

The Double Chiastic Structure of Psalm 21

I suggest this double chiasm for Psalm 21. It shows more connections in A/A', C/C' and the connections in the second half of the chiasm are made clearer.

- A) Psalm 21:1 – **The king shall have joy** in Your strength, *O Lord*; And in Your salvation how greatly shall he rejoice!
- B) Psalm 21:2 – **You have given him** his heart's desire, And have not withheld the request of his lips. Selah
- C) Psalm 21:3 – For You meet him with the blessings of goodness; You set a crown of pure gold upon his head.
- B') Psalm 21:4 – He asked life from You, and **You gave it to him**—Length of days forever and ever.
- A') Psalm 21:5-7 – His glory is great in Your salvation; Honor and majesty You have placed upon him. 6 For You have made him most blessed forever; **You have made him exceedingly glad** with Your presence. 7 For **the king** trusts in *the Lord*, And through the mercy of the Most High he shall not be moved.

- D) Psalm 21:8 – **Your hand** will find all Your enemies; **Your right hand** will find those who hate You.
- E) Psalm 21:9-10 – You shall make them as a fiery oven in the time of Your anger; The Lord shall swallow them up in His wrath, And the fire shall devour them. 10 **Their offspring You shall destroy from the earth, And their descendants from among the sons of men.**
- F) Psalm 21:11 – For they intended evil against You; They devised a plot which they are not able to perform.
- E') Psalm 21:12 – Therefore You will make them turn their back; You will make ready **Your arrows** on Your string toward their faces.
- D') Psalm 21:13 – Be exalted, O Lord, in **Your own strength!** We will sing and praise **Your power**.

NOTES

D/D' – Adonai's power and strength are in His right hand. See D) Isaiah 62:8 - The Lord has sworn by His *right hand* And by the arm of His *strength*:

E/E' – *Offspring* are likened to arrows in a quiver and connect to *arrows* in E'. See Psalm 127:4 - Like *arrows* in the hand of a warrior, So *are* the children [offspring] of one's youth.