

Genesis 1:1-2- Who is God?

God Reveals Himself

Exodus 3:13-15; Exodus 19:4-6

Ancient Near Eastern (ANE) Mythologies

Enuma Elish | Gilgamesh Epic | The Tale of Adapa | The Atrahasis Epic

Personality and Character

- Competing agendas; not bound by a code of conduct
- Inconsistent, unpredictable, not accountable

Creation

- Through death and conflict

Revelation and the “Will of the gods”

- Will, purpose, and nature can only be inferred
- Intentions directed toward maintaining status quo

Human Dignity

- Humans created to serve the gods
- Dignity derived from ones ability to provide for the gods
- Image of god (*Imago Dei*) can only be found in those with power; everyone else is worthless and expendable

How God Differentiates Himself- *Exodus 19:4-6*

Personality and Character

- God is consistent and predictable in his nature; perfectly “good” and holy

Creation

- God competed with no one; extension of his fellowship

Revelation and the “Will of the gods”

- God clearly articulates his plan and communicates his expectation of those who partner with Him

Human Dignity

- Humans are partners with God in creation; *Imago Dei*; representatives
- “Treasured possession”

Ephesians 1:3-8