**CHIASMUS**

A chiasmus is a Hebrew logic pattern. When a writer uses chiasmus to make a point, he builds his case step by step to the most important thought and then repeats the steps in reverse order. Here is an example from a familiar passage:

Joshua 1:5b-9

**Chart 1a**

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| **A** | As I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will never leave you nor forsake you  (5b) | | | |
|  | **B** | Be strong and courageous … be strong and very courageous  (6,7a) | | |
|  |  | **C** | Be careful to obey all the law … that you may be successful  (7b) | |
|  |  |  | **D** | Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth  (8a) |
|  |  |  | **D′** | Meditate on it day and night  (8b) |
|  |  | **C′** | Be careful to do everything written in it … that you may be prosperous  and successful  (8c) | |
|  | **B′** | Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged  (9a) | | |
| **A′** | for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.  (9b) | | | |
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