

Maxwell's Hebrew style

accent marks and vowels

1. It is not a matter of rime
2. It does have a cadence (or something like that) ---more a rhythm based on syllable stress but unless one reads Hebrew this means nothing to one in understanding.
3. It delights in repetition of ideals and content. This is called "parallelism" although other terms are used and it is a deeply discussed concept but the general ideas are as follow:
 - a. Synonymous parallelism involves the general repetition without adding anything to the original idea although the words might change. Note Psalm 24;1-3 as a general example.
 - b. Synthetic parallelism involves the general repetition with added content to the body. Psalm 19;7-9
 - c. Antithetical parallelism involves a reversal of the ideals as in Psalm 1:6 *I should note that I am using the King James version wording for these examples.*

x v x k

Proverbs
4:23

These ideas are found throughout the poetic structures and in Proverbs there is some diversity but it is too technical for this brief analysis.

All of these features are intended to make the reader more aware of the text. I apologize that I cannot go into further detail...most Psalm commentaries that are based on a Hebrew text will delineate them...Bullinger in the Companion Bible probably does the best total job in defining and demonstrating. But the idea is to make one aware of the text! Many prominent speech figures work to this end as well...the most obvious ones, likely are those that work in the anthropomorphic patterns...describing God and His actions in human terms (Ps 32: "day and night your hand was heavy on me")

32:3

4. A didactic tone: teaching something rather than reviewing an event. The historic psalms are an exception but generally the psalmist is interested in a lesson more than the historic details...Psalm 51 for example where the teaching lesson is magnified and the historic details are peripheral. In this area look for the practical lessons and when you see one or many have your notebook handy to write down the reference and the point. Be sure to read the superscriptions as they occur. There is some argument about them but they are often helpful.

51,
52,
142

105
107:8, 10,
21,
31