

lines. The first line will express one thought and the second line will either add something fresh to that thought or it will explain that thought. Here in Psalm 89:27 you have two lines. Here is line no. 1: "Also I will make him my firstborn." There is the first line of your synthetic parallelism expressing a thought. The second line in this case does not add something fresh, but explains the first line. What is meant when it says, "Also I will make him my firstborn"? It means that I will make him "higher than the kings of the earth." So, to make him the firstborn is to make him higher than the kings of the earth. For someone to be higher than the kings of the earth means that he is sovereign over them. The firstborn is a position of sovereignty. When it says in the book of Colossians that Jesus is the firstborn, it means that He is the firstborn of God; that is, He occupies a position of sovereignty. It does not mean that He is the first created. There is a different word that means first created and if Paul had wanted to say that Jesus was first created, he would have used the Greek word that means first created. He did not do that. He used the word that means firstborn because he is denoting that Jesus has a position of sovereignty. He is the firstborn in relationship to all of creation. The firstborn of all creation. In relationship to all creation, Jesus is the firstborn of God; that is, He is sovereign over all creation.

Why is it that Jesus is sovereign over all creation? Paul explains the reason in verse 16. You want to pay attention to that little word "for." It assigns the reason why Jesus is the firstborn of all creation, why He is sovereign over all creation. The reason is simply this. He is sovereign over all creation because He created it in the fullest sense of the word.

Notice just how fully He created everything that exists. It says: "For by