

The Chiasm of 1 Corinthians 2:6-8

A chiasm is a literary structure where themes of the first section of a passage are repeated in the second. The center of the chiasm is typically the climax of the passage. In 1 Corinthians 2:6-8 the center and climax is "We speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God predestined before the ages to our glory" (1 Cor 2:7).

- A 1 Yet we do speak **wisdom** among those who are mature; a **wisdom**, (v 6a)
- 2 however, **not** (Greek: oude) **of this age** nor **of the rulers of this age**, who are passing away; (v 6b)
- B but we speak God's **wisdom** in a mystery, (v 7a)
- B' the hidden **wisdom** which God predestined before the ages to our glory; (v 7b)
- A' 1 the **wisdom** (v 8a)
- 2 which **none** (Greek: oudeis) **of the rulers of this age** has understood; for if they had understood it they would not have crucified the Lord of glory; (v 8b)