline has thus far not been noticed. In 7:14 and 33 specific priestly prebends (leavened bread, vs. 13, and right thigh, vs. 33) are apportioned to those priests who perform the blood-rite of the fellowship offering. These two texts bracket two categoric prohibitions regarding the consumption of blood. In view of this artistic *three* plus *four* arrangement, the suspicion arises that this *seven-part* structure is probably not coincidental.

The Noun D7 in Lev 14

Whereas in the previous outline the noun מל" (360 / 87) created a three plus four structure, the sevenfold occurrence in Lev 14 reveals a six-part envelope structure with a *seventh* member concluding the list. By means of the terms "blood" (A), "blood" (A), "the (slaughtered) bird" (B), and אשם "the guilt-offering" (C) this structure has been formed. One cannot fail to see the chiastic arrangement of the first six members and the envelope structure created by the verb "סבל "dip" in the first and seventh members (vss. 6, 52). In the same way as the preceding structure, vss. 1-32 and 33-57, the two distinct DS have been interlinked, which is possibly more indicative of

¹In relation to the prepositions ב and מן this verb creates a chiastic structure:

אותם ואת הצפר החיה בדם הצפר השחטה A

וטבל אותם ואח

¹⁶ B <u>מן</u> השמן...והזה מן השמן בדם הצפר השחטה בדם

וטבל הכהן את אצבעו הימנית טבל

The significance of this outline on the macrostructural level of Leviticus is discussed on pp. 186-188 below.

literary cohesiveness than the purported P and H provenience.

6 14 17 25 28 51	AB AC AC AC AC AB	הצפור השחטה האשם האשם האשם האשם האשם הצפור השחטה	בדם מדם מדם דם דם דם	<u>וטבל אותם</u> ואת הצפר החיה ולקח הכהן ומיתר יתן הכהן על ולקח הכהן ונתן הכהן על מקום	
52	AB	הצפור	בדם	<u>וטבל אתם</u>	7 th

There is, indeed, something unique about this structure: it is both a seven-part outline, in part a chiastic structure (the first six), and reveals at the same time a striking inclusio based on the verb טבל "dip."

The Noun אש in Lev 8:1-10:7

In the DS in Lev 8:1-10:7 the noun אש "fire" (379 / 32) is present seven times, and as in the previous outline, it has been arranged in a *three* plus *four* structure.

8:17	באש מחוץ למחנה	את הפרואת ערוואת בשרו שרף	เา
32	באש תשרפו	והנותר בבשר ובלחם	
9:11	באש מחוץ למחנה	ואת הבשר ואת העור שרף	
9:24	אש מלפני יי	ותצא	
10:1a	אש	ויתנו בהן	
1b	אש זרה	ויקרבו לפני יי	
2	אש מלפני יי	ותצא 7	7 th

According to 8:17 and 9:11 the skin, the meat, etc., of two different sin offerings
—one sacrificed on the first and the other on the eighth day—for the high priest Aaron
are to be burned "outside the camp." In Lev 8:32, the middle text bracketed by the other
two, it is not stated where the leftovers of the meat of the ram of ordination and the
unleavened bread are to be burned. Each of the three references to the phrase "by fire" is

related to burning the remains of a certain sacrifices.

The following group of four is bracketed by the phrase "and fire came forth from the Lord," enclosing two references to the "strange" fire of Nadab and Abihu. It certainly is impressive to recognize the simple means by which the author of the extant text has interlinked thematically different parts of a single DS: the burning of sacrificial residues by fire, the consuming fire of the Lord, and the "strange" fire of Nadab and Abihu have been linked and structured into a literary unit. In view of the fact that Lev 10:2 "and fire came forth from the Lord" is the *seventh* occurrence of the verb NY" "go out" in Leviticus, it seems to be no mere coincidence that in the present structure this "tragic climax" has likewise been placed in the *seventh* position. While in most cases the seventh slot has been reserved for something positive, Lev 10:2 is seemingly one of the few examples where something negative has been emphasized by way of its special position.

The Root קדש in Lev 10:8-20

In Lev 10:8-20, as a matter of fact a distinct DS, the root "holy" has probably been employed as a means of structuring this pericope. While the clear chiastic outline created by "holy" (A), קדש קדשים "most holy" (B), and מקום (ה)קדש (ה)קדש (ה)קדש (Aa) can hardly be ignored, it is quite apparent that the *seventh* ocurrence of the root has been used as a "capper." This DS, which is the only one addressed directly

¹In the genealogy of Cain in Gen 4:17-18 it is Lamech who has been placed in the seventh position. Are we to understand this as a deliberate contrast to Gen 5:21-24, the genealogy of Seth, where Enoch—probably he is to be viewed as the noblest character of the antediluvian generations—has been placed in the seventh position? The "sinfulness" of Lamech is described more explicitly than anybody else's in Gen 4.

to Aaron, has seemingly been structured by way of the root "holy."

10	A	ובין החל	הקדש	ולהבדיל בין
12	В	קדשים הוא	י קדש	·
13	Aa		קדש	ואכלתם אתה <u>במקום</u>
17aα	Aa		הקדש	מדוע לא אכלתם את החטאת במקום
17aβ	В	קדשים הוא	קדש	כי
18a	Α		הקדש	הן לא הובא את דמה אל
18b	A		בקדש	אכול תאכלו אתה 7th

There is most likely no other more fitting term to outline the only DS addressed to the newly ordained high priest of Israel than this root.

The Term מחוץ ל in Lev 13-14

Exactly as in the preceding example the *sevenfold* occurrence of the expression ... לוצא הכהן אל מחוץ ל" outside of" in Lev 13-14, a pericope consisting of three distinct DS, brings to light another *three* plus *four* structure. In the triad the phrase ויצא הכהן אל מחוץ ל" (ו) "(and) he shall live/sit outside." In order to appreciate this design it must not go unmentioned that in the three DS of which Lev 13-14 consists, the verb ישב "sit, live" appears but twice (13:46; 14:8), hence we might speak of an additional inclusion.

13:46 14:3	למחנה מושבו למחנה	מחוץ הכהן אל מחוץ	בדד <u>ישב</u> ייצא
8	פבו ונו ו לאהלו	•	<u>וישב</u>
40	עיר אל מקום טמא	אל מחוץ	
41	לעיר אל מקום טמא		
45	לעיר אל מקום טמא	אל מחוץ	
53	לעיר אל פני השדה וכפר על הבית וטהר	החיה אל מחוץ	שלח את הצפור 7 th

In the group of four it is stated three times that the infected building material of

the house must be taken "outside the city to an unclean place." The triad and the first three members of the group of four are capped by a *seventh*, a summary stating, as it were, the "happy end" of the house-cleansing ritual: "he shall release the living bird in the open country outside the city and make atonement for the house, and it will be clean."

While the last three examples consisted of *three* plus *four* structures, the following two seven-part outlines are partly chiastic.

The Noun ארץ in Lev 19

There is something unique about the present and the following three structures: in each case it is the *seventh* position that makes mention of either the Exodus from Egypt or the giving of the land of Canaan to Israel. It should be noticed that the "sudden" and unexpected references to the Exodus can be appreciated only when the outstanding outline of the respective pericopes has been recognized. Furthermore, it must not go unnoticed that in each case it is a very common word that has been used as a basis for the respective terminological pattern.

In Lev 19 the sevenfold usage of the noun ארץ "land" (2504 / 80) could possibly be viewed as an artistic arrangement rather than as accidental accretion. It is noteworthy that two different lands are spoken of in Lev 19; the first five texts appertain to the land the Israelites are going to enter, that is, Canaan, and the latter two refer to the land of Egypt whence they came. The inclusion created by the verbatim ארצכם "your land" (vss. 9 and 33) cannot be overlooked and it seems to testify to some deliberate design. But it is the seventh position of the sevenfold mention of the noun "land" by which this

pattern gains special significance. In a similar vein as in Lev 11:45, the *seventh* time "suddenly" reference is made to the Exodus.

9	קכם נכם	ארצ	ובקצרכם את קציר	
23		וכי תבאו אל הארץ		
29bα		ולא תזנה האר ץ		
29bβ	זמה	ומלאה האר ץ		
33	נכם	בארג	וכי יגור אתך גר	
34	מצרים	י גרים הייתם בארץ	כ	
36	מצרים	צאתי אתכם מארץ	אשר הו	7 th

The noun "land" has obviously been purposefully employed, that is, this pericope with its ethical instructions aims at the climactic statement in vs. 36. If we were to follow Sun's redaction-critical analysis, the redactor of the final, the fifth redactional stage turns out to be the "literary artist" by "inserting" vs. 29.¹ But in my opinion it is rather unlikely that this *seven-part* structure, part of which is chiastic and culminating in its reference to the Exodus, should be ascribed to the haphazard addition of the final redactor.

The Verb נתן in Lev 20

In spite of the fact that no clear-cut outline can be recognized in the DS of Lev 20, the seven-part structure based on the common verb "give" (2011 / 85) may be of significance.² Whereas the first five members make reference to Molech worship, and the

¹According to Sun, 207-219, there are five redactional layers. (1) gradual growing together of vss. 11-12a, 15a α , then 12 b and 15a β b, and next vss. 13-14 and 17-18; (2) vss. 3-4 and 36b; (3) vss. 2, 9-10, 23-25, 31, 33-34; (4) vss. 19a α , 26, 27-28, 30, 32, 27; (5) vss. 5-8, 20-22, 29.

²It is noteworthy that the phrase שים פנים "I will set my face against" (NIV) in vs. 5, which is quite common to Ezekiel, occurs only once in Leviticus, possibly in order to employ the verb נתן seven times.

sixth to sodomy, it is the seventh which points to the Lord's giving Canaan to Israel.

2	מזרעו למלך	אשר י ת ן	
3a	את פני באיש ההוא	ואני אתן	
3Ъ	למלך	כי מזרעו נתן	
4	מזרעו למלך	בתתו	
6	את פני בנפש ההוא	ונתתי	
15	שכבתו בבהמה	ואיש אשר י ת ן	
24	לכם לרשת אתה	ואני א תננה	7 th

The propounded hypothesis, that the positioning of "I shall give it to you to inherit it" (vs. 24) in the *seventh* slot is due to some deliberate design, is seemingly substantiated by the following pattern based on the personal pronoun "I" (871 / 71). In spite of the fact that this structure is basically a numerical one, it has been inserted here in order to underscore the *seventh* position with its reference to the Lord's giving of the land to Israel.

3	אתן את פני באיש ההוא	ואני	
5	את פני באיש ההוא		
7	יי אלהיכם	אני	
8	יי מקדשכם	אני	
22	מביא אתכם שמה	אשר אנ י	
23	משלח מפניכם	אשר אנ י	
24a	<u>אתננה</u> לכם לרשת אתה	ואני	7 th
24b	יי אלהיכם	אני	
26	>>	ジス	

In view of the fact that in each of the nine cases the pronoun refers to the Lord, it can by no means be overemphasized that each and every occurrence of this pronoun in Leviticus has been put in the mouth of YHWH. Any theology written on Leviticus

¹McEvenue, 78, calls attention to the artistic device of "structuring through stressed pronouns" in Gen 6 and Gen 17, a unit which "begins with the stressed pronoun 'ani" (167).

should take this "minor detail" into consideration, a detail which seemingly substantiates the hypothesis that the whole of Leviticus has been composed as DS.

In the above structure the statement "I shall give it to you to inherit it" is again in the *seventh* place. In his redaction-critical study, Sun attributes the verses of these two structures to several redactional layers. Whatever the alleged or actual prehistory of the respective subunits may have been, it is the undeniable fact that in *two* structures the *seventh* position is found in vs. 24, "I shall give it to you to inherit."

The special emphasis put on the giving of the land in the above structures—in both cases based on rather common words—probably testifies to the author's intention.

The extant text has been composed in such a way that its theological message is enhanced by the literary form. There can be hardly any doubt that the following structure should be assessed in the very same way.

The Verb היה in Lev 22

In Lev 22, a significant seven-part structure is based on the Allerweltswort² (i.e., a very common word) היה "be" (3548 / 146), and this outline possibly points to an inextricable linking of the three DS (vss.1-16; 17-25; 26-32).³ Whereas the distribution of the

¹According to Sun, 577, there are seven redactional layers in Lev 21 of which vs. 15 belongs to the first, vss. 7, 22-24 + 8, 26 to the fifth, and vss. 2-5 + 6 to the sixth.

²This term is used by Bartelmus in the title of his study on the verb היה.

³In contrast to the literary integrity proposed here, Elliger, 279, considers 22:1-16 to have originated from one hand except vs. 8, and the second and third DS he attributes to three different layers (295). Sun, 304-354, proposes three redactional strata for the first DS, five for the second, and two for the third.

verb to each of the three different DS creates a 2/3/2 pattern, the climax is to be seen in the *seventh* position with its mention of the Exodus, "who has brought you out of Egypt to be [להיות] your God" (NIV). Possibly the even distribution of the verb to the three DS enhances both numerical perfection and theological profundity:

12	לאיש זר	תהיה	ובת כהן כי	
13	אלמנה	תהיה	ובת כהן כי	
20	לכם	יהיה	שר בו מום לא תקריבו כי לא לרצון	כל אי
21bα	לרצון	べいい	תמים	
21bβ	•		כל מום לא	
•				
27 תחת אמו	שבעת ימים	והיה	שור או כשב או עז כי יולד	
33 E	לכם לאלהינ	להיות	המוציא אתכם מארץ מצרים	7^{th}

There is no question that as far as their content and even terminology are concerned vss. 12-13 are closely connected. In vss. 18b-20 and 21-24 instructions are given regarding animals for the burnt and fellowship offerings. The twofold mention of "blemish" in vs. 20 and vs. 21bβ enclose vs. 21bα "it must be perfect to be acceptable" (Wenham). The apparent absence of any interrelation between vss. 27 and 33 in no way detracts from the proposed structure of Lev 22, a pattern created by the *sevenfold*

In Lev 22 DDN "eat" occurs fourteen in the first and last DS (vss. 4, 6, 7, 8, 10², 11², 12, 13², 14, 16 // 30). The distribution of the twenty occurrences of YHWY to the three distinct parts of this chapter is unique indeed:

¹st DS seven times: 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 15, 16

²nd DS $\underline{\text{six}}$ times: 17, 18, 21, 22², 24

³rd DS seven times: 26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33

¹Cf. Rendtorff, Bundesformel, 25.

occurrence of the verb "be" culminating in its mention of the Exodus.1

Besides two structures in Lev 11 and one in Lev 19, this turns out to be the fourth time that common words have been brought into play to "proclaim" the profound message of the liberating Exodus events. In Lev 22 this proclamation is preceded by the call to keep and do the Lord's commandments, not to desecrate his holy name, and the call for sanctification. The ultimate aim of the Exodus is, of course, "to be your God." By means of the common verb "be" this cluster of "central theological statements" has been intimately connected with what precedes.³

With regard to vs. 33 Gerstenberger, 332, concludes: "The theological rationale in v. 33, like Lev. 19:36, refers back to the deliverance from Egypt. Although this reference back to the Exodus events occurs only sporadically in the book of Leviticus, it is always mentioned with great emphasis. . . . This means that some of the tradents in the 'priestly' circle took seriously the coupling of the cultic and social regulations with the Exodus events, though this no doubt cannot be asserted for the entire scope of ritual legislation."

²Ibid., 53.

³In the second part of the first DS (Lev 22:1-16), a chiastic structure, based on the the noun it "stranger" (71 / 4), further testifies to the artistic arrangement of this chapter.

וכל **זר** לא יאכל *קדש* 10

¹² איש אר הוא בתרומת הקדשים לא תאכל 13 ובת כהן כי תהיה לאיש אר הוא בתרומת הקדשים לא יאכל בו 13 וכל אר הוא בתרומת לא יאכל בו λ

The inclusion created by means of the phrase "no outsider may eat of holy things /it" encloses the statement that "the daughter of a priest who marries an outsider may not eat of the contributed holy things" (Wenham). Paran, 155, points to the sevenfold usage of the root אכל in 22:10-13, three of which are affirmative (vss. 11², 13a) and another four prohibitive (vss. 10², 12, 13b), a pattern in which the phrase וכל אר יאכל קדש / בו (vss. 10a, 13b) serves as inclusio. In view of these two probably deliberate designs, the contention of Sun, 324, that "the unit vv. 10-13 betrays its heterogeneity by the variation in construing the verb "אכל seems rather doubtful, especially in view of his avowal that "its literary critical stratification cannot, however, be recovered."

The Noun אם and the Verb חגג in Lev 23

In the five DS of Lev 23 (vss.1-8; 9-22; 23-25; 26-32; 33-44) the two phrases המצות "Feast of Unleavened Bread" (vs. 6) and הסכות "Feast of Tabernacles" (vs. 34) in the first and last DS respectively bracket the three middle DS. In vss. 39-44 which are said to be a supplement, the noun הוא "feast" (62 / 4), designated A, and the verb אה "keep a feast" (16 / 3), designated B, alternate, thus creating a chiastic structure.

6	A		המצות		הזה	ובחמשה עשר יום לחדש
34	A	שבעת ימים <u>ליי</u>	הסכות	חג	השביעי הזה	בחמשה עשר יום לחדש ו
39aβ	В			תחגו		
39aβ	A	<u>))</u>		מג	את	
41aα	В		אתו	וחגתם		
41aα	A	<u>ליי</u>		3D		
41bβ	В		אתו	תרוגו	ודש השביעי	בר

Considering this *three* ("keep a feast") plus *four* ("feast") structure may serve as a first hint of the artistic arrangement of Lev 23 and its distinct parts. The use of the noun in vss. 6 and 34 bracket, as it were, the first section of Lev 23. The second discourse on the Feast of Tabernacles (vss. 39-43) has obviously been structured by the alternation of verb and noun. No matter whether this seven-part design is due to the author or a later redactor, in the extant text the chapter on the Israelite weekly and yearly feasts clearly has been arranged by means of the noun "feast" and the verb "to keep a feast," a fact which cannot be denied.

¹E.g., Elliger, 305-306. Hartley, 372, hypothesizes that "this section has the earmarks of a later addition. First, it comes after the subscription to the ancient calendar (vv 37-38). Second, it begins with a detailed calendrical fixation (v 39) so similar to the one in v 35 that it might be considered redundant unless it had an independent existence."

Chiastic Structures

This subunit is devoted to the search for chiastic structures. As has been shown above in the investigation of Lev 11, chiastic structures impart literary integrity and, at times, enhance the theological message.

The Noun נפש in Lev 4-5

In his Leviticus commentary, Milgrom basically attributes the whole of Lev 4-5 to P₁. The pericope consisting of three DS of different lengths (4:1-5:13; 5:14-19; 5:20-26) seems to have been arranged by means of the quite common noun שם "person" (753 / 60) in conjunction with the particles או "if" and או "or." While the basic outline of the following table appears in shadow font script, the subunits have been printed in smaller script. Since all occurrences of או בפש (B), and או נפש (C) cannot be overlooked. With regard to Lev 4, Milgrom contends that the introductory אשר "when" in vs. 22 has been

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 63. On the other hand he appraises Lev 5:1-13, "the graduated purification offering [which] . . . had no single originator, nor did it need one. It was the logical and irrevocable terminus for the monotheistic process, and it became oral tradition at an early age" (318). A. Schenker, "Der Unterschied zwischen Sündopfer chattat und Schuldopfer ascham im Licht von Lev 5,17-19 und 5,1-6," in Pentateuchal and Deuteronomistic Studies: Papers Read at the XXXth IOSOT Congress, Leuven 1989, ed. C. Brekkelmans and J. Lust (Louvain: Leuven University Press, 1990), 121, remarks: "Lv 4 und 5 bilden ein kohärentes Ganzes." Schenker continues, however, by stating (123): "Mit der Freilegung dieses Systems soll nicht die Entwicklung der priesterschriftlichen liturgischen Texte geleugnet werden, z.B. die spätere Perikope der Verfehlung des Hohepriesters in Lv 4." Noth, Leviticus, 36, maintains, that "their lack of unity makes closer dating impossible; one can only attempt a relative chronology, that is, distinguish between "older, more recent, and most recent material."

used deliberately since "it marks the midpoint and central case in this chapter." If ים "when" is 4:1 is interpreted as heading, the five instances in this chapter are introduced by אם (vs. 3), אם (vs. 13), ים (vs. 22), אם (vs. 27), אם (vs. 32).

Although this claim seems to be corroborated, because the root איז" "know" is present in vss. 14, 23, 28 (the second, third, and fourth cases) but absent from the first (4:3-12) and fifth (5:32-35), it is debatable whether in view of the overall structure of Lev 4-5, באם נפש in 4:27.2 (1) in 4:3, 13, 32 has the same structural-syntactical function as איז in 4:27.2 (1) if a person [עפש] sins" as an integral part of a chiastic structure, it need no longer be considered a crux, an "originally. . . independent law."

In looking at the *content* of vss. 1-4 the logic of the present text cannot be denied. Whereas vs. 1 speaks of the sense of hearing "if a person [נפש] sins in that he hears . . ." (Hartley), vss. 2-3 "or if a person [או נפש] touches anything unclean . . . or if he touches any human uncleanness" (Hartley) are concerned with the sense of touch, and vs. 4 "or if a person [או נפש] swears rashly" (Hartley) addresses human speech. The distribution of these verbs in Lev 4-5 is of interest: שבע "touch" (5:2, 3, 7); שבע "swear" (5:4, 22, 24).

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 246.

²Ibid., 308.

³Ibid., 314. Because vs. 1 "does not follow the structure of the subsequent cases (vv 2-4)" and the missing אשם "that is to say, no subsequent feeling of guilt" Milgrom considers it to be an originally independent law (315).

⁴Ibid., 315.

4:21	A	כי תחטא בשגגה מכל מצות יי 4:3 אם הכהן המשיח 4:13 ואם כל עדת ישראל ישגו (14) <u>ונודעה</u>	<u>נפש</u>	
		אטר נשיא יחטא (23) או <u>הודע</u> אליו 4:22		
27	B	אחת תחטא בשגגה מעם הארץ (28) או <u>הודע</u> אליו	<u>נפש</u>	ואם
		ואם כבש יביא 4:32		
5:1	Α	כי תחטא ושמעה קול או ידע אם לא יגיד או ידע אם לא יגיד	<u>נפש</u>	
2		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		<u>אנ</u>
4		אשר תשבע לבטא בשפים לחרע אווהוא ידע ואשם		<u>או</u>
		5:5 והיה כי יאשם (6) והביא כשבה או שעירת עזים 5:7 ואם לא תגיע ידו די שה 5:11 ואם לא תשיג ידו לשתי תרים או לשני בני יונה		
15	Α	כי תמעל מעל וחטאה בשגגה	וחוע	
17	В	כי תחטא ועשתהמצות יי ולא ידע ואשם		ואם
•	.5	הוא לא <u>ידע</u> 5:18	222	DIV!
21	A	כי תחטא ומעלה מעל ביי	<u>נפש</u>	

Since this study is only searching for structures by scrutinizing the *form* of the extant text of Leviticus, the content, the theology, the conceptual interrelation, and in this case the possible overlapping of the sin offering (Lev 4), the "graduated purification offering" (5:1-13) and the guilt offering (5:14-26) are not of immediate concern. The eight occurrences of the noun volume to function as a structural outline in Lev 4-5, thus creating an identifiable cohesive pericope which consists of three DS.

The Verb קטר in Lev 6-7

The verb קטר "turn into smoke" (116 / 33), present seventeen times in Lev 1-5, is used much more sparingly in chaps. 6-7 but at the same time quite creatively. In Lev 4

¹The spacing is to indicate the different DS.

²Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 307. Rendtorff, *Leviticus*, 188, remarks that "auf die schwierigen Fragen der Abgrenzung zwischen Kap. 4 und 5... hat JMilgrom einige neue Antworten gegeben."

where the five different cases for a sin offering are described, each time the "turning into smoke" of the fat of the sacrificed animal is mentioned. Therefore it is somewhat surprising that in the context of the sin offering the verb is not used even once. In the passage pertaining to the burnt offering, Lev 6:1-6, the burning of the fat of the fellowship offering is surprisingly mentioned in vs. 5. It is of interest that the only Hophal form (B) of the verb (6:15) is on either side enveloped by two Hiphil forms (A); besides, the first and last members in this structure concern the fat of the fellowship offering (C):

6:5	Α	עליה חלבי השלמים	הקטיר	fellowship offering
8	Α	המזבח	וחקטיר	grain offering
15	В		כליל תקטר	high priest's grain o.
7:5	Α	אתם הכהן המזבחה	והקטיר	reparation offering
31	A	הכהן את החלב המזבחה	והקטיר	fellowship offering

At this point it must be emphasized that in 7:11-21, the torah of the fellowship offering, the אחלב "fat" is not mentioned at all, although in Lev 3 and in the following chapters reference is made repeatedly to the "fat" of the fellowship offering. The author of Lev 6:1-7:38 refers to the "fat" first in 7:23. Suffice it to say that formally this verse belongs to a new DS, and not to the DS of 6:17-7:21. The basic outline of Lev 6:1-7:38 as presented in the extant text is of prime importance.

If we look at the texts of this list under the aspect of the sanctity of the sacrifice of which they are part, that is, where the root "foly" is actually present, a meaningful structure can be established, a clear chiastic outline which seems intentional:

¹Rendtorff, *Leviticus*, 238, construes this reference as "ein weiterer Rückbezug auf die vorher- gehenden Kapitel," giving expression to close relationship of the עלה and ritual. Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 388, assumes "that private well-being offerings would unfail-ingly be offered each morning." Cf. Hartley, 96.

6:5	Α	fellowship offering	not present
8	В	grain offering	קדש
15	Α	high priest's grain offering	not present
7:5	В	reparation offering	קדש
31	Α	fellowship offering	not present

In the very center of the list the high priest's grain offering has been positioned, a passage which is said to have been added later.¹

The Verb שרט in Lev 14

In the two distinct DS of Lev 14 (vss. 1-32 and 33-57), which according to some scholars are of different origins,² the distribution of the verb שרוט "slaughter" (86 / 32), designated A, in conjunction with צפור אחת (B), צפור השרוטה (C), and בש (D), turns out to form the basis of a significant structure which encompasses the whole chapter:

5	AB	את הצפור האחת אל <i>כלי חרש</i> על מים חיים	ושחט	
6	AC	על המים החיים	ור השחטה	בדם הצפ
13aα	AD	את הכבש במקום	ושחט	
13aβ	Α	את החטאת ואת העלה	<u>ישחט</u>	אשר
19	Α	את העלה	ישחט	ואחר
25	AD	את כבש האשם	ושחט	
50	AB	את הצפור האחת אל <u>כלי חרש</u> על מים חיים	ושחט	
51	AC	ובמים החיים	ור השחטה	בדם הצפו

The last two members of the structure, which are part of the second DS, seem to be out of order, but they have been placed logically, that is, in accordance with the actual procedure: first the bird has to be slaughtered and only afterwards can a finger be dipped into its blood. In addition to this, the term כלי חרש "earthen vessel" appears in this

¹E.g., Elliger, 94; Milgrom, Leviticus, 396; Hartley, 94.

²E.g., Milgrom, ibid., 886.

chapter only twice and the slaughtering of a bird in an "earthen vessel" (vss. 5 and 50) is attested only here in the Hebrew Bible. In addition, even the positioning of the imperfect verbal forms, caused, of course, by their syntactical context in vss. 13a α and 19 in relation to the waw-perfect in vss. 5, 13a β , 19, 25, 50, and the passive participle in vss. 6 and 51, reveals some kind of deliberateness.

The description of the ritual slaughter of a bird at the beginning of the first and the end of the second DS encloses the slaughtering of three lambs, although the verb שוחט is used four times. While in vs. 12 the first lamb is sacrificed as an ששו "guilt offering," vs. $13a\beta$ makes reference only to the place of slaughter.² The lamb mentioned in vs. 19 is a אוס "sin offering," whereas the one sacrificed in vs. 25, that is, on the eighth day, is again a guilt offering.

The two chiastic structures present in the first DS of Lev 14 were first recognized by Lund.³ If the suggested structure based on the verb "slaughter" proves to be true to the text, we may conclude: in contrast to the contended P and H origin, 14:1-32 and 33-57 have been intricately interlinked from the time of their conception.

¹Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 836, states that the MT's אל "must be understood in its primary meaning, 'into,' thereby specifying that the blood of the slaughtered bird must be drained *into* the bowl" (his emphasis).

²The unique expression במקום אשר ישחט את החטאת ואת העלה has probably been coined for aesthetic reasons in order, as Milgrom, ibid., 852, observes, "to provide symmetry to the literary structure." The chiastic structure of vss. 11-20 is discussed by Milgrom (846-859).

³Milgrom, ibid., 859-860, adopts and slightly alters the inverted patterning of 14:21-32 presented by Lund.

The Noun בגד in Lev 16

Lev 16:2-34 as the central DS of Leviticus, preceded and followed by eighteen DS each, constitutes not only the keystone of the literary structure but "the climax of the sacrificial system." The majority of scholars view the chapter as composite, though "no consensus has been achieved as to the analysis of the text." The arguments in favor of literary heterogeneity are generally based on the unusual linguistic features, syntactical peculiarities, "repetitions, unique usage of words, overlappings in the ritual order, gaps in details, parenthetical statements, and theological tensions." In my understanding, the preconceived opinion of several redaction layers may be an obstacle in our search for

¹Hartley, 224. Harrison, *Leviticus*, 14, calls Lev 16 the "pivot" of the book's two principal divisions. Rendtorff, *Introduction*, 146, remarks: "All removal of impurity comes to a conclusion and climax in the great annual occasion of atonement, at which at the same time the sanctuary is cleansed from the impurity caused by all the happenings for which atonement could be made." Blenkinsopp, *Pentateuch*, 224, speaks of Lev 16 as "the centrally placed ritual for the Day of Atonement."

²Kiuchi, 78.

³K. Aartun, "Studien zum Gesetz über den grossen Versöhnungstag Lv 16 mit Varianten. Ein ritual-geschichtlicher Beitrag," *Studia Theologica* 34 (1980): 76-109, concludes his investigation by stating that "das Ritualgesetz in Lv 16 mit Varianten erst eine sekundäre Erscheinung darstellt. Zwei Riutale, welche - ihrem Typ nach - von Hause aus zur Ausführung in der Lage der tiefsten Not bestimmt wurden, sind in exilischer oder nachexilischer Zeit wegen der geänderten kultischen Aktualität mit einander kombiniert worden und z.T. bearbeitet worden" (103).

⁴Hartley, 230. On the other hand he sees "the possible presence of a chiastic pattern" (232) based on the general content rather than on terminological parallels: A, narrative and introduction (vss. 1-2); B, calendrical agenda (vss. 3-10); C, liturgical regulations (vv 11-28); B', calendrical instructions (vss. 29-34a); A', compliance report (vs. 34b).

⁵Elliger, 200, presupposes what he calls Pg², an "erste Bearbeitung," and a "Schlußredaktion." "Man wird sich damit abfinden müssen, daß in Lv 16 von Pg¹ keine

literary patterns which may indicate original literary cohesiveness. It ought to be kept in mind that next to the required sacrifices, described in vss. 3b and 5, the high priestly linen vestments—a detailed description of which is given in vs. 4—constitute another essential part, even an important prerequisite for the ritual of Yom Kippur. If one does not devalue vss. 29-34 from the very beginning as "appendix . . . tacked onto chap. 16," a possibly deliberate chiastic design, based on the *sevenfold* repetition of the noun מון "garment" (215 / 54), may be seen.²

4	Α	<u>קדש</u> הם	בגדי	
23	В	הבד	בגדי	ופשט את
24	C		בגדיו	ולבש את
26	C		בגדיו	והמשלח את השעיר לעזאזל יכבס
28	C		בגדיו	והשרף אתם יכבס
32bα	В	הבד	בגדי	ולבש את
32ъβ	Α	<u>הקדש</u>	בגדי	

This obvious outline may turn out to be a significant literary device in structuring the present text. The clear-cut *seven-part* outline, and at the same time a *chiastically* composed structure encompassing the whole chapter, seems to weaken the hypothesis

noch so dürftige Spur zu entdecken ist" (210). This hypothesis, however, contradicts Milgrom's interpretation, *Leviticus*, 1064-1065. He assigns vss. 2-28 to the basic Priestly text and ascribes vss. $2b\beta$ and 29-34a to the redactorial activity of H. Contrary to this, Knohl, "Priestly Torah," 87, attributes vss. 1-28 and 34a to "the original PT version of this passage," and only vss. 29-33 to the editors of the Holiness Code.

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 1064.

²Besides this seven-part structure it should not be overlooked that the noun "בפרת "atonement cover" (NIV) appears seven times, and אטה "sin offering" fourteen times (see appended concordance). The sevenfold distribution of the very common verb עשה (vss. 9, 15², 16, 24, 29, 34) is of interest because the seventh is found in vs. 34b, the concluding phrase of the chapter: ויעש כאשר צוה יי את משה "and he did as the Lord commanded Moses."

that "scribes collected and edited well-worn texts in order to preserve the traditions of this day in the Pentateuch." If the unique construction based on the verb "come," by means of which vss. 2-28 have been creatively composed, is likewise taken into consideration at this point, it has to be admitted that in the extant text of Lev 16 the structural and theological function of the "gloss on the linen vestments" (vs. 32b) is clear and carries conviction.

⁴Rodriguez, "Leviticus," 283, infers a chiastic structure for Lev 16: "And Yahweh said to Moses"

A Aaron should not go into the most holy place any time he wishes	16:2
B Aaron's sacrificial victims and special vestment	16:3-4
C Sacrificial victims provided by the people 16:5	
D Aaron's bull, goat for Yahweh, goat for Azazel	16:6-10
E Aaron sacrifices his bull as a sin-offering	16:11-14
F Community's sacrifice is offered as a sin-offering	16:15
G Make atonement	16:16-19
G' Atonement is finished	16:20a
F' Community's goat for Azazel sent to the wilderness	16:20b-22
E' Aaron's closing activities	16:23-25
D' Goat for Azazel, Aaron's bull, goat for sin-offering	16:26-28
C' People rest and humble themselves	16:29-31
B' Anointed priest officiates wearing special garments	16:32-33
A' Anointed priest makes atonement once a year	16:34

"As the Lord commanded Moses"

In Rodriguez's structure the introduction "and Yahweh said to Moses" and conclusion "as the Lord commanded Moses" function as *inclusio*. In comparing his outline with the chiastic structure based on the noun "garment," it has to be stated that vss. 24, 26, 28—mentioning three times—do not figure. Second, it must be asked whether C C' and

¹Hartley, 231.

²See pp. 168-171 below.

³Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 1064. According to Janowski, 267-271, vss. 4, 23, and 24 belong to the "Grundschrift," vss. 26, 28 to what he calls "Bearbeitungsschicht," and vs. 32 to the "Schlußredaktion." In his critique of the dissecting of Lev 16 to several distinct layers, Blum, *Studien*, 249-250, n. 117, emphasizes that any analysis of this complex chapter has to begin "bei dessen differenzierter, aber folgerichtiger Gesamtstruktur."

The Noun מלאכה in Lev 23

In Lev 23 the noun מלאכה "work" (166 / 16) clearly interlinks the five DS (vss. 1-8; 9-22; 23-25; 26-32; 33-44) this chapter comprises:

3aα	A		מלאכה	ששת ימים <i>תעשה</i>
3aβ	A	לא תעשו	כל מלאכה	
7	В	<u>עבדה</u> לא תעשו	כל <u>מלאכת</u>	
8	В	<u>עבדה</u> לא תעשו	כל <u>מלאכת</u>	
21	В	<u>עבדה</u> לא תעשו	כל מלאכת	
25	В	<u>עבדה</u> לא תעשו	כל <u>מלאכת</u>	
28	Α	לא תעשו	וכל מלא כה	
30	A		כל מלאכה	וכל נפש אשר <i>תעשה</i>
31	Α	לא תעשו	כל מלאכה	
35	В	<u>עבדה</u> לא תעשו	כל <u>מלאכת</u>	
36	В	<u>עבדה</u> לא תעשו	כל <u>מלאכת</u>	

The literary artifice utilized in this outline consists of two easily recognizable stylistic devices. First, vss. 3aa-30 have been chiastically arranged. This claim is corroborated by the consonantal congruence of תעשה "you shall do" (vs. 3aa: 2 sgl. m.) and "[any person who] does (vs. 30: 3 sgl f), and the distribution of "all work" and כל מלאכת עבדה "all servile work." If we were to follow the widespread hypothesis that "finally the . . . and the law of the Sabbath were included at a now undeterminable time within this process of growth," this ingenious structure should be attributed to the final redactor(s) and/or editor(s). At the same time he/they would have to be accredited with the second artistic device. The conspicuous antithetic parallelism of the terms "all work" and "all servile work," constitutes a literary device by means of

EE' really correspond to each other.

¹Sun, 406; cf. Knohl, "Priestly Torah," 72; Elliger, 310-311; Hartley, 372.

which vss. 3-36 have been welded into a clear-cut compositional unity. At this point it must be admitted that two sections, vss. 9-14 and 39-44, stand outside these structuring outline.

The Phrase יהיה לכם in Lev 23

The expression יהיה לכם "will be for you" (C: מקרא קדש preceding and D: "sacred assembly" (pl.: A; sgl.: B) constitutes another complex chiastic structure knitting together Lev 23:4-37:1

2 B 3 A		אשר תקראו אתם מקראי קדש וביום השביעי שבת שבתון מקרא קדש	<u>מעדי יי</u>
4 A 7 BC 8 B	<u>יהיה לכם</u>	מקראי קדש ביום הראשון מקרא קדש ביום השביעי מקרא קדש	<u>אלה מועדי יי</u>
21 BC	<u>יהיה לכם</u>	וקראתם בעצם היום הזה מקרא קדש	
24 BD		לחדש <u>יהיה לכם</u> שבתון זכרון תרועה מקרא קדש	בחדשבאחד
27 BC	<u>יהיה לכם</u>	לחדש השביעי הזה יום הכפרים הוא מקרא קדש	אך בעשר
35 B 36 BC 37 A	<u>יהיה לכם</u>	ביום הראשון מקרא קדש ביום השמיני מקרא קדש <i>אשר תקראו אתם</i> מקראי קדש	<u>אלה</u> <u>מועדי יי</u>

A close look at vss. 2 and 4 in relation to vs. 37 indicates that the first two have been "combined" in the latter. Whereas in the previous structure the pericope on the Sabbath had been inseparably integrated, vss. 2-3 stand outside the present chiastic structure, but the chiastic arrangement of the following nine can hardly be contradicted.

¹The spacing is to elucidate the different DS, vss. 1-8; 9-22; 23-25; 26-32; 33-44.

In taking vs. 4 as (second) title and vs. 37 as summary, the first and last festivals (Feast of Unleavened Bread and Feast of Booths respectively) are spoken of twice and the three middle ones but once. The phrase יהיה לכם is present with the *first* of the Feast of Unleavened Bread and the *last* of the Feast of Tabernacles and, of course, appears in vs. 21 and vs. 27. Although the alternation of the syntactical position of יהיה לכם is due to the immediate context, the artistic quality of this arrangement is most illuminating. In the very center the phrase זכרון תרועה יהיה לכם in Num 28-29, a similar phrase יום תרועה יהיה לכם has been placed. In the following structure based on מקר אקדש has been placed. The conceptual, structural, and terminological similarity between Lev 23 and Num 28-29 is certainly noteworthy at this point.

In view of the compositional congruence of Num 28-29 with Lev 23, there seems to be room for legitimate doubt as to Knohl's hypothesis that "Nu 28-29 is wholly PT, as

A and A' set the date of the Day of Atonement, B and B' underline the "quality" of the day and emphasize the "self-denial" (Milgrom), C and C' point out the prohibition of any work, and D and D' describe the dire consequences of lack of self-denial or performance of any work: being cut off from the people.

¹Knohl's claim, "Priestly Torah," 71, that the DS on the Day of Atonement consists of several redactional layers is probably weakened by the structure brought to light by Paran, 170:

²⁷aα A אך בעשור לחדש השביעי הזה 27aβ B ועניתם את נפשתיכם יום הכפרים הוא ... 28 C <u>... וכל מלאכה לא תעשו</u> 29 D כי כל הנפש אשר לא תענה ... ונכרתה מעמיה 30 מקרב עמה 'D' ... תעשה כל מלאכה...והאבדתי את הנפש ההוא 31 C' כל מלאכה לא תעשו ... 32a ועיתם את נפשתיכם 'B' שבת שבתון הוא לכם 32b A' בתשעה לחדש בערב מערב עד ע" תשבתו שבתכם

opposed to Lev 23, which . . . is composed of elements of both HS and PT." Knohl's hypothesis is contradicted, however, by Milgrom who maintains that Num 28-29 "is probably an expansion of the calendar of Leviticus 23."

28:18	כל מלאכת עבדה לא תעשו		מקרא קדש	ביום הראשון	
25	כל מלאכת עבדה לא תעשו	יהיה לכם	מקרא קדש	וביום השביעי	
26			111mm 1 1mm14		
26	כל מלאכת עבדה לא תעשו	יהיה ככם	מקרא קדש	וביום הבכורים	
29:1	כל מלאכת עבדה לא תעשו	יהיה לכם	מקרא קדש	באחד לחדש	
7	כל מלאכה לא תעשו	יהיה לכם	מקרא קדש	•••	
12	כל מלאכת עבדה לא תעשו	יהיה לכם	מקרא קדש	יום לחדש השביעי	
35	כל מלאכת עבדה לא תעשו	תהיה לכם	עצרת	ביום השמיני	

In the same way as in Lev 23, the *first* and *last* of the five festivals dealt with are referred to twice (28:18, 25 and 29:12, 35 respectively) and the central three are mentioned only once. In contrast to Lev 23, however, six occurrences of מקרא קדש are capped by a "synonym," עצרת, 3 a term which is present as well in Lev 23:36. When this term is used in the Hebrew Bible to describe a specific festival, it denotes either the Feast of Unleavened Bread or the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles.

In briefly reviewing the last two structures of Lev 23, I believe that those scholars

¹I. Knohl, "Priestly Torah," 67. Knohl's view concerning an "early" P and a "later" H is contradicted by B. A. Levine, *In the Presence of the Lord* (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1974), 48, who maintains: "Verses 12-13, 18-20, and the postscript in 37b-38 are certainly original to the liturgical calendar of H, and were inserted so as to bring this earlier record into line with P's overall regimen of sacrificial requirements."

²Milgrom, *Numbers*, xix.

³Whereas in Deut 16:8 עצרת denotes Passover—which is unique in the Hebrew Bible—in Lev 23:36; Num 29:35; Neh 8:18, and most likely in 2 Chr 7:9 it designates the Feast of Tabernacles.

claiming the presence of major supplements to an alleged ancient calendar are called upon to substantiate the hypothesis of gradual growth, basing their substantiation solely on the extant text and attempting to show that the two structures are the logical result of the supposed redactional growth process.

Excursus: Lev 24 in Its Present Position

Lev 24 which has "ostensibly . . . nothing to do with the festival calendar" of Lev 23 is said to have "anomalous features" within chaps. 17-26, and it is viewed as an alien element in its present literary context lacking "the clear structural markers characteristic of many sections of Leviticus." In order to understand the significance of Lev 24 in its present position and to appreciate its clear-cut inherent structures this excursus has been intentionally inserted at this point, and all structures (even if they are not chiastic) have been listed here.

¹Gerstenberger, 354.

²Hartley, 396.

³E.g., V. Wagner, "Zur Existenz des sogenannten 'Heiligkeitsgesetzes'," ZAW 86 (1974): 314, remarks: "Lev 24 1-9 ist aber deutlich ein Fremdkörper . . . der . . . hier nicht sinnvoll eingeordnet werden kann . . . Lev 24 10-23 dagegen ist hier wohl vollständig deplaciert." C. Feucht, Untersuchungen zum Heiligkeitsgesetz (Berlin: Evangelische Verlagsanstalt, 1964), 65, claims that Lev 24:10-23 "hängt in jedem Falle innerhalb des Hg in der Luft." E. Otto, "Das 'Heiligkeitsgesetz' Leviticus 17-26 in der Pentateuchredakti-on," in Altes Testament Forschung und Wirkung: Festschrift für Henning Graf Revent-low, ed. P. Mommer and W. Thiel (Frankfurt: P. Lang, 1994), 75, maintains: "Die Kapitel 17-26 bilden einen deutlich nach vorn und hinten abgegrenzten Textbereich innerhalb der Sinaiperikope . . . aus der nur 24 als größerer Zusatz herausfällt."

⁴Wenham, Leviticus, 308.

With regard to the relation of Lev 24:1-9 to vss. 10-23 Ibn Ezra already maintained, followed by many modern commentators, that the two distinct parts lack any connection. Concerning the generally prevailing notion that the chapter is out of place in its present position, the question may be asked: Is there any place in Leviticus more fitting than the present one? If one takes the content carefully into consideration we can only conclude that the present position is the most appropriate and probably the only possible place in Leviticus, to be more precise because of the following reasons:

In Lev 19:3, 30 the noun שבת "Sabbath" is mentioned for the second time in Leviticus (cf. 16:31). In each of the five DS of Lev 23 and in the single DS of Lev 25-26

¹J. F. Shachter, *The Commentary of Abraham Ibn Ezra on the Pentateuch*, vol. 3, Leviticus (Hoboken, NJ: Ktav Publishing House, 1986), 142. Hartley, 396, remarks: "Another problematic issue is the lack of any connection between the two reports." Whereas R. Kilian, Literarkritische und Formgeschichtliche Untersuchung des Heiligkeitsgesetzes, BBB 19 (Bonn: P. Hanstein, 1963), 121, differentiates six redactional layers: (1) vss. 18b, 20a; (2) vs. 18a; (3) vss. 17, 19, 20b, 21; (4) vss. 22, 16aα and 16b; (5) vss. 10-14, 23, 15a and 15b and probably as well 16aβ; (6) vss. 1-9, Elliger, proposes but two layers for both vss. 10-23 (330-333) and vss. 1-9 (324-327). In contrast to this Sun, 417-418, postulates a three-part composition history for vss. 1-9: (1) the originally independent kernel of the unit, vss. 2-3, were expanded by vs. 4; (2) later on vss. 5-7 (9) were added, "though it can no longer be determined when vv. 8-9 were added relative to the addition of vv. 5-7 (9) to vv. 2-3 (4). Vv. 8-9 represent secondary accretion, probably in two stages, as the specific mention of אהרן ולבניו suggests" (418); (3) the speech report formula is said to have been added and a two-part composition history of vss. 10-23 is postulated (438). The narrative "contained in vv. 10-16 + 23 to which was added the concentric bloc of laws vv. 17-21 and the Wiederaufnahme in v. 22. Both units are literarily homogeneous and do not reflect literary growth (save 16a\beta\beta)." Otto, "Heiligkeitsgesetz," 79, maintains that a "spätpentateuchischer Ergänzer" took a last step in inserting Lev 24. Wenham, Leviticus, 308-309, states that the only reason commentators "can find for the present position of the story of the blasphemer . . . is that it took place soon after Moses had been given the instructions about the lampstand and the bread of the Presence. . . . If this explanation is correct, it underlines that Leviticus is essentially a narrative work. . . . The laws were given at specific times and places to meet particular situations."

the noun "Sabbath" appears several times, hence the notion of שבת "Sabbath" establishes an important link between Lev 24 and what precedes and follows.¹ Lev 24:5-9 provides the only case of a ritual to be performed Sabbath by Sabbath, the changing of the bread of the presence which takes place every seventh day, a rite which according to 24:8 is called תכמיד. R. E. Gane notes that in contrast to Sumerian, Egyptian, Hittite, and Babylonian "daily placing of bread on the tables or stands before various deities," the

changing of the bread on the Sabbath is crucial for the meaning of the bread [not only] because the weekly rather than daily performance of the ritual shows a distancing from anthropomorphism, but because there is a positive link with the Sabbath, which carries theological freight of its own—especially the idea of creation.³

Once we have recognized the notion of the "Sabbath" to be an important thread running through Lev 23-26 one must admit that this keyword—occurring twice in Lev 24:5-9—may have prompted the ancient author to place this pericope here. Therefore it

³Ibid.

¹Otto, "Heiligkeitsgesetz," 77, emphasizes: "Der zweite Teil des HG in 23-25 ist durch das in 23, 3 als Hauptgebot für diesen Teil voranstehende Sabbatgebot strukturiert. Alle folgenden Gebote stehen in Beziehung zu diesem Gebot. Im Festkalender in 23, 4-38 (39-44) ist die Passaordnung durch die siebentägige Dauer und die Festversammlung am siebenten Tag mit dem Sabbatgebot verknüpft. Das gilt auch für das Gesetz der Erstlingsgabe, das durch die Darbringung am Tage nach dem Sabbat, für die Wochenfestordnung, die durch die Wochenzählung, für die Ordnung des Laubhüttenfestes, die durch die siebentägige Dauer mit Festversammlung am ersten und achten Tag mit dem Sabbatgebot verbunden sind, sowie alle Festbestimmungen, die zu dem Ruhetagsgebot in Beziehung gesetzt werden, das auch die Ordnung für den 1.7. und den Versöhnungstag am 10.7. mit dem Sabbatgebot verknüpft. In der Sabbat- und Jobeljahrgesetzgebung wird der Rhytmus der Woche zu dem der Jahre erweitert, zu einem Ruhe- und Erlaßjahr, dem die Rückkauf- und Ablösebestimmungen zugeordnet sind."

²R. E. Gane, "Bread of the Presence' and Creator-in-Residence," VT 42 (1992): 190.

seems doubtful to aver that Lev 24 is "arbitrarily dropped in between chaps. 23 and 25." On the contrary, because of the Sabbath in Lev 23 and 25-26 the present placement turns out to be the most appropriate one.

Besides, in Lev 23 it is stated that at each of the Israelite festivals the אשה ליי "the food gift to the Lord" is to be offered at Passover (vs. 8), Firstfruits (vs. 13), Weeks (vs. 18), Trumpets (vs. 25), Day of Atonement (vs. 27), and Tabernacles (vss. 36², 37). Surprisingly, this injunction is lacking in the context of the weekly Sabbath (vs. 3). The double mentioning of this term in the description of priestly ritual duties on the Sabbath in 24:7, 9 could possibly be understood as a conscious terminological link to complement and carefully complete the series of אשה ליי the food gift to the Lord."

An additional argument in favor of the present position as being the only proper place in Leviticus is provided by Gane, who calls attention to the ascending progression of holiness in Lev 19 to 24, a profound progression of holiness which corresponds to the "proximity to the deity: laity > priests; sacrifices in the court > oil and bread in the outer apartment of the tent > the Name of YHWH who resides above the ark in the inner apartment."²

Maintaining that the introductory formula in 24:1 introduces only the speech in vss. 2-9 and that the compliance report in vs. 23 concerns vss. 10-22 alone, makes

¹Hartley, 396.

²Gane, "Bread," 192, n. 41: "Note the order of holy objects within Lev. xix-xxiv: persons (including laity: xix-xx; priests: xxi-xxii 16), sacrifices offered at the outer altar (xxii 17-33), time (xxiii), the holy oil and bread presented inside the shrine (xxiv 1-9), and finally, the divine Name (xxiv 10-23)."

Hartley state that "another problematic issue is the lack of any connection between the two reports." Whereas his observation as to the structural function of vss. 1 and 23 seems correct, it may be a mistake to overlook the structuring function of vs. 13, "and the Lord spoke to Moses:" which introduces the *second* DS in Lev 24. It should be noticed that the story of the blasphemer begins in vs. 10, whereas the second DS does not commence before vs. 13. In looking at this outline from a structural angle we perceive that formally vss. 10-12 are part of the first DS, although they constitute an integral part of the second report.

In the first DS the semantic and structural links between vss. 2-4 and 5-9 are quite obvious. לקוח "take" (vss. 2, 5): in both of these short passages beginning with the verb "take," the Israelites and Aaron are commanded to take the respective materials, oil and fine flour. ד "pounded" (vss. 2, 7; Hartley), "ערך "perpetually" (vss. 2, 3, 4, 8), "ערך (vss. 3, 4, 8), "לצא "before the Lord" (vss. 3, 4, 6, 8), "סהר (vss. 3, 4, 8), "שולם / חקת עולם (vss. 3, 4, 6, 8), "שולם / חקת עולם (vss. 3, 4, 6) provide further evidence of the interrelatedness of vss. 2-4 and 5-9. A similar device has been used in linking/patterning vss. 10-23 where the verb "צא "go, come out" creates such a link.:

10	ת בתוך בני ישראל	בן אשה ירשאליו	ויצא
14	אל מחוץ למחנה	את המקלל	הוצא
23	אל מחוץ למחנה	את המקלל	ויציאו

¹Ibid.

²The colon indicates the presence of לאמר.

³E.g., Hartley, 396; Wenham, Leviticus, 309.

Furthermore, the unique expression מחוץ לפרכת העדות "outside the veil of the Testimony" in vs. 3, appearing only once in the Hebrew Bible, may very well have been conceived as a conscious semantic link to מחוץ למחנה "outside the camp" in vss. 14 and 23.

In this excursus the attempt has been made to refute the widespread hypothesis that Lev 24 is out of place in its present context. In concluding I hypothesize that in the text before us the present position of Lev 24 is the most appropriate and therefore the only acceptable one. If this hypothesis is true to the extant text, we may address the second assertion, that is, the alleged "lack of any connection between the two reports." Both of the following structures, based on the verbs קלל and קלל and יכוד (commonly rendered as "curse," and the noun בי "son" seemingly support the literary homogeneity of Lev 24.

The Verbs נקב and קלל in Lev 24

By means of the two verbs נקב "curse" (19/3), designated A, and "curse" (79/7), designated B, a *seven-part* antithetic structure is formed, an outline which clearly connects vss. 10-23, thus creating a literary unit.³

¹Cf. Exod 26:35; 40:22: מחוץ לפרכת; Exod 27:21: מחוץ לפרכת אשר על העדת (NIV).

²Hartley, 396.

³According to L. Koehler and W. Baumgartner, *Hebräisches und Aramäisches Lexikon zum Alten Testament*, vol. 3 (Leiden: Brill, 1983), 679, לקב derives from the root נקב. Its third meaning is given as "bezeichnen, auszeichnen . . . b) ungünstig: auszeich-nen durch magische Durchbohrung . . . lästern."

Paran, 171, views vss. 14-23 as a chiastic structure in which ancient legal material has been joined with later narrative material:

11a	Α	. את השם	ויקב
11a	В		<u>ויקלל</u>
14	В	אל מחוץ למחנה	הוצא את <u>המקלל</u>
15	В	אלהיו	איש איש כי <u>יקלל</u>
16a	Α	שם יי מות יומת	ונקב
16b	Α	שם יומת	כגר כאזרח בנקבו
23	В	אל מחוץ למחנה	ויוציאו את <u>המקלל</u>

If the proposed pattern proves to be true, J. B. Gabel and C. B. Wheeler's assertion that ממבי "and he cursed" in vs. 11a and vs. 16 carry "the marks of redactional activity" and therefore "do not fit their context" may be called into question.

The Noun בן in Lev 24 and 27

Although Lev 24:10-23 is said to deviate "from the overall contextual framework," the clear chiastic composition based on the alternation of the singular (B) and plural (A) of the common noun "son" (4891 / 154) can hardly be contradicted. This pattern intricately interlinks the distinct parts: vss. 2-4 regulations regarding the oil for

14	Α	הוצא את המקלל אל מחוץ למחנה ורגמו אתו כל העדה
16b	В	כגר כאזרח בנקבו שם יומת
17	С	ואיש כי יכה כל נפש אדם מות יומת
18	D	ומכה נפש בהמה ישלמנה
19	E	ואיש כי יתן מום בעמיתו כאשר עשה כן יעשה לו
20a	ות שן	שבר תחת שבר עין תחת עין שן תר
20b	E	כאשר יתן מום באדם כן ינתן בו
21a	D	ומכה בהמה ישלמנה
21b	С	ומכה אדם יומת
22	В	משפט אחד כגר כאזרח יהיה
23	Α	ויוציאו את המקלל אל מחוץ למחנה וירגמו אתו אבן

¹J. B. Gabel and C. B. Wheeler, "The Redactor's Hand in the Blasphemy Pericope of Leviticus XXIV," VT 30 (1980): 227.

²Ibid., 229.

³Gerstenberger, 360.

the lampstand, vss. 5-9 instructions concerning the bread for the Table of Presence, and vss. 10-23, the story of the blasphemer:

2	A	ישראל	בני	
8	Α	ישראל	בני	
9	Α		ולבניו	לאַהרן
10a	В	אשה ישראלית	洹	•
10a	В	איש מצרי	亙	והוא
10a	Α	ישראל	בני	
10b	В	הישראלית ואיש ישראלי	፺	
11	В	האשה הישראלית	፲፰	
15	Α	ישראל	בני	
23a	Α	ישראל	シブゴ	
23b	Α	ישראל	בני	

The text is striking because of the repeated references to the son of Israelite/
Egyptian and Israelite/Israelite parents. While the chiastic composition by means of
which the whole chapter is encompassed cannot be contradicted, those scholars who
maintain the composite nature of Lev 24 have to provide an explanation for this pattern.

In the same way as the two DS of Lev 24 have been structured, the DS in Lev 27 has been outlined by the interplay of plural/singular of plural/singular of "son." While the probably purposeful positioning of two purpo

In Lev 27 even the prepositions מן "to," מל "from," and עד "unto"—in relation to

¹Lev 25:2, 33, 41, 45, 46², 49 (7th), 54, 55; 26:29; 46.

the noun "son"—have been chiastically arranged:

2	Α	<u>שראל</u>	<u>אל</u> בני ייַ
3aβ	Ba	שרים שנה	<u>מַבּן</u> ע
3аү	Bb	ששים שנה	
5aα	Ba	ומש שנים	<u>מַבּלְ</u> ר
5aβ	Bb	שרים שנה	ועד בן ע
6αα	Ba	זדש	<u>מַבּלָ</u> ר
6aβ	Bb	חמש שנים	
7	Ba	ששים שנה	מבן ע
34	Α	<u>שראל</u>	אל בני יי

The structuring function of the common noun "son" both in Lev 24 with its "anomalous features" and in chap. 27, a chapter which is purportedly "puzzling" because of its appended position, and in Lev 26-27 definitely demands some explanation. In the scholarly debate regarding the position and structure of these "misplaced" and "appended" chapters, convincing evidence should be furnished, evidence based solely on the extant text, that this unique outline—within the respective DS and in their interrelationship—evolved within the course of redactional reworking.

The Phrase ארץ מצרים in Lev 25-26

The distribution of the term ארץ מצרים "land of Egypt" seemingly functions as a purposefully applied pattern interlinking Lev 25 and 26. In concluding his compositional history, Sun states that "the debate concerning the compositional history of Lev 25-26

¹Hartley, 396: "Within chaps. 17-26, chap. 26 has anomalous features."

²Ibid., 479: "The location of this speech on vows is puzzling."

³E.g., Elliger, 385; Noth, *Leviticus*, 203; Levine, *Leviticus*, xv. Smith, 30, correctly criticizes this hypothesis and comments that "Leviticus 27 is anything but an afterthought."

cannot be considered to be settled." In spite of the fact that the phrase "land of Egypt" appears first only in 25:38, the following table may be conducive to settle the question of the heterogeneity/homogeneity of the second-from-last DS in Leviticus:

25:38	לתת לכם את א" כנען <u>להיות לכם לאלהי</u> ם A	הוצאתי אתכם מא" מ" י
42	В	עבדי הםהוצאתי אתם מא" מ"
55	В	עבדי הםהוצאתי אתם מא" מ"
26:13	B מהית להם עבדים	"הוצאתי אתכם מא" מ
45	לעיני הגוים <u>להית</u> <u>להם לאלהים</u> A	"הוצאתי אתם מא" מ

Whereas 25:38 and 26:45 mention the aim of the Exodus, "to be your/their God," the middle three seem to emphasize the notion of "servitude": the Lord claims Israel to be his servants because he is the one who liberated them from Egyptian bondage and has therefore the legal right to call them *my servants* (25:42, 55).³ In addition to the

¹Sun, 548. In his investigation (548-558) he comes to the conviction that three different hands were involved in the composition of the extant text. Whereas 25:38, 42, 55; 26:13 are attributed to the second stage, with regard to 26:45 he states: "Lev 26:40-45 (and Lev 26:1-2 probably) are added to the text after the main redactional activity. . . . It is not possible to determine the chronology of these pieces relative to each other; all that can be said with certainty is that they represent tertiary redaction" (559). In contrast to this, Elliger (348/371 respectively) assigns 25:38, 55; 26:13 to Ph¹; 25:42 (342) and 26:45 (372) are ascribed to Ph².

²Blum, *Studien*, 259, emphasizes that Lev 26:13 "knüpft an eine Thematik von Kap. 25 (vgl. V.38.42.55) an." Each of these verses forms an integral part of the chiastic structure.

The noun TLY "slave, servant" (799 / 9) appears exclusively in Lev 25-26, and the *seventh* time in 25:55 which is the central member of the above chiastic outline: "because the Israelites are my servants." Hartley, 442, notes: "That all Israelites are Yahweh's servants is stressed by being stated in the expression of historical origin. . . . This special legislation has its foundation in Israel's special saving history." As to Lev 25:42, J. Joosten, "Le cadre conceptuel du Code de Sainteté," *Revue d'Histoire et de Philosophie Religieuse* 75 (1995): 388, remarks: "Dans ce verset . . . 1'Exode est conçu comme un changement de maitre: les Israélites étaient esclaves des Égyptiens . . . mais YHWH, en les 'faisant sortir' d'Egypte, en a fait ses propres esclaves."

bracketing function of 25:38 and 26:45, their theological significance should not be underestimated. As far as their content is concerned, both verses are *unique* to the Pentateuch. Whereas nowhere else in the Hebrew Bible have the Exodus, the *Landgabe*, and part of the covenant-formula been juxtaposed as in 25:38, it is only Ezekiel who mentions the Exodus from Egypt as having taken place "before the eyes of the nations" (26:45).

The Verb געל in Lev 26

Several terms such as יובל "year of Jubilee,"4 מוך "grow poor,"5 מכר "sell,"6 and "purchase"7 occur only in Lev 25 and 27, whereas others can be found only in Lev

¹With regard to the theological significance of the Lord's giving the land of Canaan to Israel, Joosten, 394, states: "Nous sommes maintenant en mesure de saisir en quel sens l'Exode est combiné avec la promesse du pays. . . . Lors-qu'il s'est approprié les Israélites pour qu'ils le servent dans sa demeure terrestre, YHWH avait le projet d'installer ses serviteur sur une terre attenant au sanctuaire: c'est le pays de Canaan."

²Within the context of the macrostructure based on the term ארץ מצרים, the structural significance of this verse may be even more momentous.

³Within the context of the macrosturcture based on the noun λ, the structural significance of this verse may even be more momentous.

⁴25:10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 28², 30, 31, 33, 40, 50, 52, 54; 27:17, 18², 21, 23, 24.

⁵25:25, 35, 39, 47,; 27:8.

⁶25:14, 15, 16, 23, 25, 27, 29, 34, 39, 42, 47, 48, 50; 27:20, 27, 28.

⁷25:16², 51; 27:22.

26, e.g., איב "enemy," איב "remember," מכר "sword," יטר "to discipline," and "contrariness." While the unique distribution of these words to the respective chapters may be deliberate—possibly indicating a close interrelationship between Lev 25-27—they seem to have no structuring function. An "ingenious and allusive" play on words, a pun on the two assonant verbs אאל "redeem" (occurring only in Lev 25 and 27), "bracketing" in a way געל "loathe" (10 / 5) in Lev 26, possibly discloses some deliberate design on the part of the author. The verb "loathe" in vss. 11, 15, 30, 43, 44 quite

¹26:7, 8, 16, 17, 25, 32, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 44.

²26:42³, 45.

³26:6, 7, 8, 25, 33, 36, 37.

⁴26:18, 23, 28.

⁵26:21, 23, 24, 27, 28, 40, 41. The noun appears only seven times in the Hebrew Bible and there may be a deliberate design in distributing it with/without the preposition 1 thus creating an antithetic chiastic structure:

ואם תלכו עמי קרי 21

והלכתם עמי קרי 23

והלכתי אף אני עמכם בקרי 24

והלכתם עמי בקרי 27

והלכתי עמכם בחמת קרי 28

אשר הלכו עמי בקרי 40

אף אני אלך עמם בקרי 41

⁶Alonso-Schökel, Manual, 29.

⁷See the appended concordance for the thirty-one occurrences of the root גאל and its derivatives. Smith, 29, drawing attention to this as well, speaks erroneously of twenty-seven occurrences of the root גאל in these two chapters.

⁸Alonso-Schökel, *Manual*, 29, states: "Play on words exploits the polyvalence of meaning of one word, or the similarity of sound of various words. . . . It is probable that many plays on words in the OT escape us; perhaps those which are more ingenious and allusive."

artistically interlinks the two distinct parts of this chapter, the so-called blessings and curses. If one reduces the structure to the common denominator of "not loathing/loathing" plus the respective subject and object, the following pattern comes to light:

11	Α	YHWH	<u>not</u>	versus	Israel
15	В	Israel		versus	YHWH
30	C	YHWH		versus	Israel
43	В	Israel		versus	YHWH
44	Α	YHWH	not	versus	Israel

The following table illustrates that besides "loathe" there are other indications suggesting a conscientious composition.² Paran has drawn attention to the carefully construed link connecting vss. 15 and 43 by means of the two nouns משפטי / חקתי and the verb אם, but he does not mention the pattern interlinking vss. 11-44:³

11	Α	אתכם	נפשי	תגעל	ולא				
15	В		נפשכם	תגעל	משפטי	את	ואם	תמאסו	ואם <u>בחקתי</u>
30	C	אתכם	נפשי	וגעלה					
43	В		נפשם	געלה	<u>חקתי</u>	ואת		מאסו	במפשטי
44	Α			געלתים	ולא				

The circumlocution of the divine "I" by גפשי can be found in the Torah in Lev

¹In contrast to Deut 28 neither the verb ברך "bless" nor ארר "curse" appear even once in Lev 26. ברכה "bless" is found twice in chap. 9:22, 23 and the noun ברכה "blessing" only once in Lev 25:21.

²Elliger, 360-363, postulating a five-stage compositional process, ascribes vss. 11, 15, 30b to his *Vorlage* and views vss. 43-44 "Zusatz." Sun, 558-559, attributes these five verses to three different redactional layers and calls vss. 40-45 "clearly secondary" (554). Levine, *Leviticus*, 275-276, assigns vss. 11, 15, 30 to the "primary Epilogue" (*sic*), vs. 43 to "later additions . . . more about . . . the theme of the patriarchal covenant," and vs. 44 to "the first 'postcatastrophe' addition." Hartley, 462, considers Lev 26 "the work of a creative author who drew on the received tradition that went back to Sinai."

³Paran, 108.

26:11, 30 only. In vs. 44 געלתים, 1 sgl. perfect with 2 pl. suffix, obviously "replaces" נפשי.

Numerological Structures

As has been explained in the introduction, in numerological structures it is the respective position of a word or phrase within a list which is significant. It is either the seventh² or twelfth position which has been emphasized, or, in case there are two items, their equidistant position from beginning and end is significant. In quite a few instances both on the microstructural and macrostructural level, the second and second-from-last position have been underscored.

The Phrase אשה (ריח ניחח) אשה in Lev 1-3

As stated above, Lev 1-3 is construed as a single DS consisting of three distinct parts: Lev 1 deals with the עלה "burnt-offering," chap. 2 with the מנחה "grain offering," and Lev 3 gives directions as to the proper procedure of the בח השלמים "fellow-ship offering." The intrinsic unity of the three parts of this DS has already been pointed out above. The literary cohesiveness of Lev 1-3 is seemingly further supported by the structure based on the noun אשה "(food) gift" (65 /42), rendered by Rendtorff as

¹In the prophetic literature it is found more often: Isa 1:14; 42:1; Jer 5:9, 29; 6:8; 9:8; 12:7 15:1; 32:41; Ezek 23:18; Zech 11:8.

²Cf. Paran, 98, who points out that in Lev 4:3-12, the sin offering of the high priest, the *sevenfold* sprinkling of the blood constitutes the *seventh* ritual act in a list of ten. He draws attention as well to the underlying structure of Lev 8:14-18, the offering of the bull as sin offering; in a list of *ten* distinct acts the pouring of the blood at the base of the altar has been put in the *seventh* slot (204).

"Gabe," closely interlinking the three distinct parts of this DS. Its close interrelation with the expression ריח "pleasing aroma" becomes obvious in the table below.²

The fact that 23 percent of all the biblical occurrences of אשה are found in the first DS of Leviticus probably enhances the significance of the term in this pericope.

1:9	•	ניחוח ליי	אשה רית
13	•	ניחח ליי	ריח אשה ריח
17	•	ניחח ליי	ריח אשה ריח
2:2		ניחח לוי	אשה ריח נ
3		>>	קדש קדשים מאשי
9		יחח ליי	אש ה ריח ו
10		>>	קדש קדשים מאשי
11		לוו	אשה
16		לוו	אשה
3:3		לוו	אשה
5		יחח ליי	א שה ריח נ
9		לוו	אשה
11		לוו	לחם אשה
14		לוו	אשה
16	כל חלב ליי	ז נירורו	לחם אשה לריר

¹Rendtorff, *Leviticus*, 65, remarks: "Man kann nach diesem Befund die Bedeutung des Wortes אשר umschreiben als 'das, was von den Opfern Jhwh gegeben wird und darum ihm gehört" (65). Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 161, translates the term as "food gift."

²Rendtorff, Leviticus, 67, remarks: "Man gewinnt den Eindruck, daß אשה und ריח ניחו sich in ihrer Bedeutung weitgehend decken, so daß sie sowohl gemeinsam als auch einzeln gebraucht werden können, um das Gleiche auszudrücken. An den Rändern des jeweiligen Bedeutungsbereiches ergeben sich jedoch signifikante Abweichungen."

³Paran, 176-177, emphasizes the refrain-like repetition of the formula "a burnt offering, a gift of pleasing aroma to the Lord":

ולה אשה ריח ניחוח ליי 9

עלה הוא אשה ריח ניחח ליי

עלה הוא אשה ריח ניחח ליי

Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 166, maintains that vss. 4-17, the "pericope on birds must have been added subsequently."

Whereas many commentators consider Lev 3:16b-17 to be an addition,¹ the table shows that the phrase אשה (ריח ניחח) ליי a food gift (of pleasing aroma) to the Lord" (Milgrom) occurs three times in Lev 1 and six times each in chaps. 2 and 3. In 3:16 the term has been altered, אשה לריה ניחח כל חלב ליי a food gift of pleasing aroma, all fat is the Lord's," thus having been integrated into another literary structure created by means of בלם and בל in Lev 3.3

Numerals in Lev 13-14

While there seems to be a general consensus among scholars with regard to the contextual cohesion of Lev 13-14 on the level of the extant text, the lack of unanimity as to the different redactional layers cannot be overlooked.⁴ In contrast to the notion of a "long, continuous editorial process," Wang claims a chiastic structure concluding that

¹E.g., Elliger, 51; Milgrom, Leviticus, 216; Hartley, 37.

²The phrase לריח ניחו in Lev 2:12 is not part of this structure because of its lacking any immediate connection with the term אשה.

³See pp. 90-95 above.

⁴E.g., Elliger, 159-180, maintains: "Am Anfang stehen mindestens zwei Gruppen von Niederschriften priesterlichen Wissens" (177), which within the course of their compositional history underwent six redactorial revisions. Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 886, detects only three hands. The core of the unit consists of 13:1-46 and 14:1-32, a second hand is responsible for 13:47-59 (P₂), and because of "irreconcilable differences in style," 14:33-53 and 14:54-57 are attributed to H.

⁵Hartley, 186. At the same time he continues by saying that "since this editorial process has not been uniform, it is impossible to uncover layers of editorial activity," a statement which in my opinion considerably undermines the plausibility of the postulated editorial process.

"Lev.13:1-14:57, is thus a literary entity, skillfully created by the Priestly writer(s)":1

A צרעת of human skin (Lev. 13:1-46)

B צרעת of objects, that is, textiles and leather (Lev. 13:47-59)

C Purification of people healed from צרעת (Lev. 14:1-32)

B' צרעת of objects, that is, houses, and its cleansing (Lev. 14:33-53)

A' צרעת of human skins and objects: a summation (Lev. 14:54-57)²

His hypothesis may be questioned, however, for three reasons: First, because of the quite unequal length of the postulated parts A and A', that is, Lev 13:1-46 (forty-six verses) are to correspond with 14:54-57 (four verses); second, in BB' the cleansing of the house in Lev 14:33-53 has no counterpart in Lev 13:47-59; and third, Wang's chiasm is primarily based on *content* without being substantiated by terminological parallels. The lexicographic evidence nevertheless demonstrates linguistic links which may be interpreted as indications of original cohesiveness.

The extant text of Lev 13-14 (consisting of three distinct DS: 13:1-59; 14:1-32; 33-57), which is regarded as a self-contained literary unit, shows the highest frequency of the numbers שבעה "seven" and "שביעי "seventh" in the third book of Moses.

As can be gathered from the table below the distribution of the numerals seemingly have a structuring function. It is noteworthy that in Lev 14 the striking structure is even more impressive because the two DS are said to have originated with P and H respectively:

¹Wang, 159.

²Ibid., 158.

שבעת ימים	והסגיר הכהן את הנגע
ביום <u>השביעי</u>	וראהו הכהן
שבעת ימים	והסגירו הכהן
ביום <u>השביעי</u>	וראה הכהן אתו
שבעת ימים	והסגירו הכהן
שבעת ימים	והסגירו הכהן
ביום <u>השביעי</u>	וראהו הכהן
שבעת ימים	והסגיר הכהן את נגע הנתק
ביום <u>השביעי</u>	וראה הכהן את הנגע
שבעת ימים	והסגיר הכהן את הנתק
ביום <u>השביעי</u>	וראה הכהן את הנתק
שבעת ימים	והסגיר את הנגע
ביום <u>השביעי</u>	וראה את הנגע
שבעת ימים	והסגירו
	ביום <u>השביעי</u> ביום <u>השביעי</u> ביום <u>השביעי</u> שבעת ימים שבעת ימים ביום <u>השביעי</u> שבעת ימים ביום <u>השביעי</u> ביום <u>השביעי</u> ביום <u>השביעי</u> ביום <u>השביעי</u>

The homogeneousness of Lev 14 seems to be further substantiated by the distribution of the verb 703 "sprinkle," (24 / 14)—occurring only here in Lev 14—designated D, which describes the sprinkling of some liquid (blood / oil / oil / blood) in vss. 7, 16, 27, 51. Furthermore, it is only in vss. 16 and 27 that the sprinkling takes place "before the Lord." It can easily be recognized that this creates another structural symmetry:

7 8 9	A B C		שבע פעמים <u>שבעת</u> ימים ביום <i>השביעי</i>	וישב מחוץ לאהלו	והזה	blood
16	AD	לפני יי	שבע פעמים	מן השמן באצבעו	והזה	oil
27 38	AD B	לפני יי	שב ע פעמים <u>שבעת</u> ימים	מן השמן והסגיר את הבית	והזת	oil
39 51	C A		ביום <i>השביעי</i> ש בע פעמים	ושב הכהן אל הבית	กเกา	blood

If Lev 14:1-32 and 14:33-57 originated with P₁ and H, the symmetric sequence of

¹Koch, *Priesterschrift*, 86, hypothesizes: "Das Nebeneinander von Blut und Ölbespritzung ist kaum ursprünglich." In view of the structural "perfection—based on the numerals and the verb "sprinkle"—the hypothetical literary heterogeneity is weakened.

the numerals, the verb "sprinkle" with its objects, and the phrase "before the Lord" would be nothing less than surprising, especially because vs. 27 is part of the first DS.

The Verb לקח in Lev 14

In Lev 14 the common verb לקרו" (966 / 54) is found thirteen times and the following chart possibly brings to light another numerical structure. The description of the blood manipulation of the "guilt offering" to be sacrificed on the seventh day (vs. 14) and that of the guilt offering offered by a poor Israelite (vs. 25) are identical:

4 6	למטהר שתי צפרים חיות תהרות	ולקח את הצפור החיה יקח
10	שני כבשים תמימים	יקח
12	הכהן את הכבש	ולקח
14	הכהן מדם האשם ונתן הכהן על תנוך אזן המטהר הימניח	לקוח 5 th
15	הכהן מלג השמן	ולקח
21	(7 th)	<u>ואם דל הוא</u> ולקח
24	הכהן את כבש האשם	ולקח
25 <i>J</i>	הכהן מדם האשם ונתן הכהן על תנוך אזן המטהר הימניו	לקח 5th from 1.
42a	אבנים אחרות	ולקחו
42b	וטח את הבית	עפר אחר י קח
49	לחטא את הבית שתי צפרים	ולקח
52	את עץ הארז	ולקח

The above table not only reveals this verbatim agreement but shows likewise that within the thirteen occurrences of the verb the two verbatim statements hold the *fifth* and the *fifth-from-last* positions. In the center of the structure, in the *seventh* slot, mention is made of the poor, a term found only one more time in Lev 19:15. Those scholars who

surmise vss. 21-32 to be an addition¹ or who attribute the second DS (vss. 33-57) to H² should explain how this numerical structure chanced to come about when the redactor(s) added the respective parts to the chapter.

The Verb Ynn in Lev 15

Nowhere else in the Hebrew Bible does the verb מרוץ "bathe" (72 / 26) show up as here, where it is found twelve times. While Wang considers Lev 15 to be of a com-posite nature—the material has been pieced together and coordinated under the notion of uncleanness of male/female discharges, thus constituting a new unit³—a chiastic structure has been suggested by Milgrom,⁴ and the following one is proposed by Péter-Contesse.⁵

His allegation that vs. 31 originated with H because of the first person in משכני "my dwelling place" (NIV) and the root nzr seems somewhat subjective, if R. Whitekettle, "Leviticus 15.18 Reconsidered: Chiasm, Spatial Structure and the Body," JSOT 49 (1991): 39, is correct in his appraisal that "Lev 15:31 is the chapter's motive statement." In his conclusion (44) Whitekettle states: "Both the tabernacle and the setting of sexual

¹Koch, *Priesterschrift*, 86, sees "eine spätere literarische Überarbeitung in dem Abschnitt am Werk."

²For Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 866, certain stylistic factors are "characteristics of the reactor or author of H, who may have reworked an older (P) passage." Cf. Hartley, 184.

 $^{^{3}}$ Wang, 276. Elliger, 196-197, postulates an old law consisting of vss. 2b-8, 13, 19-22, 28, 32a, 33aα, to which in a first stage vss. 9-12, 25-27, and 33aβγ were added. The admonition (vs. 31) was inserted when the chapter received its present position at the end of the purity laws. Further expansion took place in three steps: 14-15 and 29-30; 16-17, 32b and possibly 18; 23-24 and 33b.

⁴Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 931, calls attention to the introverted structure which is due to the use of the relative אשר rather than ים:

A. כי (vs. 2)
B. כי (vs. 16)
C. אשר (vs. 18)
B.' כי (vs. 19)
A.' כי (vs. 25)

Α	Introdu	action	(vss. 1-2a)
	Βα	Sexual infection of a man	(vss. 2b-12)
	вβ	Purification of the healed man	(vss. 13-15)
	C	Seminal discharges of a man	(vss. 16-17)
	D	Conjugal sexual relation	(vs. 18)
	C'	Menses of a woman	(vss. 19-24)
	Βα'	Abnormal (infectious?) menses of a woman	(vss. 25-27)
	вβ'	Purification of a woman after her menses	(vss. 28-30)
A'	Conclu	sion	(vss. 31-33)

Besides this chiastic construction which is based on content, a significant terminological structure stresses again the *seventh* position. In vs. 13, which as a matter of fact is in the *seventh* slot, the verb of denotes "physical, not ritual, purification."

5	עד הערב	וטמא	במים	ורחץ	יכבס בגדיו	
6	עד הערב	וטמא	במים	ורחץ	יכבס בגדיו	
7	עד הערב	וטמא	במים	ורחץ	יכבס בגדיו	
8	עד הערב	וטמא	במים	וררוץ	וכבס בגדיו	
10	עד הערב	וטמא	במים	ורחץ	יכבס בגדיו	
11	עד הערב	וטמא	במים	ורחץ	וכבס בגדיו	
13	טהר	<u>זיים</u> ו	בשרו <u>במים ר</u>	ורחץ	וכבס בגדיו	7 th
16	עד הערב	את כל בשרו וטמא	במים	ורחץ		
18	עד הערב	וטמאו	במים	ורחצו		
21	עד הערב	וטמא	במים	ורחץ	יכבס בגדיו	
	עד הערב 22	וטמא	במים	ורחץ	יכבס בגדיו	
27	עד הערב	וטמא	במים	ורחץ	וכבס בגדיו	

Whereas the important ritual function of מים חיים "living water," that is,

intercourse are at one end of a continuum, which has at its other end the characteristics wilderness/non-life/waste." It is of interest that Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 905, even though he considers vs. 31 to be secondary, views this verse as the "motive" of the pericope. Hartley, 208, considers vss. 31, 32b, and 33b to be secondary. Péter-Contesse, *Lévitique*, 239, notes that vs. 31 "conclut le chap. 15 en soulignant explicitement le charactère religieux de toutes pre scriptions: il s'agit, en les respectant, d'éviter que le sanctuaire ne soit contaminé."

⁵Péter-Contesse, 232.

¹Therefore Milgrom, Leviticus, 921, renders יטהר as "is healed."

running water, was mentioned several times in Lev 14, the phrase "living water" occurs only once, thus underlining the significance of the occasion.

The Phrase (אלהיכם in Lev 19

The most conspicuous terminological patterning in Lev 19 is the *four* times *four* "organizational device" of the phrase אני "ו am the Lord your God" (A) and "ו am the Lord" (B). The alternation of long form (LF) and short form (SF) is more likely due to some deliberate design of the author than to the coincidental result "of a long process of growth" within the course of the redaction history of Lev 19.3 Beyond these observations B. Schwartz has recently suggested an eighteen-part outline, plus headline and summary.4

Nowhere else in the Hebrew Bible is the so-called formula of self-introduction used as frequently as in Lev 19, and the most extensive *Selbstvorstellungsformel* (vs. 36) in this carefully crafted chapter is closely connected with the climax of the *sevenfold* structure based on the noun "land" with its mention of the Exodus in the seventh position (vs. 36), a structure that has been analyzed above.

¹Gerstenberger, 261.

²Sun, 161.

³Ibid., 207-219, proposes five redactional layers: (1) gradual growing together of vss. 11-12a, 15aα, then 12b and 15aβb, and next 13-14 + 17-18; (2) vss. 3-4 and 36b; (3) vss. 2, 9-10, 23-25, 31, 33-34; (4) vss. 19aα, 26, 27-28, 30, 32, 37; (5) vss. 5-8, 20-22, 29.

⁴B. Schwartz, "Selected Chapters of the Holiness Code: A Literary Study of Leviticus 17-19" (Ph.D. diss., The Hebrew University, 1983 [Hebrew]), 115.

If we correlate the "four times four" patterning with the structure suggested by Schwartz the following impressive literary makeup is brought to light:

1.	Α	vs. 2	אני יי אלהיכם	HEADLINE
2.	Α	vs. 3	אני יי אלהיכם	
3.	Α	vs. 4	אני יי אלהיכם	
4.		vss. 5-8		
5.	A	vss. 9-10	אני יי אלהיכם	
6.	В	vss. 11-12	אני יי	
7.	В	vss. 13-14	אני יי	
8.	В	vss. 15-16	אני יי	
9.	В	vss. 17-18	אני יי	
10.		vs. 19		
11.		vss. 20-22		
12.	Α	vss. 23-25	אני יי אלהיכם	
13.	В	vss. 26-28	אני יי	
14.		vs. 29		
15.	В	vs. 30	אני יי	
16.	Α	vs. 31	אני יי אלהיכם	
17.	В	vs. 32	אני יי	
18.	Α	vss. 33-34	אני יי אלהיכם	
19.	Α	vss. 35-36	אני יי אלהיכם	
20.	В	vs. 37	אני יי	CONCLUSION

The above table reveals five distinct groups of texts, consisting of two, four, or five subunits respectively. If we list these textual units and at the same time indicate the number of subunits, the following scheme comes to light:

vss. 4-10	five			units
vss. 11-18		four		units
vss. 19-22			two	units: formula is lacking
vss. 23-31	five			units
vss. 32-37		four		units

In view of these structural outlines the present text of Lev 19 seemingly proves

itself to be a carefully composed literary entity.

The Noun חדש in Lev 23 and Num 28-29

In Lev 23 a numerical structure—based on the noun UTD "month" (281 / 15)—further testifies to its artistic structure. Whereas Lev 23 (the calendar of the Israelite religious festivals) consists of five distinct DS (vss. 1-8; 9-22; 23-25; 26-32; 33-43), Num 28-29 (giving a detailed list of the mandatory sacrifices for each Israelite religious festival) has been composed as a single DS consisting of seventy verses.

Levi	ticus 23				
5		הראשון	בחדש		
5		•	לחדש	בארבעה עשר	
6	<i>הזה <u>חג</u> ה</i> מצות ליי		לחדש	בחמשה עשר יום	3 rd
24		השביעי	בחדש		
24			לחדש	באחד	
27		השביעי	לחדש	וך בעשר	K
32			לחדש	בתשעה	
34	<u>חג</u> הסכותליי	השביעי	לחדש	בחמשה עשר יום	3rd from I.
39		השביעי	לחדש	ך בחמשה עשר יום	א
41	אתו	השביעי תחגו	בחדש	·	

Seemingly the noun "month" functions as a literary device both in the ten-part structure of Lev 23 and the twelve-part outline in Num 28-29. In the above outline the noun An "festival" occurs twice, denoting the "Feast of Unleavened Bread" and the "Feast of Tabernacles." It is of interest that the noun appears in the *third* and *third-from-last* positions thus creating, as it were, an open-envelope structure. In the following outline of Num 28-29 the noun An "festival" occurs as well only twice, namely in the *seventh* and *twelfth* positions:

Numbe	ers 28-29 ¹				
28:11		תקריבו עלה ליי	חדשיכם	ובראשי	
14			חדש	זאת עלת	
14			בחדשו		
14		השנה	לחדשי		
16		הראשון	ובחדש		
16			לחדש	בארבעה עשר יום	
17	שבעת ימים	הזה <u>חג</u>	לחדש	ובחמשה עשר יום	7 th
29:1	זי לכם	השביעי יום תרועה יו	ובחדש		
1			לחדש	באחד	
6			החדש	מלבד עלת	
7		השביעי ה זה	לחדש	ובעשור	
12	שבעת ימים	השביעי חגתם <u>חג</u> ליי	לחדש	ובחמשה עשר יום	12th

The placing of significant terms/phrases in the *seventh* and *twelfth* position is, of course, a well-known literary device applied in many a structure already analyzed. In Exodus other feasts are likewise called $\lambda \Omega^2$, whereas both in Leviticus and Numbers the term applies only to the Feast of Unleavened Bread³ and the Feast of Tabernacles.

The Verb נתן in Lev 14 and 25-26

In Lev 14 the verb נתן "give" (2011 / 85) possibly creates another pattern interlinking the two DS. Whereas in the first six texts the relation of כתן (A) to the nouns בדם

¹The spacing is meant to elucidate the different "sections": remarks regarding the first of the month (28:11,14), the festival of the first month (28:16, 17), and the festivals of the seventh month (29:1, 6, 7, 12).

²חג האסיף "Feast of Harvest" (NIV): Exod 23:16; 34:22; חג הקציר "Feast of Ingathering" (NIV): Exod 23:16; חג שבעת "Feast of Weeks": Exod 34:22; הג ליי "Feast of Weeks": Exod 34:22; חג שבעת "Feast of YHWH": Exod 32:5.

³Although the term per se does not appear in Num 28, there can be no doubt as to its identification as can be seen from vss. 16-17: "On the fourteenth day of the first month the Lord's Passover is to be held. On the fifteenth day of this month there is to be a festival; for seven days eat bread without yeast." (NIV)

"blood" (B) and שבין "oil" (C) is of interest, in the overall eight-part structure the conspicuous seventh position must not be overlooked:

14	AB הכהן על תנוך אזן המטהר	<u>מ<i>דם</i></u> האשם ונתן
17	AC הכהן על תנוך אזן המטהר	ומיתר <u>השמן</u> י תן
18	AC על ראש המטהר	והנותר <u>בשמן</u> י ת ן
25	AB על תנוך אזן המטהר	מ <i>דם</i> האשם ונתן
28	AC הכהן על תנוך אזן המטהר	מן <u>השמן</u> ונת ן
29	AC על ראש המטהר	והנותר מן <u>השמן</u> י ת ן
34a	A לכם לאחזה	כי תבאו אל א" כנען אשר אני נתן 7 th
34b	A נגע צרעת בבית ארץ אחזתכם	ונתתי

Whereas in the first DS the priest puts []] sacrificial blood (always on the earlobe of the one to be cleansed) and oil, both times on the person's head, the second DS commences with the Lord's announcement, "when you come to the land of Canaan which I shall give you as a possession and I give a 'fungous infection' on a house in the land you possess." In this seven-plus-one pattern the structural importance of the seventh position with the theologically significant statement should not be underestimated.²

While in Lev 11:45, "for I the Lord am he who brought you up from the land of Egypt to be your God" (Milgrom), the Exodus is referred to, in Lev 14:34a the divine "I" underlines the mention of the Lord's giving Israel the land. Within the eight-part structure based on the noun "land" in Lev 11:45, the *seventh* mention culminated in stating "who brought you up from the *land* of Egypt," and in 14:34 six references to the

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 828, renders the term נגע צרעת thus.

²With regard to 14:34, Knohl, Sanctuary, 95, claims clear affinities to the language of HS and therefore "it would seem that this is an editorial addition of HS. The original passage may have begun with a formula such as והבית כי יהיה בו נגע צרעת like the beginning of the passage with fabric disease."

priest's giving blood and oil to the one about to be cleansed are capped by a *seventh* relating to the Lord's giving Canaan to Israel, which is followed by the eighth member, mentioning the Lord's giving of a fungous infection. Though Milgrom is quite correct in stressing that in Lev 14:34 two new concepts, the entry into Canaan and the possession (of the land), are introduced, it is not so clear that 14:33-53 has "been composed (or reworked) and interpolated by a third hand." The striking similarity in structure and the remarkable theological resemblance of Lev 11:45 and 14:34, both being clearly integrated into the respective contexts, should not be lost to view.

This being the last microstructure of Lev 14 to be presented in this study, I should like to comment briefly on the literary "quality" of this chapter. In view of the numerous structural outlines detected in Lev 14²—more structures than in any other pericope—the question of literary heterogeneity versus homogeneity should be reconsidered.

Even in the DS of Lev 25-26, the longest one in Leviticus consisting of one hundred and one verses, the verb "give" (2011 / 85) seems to be the basis for a numeric structure. This list of twenty occurrences of the verb "give" is of significance because of

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 886, further surmises: "God suddenly speaks in the first person (14:34) and the unit is marked by a discursiveness that contrasts sharply with the terse style of its predecessors. . . . When this stylistic peculiarity is supplemented by the fact that the unit also introduces two new concepts, 'entry into Canaan' and 'ahuzzâ '[land] holdings, possession,' both of which are characteristic of H . . . then the suspicion arises that the author (or editor) of this unit may be from the school of H." The significance of the use of the noun אחזה at this point gains in importance if we recognize that —except for Lev 25 and 27—this is the only place where it is used.

²These outline are based on the particle "all," the noun "blood," the term "outside of," and the verbs "slaughter," "take," "give," ["dip"], and the numerals "seven/seventh."

the statements placed to the *seventh* and *twelfth* positions. The twentieth time the verb occurs is in the summary statement, in 26:46: "These are the rules, judgments, and laws which the Lord put [נתן] between himself and the Israelites" (Wenham).

If we look at the first six cases, a meaningful conceptual structure validates the terminological pattern. In the first and sixth cases it is the Lord who gives the land of Canaan to Israel, the second and third mention the fertility of the land, and the fourth and fifth command the Israelite neither to lend money nor to give away food while charging interest. In this six-part structure 25:2 and 38 bracket the other four. Therefore we may conclude that in chap. 25 the six texts are interrelated as far as terminology and concept are concerned and the *seventh* might be an integral part, perhaps even a "capper." In view of what precedes, Israel's obedience to this divine command is to be commensurate to the Lord's bounteous gifts listed in 25:2, 19, 24, 38. The divine injunction in 26:1, not to "place (חום) a sculptured stone in your land" (Hartley), has been placed in the *seventh* position. By placing it in the *seventh* slot, its structural position seems to substantiate its theological significance.²

The phrase "I shall put [נתנן] my dwelling in your midst" (26:11) takes the important twelfth position. The commensurability of Israel's obedience and the Lord's

[&]quot;In spite of the fact that the noun מצוה "commandment" appears in 26:3, 14 the term is left out in vs. 46. The possibly intentional "omission" is made up for in 27:34: "אלה מצות אשר צוה יי את משה "these are the commandments which the Lord commanded Moses." One cannot fail, of course, to notice the linguistic link between the verb "command" and the noun מצוה "command."

²In the above table the Lord is subject of those verbs given in shadow font.

dwelling among them becomes even more manifest in juxtaposing the two texts put in the eminent *seventh* and *twelfth* positions.

25:2 19 24 37a 37b 38	לכם הארץ פריה לארץ לו בנשך <u>תתו</u> אכלך לכם את ארץ כנען	נתן ונתנה תתנו תתן ית לא לתת	ו אל הארץ אשר אני גאלה את כספך לא ובמרב	וכי תבא
26:1	בארצכם	תתנו	ואבן משכית לא	7 th
4a	גשמיכם בעתם	ונתתי	•	
4bα	הארץ יבלה	<u>ונתנה</u>		
4bβ	פריו	יתן	ועץ השדה	
6	שלום בארץ	ונתתי		
11	משכני בתוככם	ונתתי		12th
17	פני בכם	ונתתי		
19	את שמיכם כברזל	ונתתי		
20bα	ארצכם את יבולה	<u>תתן</u>	ולא	
20bβ	פריו	<u>ית</u>	ועץ הארץ לא	
25	ביד אויב	ונתתם	<u> </u>	
:לוליכם30	את פגריכם על פגרי ג	ונתתי		
31	את עריכם חרבה	ונתתי		
שראל 46	יי בינו ובין בני י	נענן	אשר	

It should be pointed out that 26:1 and 11 are the only texts making reference to "cultic symbols," a stone to be worshiped and the divine presence residing among the Israelites. Besides the prominent position given to these two texts on the theological level their interrelatedness should be carefully considered, a task which is, of course, beyond the scope of the present study.

If this structure proves to be true to the extant text, the present position of Lev 26:1-2 in relation to what precedes and what follows has to be reconsidered.\(^1\) At the same

¹With regard to Lev 26:1-2 there is no *opinio communis* among scholars. Noth, *Leviticus*, 193, for example, and Levine, *Leviticus*, 181-182, place Lev 26:1-2 with what

time the interrelation of chaps. 25 and 26—construed as *one* DS—should be reevaluated, because the במנו because the parameters are the because the parameters are the because the because the parameters are the parameters are the because the parameters are the paramete

The Noun ארץ in Lev 25-26

As is the case in the previous structure, the distribution of the common noun Y7X "land" (2504 / 80) in the DS of Lev 25-26 is only of significance because of the *seventh* and *twelfth* positions.² In view of the forty-three times the noun appears in Lev 25-26, the author's artistic device is definitely noteworthy. For reasons of space and because no additional artistic arrangement can be recognized, at least presently, only the first twelve texts of the forty-three instances are listed below.

Strangely the blowing of the shofar is absent from Lev 16 and its variants, and this custom is likewise unknown to later Jewish traditions.³ However, in looking at the

precedes, whereas Kilian, 158-159, Wenham, *Leviticus*, 450-451, and Hartley, 450, place them with what follows. According to Sun, 551, "Lev 26:1-2 represent separate appendices to Lev 25.... It may have been added prior to the composition of Lev 26:3-45, but this is not certain, and I judge it unlikely." Gerstenberger, 402, maintains that "the prohibition against idol worship and the commandment to keep the Sabbath do not have an easily discernible connection with the preceding or following text."

¹If we were to follow the redaction-critical results of A. Cholewinski, *Heiligkeits-gesetz und Deuteronomium: Eine vergleichende Studie*. Analecta Biblica 66 (Rome: Biblical Institute Press, 1976), 131, Lev 26:4, 6, 17, 19, 20, 25, 30, 31 should be attributed to the first phases of the redaction process, and 25:37 to his "H 5-Redaktion" (134); within the course of the third and decisive phase in the growth-process of the Holiness Code 25:2, 19, 24, 38; 26:1, 11, 46 were added (137).

²J. A. Fager, Land Tenure and the Biblical Jubilee: Uncovering Hebrew Ethics through the Sociology of Knowledge, JSOTSup 155 (Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1993), 123, ascribes vs. 9 (the seventh) to an "early exilic redactor" (the third hand involved) and vs. 23 (the twelfth) to "priestly editors" later in the exile.

³Aartun, 86-87; cf. n. 69 with regard to the Rabbinic sources.

list below the hypothesis seems at least questionable whether vs. 9 "stands linguistically isolated." On the contrary, the statement has been integrated into the larger context of Lev 25-26 and has been given a prominent position, the eminent *seventh* position.

25:2	אשר אני נתן לכם	הארץ	כי תבאו אל	
2	שבת ליי	הארץ	ושבתה	
4		לארץ	נ שבת שבתון יהיה	ובשנה השביעיו
5		לארץ	שבת שבתון יהיה	
6	לכם לאכלה	הארץ	והיתה שבת	
7		בארצך	לחיה אשר	
9		ארצכם	<u>ו תעבירו שופר בכל</u>	ליד ביום <u>הכפרים 7th ביום הכפרים מ</u>
10	לכל ישביה	בארץ	וקראתם דרור	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
18	לבטח	הארץ	וישבתם על	
19	פרי ה	הארץ	ונתנה	
23aα	לא תמכר לצמתת	והארץ		
23aβ	כי גרים ותושבים אתם	הארץ	<u>בי לי</u>	12 th

A careful look at the context of תרועה "trumpet blast" in Lev 23:24, the trumpet blast to be sounded on the Israelite New Year's Day, reveals that within a possible macrostructure based on the fifteen occurrences of the noun "month," the phrase "on the first day . . . of the month you are to have a day of rest, a sacred assembly commemorated with trumpet blasts" (NIV) has been given the significant *seventh* position.²

To my knowledge the phrase placed in the *twelfth* position is unique in the Hebrew Bible: כי לי הארץ "because the land is mine" is reminiscent only of Exod 19:5

¹Ibid., 87. "Diese Ausnahmestellung wird ausserdem dadurch unterstrichen, dass der betreffende Vermerk im gegebenen Passus ebenso sprachlich isoliert dasteht."

באחד לרוש יהיה לכם שבתון זכרון תרועה "on the first of the month there shall be for you a solemn Sabbath of remembrance with trumpet blast" ($16:29^2$; $23:5^2$, 6, 24, 24 (seventh), 27, 32, 34, 39, 41; $25:9^2$; 27:6.

כי לי כל הארץ "because the whole earth is mine." In case these observations are true to the authorial intentions, we may conclude that by means of dexterous literary designs the biblical writer reticently promulgates profound theological tenets.

Open-Envelope Structures

Whereas in the previous numerical structures repeatedly the seventh positions were underscored by means of some special term or phrase, in the open-envelope structures two positions are underlined. In the following outlines it is always the *second* and *second-from-last* position which are in agreement with each other. Because of their similarity with the envelope structure, I shall call them "open-envelope structure."

The Divine אני in Lev 18

In Lev 18 the eightfold use of the personal pronoun אני "I" (871 / 71) has probably been used in creating a distinct design. It is the *second* and *second-from-last* members of the ensuing list which attract the reader's attention. While in all the other verses the "I" is part of the so-called self-introductory formula, 2 vss. 3 and 24 describe what

¹Sun, 147-163, for example, maintains that Lev 18 reached its present shape in four stages; of the above listed texts he ascribes vss. 6 and 21 to the second, vss. 3 and 24 (being part of the parenetic framework) and vss. 2, 4, and 30 to the third, and vs. 5 to the fourth redactional stages. On the other side, Gerstenberger, 246-247, avers that Lev 18 "has without a doubt been composed into a self-enclosed unit. The divine discourse to be passed on to the people is framed by the solemn formula of self-introduction: 'I am Yahweh, your God' (vv. 2b, 30b; repeated once more as an amplification in v. 4b), and everything said here stands under the auspices of this sign."

²Hartley, 292, remarks that this formula functions "to locate the authority of a passage, law, or summons to obedience in the name of the giver of that word, namely Yahweh. That is, a formula raises the authority of a law or a series of laws above the

the Lord is about to do for Israel: I shall bring you there, i. e. to the land of Canaan, and I shall expel them (the nations) from before you:

2	יי אלהיכם	ואמרת אלהם <u>אני</u>
3	מביא אתכם שמה לא תעשו	וכמעשה ארץ כנען אשר אנ י
4	יי אלהיכם	ואת חקתי תשמרו ללכת בהם אני
5	>>	אשר יעשה אתם האדם וחי בהם אני
6	>>	איש איש לא תקרבו לגלות ערוה אני
2	1 ">	ולא תחלל את שם אלהיך אני
24	משלח מפניכם 4	כי בכל אלה נטמאו הגוים אשר אני
30	0 יי אלהיכם	ולא תטמאו בהם <u>אני</u>

Therefore we may conclude that by placing the references to the two significant salvific deeds of the Lord in the *second* and *second-from-last* the literary form underlines theological significance.

The Verb מות in Lev 20

In no other passage of the Hebrew Bible is the מות יומת formula found as often as in the DS of Lev 20, and the distribution of the phrase possibly provides a significant literary device. Similar to the preceding numeric structures, the *second* and *second-from-last* positions in the following list are conspicuously different from the others. The verb "stone" (16/6) present in the *first* and *last* occurrences of the phrase "he/ they must be put to death" (NIV), seems to suggest some structural scheme as well:

socio-political sphere to the divine sphere."

¹The fact that אשר אני מביא (vs. 3) and אשר אני משלח מפניכם (vs. 24) are repeated verbatim in 20:22, 23, respectively, probabably points to the interrelatedness of Lev 18 and 20.

2	<u>ירגמהו</u> באבן ^ו	. מות יומת .	מבני ישראל	איש איש
4	אתו	המית	ההואלבלתי	מן האיש
9		מות יומת	אשר	כי איש איש
10		מות יומת	אשר	איש
11	שניהם דמיהם בם	מות יומתו	אשר	ואיש
12	דמיהם בם	מות יומתו	אשר	ואיש
13	דמיהם בם	מות יומתו	אשר	ואיש
15		מות יומת	אשר	ואיש
16	דמיהם בם	מות יומתו	אשר	ואשה
20		ימתו	אשר ערירים	ואיש
27	<u>באבן ירגמו</u> אתם דמיהם בם	מות יומתו	אשה	ואיש או

The absence of the אות יומת formula in vss. 4 and 20 seemingly serves as an inclusion to seven cases of "he/they must be put to death." In contradistinction to Sun's redaction-critical results (vss. 9-16, vs. 20, and vss. 2, 4, 27 belong to the primary parts, the third and sixth redactional layers respectively), it should not be forgotten that the prescribed punishment is expressed differently in vs. 14 (burning), vs. 17 (being cut off), vs. 18 (being cut off), and vs. 19 (ערבם ישאו) "they will be held responsible," NIV). It is of interest that in vs. 21 ערירים ימתו "they will be childless" the punishment is expressed by the verb "be" instead of "die" as is the case in vs. 20, "they will die childless."

¹The inverted order of באבן ירגמו/ירגמהו should be noticed. Furthermore, out of the six times the verb רגם is found in Leviticus, only thrice באבן, as the means of stoning, is explicitly mentioned (20:2, 27; 24:23).

 $^{^2}$ Sun, 251-261, postulates the following composition history: (1) The basic core of Lev 20 consisting of vss. 9-16 already reflects a "fourpart composition history" (258); (2) to this vss. 17-18 were added; (3) then vss. 20-21 were attached; (4) vs. 19 was added by a fourth hand; (5) in the following stage vss. 7 + 22-24 and vss. 8 + 25-26 were enclosed; (6) in a sixth stage vss. 2aβ-5, 6, 27 were included; (7) "finally, when the unit . . . was committed to written legislation vv. 1-2aα was added. The relative chronology of vv. 14, 16aβ can no longer be ascertained with any certainty" (261).

Second, vss. 4 and 20, both lacking the formula, belong as far as their content is concerned to the section immediately *preceding*, that is, vs. 4 is part of vss. 2-5 (condemnation of Molech worship) and vs. 20 ranks among the forbidden sexual relations (vss. 9-21). In view of the probably purposeful patterning, the question of heterogeneity/homogeneity of this DS deserves to be reconsidered. Hence we might state that the structural "core" of the outline seemingly consists of *seven* ממת יומת formulae.

The Term איש איש / איש in Lev 22

Though Lev 22 consists of three DS (vss 1-16; 17-25; 26-33), it nevertheless gives the impression of literary homogeneity.¹ The three parts have seemingly been interrelated by means of distributing several terms in such a way that certain literary patterns have been produced.

¹Sun, 322-325, claims a three-step composition history for vss. 1-16: (1) "The basic apodictic law to which the rest of the chapter has been attracted is found in v. 3*" (324); (2) this was expanded by adding vss. 1, 2, 3 but their chronological relationship to the redaction of vss. 4-16 can no longer be determined; (3) to the kernel of vss. 4-16, namely vs. 4a, were added successively "(a) vv. 4b-7; (b) v. 8; (c) v. 9; (d) vv. 10-13, a unit whose own redaction history is unrecoverable; (e) v. 14; and (f) vv. 15-16" (325).

With regard to Lev 22:17-25, Sun, 338-340, postulates a five-part composition history: (1) The heart of this pericope is contained in "the 2mp prohibitions (v. 20a; v. 22a + 24). Whether the motive clause of v. 20b is original or secondary cannot be determined"; (2) a second hand added vv. 18b, 21b; (3) in a third step vss. 19, 22b-23 were included; (4) "finally, vv. 24b-25 were added to round out the unit as a whole, though whether that unit consists of vv. 18b-24a or vv. 2-24a only is uncertain"; (5) vss. 17-18a are said to have been attached when this unit was linked with vss. 1-16.

For vss. 26-33, Sun, 354, claims three originally independent laws of vss. 27, 28, and 29-30a "were brought together by a hand wishing to add supplementary material to vv. 17-25, and this hand added the report formula of v. 26 and the short self-identification formula of v. 30b. Most likely, this hand is also responsible for the parenesis of vv. 31-33. Thus, the unit as a whole is literarily homogeneous (that is, only one hand is responsible for its present formulation) in spite of its traditio-historical heterogeneity."

The unobtrusive alternation of איש "man" (2179 / 92) and איש "anyone" has obviously been used to structure the first two DS (22:1-16; 17-25). In both instances the *second* and the *second-from-last* deviate from the normal teminology:

3	אשר יקריב	איש	כל	
4a	ע אהרן והוא צרוע או זב	<u>איש איש</u> מזר		
4b	אשר תצא מננו	איש	או	
5	אשר יגע	איש	או	
12	7 ٢	לאיש	ובת כהן כי תהיה	
14	כי יאכל קדש בשגגה	ואיש	•	
18	ת ישראל אשר יקריב	<u>איש איש</u> מבי		7^{th}
21	כי יקריב זבח שלמים ליי	ואיש		

Whereas the first DS is directed towards "Aaron and his sons," the second addresses "Aaron and his sons and all the Israelites," and in the last DS (vss. 26-32) no addressee is mentioned. The placing of "any person of the house of Israel" in the *seventh* position may, of course, be accidental, but it must not be overlooked that from vss. 18 to 25 it is the Israelites—besides the Aaronides—who are addressed.

The Noun ברית and the Verb ו in Lev 26

Because of its relation to the verb פרר "brake" (52 / 2) the eightfold appearance of the noun ברית "covenant" (283 / 10) in Lev 26 is most illuminating. As in the preceding examples, it is the *second* and *second-from-last* positions which attract the reader's notice, possibly corroborating—of course in conjunction with the structures based on "the land of Egypt," "loathe," and "give"—the intrinsic and intricate unity of this pericope:

¹It occurs as well in 2:13 and 24:8.

26:9	והקימתי את בריתי אתכם
15	לבלתי עשות את כל מצותי <u>להפרכם</u> את בריתי
25	חרב נקמת נקם ברית
42	בריתי יעקב
42	בריתי יצחק
42	בריתי אברהם
44	יי <i>ד</i> ולא געלתים לכלתם <u>להפר</u> בריתי אתם
45	וזכרתי להם ברית ראשנים

The special feature of this outline is the conceptual antithesis between the *second* and *second-from-last* members. While in vs. 15 the possibility is reckoned with that Israel may break "my covenant," vs. 44 repudiates the possibility that the Lord might break his covenant with Israel: "I will not abhor them to destroy them completely, breaking my covenant with them" (NIV). The inconceivable idea that the Lord may break his covenant possibly gains in significance by having been placed in the *seventh* position.

In Lev 27 שקל

The distribution of the noun שקל "shekel" (88 / 14) found *twelve* times in the DS of Lev 27 reveals the very same numerical device as the previous one. It is the term "according to the sanctuary shekel" (NIV) that has been placed in the *second* and *second-from-last* positions. While in vss. 2-13 laws on vows are presented, vss. 14-25 discuss the dedications to the sanctuary, and hence the distribution of the noun "shekel" clearly connects the two units:1

¹With regard to this DS Elliger, 385, states: "Die literarische Geschichte von c27 stellt sich also als die eines Nachtrages zum Heiligkeitsgesetz dar, dem selbst wieder nach und nach einige Nachträge angehängt wurden. Am Anfang steht das Gesetz über die Geldablösung von Gelübden und Weihungen 1-25. Nach einem wohldurchdachten Plan

3bα		שקל	חמשים
3bβ	<u>הקדש</u>	<u>בשקל</u>	
4		अ वर	שלשים
5a		שקלים	עשרים
5b		שקלים	עשרת
6a		שקלים	חמשה
6b		שקלים	שלשת
7a		שקל	חמשה עשר
7ь		שקלים	עשרה
16		שקל	בחמשים
25a	<u>הקדש</u>	<u>בשקל</u>	
25b		השקל	עשרים גרה יהיר

Each of the five preceding open-envelope structures is based on the conspicuous characteristics of *second* and *second-from-last* positions. Whereas the outline can be easily recognized in each case, the theological implications are most obvious in Lev 18 and 26. The presence of the very same structural device in Lev 18; 20; 22:1-15; 26; 27 probably deserves an answer by those who postulate multiple redactional layers.

Envelope Structures

In biblical literary studies the *inclusio* or envelope structure is, of course, more well-known than the open-envelope structure. In his seminal study, Paran has pointed out that within priestly texts the short-circuit inclusion is a very common and frequently used literary device.¹ Whereas this short-circuit inclusion has been employed extensively on

hat der Verfasser ein Gesetz aus einem Guß geschaffen." He considers vss. 26-27 and 28 to be the first addition, vss. 30-33 followed as a second supplement, and possibly vs. 34 was appended at the same time; concerning the point of time when vs. 29, called a "gloss" was appended, he is not sure.

¹Paran, 49-97; cf. McEvenue, 43, who defines the short-circuit inclusion as "an inclusion in that a unit begins and ends on the same element. It is short, in that the unit is a single sentence."

the sentence level, only a few envelope structures have been found on the level of the DS.

The Verb יצא in Lev 8-10

In the DS of Lev 8:1-10:7 the five occurrences צא" "go out" (1067 / 37) seem to function as another literary device outlining the structure of this pericope. The prohibition ממפתח אהל מועד לא תצאו "do not leave the entrance to the Tent of Meeting" (NIV) is uttered first on the first day (8:33) and it is repeated on the eighth day after the death of Aaron's sons (10:7):

8:33	Α		תצאו	לא	<u>ומפתח אהל מועד</u>
9:23	В	ויברכו את העם	ויצאו	אל אהל מועד	ויבא משה ואהרן א
24	В	אש מלפני יי	ותצא		•
10:2	В	אש מלפני יי	ותצא		
7	A		תצאו	לא	<u>ומפתח אהל מועד</u>

The inclusion, being both temporal and textual, encloses three nonprohibitive statements, two of which are verbatim (9:24; 10:2). Whereas here the priests are forbidden to leave the entrance of the Tent of Meeting, the next structure commands Israel to to bring their fellowship offerings to be slaughtered at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting.

The Phrase פתח אהל מועד in Lev 17

In the DS of Lev 17 the fourfold occurrence of the phrase פתח אהל מועד "the entrance of the Tent of Meeting" may have been intended as a structuring device:

קרב עמו 4	<u>לא הביאו</u> ונכרת האיש ההוא מי	ואל פתח אהל מועד
5		והביאם ליי אל פתח אהל מועד
6		וזרק על מזבח יי פתח אהל מועד
9 מעמיו	<u>לא יביאנו</u> ונכרת האיש ההוא	ואל פתח אהל מועד

While in the first and last members of the list it is threatened that if an Israelite

does *not bring* his sacrifice to the entrance of the Tent of Meeting to offer it there to the Lord, that man is to be cut off from his people, in vss. 5 and 6 the bringing of the fellowship offering and the sprinkling of its blood are mentioned.

The Noun חקה in Lev 18

In his recent study, Schwartz characterizes Lev 18 as a tripartite "separate literary unit." The parenetic framework with general instructions in vss. 2b-5 and 24-30 incloses the "series of specific prohibitions" in vss. 6-23. In this DS the noun "statute" (100 / 26) may have been employed in creating an interesting structure. The interplay of the phrases "(their) decrees/my decrees" perhaps testifies to some kind of literary patterning:

3	לא תלכו	ובחקתיהם		
4	תשמרו	חפתי	ואת	
5		חקתיַ	את	ושמרתם
26		חקתיַ	אתם את	ושמרתם
30	התועבת אשר נעשו לפניכם	מחקות	לתי עשות	לבי ³

¹Schwartz, "Literary Study," 55. Gerstenberger, 246, proceeds as well from the assumption that "this chapter has without doubt been composed into a self-enclosed unit." In contrast to the hypothesis of literary unity Sun, 134-151, avers that "Lev 18 is the end of a long process of growth" (161). To the basic core, consisting of vss. 7-16, vss. 6, 17-18 were added; then vss. 19-21, and afterwards vss. 22-23 were attached. In two final steps the paranetic framework, vss. 2b-4, 24-28, 30, and finally vss. 1-2a, 5, 29 were added (161-163). By juxtaposing the incompatible conclusions of more than ten scholars who investigated this chapter in recent years, Sun definitely demonstrates the complete lack of an *opinio communis* as regards the heterogeneity/homogeneity of Lev 18.

²Schwartz, "Literary Study," 60. Whereas some scholars presume a former decalogue or dodecalogue (e.g., Elliger, 238: "Die Zahl der einzelnen Verbote . . . betrug zweifellos einmal zwölf."), Schwartz, "Literary Study," xi, emphasizes that "no importance at all has been attached by the author to the actual number of prohibitions."

³Recognition of this structure I owe to my friend, Christian Frei, Berne.

Israel is called upon not to walk by the decrees of Egypt or Canaan nor to do any of the detestable things practiced by the Canaanites, and therefore the Lord admonishes them three times, "keep my decrees."

A Wordplay on אשה and אשה in Lev 21

The wordplay created by the consonantal congruence of the two nouns אשה "food gift" (65 / 42) and אשה "woman" (782 / 35) may perhaps be one of "those which are more ingenious and allusive."² It possibly functions as a compositional device to interlink the two DS in Lev 21 (vss. 1-15; 16-24),³ two pericopes which deal with

ללכת בהם

In his study Schwartz makes the interesting claim that it is a general scholarly misconception to interpret Lev 18 as aiming at listing sexual or marital laws of ancient Israel. According to him Lev 18 functions rather "as a (perhaps exaggerated) portrayal of the lewd and utterly unrestrained sexual behavior which characterized the Egyptians and Canaanites, in order to warn the Israelites against similar conduct," (x) and hence Lev 18 is basically meant "to characterize and to demonstrate, to admonish and to preach, and not to give an actual historical picture" (78).

³Sun, 287, proposes the following composition history for vss.1-15: (1) The heart of the unit is thought to be vss. $1b\beta$ -4, 7b, $8a\beta$, a priestly TVT for priests in general, and vss. 10a, 10b- $12a\alpha$, 13-14 specifically for the eldest priest; (2) "If one only assumes one redactional layer, then the rest of the material was added at this time. But if one assumes two or more layers, the the [sic] most likely reconstruction would be the addition first of vv. 5 (an originally independent TVT formulated in the plural), $6a\alpha b^*$, 7a (an originally independent TVT, like v. 5), $8a\alpha b$ and secondly of vv. $6a\beta b^*$. Whether vv. $10a^*$ +12 and vv. $12a\beta\gamma$ +15 were added at the same time or in two stages is no longer certain. The ad-

¹Schwartz, "Literary Study," 64, draws attention to the structure of vss. 3-4:

כמעשה ארץ מצרים ... לא תעשו 3

וכמעשה ארץ כנען ... לא תעשו

ובחקתיהם לא **תלכו** את משפטי **תעשו** 4

את משפטי העשמרו ואת חקתי **תשמרו**

²Alonso-Schökel, Manual, 29.

instructions for priests regarding purity and physical blemishes, blemishes by which an Aaronite is definitely disqualified from officiating as priest. At the same time this passage gives precise proscriptions for priests and the high priest regarding a suitable wife.

6	לחם אלהיהם הם מקריבם	<u>אשי יי</u>	כי את
7aα 7aβ 13 14	זונה וחללה לא <u>יקחו</u> גרשה מאישה לא <u>יקחו</u> בבתוליה <u>יקח</u>	אשה ואשה אשה אשה	והוא כי אם בתולה מעמיו <u>יקח</u>
א יגש להקריב 21	כי מום בו את לחם אהליו לא	<u>אשי יי</u>	לא יגש להקריב את

The notion of presenting the "food gift" of the Lord in vss. 6 and 21 encloses the idea "they shall not take" (vs. 7²), "he shall take" (vss. 13, 14). Because the priests and even more so the high priest are summoned to be holy (vss. 6², 7, 8, 15), they are not supposed to marry just *any* woman¹ but only one who qualifies to be the wife of a priest or the high priest. The notion of taking a wife has seemingly been well structured:

7aα		<u>לא</u> יק חו	אשה זנה וחללה
7aβ		<u>לא</u> יק חו	ואשה גרושה מאישה
13	²אשה	יקח	והוא אשה <u>בבתוליה</u>
14a		<u>לא</u> יקח	אמלנה וגרושה וחללה זנה את אלה
14b		יקח	כי אם <u>בתולה</u> מעמיו

dition of vv. 1aba, 9 cannot be dated."

¹M. Zipor, "Restrictions on Marriage for Priests (Lev 21,7.13-14)," Bib 68 (1987): 265, points to the chiastic arrangement of women (non)eligible for marriage: זנה חללה גרושה חללה אלמנה גרושה זנה hierodule harlot divorced widow divorced hierodule harlot

²Paran, 161, points to the *inclusio* formed by אשה "woman" in vss. 13-14.

Whereas in vs. 7 only those women who are unfit to be a priest's wife have been listed, in the case of the high priest mention is made twice of the *only* woman acceptable as a high priest's wife, a בתולה "virgin." By way of mentioning "virgin" twice, the reference to widow, divorced, hierodule, and harlot, who are, of course, totally unfit to be the wife of a high priest, has been bracketed.

The Verb רצה and the Noun רצון in Lev 22

In Lev 22, consisting of three distinct DS (vss. 1-16; 17- 25; 26-33) the interplay of the verb רצון "accept favorably" (56 / 11) and the nominal derivative "acceptance; "Wohlgefallen" (52 / 7) possibly produces another inclusion by means of which the second and third DS (vss. 17-25; 26-33) are closely connected—the interlinking of the first and second DS by means of the phrase איש / איש איש has already been pointed out above. In the present outline, it is the eye-catching first and seventh positions of the noun with its 2nd pl. m. suffix, which seemingly serve as inclusion. Two identical nominal forms in vss. 20-21 are followed by three verbal forms with sgl. (vs. 23), pl. (vs. 25), and sgl. (vs. 27) alternating:

19	תמים זכר בבקר בכשבים ובעזים	לרצנ <u>כם</u>	
20	יהיה לכם	לרצון	כי לא רצון
21		לרצון	תמים יהיה
23		ירצה	ולנדר לא
25	לכם	ירצו	לא
27		ירצה	ומיום השמיני והלאה
29	תזבחו	לרצנ <u>כם</u>	

¹Wenham, *Leviticus*, 292, emphasizes not only the girl's virginity but her age and therefore renders vss. 13-14: "He must marry a girl in her teens. . . . But he must marry a young marriageable girl from his kinsfolk."

This envelope structure, clearly expounding the biblical notion of how an acceptable sacrifice should be, enhances its message by way of being congruent in form and content.

Identical Verbal / Nominal Forms

In a very few cases, verbs or nouns seem to have been structured according to grammatical forms so that an easily discernible structure becomes evident. At this point it should not be left unnoticed that both Lev 16 and 23, two pericopes where this literary device has been detected, are said to consist of several redactional layers.

The Verb בוא in Lev 16

In Lev 16, the message Moses is to convey to his brother Aaron begins with the strict warning ואל יבא בכל עת אל הקדש "he must not come at any time into the Most Holy Place" in order to preclude any recurrence of the tragic fate of Aaron's sons. In continuation, vs. 3 commences with the command בזאת יבא אהרן אל הקדש "in this way Aaron is to enter the Most Holy Place." Then follows the detailed description of the required sacrificial animals (bull and ram for Aaron and his household, vs. 3b), the

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 1013, points out that in 16:2, 3, 16, 17, 20, 23, 27 the term הקדש means the inner shrine, whereas otherwise it is expressly called קדש קדשים (e.g., Exod 26:33). Because of this difference in terminology he maintains "that this terminological anomaly is one of the many reasons for regarding vv 2-28 as comprising a discrete literary unit that was not originally composed by the author or redactor of P," an argument which seems to be at least debatable.

²Hartley, 222, n. 3a, states that the demonstrative pronoun מחלב" "anticipates the object, that is, a bull and a ram, which occurs at the end of the sentence. It comes first to stress that Aaron cannot enter the Holy of Holies unprepared."

special high priestly garments (vs. 4), and the sacrificial animals for Israel (two he-goats and a ram, vs. 5).

It is the *tenfold* distribution of the verb NII "come" (2585 / 60) arranged according to conjugational forms which enhances its uniqueness and possibly testifies to the structural cohesion and literary integrity of Lev 16:2-28. The fact that the ten texts listed below have been thus grouped becomes even more convincing if the respective content is taken into consideration. The first two texts obviously need no further explanation: Aaron is summoned not to come "whenever he chooses" (NIV) to the Most Holy Place, but at the appropriate time and then to come only under the outlined conditions.

רכת 2 3	מבית לפ	נ אל הקדש אל הקדש	בכל עת אהרן		ואל בזאת
	מבית לפ מבית לפ!	אכ	את דמו		ומלא חפניו קטרת סמים דקה
17 23aα 23aβ	הל מועד	בקדש אל א הקדש	אהרן	בא	וכל אדם לא יהיה באהל מועד ו ופשט את בגדי הבד אשר לבש
26 27 28	ר בקדש	את דמם לכנ	אל המחנה א אל המחנה	בא	•

A close reading of Lev 16 clearly reveals that the two sin offerings on Yom Kippur, rituals performed with the bull for Aaron and his family and the he-goat for Israel, are "interwoven with each other . . . and similar activities belonging to the two

¹Of the nine verses this structure comprises Elliger, 200-201, ascribes vss. 2, 3, 15, 17, and 23 to his *Grundschrift* which is not Pg¹ but rather Pg². Vss. 26-28 are part of his "erste Bearbeitungsschicht," and vs. 12 is said to have been inserted at the point of the "Schlußredaktion." Cf. Janowski, 267-268.

rituals alternate." At the same time, it is of significance to notice that not all activities performed on this day have been listed in the text of Lev 16,² essential procedural details which, of course, must have been well-known to the Aaronides. The ritual unity of the two sin offerings becomes evident even in the identical verbal form (vss. 12, 15).

In the first triad the three forms of the verb בוא have been chiastically arranged. The terminological equivalence is paralleled by congruence of content: "when he comes" to make atonement in the sanctuary (vs.17) corresponds to "... the linen vestments he wore when he came [בבאו] to the sanctuary" (vs. 23a\beta), and in between it is stated "and Aaron shall come into the Tent of Meeting" (vs. 23a\alpha).

The phrase אל המחנה "and afterwards he may come into the camp," present only here in Leviticus, apparently brackets vs. 27. This statement refers to the two men, one of whom took the goat of Azazel to the desert (vs. 26) and the person who burned the hides, flesh, and offal of the bull and goat (vs. 28). In between these two statements mention is made of the bull and goat part לכפר בקדש את דמם לכפר בקדש which was brought in to make atonement in the sanctuary" (Wenham). From the description of the ritual it is already known that blood of these two animals was taken into the Holiest Place, a fact mentioned in vs. 15, which is likewise an integral part of this structure.

¹R. E. Gane, "Ritual Dynamic Structure: Systems Theory and Ritual Syntax Applied to Selected Ancient Israelite, Babylonian, and Hittite Festival Days" (Ph.D. diss., University of California, Berkeley, 1992), 180.

²Ibid., 184-187.

This impressive structure, which seemingly testifies to the literary integrity of the extant text, challenges the hypothesis of different provenience.¹

The Verb עשה in Lev 23

In a recent study Knohl hypothesizes that what he calls "Holiness School" was "responsible for the recension and final edition of the P stratum . . . the 'Priestly Torah'." In comparing Lev 23 with Num 28 Knohl argues for the latter to be "wholly PT" and Lev 23 to be "composed of elements of both HS and PT." In contrast to Knohl's interpretation, Milgrom maintains that the cultic calendar in Num 28-29 "is probably an expansion of the calendar of Leviticus 23."

Knohl attributes vss. 9-22 and the second Tabernacle passage (vss. 39-43) to HS because "these sections conclude with the formula 'I am the Lord your God'... [which is] characteristic of HS." Lev 23:2b-3 are to be assessed as "editorial addition," in the

¹Elliger, 200-201, ascribes vs.. 2, 3, 15, 17, 23 to his "Grundschrift," vss. 26, 27, 28 to the "erste Bearbeitung," and vs. 12 to the "Schlußredaktion."

²Knohl, "Priestly Torah," 66.

³Ibid., 67.

⁴Ibid. Furthermore he avers that certain sections in Lev 23 "clearly depart from the well-measured style of PT, and which mention some ritual practices unmentioned in Numbers."

⁵Milgrom, Numbers, xix.

⁶Knohl, "Priestly Torah," 68.

⁷Ibid., 72.

second DS vss. 18-19 are designated "the first addition," and vs. 21 is described as "another addition." The alleged "three different strata" in the DS on Yom Kippur, and the absence of the phrase יום תרועה "a day for you to sound the trumpets" (NIV) used in Num 29:1 but absent from Lev 23:24 (here the day is spoken of as זכרון תרועה "remembrance announced with a trumpet" [Wenham]), make Knohl surmise "that in the original PT passage . . . the holiday was called 'the Day of Shofar Blasts' as in Nu 29:1."

In view of the various supposed supplements, the carefully created structure—an outline based on identical verbal forms of the common verb "עשה" (2627 / 94)—in conjunction with the phrases כל] מלאכה / מלאכת עבדה (any) work/servile work," is indeed surprising. The seven festivals in Lev 23 (each in the context of the respective DS) have been added in the margin of the table below so as to elucidate the elaborate literary makeup of the pericope. In order to highlight the differences between the structure present in the extant text and the alleged additions, the latter have been

¹Ibid., 84.

²Ibid.

³Ibid., 86. "The first stratum is the original PT passage, which has been preserved (with certain modifications) in versus (*sic*) 26-28a (ending: 'and you shall do no work'). The second stratum includes the initial HS addition found in verses 28b-31 (starting: 'throughout that day...') The third stratum is verse 32, which was the final addition, for which later editors (also from HS) were responsible."

⁴Ibid., 93.

⁵According to J. Milgrom, Studies in Levitical Terminology I: The Encroacher and the Levite: The Term 'Aboda (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1970), 80, n. 297, the difference between כל מלאכת עבדה and כל מלאלכת עבדה is that the former "is severer and more encompassing" than the latter.

marked by means of the term "add" on the right margin.

The term תעשה מלאכה "do (all) work" (vs. 3aα: 2 sgl. m./vs. 30:3 sgl. f.) has been signified "Aa," the phrase כל מלאכה לא תעשו "you are not to do any work" (3aβ, 28) "Ab," and finally the expression כל מלאכת עבדה לא תעשו "you are not to do any servile work" (vss. 7, 8, 21, 25, 35, 36) "Ac." The two occurrences of the form ועשיתם "and you shall make" (vss. 12, 19) have been signified "B." It should be noted that vs. 3, speaking of the Sabbath and allegedly a later supplement, has been intricately integrated.

1. Sabbath	Aa	3aα		מלאכה	ששת ימים <u>תעשה</u>	add
	Ab	3aβ	לא תעשו	ל מלאכה:		add
Passover	Ac	7	עבדה לא תעשו	כל מלאכת		
	Ac	8	עבדה לא תעשו	כל מלאכת		
2. Firstfruits	В	12 🗖	<u>ועשית</u>			add
F. of Week	s B	ם 19	ועשית			add
	Ac	21	עבדה לא תעשו	ל מלאכת י		add
3. F. of T. ³	Ac	25	עבדה לא תעשו	ל מלאכת	ס	
4. Y. Kippur	Ab	28	לא תעשו	ל מלאכה	ס	add
	Aa	30		ל מלאכה:	וכל הנפש אשר <u>תעשה</u> כ	add
	Ab	31	לא תעשו	ל מלאכה	כ	add
5. Sukkoth	Ac	35	עבדה לא תעשו	ל מלאכת י	ס	
	Ac	36	עבדה לא תעשו	ל מלאכת י)	

[&]quot;Ibid., 81, n. 297: "Perhaps the best translation for מלאכה would be 'activity.' The festivals, on the other hand, are bound by מלאכת עבדה, where מלאכה refers to any enterprise or occupation and עבדה is the physical labor attached to it, that is, 'occupational work.' Implied perhaps is that light work, unrelated to one's livelihood, would be permitted."

²Whereas in vs. 19 the verb refers exclusively to sacrificial animals, a he-goat as burnt offering and two lambs as fellowship offering, besides the sacrificing of a lamb as burnt offering in vs. 12, the grain offering spoken of in vs. 13 depends on the verb "make" as well.

³"Feast of Trumpets."

Although the last three verses are not part of the clear-cut tenfold structure, an outline based on identical verbal forms, they have been inseparably integrated into the context of Lev as shown above.

One can not fail to see the eye-catching "enveloping" function of תעשה in vss. 3 and 30, the call not to do any servile work in vss. 3a\beta and 28,\text{\text{!}} and the bracketing function of vss. 7, 8 and 21, 25, by means of which the double mention of uss. 12 and 19 is being put in the very center of this structure. Based on identical verbal forms this structure turns out to be at the same time chiastically arranged. Furthermore, with regard to "you shall make" in vss. 12 and 19 it must not be left unmentioned that only in these two cases the verb is used in the sense of "sacrificing.' In all other cases the verb is used in relation to the noun "work."

Summary and Conclusions

This chapter was devoted to testing the basic working hypothesis that Leviticus has been artistically arranged according to thirty-seven distinct DS. The individual subunits seem to exhibit definite literary designs, such as seven-part, chiastic, numerological, open-envelope, envelope, and "identical verbal/nominal" structures.

The first part of this chapter pointed to the structuring function of the verb "speak." The alternation between divine and human speaker has obviously been used as a

¹If we were to come up with a macrostructural outline of the noun מלאכה "work" (166 / 16) 23:3a β and 28 would be in the *seventh* and *twelfth* positions respectively.

²The NIV translates, "you must sacrifice" (vs. 12) and "then sacrifice" (vs. 19).

structural device in Lev 8:1-10:7; 22; 23; 24.

The second subsection dealt with seven-part structures. Significantly, several of them are based on the same words, which, of course, should be seen as a significant substantiation of the basic working hypothesis. The particle つ "all, ever" has been used in two elaborate structures in Lev 1-3 and 8:1-10:7, and in two more simple ones in chaps. 14 and 27, of which the latter is actually a numerological structure. Several of the seven-part structures have been composed as three plus four structures. This is the case with DT "blood" in chaps. 6:1-7:38 (in Lev 14 a six-part chiastic DT-structure is capped by a seventh), אש "fire" in Lev 8:1-10:7, קדש in 10:8-20, and מחוץ ל "outside of" in chaps. 13-14. Three of these structures are of special significance because they consist not only of seven distinct parts but at the same time the seventh slot turns out to be the indisputable climax. In Lev 19 the common noun ארץ "land" culminates in making mention of the Exodus; in chap. 20 the common verb נתן "give" makes reference to the Lord's giving of Canaan to Israel in the seventh slot, and in Lev 22 the seven occurrences of the verb היה "be" culminate in another mention of the Exodus events. In Lev 23 the noun אה "feast" and the verb אה "keep a feast" occur together seven times, and they seem to function as an artistic link between vss. 1-38 and the supposed supplement vss. 39-43.

The third subunit addressed the chiastic structures that are of significance because in several cases they severely undermine the hypothesis of literary heterogeneity. In chaps. 4-5 it is the noun כפש "person," in chaps. 6-7 the verb קטר "turn into smoke," in Lev 14 the verb שחט "slaughter," in Lev 16 the noun בגד "garment," in Lev 23 the noun

"work," and the phrase יהיה לכם "you shall have." In an excursus the present position of Lev 24 was probed; this brief investigation proposed that the present position proves to be the most appropriate one. In this chapter the two verbs קלל and קלל, both to be rendered as "curse," create an antithetic seven-part structure. In Lev 24 and 27 the noun "son," and in chap. 26 the verb געל "abhor, loathe," and in chaps. 25-26 the phrase ארץ מצרים "the land of Egypt" form the foundation of significant chiastic structures.

The fourth subsection dealt with numerological structures, where numeric outlines, i.e., the sequence and/or the sequential position, are of importance. The structural significance of the phrase אשה (לריח ניחח) ליי in Lev 1-3 is pointed out, the role of the numeral "seven" in chaps. 13-14, the unique structural function of the verb "take," the structural organization by means of the phrase (שלהיכם) in Lev 19, the structuring role of the verb "החץ" "bathe" in chap. 15, and the structural significance of the noun "month" in chap. 23. The predilection of the ancients to place a profound statement or a word in the seventh (and at times twelfth) slot became manifest in Lev 14 and 25-26 with the verb "cipy" נתן "give." In a unique numerical pattern based on the noun ארץ "land" in Lev 25-26, the seventh and twelfth positions are unparalleled in the Hebrew Bible.

In the fifth subsection of the third chapter, the open-envelope structures, consisting usually of eight members, were investigated. In this type of structure the *second* and *second-from-last* members are very similar, in clear contrast to the rest. While in some cases it may be merely for stylistic aesthetics—but again transcending the alleged

redaction-critical layers—two extraordinary examples are probably of theological significance. In Lev 18 the structure is based on the divine "ו" "ו"," and in chap. 26 on the noun "ברית "covenant" in its relation to the verb "ברית "break." In the latter, the Lord's imperturbable faithfulness is possibly stressed by having placed this statement in the seventh slot: "I shall . . . not abhor them to destroy them completely, breaking my covenant with them" (Hartley). Furthermore, one cannot fail to notice the clear-cut contrast between the second-from-last, that is, the seventh, and the second position where it is stated: "and you will not do all my commandments and you will break my covenant." In Lev 20 the verb מות "die," in chap. 22 the phrase איש / איש איש איש איש 'man/anyone," and in Lev 27 the phrase בשקל הקדש "according to the shekel of the sanctuary" form the foundation of the open-envelope structures.

A few examples of envelope structures encompassing the larger part of a given DS can be found in Lev 8-10 based on יצא "go out," in chap. 17 on מתח אהל מועד "the entrance of the Tent of Meeting," and in chap. 18 on the noun "statute." In Lev "accept favorably" and the noun רצון "accept favorably" and the noun אוני "accept favorably" and the noun אוני "accept favorably" and the noun אוני "accept favorably" and the noun רצון "accept favorably" and the noun אוני "accept favorably" and the

The two examples of identical verbal/nominal forms are present in Lev 16 and 23.

Based on the common verbs בוא "come" and עשה "make" respectively, the structures testify to the artistic arrangement of the extant text. In view of the fact that both chapters are said to consist of several redactional layers, these findings may pose new questions regarding their alleged literary heterogeneity.

The sheer abundance of diverse structures detected within the distinct delimita-

tions of many DS seems to support the fundamental working hypothesis that Leviticus has been artistically structured by way of thirty-seven DS. In many cases the obvious literary outline testifies to the literary cohesiveness of the text before us, and furthermore, in many a case the terminological patterns enhance the theological message; more than once a profound theological kerygma has come to light only because a significant structure has been "unearthed."

CHAPTER IV

MACROSTRUCTURAL ASPECTS OF LEVITICUS

The investigation of the microstructure of the different DS has revealed numerous literary devices, most of which were based on numerical notions. By means of these complex, creatively employed techniques not only has textual cohesiveness been created but at the same time significant theological statements were made. Repeatedly proof of the inextricable interrelation of form and content was given. Therefore we should not wonder that even on the macrostructural level the same literary devices have been used by the ancient author in order to create long-range connective links on the structural and theological levels. It is surprising how the biblical writer brought his literary skill into play in forming artistic patterns, enclosing at times more than half of Leviticus.

The investigation of the microstructure has shown that both very common and rare words have been employed by the ancient author in outlining the DS. In my opinion the same applies to the macrostructure of Leviticus. The criterion for structural suitability is therefore not the question of "commonness" or "rareness," but rather a matter of forming the foundation for a significant structure.

Seven-part Structures

In view of the significance of the number seven in extrabiblical ancient literature,

in various texts of the Hebrew Bible, and in the microstructure of Leviticus, we should not be surprised to find the same patterning device on the macrostructural level.

In each of the following subunits the sequence of entries follows the order of first usage of a given word/phrase in the extant text of Leviticus, with the exception of the numerical structures where an explanation is given for the difference in order.

The Noun פרכת

The distribution of the noun "curtain" (25 / 7), always referring to the curtain separating the Holy from the Most Holy in the Tabernacle, shows a 2/3/2 design:

4:6	A הקדש	את פני פרכת	והזה מן הדם שבע פעמים לפני יי
17	Α	את פני הפרכת	והזה שבע פעמים לפני יי
	_		
16:2	В	הקדש <u>מבית</u> ל פרכת	ואל יבא בכל עת אל ו
12	В	<u>מבית</u> ל פרכת	והביא
15	В	<u>מבית</u> לפרכת	והביא את דמו אל
21:23	A לא יבא ^ו	הפרכת	אך אל
24:3	A "העדת באהל מ		מחוץ
4٦.٦	וועוונ באווע כו א	عاداد	בא וו /

The central triad (16:2, 12, 15) referring three times to *inside* the veil, that is, the Most Holy, is enclosed by two references on either side, two texts which speak of the *outside* of the veil. According to 4:6, 17, the high priest sprinkles some of the blood of the sin offering "in front of the curtain" (NIV), that is, that side of the curtain facing the

¹If we were to follow Blum, *Studien*, 253, n. 133, "daß Kap. 20* einmal mit 21f eine eigene Sammlung bildete" we would have to accredit a (final) redactor for this *seven-fold* and at the same time *chiastic* structure.

Holy Place.¹ A priest with any physical defect may eat of the most holy food (21:22), but he is strictly forbidden "to come to the curtain or to approach the altar" (21:23), that is, he is not allowed to perform any priestly duties. The idea of "outside the veil" is *expressis* verbis mentioned only once in the seventh position: "מרכת העדת "outside the curtain of the Testimony" (NIV), a phrase which is found only once in the Hebrew Bible. In this ingenious seven-part structure quite different passages of Leviticus have been linked by means of the relatively rare noun פרכת.

The Verb שבר

Whereas the previous structure revealed a 2/3/2 pattern, the verb "break" (148 / 7) brings to light a unique 3/1/3 structure. The seven texts can easily be grouped in two triads with a single one in the center. The first triad deals with the breaking (Niphal) of a "clay vessel": the first must be broken in case meat of the sin offering is cooked in it, the second if a rodent falls into it, and the third if a man with a discharge has touched it. In Lev 22:22 mention is made of an animal with any broken limb which therefore is no longer fit to be sacrificed. The second triad is of special interest because each time the Lord is the subject of the verb, which is unique throughout the Pentateuch. For Israel's sake the Lord broke the bars of their yoke in Egypt (26:3), but because of his people's stubbornness he will break their pride (26:19), and furthermore it is he who will break the

¹Schenker, "Unterschied," 123, considers the "Perikope der Verfehlung des Hohepriesters in Lv 4" a later addition, a hypothesis which is probably weakened by this artistically arranged seven-part structure. In view of this outline it may be questioned whether Elliger, 200, does justice to this *seven-part* and *chiastic* structure in attributing 16:2, 15 to what he calls "Grundschicht" and vs. 12 to the "Schlußredaktion."

bread supply (26:26) because of their defiant disobedience.1

6:21		תבשל בו י שבר	<u>וכלי חרש</u> אשר
11:33		הואתו תשברו	וכל <u>כלי חרש</u> אשר
15:12		יגע בו הזב י שבר	<u>וכלי חרש</u> אשר
22:22	וא לא תקריבו	או שבור	
26:13	מטת עלכם	ואשבר ²	
19	את גאון עזכם	ושברתי	
26	לכם מטה לחם	בשברי	

Two triads, each consisting of three conceptually interrelated texts, and an unrelated text in between, seemingly create a meaningful macrostructure encompassing a range of twenty chapters of the altogether twenty-seven of Leviticus.

The Noun גוי

It is surprising to find the common noun "" "people" (556 / 7) only seven times in Leviticus, where it appears in a clear 3/3/1 structure. Appearing only in Lev 18-26, it seemingly has a clear structuring function, but the significance of this outline rests not so much on its *seven* occurrences but rather on the unique statement placed in the *seventh* position, a statement which is unique within the Pentateuch. The striking 3/3/1 outline clearly separates two triads and a separate *seventh* member. In the first group of three the bracketing function of the almost verbatim phrase, "the nation(s) which I am going to drive out before you" (18:24; 20:23), cannot be overlooked. This phrase encircles the

¹Cf. Jer 19:11.

²Cf. Ezek 34:27; Jer 2:20.

³Cf. Ezek 5:16.

statement "as it vomited out the nations which were before you" (18:28). Whereas in the first triad thrice reference is made to the inhabitants of Canaan, the second group of three seems to envisage neighboring nations.

28	אשר אני משלח מפניכם אשר לפניכם אשר אני משלח מפניכם	הגוי	
25:44 26:33 38	אשר סביבתיכם תקנו	בגוים	ועבדך ואמתך אשר יהיו לך מאת ואתכם אזרה ואבדתם
45	להית להם לאלמים	הגוים	אשר הוצאתי אתם מארץ מצרים לעיני 7 th

In view of this outline we might speak of two self-contained triads, whereby in contrast to the significant structure of the first three texts, no ordering outline can be recognized in the second triad.

In contrast to the two preceding *seven-part* macrostructural outlines, it is the *seventh* position which is of significance, a literary device found repeatedly on the microstructural level. The undeniable climax, "I brought them forth from the land of Egypt *before the eyes of the nations* to be their God," is an unparalleled statement in the Pentateuch, though the Exodus is referred to quite often. The probably purposeful positioning of this phrase in the *seventh* slot seems to be indicative of some structural design, by means of which a significant theological tenet is conveyed.

¹In Ezek 20:9, 14, 22 this idea is mentioned; cf. Ezek 22:41 (second exodus), 28: 25; 38:23; 39:27 (his holiness will be made known), 5:8 (judgment upon Israel), 22:16 (desecration of his name by Isarel), Deut 4:6; Isa 52:10; Ps 98:2.

²Elliger assigns these seven texts to the following redactional layers: 18:24 / Ph¹ (235); 18:28 / Ph² (235); 20:23 / Ph² (271); 25:33 / Ph² (348); 26:33, 38 were part of the

Chiastic Structures

In view of the numerous chiastic structures present on the microstructural level, we need not be surprised to find some even on the macrostructural level. The following three chiastic structures seemingly testify to the highly artistic textual arrangement of Leviticus.

The Verb יצק

The eight occurrences of the verb יצק "pour" (55 / 8), couched in a 3/2/3 pattern, and their distribution within Leviticus are of special significance because of the two different direct objects they take: "oil" as its object is quite common in other biblical texts, whereas "blood" is unique, occurring but twice in the Hebrew Bible.

2:1	Α	עלי ה <u>שמן</u>	ויצק		oil
6	Α	עליה <u>שמן</u>	ויצקת		oil
8:12	Α	<u>משמן</u> המשחה על ראש אהרן	ויצק		oil
15	В	אל יסוד המזבח	יצק	ואת <u>הדם</u>	blood
9:9	В	אל יסוד המזבח	יצק	ואת <i>הדם</i>	blood
14:15	Α	על כף הכהן השמאלית	ויצק	ולקח הכהן מלג <u>השמן</u>	oil
26	Α	הכהן על כף הכהן השמאלית	יצק	ומן <u>השמן</u>	oil
21:10	Α	על ראשו <u>שמן</u> המשחה	יוצק	והכהן גדול מאחיו אשר	oil

It should be borne in mind that both in 8:15 and 9:9, the two phrases are by the way *verbatim*, it is the blood of a sin offering for Aaron—one sacrificed on the first and the other on the eighth day—which is poured out at the base of the altar.

[&]quot;Agende des großen Herbstfestes" (371); 25:45 / Ph² (372). Sun, 576-580, ascribes them to the third (18:24, 28), fourth (20:23), second (25:33), first (26:33, 38), and third (26: 45) redactional stages.

Having noticed the unique use of the verb ינצק "pour" in Lev 8:15 and 9:9,
Milgrom concludes that this "comprises one important piece of evidence that chaps. 8
and 9 were written by the same hand, in contrast to Exod 29." Instead of pleading for authorial literary liberty, Paran underlines the importance given to the completion of the blood-rite construed with יצק instead of the more common "pour." By means of this literary device the completing act of the blood-rite has been assigned the *seventh* position, which seems to be very appropriate in view of the notion of "completeness" attached to the number "seven." In Exod 29:12, the "normal" verb שפך is used, which commonly describes the pouring out of the sacrificial blood and which, as a matter of fact, *never* takes oil as its object. In view of the fact that the verb יצק appears but twice in Exodus (4:9; 29:12), Milgrom's conclusion—different authorship of Lev 8-9 and Exod

³Paran, 205, presents this outline of Lev 8:14-18 (204):

r aran, 200, presents tins ou	unic of Ecv c	.17-10 (207).	
		את פר החטאת	<u>ויגש</u>
פר החטאת	<mark>רום</mark> על ראש פ	אהרן ובניו את ידי	ויסמד
			<u>וישחט</u>
		משה את הדם	<u>ויקח</u>
٦	סביב באצבעו	על קרנות המזבח	<u>ויתן</u>
		את המזבח	<u>ויחטא</u>
	[7 th]	אל יסוד המזבח	ואת הדם יצק
	-	לכפר עליו	<u>ויקדשהו</u>
ות יתרת הכבד ואת שתי הכלית	על הקרב וא	את כל החלב אשו	ויקח
בשרו ואת פרשו שרף	ת הפר ואת עו	משה המבזחה וא	ויקטר

⁴The phrase יצק דם appears once more—in a noncultic context—in 1 Kgs 22:35: and the blood of his wound ran onto the floor of the chariot."

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 523, avers that the author of Lev 8—modeling this verse on Exod 29:12 where שפך is employed—"felt free to introduce changes in vocabulary and style, a practice also attested in Hittite ritual texts."

²Ibid., 580; cf. Elliger, 117.

29—appears at least debatable. If, on the other hand, the verb in Lev 8 and 9 suffices to strongly support single authorship of this passage in contrast to Exod 29, there seems to be no reason why this "principle" could not be applied to the interrelated eight texts presently under discussion.

סבל The Verb

The special significance of the verb טבל "dip" (16/6) consists in the extraordiary use of the preposition אן (4:17; 14:16) in contrast to the common construction with ב.

Whether in Lev 4:17a the interchange of the two prepositions and אוֹם is due to a "shortened form" or to emphasis may be a matter of debate, which in my understanding cannot be finally answered:

4:6	והזה מן הדם שבע פעמים	בדם	הכהן את אצבעו	וטבל	Α
17	והזה שבע פעמים	<u>מן</u> הדם	הכהן עצבעו	וטבל	В
9:9	ויתן על קרנות המזבח	ברם	אצבעו	ויטבל	Α
	•				
14:6	הצפר השחטה	בדם	אותם ואת הצפר החיה	וטבל	A
16	ן והזה מן השמן	<u>מן</u> השמ	הכהן את אצבעו הימנית	וטבל	В
51	הצפר השחטה	ברם	אתם	. .	A

But in view of this significant chiastic structure in the overall outline of Leviticus, a structure created by the two exceptional uses of the preposition an answer has to provided for this most unique and artistic arrangement.

¹Cf. N. M. Sarna, "The Interchange of the Prepositions *Beth* and *Min* in Biblical Hebrew," *JBL* 78 (1959): 312.

²Milgrom, Leviticus, 244; Paran, 285, n. 36.

³Hartley, 47.

Furthermore, if the respective sacrificial context of Lev 4:6, 17 and 9:9 is taken into consideration, some light may be shed on the structure of the first three texts.

- 4:6 sin offering of the high-priest
- 17 sin offering of the congregation of Israel
- 9:9 sin offering of the high-priest

With regard to the usage of מן in 14:16, Paran's proposed literary structure of vss.

14-17 is most insightful.

ולקח הכהן <u>מדם האשם</u>

B ונתן הכהן על תנוך אזן המטהר הימנית ועל בהן ידו הימנית ועל בהן רגלו הימנית ועל ולקח הכהן על תנוך אזן המטהר הימנית ועל בהן ידו הימנית מלג השמן ויצק על כף הכהן השמאלית

C <u>מלג השמן</u> אשר על כפו השמאלית והזה ...

B ומיתר השמן ... יתן הכהן על תנוך אזן המטהר... ולע בהן רגלו הימנית

A על <u>דם האשם</u>

This illuminating chiastic structure which, because of the enveloping function of the phrase "the blood of the guilt offering," is at the same time a perfect *inclusio*, closely interlinks vs. 14aα with vs. 17b, vs. 14aβ to vs. 17a (the priest's putting oil on the right thumb and the right toe of the person to be cleansed), and vs. 16a with 16b (the priest dipping his right [index] finger into the oil and then sprinkling it seven times before the Lord). Although Paran may be quite correct in explaining the unusual construction in Lev 14:16 and in 4:17, it nevertheless deserves our attention that on the level of the extant text in each of the two triads there is a chiastic structure, and once they are juxtaposed the two triads reveal an overall chiastic structure: ABA ABA. The unique use of ΣΩ in

¹Paran, 169; Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 846-848, quoting Lund's chiastic structure (vss. 11-20) with some modifications, concludes that since "this introversion... glosses over some jarring elements... this passage is a clear indication that the large-scale chiastic structure was not perfected by the P school.... Thus the degree of sophistication in introverted structures becomes a criterion for distinguishing P from H."

relation to the prepositions and a definitely deserves some convincing explanation, especially if the hypothetic H provenance of Lev 14:34-57 is accepted.

The Phrase ארץ מצרים

The significance of the phrase ארץ מצרים "the land of Egypt" has already been noticed in the microstructure of Lev 11 where it seemingly supported the structural and theological significance of vs. 45: "For I am the Lord who brought you up from the land of Egypt." In case Lev 11 as a whole proves to be an inextricably intertwined literary unit, based on the patterns analyzed above, the theological and structural significance of Lev 11:44-45 as a literary link to chaps. 18-26 gains in momentum. If the admonition addressed to Israel "to make itself holy . . . which is the most distinctive characteristic of H" proves to be part and parcel of Lev 11, this chapter's relation to the so-called Holiness Code has indeed to be reevaluated.

The pointed reference to the Exodus in Lev 11:45 is bracketed by "אני "I am the YHWH" and the phrase הריתם קדשים כי קדש אני "be holy because I am holy." In other words, reference to the Lord's holiness and his calling upon Israel to be holy are closely related to his *Heilstat* performed on behalf of his people.²

In investigating the microstructure of Leviticus it was established that in Lev 19 (possibly in chap. 18, as well); 22; 25-26 the unexpected mention of the Exodus has been

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 694.

²Rendtorff, *Bundesformel*, 25, remarks: "Hier ist also die Heiligkeit Jhwhs, die neu zu seinem Gottsein hinzugefügt wird und aus der die Forderung an die Israeliten erwächst, selbst heilig zu sein."

closely connected to the respective context; this has been accomplished by means of various literary devices. The repeated references to the Exodus from Egypt arouse the suspicion that this may turn out to be one of the major terminological patterns by means of which Leviticus has been organized on the macrostructural level. It therefore seems reasonable to scrutinize the eleven references to ארץ מצרים "the land of Egypt" present in Leviticus.

The chiastic arrangement not only closely connects 11:45 with Lev 18-26, but seems to be peak a deliberate artistic design on the part of the author:

להית לכם לאלהים 11:45		"	מארץ	המעלה אתכם
18:3	אשר ישבתם בה	")	ארץ	כמעשה
19:34		")	בארץ	כי גרים הייתם
36		~	מארץ	אני ייהוצאתי אתכם
<u>להיות לכם לאלהים</u> 22:33		"Ya	מארץ	המוציא אתכם
23:43		"Y2	מארץ	בהוציאי אותם
<u>להיות לכם לאלהים</u> 25:38	לתת לכם את א"כנען	″)	מארץ	הוצאתי אתכם
42		")	מארץ	עבדי הםהוצאתי אתם
55		")	מארץ	עבדי הםהוצאתי אתם
26:13	מהוית להם עבדים	″) コ	מארץ	הוצאתי אתכם
<u>להית להם לאלהים</u> 45	לעיני הגוים	″ 〉	מארץ	הוצאתי אתם

For lack of space in the margin of the above table a diagramed outline is given here, a structure based on the phrase "to be your/their God" in relation to "the land of Egypt": A BBB ABA BBB A.

The listing of the eleven texts where "the land of Egypt" is mentioned reveals that

¹Because of the repeated references to the Exodus in the so-called Holiness Code, Joosten, 385, calls the Exodus one of the "grandes thèmes du Code de Sainteté."

²In MT even the plene/defective spelling of להיות (11:45; 26:45) and להיות (22:33; 25:38) is symmetrical.

four times the term is followed by the second part of the so-called covenant formula: "to be your/their God." In view of this outstanding literary outline it should be queried whether it is really true that "the large-scale chiastic structure was not perfected by the P school . . . [and] thus the degree of sophistication in inverted structures becomes a criterion for distinguishing P from H." If this artistic arrangement is the work of H, what is to be done with the intricate structures developed by P in Lev 11, and if P has proven his craftsmanship in composing a unified chap 11, where does H come in? To me, this structure severely weakens the hypothetical partitioning of Leviticus into P and H, on the structural and therefore as well on the theological level.

Besides the chiastic structure there is another artistic device: the *seventh* position contains an unparalleled cluster of theological statements which according to my knowledge is unique in both Leviticus and the entire Hebrew Bible: the Exodus, the giving of the land, and (part of) the so-called covenant formula have been juxtaposed by the biblical writer. Hence it may not be wrong to claim that by way of the chiastic arrangement and the unequaled *seventh*, literary artistry has been employed in order to enhance theo-

¹Rendtorff, Bundesformel, 26, remarks that "dies nicht nur eine 'halbe' Formel ist, sondern für das Geschick Israels alles daran hängt, daß Jhwh sein Gott ist und bleibt." In 26:12, והתהלכתי בתוככם והייתי לכם לאלהים ואתם תהיו לי לעם "I shall walk about among you. I shall be your God and you will be my people" (Hartley), the complete "covenant-formula" is used and in vs. 13 the Exodus from the land of Egypt is mentioned.

²Milgrom, Leviticus, 848.

logical meaning and formulate theological message.¹ The Lord's bringing Israel out of Egypt apparently aimed at giving them the land of Canaan, but the final aim and purpose of the Exodus was to be their God.² The repeated mention of the Exodus from Egypt in conjunction with the Lord's promise, "to be your/their God" has seemingly been used in the text before us to carefully create structural cohesiveness and enhance a significant theological tenet.

Numerological Structures

As in the preceding six macrostructural outlines the five following will be likewise arranged according to the first usage of the respective word/phrase in the text of Leviticus. In the then following two entries (אל יסוד המזבח "against all sides of the altar," and "קרן "horn") the seventh position has possibly been stressed; in the ensuing two outlines (שפך "cattle," and שפך "pour out") the seventh position is unique in the Hebrew Bible; in the last three examples (על מזבח סביב "against all sides of the altar," שעיר "he-goat," and נשא "carry, bear") both the seventh and the twelfth positions have been given prominence.

¹Concerning the theological implications of the so-called covenant formula, Bartelmus, 184, remarks: "Jahwes Rede hat dann zum Inhalt, daß seine zukünftige Existenz nur mehr zwei Ziele haben wird, nämlich Gott zu sein für Israel und umgekehrt erwartet er von Israel, daß dessen Existenz in Zukunft auch nur mehr zwei Zielen dienen soll, nämlich Volk zu sein für Jahwe."

²Rendtorff, *Bundesformular*, 43: "Aber die Bestimmung des Zwecks der Herausführung ist hier gleichsam verdoppelt (mit zweimaligem Infinitiv mit ')."

The Noun כליות

The noun כליות "kidneys" (31 / 14), which appears always as plural in the Hebrew Bible, is present fourteen times in Leviticus and seemingly functions as a connecting link in the first part of Leviticus, interlinking Lev 3 with 9. While the triple repetition in the case of the fellowship offering links the three distinct parts of Lev 3, the verbatim reiteration with the sin offering of the high priest (4:3-12) and the guilt offering (7:1-10) creates further connections:

- ואת שתי הכ" ואת החלב... על הכסלים ואת היתרת על הכבד על הכ" יסירנה
- ואת שתי הכ" ואת החלב... על הכסלים ואת היתרת על הכבד על הכ" יסירנה
- ואת שתי הכ" ואת החלב... על הכסלים ואת היתרת על הכבד על הכ" יסירנה
- ואת שתי הכ" ואת החלב... על הכסלים ואת היתרת על הכבד על הכ" יסירנה
- ואת שתי הכ" ואת החלב... על הכסלים ואת היתרת על הכבד על הכ" יסירנה
- ויקח את כל החלב אשר על הקרב ואת יתרת הכבד ואת שתי הכ" ואת חלבהן 8:16
 - ויקח...ואת כל החלב אשר על הקרב ואת יתרת הכבד ואת שתי **הכ"** ואת חלבהן 25
- ואת החלב ואת **הכלית** ואת היתרת מן הכבד ... הקטיר המזבחה 9:10 ואת החלבים ... **והכלית** ויתרת הכבד

In Lev 8:16 and 25 the verbatim repetition interlinks the offering of the bull for the sin offering with the ram for the ordination offering, and finally in 9:10, 19 the sin offering for Aaron is linked with the fellowship offering for the people of Israel.

Besides the obvious symmetry there seems to be likewise a certain "anomaly." In Lev 4-5, in the context of the sin and guilt offerings the type of animal to be sacrificed is explicitly stated, whereas in Lev 6:1-7:21, in the context of the five *toroth*, this is never done. The striking contrast between the sin and the guilt offering in Lev 4-5 is that in the case of the latter (5:14-26) no mention is made at all that the ram, the only animal mentioned in this pericope, is slaughtered as a sacrifice. The deliberately (?) omitted mention

of the slaughtering of the guilt offering is finally obviated in 7:1-10.

Milgrom avers that the ritual procedure for the guilt offering is given in the administrative unit which is addressed to the priests,¹ and he claims that 7:3-4, which "have been copied without change from the well-being offering,"² are secondary because of the "inappropriateness of the singular verbs, which, because their subject is the layman, should have been voiced in the plural."³ It seems at least debatable whether his argument is cogent, since in relation to 14:13 ושרוט את הכבש במקום אשר יחשט את החטאת "he is to slaughter the lamb in the holy place where the sin offering . . . are slaughtered," he maintains that the singular ישרוט יmust be translated as an impersonal passive . . . because the slaughtering rite may be performed by anyone."⁴

If we examine the sacrificial context of each text in the above table, the following almost perfect chiastic structure can be established:

3:4, 10, 15	Α	fellowship offering	
4:9	В	sin offering	for the high priest
7:4	C	guilt offering	
8:16	Α	sin offering	for the high priest
25	D	ordination offering	for the high priest and his sons
9:10	В	sin offering	for the high priest
9:19	Α	fellowship offering	

In view of this arrangement there would be no difference, of course, had the ritual

¹Milgrom, Leviticus, 409.

²Ibid.

³Ibid. 409-410. In contrast to this, Hartley, 90, states: "The third person pl is indefinite and functions as virtual passive."

⁴Milgrom, Leviticus, 409.

procedure been given in Lev 5. But two more points should be taken into consideration. First, by means of this link chaps. 1-5 and 6-7 are closely interrelated, and, second, the omission of the sacrificial procedure in 5:14-26 may be due to authorial intention—a hypothesis which is possibly substantiated by the following structure based on the verb "forgive."

The Verb סלח

Whereas the first nine occurrences of the verb אלרונים "forgive" (46 / 10) interlink the three DS in Lev 4:1-5:26, the tenth in 19:22 is interrelated by means of a large-scale 3/3/4 structure. The respective context of each of the following ten verses suggests three chiastic structures. In the first triad the sacrifice of the chieftain employing the term "from his sin" (4:26) is bracketed by those of the whole congregation and the ordinary Israelite where ממוטאתו is lacking:

4:20	להם	ונסלח		עלהם הכהן	וכפר
26	לו	ונסלח	<u>מחטאתו</u>	עליו הכהן	וכפר
31	לו	ונסלח		עליו הכהן	וכפר
35	לו	ונסלח	<u>על</u> חטאתו אשר חטא	עליו הכה ן	וכפר
5:10	לו		<u>מחטאתו</u> אשר חטא	עליו הכהן	וכפר
13	לו	ונסלח	<u>על</u> חטאתו אשר חטא	עליו הכהן	וכפר
5:16	לו	ונסלח		ר עליו <u>באיל האשם</u>	והכהן יכפו
18	לו	ונסלח	על שגגתו	הכהן	וכפר עליו
26	לו	ונסלח	>>	הכהן לפני	וכפר עליו
19:22	לו	ונסלח	יי על חטאתו אשר חטא	הכהן <u>באיל האשם</u> לפני	וכפר עליו

In the second triad the sacrifices consisting of a sheep and the "cereal" sin offering of the impoverished Israelite enclose the offering of two turtledoves or pigeons. The *inclusio* of the second triad becomes manifest by the alternation of the prepositions על

and אם preceding the noun אוסטח. In the group of four an inclusion is created by means of the phrase "and the priest will make atonement for him with the ram of the guilt offering, and he will be forgiven" (5:16) and the almost verbatim statement (slightly extended and a minimal change in word order) in Lev 19:22. It is noteworthy that both in 5:16 and 19:22 no mention is made at all whether the ram is sacrificed or not. The conspicuous phrase אטר האתר אשר חטא "for his sin which he committed," present in 4:35; 5:13 and 19:22, creates another terminological link. As can be seen in the above table, the interlinking between the latter and former does not rest solely on the verb "forgive," however. If the context of each text is taken into consideration, an additional link can be seen: the first six times the verb סלח is integrated in the context of the sin offering and the last four times it is connected with the guilt offering.

The Verb מצא

The eightfold occurrence of the verb מצא "find" (455 / 8) has been organized in a 2/3/3 pattern. There can be no doubt that in Lev 5:22, 23 the point of contact is אבדה "lost thing," which is found. Besides the easily recognizable chiastic structure of the first group of three—except for a slight change in word order, 9:12bα and 18bα are identical—it is only here that the verb appears in the Hiphil. Whereas in 9:12b the blood rite of the burnt offering is described, vs. 18 deals with the blood manipulation of the fellowship offering. This dual description of the blood rite embraces the depiction of Aaron's sons passing the parts of the burnt offering to their father. The second triad contains another conspicuous chiastic structure. The two texts "and if she does not acquire the means for a

sheep" (12:8)¹ and "and if he does not acquire the means to repay him" (25:28)—in both cases the people involved seem to be poverty-stricken—form the inclusion for a *positive* declaration, "if, however, a man has no one to redeem it for him but he himself prospers and acquires sufficient means to redeem it . . ." (25:26):

5:22 23	<i>אבדה</i> וכחש בה	או מצא את <i>האבדה</i> אשר מצא
9:12 13 18	בני אהרן אליו את הדם אליו בני אהרן את הדם אליו	וימצאו ואת העל ה המציאו וימצאו
12:8 25:26 28	ידה ²די שה כדי גאלתו ידו די השיב לו	<u>ואם לא</u> תמצא ואיש כי לא יהיה לו גאל והשיגה ידו ומצא 7º ואיש כי לא יהיה לו גאל והשיגה ידו מצאה

The overall artistic outline of the verb מצא "find" gains in momentum by way of the positive statement (25:26) which "chances" to have been placed in the *seventh* position.

שלח The Verb

The ten texts in which the verb שלח "send" (846 / 10) is present appear in a 2/4/4

^{&#}x27;According to Elliger, 155-157, vs. 8 being called "Bedürftigkeitsnovelle" (155) by him, was the final addition to this DS. Wang, 27, views vs. 8 "as a secondary gloss." Hartley, 167, avers that "the exception clause (v 8) was appended quite early, no later than the time of the judges . . . though most scholars assign it to the post-exilic period." Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 761, maintains: "This verse is clearly a later supplement, as shown not only by its placement after the true end of the chapter, the subscript of v 7b, but—more importantly—by its altered vocabulary."

 $^{^{2}}$ יס occurs one more time in Lev 5:7: ואם לא תגיע ידו די שה

³This is the only time כדי is used in Leviticus.

structure. This outline becomes even more evident when the respective subject and the direct objects are taken into consideration. While in 14:4, 53, the "sending away" of the living bird is mentioned, each text of the first group of four (Lev 16) is closely related to the "sending" of the he-goat to Azazel. Within the second group of four the Lord is the one who is "sending": the identical statement in 18:24 and 20:23, "which I shall expel before you," is followed by two references to the Lord's "sending" wild beasts and the sword against unfaithful Israel.

14:7	את הצפר החיה על פני השדה	ושלח
53	את הצפר החיה אל מחוץ לעיר אל פני השדה	ושלח
16:10	אתו לעזאזל המדברה	לשלח
21	ביד איש עתי המדברה	ושלח
22	את השעיר במדבר	ושלח
26	את השעיר לעזאחל	והמשלח
18:24	מפניכם	אשר אני משלח 7 th
20:23	מפניכם	אשר אני משלח
26:22	בכם את חית השדה	והשלחתי
25	דבר בתוככם	ושלחתי

Whether the placing of the first reference to the expulsion of the Canaanites in the *seventh* position is accidental or due to artistic design cannot be definitely answered, because the phrase is repeated verbatim in 20:23. In spite of this ambiguity, however, there can be no doubt that the statement placed in the *seventh* (and eighth) position(s) is unique in the Hebrew Bible.¹

¹The Piel participle of שלח in reference to the expulsion of the Canaanites occurs only twice in the Hebrew Bible.

The Verb ירא

By means of the alternation of the grammatical forms—2nd pl. imp. (A; in conjunction with 'my sanctuary' AS) and 2 sgl. m. plus waw (B)—the eight occurrences of the root ירא "fear" (293 / 8), which are present only in Lev 19 and 25-26, seemingly create a meaningful outline. In the three instances of the 2nd pl. imp., the injunction to revere mother and father (19:3) and "my sanctuary" (19:30; 26:2), the command is linked with the Lord's admonition to keep "my Sabbaths" (19:3, 30; 26:2).

19:3	A 1	נתי תשמר <mark>ו</mark>	ואת שבח	תיראו	איש אמו ואביו
14	В	אני יי	מאלהיך	<u>ויראת</u>	
30	AS	אני יי		<i>מקדשי</i> תיראו	את שבתתי תשמרו <i>ו</i> נ
32	В	אני יי	מאלהיך	<u>ויראת</u>	
25:17	ולהיכם B	כי אני יי א	מאלהיך	ויראת	
36	В		מאלהיך	ויראת	
43	В		מאלהיך	ויראת	
26:2	AS	אני יי	•		את שבתתי תשמרו <u>וכ</u>

The description of filial reverence for mother and father by using the verb ירא "fear" is "most unusual" (Exod 20:12 and Deut 5:16 employ the verb כבד). In case the respective context is taken into consideration those texts using the 2 sgl. m. plus waw permit the following conclusion: in each case fearing the Lord is expressed by respecting the needs of the deaf and blind (19:14), the aged and elderly (19:32), by not taking advantage of each other (25:17), by not taking interest from any fellow Israelite (25:36), and

¹A further link between the two DS, Lev 19 and 25-26, is established by means of the noun אליל "idol" which is used only in 19:4 and 26:2.

²Hartley, 312.

by not ruling ruthlessly over any fellow Israelite (25:43).1

In the present outline 19:30 and 26:2 seemingly function as an *inclusio* "bracketing" several chapters of the second half of Leviticus. It must not be forgotten that Lev 26:1-2, a brief passage that already figured prominently in the context of the בתן structure of Lev 25-26 analyzed above, also plays a crucial role in the present structure.

The Phrase אל יסוד המזבח

A careful reading of the sacrificial ritual makes evident that only a small amount of blood was used by the priests for the blood-rite, while the major portion was obviously poured out אל יסוד המזבח "at the base of the altar." The eightfold distribution of this phrase has been cast in a 3/3/2 outline and brings to light the following linkages:

4:7	אל יסוד מזבח העלה	ישפך	ואת כלדם הפר	
18	אל יסוד מזבח העלה	ישפד	ואת כלדם	
25	אליסוד מזבח העלה	ישפך	ואת דמו	
30	אל יסוד המזבח	ישפך	ואת כל דמה	
34	אל יסוד המזבח	ישפד	ואת כל דמה	
5:9	אל יסוד המזבח		והנשאר בדם ימצה	
8:15	אל יסוד המזבח	יצק	ואת הדם	7 th
9:9	אל יסוד המזבח	יצק	ואת הדם	

As already stated above, the two synonymous verbs יצק and יצק "pour out" have been used by the ancient writer of Leviticus. In the above table the first five times the verb יצק is used and in the last two יצק. The small amount of blood of a bird cannot, of course, be poured out, and therefore the verb מצה "drain out" (5:9) is employed. But

¹Blum, *Studien*, 253, remarks that "wiederum ein gemeinsamer Nenner erkennbar ist: der Schutz von (sozial) Schwachen (Behinderte, Alte, ökonomisch Abhängige)."

apparently the author applied an additional stylistic means to outline the eight occurences of the phrase. Though it is always the blood of a אכר "sin offering" which is poured/drained out at the base of the altar of burnt offering, it seems significant that only in the first three cases—the אל יסוד מזבח העלה for the high priest, the congregation of Israel, and the chieftain—it is expressly stated: אל יסוד מזבח העלה "at the foundation of the altar of burnt offering." The following three sacrifices are the ones of members of the community—two different sacrificial animals are dealt with—and the third depicts the אכר מודער סוף מודער העלה וואס מודער אווי בייניין בייניין אווי בייניין אווי בייניין בייניין בייניין בייניין ביינייין בייניין בייניין בייניין בייניין בייניין בייניין בייניין בייניי

As mentioned above, Lev 8:15 and 9:9 are the two exceptions concerning the use of יצק in the Hebrew Bible: only here is the verb followed by the noun "blood" as its accusative object. Whether the placing of 8:15 in the *seventh* position is due due to some design or mere coincidence cannot be clarified because 8:15ba and 9:9b—being in the eighth position—are identical.

The Noun קרן

The eight-part structure based on the noun "form" (76 / 8) appears in a logically arranged 2/3/3 pattern. While both in Lev 4:7 and 18 reference is made to the incense altar, in the following five texts the blood is applied to the horns of the altar of burnt offering. We should be aware of the fact that in each case it is the blood of a sin offering where the blood rite is performed. At this point it must not be left unmentioned

that we see only three more instances in the Hebrew Bible where the blood of a sacrificial animal, always a sin offering, is applied to the horns of the altar. In looking at the table below we easily recognize the particular position of 8:15 and 16:18: the additional "around" makes them differ from the other texts; besides, they "bracket" the text in the *seventh* position, a text that differs from the rest in that the verb "ord;" is used—as is the case in the passages 4:3-12 (vs. 6) and 4:13-21 (vs. 17)— instead of "take" (4:25, 30, 34; 8:15; 16:18).

הסמים לפני יי 4:7	מזבח קטרת ו	ן הדם על קרנות	ונתן הכהן מ
אשר לפני יי 18	המזנח	על קרנת	ומן הדם יתן
25	מזבח העלה	על קרנת	ולקח הכהן מדםבאצבעו ונתן
30	מזבח העלה	על קרנת	ולקח הכהן מדמה באצבעו ונתן
34	מזבח העלה	על קרנת	ולקח הכהן מדםבאצבעו ונתן
<u>סביב</u> 8:15	המזבח	על קרנות	ויקח משה את הדם ויתן
9:9 [7 th]	המזבח	על ק רנות	<i>ויטבל</i> אצבעו בדם ויתן
<u>סביב</u> 16:18	המזבח	על קרנות	ולקח ומדם השעיר ונתן

The three texts of the first triad, forming a perfect chiastic structure are in the same way as 4:7, 18, part and parcel of the second DS (4:1-5:13). We must not lose sight of that the first five texts of this structural outline have been integrated into a single DS, a fact that seemingly testifies to the literary cohesiveness of Lev 4.

¹Gane, "Ritual," 168-169, remarks: "Only in purification offerings is the blood put on altar horns, the highest part of an altar, making the blood prominent in a vertical direction, the direction in which smoke of sacrifices or incense goes up to the deity."

²Whereas in Exod 29:12, ולקחת מדם הפר ונתתה על קרנת המזבח, and Ezek 43:20, ולקחת מדם הפר ונתתה על ארבע קרנתיו, the altar of burnt offering is referred to, in Exod 30:10 the altar of incense is under consideration: "Once a year Aaron shall make atonement on its horns [וכפר אהרן על קרנתיו אחת בשנה]. This annual atonement must be made with the blood of the atoning sin offering for the generations to come" (NIV).

The chiastic composition of the second triad is evidenced by the additional סביב
which is lacking in all other cases. It certainly is not insignificant noticing that, as is
shown below, Lev 8:15 and 16:18 have been placed to the prominent seventh and twelfth
positions in the structure based on על המזבח סביב
"against all sides of the altar." It is
beyond the scope of this study, however, to discuss any possible theological implications
which may be based on the extraordinary terminology in these two structures.

דקר The Noun

There is nothing special about the noun בקר "cattle" (183 / 14) except that the seventh position is unique throughout the Hebrew Bible.² The sacrificial animal Aaron is about to slaughter on the eighth day, as it were the first sacrifice of the newly anointed high priest, is emphasized by the special appellation "עגל בן בקר "bull-calf" (Hartley). Whether the term "עגל מור" is a deliberate reminder of the golden calf or a mere coincidence may be a matter of debate.³

¹Cf., for example, A. M. Rodriguez, Substitution in the Hebrew Cultus, Andrews University Seminary Doctoral Dissertation Series 3 (Berrien Springs, MI: Andrews University Press, 1979), 136-138; Milgrom, Leviticus, 255. The theological interpretations of these two texts by Rodriguez and Milgrom are diametrically opposed. In view of the dual terminological agreement, the theological implications of these two texts should definitely be reconsidered.

²B. Beck, "בקֹר, bāqār," TDOT, 2:216, maintains: "P probably intentionally avoided the related term 'eghel, 'calf,' because of the criticism of the cult places Dan and Bethel: Lev 9:3 does mention the young bull ('eghel), but this comes from an earlier stratum. However, in the literary expansion in 9:2, this has been corrected by the addition of ben baqar, so that when all is said and done the young bull is not used at all in P."

³Cf. Hartley, 122.

ומו הצאו תקריבו את קרבנכם	מו הבהמה מו הבקר	
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	אם עלה קרבנו מן הבקר	
לפני יי	ושחט את בן הבקר	
הוא מקריב	אם מן הבקר	
תמים	והקריב פר בן בקר	
	והקריבו פר בן בקר	
לחטאת	קח לך <u>עגל בן</u> בקר	7 th
לחטאת	בפר בן בקר	
בכשבים ובעזים	תמים זכר בבקר	
או בצאן תמים	ואיש כי יקריב בבקר	
אחד	והקרבתם ופר בן בקר	
וצאן	וכל מעשר בקר	
	הוא מקריב תמים לחטאת לחטאת בכשבים ובעזים או בצאן תמים אחד	אם עלה קרבנו מן הבקר ושחט את בן הבקר לפני יי אם מן הבקר הוא מקריב והקריב פר בן בקר והקריבו פר בן בקר קח לך <u>עגל בן</u> בקר לחטאת בפר בן בקר לחטאת תמים זכר בבקר בכשבים ובעזים ואיש כי יקריב בבקר או בצאן תמים והקרבתם ופר בן בקר אחד

If this structure proves to be true to the text before us, this structural outline based on the common noun "cattle," turns out to be the most encompassing artistic outline extending from the second verse to the third-from-last verse of the third book of Moses.

Because of the unique expression, a statement which "chanced" to be placed in the seventh position, we might assume this to be a deliberate outline on the part of the person who composed the text before us.

The Verb שפך

In seven of the eight instances the verb "your" (115 / 8) refers to the pouring of blood. The first five obviously tie together the five distinct parts of Lev 4 (vss. 3-12, 13-31, 22-26, 27-31, 32-35). As in the preceding structure it is again the seventh position which is of special interest, a statement which is unparalleled in the Hebrew

¹It is of interest that the two nouns בקר וצאן "herd and flock" (NIV), have been juxtaposed both the first (1:2) and the last (27:32) time, and once more in 22:21.

Bible. As far as I know, nowhere else is the slaughtering of a domesticated animal for human consumption, the slaughter of which did not take place near the altar of burnt offering declared שבך "he has poured out blood."

This declaratory formula elsewhere stands for killing a human The use of the verb שבח, "consider, reckon," indicates that a court, perhaps a cultic judicial body pronounces the sentence. This language conveys the seriousness of this cultic offense. The penalty for such violation is that the person is גברת, "cut off" from the people.²

4:7	אל יסוד מזבח העלה	ואת כל דם הפר יש פך
18	אל יסוד מזבח העלה	ואת כל הדם ישפך
25	אל יסוד מזבח העלה	ואת דמו ישפך
30	אל יסוד המזבח	ואת כל דמה ישפך
34	אל יסוד המזבח	ואת כל דמה יש פך
14:41	את העפר ^נ	ושפכו
17:4	ונכרת האיש ההוא מקרב עמו	דם יחשב לאיש ההוא דם שפך 7 th
13	את דמו וכסהו בעפר	ושפך

The probably deliberate distribution of the verb שפך may be viewed as another example of textual interrelatedness, conceptual and terminological linkages transcending

In view of the unique statement which "chances" to be in the *seventh* position it is questionable whether those scholars—claiming that 4:3-12 are secondary—do justice to the extant text. Furthermore, if we were to follow Koch, *Priesterschrift*, 54-55, who believes that the rites for the disposal of the rest of the blood, vss. 7b, 18b, two texts that have been intricately integarted in the above table, are later additions. Because of this significant outline is seems at least debatable whether Janowski, 222-242, does justice to the extant text in differentiating between "kleinem Blutritus" (4:25, 30, 34; 8:15; 9:9; 16:18) and "grossem Blutritus" (222)—4:7 and 18 are, of course, considered to be part of the latter—and concluding "die ursprüngliche Nichtzusammengehörigkeit der beiden Blutriten" (227).

²Hartley, 272.

³The noun 79y occurs only in 14:41, 42, 45; 17:13, hence the first and last mentions "bracket" the seventh position.

the alleged P and H provenance. Furthermore, the numerical outline clearly evidences that in the extant text Lev 17 is intricately linked with the preceding sixteen chapters.

על המזבח סביב

The phrase על המזבח סביבי "against all sides of the altar" (Milgrom), which appears twelve times in Leviticus, always refers to that part of the altar where the sacrificial blood is to be sprinkled or applied. As can be seen from the table below, it is again the *seventh* (8:15) and *twelfth* (16:18) positions which are conspicuous. In both texts the verb used in describing the blood-rite is different: זרק "give, put" instead of ארק"; the additional קרנות "further underscore the distinct difference."

1:5	המובח סביב	את הדם על	וזרקו²
11	המזבח סביב	בני אהרן הכהנים את דמו על	וזרקו
3:2	המזבח סביב	בני אהרן הכהנים את הדם על	וזרהו
	המובח סביב	בני אהרן את דמו על	•
	המזבח סביב	בני אהרן את דמו על	· ·
		•	•
7:2	המובח סביב	יזרק על	ואת דמו
8:15	קרנות המזבח סביב	את הדם <u>ויתן</u> על	ויקח משה 7 th
19	המובח סביב	ויזרק משה את הדם על	
24	המובח סביב	ויזרק משה את הדם על	
9:12	המזבח סביב	על .	את הדם
18	המזבח סביב	ויזרקהו על	
16:18	קרנות המזבח סביב	•	ולקח מדם ר

In contrast to the other ten, Lev 8:15 and 16:18 stand in the context of a "sin offering." Furthermore, both figure prominently in the structure based on the noun "horn,"

appears three more times in 14:41; 25:31, 44, but in a different context.

² appears two more times in Leviticus (7:14; 17:6).

and 16:18 even holds two significant positions in the following שעיר-structure. Because of these reasons it may be worthwhile reevaluating the theological significance of Lev 8:15 and 16:18, and at the same time reconsider their interrelatedness.

The Noun שעיר

The שעיר "he-goat" (57/21) is "the standard purification offering for the nation in the fixed public cult (16:9, 15; 23:19; Num 28-29) and in all special circumstances (e.g. 9:3, 5; 10:10 . . .)." Because of the special significance of the male goat as a sin offering, the twenty-one references possibly turn out to be meaningful. It might likewise be of importance that the noun appears all together *fourteen* times in chap. 16, a pericope describing the theological significance of the two he-goats in the ritual of Yom Kippur. In this macrostructural outline Lev 16:7, "then he is to take the two he-goats and set them before the Lord at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting" has been placed in the *seventh* slot, and 16:18b, "he is to take of the blood of the bull and of the blood of the goat and put it upon the horns roundabout the altar" has been put in the important *twelfth* position. It certainly must not be passed over in silence that if we were to outline a microstructure of Lev 16 based on the noun "he-goat," vs. 18 would take the *seventh* position and vs. 22b the *twelfth*:

¹Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 248, continues by stating that in Lev 4 the sin offerings for "inadvertences are graded according to the socioeconomic position of the offender: a bull for the high priest and community (vv 3-21), a he-goat for the tribal chieftain (vv 22-26), and a female of the flock for the commoner (vv 27-35)."

²The spacing is meant to clearly visualize the fourteen occurrences of the noun in Lev 16.

4:23 4:24	עזים זכר תמים	שעיר השעיר	והביא וסמך ידו על ראש
9:3	עזים לחטאת		קחר
9:15	החטאת		ויקח את
10:16	החטאת דרש דרש משה	שעיר	ואת
16:5	עזים לחטאת	שעירי	ומאת עדת בני ישראל יקח שני
7	והעמיד אתם לפני יי	השעירם	ואת שני 7th
8	גורלות	השעירם	ונתן אהרן על שני
9	ליי	השעיר	והקריב אהרן את
10	אשר לעזאזל	והשעיר	•
15	החטאת	שעיר	ושחט את
18	ונתן על קרנות המזבח סביב	השעיר	ולקח מדם הפר ומדם 12th
20	הרוי	השעיר	והקריב את
21a	הרוי	השעיר	וסמך את שתי ידו על ראש
21b		השעיר	ונתן אתם על ראש
22aה	עליו את כל עונתם אל ארץ גזר	השעיר	ונשא
22b	במדבר	השעיר	ושלח את
26	לעזאזל	השעיר	והמשלח את
27	החטאת אשר הובא את דמם	שעיר	ואת פר החטאת ואת
17:7		לשעירם	ולא יזבחו עוד את זבחיהם
23:19	עזים אחד לחטאת	שעיר	ועשיתם

In checking Elliger's commentary it turned out that the above listed twenty-one texts have been assigned to no less than six different redactional layers; the fourteen occurrences of the noun in Lev 16 are attributed to Pg² (secondary layer of the so-called priestly *Grundschrift*)¹ and the "first adaptational layer."² In proceeding from Elliger's redaction-critical results, Janowski claims that

it can clearly be recognized that the literary layers of Lev 16:3-28 reflect a culthistorical evolution, according to which two originally independent atonementceremonies have been combined and editorially connected: a ceremony for the expiation of priesthood and people (basic layer) and a . . . ceremony for the

¹Vss. 15, 20b and 22b belong to the "Grundschicht, Pg²" (200-201).

²Vss. 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 18, 21, 26, 27 are part of the "erste Bearbeitung" (200-201).

expiation of sanctuary and altar (adaptational layer).1

It is, of course, of interest that Lev 16:18 has likewise been placed in the twelfth position in the macrostructural outline based on the phrase על המזבח סביב "against the altar all around" (Hartley). In view of the unique structural position of Lev 16:18—both in a possible microstructural outline based on the noun שעיר and in two distinct macrostructures—the reader is called upon to reexamine the plausibility and probability of the hypothetic literary heterogeneity versus the undeniably artistic and theologically meaningful structure of the extant text. This carefully construed compositional outline seems to substantiate both the crucial role of Lev 16 as the compositional/theological center of Leviticus and the eminent importance of vs. 18 within this distinct DS.

The Verb נשא

Because of the twenty-two occurrences of the verb NU3 "carry, bear" (650 / 22) one might speak of "a weakened form of alphabetic composition [consisting] . . . of 22 parts, corresponding to the alphabet." The significance of this numeric device is further substantiated by two texts which have been placed in the *seventh* and *twelfth* positions.

¹Janowski, 268. "So ist deutlich zu erkennen, daß die literarische Schichtung von Lev 16,3-28 eine kultgeschichtliche Entwicklung widerspiegelt, derzufolge zwei selbständige Sühnefeiern, eine Feier zur Entsühnung von Priesterschaft und Volk (Grundschicht) und eine (möglicherweise ezechielische Traditionen [Ez 45,18ff.] aufnehmende) Feier zur Entsühnung von Heiligtum und Altar (Bearbeitungsschicht) zusammengelegt und redaktionell verklammert wurden" (his emphasis).

²Alonso-Schökel, *Manual*, 191, points to Pss 9-10; 25; 34; 37; 111; 112;119; 145; Nah 1; Prov 31:10-31 as examples where this literary device has been employed.

According to the scholarly *opinio communis* Lev 10:17¹ and 16:22² are very significant regarding the notion of נשא עון "bearing sin" in the Hebrew Bible, but as far as the theological meaning is concerned, there is anything but a common opinion among scholars.³

The extant text of Leviticus seemingly reveals a significant artistic structure in which form and content correspond and complement each other. If one reckons with the possibility that Lev 5:1 "was originally an independent law . . . [which] was amended by the Priestly legists, who incorporated it into the graduated purification-offering cases" and "originally the single verse, 5:17, was [likewise] an independent law," or P₂ and P₃

¹Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 1045, remarks that in Lev 10:17 the literal meaning of the phrase נשא על is met; cf. Janowski, 207.

²Wenham, *Leviticus*, 233, sees the "most striking phase of the day of atonement" to be the confessing of all the nation's sins, an act which "symbolically transfers the sins to the goat. . . . This ceremony removes the sins from the people and leaves them in an unclean place, the desert." Hartley, 241, states that by confessing Israel's sins "the high-priest transfers the sins of the community to the goat . . . [which] being laden with the sins of the people . . . carries these sins away from the camp." Péter-Contesse, *Lévitique*, 258, contends that "il a volu suggérer que les Israélites ne portent plus la responsabilité de ces fautes et n'en subiront pas les conséquences, puisque le bouc les emporte."

³Concerning the present state of scholarly discussion, cf. the most recent study by B. Schwartz, "The Bearing of Sin in the Priestly Literature," in *Pomegranates and Golden Bells: Studies in Biblical, Jewish, and Near Eastern Ritual, Law, and Literature in Honor of Jacob Milgrom*, ed. D. P. Wright, D. N. Freedman, and A. Hurvitz (Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 1996), 3-21.

⁴Milgrom, Leviticus, 315.

⁵Ibid., 331 (emphasis his).

are looked upon as the originators of Lev 11:25, 28¹ and 11:40² respectively, this literary craftsman's masterpiece is to be accredited to one of these redactors.

This discovery of Lev 10:17 and 16:22 being structurally closely interrelated may even enhance their significance. At this point it may suffice, however, to point to the important position they have been assigned:

5:1	עונו	ונשא	ונפש כי תחטא
5:17	עונו	ונשא	ואם נפש כי תחטא
7:18		תשא	והנפש האכלת ממנו עונה
9:22	אהרן את ידו אל העם	וישא	
10:4	את אחיכם	שאו	קרבו
5	בכתנתם	וישאם	ויקרבו
<u>לפני יי</u> 17	<u>את עון העדה לכפר עליהם ב</u>	לשאת	7 th
11:25	מנבלתם	הנשא	וכל
28	את נבלתם	והנשא	
40	את נבלתה	והנשא	
15:10	אותם	והנושא	•
16:22	<u>השעיר עליו את כל עונתם</u>	ונשא	12 th
17:16	עונו	ונשא	ואם לא
19:8		ישא	ואכליו עונו
15	פני דל	תשא	לא
17	עליו חטא	תשא	ולא
20:17		ישא	ואיש עונו
19		ישאו	עונם
20		ישאו	חטאם
22:9	עליו חטא	ישאו	ולא
16	אותם עון	והשיאו	
24:15	חטאו	ונשא	איש איש כי יקלל אל ה יו

In contrast to the general scholary opinion it is my contention that this outstanding structural outline has most likely originated with some person(s) who had a definite

¹Ibid., 693. Firmage, 207, hypothesizes that "vv. 2-23...are...not only conceptally but also historically independent of vv. 24-40."

²Milgrom, Leviticus, 697.

intention in placing 10:17 and 16:22 to the significant seventh and twelfth positions.

Open-Envelope Structures

Whereas some of the open-envelope structures on the microstructural level have been interpreted more as artistic devices, three of them probably convey concrete theological messages. The singular open-envelope macrostructure seemingly testifies to both literary artistry and theological meaning.

The Noun איל

The noun איל "ram" (182 / 22) has probably been used in creating a significant structure, both from a structural and a theological point of view. As is the case in the preceding structure the twenty-two occurrences of the noun suggest an intentional (?) "weakened form of alphabetic composition."

Since according to Leviticus the ram is the only animal which qualifies for the "guilt offering," the phrase (בפר. . .) "(make atonement . . .) with the ram as a guilt offering" (NIV) seems to be important. The structural significance of this term—found only twice in the Hebrew Bible²—is enhanced by the *second* and *second-from-last* positions given to it, a literary device well known from the open-envelope structures on the microstructural level. Furthermore, we must not lose sight of the verbal

¹Alonso-Schökel, Manual, 191,

²Lev 19:21b makes mention of the איל אשם which is to be brought to the door of the Tent of Meeting.

congruence of the seventh and twelfth positions:1

5:15	תמים מן הצאן	והביאאיל
16 18	תמים מן הצאן	<u>והכהן יכפר עליו באיל האשם ונסלח לו</u> והביא איל
25	תמים מן הצאן	ואת אשמו יביא ליי איל
8:2	-	קח ואת שני האילים
		- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
18a	העלה	ויקרב את איל
18b	•	ויסמכו אהרן ובניו את ידיהם על ראש האיל
20	נתח לנתחיו	ואת האיל
21	המזבחה	ויקטר משה את כל האיל
22aα		ויקרב את האיל
22aβ		איל
22b		ויסמכו אהרן ובניו את ידיהם על ראש האיל 12th
29	המלאים	ויקח מאיל
9:2	לעלה תמימם	קחלך ואיל
4	לשמים	ושור ואיל
18		וישרוט את השור ואת הא יל
19		ואת החלבים מן השור ומן האיל
16:3	לעלה	בזאת יבא אהרן ואיל
5	אחד לעלה	ואיל '
19:21	² אשם	והביא את אשמו ליי איל
22		<u>וכפר עליו הכהן באיל האשם ונסלח לו</u>
23:18	שנים	והקרבתםואילם

The verbatim repetition of the phrase "Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the ram" in 8:18b and 22b, could perhaps be viewed as coincidental, but I dare say only possibly. A close reading of 8:18-21 (the sacrifice of the ram as burnt offering)

¹The spacing is meant to visualize the open-envelope structure in 8:18-29.

²Elliger, 244-245, concludes his investigation of Lev 19 by claiming six different redactional layers whereby vss. 20-22 belongs to the final one. Sun, 219, attributes 19:5-8, 20-22, 29 to an addition the date of which cannot be ascertained.

and vss. 22-29 (the offering of the ram of ordination)¹ indicates that the two sections constitute chronological and conceptual subunits describing the events that take place on the first day of the ordination of Aaron and his sons.

Looking carefully at the above table makes us aware of the particular position of these two subunits. Within the context of these two pericopes the noun "ram" is used eight times, and the *second* and *second-from-last* positions are verbatim. Simultaneously the two verbatim texts constitute the *seventh* and *twelfth* positions in the overall outline of the twenty-two occurrences and this, of course, is an example of unsurpassable structural precision. This carefully composed compositional concurrence probably precludes the possibility of haphazard arrangement, and it seems to be due to some definite structural and theological design on the part of the author of the extant text.

With regard to the guilt offering described in 5:16-19 it has been maintained that "it is only one in the entire roster of sacrifices that is commutable to currency." Hartley, however, takes a different view:

The wording הכהן יכפר עליו באיל האשם, "the priest will make expiation for him with the ram of the reparation offering" (v 16), compensates for the absence of a regulation for the sacrificial ritual. It definitely implies that expiation is achieved by sacrificing the ram.³

Whatever the solution to the problem may be, in 19:21 it is unequivocally stated

¹This outline agrees with the one suggested by Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 543. In contrast to this Hartley, 108, subdivides vss. 22-29 further: vss. 22-24, ordination offering, and vss. 25-25 he labels "elevated offering."

²Milgrom, Leviticus, 327.

³Hartley, 82.

that the man is to bring the ram אל פתח מועד איל אשם "to the entrance of the Tent of Meeting, it is a ram for the guilt offering." In spite of the lack of any reference to the ram being sacrificed, this might be inferred. If we check the other instances in Leviticus where an animal is taken to the entrance of the Tent of Meeting, we are correct in concluding that ritual slaughter is implied and/or expressly stated. Therefore I dare hypothesize that the same is true for the guilt offering in 19:22. In view of the overall outline it seems significant, however, that the *second* and *second-from-last* cases have been placed in a context where no mention is made at all to sacrificing the two rams.

Are we in any way overstating the case in averring that this twenty-two part openenvelope structure, an overall outline which is mainly based on terminology and only
secondarily on conceptual considerations, may turn out to be one of the significant
macrostructural outlines of Leviticus? According to my understanding it is improbable
and rather inconceivable that within the course of the redaction-history the *second* and
second-from-last (8:18:b and 22b) texts in the subunit (8:18-29) accidentally turned out to
be the seventh and twelfth in the overall structure. It is likewise quite unlikely that Lev
5:16 and 19:22, the second and second-from-last text in the overall structure, "chanced"
to be placed in their eminent present positions. If we were to follow Sun's redactionhistorical results, the person who at some point in the history of transmission inserted

19:20-22² should be accredited with and applauded for having created this ingenious

¹Cf. 1:3, 5; 3:2; 4:4; 12:6; 14:11, 24; 15:14, 29; 16:7; 17:5, 9.

²Cf. Sun, 219 and 576.

structure. The presumably purposeful positioning of these *four* texts (5:16; 8:18b, 22b; 19:22) does call for some explanation on the part of redaction-critical scholars. In my understanding the most plausible answer would be that the twenty-two texts in question originated with a single author.

Envelope Structure

As shown above the envelope structure is rare on the level of the individual DS, and this seems to be likewise the case for the macrostructural level.

The Noun תועבה

The noun תועבה "abomination" (117 / 6) seemingly serves as an unobtrusive literary device by which Lev 18 and 20 are closely connected.² Whereas the first and the last occurrences, both construed as singulars, have something particular (homosexuality) in mind, the other five being of a more general nature, appear as plurals.³ Besides this artistic device the phrase משכבי אשה "lying with a woman." found but *twice* in the Hebrew Bible, creates an additional inclusion.

In checking Elliger's commentary it turned out that the twenty-two texts have been assigned to no less than nine different redactional layers. Even if we were to reckon with only two sources, P and H, the outcome would be nothing than surprising. In case we were to follow the hypothesis of a single but decisive priestly redaction, the question would still remain how a priestly redactor could possibly be aware of the inconspicuous noun איל "ram" as a significant structural device.

²Although Paran, 25, points to the singular usage of תועבה in the "context of incest," he does not make mention of this structure.

³Schwartz, "Literary Study," xii, states: "The concluding exhortation transforms מועבות and טומאה into symbolical, metaphysical concepts."

18:22	ע בה הוא	<u>אשה</u> תו	ואת זכר לא תשכב <u>משכבי ו</u>	homosexuality
26	ע בת האלה	התו	ולא תעשו מכל	·
27	ע בת האל	התו	כל	
29	נ בות האלה	התו	כי כל אשר יעשה מכל	
30	עבת	התו	לבלתי עשות מחקות	
20:13	ע בה עשו שניהם	<u>אשה</u> תו	ואיש אשר ישכב את זכר <u>משכבי ז</u>	homosexuality

This structure based on *two* inclusions possibly undermines Schwartz's contention that despite "substantive and stylistic affinities" of Lev 18 and 20, all the differences "give evidence that the two passages are not connected with each other." In his composition history of Lev 18 and 20, Sun ascribes these six texts to four redactional layers. If we recall the principle set up by him that "literary hypotheses based on literary evidence are of a different order than traditio-historical hypotheses which have no corroborative evidence," the postulated prehistory proposed by him may be questioned. Whatever the history of these texts may have been, the (deliberate?) artistic design exhibited in the extant text can hardly be contradicted.

Identical Verbal/Nominal Forms

In contrast to the alleged textual disintegrity of Lev 16 and 23, the microstructural

¹Ibid., viii.

²Ibid., 58.

³Sun, 258: (1) Lev 20:13aβ was already part of the postulated *Vorlage*, labeled A, to which among others vs. 13aβ was added; (2) 18:22 "probably reflects an independent prohibition" which was "appended to vv. 6-21" (159), thus being part of layer B; (3) after vss. 6-23 had reached their present shape, 18:26, 27, 30 were added as a conclusion and therefore belong to his redactional layer C (160); (4) Lev 18:29 is a "secondary addition sympathetic to v. 5," and is part of the final redactional stage (160).

⁴Ibid., 571, n. 16.

arrangement of Lev 16 and 23 by means of the common verbs עשה and בוא testifies to their textual integrity. On the macrostructural level the distribution of the rare noun רצון "acceptance; *Wohlgefallen*" provides a significant example of this type of structure.

The Noun רצון

Even a cursory glance at the following table cannot fail to notice the structuring of the latter six members based on the alternation of the nominal forms of "acceptance" (56 / 7) with/without a pronominal suffix. In contrast to some of the structures observed above, an additional member standing outside the chiastic arrangement does not serve as a "capper" but rather as a "beginner," completing the list to a *seven-part* structure. In the following table the suffixed forms have been designated A (3 sgl. m.) and B (2 pl. m.), whereas the forms without any suffix have been designated C.

Because of its concise meaning in priestly theology of the cult,³ an investigation of the term לרצון in each respective context sheds further light on this significant structure. A close-up look at the conceptual context of each text brings to light an additional outstanding outline the order of which is indicated on the right margin by the letters

¹Knierim, *Text and Concept*, 35, n. 26, argues that "the translation using 'accept, acceptance' is not satisfactory. It misses a particular emphasis.... The Hebrew word highlights pleasure, agreement and favor.... I prefer on these grounds the traditional German translations.... Wohlgefallen."

²Cf., for example, the structures based on מיה in Lev 11.

³Rendtorff, *Leviticus*, 30-31: "Das Wort רצון 'Wohlgefallen' ist ein Terminus der priesterlichen Kulttheologie. Insbesondere die Wendung לרצון (mit oder ohne Suffix) hat eine prägnante Bedeutung. Sie wird in Lev 22,17ff entfaltet."

DEF G F'E'D', a structure which may prove to be important for possible theological implications.

1:3	Α	לפני יי	לרצנו	יקריב אתו	D
19:5	В	<u>תאבחהו</u>	ל רצנכם	י <u>וכי תזבחו זבח שלמים ליי</u>	E
22:19	В	תמים זכר	לרצנכם		F
20	C	יהיה לכם	לרצון	כילא	G
21	C		לרצון	תמים יהיה	F'
29	В	תזבחו	לרצנכם	<u>וכי תזבחו זבח תודה ליי</u>	E'
23:11	В		לרצנכם	והניף את העמר לפני יי	D'

Both in D and D' the burnt offering and the raising² of the sheaf respectively are to result in "acceptance on his/their behalf before YHWH." The two expressions "לפני "before the Lord" and לרצון have been juxtaposed only one more time in the Hebrew Bible. According to Exod 28:38 the golden plate is to be on Aaron's forehead continually "לרצון להם לפני "for their acceptance before the Lord" (Cassuto). In the latter text as well as in Lev 23:11 a priest performs a rite in favor of the Israelites. If it proves to be true to the biblical text that the phrase "לפני "before the Lord" is a "term of location defined with reference to the deity but not specifying distance from the divine presence

¹Although Sun, 172, notes that "this 'If-You' formulation finds a close parallel (to vv. 6-8) in Lev 7:16-18; 22:29-30," he does not draw any conclusions concerning structural links.

²Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 461-473, concludes his investigation by stating: "Philology and logic are decisive: *tenûpâ* is a ritual of raising or lifting intended to dedicate the offering to God" (470).

³Rendtorff, *Leviticus*, 31, renders the phrase "für sie (d.h. die Israeliten) zum Wohlgefallen vor Jhwh." Milgrom, *Leviticus*, 149, draws attention to the fact that the nominal derivative יצון "appears with the burnt offering . . . and the well-being offering . . . but never with the purification and reparation offerings."

within the holy precincts," the connotation of Lev 1:3 and 23:11 may be congruent. In case we are correct in interpreting the expression "before the Lord" in both texts as local and metaphoric, that is, if this understanding is true to the authorial intention, the idea of the "efficacious merit" of the sacrifices offered before the Lord would turn out to be a significant theological inclusion.

The close connection existing between E and E' is corroborated by the following: First, nowhere else in the Hebrew Bible have the noun and the verb and been juxtaposed and, second, the almost verbatim correspondence of Lev 19:5 and 22:29 is certainly striking. Beyond the terminological resemblance it should be noticed that the context of both verses touches upon the question of the appropriate time, that is, the day(s) on which the sacrificial meat must be consumed, a topic with which Lev 7:15-18 is likewise concerned.⁴

The point of concurrence in the case of F and F' consists in the emphasis put on the *unblemished* physical condition of the sacrificial animal, a concern which is seemingly confirmed in that the term "ממים "without blemish" (Milgrom) occurs only twice in Lev 22, namely in vss. 19 and 21. At the very core of this *sevenfold* structure the only negative statement has been placed, describing a case where no acceptance will be

¹Gane, "Bread," 181.

²Hartley, 19.

³Because of the plain meaning the phrase carries throughout Lev 1-5, Rendtorff, *Leviticus*, 31, refrains from a figurative interpretation.

⁴In vs. 18 the verb רצה is used.

granted: "any [animal] which has a blemish you shall not present, because it will not be for your acceptance."

In summarizing it can be concluded: D and D' deal with acceptance לפני whatever the theological implications may be, E and E' explain the proper procedure as to the consumption of sacrificial meat, F and F' focus on the unblemished condition of any sacrificial animal, and G gives the only example where acceptance will be refused, the case of an animal with a defect.

It goes without saying that the chiastic positioning, the almost verbatim corresponence of the *second* and *second-from-last* members, and the congruence of content of the respective texts within the structure are not likely to be coincidental.

Summary and Conclusions

While the third chapter ascertained the validity of the basic working hypothesis regarding the microstructure, this chapter investigated the interrelation of diverse words/ phrases of one DS to those of another or several DS.

Regarding the terminological patterns present in Leviticus it is remarkable that the very same devices used on the microstructural level can also be found in its macrostructure, an observation which by itself already testifies to some compositional plan for the extant text. Probably due to the wide text-range, the structures are not as frequent as on the microstructural level, but their patterning quality should not be underestimated.

Again seven-part, chiastic, numerical, and open-envelope structures, and structural outlines based on identical verbal/nominal forms have been noticed.

The three seven-part outlines are structured as 2/3/2/ (ברכת) "curtain"), 3/1/3 (ישבר) "break"), and 3/3/1 (יגוי "nation"). It should be emphasized that in each of the cases where numerical identity exists, thematic similarity can also be noticed. As far as theological insight is concerned the one based on the noun "גוי "nation," is the most significant one. This structure culminates in the statement, "I brought them forth from the land of Egypt before the eyes of the nations, to be their God." While at this point the phrase forms the climax in a *seven-part* structure, it is at the same time inseparably integrated in the long-range structural outline based on "the land of Egypt."

Regarding the long-range chiastic structures, two verbs, both of which are closely related to the sacrificial ritual, should be stressed. Both "pour" and "dip" have been used in a way which is unique throughout the Hebrew Bible. While with regard to "pour" it is the unparalleled object "to blood," in the case of "dip" it is the extraordinary alternation of the two prepositions and כון On the microstructural level the unique usage can possibly be explained, but hardly any explanation can be given for the perfectly symmetric positioning on the macrostructural level—except to ascribe the outline to some author's purposeful patterning.

Among the macrostructural chiastic patterns presented, it is the structure based on ארץ מצרים "the land of Egypt" which arrests our attention. In this eleven-part structure, one of the main theological themes of the Pentateuch, the Exodus from Egypt, figures prominently, being closely linked with the "second half" of the so-called covenant-formula—always construed as infinitive construct with prefixed "b—"to be your/their God." Besides being a perfect chiastic structure the *seventh* slot is certainly noticeable because

of an unparalleled cluster of fundamental theological statements. The juxtaposing of the Exodus, the Lord's giving of the land, and the covenant-formula in 25:38 are unique in the Hebrew Bible. The Exodus took place in order to give (לתת) the land of Canaan to Israel, in order to be (להיות) their God. I daresay that this significant structure, replete with theological profundity, provides evidence that an insightful theologian is responsible for this outstanding outline, a structure reaching from Lev 11 to 26.

Those terminological patterns which resulted in numerological structures are also of interest. The noun כליה "kidney" adds to the literary "unity" of Lev 3-9. The artistic arrangement of the verb שלה "forgive" is closely integrated in the context of the sin offering and guilt offering in Lev 4-5; the nine occurrences in Lev 4-5 are completed by a tenth, 19:22. The table clearly shows the 3/3/4 pattern, and points at the same time to the envelope type of arrangement in each of the three subgroups. The deliberateness of this design becomes manifest even more when it is noticed that 5:16 and 19:22—both stating that "the priest shall make atonement for him with the ram of the guilt offering" (in Hebrew the two statements are *almost* identical)—function most prominently a second time in the terminological pattern based on the noun "ram."

In an eight-part structure the verb מצא "find" interlinks distinctly different texts in a group of two and two triads, with a special statement in the seventh position. The verb "send" gains in momentum because of its subject and the related objects: twice in Lev 14 the priest sends off the living bird, in Lev 16 the he-goat sent to Azazel is four times the object of the verb, and in chaps. 18-26 the Lord is twice the subject of the verb: twice it is mentioned verbatim that he will expel the nation(s) before them (18:24; 20:23)

—the first of these two texts is the *seventh* in this list), and twice he threatens to send wild beasts and the plague because of their unfaithfulness (26:22, 25). The structure based on the verb ירא "fear" interlinks Lev 19 with 25-26, and points again to the structural significance of Lev 26:1-2. The ירא structure closely connects the DS of Lev 19 and 25-26.

In the eight-part structures based on אל יטוד המזבות "at the base of the altar" and on קרן "horn" the seventh positions may possibly be important. The statements placed in the seventh positions in the בקר structure and the שפר outline are unique in the Hebrew Bible. In the compositional outline based on "על המזבות סביב "against the altar all around" the seventh and twelfth positions are similar to each other and distinctly different from the rest. On the one hand the שעיר structure is significant because of its seventh and twelfth positions, and on the other hand because the seventh of the fourteen occurrences found in Lev 16 coincides with the twelfth in the overall outline. Lev 16:18 apparently figures prominently in both structures. This unsurpassable structural precision definitely deserves scholarly attention and explanation. The artistically composed "שעיר structure possibly substantiates the hypothesis that the DS on Yom Kippur is both the structural and the theological midpoint of the third book of Moses.

The only example of an open-envelope structure on the macrostructural level deserves special attention. In the same way as the verb איל "carry, bear," the noun איל "ram" appears twenty-two times in Leviticus. This long-range outline (5:15-23:18) is unique in that the *seventh* and *twelfth* positions are verbatim and *the second* and *second-from-last* are almost verbatim. The statement "the priest shall make atonement for him

with the ram of the guilt offering" is found both times in a sacrificial context where the slaughtering of the animal is not mentioned.

The macrostructural envelope structure closely joins Lev 18 and 20. Two singular forms of the noun תועבה "abomination"—both times referring to homosexuality—include four plurals which are of a more general nature. This finding seemingly underlines the interrelationship of Lev 18 and 20 on the level of the extant text, a close connection that is not accepted by all scholars.

The distribution of the seven occurrences of the noun רצון "acceptance; Wohlge-fallen" exemplifies identical nominal forms, chiastic positioning, verbatim congruence of second and second-from-last members, and congruence of content of the respective texts.

Suffice it to say that such a cluster of literary devices is most likely not the chance result of some late redactional rewriting. This outline is undoubtedly the most extensive long-range structure detected in Leviticus.

The investigation of the macrostructure of Leviticus has shown that several outlines interrelate minor groups of chapters, whereas three or four words/phrases seemingly encompass large sections of the book. Therefore this quite complex and obviously carefully composed literary entity, the final text of Leviticus, should be deemed worthy to be called a masterpiece of ancient literary craftsmanship.

CHAPTER V

GENERAL SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This dissertation has sought to ascertain the significance of terminological patterns and their respective contributions to the literary structure of Leviticus. In many a case the structural and theological significance of a word/phrase has been enhanced by means of poetic skillfulness—results which are relevant for a future study focusing on the theology of the third book of Moses. Repeatedly the notion has been verified that "in literature the form creates meaning . . . and the meaning exists in and through form."

Because each scholar probably tends

to attach a measure of finality to one's own discoveries in a text... two unwarranted conclusions must be avoided. First, new discoveries do not necessarily negate the value of patterns that previous researchers have found. Second, one can never say that the job is done, and that no patterns remain to be discovered.²

This holds true, of course, for the present investigation as well. Though almost each word in Leviticus has been examined regarding its usefulness in a terminological pattern on the microstructural and/or macrostructural level, I do not claim to have brought to light all the terminological patterns that may occur in Leviticus. Second, it should not

¹Alonso-Schökel, "Problems," 7.

²Parunak, 76.

be forgotten that if Leviticus were scrutinized from a purely conceptual and thematic angle, quite a different outline might emerge.

Summary

In the first chapter the stage was set by briefly pointing to the chronological and conceptual context into which Leviticus has been placed. In view of the obvious lack of unanimity among scholars regarding the origin of the text of Leviticus, the significance of the extant text as sole basis for this investigation was emphasized. The review of literature made it quite clear that in Pentateuchal studies we are passing through a period of radical changes, a period which seems to bring about a deeper appreciation of the extant text as the basis for any exegesis. The combination of multiple and diverse approaches applied in biblical studies may prove fruitful for deepening our understanding of the literary structure and hence the theological message of any given text.

The first chapter was designed to introduce and state the problem. In view of the sheer diversity of present-day Pentateuchal studies in general and "priestly texts" in particular, a different approach may be profitable, an approach based exclusively on the text before us. After a brief review of recent publications on P and H, and recently suggested structural outlines of Leviticus, the methodology of this dissertation was presented. In making intensive use of *one* aspect of rhetorical criticism this dissertation focuses on terminological patterns and is therefore not concerned with conceptual structures. The different literary devices presented in the first chapter (seven-part, chiastic, numerical, open-envelope, and envelope structures, and terminological outlines

based on identical verbal/nominal forms) reveal the basic guidelines of the study. The fundamental working hypothesis of this dissertation is that Leviticus has been artistically structured by thirty-seven DS. This study has examined the interrelationship of these DS on both the micro- and macrostructural levels. Whereas in other studies the term "microstructure" has been used in reference to the sentence level, in this dissertation it refers exclusively to the literary unit of the individual DS, and *never* to the sentence level. Consequently, the macrostructural analysis scrutinizes the overall structure of the whole of Leviticus.

In the second chapter the significance of the thirty-seven DS as the foremost and most easily perceivable literary framework was presented. As to my present knowledge, this arrangement is the only one encompassing the whole of Leviticus, whereas all the other structural findings do *not* encompass the whole book. In giving a summary description of the manifold literary devices employed by the biblical artist I should like to draw a parallel between Leviticus and the different threads in an artistically woven, multicolored costly fabric. Various and diverse structural devices employed in Leviticus may be compared with the differently colored threads in such a carpet. At some points two or three different threads are intricately intertwined; at other points they are far apart or have even been arranged in contrast with each other. It is only the whole, the ultimate sum of the distinct and diverse parts, in which the overall beauty of the final artistic product can be perceived and hence appreciated, and as it were at a respectful distance. In evaluating the whole book of Leviticus, both its micro- and its macrostructure, it turns out to be true that the sum is more than its parts.

The structuring terms and phrases have been allowed to emerge from within the biblical text itself. The concurrence of a microstructural and macrostructural approach has turned out to be effective because of the clearly recognizable compositional congruence on the two levels. More than once the elements of which a microstructural outline consists turned out to be an integral part on the macrostructural level. For example, the phrase ארץ מצרים "the land of Egypt" was integrated in terminological patterns in Lev 11, (possibly 18), 19, 22, and 25-26¹ and then proved to be the basis of a chiastic macrostructure extending from Lev 11 to 26.

The analysis of the significant structural role of the "one-verse-DS" in 16:1 revealed its function as a terminological/chronological link with 10:2; the close connection of Lev 16:2 with 21:1 (16:32 with 21:10) seems to validate the hypothesis that 16:1 interlinks with what precedes and 16:2 with what follows.

Then attention was called to the structural significance (and possible theological implications) of קדש קדשים "most holy" in Lev 1-3 (the very *first*) and chap. 27 (the very *last*) DS as an ingenious inclusion. The whole book of Leviticus may have thus been bracketed by its central theme: "holiness." This interpretation seems to be corroborated in view of the recurrent structuring function of the root קדש "holy" in several DS of Leviticus.

In an excursus the difference in sequence of the sacrifices listed in Lev 1-5 versus 6-7 was scrutinized. In contrast to the general notion that a different order indicates

¹Only 23:43 seems not to be integrated in any structure—at least according to my present perception of the chapter.

different provenience, the variation of ordering the five offerings was rather interpreted as a possible indication of single authorship. In both cases those sacrifices, which expressis verbis are nowhere characterized as "holy" or "most holy," bracket one/three sacrifices which are expressly labeled קדש "most holy" in Leviticus. The deliberate distribution of the term יקדש "clean" and the root קדש "holy" pointed to the compositional integrity of this pericope interlinking three distinct DS.

Lev 11 was selected for testing the basic working hypothesis of this study. In view of the artistic arrangement based on "Gradan "Gradanpeds," עלה "touch," עלה "bring "throat; person," היה "wild quadrupeds" and "living," and the fortyfold distribution of the particle "all, every," vss. 24-38, 39-40, 43-45, and 47—allegedly secondary additions—proved to be integrated in Lev 11. The two structures based on "bring up" and "land," both culminating in the statement "for I am the Lord who brought them up from the land of Egypt," support the literary integrity of Lev 11. The widespread hypothesis that the term "אני "I am the Lord" and even more so the phrase אני "I am the Lord" and even more so the phrase והתקדשתם והייתם קדשים כי קדוש אני (vs.44aβ) "sanctify yourselves and be holy for I am holy" are hallmarks of H is severely weakened by these integrating structures.

In the third chapter of this study microstructural aspects of Leviticus were examined. The verb דבר "speak" was seen to be a literary device in structuring Lev 8:1-10:20; 23:1-44; 22:1-33 and 24:1-23, again evidencing identical structural devices in the "Priestly Code" and the "Holiness Code." The numerous remaining results of the third chapter are summarized in the following tables:

Structures Based on the Number Seven

The terms and phrases listed below point to literary cohesiveness and textual integrity. In some of these groups of seven, the seventh member functions simply as a "capper," in others as a significant terminological climax as, for example, in Lev 19 and 22. The "sudden" and unexpected mention of the Exodus in 19:36 and 22:33, dovetailed to the *seventh* position, underlines theological significance by means of poetic skillfulness.

TEXT	TERM	TYPES OF STRUCTURES AND FUNCTION
1-3	כל	2/7/7 structure interlinked with 12 times חלב; therefore 3:16b-17 are probably from the same hand
8:1-10:7	כל	two closely interrelated >>-structures, of seven members each, seemingly support the compositional integrity of this passage
14	כל	3/3/1 structure of 5⊃ closely connects the two distinct DS
27	כל	the distribution of oclosely connects the distinct parts of this DS
6:1-7:38	דם	3 plus 4 structure with the latter one being chiastic
8:1-10:7	אש	3 plus 4 structure, both of which are chiastic
10:8-20	קדש	seventh member is capping chiastic structure of six
14	דם	first six arranged chiastically, capped by a seventh, closely interlinking the two distinct DS
13-14	מחוץ ל	3 plus 4 structure; seventh seems to function as capper
19	ארץ	the first five are arranged chiastically referring to the land of Canaan; two further references to Egypt and the seventh makes mention of the Exodus
20	נתן	seventh refers to the Lord's giving Canaan to Israel

22	היה	2/3/2 structure interlinking the three DS respectively; and seventh makes mention of the Exodus
23	חגג/חג	five DS are bracketed by the noun; in the "addition" (vss. 39-43) the alternation of $\Lambda \Gamma / \Gamma \Lambda$ is chiastic

Chiastic Structures

All of the chiastic structures shown below interlink different (parts of) DS which the majority of scholars consider to be of a composite nature. The presence of intricate structures gives evidence of compositional congruence throughout Leviticus.

TEXT	TERM	TYPE OF STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION
4-5	נפש	interconnecting three distinct DS
6:1-7:38	קטר	includes the allegedly secondary high-priestly כליל and leaves out the חטאת
14	שחט	closely interlinking two distinct DS
16	בגד	seven-part chiastic structure seemingly testifies to literary integrity of vss. 1-34
23	מלאכה	overall antithetic structure; the first eight have been chiastically arranged
23	מקרא קדש יהיה לכם +	chiastic structure of vss. 4-37; Num 28-29 has a similar literary outline
24	קלל / נקב	seven-part antithetic parallelism
24	בן	intricately interlinking narrative and legal sections
27	בן	clear-cut chiastic structure encompassing the whole chapter
ארץ מצרים 25-26		closely interconnecting the distinct parts of the longest DS

26 געל

the verb געל in Lev 25 and 27 functions as *inclusio* of געל which appears only here; this structure clearly interlinks the sections of the so-called blessings and curses

Numerological Structures

This literary device, apparently quite common to biblical writers but not so well known among biblical scholars, interlinks distinct parts of a single DS or of several thematically related DS. Among the numerical structures, those where the *seventh* or *twelfth* positions are emphasized seem to be of special significance.

TEXT	TERM	TYPE OF STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION
1-3	אשה ריח ניחח ליי	a 3/6/6 structure interlinks the three different sacrifices which have been presented in Lev 1-3
13-14	שביעי ,שבעה ,שבע	points to the interrelatedness of Lev 13/14; in chap. 13 the alternation of שביעית and שביעית is almost perfect; in Lev 14 an ABCA / ABCA structure interlinks two distinct DS
14	לקח	in a thirteen-part structure the fifth and fifth-from-last are verbatim and the seventh seems to be emphasized
15	רחץ	twelve-part structure with seventh emphasized
19	אני יי (אלהיכם)	the alternation of LF and SF in groups of four functions as outline
23	חדש	in a ten-part structure the third and third-from-last correspond; in a אביח-structure in Num 28-29 the seventh and twelfth are emphasized
14 and	נתן 25-26	an eight-part structure with the seventh referring to the Lord's giving the land of Canaan to Israel; in a twenty-part structure the seventh and twelfth positions (the only ones employing "cultic" terminology) are stressed
25-26	ארץ	two statements which are unique in the Hebrew Bible have been put in the seventh and twelfth positions

Open-Envelope Structures

The open-envelope structure, obviously quite common to biblical writer(s) but not so well known among biblical scholars, enhances structural aesthetics and literary cohesiveness; at least in Lev 18 and 26 the theological significance of the second and second-from-last member is emphasized.

TEXT	TYPE	TYPE OF STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION
18	אני	eight-part structure with second and second-from-last stressed
26	פרר and ברית	eight-part structure with second and second-from-last stressed
20	מות יומת / מות	eleven-part structure with second and second-from-last stressed
22	איש איש / איש	eleven-part structure with second and second-from-last stressed
27	שקל	twelve-part structure with second and second-from-last stressed

Envelope Structures

Seemingly, the envelope structure has been sparingly used on the level of the DS.

TEXT	TERM	TYPE OF STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION
8:1-10:7 מועד		this phrase clearly interlinks the first and eighth days of the inauguration of the sacrificial cult
18	חקת	the abominable חקת of the Canaanites, which Israel is not to follow, form the inclusion for three mentions of אחקתי which they are to observe

Identical Verbal/Nominal Form

The structures of this type point to the highly developed artistic arrangement creating intricate structures by simple literary devices. The intricate arrangement detected in Lev 16 and 23 is all the more significant, because the majority of scholars consider the component parts of these chapters to be of different provenience. In view of the structural artistry their arguments possibly lose part of their plausibility and probability.

TEXT	TERM	TYPE OF STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION
16	בוא	a 2/2/3/3 structure inextricably interlinks the rites of Yom Kippur
23	עשה	this intricate outline interrelates the six annual feasts and the weekly Sabbath

In the fourth chapter the macrostructural outline of Leviticus has been investigated and the results of this investigation are presented in the following tables. In contrast to the summary of the microstructure, not only the term and the type of structure are mentioned, but an additional two texts are given indicating the range of a given structure. It certainly is of significance that even on the macrostructural level the very same literary devices have been used by the ancient author. Since in many cases these outlines undeniably transcend the boundaries between the "Priestly Code" and the "Holiness Code" the hypothesis of original literary cohesiveness is seemingly supported by these findings.

Seven-part Structures

The three seven-part structures juxtaposed below are probably indicative of the writer's predilection to interlink diverse materials by means of seven-part patterns.

TEXT	TERM	TYPE OF STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION
4:6 / 24:3	פרכת	2/3/2 structure; the two exterior members refer to the <i>outside</i> of the veil (Holy) and the triad in the center to that part of the tabernacle which is <i>inside</i> the veil (Most Holy)
6:21 / 26:26	שבר	3/1/3 structure; three texts of each of the triads are thematically interrelated with a totally unrelated center
18:24 / 26:45	גוי	3/3/1 structure; the first triad refers to the nations of Canaan, the second to the nations living around Israel; the seventh member being unique in the Pentateuch refers to the Exodus as having taken place before the eyes of the nations

Chiastic Structures

The three quite complex chiastic structures probably demonstrate the author's deliberate literary design.

TEXT	TERM	TYPE OF STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION
2:1 / 21:10	יצק	in a 3/2/3 structure the outer members (object of sprinkling: oil) include two exceptions (object: oil), a fact that is unique in the Hebrew Bible
4:6 / 14:51	טבל	by means of two chiastic structures of three members each —based on the distribution of the prepositions במן and במן an overall chiastic structure is created
11:45 / 26:45	ארץ מצרים	in an overall eleven-part chiastic structure the cluster of theological statements in the seventh slot is unique in the Hebrew Bible

Numerological Structures

These structures—repeatedly with the *seventh* and/or *twelfth* positions emphasized— illustrate the author's liking for casting his material in some kind of "numerical"

mold" thus proclaiming, reticently at times, a profound theological tenet.

TEXT	TERM	TYPE OF STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION
3:4 / 9:19	כליות	the fourteen occurrences of the noun—in five verbatim phrases—interlink Lev 3 to 7, and chaps. 8 and 9
4:20 / 19:22	סלח	in a 3/3/4 structure each part is chiastically composed; the second and second-from-last—being almost verbatim—are unique in the Hebrew Bible
5:22 / 25:28	מצא	in a 2/3/3 structure the two triads are chiastic
14:7 / 26:25	שלח	in a 2/4/4 structure the subject/object of the verb brings about this clear-cut outline
19:3 / 26:2	ירא	in an eight-part structure the latter six form an envelope structure interrelating Lev 19 with 26
4:7 / 9:9 אבח	אל יסוד המי	in a 3/3/2 structure possibly the seventh (and eighth) have been emphasized
4:7 / 16:18	קרן	in an eight-part structure the <i>seventh</i> seems to have been stressed, and the sixth and eighth are identical
1:2 / 27:32	בקר	this twelve-part structure encompassing the whole book of Leviticus is of interest because of the unique phrase placed in the <i>seventh</i> slot
4:7 / 17:13	שפך	in this eight-part structure the <i>seventh</i> position is unique throughout the Hebrew Bible
1:5 / 16:18 ユ	על המזבח סבי	in a list of twelve the seventh (8:15) and twelfth (16:18) are unique
4:23 / 23:19	שעיר	in a list of twenty-one the <i>seventh</i> (16:7) and <i>twelfth</i> (16:18) are emphasized; the <i>seventh</i> (of fourteen occurrences in chap. 16) is identical with the <i>twelfth</i> of the macrostructural outline
5:1 / 24:15	נשא	in a list of twenty-two the seventh (10:17) and twelfth (16:22) are seemingly emphasized

Open-Envelope Structure

The following open-envelope structure, indeed one of the most outstanding outlines found in Leviticus, clearly evidences the author's artistic arrangement.

TEXT TERM TYPE OF STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

5:15 / 23: 18 איל in a list of twenty-two occurrences the seventh and twelfth

are verbatim and the *second* and *second-from-last* are not only very similar but unique throughout the Hebrew Bible

Envelope Structure

The only envelope structure detected on the macrostructural level underlines the thematic unity of Lev 18 and 20 by means of an undeniable terminological pattern.

TEXT TERM TYPE OF STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

18:22 / 20:13 תועבה the singular forms referring twice to homosexuality include

the more generally applied plural forms

Identical Verbal/Nominal Forms

This highly complex structure, the only macrostructure with identical nominal forms in Leviticus, is significant on both the structural and theological levels. By underscoring the notion that רצון is granted *before* the Lord and only by the Lord the author seems to articulate a meaningful theological tenet.

TEXT TERM TYPE OF STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

1:3 / 23:11 דצון

the second to seventh members are arranged by alternating the pronominal suffix of the noun; an overall chiastic arrangement of this seven-part structure

Conclusions

In view of the plethora of profound and (probably) purposeful patterns present on the micro- and macrostructural levels of the extant text, I should like to restate what was said at the beginning: in each case the reader is called upon to decide to ascribe the eyecatching structures either to the deliberate designing of the author or to the ingenious work of the redactor(s).

Having summarized the results of investigating the micro- and macrostructural outline of Leviticus, five structures should be looked at once more, in my view the most impressive, significant and least refutable ones. Each of these structures evidences both a complex artistic composition and a meaningful theological message, in other words a perfect blend of form and content. It is therefore the *cumulative* evidence that may be conducive to support the hypothesis of single-handed authorship of the third book of Moses.

In Lev 11, the structures based on the verb עלה "bring up" and the noun "Aרץ" culminate in כי אני יי המעלה אתכם מארץ מצרים להיות לכם לאלהים "I the Lord am he who brought you up from the land of Egypt" (Milgrom). In Lev 19 a five-part chiastic structure—based on the noun "land"—is capped by two references to the land of Egypt of which the last, the *seventh*, refers to the Exodus. In Lev 22 the *sevenfold* use of היה "be" climaxes in vs. 33a: היות לכם לאלהים להיות לכם לאלהים "be" climaxes in vs. 33a: היות לכם לאלהים לחיות לכם מארץ מצרים להיות לכם לאלהים "who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God." We should take notice that no clear and convincing explanation has been provided by scholars for the unexpected mention of the Exodus in Lev 11, 19, and 22; often these brief passages have been

reference is made to the Exodus in the *seventh* position of a given outline, it becomes manifest that on the level of the extant text the mention of the Exodus is intricately interrelated to what precedes, and the *seventh* position resembles, as it were, an unmistakable "theological exclamation mark." Finally, in Lev 25-26 the Exodus is spoken of five times, the *first* and *last* times in connection with the phrase להיות לכם / להם לאלהים be your/their God" thus creating an envelope structure. The three enclosed texts refer to the Israelites as being either "my servants" (25:38, 42) or "their servants" (26:13).

In conjunction with the other occurrences of the phrase ארץ מצרים "the land of Egypt," the above eight texts lay the foundation for an overall macrostructural outline stretching from Lev 11 to 26. The aesthetic structural arrangement of the Lord's unique and unforgettable salvific deed underlines its theological significance. Seemingly, by employing one of the theological key themes of the Pentateuch, literary form and theological content complement each other forming an inseparable significant unity. Many a commentator might disapprove of the postulated literary unity of the DS in Lev 11; 19; 22; 25-26. But in view of the microstructural integration and the macrostructural interrelation it seems to be their task to reexamine the literary integrity of these DS, and this reexamination should be based exclusively on the extant text.

A second significant term regarding the macrostructural outline is the noun שעיר

¹Are we to reckon with any design on the part of the author by his *sevenfold* mention of the noun ארץ מצרים "land" in Lev 18? The mention of "the land of "the land of Canaan" (vs. 3) is followed by five references to "the land," which in each case relates to Canaan (vss. 25², 27², 28).

"he-goat." Because of the special importance of the male goat as sin offering the twentyone occurrences are seemingly significant. In this overall outline the *seventh* (16:7) and
in a special way the *twelfth* (16:18) positions are important. In Lev 16 the noun appears
fourteen times, and the *seventh* mention (16:18) on the microstructural level is identical
with the *twelfth* position of the macrostructural outline. A scholarly *opinio communis*seemingly exists concerning the theological significance of the cleansing ritual described
in 16:18. In view of the undeniable structural overlapping in 16:18—a perfect blend of
micro- and macrostructural positions—the structural *and* theological significance of chap.
16 in general and vs. 18 in particular should be reconsidered. This structure seems to
substantiate the hypothesis that Lev 16:2-34, the DS on Yom Kippur, is both the structural *and* theological center of Leviticus.

A third significant term regarding the macrostructure of Leviticus seems to be the verb שנשא "bear, carry." Its twenty-two occurrences reveal this to be some form of alphabetical composition, and this may already be significant by itself. Two crucial phrases, Lev 10:17 לשאת את עון העדה "to bear the iniquity of the congregation" (Hartley), and 16:22 נושא השעיר עליו את כל עונתם "the goat is to carry on it all their iniquities" (Hartley), have been placed in the eminent seventh and twelfth positions. Since this positioning has hardly been done haphazardly, this structure does indeed deserve to be taken into account by scholars. Whoever—the author or some final editor(s)—placed the two significant statements in the seventh and twelfth positions must have had some (theological) intentions at the back of his mind. Because of their eminent positions it is imperative to investigate anew their respective positions and their (possible) interrelation.

A fourth term, which occurs likewise twenty-two times in Leviticus, is the noun "ram." The verbatim seventh and twelfth positions, and the eye-catching termino-ogical and theological similarity of the second and second-from-last members seemingly support the hypothesis that this dexterous design is deliberate. Whereas in Lev 5 and 19 the "sacrificing" of the איל האשם "the ram for the guilt offering" is described, not a word is said about the actual slaughtering or any blood manipulations. The positioning of this guilt offering with no mention of any bloodshed in Lev 5 and 19 might be intentional, and this intention may be due to the author's deliberate macroconceptual outline.

A fifth word which may turn out to be of significance for the macrostructure of Leviticus is the word "רצון" "acceptance." The deliberate (?) distribution of the seven occurrences, out of which the second to seventh have been arranged chiastically (being based on the alternation of the pronominal suffix it proves itself to be an "identical nominal form" structure), may turn out to be the most complex macrostructural outline within Leviticus. Only the first and seventh speak of "לפני "לרצנו לפני "מכבם / לרצנו לפני "מכבם לרצנו לפני "1:3 and 23:11 respectively). The second (19:5) and second-from-last (22:29) are almost verbatim, and the third (22:19) and third-from-last (22:21) underline the fact that any sacrificial animal must be "מכני " "perfect." The fourth member of this list, that is, the central one, is the only statement in the negative (22:20): "do not bring anything with a defect, [כי לא לרצון יהיה לכם] because it will not be accepted on your behalf (NIV). This seven-part structure, with its overall chiastic outline, its almost verbatim second and second-from-last members, and its alternation of identical nominal forms (with/without pronominal suffix) deserves and demands to be taken into account.

If it is true that the central notion of the Israelite sacrificial cult is to gain "acceptance" before the Lord, that is, by way of propitiation and forgiveness, the author of this seven-part structure certainly succeeded in fusing literary form and theological message into an indivisible entity. In case this hypothesis proves to be true to the extant text, it should not be overlooked that this structure "encompasses" twenty-three of the twenty-seven chapters of Leviticus.

The plethora of profound and, I dare say, purposeful terminological patterns both on the micro- and macrostructural levels definitely deserves scholarly attention.

G. Anderson states on the jacket of Knohl's recently published book *The Sanctuary of Silence*: "Future scholarship may take issue with some of the historical grounds proposed behind these sources, but the fundamental redactional analysis will be hard, if not impossible, to refute." Faced with the complex compositional techniques employed by the author of the extant text, the foundation of Knohl's redactional analysis seems to be severely weakened. Therefore it may be commensurate to recall Rendtorff's dictum "that the understanding of the biblical text in its *present* form is the preeminent task of exegesis."

A possible scholarly debate regarding the results of this study could consider the following as starting points of the discussion:

1. The interrelationship of the different layers of Pg, P₁, P₂, etc., to each other, and the relation of P and H outside Leviticus ought to be reconsidered, because Leviticus

¹Rendtorff, *Leviticus*, 4 (emphasis supplied).

reveals a text where a distinction between P and H is seemingly irrelevant, or even nonexistent.

- 2. If these "hidden" structures, structural outlines which come to light only after careful checking and weighing of almost every word of Leviticus, are present in the heart of the Pentateuch, a similar scrutiny of Genesis, Exodus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy may result in detection of similar terminological patterns and structures.
- 3. This may lead to substantiation of Whybray's last word regarding the author of the Pentateuch: "his work stands out as a literary masterpiece."

¹Whybray, Making, 242.

A CONCORDANCE OF LEVITICUS1

אב 1215 / 25 אבד 184 / 2	father to perish	16:32 // 18:7, 8 ² , 9, 11 ² , 12 ² , 14 // 19:3 // 20:9 ² , 11 ² , 17, 19 // 21:2, 9, 11 // 22:13 ² // 25:41; 26:39, 40 23:30 // 26:38
אבדה 4/2	a lost thing	5:22,23
אבה 54/1	to be willing	26:21
אביב 8 / 1	fresh ears	2:14
אביהוא 12/1	Abihu	10:1
אבן 269 / 10	stone	14:40, 42², 43, 45 // 19:36 // 20:2, 27 // 24:23 // 26:1
אבנט 9/3	girdle	8:7,13 // 16:4
אברהם 175 / 1	Abraham	26:42
אדם 561 / 15	man	1:2 // 5:3, 4 // 5:22 // 7:21 // 13:2, 9 // 16:17 // 18:5 // 22:5 // 24:17, 20, 21 // 27:28, 29
אדמדם 6/6	reddish	13:19, 24, 42, 43, 49 // 14:37

יר Following the sequence of entries and the often plene spelling of Even-Shoshan, A New Concordance of the Old Testament, this concordance contains the vocabulary of Leviticus except pronouns, particles, and prepositions. The personal pronoun "I" and a few particles have been included, however. The concordance has been arranged according to DS, i.e. the sign "//" delimits the individual DS. The numbers beneath the Hebrew word are to be understood thus: אור "father" 1215 / 25. According to Even-Shoshan the noun occurs 1215 times in the Hebrew Bible and 25 times in Leviticus. Any emphasized term, e.g., אחרי כן, after that" following the texts listed, refers to those texts which have been emphasized in the same way. The English translation is taken from F. Brown, S. R. Driver, and C. A. Briggs, Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament (Oxford: Clarendon Press), 1955.

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land
אדמה
                                20:24, 25
225/2
אהב
                to love 19:18, 34
208 / 2
אהל
                                1:1, 3, 5; 3:2, 8, 13 // 4:4, 5, 7^2, 14, 16, 18^2 // 6:9 // 6:19, 23
                tent
345 / 44
                               // 8:3, 4, 31, 33, 35; 9:5, 23; 10:7 // 10:9 // 12:6 // 14:8, 11.
                                23 // 15:14, 29 // 16:7, 16, 17, 20, 23, 33 // 17:4, 5, 6, 9 //
                                19:21 // 24:3 [except in 14:8 it is always אהל מועד
אהרן
                Aaron
                                1:5, 7, 8, 11; 2:2, 3, 10; 3:2, 5, 8, 13 // 6:2, 7, 9, 11 // 6:13
347 / 80
                                // 6:18; 7:10 // 7:31, 33, 34, 35 // 8:2, 6, 12, 13, 14, 18, 22
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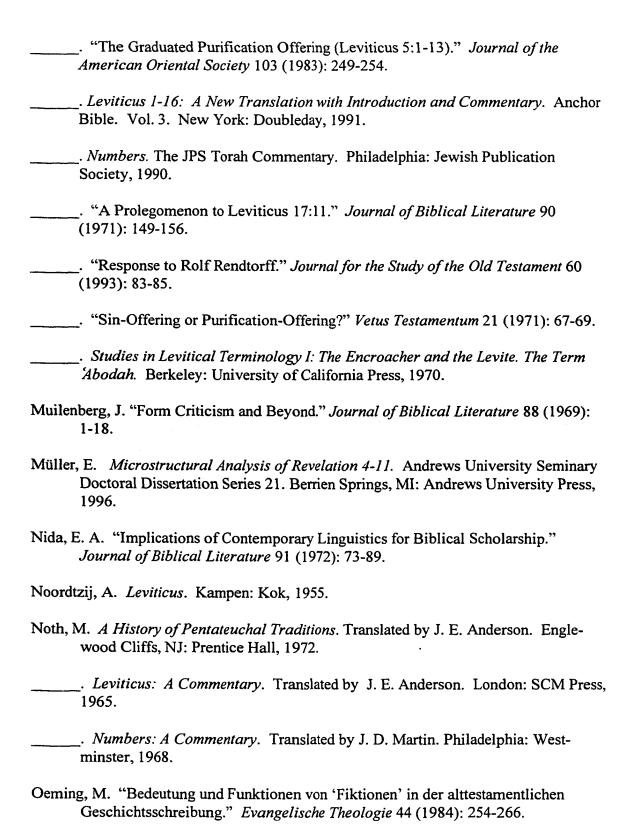
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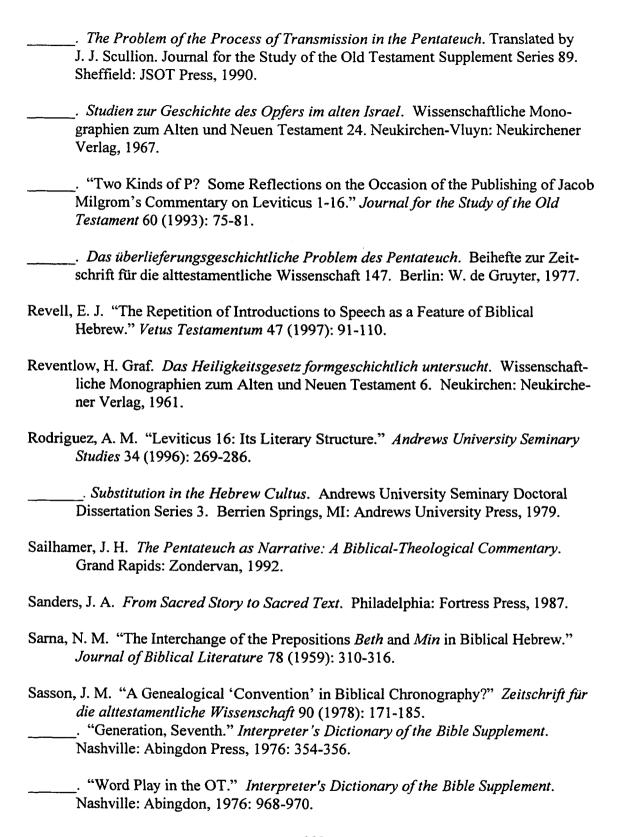
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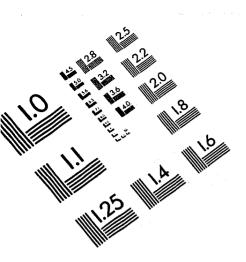
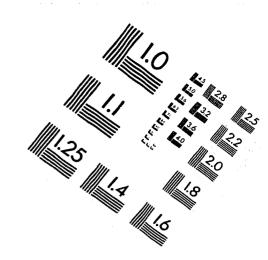
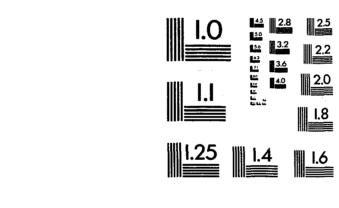
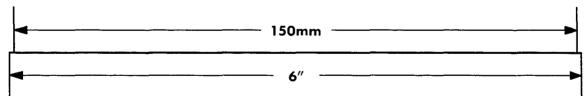
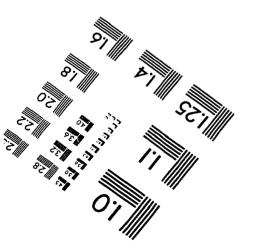


IMAGE EVALUATION TEST TARGET (QA-3)











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