

What is a Chiasmus?

Isaiah 6:9-10 contains a prophetic chiasm which Jesus Christ repeats in Matthew 13:15. Do you see the pattern of repetitive words? Try rewriting or highlighting the text to reveal the chiasm!

9) He said, "Go, and tell this people:

'Keep on listening, but do not perceive;

Keep on looking, but do not understand.'

10) "Render the hearts of this people insensitive,

Their ears dull,

And their eyes dim,

Otherwise they might see with their eyes,

Hear with their ears,

Understand with their hearts,

And return and be healed."

You can see my work at: www.Helpmewithbiblestudy.org/10ChristianLiving/ListeningCanYouHearMeNow.aspx, and
www.Helpmewithbiblestudy.org/1God/WorksKingdomOfGodSecret.aspx

This worksheet, from www.Helpmewithbiblestudy.org, accompanies https://youtu.be/P_4s6Zx0J3U

The Chiasmus of John 1:1-18

What are your observations of the chiasm's pairings? Does it help you understand the inflection point?

Verses	Inverted Parallel Verses	Observations
<p>1) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2) He was in the beginning with God.</p>	<p>18) No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.</p>	
<p>3) All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. 4) In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. 5) The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.</p>	<p>16) For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. 17) For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.</p>	
<p>6) There came a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7) He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him. 8) He was not the Light, but he came to testify about the Light.</p>	<p>15) John testified about Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.'"</p>	
<p>9) There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man. 10) He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.</p>	<p>14) And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.</p>	
<p>11) He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.</p>	<p>13) who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.</p>	

Inflection point: 12) But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,

You can see my work at: www.Helpmewithbiblestudy.org/2Jesus/GenealogyPreeminenceChiasm.aspx