

The Chiasmic Structure of John's Prologue

- A ¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning.
- B ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.
⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood ⁿ it.
- C ⁶ There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. ⁹ The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. ⁿ
- D ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.
- E ¹² Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God-- ¹³ children born not of natural descent, ⁿ nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.
- D' ¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, ⁿ who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.
- C' ¹⁵ John testifies concerning him. He cries out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.' "
- B' ¹⁶ From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.
- A' ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, ^{n n} who is at the Father's side, has made him known.