

## The Chiasm of Genesis 1:1-2

A In the beginning **God** created the heavens and the earth.  
B The earth was formless and void,  
B' and darkness was over the surface of the deep;<sup>1</sup>  
A' and the Spirit of **God** was moving over the surface of the waters.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Whatever is placed in the middle of a chiasm is its most important statement(s), in this case the description of the formless, void, dark, water-covered earth.

<sup>2</sup>Adapted from Joel W. Rosenberg, "Kingship vs. Kinship: Political Allegory in the Bible - A New Reading of Gen. 1-3 and Related Texts" (Ph.D. diss., University of California, Santa Cruz, 1978), 11.