

- Good morning TAC, today is Sunday September 21, 2025

We are going to continue in our War Ethos by directing our studies towards the heavenly realms where these battles originated. Many of the theological truths that we will present in the coming weeks are a deeper look into the "Heavenly Calling" series from 2020. Have no concern, even if you memorized every word of that series, this is not a mere recapitulation of it and you will not be bored. The Genesis and Exodus studies that you have been engaged in since March of 2024 have given you a basis for a more mature, complex, and insightful view of the battlefield before every believer. This series of sermons will be immensely practical to your daily lives as well as deeply impactful to your view of the Older and Newer Testaments.

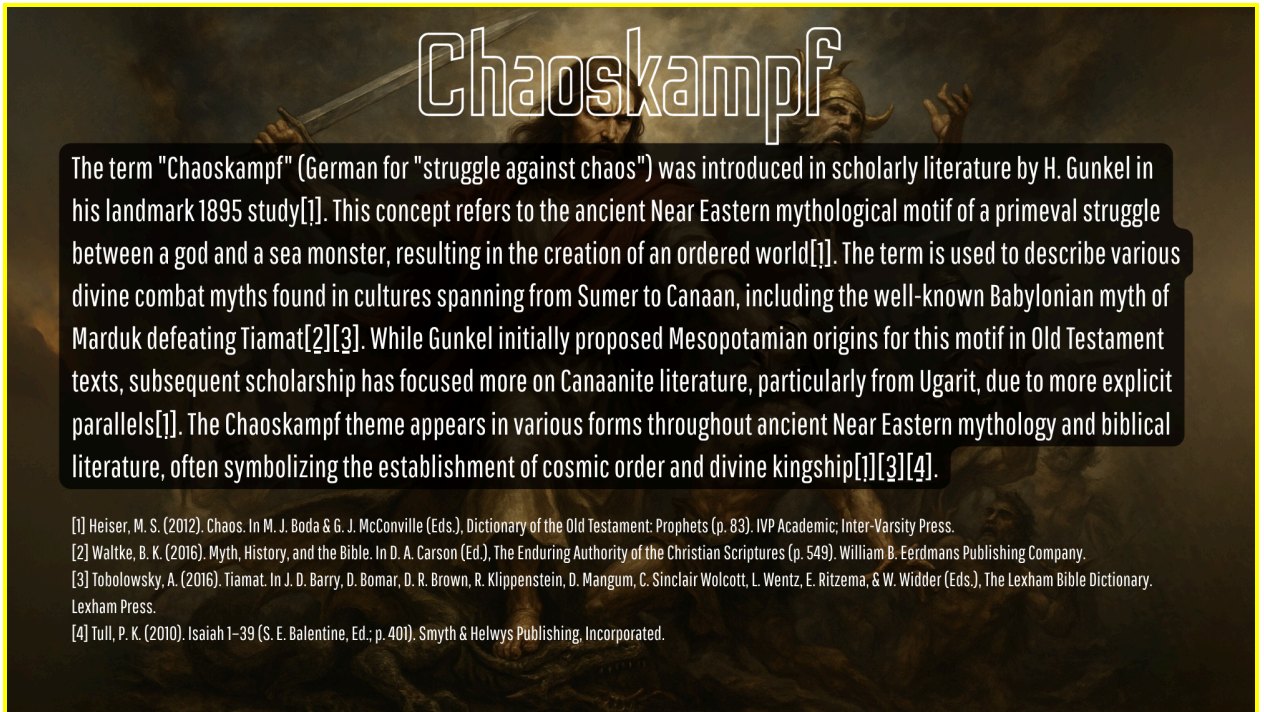
The message today will be titled: ChaosKampf



No, not Mein Kampf, that is a different Satanic struggle that is second only to the battle against Satan represented by the followers of the Pedophile Prophet named Muhammed and his fellow worshippers of Satan under the name Allah. Mein Kampf was the German book

authored by Hitler and details what he believed his war was. We will not be speaking about any of those things this morning. We will be talking about the War that God is engaged in and that you have been enlisted to fight.

(DO NOT READ... this slide is provided for your reference)



The term "Chaoskampf" (German for "struggle against chaos") was introduced in scholarly literature by H. Gunkel in his landmark 1895 study^[1]. This concept refers to the ancient Near Eastern mythological motif of a primeval struggle between a god and a sea monster, resulting in the creation of an ordered world^[1]. The term is used to describe various divine combat myths found in cultures spanning from Sumer to Canaan, including the well-known Babylonian myth of Marduk defeating Tiamat^[2]^[3]. While Gunkel initially proposed Mesopotamian origins for this motif in Old Testament texts, subsequent scholarship has focused more on Canaanite literature, particularly from Ugarit, due to more explicit parallels^[1]. The Chaoskampf theme appears in various forms throughout ancient Near Eastern mythology and biblical literature, often symbolizing the establishment of cosmic order and divine kingship^[1]^[3]^[4].

[1] Heiser, M. S. (2012). Chaos. In M. J. Boda & G. J. McConville (Eds.), *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Prophets* (p. 83). IVP Academic; Inter-Varsity Press.
[2] Waltke, B. K. (2016). Myth, History, and the Bible. In D. A. Carson (Ed.), *The Enduring Authority of the Christian Scriptures* (p. 549). William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.
[3] Tobolowsky, A. (2016). Tiamat. In J. D. Barry, D. Bomar, D. R. Brown, R. Klippenstein, D. Mangum, C. Sinclair Wolcott, L. Wentz, E. Ritzema, & W. Widder (Eds.), *The Lexham Bible Dictionary*. Lexham Press.
[4] Tull, P. K. (2010). Isaiah 1–39 (S. E. Balentine, Ed.; p. 401). Smyth & Helwys Publishing, Incorporated.

ChaosKampf, a German term, refers to the war against Chaos depicted in various Near Eastern religious texts. This concept aligns with the broader Greek term "Theomachy," which translates to the war between gods. Throughout our studies of Genesis and Exodus, we have gradually introduced these themes, as they reflect the Biblical worldview. For example, you have encountered foreign deities battling chaotic forces, often symbolized by the sea or a sea monster. Regional peoples frequently viewed their gods as heroic figures who vanquish oppressive monsters, typically portrayed as serpents, to unleash life-giving forces and establish cosmic order. Notable examples include Marduk defeating Tiamat in Mesopotamian mythology and Baal battling Yamm in Canaanite myths.

We made the case in Exodus 15, that these are not just fairy tales. They are perversions of the truth and they involve real spiritual powers that Yahweh is at war with. One of the extraordinary differences between the correct Biblical worldview and the perversions among the pagan peoples is that Yahweh is not presented as an equal to these spiritual powers; He is presented as their creator who vanquishes them at will. The most basic associations in the Bible with these chaos forces are found in the Hebrew word *tannîn*, which you already know means sea monster or Dragon. The first occurrence of this term in the Bible is:

- **Genesis 1:21 (ESV)**
- 21 So God created the great **sea creatures** (*tannîn*) and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.c

The point here, is that, Yahweh made everything that exists. This includes all forces in the spiritual realm and even in the chaotic seas. He made Satan, he made Leviathan, he made the angels whether they act in malevolent or benevolent ways. Yahweh made them and Yahweh can end them. Yahweh is the creator of all that exists and He is the only one who can bring the chaotic forces resulting from sin back into order and shalom.

- **Psalms 148:1–8 (ESV)**
- Praise the Name of the LORD
148 Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!
2 Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his hosts!
3 Praise him, sun and moon,

praise him, all you shining stars!

4 Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!

5 Let them praise the name of the LORD!
For he commanded and they were created.

6 And he established them forever and ever;
he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

7 Praise the LORD from the earth,
you **great sea creatures** (*tannîn*) and all deeps,

8 fire and hail, snow and mist,
stormy wind fulfilling his word!

We are not going to preach about the *tannîn* today. Some of these topics have been covered in foundations and will be explored in further sermons within this series. It is only being mentioned now so that you will understand the salvation that we are receiving and the war that we are engaged in. Let's look at Isaiah, before we get into our message:

- **Isaiah 51:1–11 (ESV)**
- 51 “Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD:
 look to the rock from which you were hewn,
 and to the quarry from which you were dug.
 2 Look to Abraham your father
 and to Sarah who bore you;
 for he was but one when I called him,
 that I might bless him and multiply him.
 3 For the LORD comforts Zion;
 he comforts all her waste places
 and makes her wilderness like Eden,
 her desert like the garden of the LORD;
 joy and gladness will be found in her,

thanksgiving and the voice of song.

4 “Give attention to me, my people,
and give ear to me, my nation;
 for a law will go out from me,
and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples.

5 My righteousness draws near,
my salvation (**Yeshua**) has gone out,
and my arms will judge the peoples;
 the coastlands hope for me,
and for my arm they wait.

6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
 for the heavens vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;
 but my salvation (**Yeshua**) will be forever,
and my righteousness will never be dismayed.

7 “Listen to me, you who know righteousness,
the people in whose heart is my law;
 fear not the reproach of man,
nor be dismayed at their revilings.

8 For the moth will eat them up like a garment,
and the worm will eat them like wool,
 but my righteousness will be forever,
and my salvation (**Yeshua**) to all generations.”

9 Awake, awake, put on strength,
O arm of the LORD;
 awake, as in days of old,
the generations of long ago.

 Was it not you who cut Rahab in pieces,
who pierced the dragon (**Tannin**)?

10 Was it not you who dried up the sea (**Yam**),

the waters of the great deep (*Tehom*),
who made the depths of the sea a way
for the redeemed to pass over?

11 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Those of you who regularly attend foundations will recognize that at least three foreign deities are referenced by way of double meaning in this passage. Moreover, you will see that Yeshua is mentioned three times and in all three tenses. The arm of the Lord or the right hand of God will bring about a new heaven and a new earth. The book of Revelation completes this picture when the dragon is vanquished and the sea is no more! In that day the dwelling of God is with men and there is one undisputed Lord over all creation and he is without rival.

- **1 John 3:8 (ESV)**
- 8 Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

As we dive into the message of Chaoskampf, our goal is to leave behind petty sinful behavior and grow into a deeper engagement with the cosmic struggle for the unification of heaven and earth. This journey involves both the celestial sons of God and the earthly sons of God. To fully participate, it is essential to grasp the lofty heights to which you are called. Once you understand this, certain behaviors will seem trivial or beneath you, and your focus will shift to winning the war that Adonai has enlisted you to fight.

This is precisely the prayer of Paul at the beginning of his letter to the Ephesians.

Let's turn to Ephesians 1

- **Eph 1:18-22 (NIV84)**
- 18 I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, 19 and **his incomparably great power for us who believe**. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, 20 which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, 21 far **above all rule and authority, power and dominion**, and every **title** that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

Our eyes must be enlightened to the celestial struggle we are in as soldiers of Yeshua. Christ himself is seated at the right hand of God—a concept you should remember from our studies Wednesday. He is the right hand of God in the heavenly realms over every other power. Did you notice all that he is seated above?

- Heavenly realms... plural
- Above all rule... How many kinds?
- All authority... How many levels?
- All power... How many expressions?
- All dominion... How many forms?
- Every title... How many titles are there?
- In the same way that we have a government with many levels and structures in it—the same way the animal kingdom is organized in: domain, kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, and species

The heavens here also seem to have a similar structure. Realms, rule, authority, power, dominion, title...

It is not as simple as God and naked baby angels flying around with

bow and arrow. This will become increasingly clear as we progress. But the greater revelation from this passage in particular is

- Christ is above them all
- His power to rule over them—he has given us!

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On that note - consider Paul's words in another letter:

- **Romans 6:5 (ESV)**

- For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

For us to be harness this resurrection celestial power of Christ - we have to be united with him in death.

Let's turn to Job and begin to understand the heavenly realms Paul laid out for us

- **Job 38:1–7 (ESV)**

- 1 Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind and said:
2 “Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?
3 Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me.
4 “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.
5 Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?
6 On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone,
7 when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

The book of Job makes it clear that before the creation of the world, there were actually already in existence other created entities. Here they are described as "the morning stars" and the "sons of God".

Before the luminaries were created on day 4, there were what Job

called "morning stars". These are clearly not just the pretty lights you see at night. But they are also described as "the sons of God". These Stars, or Sons of God were singing and shouting praises to YHWH before he spoke light into existence.

But these stars do not only sing and shout...

- **Judges 5:19–20 (ESV)**

- 19 "The kings came, they fought; then fought the kings of Canaan, at Taanach, by the waters of Megiddo; they got no spoils of silver.
20 From heaven the stars fought, from their courses they fought against Sisera.

When Israel was fighting Sisera, the STARS joined in the fight alongside the people of God.

- **Psalm 89:5–8 (ESV)**

- 5 Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!
6 For who in the skies can be compared to the Lord? **Who among the heavenly beings (*Bene Elim*) is like the Lord,**
7 a God greatly to be feared in the council of the holy ones, and awesome above all who are around him?
8 O Lord God of hosts, who is mighty as you are, O Lord, with your faithfulness all around you?

The Psalmist described the Lord as being greater than all those who are in the skies. The connection between the skies, the stars, and celestial powers is becoming clearer throughout the whole of scripture.

- **Jeremiah 23:18 (NIV)**

- ¹⁸ But which of them has stood in the council of the Lord to see or to hear his word? Who has listened and heard his word?

The "Word" is in the council and can be both seen with the eye and heard with the ears. Do you see now where Paul is getting his revelation concerning Christ being seated above:

- Heavenly realms... plural
 - Above all rule... How many kinds
 - All authority... How many levels
 - All power... How many expressions
 - All dominion... How many forms
 - Every title... How many titles are there
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- The picture is becoming a little more complex... and it is about to get even more so:
- **Job 4:18–19 (ESV)**
- 18 Even in his servants he puts no trust, and **his angels he charges with error;**
19 how much more those who dwell in houses of clay, whose foundation is in the dust, who are crushed like the moth.
- **Job 15:15–16 (ESV)**
- 15 Behold, God puts **no trust in his holy ones**, and the **heavens are not pure in his sight;**
16 how much less one who is abominable and corrupt, a man who drinks injustice like water

Angels in contrast to the flannel board in Sunday School - are not flawless perfect beings. God does not trust many of them, charges them with errors and are not even pure in his sight.

When you hear these verses, those of you who have been coming to Foundations should immediately think of Genesis chapter 6-11.

- Genesis 6 (events summarized)

- Sons of God sinned
 - Corrected with a flood
 - Happened later as well
- - Genesis 10 (events summarized)
 - Immediately post flood... How the nations came into being
 - There were 70 nations
 - They had been told through Noah spread out and fill the earth...
- - Genesis 11 (events summarized)
 - The nations gathered in defiance of God's Word
 - God intervenes again from Heaven
 - He divides all mankind
- - Genesis 12 (call of Abraham)

These events in chapters 11 and 12 of Genesis are the beginning of a terrestrial, and cosmic battle: ***Adonai and Israel vs. Benai Ha Elohim and nations***

Moses knew this, and in his Song in Deuteronomy 32 is actually a commentary on these events

- **Deuteronomy 32:8–9 (ESV)**
- 8 When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the **sons of God**.
- 9 But the Lord's portion is his people, Jacob his allotted heritage.

We are aware that some of your Bibles do not say sons of God but instead supply "sons of Israel". Let's address that mistranslation before explaining the text:

(Read slide)

Manuscript Triangulation: MSS versus DDS and LXX

...explains that this is based on some Qumran manuscripts as well as the Septuagint... takes “number of gods” to be the correct text, and it should be translated (that way). The sense is that, in accordance with the number of gods, Yahweh divided humankind into separate peoples, so that each people would have its own god; and Yahweh reserved Israel to be his own people (see 4:19–20). An alternative model, then, is “He determined where each nation should live, each with its own god, which he chose.”

Bratcher, R. G., & Hatton, H. A. (2000). A handbook on Deuteronomy (p. 538). United Bible Societies.

The Dead Sea Scrolls, which are the oldest Hebrew copies of Deuteronomy, and the Septuagint, the oldest Greek copies of Deuteronomy, both explicitly mention celestial beings, whether they are angels, sons of God, or gods. This is highlighted in the UBS and most reputable manuscript commentaries. The correct translation is that Yahweh established the boundaries of the peoples according to the number of the Bene Ha Elohim.

Now, let' look at what else is going on in this passage:

(Read slide and plug in color coated meanings)

Deuteronomy 32 Worldview

Deuteronomy 32:8–9 (ESV)

8 When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God.

9 But the Lord's portion is his people, Jacob his allotted heritage.

5157. נָחַל *nāḥal*: A verb meaning to receive, to take property as a permanent possession.

2506. חֵלֶק *ḥēleq*: A masculine noun indicating a portion, a territory. It indicates a portion, a share, a piece of territory in many ways: a part of booty or spoil [of war] (Gen. 14:24; Num. 31:36).

5159. נַחֲלָה *naḥalāh*: A feminine noun meaning possession, property, inheritance. This word implied property that was given by means of a will or as a heritage.

Baker, W., & Carpenter, E. E. (2003). In *The complete word study dictionary: Old Testament* (pp. 722–723). AMG Publishers.

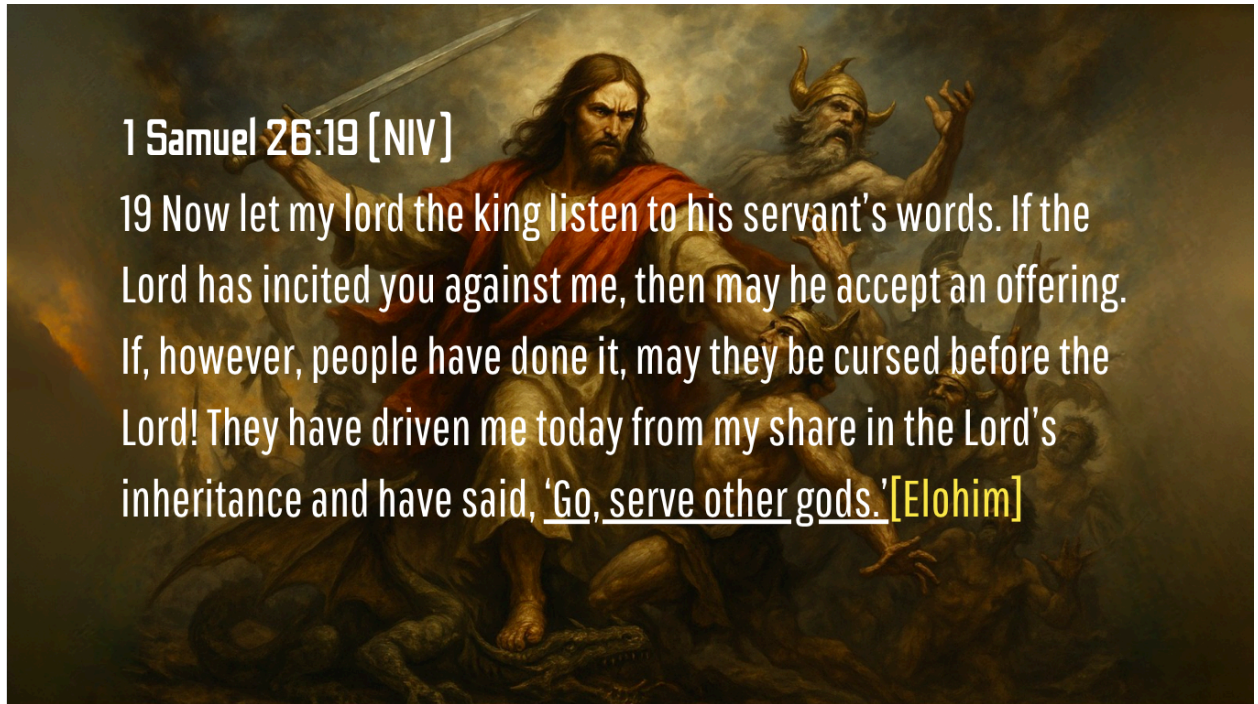
The battle lines are drawn. Adonai has chosen his challenger and is outnumbered 70-1. But as our studies on Chaoskampf shows us - it really is not a competition at all.

Let's read Deut 32:8-9 again in another version:

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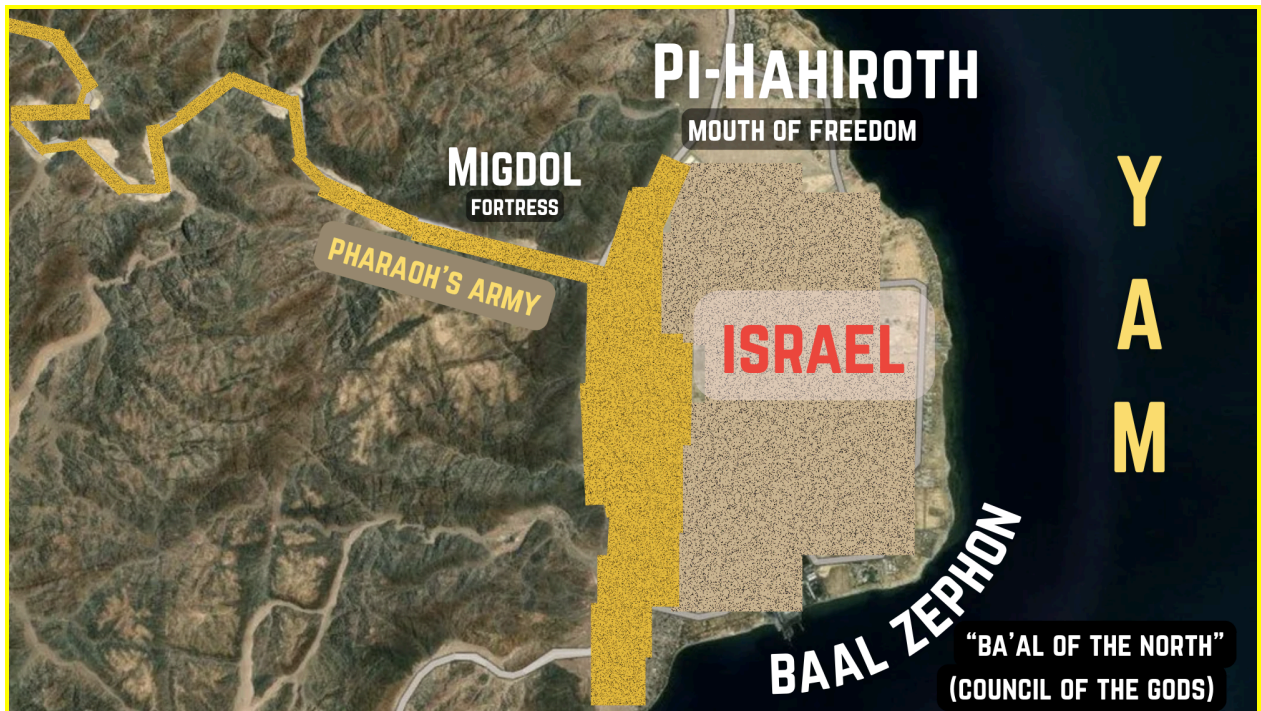


The repercussions for Deuteronomy 32 are quite large. As we have been discussing in Exodus - there are actual spiritual beings attached to geographical regions.



At the Red Sea we saw Ba'al Zephon and Yam both present in that region.

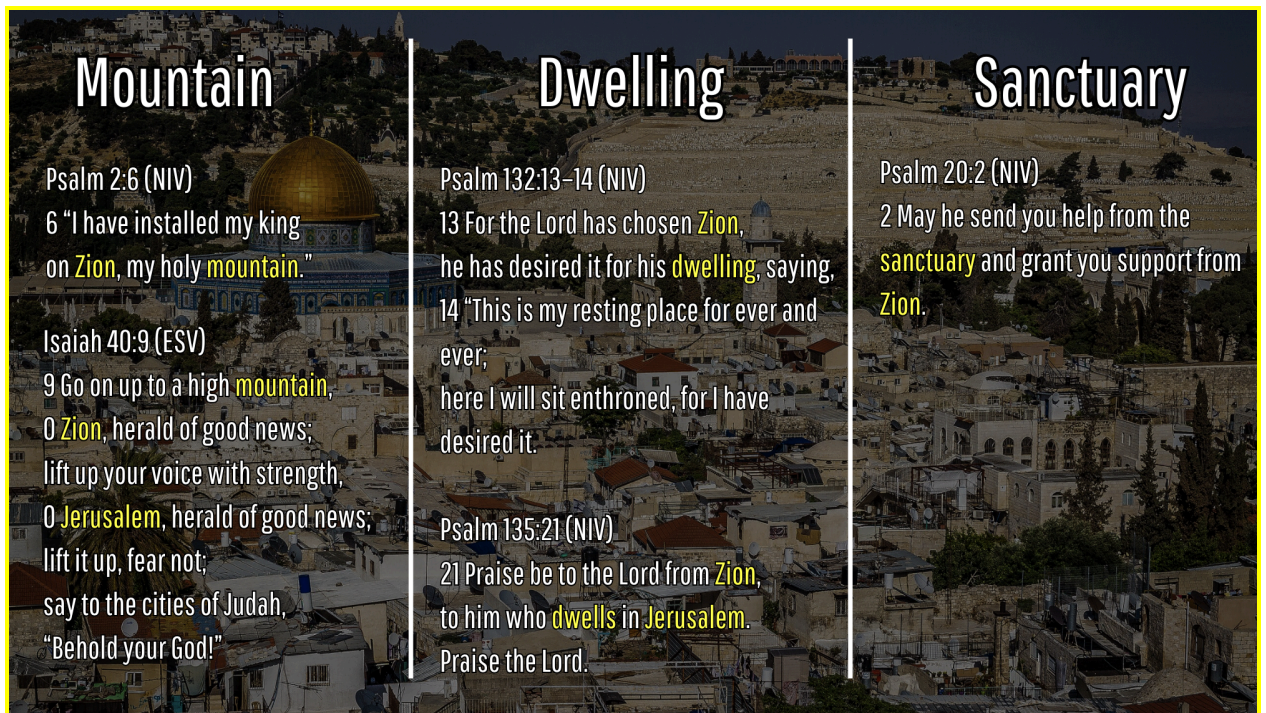
(SLIDE)



Although Adonai is above every other God, he actually has attached himself to a specific region and people on the earth —Israel. Their calling is to dispossess all other gods and receive the unchallenged reign of Yahweh.

Remember this slide from Wednesday?

(DO NOT READ)



Mountain	Dwelling	Sanctuary
Psalms 2:6 (NIV) 6 "I have installed my king on Zion, my holy mountain." Isaiah 40:9 (ESV) 9 Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"	Psalms 132:13-14 (NIV) 13 For the Lord has chosen Zion, he has desired it for his dwelling, saying, 14 "This is my resting place for ever and ever; here I will sit enthroned, for I have desired it. Psalms 135:21 (NIV) 21 Praise be to the Lord from Zion, to him who dwells in Jerusalem. Praise the Lord.	Psalms 20:2 (NIV) 2 May he send you help from the sanctuary and grant you support from Zion.

Adonai's NAME—EYES—HEART are attached to the people of Israel FOREVER in 1 Kings 9:2-3.

This was obviously the thought all Jews had in the Biblical Period—but also the Gentiles of that time. Listen to Naaman in 2 Kings 5 talks about YHWH and the actually dirt of Israel.

- **2 Kings 5:17 (NIV)**

- ¹⁷ “If you will not,” said Naaman, “please let me, your servant, be given as much earth as a pair of mules can carry, for your servant will never again make burnt offerings and sacrifices **to any other god but the Lord**.

Before Naaman the Aramite was healed by Elisha, he worshiped his own god named Rimmon, the text says that. Yet, upon encountering YHWH the God of Israel, he desires to worship and sacrifice to him! But to do so, he wanted to take some of the soil of Israel with him - because he connected YHWH and his power to the actual physical ground of Israel, where YHWH reigned.

Of course YHWH can be all places at all times, but his Name is not attached to all places at all times, it is only attached to ONE people and ONE place - Israel.

This is further explained in Deuteronomy 4.

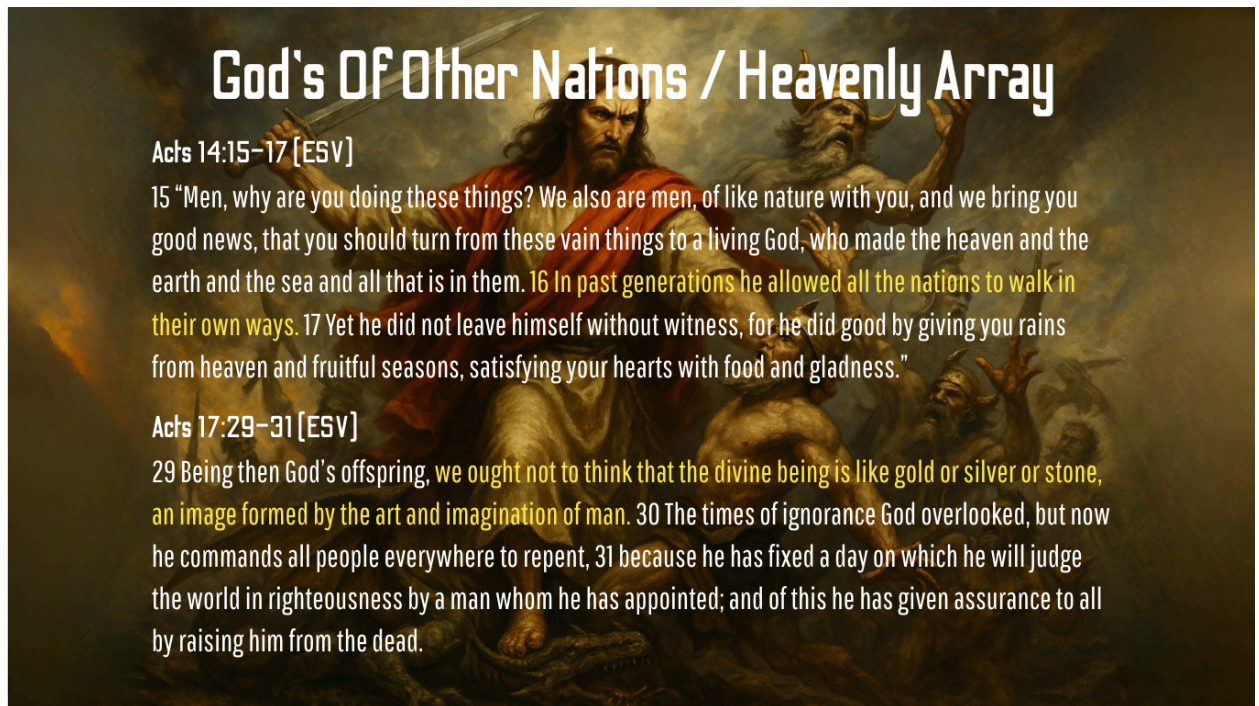
- **Deut 4:19-20 (NIV84)**
- 19 And when you look up to the sky and see the sun, the moon and the stars — **all the heavenly array** — do not be enticed into bowing down to them and worshiping things the Lord your God has apportioned to all the nations under heaven. 20 But as for you, the Lord took you and brought you out of the iron-smelting furnace, out of Egypt, **to be the people of his inheritance**, as you now are.

This passage makes it very clear that the heavenly array was apportioned to all the nations under heaven and that Israel alone was the people that Adonai would inherit through celestial combat. This is the beginning of the campaign and not the end. As the plan progresses, Adonai will take back every nation and Deuteronomy 32 as well as many other passages say that.

Adonai reiterates again here - BUT AS FOR YOU. Israel was

hand-picked by God to be his inheritance. All throughout the Torah Moses is writing this message.

It should be getting crystal clear what stars represent in the Biblical Text.



Although Adonai warned them in Deuteronomy 4—Israel at times still did bow down to the gods of other nations or the *heavenly array*. Here is an example of what worshipping those gods causing a man to do.

- **2 Kings 21:1–6 (ESV)**
- 1 Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hephzibah.
2 And he did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, **according to the despicable practices of the nations whom the Lord drove out before the people of Israel**. 3 For he rebuilt the high places that Hezekiah his father had destroyed, and he erected altars for Baal and

made an Asherah, as Ahab king of Israel had done, and worshiped all the host of heaven and served them. 4 And he built altars in the house of the Lord, of which the Lord had said, "In Jerusalem will I put my name."

5 And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the Lord. 6 And he burned his son as an offering and used fortune-telling and omens and dealt with mediums and with necromancers. He did much evil in the sight of the Lord, provoking him to anger.

The lesser spiritual beings are aimed at corrupting the heavens and the earth. Causing people to:

- Despise fathers
- Kill their own children
- Consult evil sources for direction.

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So, when you see that kind of behavior in our world today

- Abortion
- LGBT..
- Hating the faith upbringing of their parents
- Etc.

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Is it merely a differing political view—or is it the worship of other gods that are over this particular region?

Back in Deuteronomy 32 - we learned that God gave over the nations to these gods. What do you think their approval rating is in God's sight? Psalm 82 tells us.

- **Psalm 82:1-7**

- 82 God presides in the great assembly; he gives **judgment** among the "gods": (*Elohim*)
2 "How long will you defend the unjust and show partiality to the wicked?
Selah

3 Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless;
maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed.
4 Rescue the weak and needy;
deliver them from the hand of the wicked.
5 "They know nothing, they understand nothing.
They walk about in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.
6 "I said, 'You are "gods"(*Elohim*);
you are all sons of the Most High.' (*Ben Elyon*)
7 But you will die like mere men;
you will fall like every other ruler."

Clearly, Adonai is pronouncing judgment on these spiritual powers!
There really is no other way to read this passage.

Now look at how Asaph responds to this truth:

- **Psalm 82:8 (ESV)**
- 8 Arise, O God, judge the earth;
for you shall inherit all the nations!
Yup

Asaph understood that he was a member of the one nation on earth
that the Lord chose for his own inheritance. However, he also
understood and prayed for Yahweh to take back every nation on
earth!

This theme of actual celestial warfare and judgement is prolific in the
Bible. Let's run through a few of the passages that make this very
clear:

Isaiah 24:21–23 (ESV)

21 On that day the Lord will **punish the host of heaven, in heaven,**
and the kings of the earth, on the earth.
22 They will be gathered together as prisoners in a pit; they will be

shut up in a prison, and after many days they will be punished.
23 Then the moon will be confounded and the sun ashamed, for the Lord of hosts reigns on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, and his glory will be before his elders.

- This passage makes it very clear that authorities are being judged in two realms at the same time.

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Isaiah 34:4–5 (ESV)

4 All **the host of heaven shall rot away**, and the skies roll up like a scroll. All their host shall fall, as leaves fall from the vine, like leaves falling from the fig tree.

5 **For my sword has drunk its fill in the heavens**; behold, it descends for judgment upon Edom, upon the people I have devoted to destruction.

- Did you catch that? Isaiah is describing the heavens being pruned like a tree! The sword of Adonai is clearly shown to act against the heavens and then the mere subjects in Edom.

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Look, we have tried to help you understand the nature of the Celestial battle that some theologians call Chaoskampf. Now, let's talk about the destiny of Israel that you have been grafted into! This is the high calling that will awaken you to your larger purpose in the Heavenly Battle royal that is playing out in the Human Drama.

We are not going to read Genesis 15:1-3 or we would have to tell you that the Word of God... the Debar Yahweh... appeared in a way that could be seen... then he spoke to Abram. Let's pick up in verse 4:

Genesis 15:4–6 (ESV)

4 And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir."

5 And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to

him, "So shall your offspring be."

6 And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

For years what people have gotten out of this verse is that Abram would have a bunch of descendants, but this is less than half of what is being communicated. The first action Abram was instructed to do was "Look toward heaven". You have to ask why? It is because in the Biblical worldview the stars were emblematic of the Celestial Sons of God. Abram was receiving a message about the glorification or angelic-ification of his offspring. This is why they are being compared to stars! This is a statement about the quality and destiny of the Lord's inheritance as much as it has to do with the quantity of them.

The statement: "So shall your offspring be" communicates this in ways that the original audience would have perceived but modern audiences miss. We are aware that additional statements are made about multiplication in the following years and generations, but that is because it was the immediate task before them... not the ultimate task before them.

So Shall Your Offspring Be... (Pt. 1)

Genesis 22:17 [ESV]

I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies.

Genesis 26:4 [ESV]

I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and will give to your offspring all these lands. And in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed.

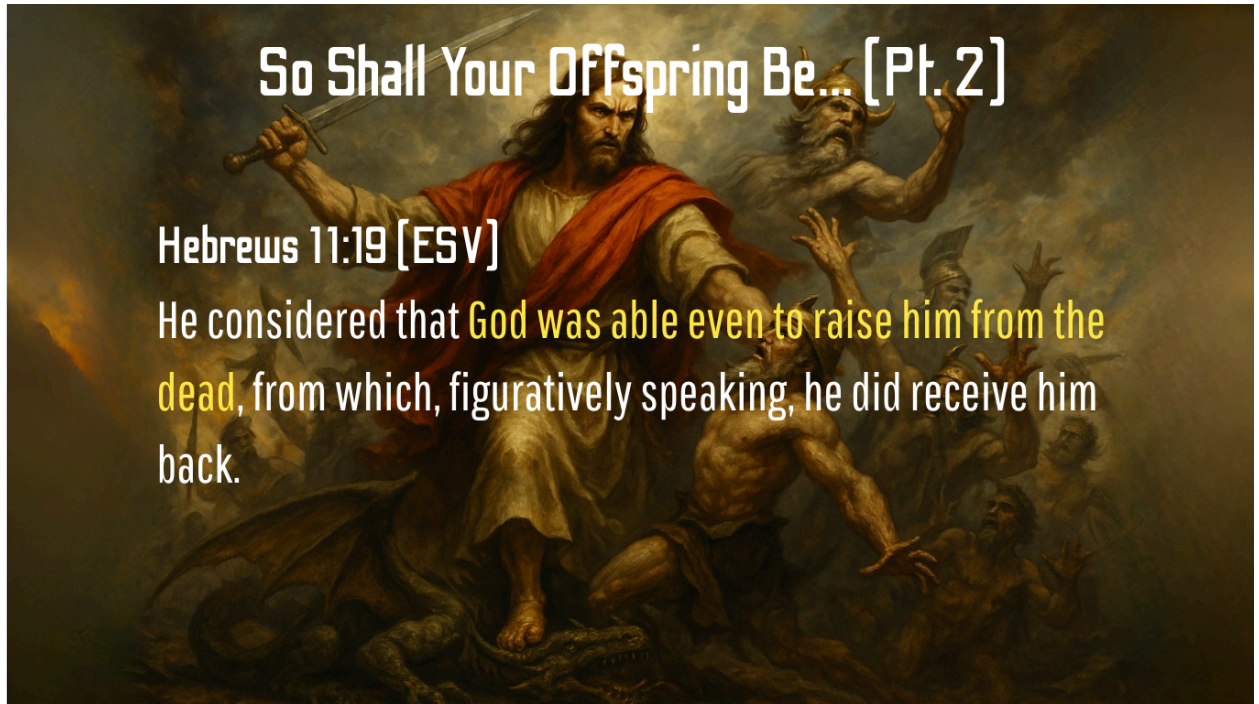
Exodus 32:13 [ESV]

Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, to whom you swore by your own self, and said to them, "I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your offspring, and they shall inherit it forever."

While you are contemplating these things Gen 22 & 26 speak of possessing the gates of the enemy and all the nations of the earth being blessed.

Exodus 32:13 speaks again of the stars of heaven and promises Israel will receive the land of Israel generationally together with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. These are statements about become eternal at the resurrection when all of Israel will shine like stars or heavenly beings.

Have you ever ask why Abraham was willing to sacrifice Isaac? Hebrews tells us that it is because he knew God would raise him! How did he know? The answer is because Abraham's descendants would become eternal like the stars and they would all inherit the land (every generation) together at the resurrection.



Let's pick up in Genesis 37 and see our star theme furthered:

Genesis 37:9–11 (ESV)

9 Then he dreamed another dream and told it to his brothers and said, “Behold, I have dreamed another dream. Behold, the **sun**, the **moon**, and **eleven stars** were bowing down to me.”

10 But when he told it to his father and to his brothers, his father rebuked him and said to him, “What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall I and your mother and your brothers indeed come to bow ourselves to the ground before you?”

11 And his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the saying in mind.

When you hear this dream which was the 2nd of two that were given... It is likely, that you never asked why Joseph is receiving a dream about celestial bodies? If all that was intended was indicating Joseph would be elevated above his brothers, then the 2nd dream would not have been necessary at all! The imagery is in line with

what God told Abraham, "Your descendants will be like the stars".

This imagery is not unique to Israel or just an Israeli fascination. Consider the wording of Balaam in his prophecy:

Numbers 24:17–19 (ESV)

17 I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: **a star shall come out of Jacob**, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth.
18 Edom shall be dispossessed; Seir also, his enemies, shall be dispossessed. Israel is doing valiantly.
19 And one from Jacob shall exercise dominion and destroy the survivors of cities!

This is not just poetic language. The reference to a star coming out of Jacob is a reference to something more than an ordinary mortal rising in out of Jacob. Of course, you and I know that this is Jesus... Doesn't that help make the point?

Jesus is far more than an ordinary human being, he is the first to rise from the dead in a glorified body. He shines like a star! This is what was prophesied and it will happen for Abraham's offspring. They will be like the celestial sons of God... or put another way they will be like the stars.

This language is not unfamiliar, we just don't usually consider what it actually means. Consider Daniel:

○ **Daniel 12:3–4 (ESV)**

- 3 And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, **like the stars forever and ever.**

4 But you, Daniel, shut up the words and seal the book, until the time of the end. Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.

Daniel, when speaking of the resurrection of the righteous, says that they will shine like stars! There is a reason that this imagery is repetitive in the Bible. The Bene HaElohim are consistently associated with the stars and faithful mortals will eventually be transformed into eternal beings that are also Sons of God.

This is not an Older Testament phenomena alone, consider the way that Paul speaks of this subject:

- **1 Corinthians 15:41–42 (ESV)**
- 41 There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.
42 So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable.

Paul compares the glory of the resurrection with the Sun, Moon, and stars which is exactly what Joseph's dream concerned. This is because in the ancient worldview these celestial bodies were emblematic of real spiritual beings. Many of those celestial sons of God are being removed in Judgment and faithful human beings will take their place as glorified Sons of God.

Consider a few references from Revelation:

- **Revelation 22:16 (ESV)**
- “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”
 - Jesus is repeatedly referred to as the bright Morning Star
 - More than that his churches are as well because they are becoming the dwelling of God (he holds the seven stars in his hands)
- - **Revelation 12:1–2 (ESV)**

- 1 And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

2 She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth.

- The bride of Christ Israel, is pictured with her Tribes as Stars... Glorified
- Reached the destiny of Gen. 15:6
- **The beautiful glorified bride is the goal of the book**

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Once you understand the promises to Israel and the destiny of the nation, it should affect your understanding of what you have been grafted into! The book of Revelation says Jesus is the bright and morning star and also that you will rule over the nations with him as stars (or sons of God)

Paul, used this language to instruct our daily behavior:

- **Philippians 2:12–16 (NIV)**
- 12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you **to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.** 14 Do everything without grumbling or arguing, 15 so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.” Then **you will shine among them like stars in the sky** 16 **as you hold firmly to the word of life.** And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain.

Why fear and trembling not lift a pinky? - So much is at stake. God intends to use His earthly family glorified to set everything right in the heavens and on earth.

This salvation is not just to save, bless, or comfort you—but it for you

to act according to His will.

V15 BECOME—children of God

He is looking for those he can work in and with to perfect them—the only way that you shine like a star (be perfected) is to hold out the word.

UNITY in the faith comes through unity around HIS character



We must grasp this point without letting the familiarity of this verse breed in

us contempt.

YOU—Jesus is a model of what you are to become.

YOU become God's council, His rulership

YOU replace the spiritual powers who are going to lose their position

Those who are in Christ - YOU are above

Eph 1:18-22 (NIV84)

- Heavenly realms... plural
- Above all rule... How many kinds
- All authority... How many levels

- All power... How many expressions
 - All dominion... How many forms
 - Every title... How many titles are there
- Your purpose and positioning in the Kingdom is so much more than most Christian's have ever lived up to.

You are his glorious inheritance to rule above the god's. You were not purchased for church attendance but celestial warfare.

- **Hebrews 2:5 (NIV)**
- ⁵ It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking.

Why not to angels? Because it IS subjected to Christ and His body. The heavenly array that rules the nations will one day be subject to the body of Christ - which is you!

- **Hebrews 2:6–8 (NIV)**
- ⁶ But there is a place where someone has testified:
 “What is mankind that you are mindful of them,
 a son of man that you care for him?
⁷ You made them a little lower than the angels;
 you crowned them with glory and honor
⁸ and put everything under their feet.”

In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them.

Considering the low state that Christ rescued us from, shouldn't each and every one of us be honored and thrilled to give our entire lives to this cause? Everything will be under our feet, we do not see it now,

but everything we do now is preparing us for that day.

- **Hebrews 2:9–13 (NIV)**

- ⁹ But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.
¹⁰ In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. ¹¹ Both the one who makes people holy and **those who are made holy are of the same family**. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. ¹² He says,
“I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the assembly I will sing your praises.”

Jesus life is not just the mode by which we are saved - it is everything we are called to become in every way. Not figuratively—literally.

2 Peter 1:4 (ESV)

by which he has granted to us his precious and very **great promises (Gen. 15:6)**, so that through them **you may become partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

- Through these promises (towards Israel) you can become a participant of the Divine Nature. Examine the heights to which you are called! Do not settle for less!
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- **Judges 5:23 (NIV)**

23 'Curse Meroz,' said the angel of the Lord.

'Curse its people bitterly,
because they did not come to help the Lord,
to help the Lord against the mighty.'