# Four Stories with Four Different Realities about Humans

Today, I will begin by asking you to consider a couple of questions:

- What is a human?
- Why do humans exist?

Now I will give you overviews of four stories (narratives) that provide answers to the questions I asked you. They are in chronological order from the most ancient to the most recent discoveries of science.

### **#1 Enuma Elish**

- The god Ea created the first human one male.
- The human was created from the blood of the dead god Kingu.
- The human was created to serve the gods and free them from having to labor.

# #2 First Story in Genesis

(Genesis 1:26-28)

- <u>The Earth</u> brought forth a living soul for humans (earthly appetites, desires & longings).
- **The unnamed God** created "the humans" with His spirit ("in His image").
- "The humans" are one male and one female.
- The unnamed God blessed and empowered both humans to create new human lives together by sexual reproduction; to be parents, teachers and mentors of their children; to subdue their individual earthly appetites, desires and longings by impulse control and self-discipline; and, to exercise power over all life on earth like a shepherd exercises power over a flock of sheep.
- The two humans have a function relative to the unnamed God as they "collectively" reveal His image on earth through their actions. No individual human can do this.
- The two humans have a function relative to each other as they are designated male and female and they equal in status and power.

- Humans have a function relative to the rest of the unnamed God's creatures as shepherds.
- Humans have a "collective" function relative to the creation as the unnamed God's vice regent.

## **#3 The Second Story in Genesis**

(Genesis 2:4b-3:24)

- There was no human to till the ground
- Yahweh the God formed the human (one male) from the dust of the ground.
- Yahweh the God breathed the breath of life into the human's nostrils.
- The human became a living soul.
- Yahweh the God took the human and put him in the garden in Eden.
- Yahweh the God put the man in the garden to "tend and guard her" (the garden in not the "here").
- Yahweh the God gave the human one commandment -- about what "not to do."

# The BHC/TOV Center Prime Directive

Before I can tell you the fourth story, I need to tell you a short story about why there is a fourth story. In the fictional universe of *Star Trek*, the <u>Prime Directive</u> is a guiding principle of Starfleet, prohibiting its members from interfering with the internal and natural development of alien civilizations. Over a decade before BHC, I created a "prerequisite for participation in my Bible studies" – *our Prime Directive*.

My Belief System will be large enough to include all of the Facts, open enough to be examined and questioned, and flexible enough to change if errors or new facts are discovered.

It does not make any difference who or what someone is, how much money they have, how many degrees they have or do not have – they must agree to follow our "Prime Directive" in our live studies and discussion. The <u>BHC/TOV Center Prime Directive</u> is why I must tell you the story below from <u>"Science</u>." It is a story based on facts related to this discussion.

## #4 Science

- Humans are 1 of 3,000,000 species that share a genetic code written in the DNA alphabet of four chemicals -- A (adenine), T (thymine), G (guanine) & C (cytosine).
- Our DNA code consists of three billion letters and it would fill a space about the size of 800 bibles if we printed it.
- A complete copy of our DNA code exists in almost every cell of our body about 40 trillion copies in total.
- Our DNA code provide the instructions for making every part of the human body -- muscles, bones, lung, eyes, skin (including color), reproductive systems, etc.
- Pieces of DNA are called genes and we have about 19,000 genes.
- Our DNA is not a fixed schematic for building a human life -- it sets up a dynamic system that continually rewrites the brain's circuitry to reflect the world around it and to optimize its efficacy within it.
- Just as the plant seeks sunlight and the bacteria seeks sugar, the brain human brain seeks information.
- World experiences modulate almost every measurable detail of the brain, from the molecular scale to overall brain anatomy.
- The flexibility of the brain allows the events in your life to stitch themselves directly into the neural fabric.
- From the moment we awaken we are immersed in <u>an irrefutable reality</u> of the world
  a view of the external world outside of the brain.
- Each person's reality has less to do with what is happening out there, and more to do with what is happening inside the brain.
- Generating individual realities is a primary function of the human brain.

Now you have four stories and realities about humans. How do they match-up to your beliefs about humans? That was trick question. You need to know about memes before you can answer it and I will discuss memes in the next email. Please share and discuss this with others – and thank you for exploring with me!

Shalom, Jim Myers

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### **SOURCES**

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- Livewired: The Inside Story of the Ever-Changing Brain by David Eagleman
- Behave: The Biology of Humans at Our Best and Worst by Robert M. Sapolsky
- The Brain that Changes Itself: Stories of Personal Triumph from the Frontiers of Brain Science By Norman Doidge, M.D.