

# Daniel 04 – Tale of Two Wisdoms

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Daniel 1:17-21

## Prologue: Daniel's Steps of Discernment

- Daniel sought to learn the goal and obstacles that may impede progress
  - **Daniel Listened:** Ashpenaz heard Daniel's respectful request; he then clarified his responsibilities and penalty for failing his responsibilities: Death
  - **Daniel Analyzed** the problem and developed a solution to meet all needs
  - **Daniel Synthesized** a counter solution and asked his immediate overseer to give him, and his three friends who walked in God's word, a vegetarian diet and water for ten days and then compare their health with those Jewish young men who ate from the King's table to see if met Ashpenaz's goals
    - Ten: Number of completeness, responsibility (Four-Judgment and Six-Mon)
  - After ten days Daniel and his companions gained weight, looked healthier; thus, they could continue their diet (1:12)
  - They decided to set themselves apart to God and not be swayed by the King's table (1:16-21)

## A New Paradigm: Learning Gentile Knowledge

- The Jews would be instructed in Chaldean learning which **appeared** to violate the Law; the Law forbid idolatry: Daniel had to place their knowledge within God's context
  - He followed the example of Moses who was taught Egyptian learning preparing him for his ministry as Law Giver by placing their knowledge in a new context (Ex 9:10; Ai 7:32, 34-36)
  - Daniel's learning prepares him as conduit describing Satan's plan, new world order (NWO), which Messiah will defeat via New Covenant: Jews and Gentiles
  - All learning has a value basis (religion) determining the context of facts; these men gained Chaldean learning without imbibing its idolatrous context
  - Modern people consider their knowledge scientific, devoid of religion; it is an atheistic morality, ungodly, which is its religion of covetous idolatry (Ps 139:23; Col 2:8)

## Three Examples of Babylonian Learning

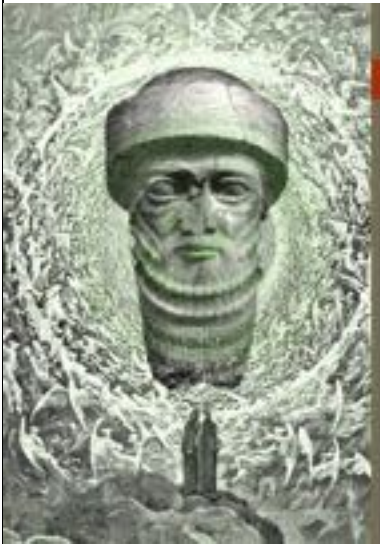
- To understand the seduction facing Daniel we will look at three facets of Babylonian learning which we know via archeology
  - Heavens their purpose and the use of this knowledge
  - Flood or Cataclysmic literature (Epic of Gilgamesh)
  - Rule of Law (Lex Rex) (Law Code of Hammurabi)
- We will compare these Babylonian knowledges to Scripture to understand the challenges facing these young men and Christians today
  - Ungodly mind, by definition, presumes Bible to be inferior; this is their starting point
  - One's worldview forms the context to explain the facts and reach an obvious conclusion; Circular Reasoning and Burden of Proof Logical Fallacy; Eisegesis

## Knowledge of the Heavens Chaldean Astrology

- Bible declares the multifaceted purpose of the heavens; ungodly people disassociated God to redefine the heavens apart from God (Job 1:14-25)
  - God made the heavenly bodies for signs that point last man to the existence of God; not the replacement of God (Job 1:14-15)
  - Daniel would look at the majesty of the night skies and see awesomeness of God; he would remember God asking Job if he could control the heavens (Job 31:12-13; Ps 136:1-6)
  - Babylonian Astrology, earliest form of divination, claimed to understand how heavenly bodies discovers a person's future or predict outcomes (Job 21-4; Job 38:35)
  - Meanings attached to heavenly bodies are arbitrary and interpretation depends on the question asked, birthdate, position of the bodies, etc.; Eisegesis (Job 2:4)
  - Modern man rejects astrology and God; yet, knowledge of the heavens is limited by an evolutionary worldview; constellations are the same then and now (Job 33:1)

## Recent Understandings of Our Local Heavenly Bodies (Many Other Examples)

- Science is the means to discover facts which people then fit into their worldview (context) to interpret what they observe; Lost man sees no God, though they do see gods (Nature, Intelligent design, etc.); Saved man sees God through the lens of the Bible, less incoherence, explains orderliness
  - Moon is only satellite in the planetary elliptical orbit, all others are in an equatorial orbit and has a high Mass Ratio; this keeps Earth from wobbling off its 23° axis
  - Sun-Moon relationship has a 400x factor; Sun is 400x size of Moon, Sun is 400x the distance from Earth as the Moon; thus, when observed from the Earth the Sun is slightly larger than the Moon; the Moon's elliptical orbit will periodically block, completely or partially, the Sun's light; Eclipse - True only for Sun-Earth-Moon
  - Earth's a Magnetosphere protects it from Sun's and Galactic's ion winds and other radiations; Sun is largest contributor to global weather by inducing wind and sea currents, lightning, cloud formation, high-low pressures AND inducing volcanic-earthquake activities; Poss. A Sun micronova broke open the fountains of the deep and began plate tectonics ([The Extraterrestrial Origin of the Cosmos](#) 194-195)



## Epic of Gilgamesh: Earliest Flood Account

- Discovered mid-19<sup>th</sup> century
- Found in Assyrian library: 650s BC
- Written in Sumer: 2100 BC approx.
- Fragments found throughout Mesopotamia including Babylon
- Earliest extra-biblical flood story
- Last, ungodly, man assumed Moses copied from this to write about Noah; i.e., Moses lied
- Compare these to determine veracity

## Textual Sources Bible vs Epic Poem

### Old Testament Bible

- Oldest incomplete Hebrew copies found in Qumran caves (200 BC)
- Oldest Greek copy, Codex Alexandrinus, 5<sup>th</sup> century AD
- Hebrews wrote on parchment or papyrus; not as durable as stone
- All Genesis texts generally agree
- Samaritan Pentateuch agrees
- No pre-Hebrew texts discovered

### Gilgamesh Epic Poem



## Which Science is Applicable?

### Observable Science

- Phenomenon must be present, measurable and repeatable
- If phenomenon occurred once it is not observable science
- If phenomenon occurred in the past it is not observable science
- Observable science yields facts; context explains relationship of facts to reality to explain why the facts occur

### Forensic Science

- Forensic science occurred without observation; i.e., in the past
- No one observed the occurrence; only the evidence is present
- May have occurred in the past; only the evidence is present
- Context is required to correctly and coherently align facts; Four Laws of Logic guides analysis and Bible explains why...God

## Comparison of Known Ark Designs: Which is Seaworthy and Practical?

- Simmons' Ark commonly used to cross ivers, not large enough for various kinds of animals and man
- Simmons' (WWII RAF M.E.) clay tablet loaned to British Museum; source unknown
- Gilgamesh's Ark seven stories but not seaworthy
- Noah's Ark built as described is seaworthy and holds various kinds of animals and man for a year and survive



### FACTOR

BUILD TIME:	55-75 YEARS	1 WEEK
LENGTH:	515 FEET	200 FEET
DURATION:	371 DAYS	1 WEEK
SEAWORTHY:	YES	NO

### Dimensions of the Arks: Noah's and Gilgamesh's

- Noah's Ark based on narrative with testable details: Passes Forensic Science
- Mesopotamia Flood texts are poems, not narratives: Fails Forensic Science
- Gilgamesh's Ark based on poem with unworkable details: Failed Forensics

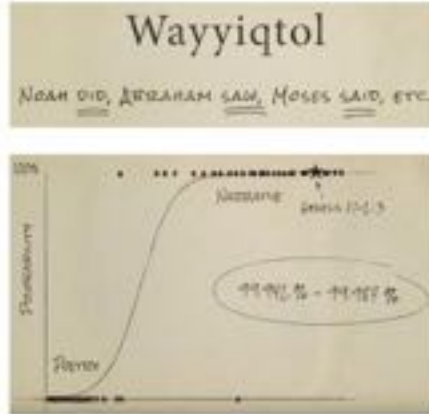
## Commonality Does Not Prove Truth Logical Fallacy

- These are the common elements of flood poems and narratives
- Each claims to be true account
- Bible explains commonalities
- All peoples came via Noah and remained together until Babel
- Common history and beliefs
- After Babel dispersion each group morphed beliefs to fit cultural Worldviews; like Postmodernism; Without God – Ungodly



## Is Genesis Poetry or Narrative {History}

- Hebraist Dr. Steve Boyd's, Why Genesis is Truly History (Youtube), research showed high degree of language difference between Hebrew poetry & narrative
- Wayyiqtol, simple verbs, are rarely found in Hebrew poetry but are significant in Hebrew narratives, history
- Genesis is history, not poetry; thus, it should be interpreted as written as Christ did, and not metaphorically (pt 2:26-28)
- Interpretations, not facts, dispute Genesis; Daniel would have placed Chaldean facts in a biblical worldview



## Moses Not the First Law-Giver: Hammurabi First Written Law Code

- Hammurabi shown receiving the Laws from the gods
- Hammurabi commanded to give the Laws to the people
- Today's Men claim Moses copied from Hammurabi; i.e., Moses lied
- Logical fallacy: Oldest must be first; Bible copied from Pagans
- Observable science not helpful
- Forensic science helps one to understand if Moses copied



## Law of the Eye Understood Differently

- Lex Talionis (Law of the Eye) is understood as "eye for eye; tooth for tooth"
- Hammurabi's Law Code literally practiced this: Harsh; no mercy
- Judaism's Lex Talionis limited punishment to fit crime; monetary compensation - Mercy (pt 2:18-22)
- Christ pointed to this telling Jews this was given to teach them mercy; Another failure of Israel hermeneutics (pt 2:28-29)



## Differences Between Law Codes: Moral Foundation

- Hammurabi is "If...Then" with guilt often determined by "Trial by Ordeal": arbitrary with no moral foundation; i.e., truth is relative
- Moses laid moral foundation for the Law in Words 1-4 (Deut 1-11)
- Law flows from and require God's immutable goodness (Deut 1:13-17)
- Sin, beginning with covetousness, is basis for all unlawfulness (Lev 2:8)
- Death requires 2-3 witnesses for certain offenses: Moses (Deut 17:2-3)

### The most significant differences:

Hammurabi is only "cosmic," but Moses starts with "epidemic" law

Moses emphasizes duties to God as the root for duties to humanity

Moses does not provide for "trial by ordeal" as in Hammurabi

Punishments in Hammurabi are generally much more severe

Class distinctions are greatly diminished in Moses' law

Moses recognizes the intrinsic value of human life much more than Hammurabi

## Logical Fallacy Foundation of Disbelief

- The numbers of documents and the age of documents do not determine truthfulness of documents; these are appeals to fallacies rather than determining internal coherence, truthfulness, via forensic science:
  - There is a certain validity to facts of ungodly observations that can be appreciated by everyone: Fossils, disease-based medicine, physics-energies, etc.
  - Daniel, as all believers throughout history, can only appreciate the true context of facts when they are understood via exegetical hermeneutical view of Bible
  - This requires proper hermeneutical training, historical/cultural knowledge, some study of linguistics and training in doctrine to discern God's truth (Deut 31:1-14)
  - Daniel had to know and reject Talmudic Judaism's errors just as Christians must reject their own cultural errors constantly embedding themselves in doctrine
  - Thus, the faithful shall and must only live by faith (Heb 10:38-39:1-3)

## Lost Live by Faith Also Fallacy of their Observable Science

- Lost claim living by faith is dependence on unprovable beliefs while they live strictly by empirical facts; i.e., observational science
  - Science begins with hypothesis based on assumptions: unproven beliefs – Faith
  - Observable, repeatable measurements cannot explain the whys nor can it explain the past which is not observable: Their incoherent theories change often
  - Universal forces: Strong – Weak – EM – Gravitational; Deity explanation – Theories
  - Grand Universal Theory (GUT) tries to combine Strong, Weak and EM forces
  - Total of Everything (TOE) believes folding gravity into GUT will explain everything
  - Evolution requires more faith to accept than belief in God and Bible
- Believers always had a unified faith: GOD: Father – Son/Christ – Spirit

## Gaining Knowledge Does Not Limit Faith or Wisdom

- Daniel and his three friends **gained** godly knowledge and wisdom when learning Chaldean practices, beliefs and understandings
  - They were able to demonstrate solid grasp of Chaldean knowledge which impressed the king; yet, they did not compromise their faith.
  - Their sincere grasp of Chaldean knowledge insured their placement in high positions of government; Daniel and friends were **Ten Times** better than all others
    - 5x: Number of completeness, responsibility (Four-Judgment and Six-Aton)
  - Daniel already demonstrated his unwillingness to compromise truth; knowledge he learned was placed in a biblical context and told as historical narrative: Truth
  - Daniel and his friends would remain very high in Babylonian and Persian governments without compromising their faith; even to the risking of their lives

## Daniel's Uncompromising Faith in a Compromising World

- Chapter One has laid the foundation for Daniel demonstrating
  - How he got there
  - How he demonstrated faithfulness to God
  - How he gained knowledge
  - Why he was in a high trusted position in government over his contemporaries
- These are narrative passages in Hebrew and Aramaic; thus, history
  - Daniel will prophecy without writing in prophetic language, usually, much like preaching today (Prophecy is speaking the truth)
  - Much, but not all, prophecy comes through others for him to explain: GOD
  - Daniel uniquely prepared for his mission: which remains **unknown** to him

## Christian Emulation of Daniel

- Christians, or professing people, who erroneously believe the Bible, especially Genesis is poetic and thus mythical display their ignorance
  - Christ believed and thus spoke about Genesis as if it were history: actual events (Mt 24:36-39)
  - Lost man speaks of the war between faith and knowledge oft citing conflict between the Pope and Galileo (Galileo published as fact what he could not prove: this was the conflict for which the Pope prosecuted him for: Lies)
  - Bible written, unalterable, therefore it embraces facts though it is not primarily a history or science book
  - Facts coherently align with the Bible whereas man's theories frequently demand readjustment to fit new facts: demonstrating a changing faith of chaos
  - One path leads to wisdom-life: Other path leads to comfort-death (Mt 7:12-14)