

80⁵ Ch.18 is a completely intact section from E. This is especially true of 18.13-27, cf. $\text{D}^{\text{775}}\chi$ in vss. 15,16,19 (three-times), 21,23, and the parallels in Numbers 11.16f, 24-30. The same holds true for 18.1-12, cf. the contradiction of 18.2-6 to 4.20,24-26, 2.22. However, in the first half of the chapter, the completely unmotivated and the very noticeable change in the names of God as contrasted to 18.13ff appears strange. Similarly, the names YHWH and Elohim , while it is only called Elohim from vs.13 on. Further, a duplicate can be recognized plainly in vs.10: "who has saved you from the hand of the ^{ians} Egypt/ and Pharaoh, who has saved the people from ^{under} the hand of the Egyptians." Likewise in vs.1: "Jethro heard what Elohim had done for Moses and Israel, that Yahweh had led Israel out of Egypt (where Elohim and Yahweh are corroborated together)." After that, one is denied to also maintain the combination of vs.8, especially because the entire passage in vss. 8-10 suffers from overfilling. It seems that the Jehovist in 18.1-12 has displaced the report in E with passages borrowed from elsewhere. To his personal account the harmonistic Elohim in vs.2 should probably be given, as well as inserting the etymology of Gershom either here according to 2.22 or more probably there according to our present passage. It is doubtful, especially with respect to vss. 13-27, whether ch.18 stands here in its correct place. Now, it is certainly true that the coherence here is completely superficial, provincial, the sections being joined loosely to each other, and it makes no difference internally whether the (also in their contents greatly similar) accounts of the march through the wilderness in Ex.17 or Numbers 20, Ex.16,18 or Num.11 are narrated. However, it