Parallelism

Lesson #9
July 31, 2016
Characteristics of Poetry

- **Terseness:** short lines/sentences
- **Vivid words:** rare/graphic/colorful word
- **Rhyme/Meter:** Lost in translation
- **Parallelism**
PSALM 117

A Psalm of Praise.

Praise the LORD, all nations;
Laud Him, all peoples!
For His lovingkindness is great toward us,
And the truth of the LORD is everlasting.
Praise the LORD!
The Creation

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ¶Ps 102:25 ¶Job 38:4
2 The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters. ¶Jer 4:23 ¶Job 38:9
3 Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. ¶Ps 33:6, 9
4 God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ¶Is 45:7
5 God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day. ¶Ps 74:16
6 Then God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ¶Is 40:22
7 God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so. ¶Ps 148:4
8 God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.
9 Then God said, “Let the waters below the heavens be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear”; and it was so. ¶Ps 104:6,9 ¶Ps 24:1, 2
10 God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of the waters He called seas; and God saw that it was good. ¶Ps 33:7
11 Then God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them”; and it was so. ¶Ps 65:9-13
12 The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them, after their kind; and God saw that it was good.
13 There was evening and there was morning, a third day.
14 Then God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years; ¶Ps 74:16 ¶Jer 10:2
15 and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth”; and it was so.
16 God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; He made the stars also. ¶Ps 136:8, 9
17 God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¶Jer 33:20, 25
18 and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good. ¶Jer 31:35
19 There was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

1 Or a waste and emptiness  2 Or hovering  3 Or firmament
1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

Jn 1:1-2; Is 45:12, 18

3 And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.
4 God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

2Co 4:6; Ps 33:6, 9; 74:16

6 And God said, “Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water.” 7 So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. 8 God called the vault “sky.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.

Ps 148:4; Jer 10:12

9 And God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.” And it was so. 10 God called the dry ground “land,” and the gathered waters he called “seas.” And God saw that it was good.

Ps 104:6-9; Jer 5:22; 2Pe 3:5

11 Then God said, “Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.” And it was so. 12 The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. 13 And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day.

Ps 65:9-13

14 And God said, “Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years. 15 And let them be lights in the vault of

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3 types of parallelism

1. **Synonymous parallelism**: the thought of the second line reinforces the thought of the first line by presenting a similar thought.

Hear, my son, your father's instruction
And do not forsake your mother's teaching

Proverbs 1:8
3 types of parallelism

2. Antithetical parallelism: the thought of the second line contrasts the thought of the first line by presenting its opposite corollary.

For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
But the way of the wicked will perish.

Psalm 1:6
3 types of parallelism

3. **Synthetic parallelism:** the thought of the second line develops, complements, supplements, supports, illustrates, or otherwise advances the thought of the first line by presenting a thought which is somehow related.

   I was crying to the LORD with my voice,
   And He answered me from His holy mountain.
   Selah. Psalm 3:4
Synonymous

The meaning of the unit is found in the overlap

The meaning of line #1  The meaning of line #2
Antithetical

The meaning of line #1

The meaning of line #2
The meaning of line #1

The meaning of line #2

Synthetic
A Psalm of Praise.

Praise the LORD, all nations;
Laud Him, all peoples!
For His lovingkindness is great toward us,
And the truth of the LORD is everlasting.
Praise the LORD!
22 And Zillah, she also bare Tū'-bāl-cain, an șinstructor of every artificer in brass and iron: and the sister of Tū'-bāl-
cain was Nā'-ā-māh.

23 And Lā'-mēch said unto his wives, Ā'-dāh and Zillah, Hear my voice; ye wives of Lā'-mēch, hearken unto my speech: for șI have slain a man to my wound-
ing, and a young man șto my hurt.

24 șIf Cain shall be avenged
those who play the lyre and pipe. 22 As for Zillah, she also gave birth to Tubal-cain, the forger of all implements of bronze and iron; and the sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah.

23 Lamech said to his wives,
   "Adah and Zillah,
   Listen to my voice,
   You wives of Lamech,
   Give heed to my speech,
   a For I have killed a man for wounding me;
   And a boy for striking me;
   24 If Cain is avenged a sevenfold,
   Then Lamech seventy-sevenfold."
and flute. 22Zillah also had a son, Tubal-Cain, who forged all kinds of tools out of bronze and iron. Tubal-Cain’s sister was Naamah.

23Lamech said to his wives,

“Adah and Zillah, listen to me; wives of Lamech, hear my words. I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for injuring me.

24If Cain is avenged seven times, then Lamech seventy-seven times.”

Ex 20:13
Ver 15; Mt 18:22