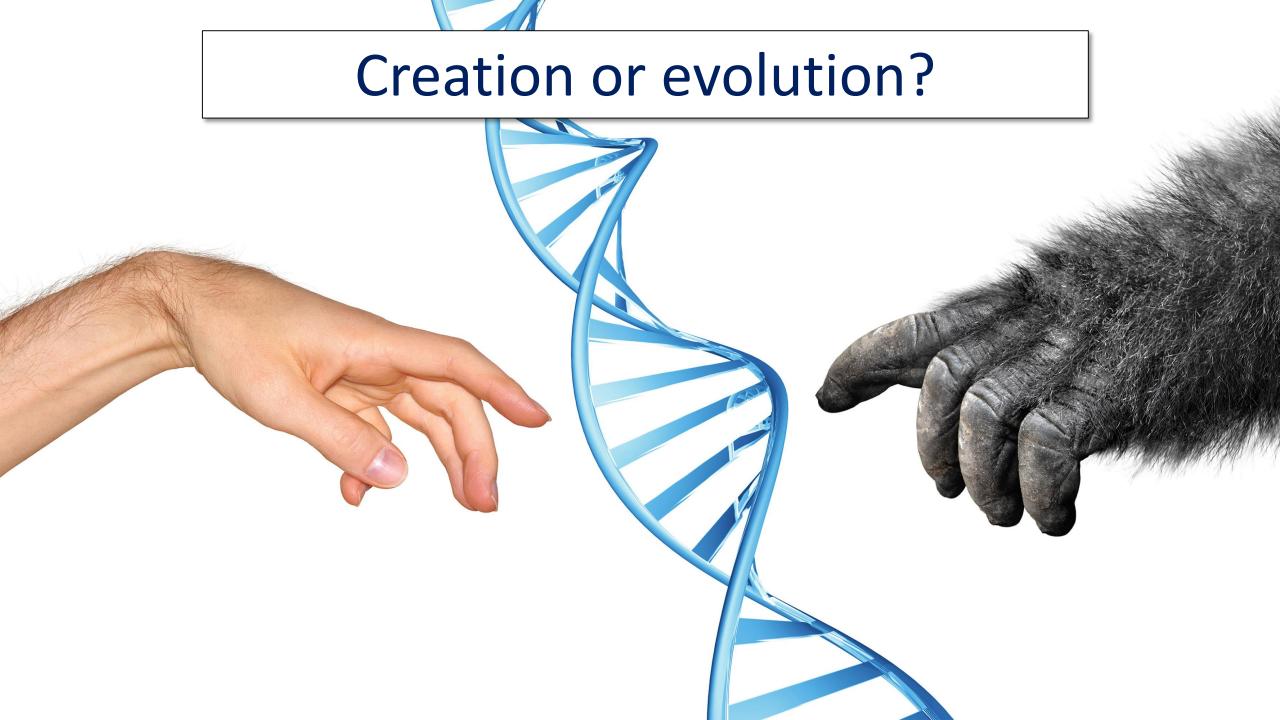


Do you ever feel you walk a tightrope in your faith regarding science and reading Genesis?





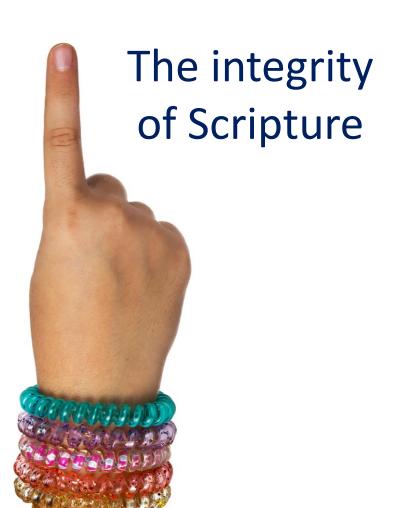


Two major concerns for most



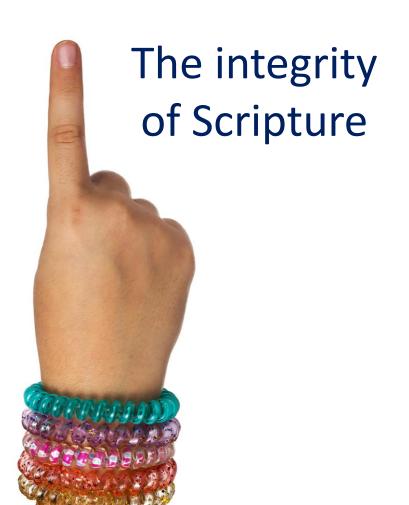


Two major concerns for most



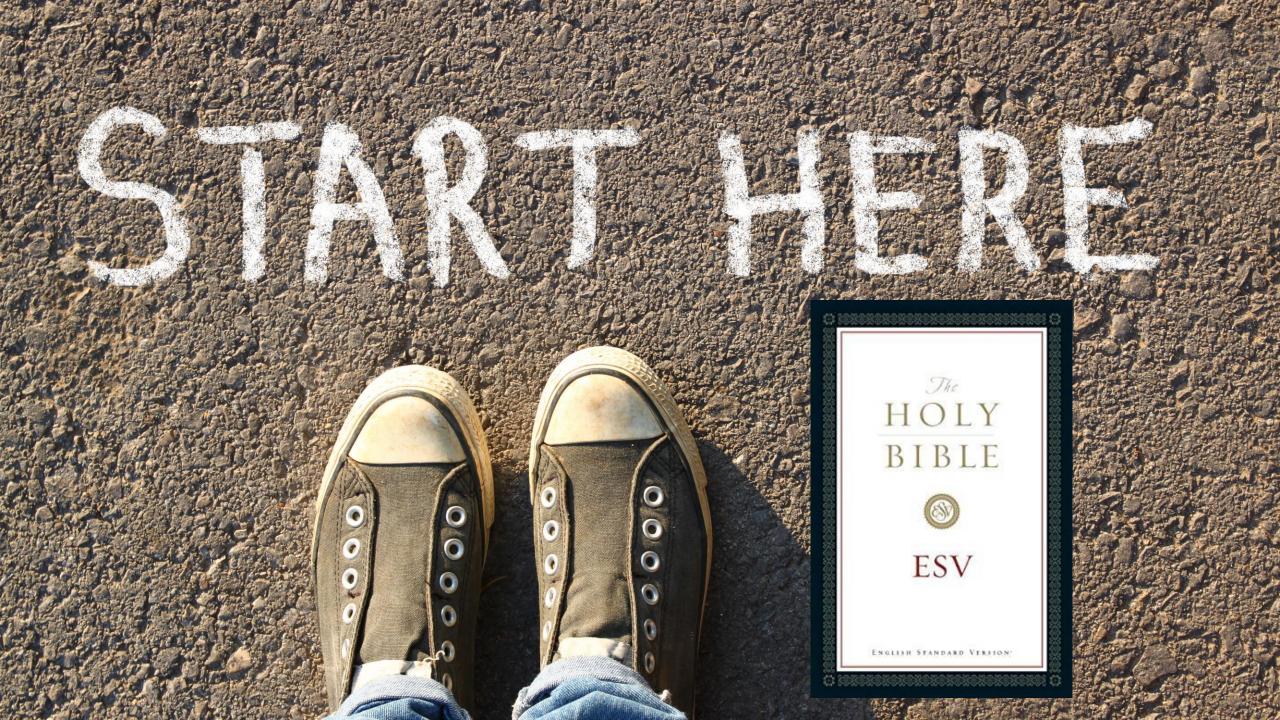


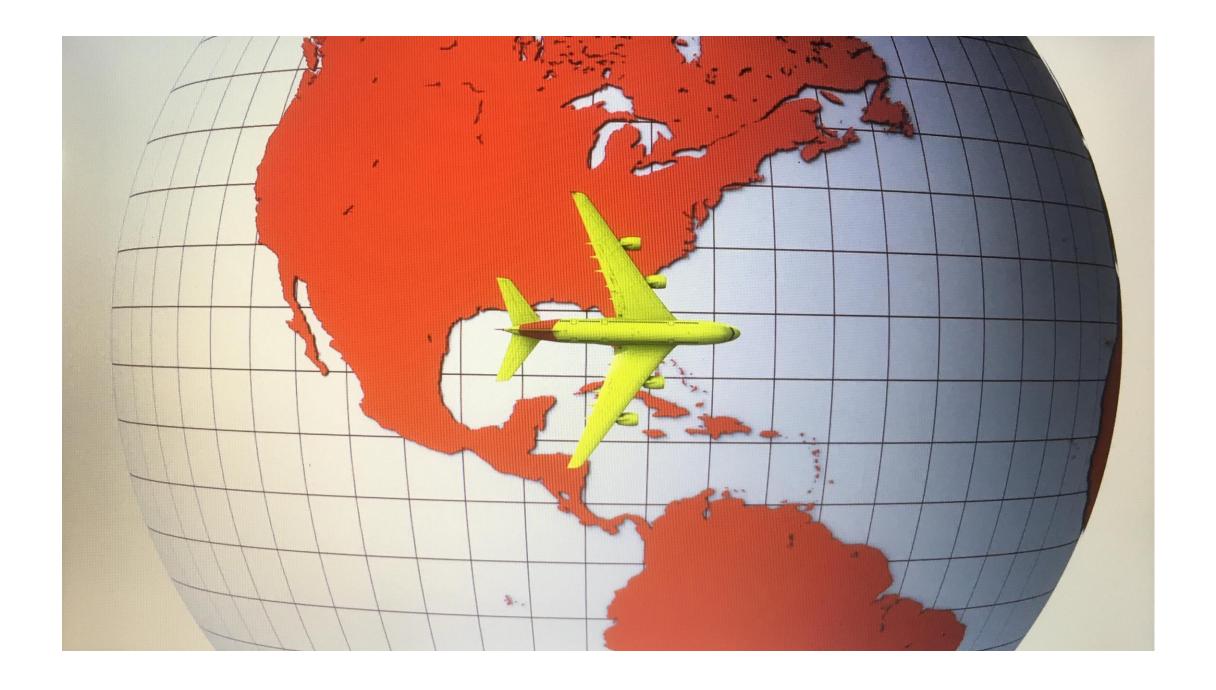
Two major concerns for most



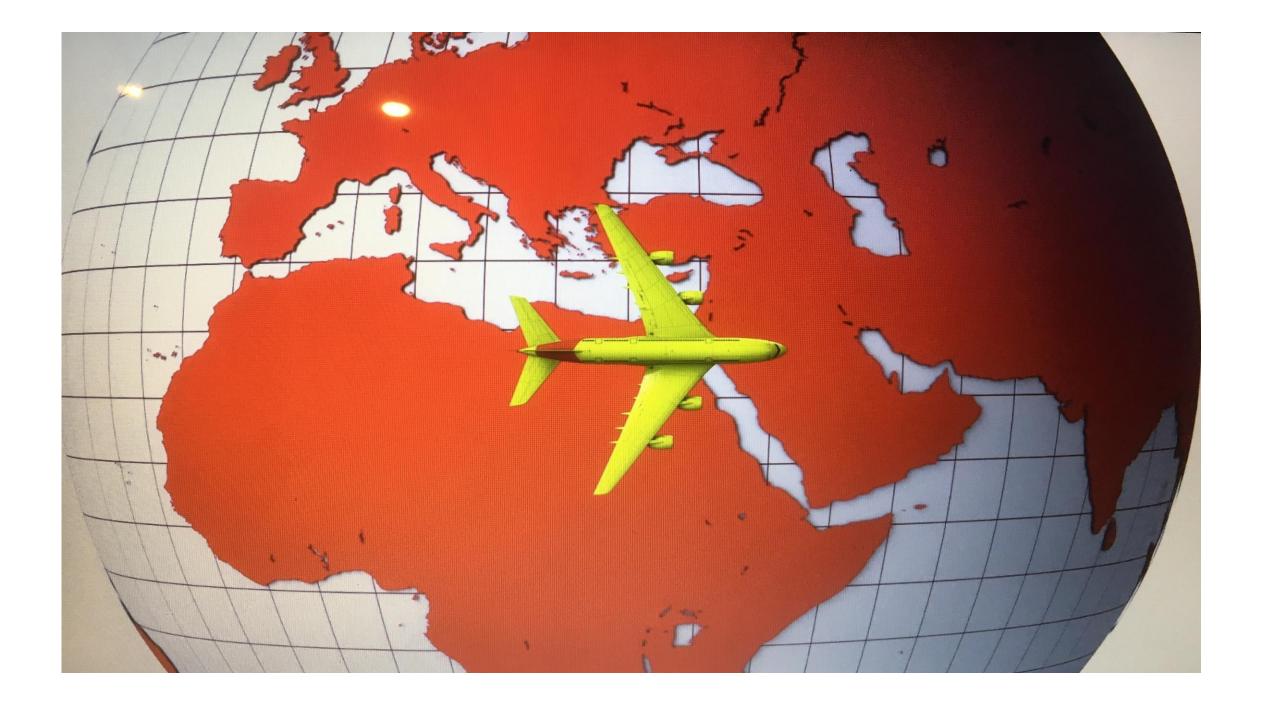


Whether there's a need for God









































What is the cosmology with reference to how the ancients viewed the universe's structure?



What is the cosmology with reference to how the ancients viewed the universe's structure?



What is the significance of the Hebrew words and language?





What is the cosmology with reference to how the ancients viewed the universe's structure?



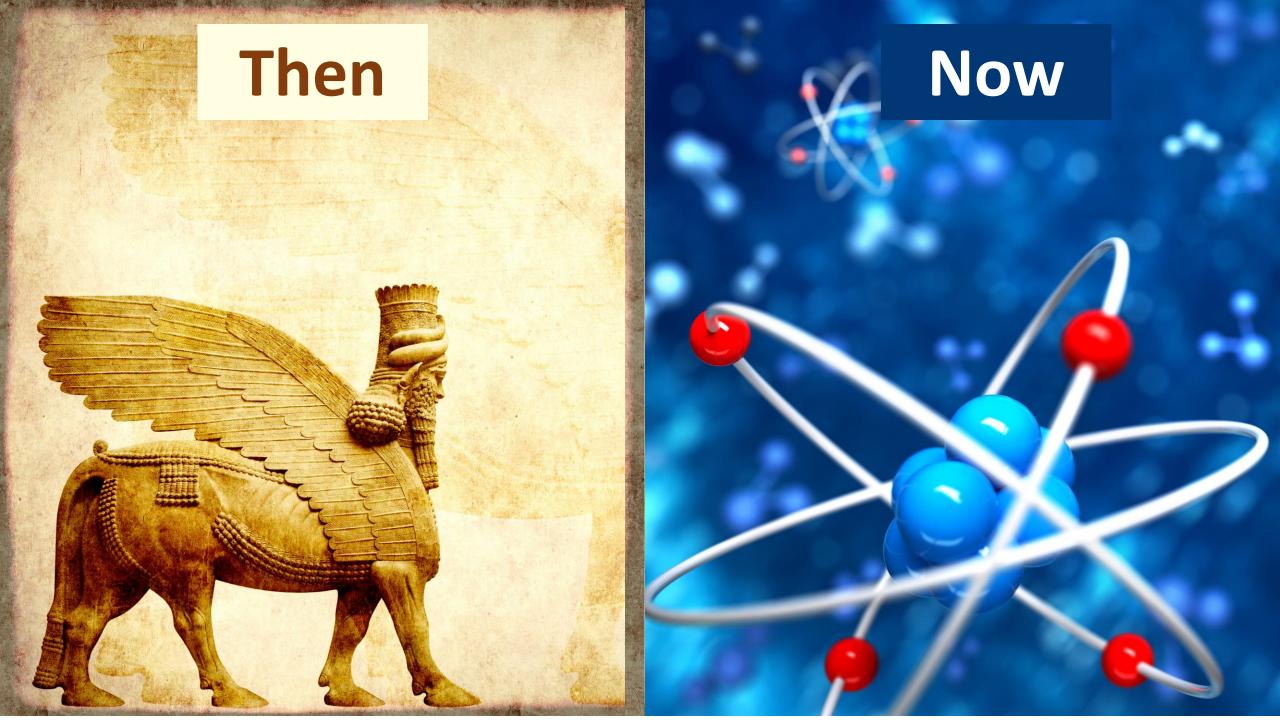
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What are the messages God was trying to convey to the ancient Israelites when giving this?



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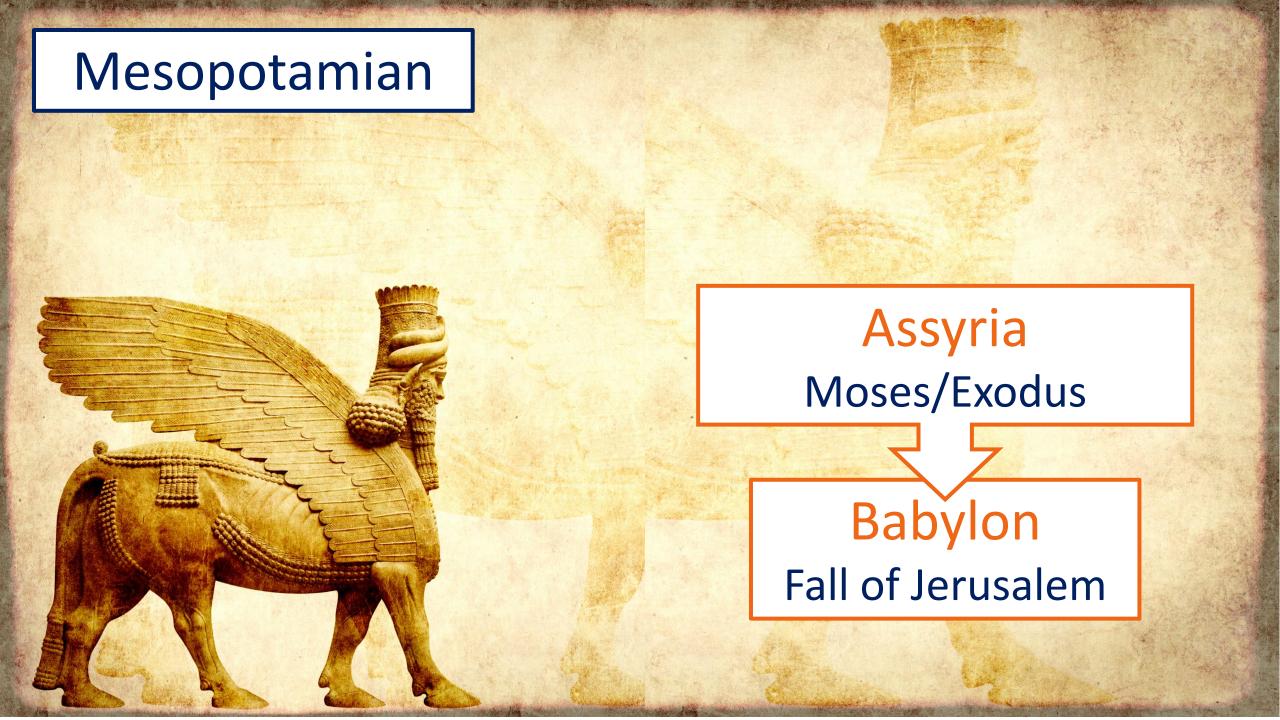


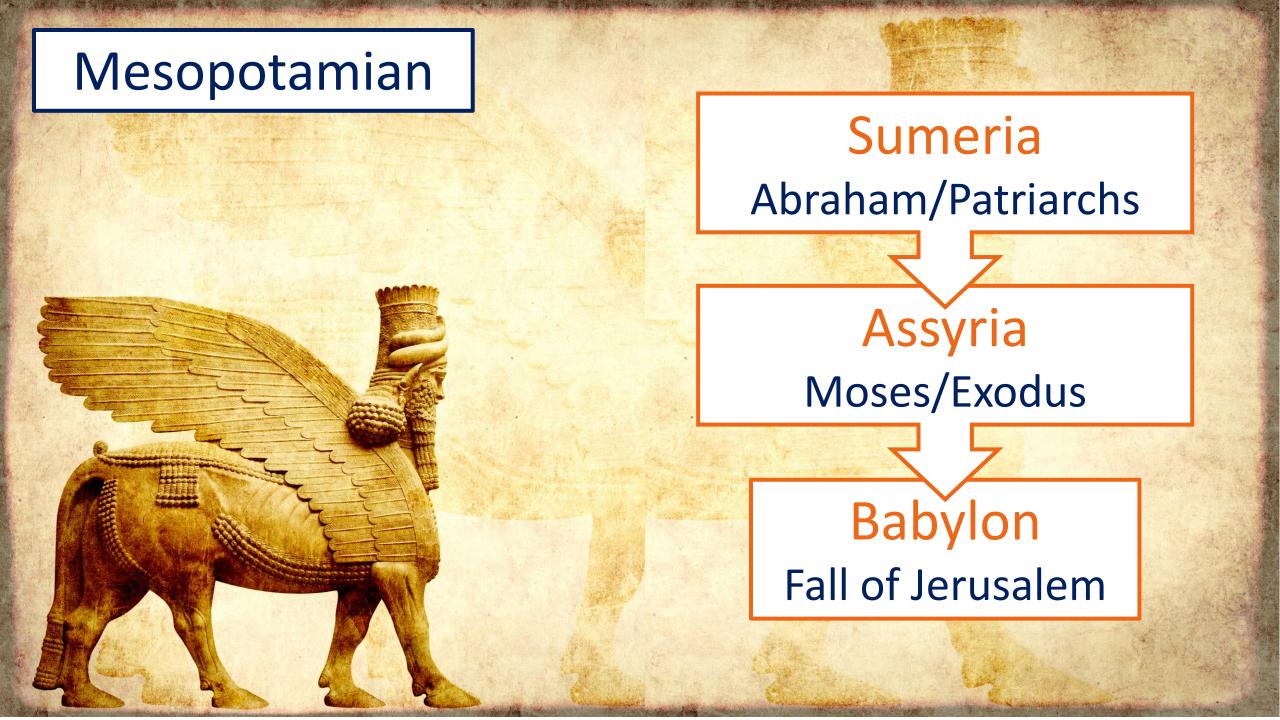
The ancients used common sense with what they visually observed









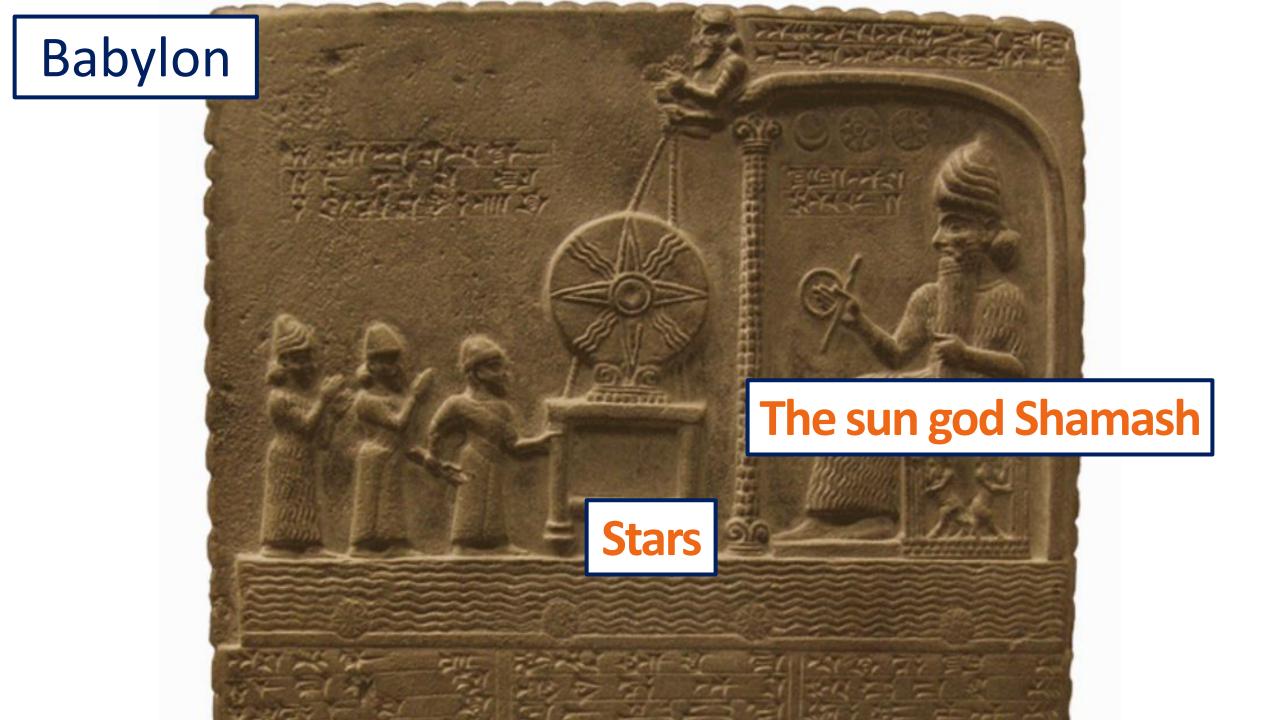


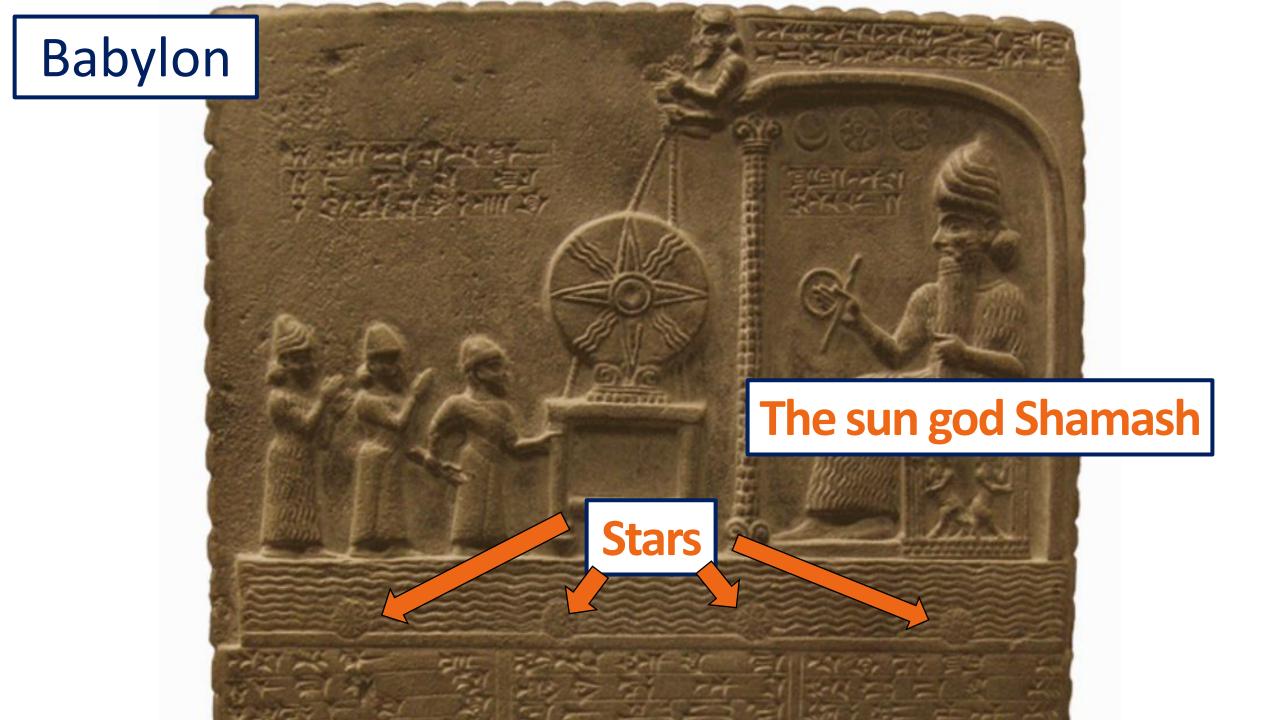


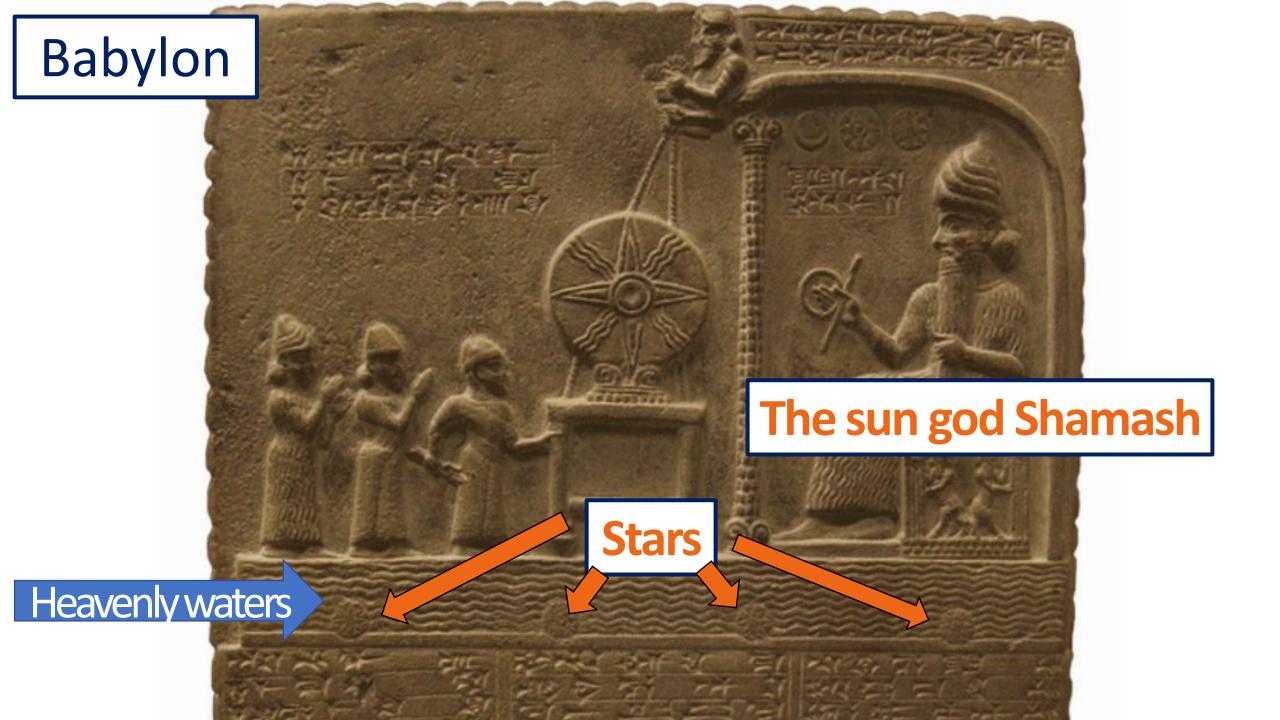
Babylonian tablet with the sun god Shamash

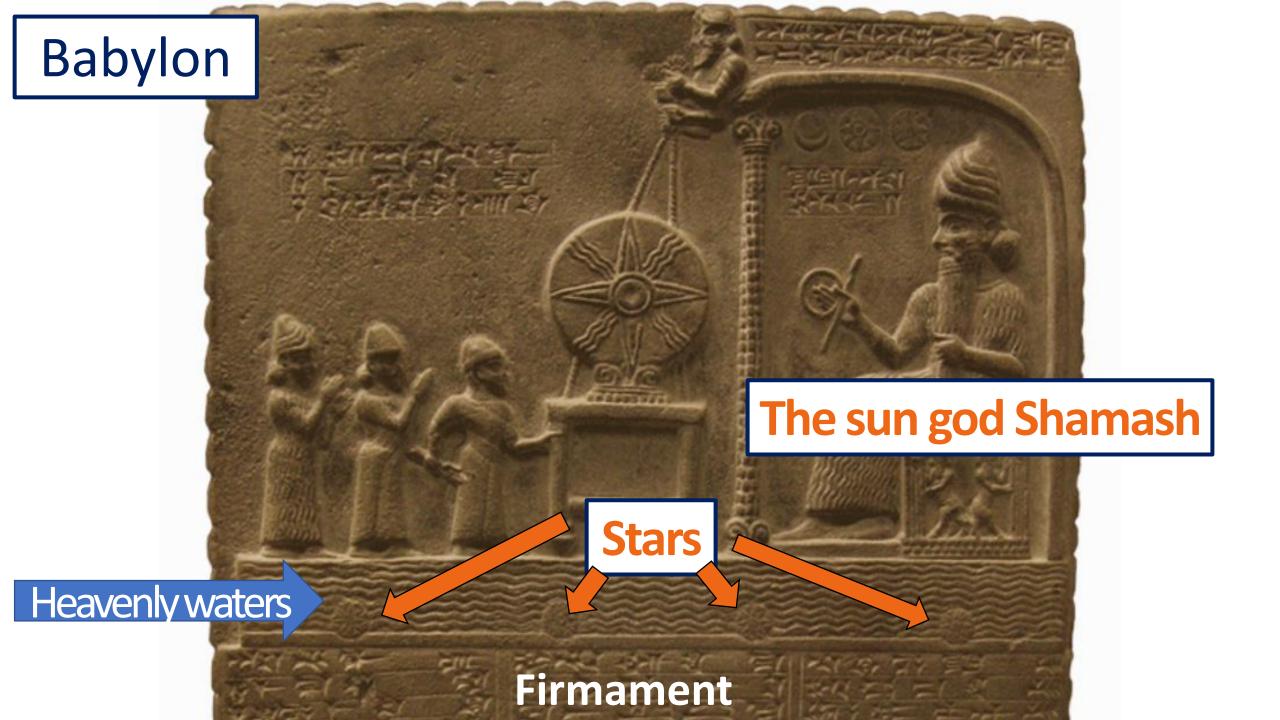


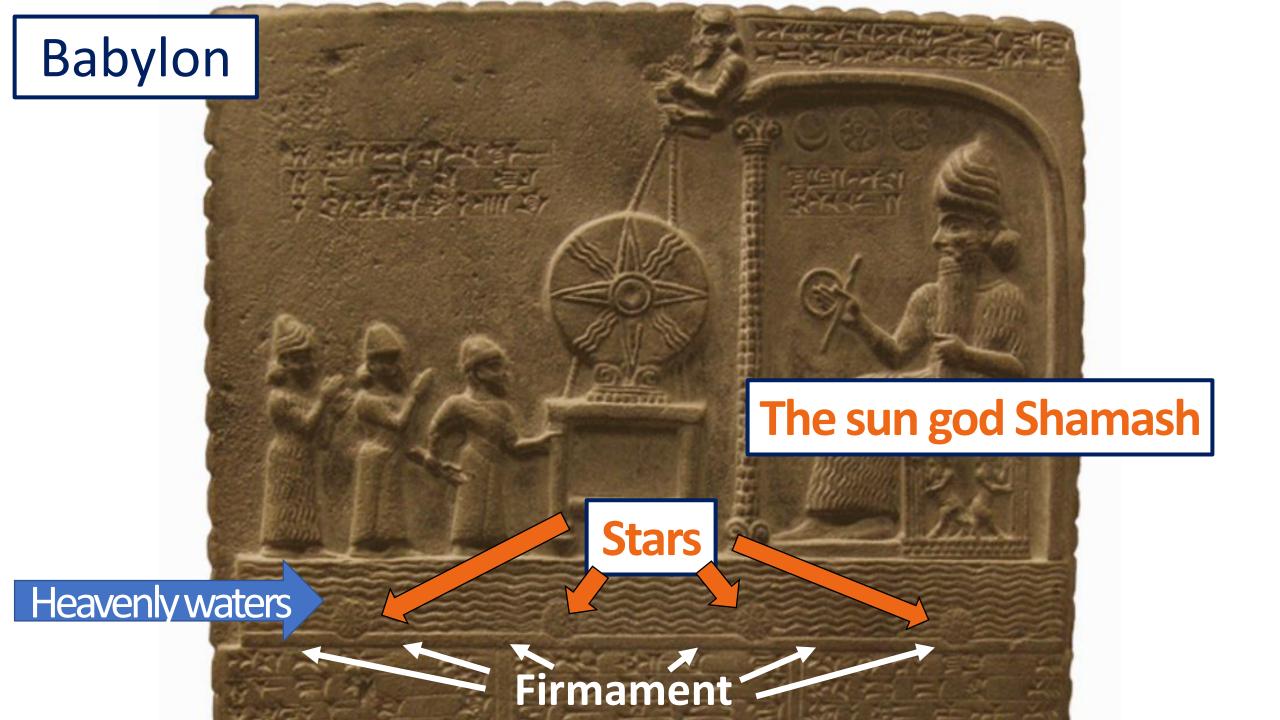










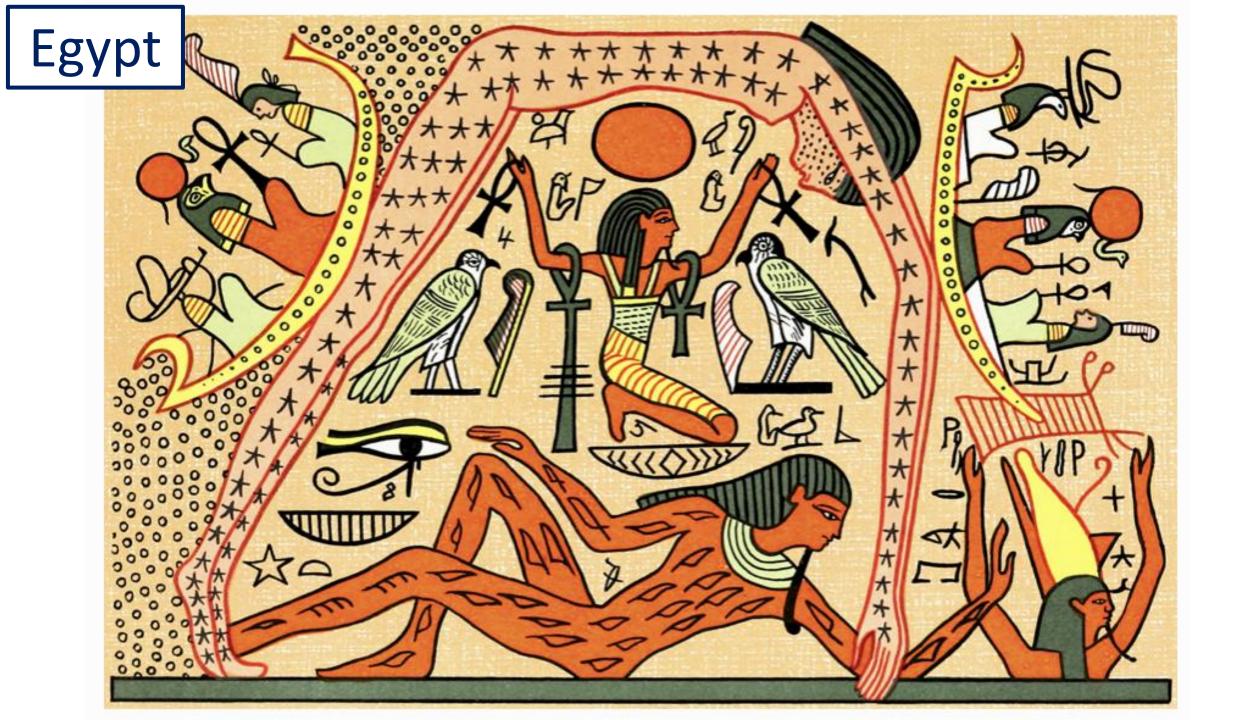


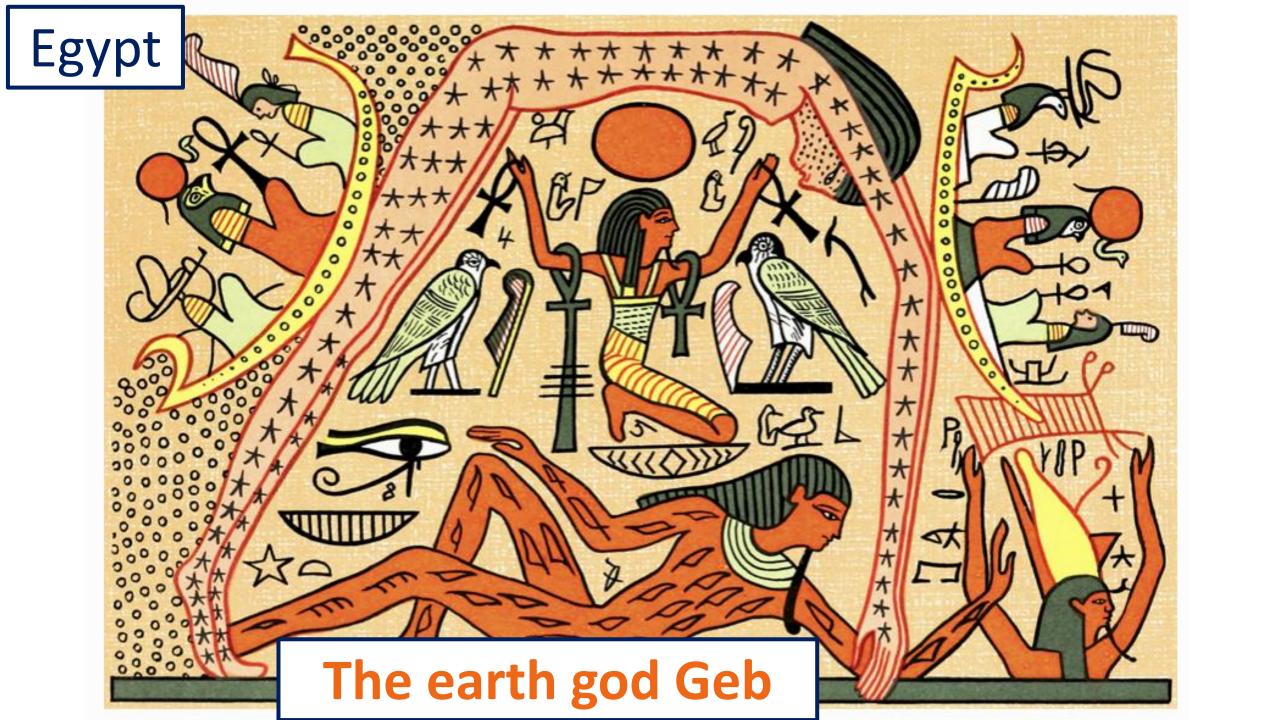


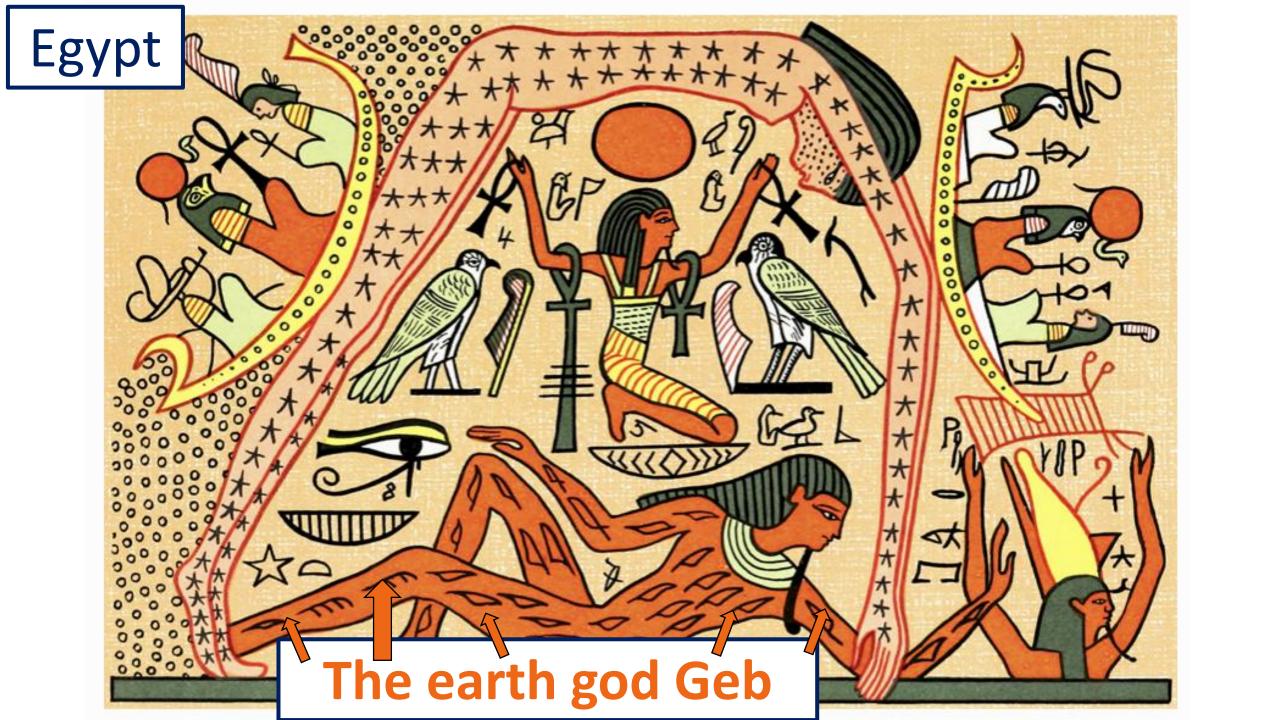
Babylonian map of world as flat disc

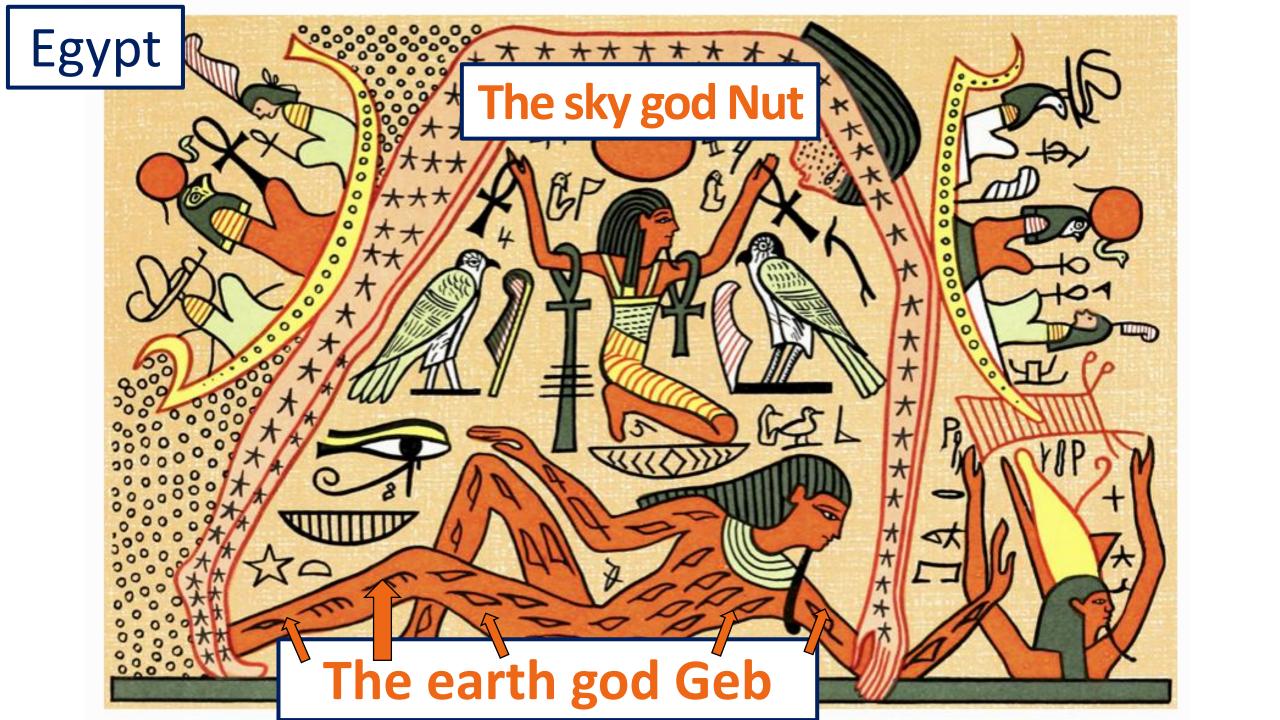


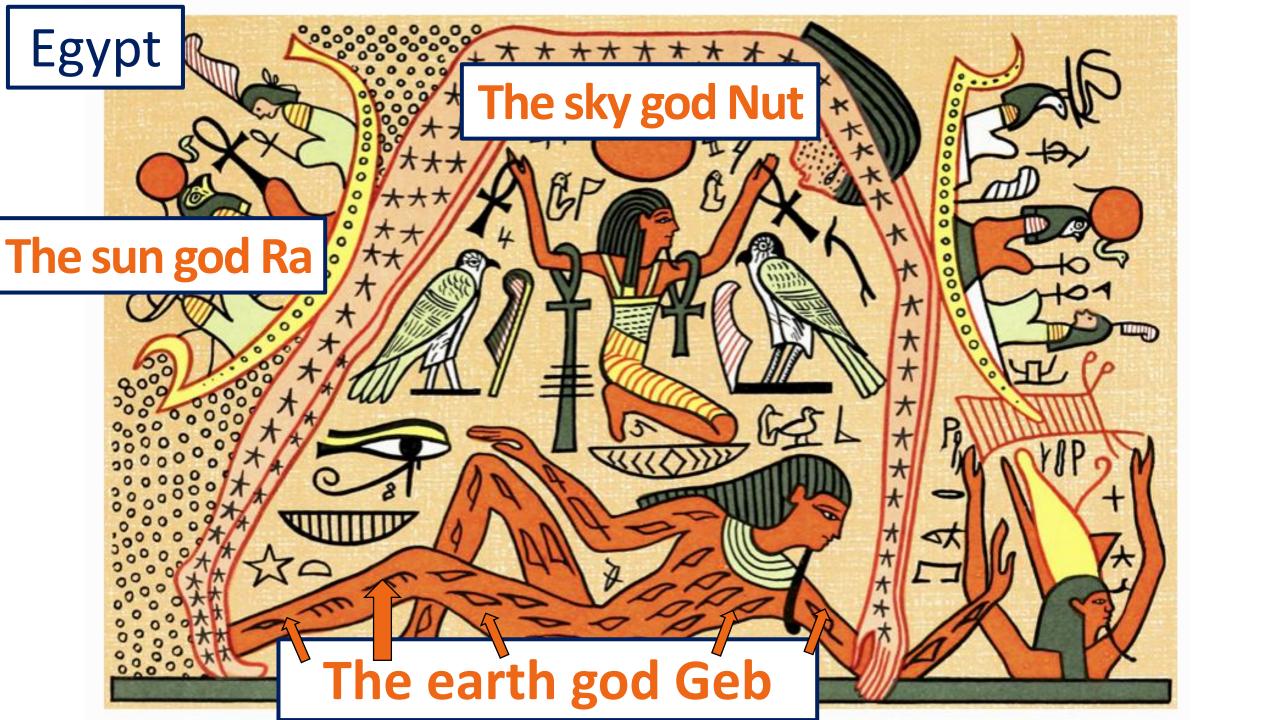


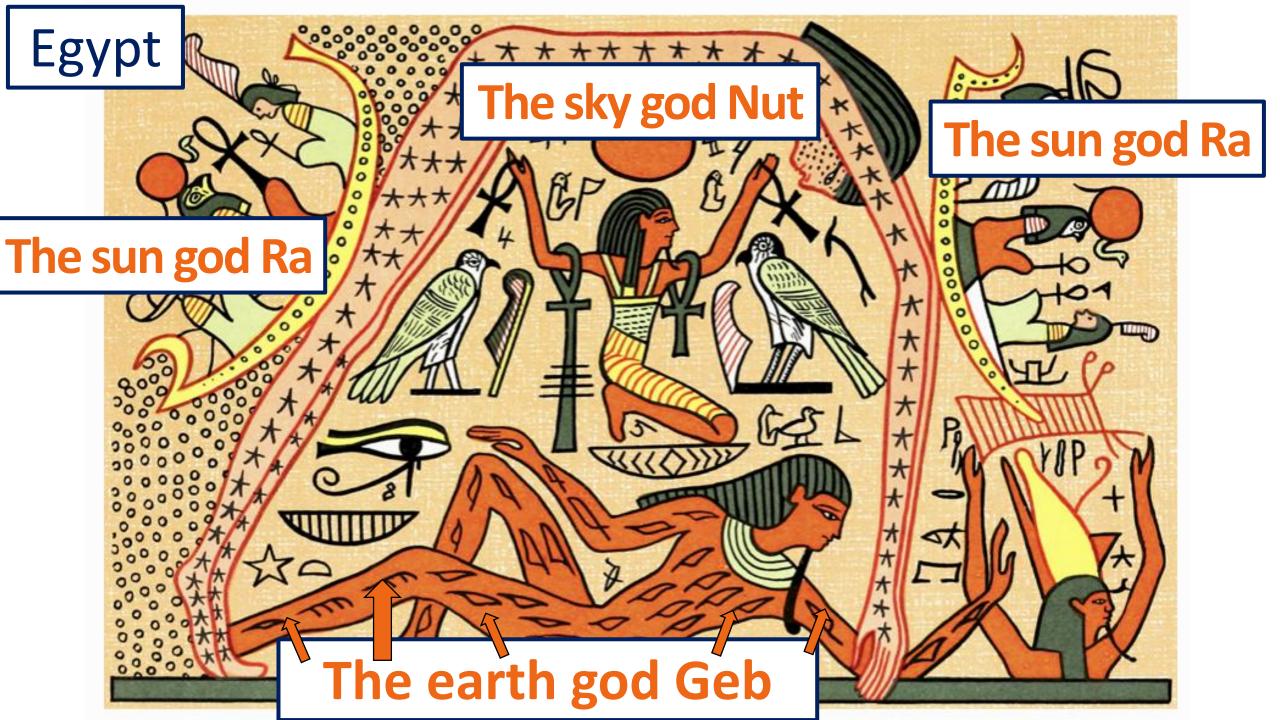


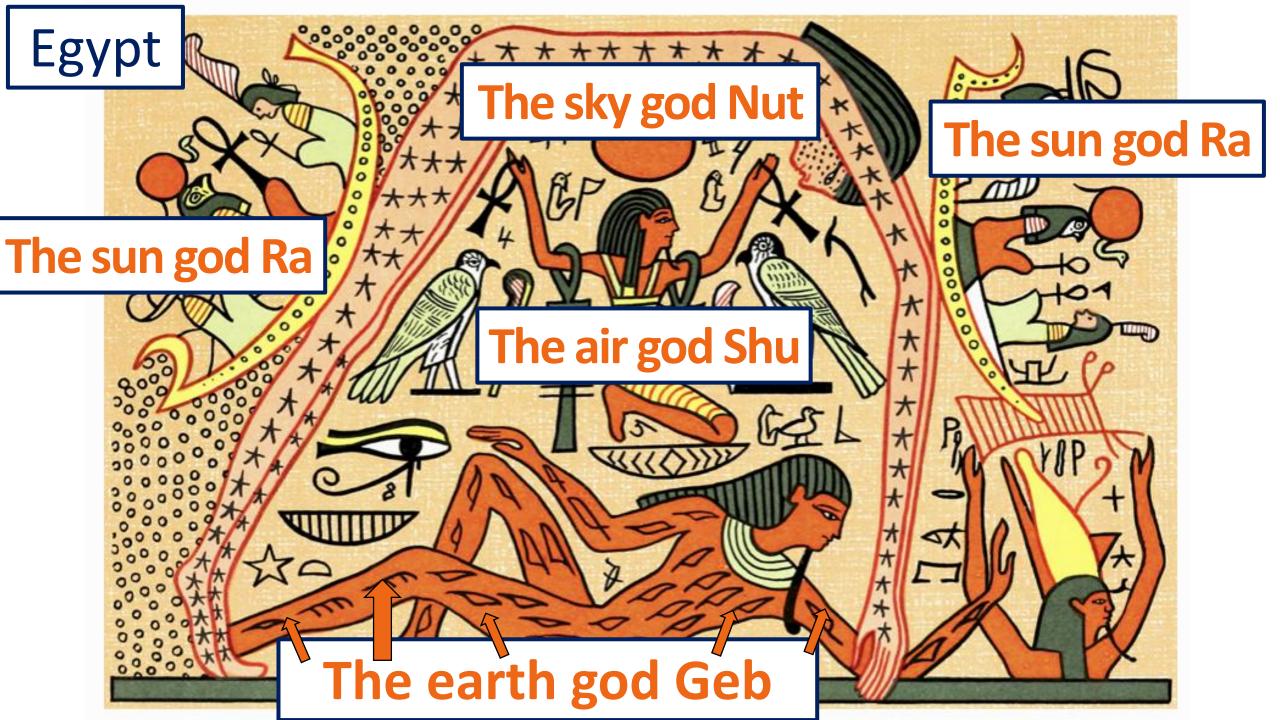
















"We will see some who are so deranged, not only in religion but who in all things reveal their monstrous nature, that they will say that the sun does not move, and that it is the earth which shifts and turns. When we see such minds we must indeed confess that the devil posses them, and that God sets them before us as mirrors, in order to keep us in his fear."

- Calvini Opera Selecta, Corpus Refomatorum, Vol 49, 677





"Let the waters . . . be gathered together." This also is an illustrious miracle, that the waters by their departure have given a dwellingplace to men. For even philosophers allow that the natural position of the waters was to cover the whole earth, as Moses declares they did in the beginning; first, because being an element, it must be circular, and because this element is heavier than the air, and lighter than the earth, it ought cover the latter in its whole circumference. But that the seas, being gathered together as on heaps, should give place for man, is seemingly preternatural; and therefore Scripture often extols the goodness of God in this particular"



Psalm 33:7 - 'He has gathered the waters together on a heap, and has laid them up in his treasures.'

Psalm 78:13 - 'He has collected the waters as into a bottle.'

Jeremiah 5:22 - 'Will ye not fear me? will ye not tremble at my presence, who have placed the sand as the boundary of the sea?'







Moses here addresses himself to our senses, that the knowledge of the gifts of God which we enjoy may not glide away. Therefore, in order to apprehend the meaning of Moses, it is to no purpose to soar above the heavens... Moses does not here subtilely descant, as a philosopher, on the secrets of nature, as may be seen in these words...







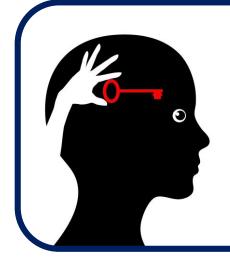
Moses wrote in a popular style things which without instruction, all ordinary persons, endued with common sense, are able to understand; but astronomers investigate with great labor whatever the sagacity of the human mind can comprehend. Nevertheless, this study is not to be reprobated, nor this science to be condemned, because some frantic persons are wont boldly to reject whatever is unknown to them. For astronomy is not only pleasant, but also very useful to be known: it cannot be denied that this art unfolds the admirable wisdom of God.



What is the cosmology with reference to how the ancients viewed the universe's structure?



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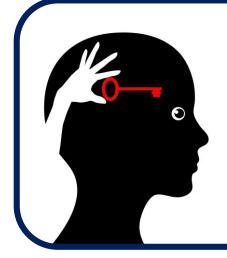
God used the people's concepts of the universes structure to explain his creation. He did not give Israel a revised lesson in astronomy, atmospheric sciences, the physics of light and gravity, nor the geography that would accompany a 21st understanding of the world.



What is the cosmology with reference to how the ancients viewed the universe's structure?



What is the cosmology with reference to how the ancients viewed the universe's structure?



God's concern wasn't with rectifying Israel's science. His concern was rectifying Israel's understanding of God, humanity, and other important matters



What is the cosmology with reference to how the ancients viewed the universe's structure?



What is the significance of the Hebrew words and language?



What are the messages God was trying to convey to the ancient Israelites when giving this?



What is the significance of the Hebrew words and language?

"The earth was without form and void"

"The earth was without form and void"

Forming

Forming

Filling

Forming

Filling



Forming

Filling

1 Light/darkness

2 Heavens separate from waters

Forming

Filling



Heavens separate from waters



Land

Forming

Filling

Light/darkness



Heavens separate from waters



Forming

Filling

Light/darkness





Heavens separate from waters



Fish – sea; birds - heavens



Forming

Filling

Light/darkness





Heavens separate from waters



Fish – sea; birds - heavens







Animals, bugs, people



God rests

The earth is formed and filled



God rests

We MUST read it in cultural context



What is the cosmology with reference to how the ancients viewed the universe's structure?



What is the significance of the Hebrew words and language?



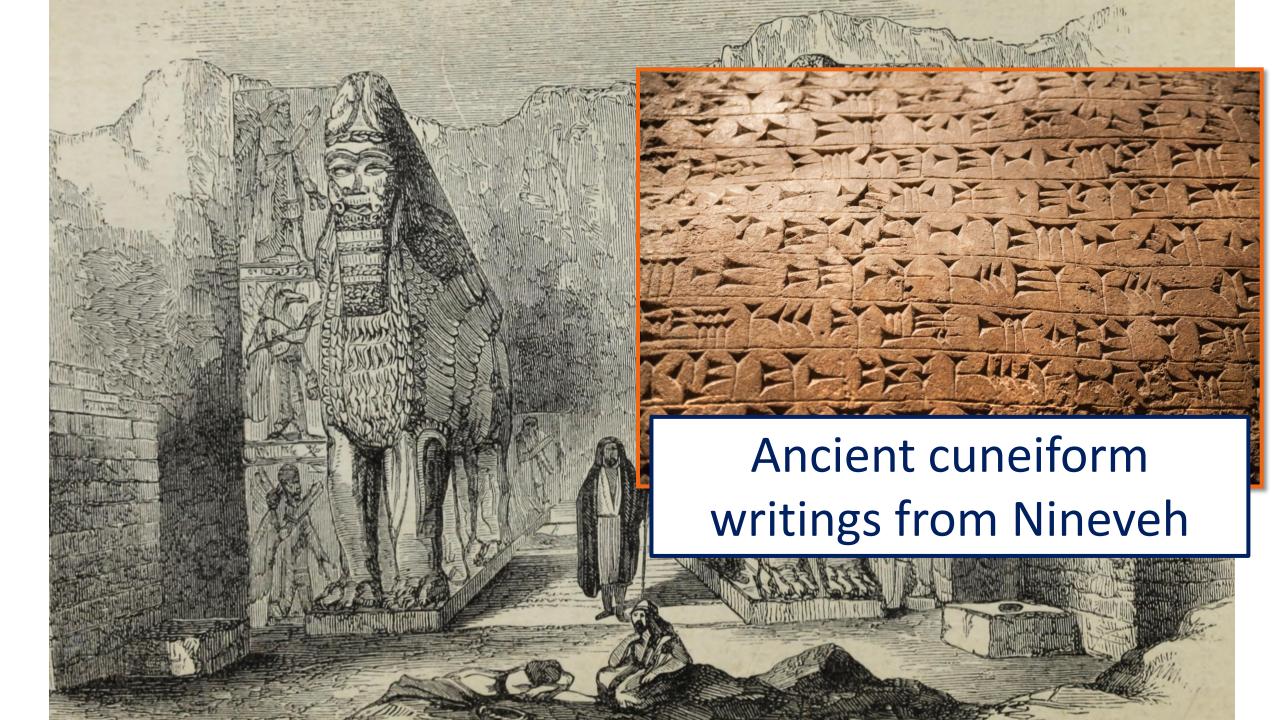
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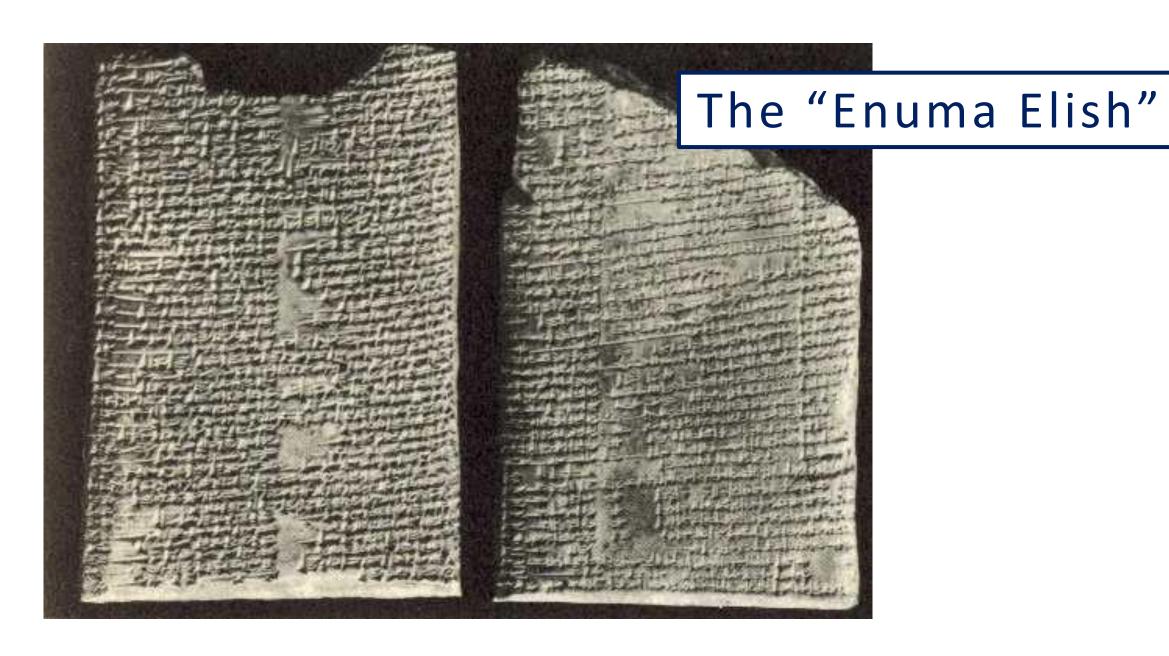
We MUST read it in cultural context



What are the messages God was trying to convey to the ancient Israelites when giving this?









God used ancient cosmology, but gave an entirely different message!



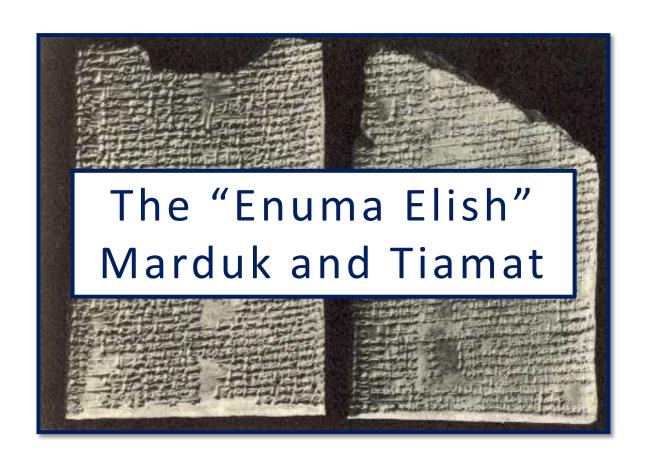
One God apart from nature.

Not many gods as part of nature.



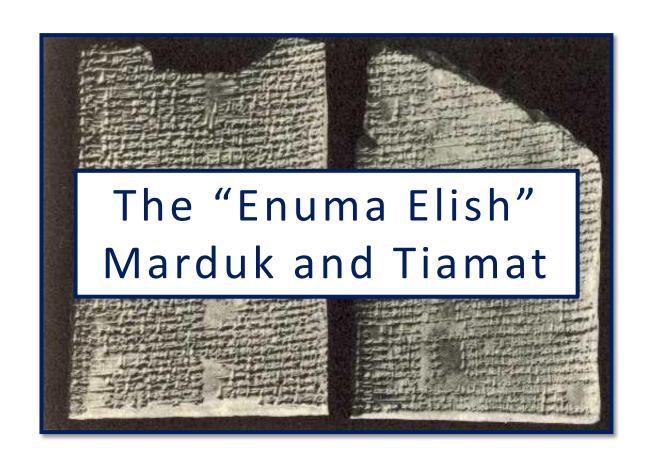
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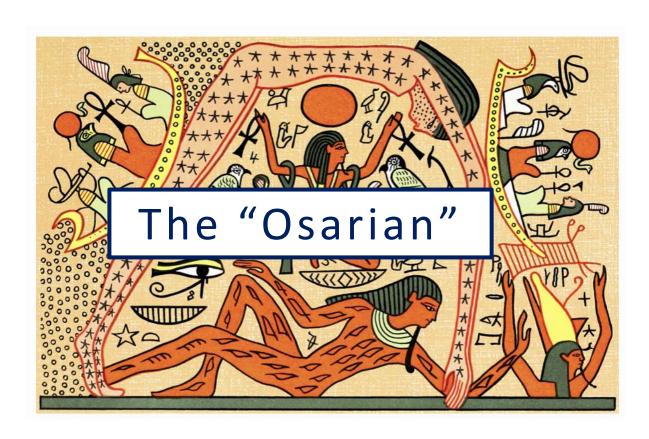
God is above creation.

Not captive to creation.



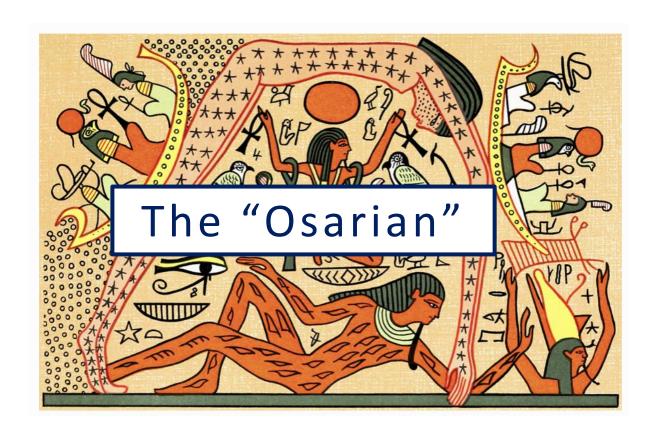
God is above creation.

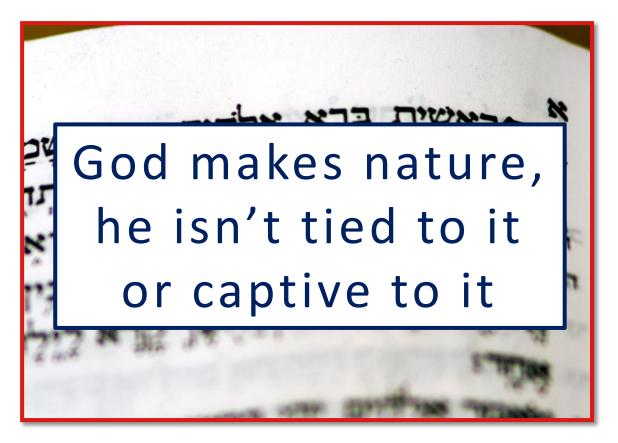
Not captive to creation.



God is above creation.

Not captive to creation.



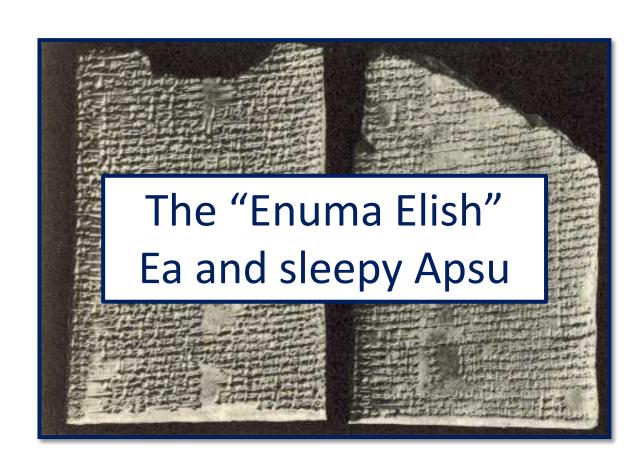


God is outside space/time.

Not captive to space/time.

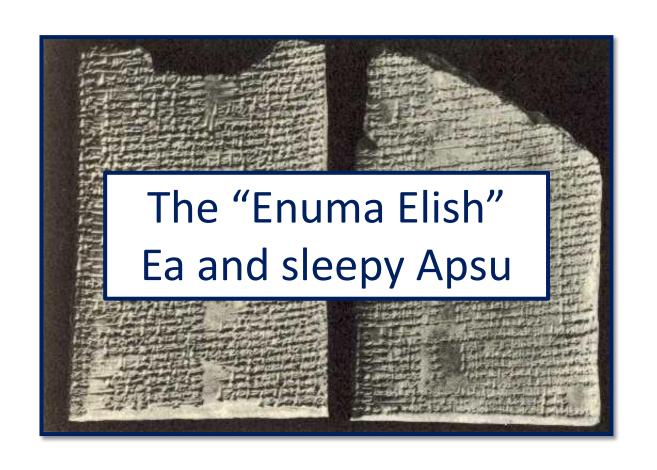


God is outside space/time. Not captive to space/time.



God is outside space/time.

Not captive to space/time.





God is not a sexual being.

Gods are gendered.



God is not a sexual being. Gods are gendered.



"Elkunirsa and Asertu" El, Asertu, and Ba'al



God is not a sexual being.

Gods are gendered.



"Elkunirsa and Asertu" El, Asertu, and Ba'al

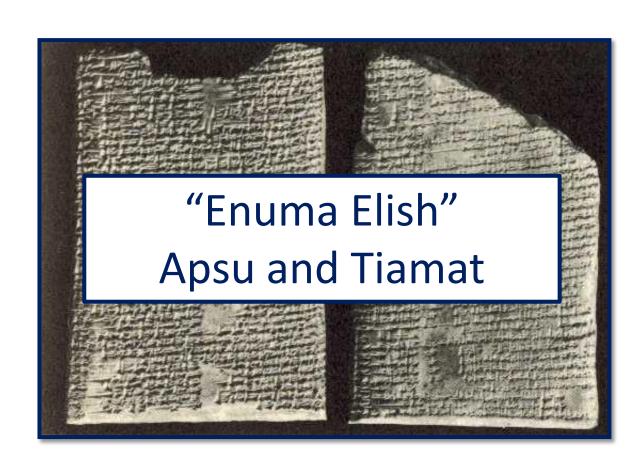




Gods are s/s'ed humans w/ human limitations.



God is not a super-sized human. Gods are s/s'ed humans w/ human limitations.



Gods are s/s'ed humans w/ human limitations.



"Atrahasis" Purpose of men



Gods are s/s'ed humans w/ human limitations.



"Atrahasis" Purpose of men





Gods are s/s'ed humans w/ human limitations.



"Atrahasis"
Creation of men



Gods are s/s'ed humans w/ human limitations.



"Atrahasis"
Creation of men



Gods are s/s'ed humans w/ human limitations.



"Atrahasis"
Creation of men





God makes nature for humans.

Gods tame nature for the gods uses.



God makes humans for fellowship.

Gods make humans for ease of life.









Grab the message!

TAKE ACTION NOW

Grab the message!

"In the beginning..." (Gen. 1)



TAKE ACTION NOW

Sing the wonders of God



Sing the wonders of God

"In the beginning, God..."
(Gen. 1:1)





Shout the dignity of humanity

TAKE ACTION NOW

Shout the dignity of humanity

"... in God's image..." (Gen. 1:27)