What Yehovah Speaks we will do - Part 2

The next word we will look at is tzavah. It is a verb from the stem room (Tzadie-Vav-Hey). It is reference number 6680 and found in the NEHC on page 1065-1068 and in the BDB on page 845. It has the meaning a command.

Piel form of the verb

Bereshit/Genesis 3:11,17

11 Then He asked, “Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat of the tree from which I had forbidden you to eat?”
17 To Adam He said, “Because you did as your wife said and ate of the tree about which I commanded you (tzivitiykha נָפָלְתָּ, ‘You shall not eat of it,’
Cursed be the ground because of you;
By toil shall you eat of it
All the days of your life:

Here he repeats what he commanded them.

Bereshit/Genesis 6:22

22 Noah did so; just as Elohim commanded (tzivah נָפָלְתָּ) him, so he did.

Noach does what he is commanded. We see this specifically in Bereshit 7 also.

Bereshit/Genesis 7:5 (2-5), 9 (8-9),16 (15-16)

2 Of every clean animal you shall take seven pairs, males and their mates, and of every animal that is not clean, two, a male and its mate; 3 of the birds of the sky also, seven pairs, male and female, to keep seed alive upon all the earth. 4 For in seven days’ time I will make it rain upon the earth, forty days and forty nights, and I will blot out from the earth all existence that I created.” 5 And Noah did just as Yehovah commanded (tzivahu נָפָלְתָּ) him.

8 Of the clean animals, of the animals that are not clean, of the birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground, 9 two of each, male and female, came to Noah into the ark, as Elohim had commanded (tzivah נָפָלְתָּ) Noah.

13 That same day Noah and Noah’s sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, went into the ark, with Noah’s wife and the three wives of his sons—14 they and all beasts of every kind, all cattle of every kind, all creatures of every kind that creep on the earth, and all birds of every kind, every bird, every winged thing. 15 They came to Noah into the ark, two each of all flesh in which there was breath of life. 16 Thus they that entered comprised
male and female of all flesh, as Elohim had **commanded** (tzivah תִּצְוָה) him. And Yehovah shut him in.

Bereshit/Genesis 21:4

4 And when his son Isaac was eight days old, Abraham circumcised him, as Elohim had **commanded** (tzivah תִּצְוָה) him.

Avraham did as commanded.

Shemot/Exodus 4:28

27 Yehovah said to Aaron, “Go to meet Moses in the wilderness.” He went and met him at the mountain of Elohim, and he kissed him. 28 Moses told Aaron about all the things (words div’rey) that Yehovah had committed to him and all the signs about which He had **instructed/commanded** (tzivahu תִּצְוָה) him.

Moshe spoke the words spoken to him These are the things commanded to him.

Shemot/Exodus 7:6, 10, 20

1 Yehovah replied to Moses, “See, I place you in the role of Elohim to Pharaoh, with your brother Aaron as your prophet. 2 You shall repeat all that I **command** (‘atzaveka אַזָּבוֹק) you, and your brother Aaron shall speak to Pharaoh to let the Israelites depart from his land. 3 But I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, that I may multiply My signs and marvels in the land of Egypt. 4 When Pharaoh does not heed you, I will lay My hand upon Egypt and deliver My ranks, My people the Israelites, from the land of Egypt with extraordinary chastisements. 5 And the Egyptians shall know that I am Yehovah, when I stretch out My hand over Egypt and bring out the Israelites from their midst.” 6 This Moses and Aaron did; as Yehovah **commanded** (tzivah תִּצְוָה) them, so they did.

10 So Moses and Aaron came before Pharaoh and did just as Yehovah had **commanded** (tzivah תִּצְוָה): Aaron cast down his rod in the presence of Pharaoh and his courtiers, and it turned into a serpent.

19 And Yehovah said to Moses, “Say to Aaron: Take your rod and hold out your arm over the waters of Egypt—its rivers, its canals, its ponds, all its bodies of water—that they may turn to blood; there shall be blood throughout the land of Egypt, even in vessels of wood and stone.” 20 Moses and Aaron did just as Yehovah **commanded** (tzivah תִּצְוָה): he lifted up the rod and struck the water in the Nile in the sight of Pharaoh and his courtiers, and all the water in the Nile was turned into blood

Shemot/Exodus 12:28, 50
Moses then summoned all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Go, pick out lambs for your families, and slaughter the passover offering. Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and apply some of the blood that is in the basin to the lintel and to the two doorposts. None of you shall go outside the door of his house until morning. For when Jehovah goes through to smite the Egyptians, He will see the blood on the lintel and the two doorposts, and Jehovah will pass over the door and not let the Destroyer enter and smite your home.

“You shall observe this as an institution for all time, for you and for your descendants. And when you enter the land that Jehovah will give you, as He has promised, you shall observe this rite. And when your children ask you, ‘What do you mean by this rite?’ you shall say, ‘It is the passover sacrifice to Jehovah, because He passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt when He smote the Egyptians, but saved our houses.’”

The people then bowed low in homage.

And the Israelites went and did so; just as Jehovah had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did.

And all the Israelites did so; as Jehovah had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did.

When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?”—for they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “That is the bread which Jehovah has given you to eat. This is what Jehovah has commanded: Gather as much of it as each of you requires to eat, an omer to a person for as many of you as there are; each of you shall fetch for those in his tent.”

On the sixth day they gathered double the amount of food, two omers for each; and when all the chieftains of the community came and told Moses, “This is what Jehovah meant (words of Jehovah): Tomorrow is a day of rest, a holy sabbath of Jehovah. Bake what you would bake and boil what you would boil; and all that is left put aside to be kept until morning.” So they put it aside until morning, as Moses had ordered; and it did not turn foul, and there were no maggots in it.

Moses said, “This is what (the word) Jehovah has commanded: Let one omer of it be kept throughout the ages, in order that they may see the bread that I fed you in the wilderness when I brought you out from the land of Egypt.” And Moses said to Aaron, “Take a jar, put one omer of manna in it, and place it before Jehovah, to be kept throughout the ages.” As Jehovah had commanded Moses, Aaron placed it before the Pact, to be kept.

Or “protect”; cf. v. 11, note b.
Next day, Moses sat as magistrate among the people, while the people stood about Moses from morning until evening. But when Moses’ father-in-law saw how much he had to do for the people, he said, “What is this thing that you are doing to the people? Why do you act alone, while all the people stand about you from morning until evening?” Moses replied to his father-in-law, “It is because the people come to me to inquire of Elohim. When they have a dispute, it comes before me, and I decide between one person and another, and I make known the laws and teachings of Elohim.” But Moses’ father-in-law said to him, “The thing you are doing is not right; you will surely wear yourself out, and these people as well. For the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone. Now listen to me. I will give you counsel, and Elohim be with you! You represent the people before Elohim: you bring the disputes before Elohim, and enjoin upon them the laws and the teachings, and make known to them the way they are to go and the practices they are to follow. You shall also seek out from among all the people capable men who fear Elohim, trustworthy men who spurn ill-gotten gain. Set these over them as chiefs of thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens, and let them judge the people at all times. Have them bring every major dispute to you, but let them decide every minor dispute themselves. Make it easier for yourself by letting them share the burden with you. If you do this—and Elohim so commands you—you will be able to bear up; and all these people too will go home unwearied.” Moses heeded his father-in-law and did just as he had said.

Now then, if you will obey Me faithfully and keep My covenant, you shall be My treasured possession among all the peoples. Indeed, all the earth is Mine, but you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the children of Israel.’ Moses came and summoned the elders of the people and put before them all that Yehovah had commanded him. All the people answered as one, saying, “All that Yehovah has spoken (words) we will do!” And Moses brought back the people’s words to Yehovah.

You shall observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread—eating unleavened bread for seven days as I have commanded you—at the set time in the month of Abib, for in it you went forth from Egypt; and none shall appear before Me empty-handed;
7 Yehovah spoke to Moses, “Hurry down, for your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt, have acted basely. 8 They have been quick to turn aside from the way that I enjoined upon them. They have made themselves a molten calf and bowed low to it and sacrificed to it, saying: ‘This is eloheykha, O Israel, who brought you out of the land of Egypt!’”

Shemot/Exodus 34:4, 18

4 So Moses carved two tablets of stone, like the first, and early in the morning he went up on Mount Sinai, as Yehovah had commanded him, taking the two stone tablets with him. 18 You shall observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread—eating unleavened bread for seven days, as I have commanded you—at the set time of the month of [the] Abib, for in the month of [the] Abib you went forth from Egypt.

Shemot/Exodus 35:1, 29

1 Moses then convoked the whole Israelite community and said to them: These are the things that Yehovah has commanded you to do: 29 Thus the Israelites, all the men and women whose hearts moved them to bring anything for the work that Yehovah, through Moses, had commanded to be done, brought it as a freewill offering to Yehovah.

Shemot/Exodus 36:1,5

1 Let, then, Bezalel and Oholiab and all the skilled persons whom Yehovah has endowed with skill and ability to perform expertly all the tasks connected with the service of the sanctuary carry out all that Yehovah has commanded. 5 and said to Moses, “The people are bringing more than is needed for the tasks entailed in the work that Yehovah has commanded to be done.”

Shemot/Exodus 38:22

22 Now Bezalel, son of Uri son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, had made all that the LORD had commanded Moses;
This Moses did; just as Yehovah had commanded (tzivah/תְּצִיוֹת) him, so he did.

He spread the tent over the Tabernacle, placing the covering of the tent on top of it—just as Yehovah had commanded (tzivah/תְּצִיוֹת) Moses.

He took the Pact and placed it in the ark; he fixed the poles to the ark, placed the cover on top of the ark, and brought the ark inside the Tabernacle. Then he put up the curtain for screening, and screened off the Ark of the Pact—just as Yehovah had commanded (tzivah/תְּצִיוֹת) Moses.

He placed the table in the Tent of Meeting, outside the curtain, on the north side of the Tabernacle. Upon it he laid out the setting of bread before Yehovah—as Yehovah had commanded (tzivah/תְּצִיוֹת) Moses.

He placed the lampstand in the Tent of Meeting opposite the table, on the south side of the Tabernacle. And he lit the lamps before Yehovah—as Yehovah had commanded (tzivah/תְּצִיוֹת) Moses.

He placed the altar of gold in the Tent of Meeting, before the curtain. On it he burned aromatic incense—as Yehovah had commanded (tzivah/תְּצִיוֹת) Moses.

Then he put up the screen for the entrance of the Tabernacle. At the entrance of the Tabernacle of the Tent of Meeting he placed the altar of burnt offering. On it he offered up the burnt offering and the meal offering—as Yehovah had commanded (tzivah/תְּצִיוֹת) Moses.

Those shall be the perquisites of Aaron and the perquisites of his sons from Yehovah’s offerings by fire, once they have been inducted to serve Yehovah as priests; these Yehovah commanded (tzivah/תְּצִיוֹת) to be given them, once they had been anointed, as a due (statue) from the Israelites for all time throughout the ages.

Such are the rituals of the burnt offering, the meal offering, the sin offering, the guilt offering, the offering of ordination, and the sacrifice of well-being, with which Yehovah charged (commanded) (tzavoto/תְּצָאוֹת) Moses on Mount Sinai, when He commanded (tzivah/תְּצִיוֹת) that the Israelites present their offerings to Yehovah, in the wilderness of Sinai.

Moses did as Yehovah commanded (tzivah/תְּצִיוֹת) him. And when the community was assembled at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting, Moses said to the community,

Lit. “brought forward.”
"This is what Yehovah has commanded (tzivah נאהל) to be done.”

9 And he set the headdress on his head; and on the headdress, in front, he put the gold frontlet, the holy diadem—as Yehovah had commanded (tzivah נאהל) Moses.

13 Moses then brought Aaron’s sons forward, clothed them in tunics, girded them with sashes, and wound turbans upon them, as Yehovah had commanded (tzivah נאהל) Moses.

34 Everything done today, Yehovah has commanded (tzivah נאהל) to be done [seven days], to make expiation for you. 35 You shall remain at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting day and night for seven days, keeping Yehovah’s charge—that you may not die—for so I have been commanded (tzuveytiy חנכתי). 36 And Aaron and his sons did all the things that the LORD had commanded (tzivah נאהל) through Moses.

Vayiqra/Leviticus 9:5,6,7

5 They brought to the front of the Tent of Meeting the things that Moses had commanded (tzivah נאהל), and the whole community came forward and stood before Yehovah. 6 Moses said: "This is what Yehovah has commanded (tzivah נאהל) that you do, that the Presence of Yehovah may appear to you." 7 Then Moses said to Aaron: "Come forward to the altar and sacrifice your sin offering and your burnt offering, making expiation for yourself and for the people; and sacrifice the people’s offering and make expiation for them, as Yehovah has commanded (tzivah נאהל)."

Vayiqra/Leviticus 10:1,12,15

1 Now Aaron’s sons Nadab and Abihu each took his fire pan, put fire in it, and laid incense on it; and they offered before Yehovah alien fire, which He had not (lo) enjoined (commanded) (tzivah נאהל) upon them.

9 Drink no wine or other intoxicant, you or your sons, when you enter the Tent of Meeting, that you may not die. This is a law (statue) for all time throughout the ages, 10 for you must distinguish between the sacred and the profane, and between the unclean and the clean; 11 and you must teach the Israelites all the laws (statues) which Yehovah has imparted to them through Moses. 12 Moses spoke to Aaron and to his remaining sons, Eleazar and Ithamar: Take the meal offering that is left over from Yehovah’s offerings by fire and eat it unleavened beside the altar, for it is most holy. 13 You shall eat it in the sacred precinct, inasmuch as it is your due (statue), and that of your children, from Yehovah’s offerings by fire; for so I have been commanded (tzuveytiy חנכתי). 14 But the breast of elevation
offering and the thigh of gift offering you, and your sons and daughters with you, may eat in any clean place, for they have been assigned as a due (statue) to you and your children from the Israelites’ sacrifices of well-being. 15 Together with the fat of fire offering, they must present the thigh of gift offering and the breast of elevation offering, which are to be elevated as an elevation offering before Yehovah, and which are to be your due (statue) and that of your children with you for all time—as Yehovah has commanded (tzivah נא").

Vayiqra/Leviticus 16:34

For on this day atonement shall be made for you to cleanse you of all your sins; you shall be clean before Yehovah. 31 It shall be a sabbath of complete rest for you, and you shall practice self-denial; it is a law (statue) for all time. 32 The priest who has been anointed and ordained to serve as priest in place of his father shall make expiation. He shall put on the linen vestments, the sacral vestments. 33 He shall purge the innermost Shrine; he shall purge the Tent of Meeting and the altar; and he shall make expiation for the priests and for all the people of the congregation.
34 This shall be to you a law (statue) for all time: to make atonement for the Israelites for all their sins once a year.

And Moses did as Yehovah had commanded (tzivah נא”) him.

Vayiqra/Leviticus 17:2

2 Speak to Aaron and his sons and to all the Israelite people and say to them:
This is what Yehovah has commanded (tzivah נא”): 3 if anyone of the house of Israel slaughters an ox or sheep or goat in the camp, or does so outside the camp, 4 and does not bring it to the entrance of the Tent of Meeting to present it as an offering to Yehovah, before Yehovah’s Tabernacle, bloodguilt shall be imputed to that man: he has shed blood; that man shall be cut off from among his people. 5 This is in order that the Israelites may bring the sacrifices which they have been making in the open—that they may bring them before Yehovah, to the priest, at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting, and offer them as sacrifices of well-being to Yehovah; 6 that the priest may dash the blood against the altar of Yehovah at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting, and turn the fat into smoke as a pleasing odor to Yehovah; 7 and that they may offer their sacrifices no more to the goat-demons after whom they stray. This shall be to them a law (statue) for all time, throughout the ages.
8 Say to them further: If anyone of the house of Israel or of the strangers who reside among them offers a burnt offering or a sacrifice, 9 and does not bring it to the entrance of the Tent of Meeting to offer it to Yehovah, that person shall be cut off from his people.
11 And if anyone of the house of Israel or of the strangers who reside among them partakes of any blood, I will set My face against the person who partakes of the blood, and I will cut him off from among his kin. 11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood,
and I have assigned it to you for making expiation for your lives upon the altar; it is the blood, as life, that effects expiation.

Vayiqra/Leviticus 24:23
Moses spoke thus to the Israelites. And they took the blasphemer (curser) outside the camp and pelted him with stones. The Israelites did as Yehovah had commanded (tzivah צו) Moses.

Vayiqra/Leviticus 25:21

I will ordain My blessing (And my commands -vatzvviytiי this my blessing – et bir’khatiy הבהברכה) for you in the sixth year, so that it shall yield a crop sufficient for three years.

Here we see that Yehovah commands a blessing. Therefore, I would think if a blessing is to be a command he will designate it in him words.

Vayiqra/Leviticus 27:34

These are the commandments (hamitzvot) that Yehovah gave (commanded) (tzivah צו) Moses for the Israelite people on Mount Sinai.

In the JPS it almost loses its focus in that Yehovah gave when in the Hebrew it said he commanded.

Bamidbar/Numbers 9:5

Yehovah spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, on the first new moon of the second year following the exodus from the land of Egypt, saying: Let the Israelite people offer the passover sacrifice at its set time: you shall offer it on the fourteenth day of this month, at twilight, at its set time; you shall offer it in accordance with all its rules and rites.

Moses instructed the Israelites to offer the passover sacrifice; and they offered the passover sacrifice in the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, at twilight, in the wilderness of Sinai. Just as Yehovah had commanded (tzivah צו) Moses, so the Israelites did.

Bamidbar/Numbers 15: 23, 36

If you unwittingly fail to observe any one of the commandments that Yehovah has declared to Moses —anything that Yehovah has enjoined (commanded) (tzivah צו) upon you through Moses—from the day that Yehovah gave the commandment (commanded) (tzivah צו) and on through the ages:
Once, when the Israelites were in the wilderness, they came upon a man gathering wood on the sabbath day. Those who found him as he was gathering wood brought him before Moses, Aaron, and the whole community. He was placed in custody, for it had not been specified what should be done to him. Then Yehovah said to Moses, “The man shall be put to death: the whole community shall pelt him with stones outside the camp.” So the whole community took him outside the camp and stoned him to death—as Yehovah had commanded Moses.

Bamidbar/Numbers 19:2

This is the ritual law that Yehovah has commanded: Instruct the Israelite people to bring you a red cow without blemish, in which there is no defect and on which no yoke has been laid.

Bamidbar/Numbers 30:1

So Moses spoke to the Israelites just as Yehovah had commanded Moses.

Devarim/Deuteronomy 1:3

It was in the fortieth year, on the first day of the eleventh month, that Moses addressed the Israelites in accordance with the instructions that the LORD had given him for them,

Devarim/Deuteronomy 4:1-12

And now, O Israel, give heed to the laws (statues) and rules (judgments) that I am instructing you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that Yehovah, Elohey of your fathers, is giving you. You shall not add anything to what I command you or take anything away from it, but keep the commandments (mitz’vot) of Yehovah Eloheychem that I enjoin upon you. You saw with your own eyes what Yehovah did in the matter of Baal-peor, that Yehovah Eloheykha wiped out from among you every person who followed Baal-peor; while you, who held fast to Yehovah Eloheychem, are all alive today. See, I have imparted to you laws (statues) and rules (judgments), as Yehovah Elohay has commanded me, for you to abide by in the land that you are about to enter and occupy. Observe them faithfully, for that will be proof of your wisdom and discernment to other peoples, who on hearing of all these laws (statues) will say, “Surely, that great nation is a wise and discerning people.” For what great nation is there that
has a elohim so close at hand as is Yehovah Eloheynu whenever we call upon Him?

8 Or what great nation has laws (statues) and rules (judgments) as perfect as all this Teaching that I set before you this day?

9 But take utmost care and watch yourselves scrupulously, so that you do not forget the things that you saw with your own eyes and so that they do not fade from your mind as long as you live. And make them known to your children and to your children’s children:

10 The day you stood before Yehovah Eloheykha at Horeb, when Yehovah said to Me, “Gather the people to Me that I may let them hear My words, in order that they may learn to revere Me as long as they live on earth, and may so teach their children.”

11 You came forward and stood at the foot of the mountain. The mountain was ablaze with flames to the very skies, dark with densest clouds. 12 Yehovah spoke to you out of the fire; you heard the sound of words but perceived no shape—nothing but a voice.

Devarim/Deuteronomy 5:12, 28-30

12 Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy, as Yehovah Eloheykha has commanded you (Tziv’kha). 28 But you remain here with Me, and I will give you the whole Instruction—the laws and the rules—that you shall impart to them, for them to observe in the land that I am giving them to possess.”

29 Be careful, then, to do as Yehovah Eloheychem has commanded (tzivah) you. Do not turn aside to the right or to the left: 30 follow only the path that Yehovah Eloheychem has enjoined (commanded) (tzivakh) upon you, so that you may thrive and that it may go well with you, and that you may long endure in the land you are to possess.

Devarim/Deuteronomy 6:1,17-18, 24-25

6:1 And this is the Instruction—the laws and the rules—that Yehovah Eloheynu has commanded (tzivah) (tzivhanu) [me] to impart to you, to be observed in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy,

17 Be sure to keep the commandments, decrees, and laws that Yehovah Eloheynu has enjoined upon you (tzivakh). 18 Do what is right and good in the sight of Yehovah, that it may go well with you and that you may be able to possess the good land that Yehovah promised on oath to your fathers,

24 Then Yehovah commanded us (vay’tzavenu) to observe all these laws (statues), to revere Yehovah Eloheynu, for our lasting good and for our survival, as is now the case. 25 It will be therefore to our merit before Yehovah Eloheynu to observe faithfully this whole Instruction, as He has commanded us (tzivvanu).”
Devarim/Deuteronomy 10:4-5

4 Yehovah inscribed on the tablets the same text as on the first, the Ten Commandments (aseret hadebarim) that He addressed to you on the mountain out of the fire on the day of the Assembly; and Yehovah gave them to me.
5 Then I left and went down from the mountain, and I deposited the tablets in the ark that I had made, where they still are, as Yehovah had commanded me (tzivaniy).

Devarim/Deuteronomy 12:20-26

20 When Yehovah enlarges your territory, as He has promised you, and you say, “I shall eat some meat,” for you have the urge to eat meat, you may eat meat whenever you wish.
21 If the place where Yehovah has chosen to establish His name is too far from you, you may slaughter any of the cattle or sheep that Yehovah gives you, as I have instructed you (tziviytikha); and you may eat to your heart’s content in your settlements.
22 Eat it, however, as the gazelle and the deer are eaten: the unclean may eat it together with the clean.
23 But make sure that you do not partake of the blood; for the blood is the life, and you must not consume the life with the flesh.
24 You must not partake of it; you must pour it out on the ground like water:
25 you must not partake of it, in order that it may go well with you and with your descendants to come, for you will be doing what is right in the sight of Yehovah.
26 But such sacred and votive donations as you may have shall be taken by you to the site that Yehovah will choose.

Devarim/Deuteronomy 28:69

69 These are the terms of the covenant which Yehovah commanded (tzivah) Moses to conclude with the Israelites in the land of Moab, in addition to the covenant which He had made with them at Horeb.