

Structure of Genesis 17

AS CHIASM (WENHAM)

A: 1a: Abraham =99
B: 1ba: YHWH appears
C: 1bb: God speaks
D: 1bc-2: 1st speech
E: 3a: Abraham falls on his face
F: 4-8: second speech: name-change, nations, kings
G: 9-14: 3rd speech
F': 15-16: fourth speech: name-change, nations, kings
E': 17: Abraham falls on his face
D': 19-21: 5th speech
C': 22a: God ceases speaking
B': 22b: God goes up from him
A': 24-25: Abraham = 99 and Ishmael 13

AS PARALLEL PANELS (WENHAM)

A: 1-2: YHWH's intent to make oath about progeny	A': 16: God's intent to bless Sarah with progeny
B: 3a: Abraham falls on face	B': 17-18: Abraham falls on face
C: 4b-6: Ab father of nations	C': 19: Sarah, mother of son, Isaac
D: 7: God will carry out his oath forever	D': 19b, 21a: God will carry out his oath forever
E: 9-14: sign of the oath (commanded)	E': 23-27: sign of the oath (fulfilled)

AS PROMISES/RESPONSES (WILLIAMSON)

A: vv. 1-2: God's appearance and promise
A' v. 3a: Abraham's initial response
B: God's elaboration in terms of a) promise (vv. 3b-8), b) command (vv. 9-14) and promise (vv. 15-16)
B': vv. 17-18: Abraham's intermediate response
C: vv. 19-22: God's affirmation and withdrawal
C': vv. 23-27: Abraham's third response
authorship" (GW 18)