

Book of Enoch

Does the Book of Enoch belong in the Bible?



2025Dec14 Dan Fisher – Enoch (Part 2)



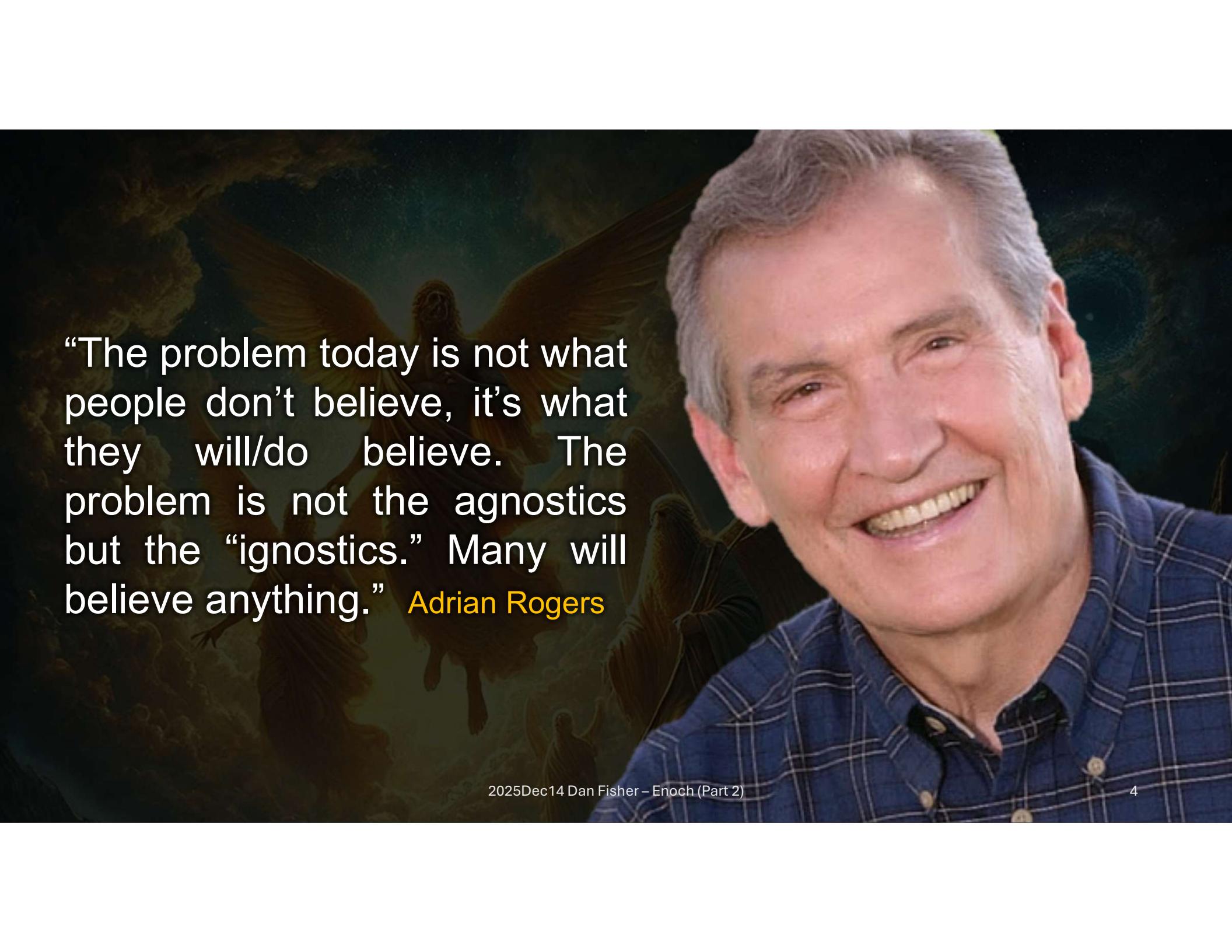
The Watchers

The Nephilim

Forbidden Knowledge

Angelic Warfare

The Flood of Noah



“The problem today is not what people don’t believe, it’s what they will/do believe. The problem is not the agnostics but the “ignostics.” Many will believe anything.” Adrian Rogers

THE EPISTLE OF J U D E

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General Salutation. The Warnings of History to the Ungodly
a servant of Jē-sūs Christ, to them that are
of James, to them that are
d in God the Father, and
s Christ: 2^o Mercy unto
d love; be multiplied.

I was giving all
unto you of our
was constrained to
orting you which
e, unto

The Warnings of History to the Ungodly
a Mt. 13. 55; naturally, like
Mk. 6. 3
(comp. 6. 16;
Lk. 14. 22;
Acts 1. 13?)
b See Rom. 1. 1
c See Rom. 1. 6

Jude's purpose for writing his letter:

Jude 3-4 Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people. **4** For certain individuals whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord.

Defend the truth against false teachers

1. What is the point of contention with the book of Jude?

He quotes from apocryphal sources

Apocryphal: of doubtful authenticity although widely circulated as being true

2. Where in his letter does Jude quote from apocryphal writings?

Jude 6-7

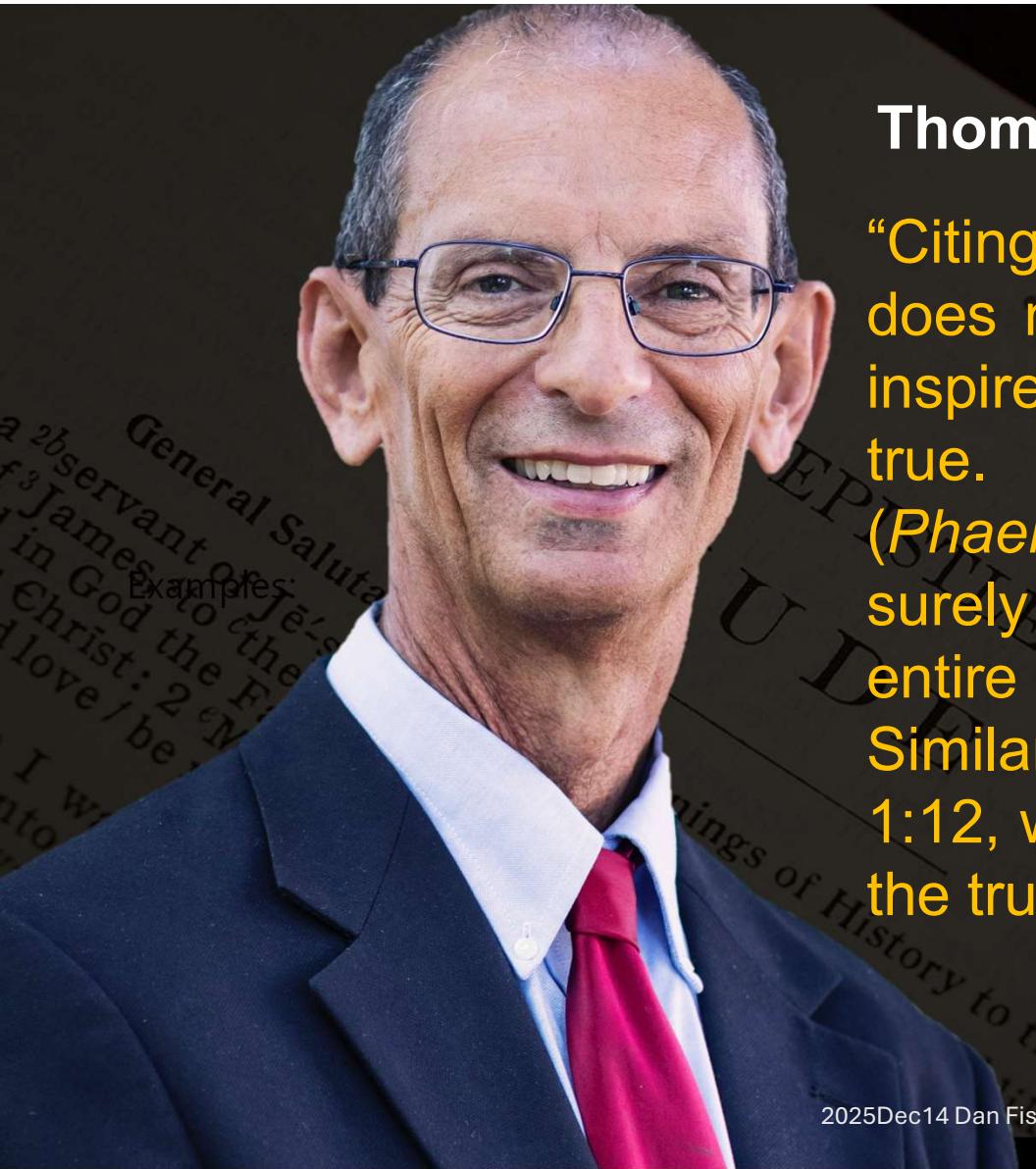
Jude 9

Jude 14-15

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3. So, what is the problem with Jude quoting from apocryphal sources?

- **Nothing – necessarily**
- **Many biblical writers quote from extra-biblical sources**



Thomas R. Schreiner, 1, 2 Peter, Jude:

“Citing a quotation from another source does not indicate that the entire work is inspired, even if the saying drawn upon is true. For instance, Paul quoted Aratus (*Phaenomena* 5) in Acts 17:28, and he surely did not intend to teach that the entire work was inspired Scripture. Similarly, he quoted Epimenides in Titus 1:12, without any notion that he accepted the truth of the whole work.”

1, 2 Peter, Jude, Thomas R. Schreiner, p. 470

The Message of 2 Peter & Jude, Dick Lucas & Christopher Green:

“There is nothing unusual with biblical writers referring to or quoting books that are not in our Bibles. In the O.T. we find references to the ‘The Book of Wars of the Lord,’ the records of Nathan the prophet and of Gad the seer, the annals of the kings of Israel and the annals of the kings of Judah [the Book of Jasher recorded in Joshua 10:13 and 2 Samuel 1:18]. ... Paul reminded his readers of some words of Jesus that are not recorded in the four gospels: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ More strikingly, Paul uses the non-biblical tradition to name Jannes and Jambres, and quotes the pagan Greek writers Cleanthes, Aratus and Menander. He even calls the Cretan poet Epimenides a ‘prophet’ ... Jude’s readers would not assume that he regarded this material as being on a level with O.T. Scripture, but as a piece of well-known wisdom.”

The Message of 2 Peter & Jude, Dick Lucas & Christopher Green, John R.W. Stott, Edit., pp. 191-192
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Lucas & Green: “Jude quoting books which were in common circulation among his readers at that time ... is like a modern preacher quoting John Bunyan or a contemporary song. Jude’s quotations mean neither that we should include his sources in our Bibles nor that we should exclude his letter from our Bibles.”

The Message of 2 Peter & Jude, Dick Lucas & Christopher Green, John R.W. Stott, Edit., p. 192

- The problem comes if the source is completely erroneous.
- The other problem is it causes some to assume the Bible is incomplete and lacking something.

4. Scripture is sufficient for everything we need to know about God and His plan

“The references to apocryphal verses do not add anything to the argument, and we will not misunderstand the main drift of Jude’s letter if we do not know the background (the position of most of Jude’s readers throughout church history). It looks as if he is deliberately referring to material that he knew his readers read and admired.”

The Message of 2 Peter & Jude, Dick Lucas & Christopher Green, John R.W. Stott, Edit., Pp 191-192

2 Pet 1:3 His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

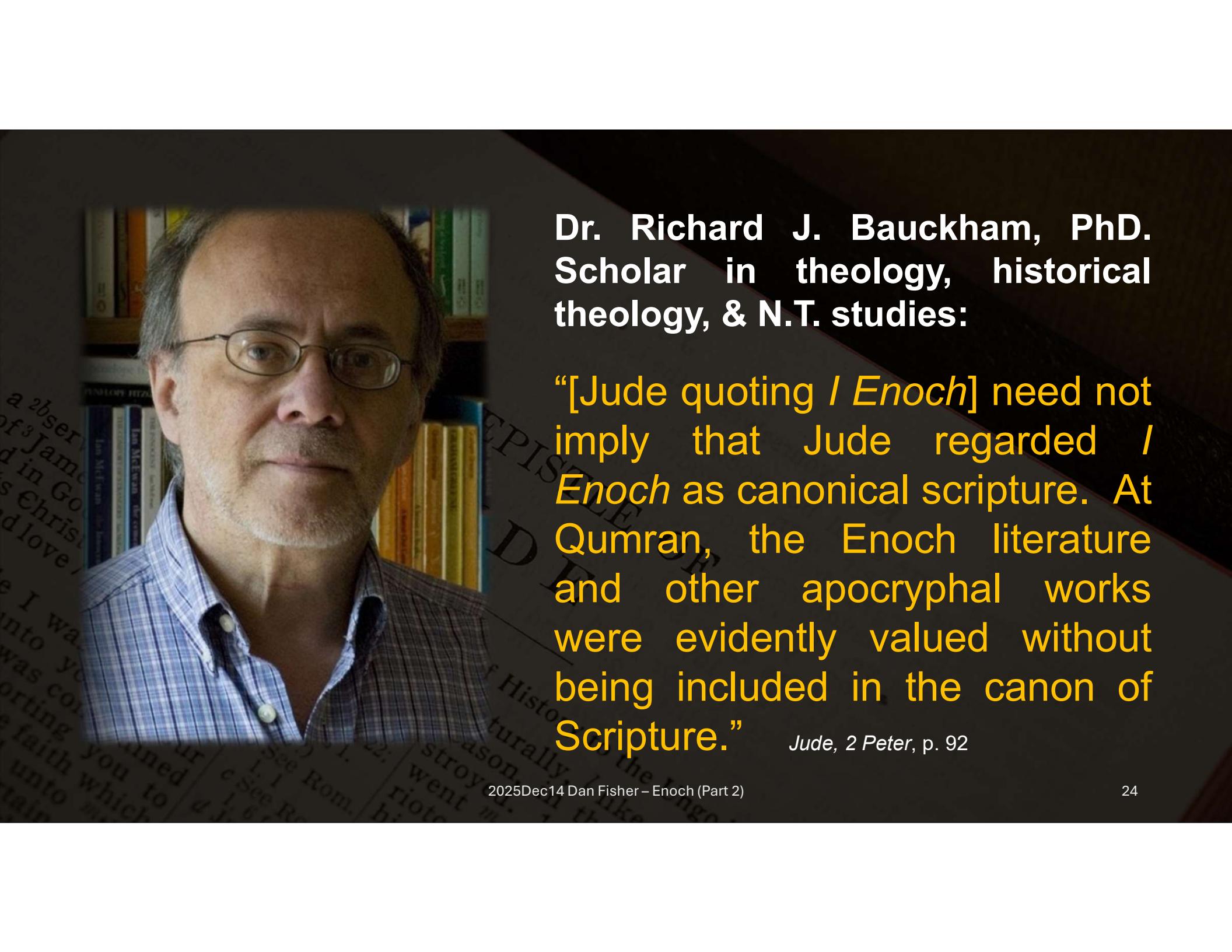
2 Tim 3:16-17 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

5. Unfortunately, most people are typically drawn to the sensational rather than to the truth.

**For many, the truth is simply too
unexciting/mundane.**

6. Does quoting from *I Enoch* and *The Assumption of Moses* mean that Jude believed they were divinely inspired?

• A quote does not necessarily imply belief in divine inspiration/canonicity of the source.

A portrait of Dr. Richard J. Bauckham, PhD, a man with glasses and a beard, wearing a plaid shirt, standing in front of a bookshelf.

**Dr. Richard J. Bauckham, PhD.
Scholar in theology, historical
theology, & N.T. studies:**

“[Jude quoting *1 Enoch*] need not imply that Jude regarded *1 Enoch* as canonical scripture. At Qumran, the Enoch literature and other apocryphal works were evidently valued without being included in the canon of Scripture.” *Jude, 2 Peter*, p. 92

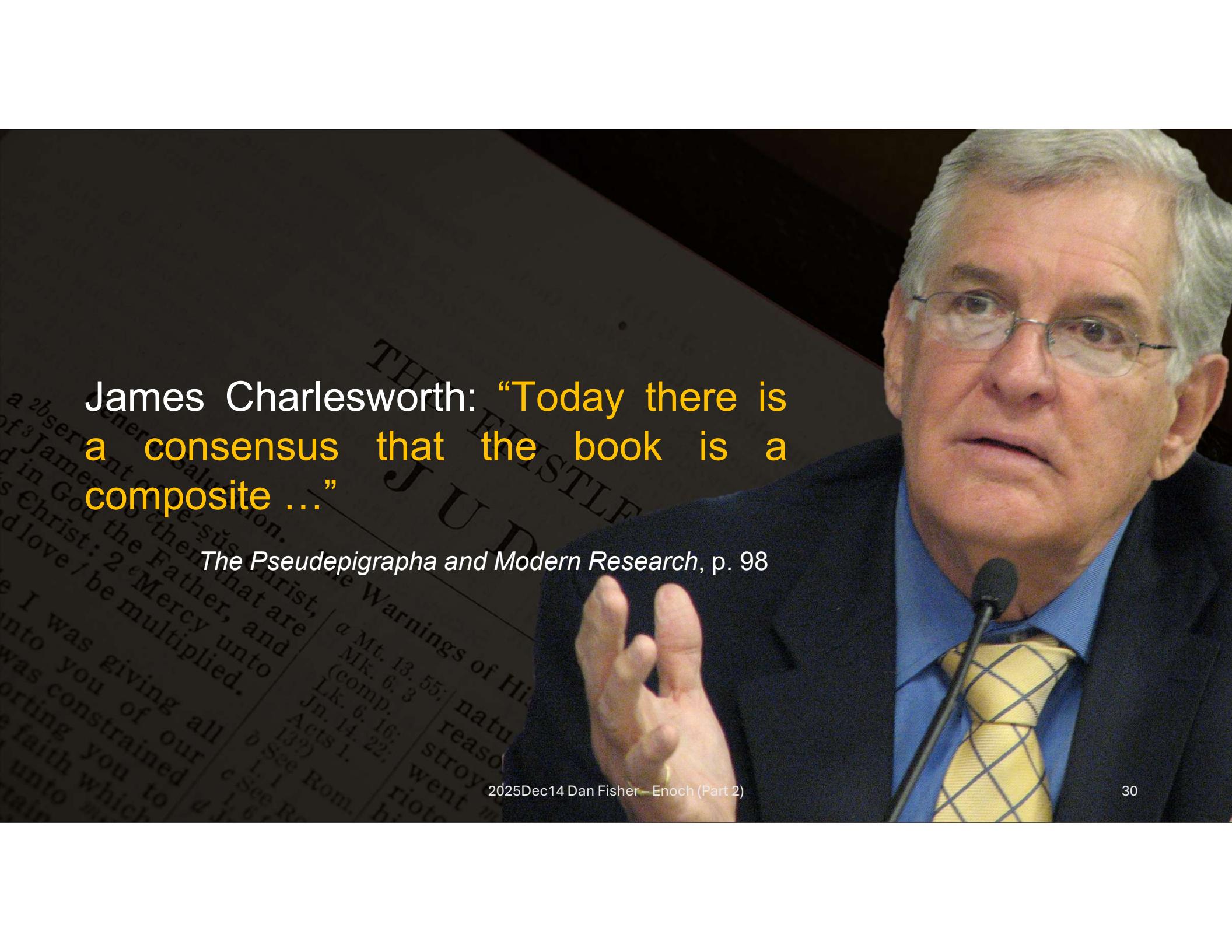
- Jude was careful to adapt his material so that it did not go beyond the bounds of O.T. teaching.
- The words of Michael are similar to an event recorded in Zech 3 and the description in Jude 14-15 of what happens when Jesus returns is based on a long chain of O.T. prophecies.

Zech 3:1-4 Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right side to accuse him. ² The Lord said to Satan, “The Lord rebuke you, Satan! The Lord, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is not this man a burning stick snatched from the fire?” ³ Now Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes as he stood before the angel. ⁴ The angel said to those who were standing before him, “Take off his filthy clothes.” Then he said to Joshua, “See, I have taken away your sin, and I will put fine garments on you.”

7. So why is the Book of Enoch not in our Bibles?

It has many “issues” that caused the Jews not to include it in the Old Testament canon and the early church did not accept it as “divinely inspired” as well.

- **It is a pseudepigrapha (the attributed author is not the actual author)**
 - 1) Allegedly written by Enoch, the great-grandfather of Noah, who lived around 3,000 BC
 - 2) Actually written between 300 BC – 100 BC

A photograph of a man with grey hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit, a blue shirt, and a yellow and blue checkered tie. He is speaking into a microphone and gesturing with his right hand. The background is dark and out of focus.

James Charlesworth: “Today there is
a consensus that the book is a
composite ...”

The Pseudepigrapha and Modern Research, p. 98

- **It has serious manuscript problems**

- 1) Is a composite work
- 2) Scrambled textual order
- 3) Complex transmission history
- 4) Lacking original language manuscripts

- **It was rejected by the Jews when the Old Testament was canonized**

- 1) Among apocryphal writings of the intertestamental period which the Jews did not consider to be divinely inspired (Jews believed that inspiration ceased with Malachi. Mal written around 450 B.C., *I Enoch* likely written in the 1st century B.C.)
- 2) Not included as part of the Hebrew Bible (Apocrypha added by Catholics at Council of Trent in 1546)
- 3) Not included in the Septuagint – Greek O.T. (132 BC) used by early Christians

- **Jesus believed the Old Testament was closed**

- 1) Jesus continuously says “It is written” “as God says” “the word of the Lord” etc. And sometimes says this to the Pharisees directly. He never quotes other books outside the O.T.
- 2) Jesus and the apostles quote from the Old Testament about 300 times. Matthew 23:35 — Jesus refers to the martyrdom of the first martyr (Abel) to the last (Zechariah) And this is also when the Canon stops. Nothing in the next 400 years are mentioned. So in a sense he affirms that timeline.

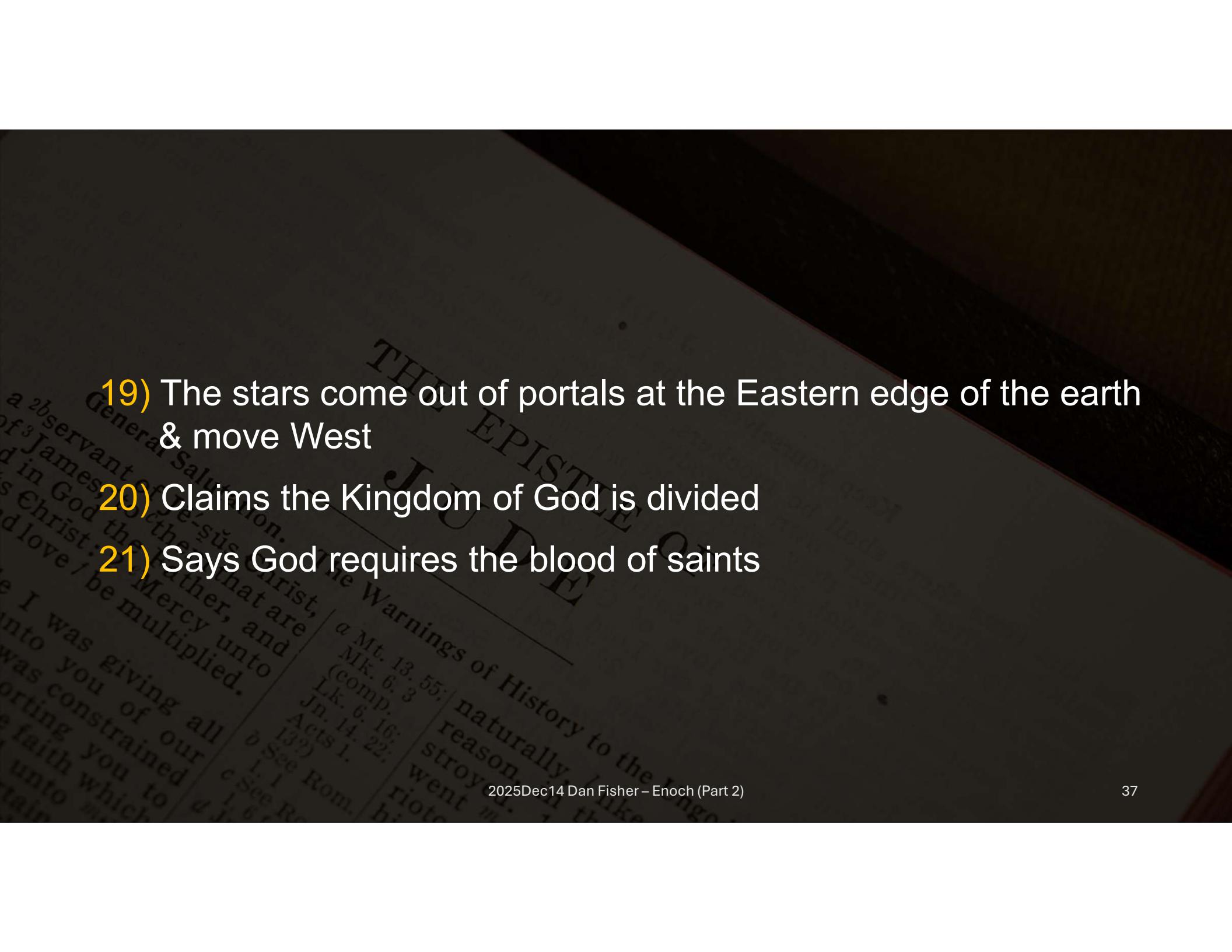
- **It contains massive theological discrepancies**

I Enoch contains elaborate and speculative theological concepts that diverge from mainstream biblical narratives

- 1) Attributes sin in the world to fallen angels
- 2) Places the blame for all the fallen angels on the angel Azazel
- 3) Talks about the multiple “Satans”
- 4) Says Satan can’t stand in God’s presence - contradicting Job
- 5) Names angels who are not in Scripture
- 6) Incorrectly assigns the roles of Gabriel and Michael

- 7) Names 18 fallen angels (whose leader is Semyaz) that intermarried with human females
- 8) Claims that the giants they produced were 450 feet tall (7:2) –
“These [giants] consumed the produce of all the people until the people detested feeding them. So the giants turned against [the people] in order to eat them” (7:3,4)
- 9) Talks of evil spirits proceeding from unredeemable giants
- 10) Claims demons can be restrained by burying them in the dirt –
“The Lord said to Raphael, ‘Bind Azaz’el hand and foot, throw him into the darkness!’ And he made a hole in the desert which was in Duda’el and cast him there; he threw on top of him rugged and sharp rocks.” (10:4-5)

- 11) Claims Enoch returned to Earth after he was taken up by God
- 12) Claims Enoch interceded for Azaz'el
- 13) Refers to Noah when Enoch was taken up before Noah was born
- 14) Claims after the Flood, righteousness would be restored and evil eliminated
- 15) Implies Garden of Eden still in existence after the Flood
- 16) Heaven rests on a foundation that is at the Eastern edge of the earth
- 17) Enoch counted the stars & individually mapped them
- 18) The winds come out of a “portal” at the Northern edge of the earth



- 19) The stars come out of portals at the Eastern edge of the earth & move West
- 20) Claims the Kingdom of God is divided
- 21) Says God requires the blood of saints

Rejected by the majority of early church leaders/fathers & Christians historically