

The Chiasm of 2 Corinthians 6:14-15

A chiasm is a literary structure where vocabulary of the first section of a passage is repeated in the second. The center of the chiasm is typically the climax of the passage. In 2 Corinthians 6:14-15 the center and climax is three reasons not to be bound with unbelievers: for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? Or what harmony has Christ with Belial? (2 Cor 6:14b-15a). 2 Corinthians 6:15 adds a fourth reason, "or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?" (2 Cor 6:15b).

A Do not be bound together with **unbelievers** (Greek: *apistos*); (v 14a)

B¹ for **what** partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, (v 14b)

B² **or what** fellowship has light with darkness? (v 14c)

B³ **Or what** harmony has Christ with Belial, (v 15a)

A' or what has **a believer** (Greek: *pistos*) in common with **an unbeliever** (Greek: *apistos*)? (v 15b)