

Comparing the Two Creation Stories and Their Values

This is the eighth email in a series I call “*Three Stories of "the Beginnings: Origins of Different Worldviews & Values."* New emails build on previous emails, so you may want to review them from time to time. The entire series can be seen at the BHC website ([Click Here](#)).

Enuma Elish

- *The Babylonian story of creation is a story of chaos, violence, revenge, deception, anger, indifference, self-absorption, etc.*
- *Power and deadly force are glorified.*
- *The heavens and the earth are created by chance as the youngest god (Marduk) brutally slays and slices in half the female that gave birth to the first two gods (his ancestors).*
- *Marduk exercises absolute power over the gods and their destinies by assigning each god its task and location in the heavens.*
- *The gods constantly complain and cannot coexist in harmony and peace.*
- *There are no shared standards or values among the gods.*

First Story in Genesis

- *The biblical story of creation is a story of an orderly and peaceful process carried out by one god.*
- *The Creator has a standard by which he plans and measures his actions – the TOV Standard.*
- *The Creator is the creator of TOV – acts that protect lives, preserve lives, make lives more functional and increase the quality of life.*
- *The creative power of the Creator begins with speech – he declares what will be created first.*
- *Things that exist respond to the Creator’s words.*
- *Each act of creation builds upon previous acts.*
- *The creation is a place in which everything has its specific place and unique functions.*

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At this point in both stories, one thing is missing – *people*. If you had to choose between the two environments, which one would you want to live in? In the next email, I will discuss the three stories of the creation of humans. They are vastly different stories, even the two that are recorded in the same Bible.

Shalom,
Jim Myers

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