

# AFFIRMING FAITH

## LESSON 1: GENESIS VS \_\_\_\_\_

Following Michael's study on Evolution, a question arises on what we are left with, if what is taught as evolution is not acceptable. Is Genesis and the Bible truth, or is there something else out there that we should be believing? If Evolution is not an option, what alternatives are we left with?

**QUESTION:** Taking the stance of not knowing anything, what alternatives are we left with if Evolution is not an option?

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What does Romans 1 teach us about this? \_\_\_\_\_

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What is "Vain Imagination?" \_\_\_\_\_

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## HISTORY BEFORE

The span of recorded history is roughly 5,000 years, beginning with Sumerian Cuneiform script, the oldest discovered form of coherent writing from the proto-literate period around the 30th century BC<sup>1</sup> This also dates to about the approximate time of Abraham and the biblical Tower of Babel. Before this, there is no written record that exists outside of religious texts.

The earliest "deities" recorded were the Sumerian deities, named largely for celestial bodies and stars.

- Anu (Akkadian, Anu(m) or Ilu) or An (Sumerian from "Sky, Heaven") is the personification of the sky, the utmost power, the supreme being or supreme God the one "who contains the entire universe", in Mesopotamian religion. He is identified with the north ecliptic pole centered in Draco. His name means the "One on High"
- Anu's wife or consort is Uraš (early Sumerian),
- Anu's sons are Enlil ("the transcendent) and Enki (the "immanent")

By the time of the earliest written records, worship was largely devoted to his son Enlil, the god of wind, air, earth, and storms

What does Joshua 24:2 tell us about Abraham's father and ancestors? \_\_\_\_\_

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So, if Abraham's ancestors served "other gods" what is the difference between these "gods" and God – who is also called Elohim in Genesis?

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<sup>1</sup> Jemdet Nasr period, Kish tablet; The Origin and Development of the Cuneiform System of Writing, Samuel Noah Kramer, and Thirty Nine Firsts In Recorded History, pp 381–383

How do we know GOD is “the” God? \_\_\_\_\_

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How does Romans 1:20, tell us (if wavering or even unbelieving) that we can determine that God is God? \_\_\_\_\_

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## GENESIS

Genesis is written from the standpoint of revealing to us God as separate and different from other things that are called gods and distinguish God from other creation legends and myths.

- All of these have to be accepted by FAITH, so why should we believe that the God of the Bible is the one to follow? \_\_\_\_\_

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- What distinguishes true faith from vain imagination? \_\_\_\_\_

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## NEXT LESSON

LESSON 2 - Who is this God? Lesson 2 - The Theme if you are looking Pharaoh posed this question to Moses, when Moses requested he let the people of Israel go. This is a good question, especially as it comes from an unbeliever. Who is God that we should obey HIS voice? What evidences do we have, archaeologically, historically, biblically?