The Numerical Features of the Book of Genesis
A New Approach to its Compositional Structure

Please read the Introduction to the Project

Part VII, Genesis 37,2-50,26 The Toledoth of Jacob

The Story of Joseph is a well-constructed masterpiece of storytelling. There is no doubt about the literary skill of its author or the basic unity of the story, including the episode of Judah and Tamar in Chapter 38, which has generally been regarded as an erratic block in the story. In terms of the storyline in the Story of Ancient Israel in Genesis-Kings, its function is clearly to set the stage for the events described in the book of Exodus. In order to detect the compositional structure of the text I divide it into 12 sections of disproportionate length strictly in accordance with the Masoretic layout markers. This division proved to be in agreement with the contents in terms of the various episodes. In light of this, I consider Section V, 41,1-42,38 a distinct literary entity, despite the fact that there is no layout marker after 42,38. The Petuchah after 44,17, in the middle of a coherent narrative, may appear strange to West European thinking about the flow of thought in a story. However, the positioning of the Petuchah can be explained as marking a crucial turning point in the story, when Judah steps up to Joseph and speaks to him about his plan to let the father of the boys be brought to Egypt. I therefore treat this P as a normal demarcation device.

Compare the use of the P (in the middle of a verse!) to mark a crucial turning point in 35,22 and in Deut 2,8 – see page 2 in my analysis of Deuteronomy.

This is how the text divides into 12 Sections (the number 12 symbolically represents Jacob’s 12):

Section I, 37,2-36 Joseph sold into Egyptian slavery P 35 verses
Section II 38,1-30 The story of Judah and Tamar S 30 verses
Section III 39,1-23 Joseph’s life in Egypt: he ends up in prison S 23+ verses
Section IV 40,1-23 Joseph interprets the dreams of the Butler and Baker P 23+ verses
Section V 41,1-42,38 Joseph rises from slave to Governor of Egypt | 95+ verses
Section VI 43,1-44,17 Joseph’s brothers confronted with him in Egypt P 51=192 verses
Section VII 44,18-46,7 Jacob and his household emigrate to Egypt S 52 verses
Section VIII 46,8-27 Jacob’s descendants who emigrated to Egypt P 22 verses
Section IX 46,28-47,31 The Israelites in Goshen: Joseph’s land reforms P 38+ verses
Section X 48,1-22 The ailing Jacob blesses Joseph’s sons P 22+ verses
Section XI 49,1-26 Jacob’s testamentary blessing for his sons P 26+ verses
Section XII 49,27-50,26 The death of Jacob and Joseph End 33=119.

Sections III-VI, dealing with Joseph’s life in Egypt, are made up of altogether 192 verses, which is a multiple (4x) of 48, the numerical value of אָרְבָּא (10+6+15+17=48).

This should certainly not be waved aside as a matter of coincidence, for this is a typical example of the scribal device of using the numerical value of the name of a character to signify his ‘signature’ – for more examples, see in Part IV page 3 (Abram) and page 15 (Rebecca), and in Part V pages 18-19 (Jacob).

Sections VI and VII occupy pride of place at the centre of the twelve Sections: 12=5+2+5. The importance of the events described here, which ultimately lead to the sojourn of the Israelites in Egypt, is extra highlighted by the fact that the two sections are made up of 51 (3x17) and 52 (2x26) verses respectively.

Another significant numerical feature is that Sections IX-XII, dealing with the sojourn of the Israelites in Goshen, have altogether 119 (7x17) verses, which symbolize the sevenfold presence of God in Goshen.

Let us now explore the numerical features of the twelve Sections.
Section I 37,2-36 Joseph Sold into Egyptian Slavery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vss</th>
<th>Texts</th>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Letters</th>
<th>Sum words</th>
<th>P/S</th>
<th>§ 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gen 37,2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td>§ 1 Joseph’s dreams of greatness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gen 37,3</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>45</td>
<td></td>
<td>Joseph is pampered by his father, which</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Gen 37,4</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>59</td>
<td></td>
<td>results in the jealousy and hatred of his</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gen 37,5</td>
<td>9+</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>68</td>
<td></td>
<td>brothers. Highlighted by 153(9x17) words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gen 37,6</td>
<td>8(=17)+</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>76</td>
<td></td>
<td>Joseph’s first dream: the brothers’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Gen 37,7</td>
<td>16+</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>92</td>
<td></td>
<td>sheaves bowing before his, is emphasized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gen 37,8</td>
<td>18=51(3x17)</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>110</td>
<td></td>
<td>by 51(3x17) words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Gen 37,9</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>130</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Gen 37,10</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>153(9x17)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Gen 37,11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>160/160</td>
<td></td>
<td>This conclusion is made up of 26 letters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Gen 37,12</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>167</td>
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<td>§ 2 Jacob sends Joseph to his brothers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Gen 37,13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>181</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Gen 37,14</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>199</td>
<td></td>
<td>Note the 68 letters in v 14.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Gen 37,15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>209</td>
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<td>It is only the information given by the</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Gen 37,16</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>220</td>
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<td>stranger about the whereabouts of the</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Gen 37,17</td>
<td>15=26</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>235/75</td>
<td></td>
<td>brothers that is highlighted: 26 words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Gen 37,18</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>244</td>
<td></td>
<td>§ 3 Joseph in great danger in Dothan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Gen 37,19</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>253</td>
<td></td>
<td>The decision of the brothers to kill him</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Gen 37,20</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>267/32</td>
<td></td>
<td>is not specifically highlighted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Gen 37,21</td>
<td>8+</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>275</td>
<td></td>
<td>Note the 34 letters in vs 21 and 24.</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Gen 37,22</td>
<td>24+</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>299</td>
<td></td>
<td>However, Reuben’s proposal to save</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Gen 37,23</td>
<td>16+</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>315</td>
<td></td>
<td>Joseph’s life by letting him be thrown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Gen 37,24</td>
<td>9+</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>324</td>
<td></td>
<td>into a pit, as well as Judah’s suggestion</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Gen 37,25</td>
<td>19+</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>343</td>
<td></td>
<td>to sell Joseph to the Ishmaelites, is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Gen 37,26</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>356</td>
<td></td>
<td>highlighted by the 102 (6x17) words of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Gen 37,27</td>
<td>13(=26)=102</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>369/102(6x17)</td>
<td></td>
<td>these seven verses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Gen 37,28</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>389</td>
<td></td>
<td>§ 4 Joseph carried away to Egypt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Gen 37,29</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>400</td>
<td></td>
<td>The entire paragraph, Reuben’s reaction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Gen 37,30</td>
<td>10+</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>410</td>
<td></td>
<td>when he sees the empty pit and the</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Gen 37,31</td>
<td>11=52+</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>421</td>
<td></td>
<td>steps taken by the other brothers to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Gen 37,32</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>438</td>
<td></td>
<td>mislead Jacob is specifically highlighted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Gen 37,33</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>448</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jacob’s reaction, when he recognizes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Gen 37,34</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>459</td>
<td></td>
<td>Joseph’s robe, and his mourning for his</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Gen 37,35</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>477</td>
<td></td>
<td>son are not highlighted. Note, however,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Gen 37,36</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>487/118</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>the 68 (4x17) letters of v 35.</td>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>37,2-36</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>1935</td>
<td>487</td>
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</table>

Observation 1  The numerical features in Columns 3 and 6 are self-explanatory. In terms of verses and words, 23 of the 35 verses (66%) and 350 of the 487 words (72%) are governed by 17 and 26. For the additional numerical features of the dialogues and the narrative sections, see below.

The remark in v 36 about the sale of Joseph to Potiphar is a typical cliffhanger anticipating the story of Joseph and Potiphar’s wife in Chapter 39. The reader has to remain in suspense for a while because of the intermezzo in Chapter 38, the story of Judah and Tamar.
The Dialogues and Narrative in Section I, 37,2-36

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Joseph</th>
<th>Brothers</th>
<th>Jacob</th>
<th>Narrative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>68 (4x17)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22+</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7+</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12=34</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>A man 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>A man 7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19=26</td>
<td>Reuben</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4x</td>
<td>Reuben</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14=17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Observation 2  The most significant feature in terms of the dialogues and narrative is that Joseph’s brothers speak in total 78 (3x26) words: in vs 8-20 the brothers speak 26 words; in vs 21-22 Reuben speaks 17 words, and in the rest of the story Reuben and Judah, the two brothers who try to save Joseph, speak altogether 26 words. This means that 147 (78+26+17+26) of the 487 words (30%) are additionally governed by the two divine name numbers. The opening narrative (vs 2-5) has 68 (4x17) words and all narrative sections taken together (excluding the 38 words in the introductions) are made up of 272 (16x17) words.

Section II  38,1-30  The Story of Judah and Tamar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vss</th>
<th>Texts</th>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Letters</th>
<th>$יוליה$</th>
<th>Sum words</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gen 38,1</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>68</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gen 38,2</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Gen 38,3</td>
<td>7+</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>53</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gen 38,4</td>
<td>8+</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>66</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gen 38,5</td>
<td>12=51(3x17)</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>51/51</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Gen 38,6</td>
<td>7+</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>85</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gen 38,7</td>
<td>9+</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>67</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Gen 38,8</td>
<td>12+</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>124</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Gen 38,9</td>
<td>19+</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>161</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Gen 38,10</td>
<td>8+</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>106</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Gen 38,11</td>
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<td>84</td>
<td>130</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>18+</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>222</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Gen 38,13</td>
<td>9+</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>201</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Gen 38,14</td>
<td>24=130(5x26)</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>181/130</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Gen 38,15</td>
<td>7+</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>188</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Gen 38,16</td>
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<td>68</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Gen 38,17</td>
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<td>47</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Gen 38,19</td>
<td>8=68</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>249/68</td>
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<td>57</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>320</td>
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<td>16+</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>279</td>
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<td>22</td>
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<td>14+</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>293</td>
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<td>23</td>
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<td>14+</td>
<td>51</td>
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<td>17+</td>
<td>77</td>
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<td>25</td>
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<td>21+</td>
<td>80</td>
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<td>56</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Gen 38,27</td>
<td>6+</td>
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<td>52</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Gen 38,29</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>395</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Gen 38,30</td>
<td>10=156(6x26)</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>405/156</td>
<td>$17 and 26 constitute the number of letters!</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Observation 3  In this case the entire text, consisting of 405 words, is for 100% governed by multiples of 17 and 26 (51+130+68+156=405). This also goes for the number of letters: 1513 (89x17).

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The Dialogues and Narrative in Section II, 38,1-30

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Judah</th>
<th>Tamar e.a.</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>51</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>51</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
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<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>229+47</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Observation 4  A word count of the speeches and the narrative sections in Genesis 38 has shown that Judah speaks altogether 60 words, his friend 16. Judah’s string of 9 speeches is meticulously built up as follows: 9+8(=17)+5+4(=26)+6+5+12+2(=51(3x17))+9=60. The townspeople speak altogether 17 words, Tamar speaks 29 and the midwife 7, altogether 36 words.

For an earlier attempt to detect the numerical features of Genesis 38 and to explain its positioning and function within the Story of Joseph, see The Story of Judah and Tamar (2008).


Section III  39,1-23 Joseph and the Wife of Potiphar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vss</th>
<th>Texts</th>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Letters</th>
<th>Sum words</th>
<th>Contents and Structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gen 39,1</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>§ 1 YHWH is with Joseph and he prospers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gen 39,2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Gen 39,3</td>
<td>12+</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>2-3</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gen 39,4</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>he finds favour in Potiphar’s sight. Moreover,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gen 39,5</td>
<td>26=52(2x26)</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>4-5</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Gen 39,6</td>
<td>22+</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>§ 2 Potiphar’s wife tries to seduce Joseph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gen 39,7</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>115</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Gen 39,8</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>The entire paragraph is brought into the focus of attention by the fact that it is made</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Gen 39,9</td>
<td>22+</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>up of 153 (9x17) words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Gen 39,10</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>168</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Gen 39,11</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>181</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Gen 39,12</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>200</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Gen 39,13</td>
<td>8+</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>200</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Gen 39,14</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>220</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Gen 39,15</td>
<td>12=153(9x17)</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>232</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Gen 39,16</td>
<td>8+</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>§ 3 Accused of rape, he ends up in prison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Gen 39,17</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>As in the situation described in § 1, YHWH is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Gen 39,18</td>
<td>9+</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>with Joseph and makes him prosper.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Gen 39,19</td>
<td>17+</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>This is expressed by the fact that the entire paragraph (except v 22) is governed by 17 and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Gen 39,20</td>
<td>17+</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>26, which signify YHWH’s presence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Gen 39,21</td>
<td>13=78(3x26)</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Gen 39,22</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>330</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Gen 39,23</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>7-8</td>
<td>347 (§)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>39,1-23</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>1301</td>
<td>8x</td>
<td>347</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Observation 5  No less that 20 of the 23 verses (87%) and 300 of the 347 words (86%) are governed by the divine name numbers. The presence of YHWH in the events described in the text is additionally attested and underlined by the string of 8 of the in total 12 occurrences of the divine name in Part VII.

YHWH’s presence is additionally underscored by the assertion YHWH was with Joseph, which occurs 3x (vs 2, 21, and 23), in contrast with the 2 occurrences of the woman’s invitation lie with me (vs 7 and 12), marked in the Hebrew text below.
The Dialogues and Narrative in Section III, 39.1-23

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Joseph</th>
<th>The woman</th>
<th>Narrative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>239</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Observation 6 Contrary to what I found in Sections I and II, where most speeches are meticulously composed of the divine name numbers, the word count of the speeches and the narrative in Section III brings to light rather little of any significance: Joseph speaks 35 words and the woman 53, of which she speaks 26 to the men of the household (vs 14-15).
Section IV  40,1-23  Joseph Interprets the Dreams of the Butler and the Baker

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vss</th>
<th>Texts</th>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Letters</th>
<th>Sum words</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>Contents and Structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gen 40,1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td>§ 1 Joseph meets Pharaoh’s butler and baker in prison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gen 40,2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>23</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Gen 40,3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gen 40,4</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>48</td>
<td></td>
<td>Joseph is put in charge of the two prisoners, the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gen 40,5</td>
<td>19+</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>67</td>
<td></td>
<td>butler and the baker: both of them have a strange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Gen 40,6</td>
<td>8+</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>75</td>
<td></td>
<td>dream which troubles them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gen 40,7</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>89</td>
<td></td>
<td>Joseph sees that they are troubled and asks them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Gen 40,8</td>
<td>16=68(4x17)</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>105/105</td>
<td></td>
<td>to tell him their dreams.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Gen 40,9</td>
<td>12+</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>117</td>
<td></td>
<td>§ 2 The dream of the butler and Joseph’s interpretation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Gen 40,10</td>
<td>10+</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>127</td>
<td></td>
<td>Numerical value of אָהְלוֹמֵם: 8+12+6+13=39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Gen 40,11</td>
<td>17=39</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>144</td>
<td></td>
<td>The essential part of the dream: the butler presses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Gen 40,12</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>154</td>
<td></td>
<td>grapes, fills Pharaoh’s cup and puts it in his hand,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Gen 40,13</td>
<td>19+</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>173</td>
<td></td>
<td>as well as Joseph’s propitious interpretation and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Gen 40,14</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>191</td>
<td></td>
<td>his request to make mention of him to Pharaoh,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Gen 40,15</td>
<td>14=51(3x17)</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>205/100</td>
<td></td>
<td>(vs 11-15) are highlighted by 17+51 (4x17) words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Gen 40,16</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>223</td>
<td></td>
<td>§ 3 The dream of the baker and Joseph’s interpretation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Gen 40,17</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>237</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Gen 40,18</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>247</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Gen 40,19</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>264</td>
<td></td>
<td>The untoward part of Joseph’s interpretation is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Gen 40,20</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>286</td>
<td></td>
<td>highlighted: the baker will be hanged: 17 words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Gen 40,21</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>297</td>
<td></td>
<td>The dreams come true as interpreted by Joseph:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Gen 40,22</td>
<td>8+</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>305</td>
<td></td>
<td>the butler is restored and the baker is hanged. The</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

23  40,1-23  312(12x26)  1194  312 (12x26) |

Observation 7 The whole text is governed by the number 26 through its 312 (12x26) words. Additionally, 14 of the 23 verses (61%) and 179 of the 312 words (57%) are highlighted by 17 and 26.
The Dialogues and Narrative in Section IV, 40,1-23

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Joseph</th>
<th>Butler/Baker</th>
<th>Narrative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butler&amp;Baker</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butler</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baker</td>
<td>23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>92</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Observation 8 The butler and the baker speak altogether 59 words: 5 together (v 8) + 31 by the butler and 23 by the baker. Joseph speaks altogether 92 words.
## Section V 41,1-42,38 Joseph Rises from Slave to Governor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vss</th>
<th>Texts</th>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Letters</th>
<th>Sum words</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>Contents and Structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gen 41,1</td>
<td>10+</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td>§ 1 Pharaoh’s two dreams: the butler remembers Joseph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gen 41,2</td>
<td>12+</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Gen 41,3</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>40</td>
<td></td>
<td>The entire paragraph is highlighted by 170 words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gen 41,4</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>54</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gen 41,5</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Gen 41,6</td>
<td>8+</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>73</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gen 41,7</td>
<td>12+</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>85</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Gen 41,8</td>
<td>22+</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>107</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Gen 41,9</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>118</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Gen 41,10</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>132</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Gen 41,11</td>
<td>10+ 10+</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>142</td>
<td></td>
<td>The butler tells Pharaoh about the Hebrew slave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Gen 41,12</td>
<td>16+ 16=26</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>158</td>
<td></td>
<td>who interpret dreams: highlighted by 26 words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Gen 41,13</td>
<td>12=170(10x17)</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>170/170</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Gen 41,14</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>184</td>
<td></td>
<td>§ 2 The dreams interpreted: their consequences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Gen 41,15</td>
<td>17+</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>201</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Gen 41,16</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>212</td>
<td></td>
<td>Except for two verses (18 and 36) the entire paragraph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Gen 41,17</td>
<td>10=52(2x26)</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>222</td>
<td></td>
<td>Is highlighted by another 52 + 52 + 170 words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Gen 41,18</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>234</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Gen 41,19</td>
<td>19+</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>253</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Gen 41,20</td>
<td>9+</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>262</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Gen 41,21</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>276</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Gen 41,22</td>
<td>10=52(2x26)</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>286</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Gen 41,23</td>
<td>9+</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>295</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Gen 41,24</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>V 25 where Joseph tells Pharaoh that God has told</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Gen 41,25</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>322</td>
<td></td>
<td>him what he is about to do is specifically highlighted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Gen 41,26</td>
<td>15+</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>337</td>
<td></td>
<td>by having 52 (2x26) letters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Gen 41,27</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>355</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Gen 41,28</td>
<td>12+</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>367</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Gen 41,29</td>
<td>9+</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>376</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Gen 41,30</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>390</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Gen 41,31</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>403</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Gen 41,32</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>417</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Gen 41,33</td>
<td>10+</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>427</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Gen 41,34</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>440</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Gen 41,36</td>
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<td>41,9-36 has altogether 364 (14x26) words.</td>
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<td>7+</td>
<td>31</td>
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<td>§ 3 Pharaoh praises Joseph and makes him his Governor</td>
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<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Gen 41,38</td>
<td>11+  11+</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>489</td>
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<td>Because God is with Joseph, Pharaoh regards him as</td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>Gen 41,39</td>
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<td>incomparable when it comes to wisdom: 26 words.</td>
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<td>15+</td>
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<td>44</td>
<td>Gen 41,44</td>
<td>17+</td>
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<td>Pharaoh endows Joseph with excessive power: 17 words.</td>
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<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Gen 41,46</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>618</td>
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<td>§ 4 Joseph (30 years old) makes a tour of inspection</td>
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<td>47</td>
<td>Gen 41,47</td>
<td>6+</td>
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<td>Joseph inspects the country and during the 7 years of</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>Gen 41,48</td>
<td>20=26</td>
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<td>plenty, he stores the food in the cities: 17 + 26 words.</td>
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<td>14+</td>
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<td>50</td>
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<td>59</td>
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<td>Two sons are born to Joseph by Asenath, the daughter of</td>
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<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Gen 41,51</td>
<td>16+  16+</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>691</td>
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<td>Potiphera; he names them Manasseh and Ephraim, which is in</td>
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<td>Gen 41,52</td>
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<td>32</td>
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<td>54</td>
<td>Gen 41,54</td>
<td>17+</td>
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<td>Famine elsewhere, but sufficient bread in Egypt: 17words</td>
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<td>Vs 49-55 have altogether 102 (6x17) words.</td>
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<td>84</td>
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</table>

### Observation 9
In terms of verses and words, 78 of the 95 verses (82%) and 1039 of the 1304 words (80%) are governed by the numbers 17 and 26. In the entire section the passages about crucial events and situations are additionally highlighted by 17 or 26 words (or their multiples).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Pharaoh</th>
<th>Joseph</th>
<th>Butler</th>
<th>Narrative</th>
</tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

The Dialogues and Narrative in Section V, 41.1-42.38: first part, 41.1-57

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Observation 10  The word count of Chapter 41 does not yield anything that is significant about the twelve speeches and the narrative: Pharaoh’s 7 speeches have 163 words; Joseph’s 4 speeches (including the 2 interior monologues in vs 51 and 52) have 180 words, while the chief butler’s speech has 57 words; the narrative sections contain 389 words. The speeches have altogether 400 words.

The Dialogues and Narrative in Section V, 41,1-42,38: second part: 42,1-38

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brothers</th>
<th>Jacob</th>
<th>Joseph</th>
<th>Narrative</th>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>180</td>
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<td>333</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Observation 11 In Genesis 42 the narrative parts, including the introductions, have 226 words. Joseph speaks 84 words and Jacob 52 (2x26); the brothers speak 166 words. Joseph and his brothers speak altogether 84+166=250 words. Moreover, in vs 10-11, the brothers speak 17 words, and also in v 13; in v 22 17 words are devoted to Reuben’s speaking (13+4).
In Genesis 41 the dialogues have altogether 400 words; in Genesis 42 they amount to 302, which means that in total 400+302=702 (27x26) words are spoken in Section V.
Section VI  43,1-44,17 Joseph’s Brothers Visit Egypt Again

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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gen 43,1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>P  § 1 To can buy more corn, Benjamin must go too</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gen 43,2</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Jacob sends his sons to buy more corn: 17 words.</td>
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<td>Gen 43,4</td>
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<td>Gen 43,6</td>
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<td>38</td>
<td>70</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gen 43,7</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>The brothers’ first rejoinder: 26 words.</td>
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<td>Gen 43,8</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>73</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Gen 43,9</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>and the consent given unknowingly by the brothers</td>
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<td>that the ‘thief’ should become Joseph’s slave are</td>
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<td>161</td>
<td>all specifically highlighted by 102 (6x17) words.</td>
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<td>175</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Gen 43,13</td>
<td>7+</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>This dramatic episode is made up of 26 letters.</td>
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<td>Gen 43,14</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>69</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Gen 43,15</td>
<td>17=102(6x17)</td>
<td>75</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Gen 43,16</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>§ 2 The brothers are taken to Joseph’s house</td>
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<td>354</td>
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<td>and having their gifts ready is highlighted by 26 words.</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>391</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Gen 43,28</td>
<td>8+</td>
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<td>399</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Gen 43,29</td>
<td>19+</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>Benjamin, his emotions, and the final test the brothers</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Gen 43,30</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>53</td>
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<td>have to endure, is highlighted by 68 (4x17) words.</td>
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<td>Gen 43,31</td>
<td>7+</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Gen 43,32</td>
<td>21=68(4x17)</td>
<td>87</td>
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<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Gen 43,33</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>The seating order at the table and the preferential</td>
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<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Gen 43,34</td>
<td>15=26</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>485/118</td>
<td>treatment of Benjamin is highlighted by 26 words.</td>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Gen 44,1</td>
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<td>70</td>
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<td>§ 4 Joseph’s trick with the silver goblet</td>
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<td>23</td>
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<td>Gen 44,5</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Gen 44,6</td>
<td>6+</td>
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<td>Gen 44,7</td>
<td>12+</td>
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<td>to accuse the brothers of the theft of his silver goblet,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Gen 44,8</td>
<td>17+</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>597</td>
<td>their fruitless rejoinder and the discovery of the</td>
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<td>43</td>
<td>Gen 44,9</td>
<td>10+</td>
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<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Gen 44,10</td>
<td>15+</td>
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<td>622</td>
<td>words so as to bring it into special focus of attention.</td>
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<td>Gen 44,11</td>
<td>9+</td>
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<td>Gen 44,12</td>
<td>9+</td>
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<td>47</td>
<td>Gen 44,13</td>
<td>8+</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>648</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>Gen 44,14</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>659</td>
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<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Gen 44,15</td>
<td>16+</td>
<td>58</td>
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<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Gen 44,16</td>
<td>24+</td>
<td>93</td>
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<td>51</td>
<td>Gen 44,17</td>
<td>19=156 (6x26)</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>718/233</td>
<td>P  Note that 156 also represents the decimal value of</td>
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<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Gen 43,1-44,17</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>2896</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>the name אֲנָשׁ: 10+6+60+80=156.</td>
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</table>
Observation 12  Section V is a distinct literary entity consisting of 51 (3x17) verses, through which it is rounded off and sealed. This is underlined by the fact that they divide into 34 verses in §§1-3 (43,1-34) and 17 verses in §4 (44,1-17). The end of the section is clearly marked by the Masoretic layout marker Petuchah, which indicates a crucial turning point in the storyline. See page 1 above.

In terms of verses and words, 35 of the 51 verses (69%) and 498 of the 718 words (68%) are governed by 17 and 26. Special care has been taken to make up groups of their multiples: 102, 68 (2x), and 156 words.

Note the conspicuously similar use of 68 and 26 words to highlight the dramatic episodes in §§ 2 and 3!

The Dialogues and Narrative in Section VI, 43,1-44,17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Jacob</th>
<th>Joseph</th>
<th>Narrative</th>
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<td>59</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

© 2013 Casper J. Labuschagne The Toledoth of Jacob  labuschagne.cj@gmail.com — rev 07/09/13 7:10 PM
Observation 13 In 43.1-44.17 the narrative sections have 293 words; the brothers (plural): 121 words. Judah: 95 words, Jacob: 72 words, and Joseph (and his steward): 138 words (124+14). This means that the words in the dialogues amount altogether to 215+72+138=425 (25x17)! In the narrative sections three dramatic episodes are specifically highlighted by 17 words: the narrative section about the brothers being brought into the house of Joseph (43.17-18), the passage in which is told that Joseph yearns for Benjamin and weeps in the inner room (43.30-31), and the passage dealing with the sending away of the brothers (44.2b-3).
Section VII 44,18-46,7 Jacob and his Household Emigrate to Egypt

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vss</th>
<th>Texts</th>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Letters</th>
<th>Sum words</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>Contents and Structure</th>
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<td>Gen 44,18</td>
<td>19+</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>19</td>
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<td>Judah’s masterly speech, criticizing the Governor</td>
</tr>
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<td>Gen 44,19</td>
<td>10+</td>
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<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Gen 44,20</td>
<td>18+ 18+</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>Special attention is directed to Judah’s objection to Joseph’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gen 44,21</td>
<td>8+ 8=26</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>demand that Benjamin should come to Egypt and what that</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gen 44,22</td>
<td>13+ 13+</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>would mean for their old father: 26+26 words (vs 20-23).</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Gen 44,23</td>
<td>13+ 13=26</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Gen 44,24</td>
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<td>36</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Gen 44,25</td>
<td>7+</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Gen 44,26</td>
<td>20=119(7x17)</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>119(7x17)</td>
<td>Vs 18-26 are entirely governed by their 119 (7x17) words.</td>
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<td>Gen 44,30</td>
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<td>Judah insists that Joseph’s stipulation that Benjamin must</td>
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<td>Gen 44,31</td>
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<td>come to Egypt would be fatal for their old father.</td>
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<td>Moreover, because Judah can never return to his father</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Gen 44,33</td>
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<td>without Benjamin, he is prepared to remain in his place in</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Gen 44,34</td>
<td>15=68(4x17)</td>
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<td>222</td>
<td>Egypt as his lordship’s slave: 68 (4x17) words.</td>
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<td>Gen 45,1</td>
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<td>Joseph reveals his identity: reconciliation at last!</td>
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<td>Gen 45,2</td>
<td>9+</td>
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<td>Gen 45,3</td>
<td>17+</td>
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<td>268</td>
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<td>The greater part of this paragraph is (vs 1-10) is highlighted</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Gen 45,4</td>
<td>16+</td>
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<td>284</td>
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<td>by 153 (9x17) words, which corresponds exactly with the</td>
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<td>Gen 45,5</td>
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<td>153 words spoken by Joseph – see the Hebrew text below.</td>
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<td>Gen 45,6</td>
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<td>The gist of Joseph’s speech is that it is God who has made</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Gen 45,7</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>323</td>
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<td>him Pharaoh’s right hand and Governor of Egypt, and that he</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Gen 45,8</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>341</td>
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<td>invites his father to come to Egypt with all that he has and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Gen 45,9</td>
<td>19+</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>360</td>
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<td>settle in Goshen, where care will be taken of him and his</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Gen 45,10</td>
<td>15=153(9x17)</td>
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<td>375</td>
<td>household by him personally as the ruler of all Egypt.</td>
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<td>Gen 45,11</td>
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<td>Gen 45,13</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>Pharaoh endorses Joseph’s invitation to Jacob</td>
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<td>Pharaoh’s pledge is highlighted by 17 words.</td>
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<td>496</td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>Gen 45,22</td>
<td>13+</td>
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<td>536</td>
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<td>Joseph’s gifts to his brothers and the provisions he sends for</td>
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<td>Gen 45,23</td>
<td>16+</td>
<td>68</td>
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<td>his father’s journey to Egypt are specifically brought into the</td>
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<td>Gen 45,24</td>
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<td>focus of attention: 85 (5x17) words.</td>
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<td>Gen 45,25</td>
<td>8+ 8=8+</td>
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<td>Special emphasis is laid on the return of the brothers to</td>
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<td>Gen 45,26</td>
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<td>Canaan and how Jacob reacts to the good news: 26 words.</td>
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<td>Gen 45,27</td>
<td>21=85(5x17)</td>
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<td>45</td>
<td>Gen 45,28</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>619</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Gen 46,1</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>632</td>
<td>$4</td>
<td>Jacob sets out for Egypt with all that he has</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Gen 46,2</td>
<td>10+</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>642</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Gen 46,3</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>656</td>
<td></td>
<td>Being highlighted by 85 (5x17) words strong emphasis is laid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Gen 46,4</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>669</td>
<td></td>
<td>on God’s encouraging words and the promises given to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Gen 46,5</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>689</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jacob in a vision by night, and on the fact that Jacob takes all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Gen 46,6</td>
<td>15=85(5x17)</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>704</td>
<td>his descendants with him to Egypt.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Gen 46,7</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>716</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Observation 14 This section is made up of 52 (2x26) verses. Together with Section V, with its 51 (3x17) verses, it occupies pride of place at the centre of Part VII. See page 1 above.

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The Dialogues and Narrative in Section VII, 44:18-46:7

Judah  | Joseph  | Pharaoh  | God  | Narrative
---|---|---|---|---
44:18 |  |  |  | 3 1

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The most striking feature is that Joseph speaks altogether 153 (9x17) words.

When God reveals himself to Jacob and encourages him to go to Egypt, he speaks 26 words. The symbolic significance of this is that God will be present in Jacob’s life in Egypt as he has been in the life of Joseph.
Section VIII 46,8-27 Jacob’s Descendants Who Emigrated to Egypt

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vss</th>
<th>Texts</th>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Lett</th>
<th>Sum w</th>
<th>Contents and Structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gen 46,8</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>These are the descendants of Jacob who came into Egypt:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gen 46,9</td>
<td>6-17</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Reuben, Enoch, Pulla, Hezron, Carmi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Gen 46,10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Simeon, Lemuel, Jamin, Ohad, Jachin, Pohar, Saul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gen 46,11</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Levi, Gershon, Kohath, Merari</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gen 46,12</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>Judah, Er, Onan, Shelah, Perez, Zerah, + Hezron, Hamul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Gen 46,13</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Issachar, Tola, Pua, Job, Shimron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gen 46,14</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Zebulun, Sered, Elon, Jahleel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Gen 46,15</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>Together with his daughter Dinah 33 descendants born by Leah to Jacob.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Gen 46,16</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>Gad, Ziphion, Haggii, Shuni, Ezbon, Eli, Ardi, Areli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Gen 46,17</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>Asher, Imnah, Ishvah, Ishvi, Beriah, sister Serah, Heber, Malchiel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Gen 46,18</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>These are the 16 descendants born by Zilpah to Jacob.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Gen 46,19</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>The sons born by Rachel to Jacob: Joseph and Benjamin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Gen 46,20</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>Joseph, Manasseh, Efraim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Gen 46,21</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>Benjamin, Bela, Becher, Ashevi, [and the sons of Bela were] - see BHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Gen 46,22</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>Gera, Waaman, Ehi, Rosh, Muppim, Huppim, Ard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Gen 46,23</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>The son of Dan, Hushim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Gen 46,24</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>Naphtali, Jahzeel, Guni, Jezer, Shillem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Gen 46,25</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>These are the 7 descendants born by Bilhah to Jacob. 182 = 7x26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Gen 46,26</td>
<td>15+</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>Vs 26-27 stand apart as a concluding enumeration of Jacob’s descendants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Gen 46,27</td>
<td>15-30</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>totalling 70 persons. Klara Eikelboom drew my attention to the striking fact</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Martin Noth has suggested to insert 3 words, ידידיה הנכasersא, ‘and the sons of Bela were’, in light of LXX and 1 Chron 8,3. However, in my view, this is completely superfluous, since it is evident that what follows are the names of Bela’s seven sons. In v 17 Beriah’s sons are indeed introduced by the words ‘and the sons of Belah’, but for some reason (presumably logotechnical) the author/redactor did not deem it necessary to repeat the introductory phrase here.

**Observation 16** The enumeration of Jacob’s descendants (46,8-25) is made up of 182 (7x26) words, by which it is strongly highlighted. Significantly enough, it has exactly the same number of words used for the Levitical Descent of Moses and Aaron (Exod 6,14-28)! Compare page 19 in the analysis of Exodus 1,1-15,21.

What meets the eye immediately is that there are four specifically highlighted passages, each consisting of 17 words: vs 8-9, v 12, v 15, and v 20. The purpose of the highlighting is to bring Reuben, Judah, Daughter Dinah, and Joseph specifically into the limelight.

**Reuben** is specifically focused on because he is the eldest son and potential successor to Jacob, but more particularly, because of the crucial role he played to save Joseph’s life and to let Jacob emigrate to Egypt.

**Judah** is brought into the limelight for the role he played in his turn to save Joseph’s life and to enable Jacob/Israel to emigrate to Egypt. Moreover, he qualifies as the second logical successor to Jacob.

**Joseph** is given special attention because of the pre-eminent position he attained in Egypt, his crucial role in the emigration of Jacob/Israel to Egypt and the measures taken by him to facilitate Israel’s settlement. Therefore he qualifies as the third logical successor to Jacob.

For a recent indepth study of the succession question, see Benedikt Hensel’s dissertation cited in Observation 4 above. Most strikingly, **Levi** receives no special attention, but this can be explained primarily in light of his disqualification (together with Simeon) in connection with the rape of Dinah and its bloody aftermath.

Another reason for the fact that he is left out of special consideration in this context is that the author knew that he will get adequate attention in the book of Exodus as the ancestor of Moses and Aaron.

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Daughter Dinah is specifically highlighted by 17 words not only because she is the only daughter of Jacob mentioned here – he had other daughters (see 37,35 and 46,7) – but also due to her (passive!) role in the disqualification of Simeon and Levi as potential successors to Jacob. Compare Benedikt Hensel, p. 196.

In the storyline, Section VIII functions as an intermezzo before the narrative about Israel’s stay in Goshen.

Section IX 46,28-47,31 The Israelites in Goshen: Joseph’s Land Reforms

Sections IX-XII, 46,28-50,26, are a close-knit literary entity consisting of 119 (7x17) verses by which they are finalized and sealed. They deal specifically with the sojourn of the Israelites in Goshen. See page 1 above.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vss</th>
<th>Texts</th>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Letters</th>
<th>Sum words</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gen 46,28</td>
<td>12+</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>§ 1 God speaks to Jacob at Beer-sheba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gen 46,29</td>
<td>17+ 17</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Joseph sets out to meet his father: 17 words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Gen 46,30</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gen 46,31</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>The entire paragraph is highlighted by 170 words,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gen 46,32</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>which stresses the importance of the measures taken by</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Gen 46,33</td>
<td>8+</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>Joseph to get his family settled in Goshen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gen 46,34</td>
<td>22+</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>105</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Gen 47,1</td>
<td>18+ 18+</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>Especially emphasized is the fact that Joseph introduces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Gen 47,2</td>
<td>8+ 8=26</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>five of his brothers to Pharaoh: 26 words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Gen 47,3</td>
<td>16+</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>147</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Gen 47,4</td>
<td>23=170</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>170/170</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Gen 47,5</td>
<td>9+</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>§ 2 Pharaoh tells Joseph to settle Israel in Goshen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Gen 47,6</td>
<td>26+ 26</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>This is a royal resolution! - highlighted by 26 words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Gen 47,7</td>
<td>12+</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>The entire paragraph is highlighted by 153 (9x17) words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Gen 47,8</td>
<td>8+</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>words, which stresses the personal contact between</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Gen 47,9</td>
<td>25+</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>Pharaoh and Jacob (130 [5x26] years old!) and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Gen 47,10</td>
<td>7+</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>the fact that Joseph gives his family a possession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Gen 47,11</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>in Egypt as Pharaoh has commanded.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Gen 47,12</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>He provides them with food and gathers up money</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Gen 47,13</td>
<td>15+</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>in Egypt and Canaan to finance his land reforms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Gen 47,14</td>
<td>20=153(9x17)</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>323/153(9x17)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Gen 47,15</td>
<td>21+</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>§ 3 He gives Egypt food in exchange for cattle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Gen 47,16</td>
<td>10+</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>354</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Gen 47,17</td>
<td>21=52(2x26)</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>52 words are used to highlight this measure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Gen 47,18</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>403</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Gen 47,19</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>428/105</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Gen 47,20</td>
<td>19+</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>447</td>
<td>§ 4 Joseph’s revolutionary land reforms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Gen 47,21</td>
<td>10+</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>Once again 52 words to highlight the buying of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Gen 47,22</td>
<td>23=52(2x26)</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>land for Pharaoh of which he is now the owner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Gen 47,23</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>497</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Gen 47,24</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>513</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Gen 47,25</td>
<td>9+</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>522</td>
<td>The last 7 verses are highlighted by 104 words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Gen 47,26</td>
<td>19+</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>The Egyptians willingly become Pharaoh’s slaves!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Gen 47,27</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>Joseph makes a statute concerning the land.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Gen 47,28</td>
<td>17+ 17</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>569</td>
<td>Jacob lived 17 years in Egypt: 17 words!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Gen 47,29</td>
<td>27+</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>596</td>
<td>His death draws near and he urges Joseph to bury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Gen 47,30</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>607</td>
<td>him in Canaan, in the burying place of his fathers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Gen 47,31</td>
<td>10=104(4x26)</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>617/189</td>
<td>P Joseph promises and swears to do so.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

46,28-47,31 617 2399 617

Observation 17 The numerical features are self-explanatory. The significance of the fact that Jacob lived 17 years in Egypt (47,28) is to symbolize that he is accompanied by YHWH’s presence in his last years. These 17 years are added to Jacob’s age of 130 years when he meets Pharaoh (47,9) to achieve his lifespan of 147 years which is specifically mentioned here in 47,28. For the intriguing question of the lifespans of the Patriarchs, see Observation 16 in my analysis of Part V, 25,12-35,29.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Israel and his sons</th>
<th>Joseph</th>
<th>Pharaoh and the Egyptians</th>
<th>Narrative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4/36</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>(2x26)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Observation 18 Numerically, there is nothing significant except that the narrative in vs 20-22 is made up of 52 (2x26) words dealing with Joseph’s statute concerning the land reforms and the prosperous sojourn of the Israelites in Goshen where they gain possessions and multiply exceedingly. This sets the stage for the Story of the Exodus against the backdrop of the Egyptians (ironically!) living in poverty and slavery, while the Israelites live in prosperity and freedom.

Section X 48,1-22 The Ailing Jacob Blesses Joseph’s Sons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vss</th>
<th>Texts</th>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Letters</th>
<th>Sum words</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gen 48,1</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>§ 1 Joseph brings his sons to Isaac to be adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gen 48,2</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Vs 1—2 are highlighted by 68 and 51 letters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Gen 48,3</td>
<td>13=26</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>Vs 2-3 are highlighted by 26 words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gen 48,4</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gen 48,5</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Gen 48,6</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gen 48,7</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>111/111</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Gen 48,8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>§ 2 Jacob blesses Joseph through his sons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Gen 48,9</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>135</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Gen 48,10</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>149</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Gen 48,11</td>
<td>15+</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>This episode about Israel expressing his joy to see</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Gen 48,12</td>
<td>8+</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>Joseph’s sons and his deliberate gesture to cross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Gen 48,13</td>
<td>16+</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>his hands in order to bless the two boys, as well as</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Gen 48,14</td>
<td>21+</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>the first part of the blessing (v 15), is highlighted by</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Gen 48,15</td>
<td>18=78(3x26)</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>78 (3x26) words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Gen 48,16</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>246/135</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Gen 48,17</td>
<td>23+</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>§ 3 He upholds his decision and blesses them again</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Gen 48,18</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>283</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Gen 48,19</td>
<td>22+</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>The entire paragraph is highlighted by its 104 (4x26)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Gen 48,20</td>
<td>17+</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>words in order to express the divine approval of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Gen 48,21</td>
<td>15+</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>Israel’s decision to put Ephraim before Manasseh.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Gen 48,22</td>
<td>13-104(4x26)</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>350/104</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Observation 19 In Section X, 13 of the 22 verses (59%) and 208 of the 350 words (59%) are highlighted by the number 26. Jacob’s blessing of Joseph’s two sons does not only show his preference for the Joseph tribes, but also anticipates the testamentary blessing for his own sons (Chapter 49).

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The Dialogues and Narrative in Section X, 48,1-22

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jacob and a Messenger (5)</th>
<th>Joseph and a Messenger (3)</th>
<th>Narrative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2+</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4+</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11=17</td>
<td></td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33+</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19=52</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (5)+177</td>
<td>Total (3)+17</td>
<td>Total 31+177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>182</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Observation 20 Jacob and the messenger speak altogether 182 (7x26) words (5+177), of which Jacob speaks 17 to Joseph (vs 8-11) and 52 (2x26) in connection with the blessing for Joseph (vs 15-16 and 19). Joseph and the messenger speak altogether 20 words, of which Joseph speaks 17.
Section XI 49,1-26 Jacob’s Testamentary Blessing for his Sons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vss</th>
<th>Texts</th>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Letters</th>
<th>סדר</th>
<th>Sum words</th>
<th>P/S</th>
<th>Contents and Structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gen 49,1</td>
<td>14= 5 + 9+</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Headings: 5 words</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gen 49,2</td>
<td>8=17</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Jacob summons his sons: 17 words.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Gen 49,3</td>
<td>10+</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Blessing for Reuben: 22 words</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gen 49,4</td>
<td>12=22</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>44/44</td>
<td>P</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gen 49,5</td>
<td>6+</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Blessing for Simeon and Levi: 32 words</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Gen 49,6</td>
<td>15+ 15+</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Their fury and ruthlessness are stressed: 26 words.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gen 49,7</td>
<td>11=32 11=26</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>76/32</td>
<td>S</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Gen 49,8</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>Blessing for Judah: 55 words</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Gen 49,9</td>
<td>12+ 12+</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>Judah’s qualities as a leader is specifically highlighted by 26 words.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Gen 49,10</td>
<td>14+ 14=26</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>S</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Gen 49,11</td>
<td>12+</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>125</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Gen 49,12</td>
<td>6+</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>131/55</td>
<td>P</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Gen 49,13</td>
<td>10+</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>Blessing for Zebulon: 10 words</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Gen 49,14</td>
<td>6+</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>Blessing for Issachar: 20 words</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Gen 49,15</td>
<td>14=85(5x17)</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>161/85</td>
<td>S</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Gen 49,16</td>
<td>6+</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>Blessings for Dan: 23 words</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Gen 49,17</td>
<td>14+ 14+</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>His negative qualities are highlighted: 17 words.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Gen 49,18</td>
<td>3=23 3=17</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>184</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Gen 49,19</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Blessings for Gad: 6 words</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Gen 49,20</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Blessings for Asher: 7 words</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Gen 49,21</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Blessings for Naphtali: 6 words</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Gen 49,22</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>Blessing for Joseph: 61 words</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Gen 49,23</td>
<td>5+ 5+</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>The survival of Joseph, who has been fiercely attacked, is specifically highlighted: 34 words.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Gen 49,24</td>
<td>13+ 13+</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>Note the 34, 26, and 52 letters!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Gen 49,25</td>
<td>16+ 16=34</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>248</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Gen 49,26</td>
<td>16=61</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>P</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Observation 21 The passage about the blessings for the eleven brothers are clearly delimited by the layout markers. Most intriguingly, the blessing for Benjamin (v 27) is detached from that of his brothers by the strong layout marker P which should absolutely not be ignored. The delimitation is underscored by the fact that the passage (without Benjamin!) is composed of 26 verses which makes it a distinct literary entity. Moreover, verse 27 is structurally and numerically part and parcel of the first paragraph (49,27-33) of Section XI, which is another distinct unit with its 7 verses and 104 (4x26) words – see below. As a matter of fact, the detachment of Benjamin is perfectly in line with his ‘detached’ position in the Toledoth of Jacob! The blessings for Judah, Zebulon, and Issachar (vs 8-15) are made up of altogether 85 (5x17) words, by which this passage is specifically highlighted in order to stress the prominent status of these three sons. The significant highlighting of other sections of the text is explained in the last column. For the logotechnical analysis of Genesis 49 in its context, see my article The Last Words of Jacob.

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Section XII 49,27-50,26 The Death of Jacob and Joseph

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vss</th>
<th>Texts</th>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Letters</th>
<th>Sum words</th>
<th>Contents and Structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gen 49,27</td>
<td>9+</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>§ 1 Jacob orders his sons to bury him in Canaan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gen 49,28</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>&quot;All these are the 12 tribes of Israel&quot;, that is to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Gen 49,29</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>say, including Benjamin as the 12th son!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gen 49,30</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Jacob's last command to his sons, that he should</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Gen 49,31</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>be buried in Canaan, in the cave of Machpelah,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Gen 49,32</td>
<td>8+</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>and his death are brought into the focus of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Gen 49,33</td>
<td>13=104(4x26)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>104/104</td>
<td>attention by 7 verses and 104 (4x26) words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Gen 50,1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>§ 2 Jacob’s body is embalmed and duely buried</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Gen 50,2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>126</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Gen 50,3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>140</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Gen 50,4</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>159</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Gen 50,5</td>
<td>21+</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>Joseph’s request to Pharaoh for permission to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Gen 50,6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>bury his father in Canaan as well as Pharaoh’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Gen 50,7</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>consent and the fact that a very great number of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Gen 50,8</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>people accompanied Joseph on his mission are</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Gen 50,9</td>
<td>10=68</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>all highlighted by 68 (4x17) words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Gen 50,10</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>245</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Gen 50,11</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>267</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Gen 50,12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>273</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Gen 50,13</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>296</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Gen 50,14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>311/207</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Gen 50,15</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>§ 3 The brothers are reconciled and Joseph dies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Gen 50,16</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>339</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Gen 50,17</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>362</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Gen 50,18</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>371</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Gen 50,19</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>Note the 34, 34, and 51 letters!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Gen 50,20</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>394</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Gen 50,21</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>407/96</td>
<td>§ 4 Epilogue: Joseph’s last words and wishes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Gen 50,22</td>
<td>11+</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>418</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Gen 50,23</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>Joseph lived 110 years and saw his grandchildren.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Gen 50,24</td>
<td>22+</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>454</td>
<td>He comforts his brothers and lets them swear that</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Gen 50,25</td>
<td>14+</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>468</td>
<td>they will carry his bones to Canaan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Gen 50,26</td>
<td>11=85(5x17)</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>479/72</td>
<td>The Epilogue is made up of 72 (5x17) words,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Gen 50,27-50,26</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>1806</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>which is very appropriate, for 72 represents the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>448</td>
<td>37.2-50,26</td>
<td>6211</td>
<td>23989</td>
<td>12x6211</td>
<td>numerical value of יִתְנָהוֹן יִתְנָהוֹןי 22+6+12+4+6+22=72.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1534</td>
<td>1.1-50,26</td>
<td>20613</td>
<td>78069</td>
<td>165x826</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Observation 23 Vs 21-26 have 85 (5x17) words. For the compositional technique to begin and conclude a book with a number of words that are a multiple of 17 or 26 (Genesis, Exodus, and Deuteronomy), see page 3 of the Introduction. However, there is more to it: the eleven Toledoths are concluded by 72 words functioning as an inclusion together with the 72 verses of the first Toledoth! The computer-assisted verse count in Genesis yields 1533 verses. In the Masoretic tradition, however, as noted at the end of Genesis, there are 1534 verses, which is 59x26. The extra verse was achieved by splitting 35,22 (undoubtedly for good reasons!) by means of a Petuchah into 22a and 22b.

Observation 24 Significantly enough, the name YHWH appears only 12x in the Toledoth of Jacob, in 38,7,10 (3x), in 39,2,3,5,21,23 (8x), and in 49,8 (1x). The last occurrence before 49,8 is to be found in 32,10, which is the 153rd (9x17) instance from the beginning. The absence of the name YHWH in the rest of the Joseph story (40-50, except for 49,8) can be explained as a conscious decision to curtail the use of the name in order to pave the way for the revelation of the name in the book of Exodus.

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## The Dialogues and Narrative in Section XII, 49,27-50,26

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jacob and Sons</th>
<th>Joseph Pharaoh People</th>
<th>Narrative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>49+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td>3=52</td>
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Observation 25 The words in the introductions amount altogether to 26.

The passage about Jacob’s death and Joseph’s reaction to it (49.33-50.4) is made up of 52 (2x26) words. Jacob and his eleven sons speak in total 108 words (69+39) and Pharaoh and the people 10 words (6+4).

Joseph speaks altogether 85 (5x17) words, of which 26 are spoken in connection with his nearing death (50.24) and what he wants his brothers to do with his bones (50.25b).

Joseph speaks 153 (9x17) words in Section IX, 17 in Section X, and 85 (5x17) in Section XII.

Most intriguing to see is that his name occurs 156x in Genesis, which is a multiple of 26 (6x26), and at the same time the decimal value of הָנִית: 10+6+60+80=156.

In the storyline, Joseph’s lifespan of 110 years are divided into 17 years he lived in Canaan (37,2), 13 years he lived in Egypt before he entered the service of Pharaoh at the age of 30 years (41,46), and 80 years he spent in prosperity and a powerful position. For an explanation of his lifespan, see Observation 17 above.