

Introducing Your Creator (Genesis 1.1-2)

Sheps worldview: Who made you? What else did God make? Why did God make you & everything else?

Jonah hated Ninevites for their way/worldview, but what else did he expect? **They didn't know God!**

T: *Become & Behold. But if we don't know our origin, destiny?* T4: *Genesis – In the Beginning... God*
Genesis wasn't lying in the Garden for Adam & Eve. Spoken to Moses as God was **birthing Israel**
3500yr after "the beginning": polytheism, mythologies, idol worship were cultural norms!

Liberal theologians try to mesh biblical creation w/pagan accounts: Enuma elish, Babylonian mythology:
Tiamat, sea goddess, tried to assassinate Anu, supreme god, but Marduk slices her in two: heaven & earth.

polytheism: god of sun, moon, water, stars, wind, crops: created matter. Our task: appease right one!

Ever-changing guard/gods! T4: amoral = no standard, no right/wrong, anything goes: worldview

► **imgs** **There's reason people live, hate, hurt, suffer, destroy, worship as they do: No knowledge of God**

Jonah would remind us: "Have compassion!" Stephen & Jesus would cry, "Father, forgive them..."

PRAYER

1.1 Nothing like this is pagan mythology: distinct! Why this 1st? What importance? Israel's GOD is...

1) **CREATOR of ALL**: all nature (pagan gods), all subordinate to Him. T4: no fear of other nations.

2) **CREATES ALL by His Word**: creation obeyed His Word, shouldn't we?

There really IS a WORD, a Way, ONE way, standard, right/wrong way to relate to God. 3 ex:

If God was before all, "you shall have no other gods before Him".

If God made us in His image, "you shall not make carved to worship".

If God sanctified one day/week for rest & pleasure, shouldn't His image-bearers?

2 For compatibility w/Enuma elish, some say v1 is temporal w/v2: "**when** God created..."

tèhom "the deep" = Tiamét "the sea goddess": **PROBLEM**: God + pre-existent matter: **polytheism**

Hb11.3 Exnihilo: out of nothing. **point: He is first, transcendent!** T4 v1: general title, w2ff: explains how

How Now Shall We Live?

1. **With a biblical worldview. There is Truth for us to know/obey: God's Word!**
2. **With empathy, compassion & mercy toward the ignorant, we should Make Him known!**
3. **BUT, we can't do either w/o Knowing Him:**

2 "rahap" unique word Dt32.11 like eagle over nest of young, bring forth life

true for everyone believer: life in chaos, deep, blind-darkness; directionless, formless, void

Spirit hovers over the surface of our lives awaiting the Father's Words: "Let there be light!"

All b/c one day at the Jordan: Spirit, like a dove, hovered over the baptismal waters as the Son of God came forth: "Let there be the Light of the World, My Son in whom I am well pleased."