




A University Experience


Daniel 2

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Daniel and his friends maintaining
a private faith in God is not that
amazing...



The amazing thing is that they
maintained a high-profile, public
witness for God in a hostile
environment.



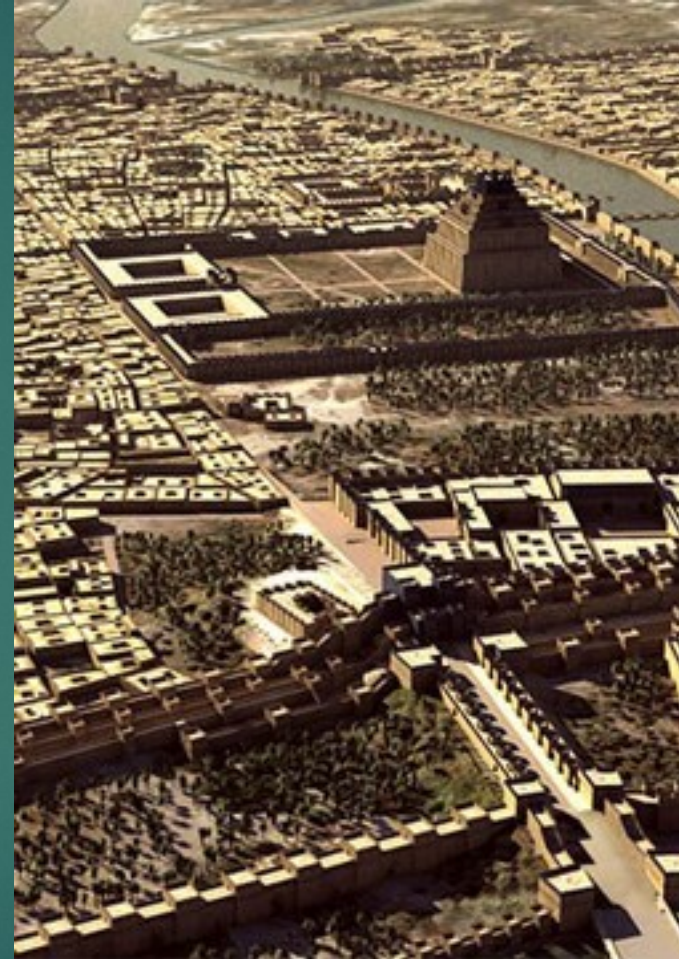
The Greatest City in the Ancient World



The City Walls...

- 80' thick
- 320' high
- 56 miles long

Herodotus



Ancient Timeline

ABRAHAM BORN: C. 2000 BC – AN ADVANCED CIVILIZATION

EPIC OF GILGAMESH: OLDEST KNOWN COPIES DATE TO 2000 BC //
URUK RULED BY GILGAMESH C. 2600 BC

ENUMA ELISH C. 1500 BC

HESIOD'S THEOGONY – 700 BC

HOMER'S ILIAD – C. 750 BC

DANIEL ARRIVES IN BABYLON 605 BC – 15 YEARS OLD!

JERUSALEM DESTROYED – 586 BC

A guided tour...

Ishtar Gate



Welcome Gate

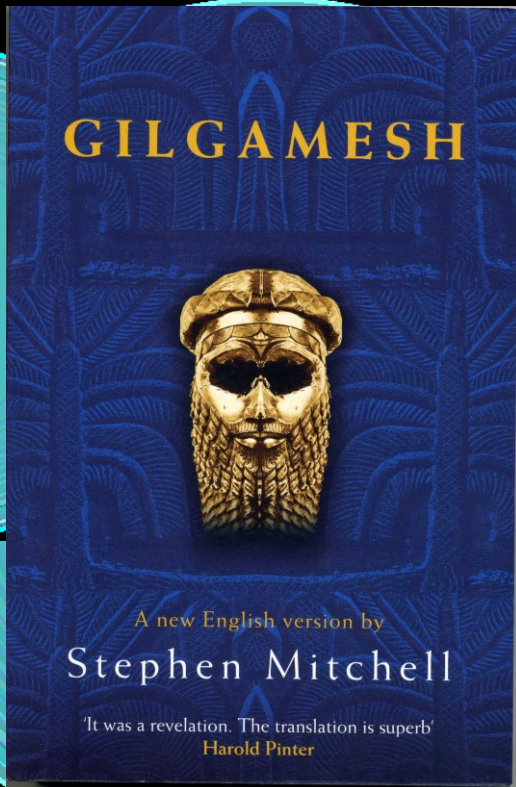


A visit to the bookstore

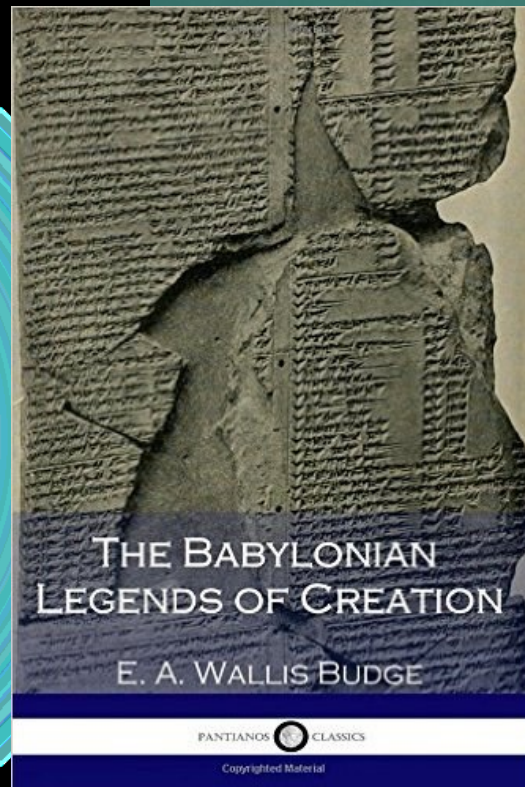


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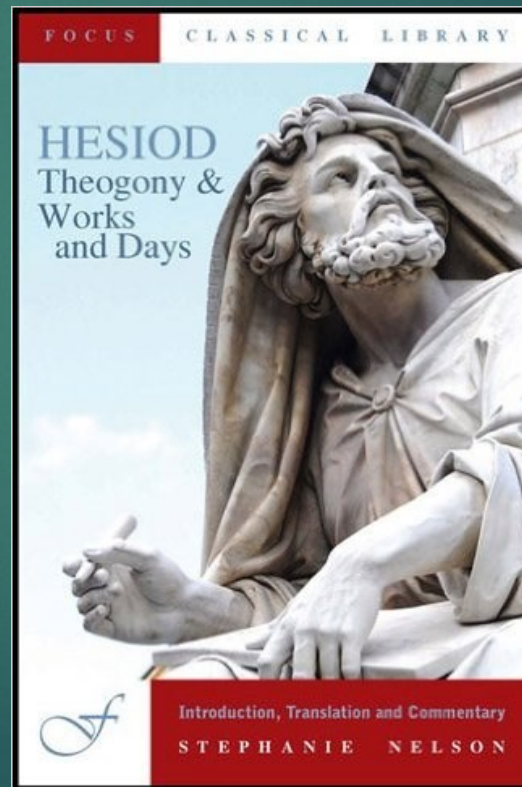
Epic of Gilgamesh



Enuma Elish



Theogony - Hesiod



Iliad - Homer



Mesopotamian

- ▶ Death is inevitable – make a name for yourself now
- ▶ The underworld has its own pantheon - terrible
- ▶ Gods were seen as immanent and not transcendent
- ▶ The god's story is man's story
- ▶ Man was designed with flaws
- ▶ Man was made to serve the gods
- ▶ Creation happened as a result of natural phenomenon
- ▶ Man would do anything to avoid death and the afterlife

Cosmology
Anthropology
Eschatology
Theology
History

Hebrew

- ▶ Death is not the end. God is immortal
- ▶ The God of heaven is the God of the dead
- ▶ God is transcendent
- ▶ Man's story is God's story
- ▶ Man was made good
- ▶ Man was made for fellowship with God
- ▶ Creation happened by spoken word
- ▶ The righteous man welcomes death

What Daniel Knew

God cannot die; he is from everlasting to everlasting. Psalm 90:2

Man's sorry state is his own fault. Gen 2:17ff

Death is a blessing because if man lived forever, he would sin forever.
There would be no chance of redemption. Gen 3:22

If I ascend into heaven you are there, If I go down to Sheol you are there.
Psalm 139:7-8

God will hold my right hand and I will be with him. He will take me into
glory. Psalm 73:24-26

What Daniel Knew

I know that my Redeemer [of Defender] lives,
and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.

And after my skin has been destroyed,

yet in my **flesh** I will see God;

I myself will see him

with my own eyes – I, and not another.

How my heart yearns within me! Job 19:25-27



Do You Have Access to the
Supernatural?

Experience Alone Would Have
Been a Tragedy.

What is Your Name?

