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<u>Towards a Structural Analysis of the Whole Sermon - Some Word Count Aspects</u>

Although this wasn't discussed in the last chapter, there are some interesting word count aspects to the analysis presented there (in Figure 12.2). These aspects are shown in Figures 13.1 and 13.2 on the next two pages which are basically the upper and lower halves of Figure 12.2 from the previous chapter with the added word count aspects.

<u>Notes on Figures 13.1 and 13.2</u>

1) In Figure 13.1, I have included the seven word introduction to the sermon, "And seeing, Peter answered to the people" in the opening "healing" section which thus gives a total of 26 words.
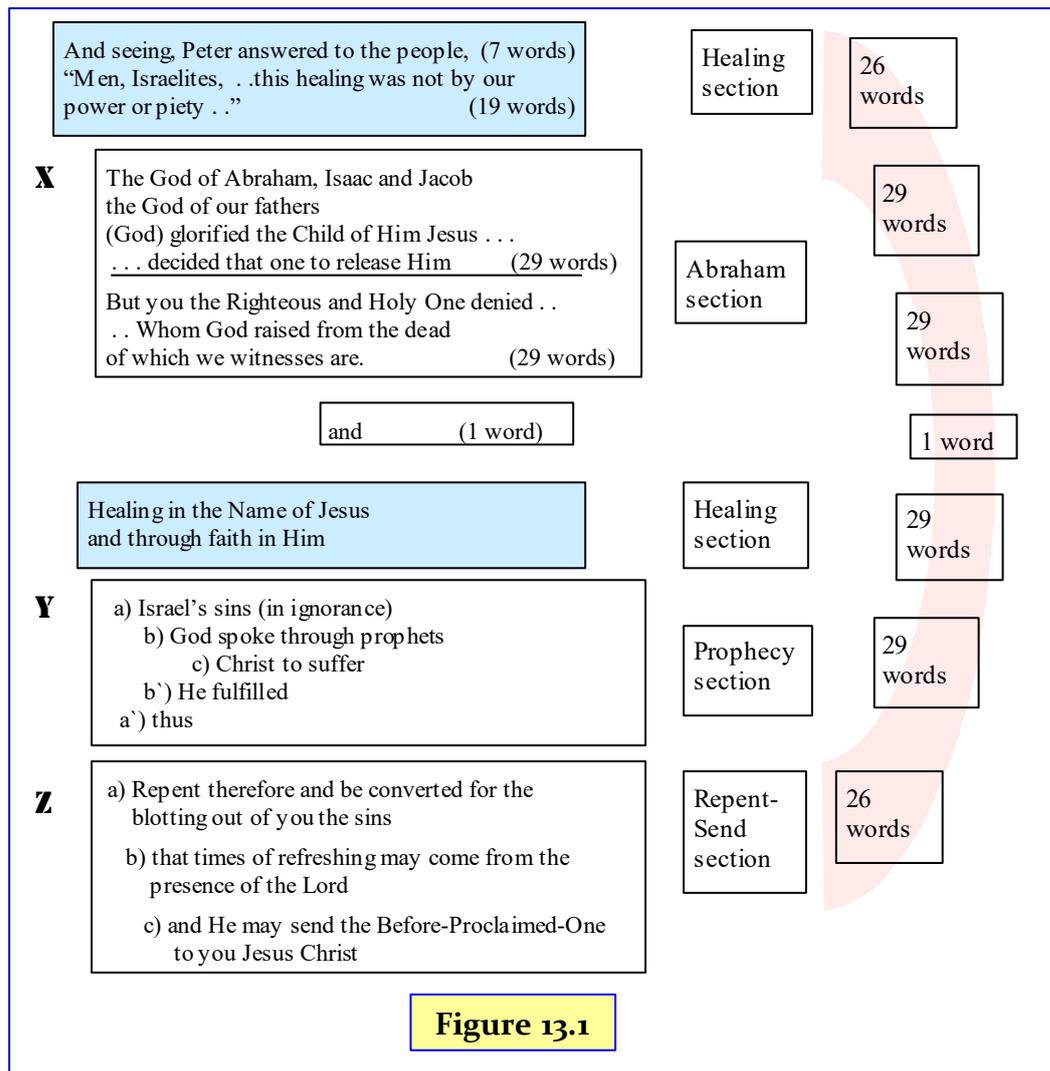
2) The word count aspects appear genuinely to exist, but they are "superimposed upon" the structure shown in Figure 12.2 in the sense that the word count pattern does not exactly follow the "thematic" pattern of Figure 12.2. Rather, the word count pattern divides up the sub-sections in a different way— in a way which is not readily related to the thematic contents of the sub-sections. Thus, the word count aspects appear to be "architectural" - providing a framework into which the thematic sub-sections can be fitted according to their own thematic patterns: the word counts are thus rather like a set of packing cases arranged in chiastic order, into which the thematic contents are fitted in their own order as indicated in Figure 12.2.

3) The little word "and" at the start of v. 16 is a coordinating conjunction, and so, from a word count perspective, can reasonably belong to either, both or neither of the clauses it joins. The same applies to "and" at the beginning of v. 24.

4) In Figure 13.1, the chiastic pattern thus obtained is
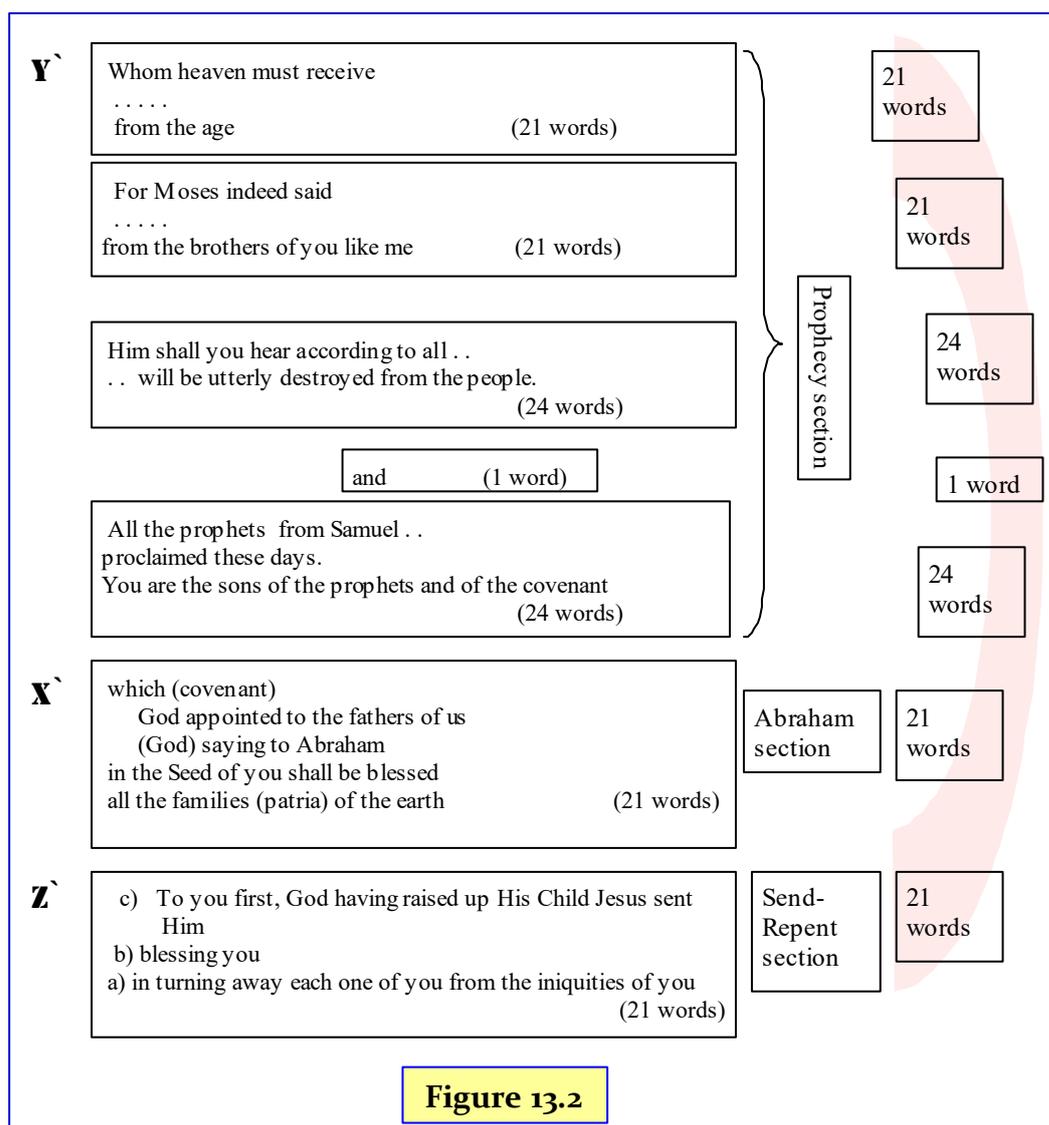   26 - 29 – 29 - 1 - 29 - 29 - 26 words.

5) In Figure 13.2, the chiastic pattern is
                    21 - 21 - 24 - 1 - 24 - 21 - 21 words.

6) There are clearly some connections between these two patterns e.g. an increment of 3 is involved in both.

And seeing, Peter answered to the people, (7 words)
"Men, Israelites, . .this healing was not by our
power or piety . ."   (19 words)

Healing section | 26 words

X The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob
the God of our fathers
(God) glorified the Child of Him Jesus . . .
. . . decided that one to release Him   (29 words)

29 words

But you the Righteous and Holy One denied . .
. . Whom God raised from the dead
of which we witnesses are.   (29 words)

Abraham section | 29 words

and   (1 word)

1 word

Healing in the Name of Jesus
and through faith in Him

Healing section | 29 words

Y a) Israel's sins (in ignorance)
b) God spoke through prophets
c) Christ to suffer
b`) He fulfilled
a`) thus

Prophecy section | 29 words

Z a) Repent therefore and be converted for the
blotting out of you the sins

b) that times of refreshing may come from the
presence of the Lord

c) and He may send the Before-Proclaimed-One
to you Jesus Christ

Repent-Send section | 26 words

Figure 13.1

7) A possible weakness in this analysis is that the linking words "and of the covenant" are included in the final part of the prophecy section rather than in the "Abraham" section. However, just as these concluding words "point forwards" to the "Abraham" section, so the words, "Whom heaven must receive" at the beginning of the prophecy section "point backwards" to the reference to Jesus Christ in the preceding section and both these linkages involve relative pronouns. This provides a (partial) justification for the analysis given, but I would greatly appreciate help on this point!

8) Also, the expression "To you first, God, having raised up His Child, Jesus" has been moved from X` to Z`. Again, this is a possible weakness in the present word count analysis, (but perhaps partly justified by the

Y`

Whom heaven must receive . . . . . from the age (21 words)

For Moses indeed said . . . . . from the brothers of you like me (21 words)

Him shall you hear according to all . . . . will be utterly destroyed from the people. (24 words)

and (1 word)

All the prophets from Samuel . . proclaimed these days. You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant (24 words)

Prophecy section

21 words

21 words

24 words

1 word

24 words

X`

which (covenant)
    God appointed to the fathers of us
    (God) saying to Abraham
in the Seed of you shall be blessed
all the families (patria) of the earth (21 words)

Abraham section — 21 words

Z`

c) To you first, God having raised up His Child Jesus sent   Him b) blessing you a) in turning away each one of you from the iniquities of you (21 words)

Send-Repent section — 21 words

Figure 13.2

fact that it keeps the sentence in v.26 in a single section (Z`), rather than splitting it over the two sections X` and Z` as in Figure 12.2.) Also, if we make this move, then "God having raised up His Child" in Z`c) corresponds to "the Before-Proclaimed-One" in Zc). As already noted, Z is preceded by Y, a prophecy section—for which the participle "having been before proclaimed" (by God through the mouth of the prophets) is appropriate. Likewise, Z` is preceded by the "Abraham" section and in fact, "God having raised up His/his Child/child" in Z`c) could be a reference to Jesus as Abraham's child i.e. (the Seed) of Abraham (e.g. Matt. 1:1) or as God's Child or, very likely, both. (The "receiving back from the dead" of Isaac in Genesis Ch. 22 (c.f. Heb 11:17-19) icould well be in the "background" here).

Thus in Zc) and in Z`c) we have appropriate "back-references" to the pre-

ceding section in both cases.