

3) Psa. 89:28 [27 in Eng]

"I will make him my first-born,
the highest of the kings of the earth."

- Note how the second line explains (adds to) the first.
- See Col. 1:13.

2. The Value of Parallelism.

a. It aids us in interpreting Old Testament poetry.

Psa. 51:3,4 [1,2 in Eng].

"Blot out my transgressions"

-Refers to erasing a debt from a book.

"Wash me abundantly from my iniquity"

-Image of washing clothes by trampling in a trough of water. Washed until dirt is completely removed.

"Pronounce me clean from my sin"

-Alludes to symptoms of leprosy; being pronounced clean by the priest.

-None of these refer to sanctification or inward cleansing. Is mentioned later ("clean heart" v.10).

-*The repetition gives us several opportunities to "get the main idea" from several figures which express the same point in different ways.*

b. It enables us to determine the meaning of some words where the meaning would otherwise be obscure.

Psa. 16:9 "My heart is glad and my honor rejoices."

Gen. 49:6 "... into their assembly do not come my soul ... do not be united my honor."

-Psa. 16:9 is not a synonymous parallelism, but Gen. 49:6 is. See that "honor" refers to one's soul or heart.

E. Acrostics.

In some poems in the Old Testament half-verses, verses, or groups of verses begin with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet.

1. Complete alphabet.

-All 22 letters are used (note that *ו* and *וּ* are considered the same letter).