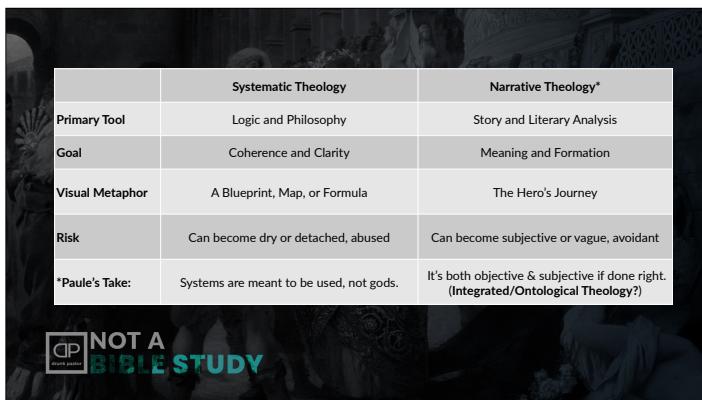


Which System? What is the System? Who governs it? How do we evaluate it?

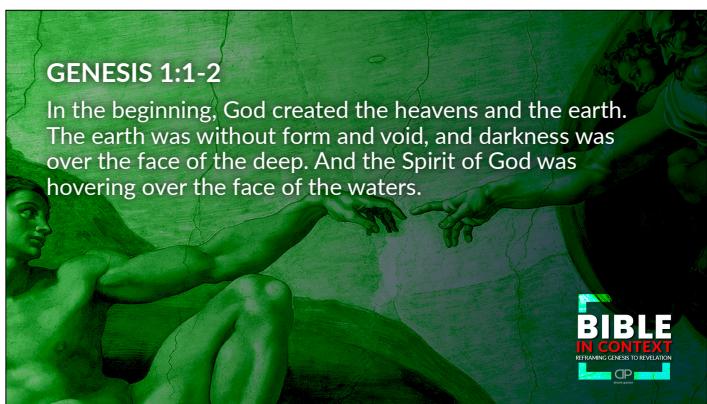
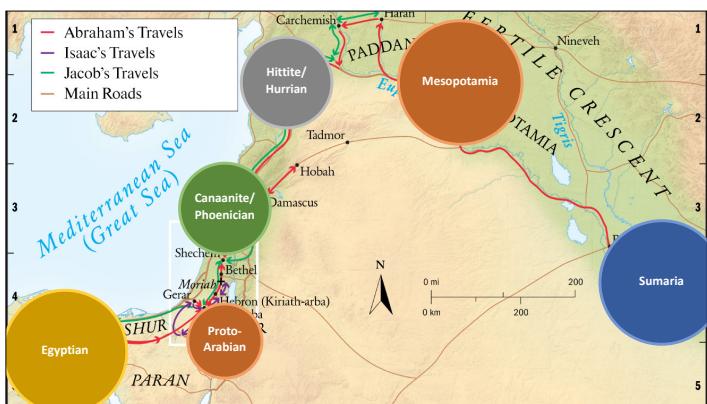
What is the Bible?  
Hermeneutics?  
Orthodoxy?

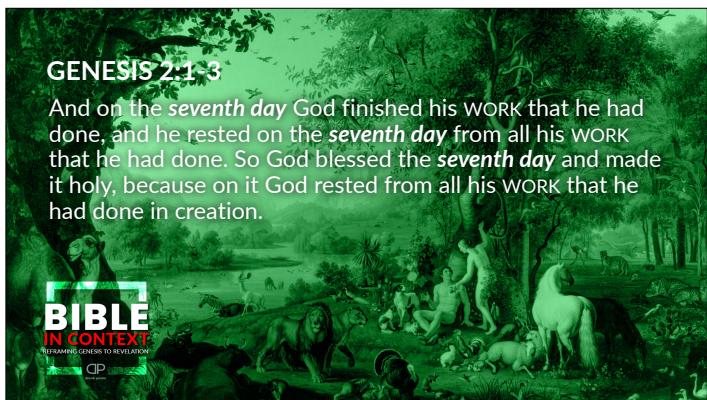
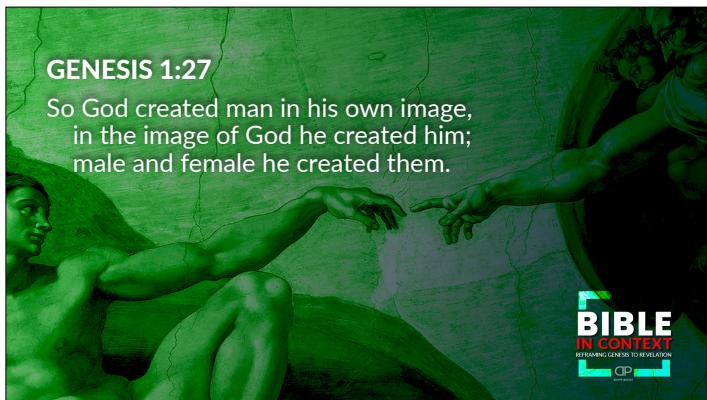
Narrative Integration? Empathetic Analysis, intrapersonal, personal, historical, scientific,





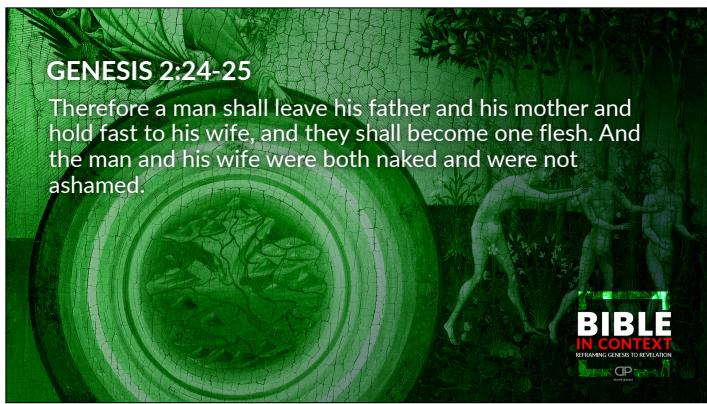
Ancient creation myths and kings: 7 days of creation and images of God





## GENESIS 2:24-25

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.



**BIBLE**  
IN CONTEXT  
REFRAMING GENESIS TO REVELATION

## SERPENTS IN THE ANE

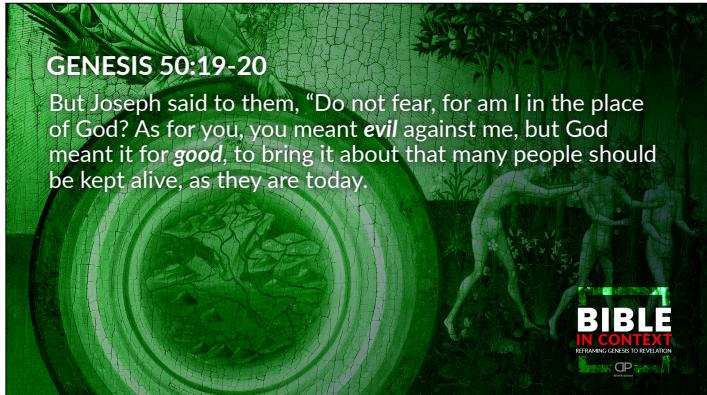


Serpents in the ANE: Asop of Egypt, the serpent of Gilgamesh, and Asclepius

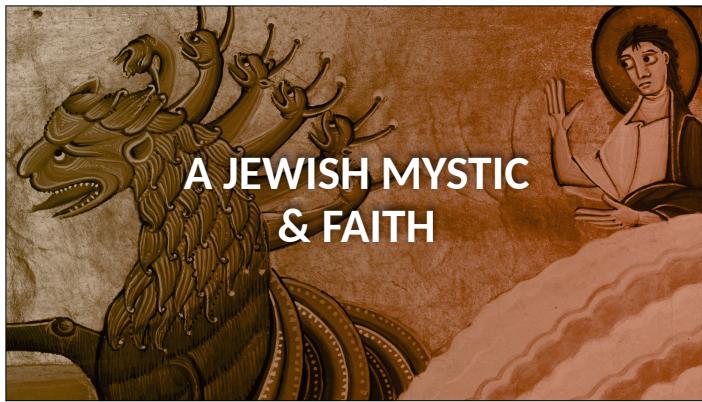
Gen 3: Shame enters, ego/shadow, now at enmity

## GENESIS 50:19-20

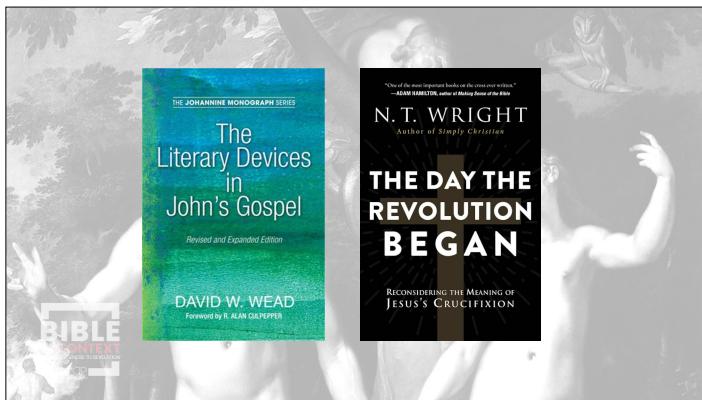
But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant **evil** against me, but God meant it for **good**, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today."



It took 40+ chapters for someone to finally get it

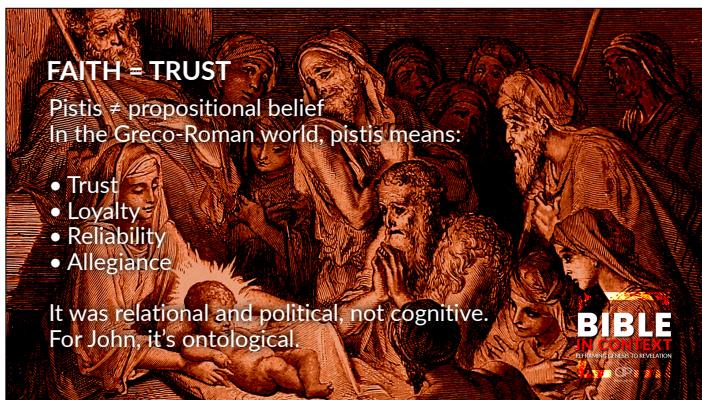


## A JEWISH MYSTIC & FAITH



### Influences include:

Philip Yancy, Francis Schaeffer, Kierkegaard, Carl Jung, N.T. Wright, C.S. Lewis, Mark Manson, Dallas Willard, Huberman, Derek Siver, NF, Arrested Youth, & Ted Lasso....potentially

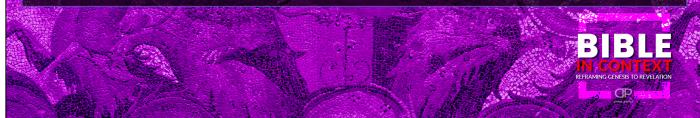




“...The young god Dionysus, who has just returned from the East bringing him the cult of the vine...”

## DIONYSUS;

"I come from Lydia...in the sun-beaten steppes of Persia, the walled cities of **Bactria**, the wintry land of Media, and in the Arabia Felix—land of the blest."

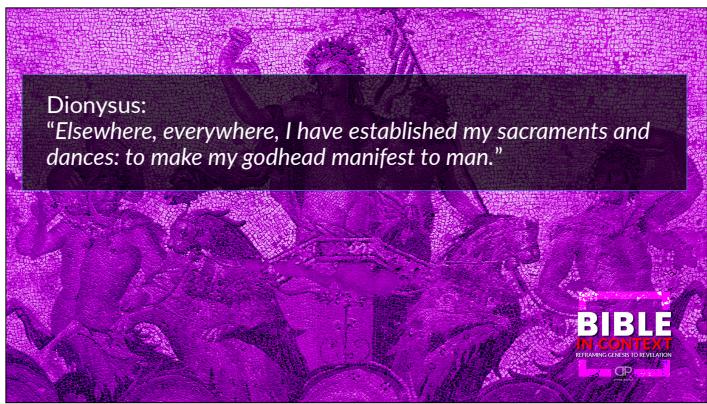


Deciphered Linear B tablets from Pylos and Chania (c. 1300–1200 BCE) show Dionysus (written as di-wo-nu-so) already being worshipped as a god, often alongside Zeus.

During his eastern conquests, Alexander actively promoted the idea that he was following in the footsteps of Dionysus, who mythologically conquered India. This helped deify Alexander in the eyes of his subjects as a "new Dionysus."

Ptolemaic Rulers (3rd Century BCE): The early Ptolemies in Egypt heavily promoted the cult, claiming descent from the god to link their Greek heritage with Egyptian religious traditions (often equating him with Osiris).

**Hadrian (Roman Emperor, 2nd Century CE):** While Dionysus was long established by this time, Hadrian revitalized Dionysian themes through his deification of Antinous, often portraying the youth in the guise of Dionysus.



Dionysus:  
"Elsewhere, everywhere, I have established my sacraments and dances: to make my godhead manifest to man."

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Apollo, god of light and prophecy, and Urania, the muse of astronomy



Ephesian Artemis



ISIS - Egyptian God, that was imported and popular



After the death of Alexander the Great, it fell to Seleucid

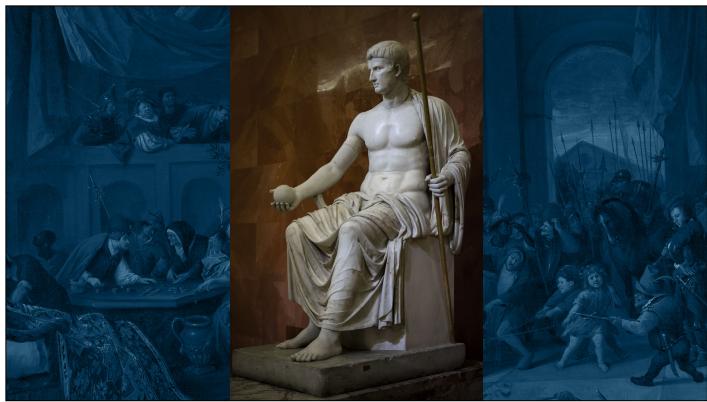
Bactria was a significant Buddhist center from roughly the 3rd century BC through the Kushan Empire (1st-3rd centuries CE), flourishing under Greco-Bactrian rulers and becoming a key hub for Greco-Buddhist art and the spread of the faith to East Asia, with pockets of Buddhism persisting until the Islamic conquests around the 7th century CE. Buddhism spread from India, especially after Emperor Ashoka, coexisting with Zoroastrianism



Star or Julius Caesar: Senate declared divine 42 BC  
Apotheosis in Myth & Empire

Humans become divine after death (e.g., Heracles)  
Reward for strength, conquest, endurance  
In Rome: emperors declared divine to legitimize power  
Divinity confirms hierarchy, control, and order

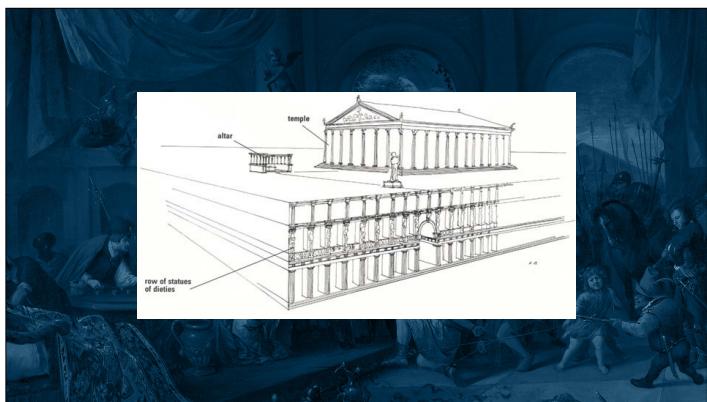
John's Radical Reframing:  
Jesus is not apotheosized after death  
Glory is revealed in the "hour"  
The cross is not failure → later reward  
The cross is the revelation of God



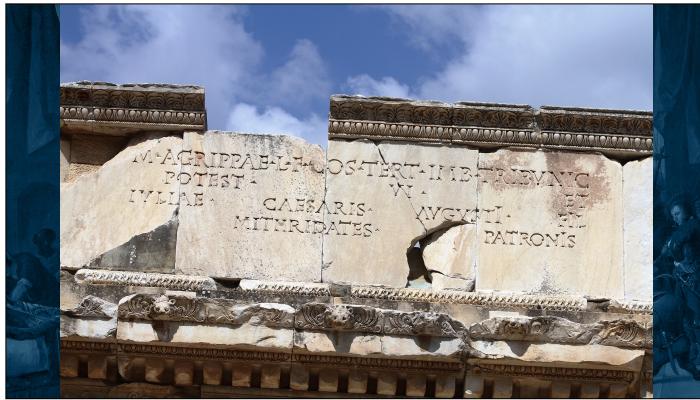
Caesar Augustus as Jupiter: Staff and globe in hand



Caesar Augustus as Jupiter: Standing on globe with "Caesar Divine Son"

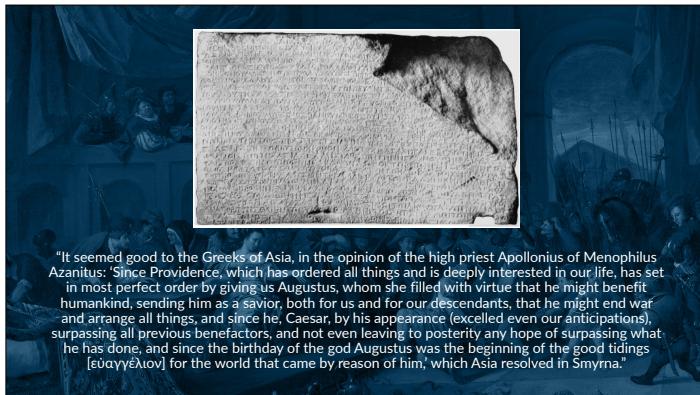


Temple of Domition built next to the agora of Ephesus



Gate of Mazaeus and Mithridates in Ephesus: "son of a god," "high priest," and "divine" (Caesar Divi)

It was erected under Emperor Vespasian in the 1st century AD, so both Paul and John would have walked through this gate.



"It seemed good to the Greeks of Asia, in the opinion of the high priest Apollonius of Menophilus Azanitus: 'Since Providence, which has ordered all things and is deeply interested in our life, has set in most perfect order by giving us Augustus, whom she filled with virtue that he might benefit humankind, sending him as a savior, both for us and for our descendants, that he might end war and arrange all things, and since he, Caesar, by his appearance (excelled even our anticipations), surpassing all previous benefactors, and not even leaving to posterity any hope of surpassing what he has done, and since the birthday of the god Augustus was the beginning of the good tidings [εὐαγγέλιον] for the world that came by reason of him, which Asia resolved in Smyrna.'

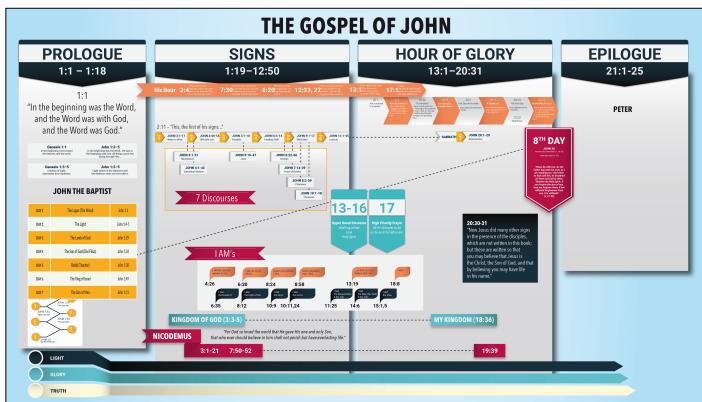
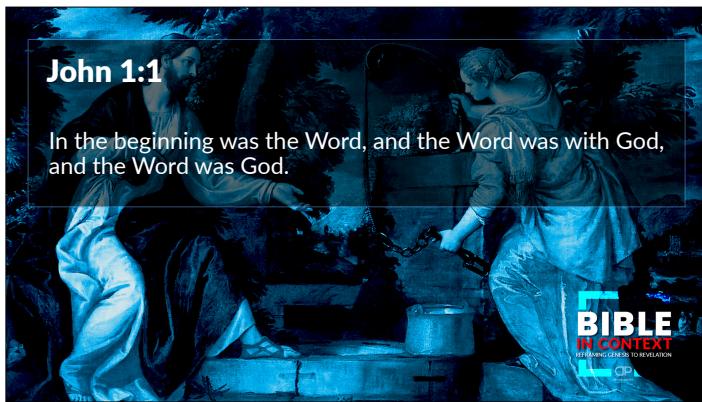
#### Priene Calendar Inscription:

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Concept	Roman Imperial Cult (Augustus)	Johannine Christology (Jesus)
Title	Divi Filius (Son of God)	Monogenés (Only Begotten Son)
Gospel	Peace through Conquest (Pax Romana)	Peace through Kenosis (Self-Emptying)
Father	Pater Patriae (Father of the Country)	Abba (Intimate Father of Being)
Priest	Pontifex Maximus	High Priesthood of the Trusting (Pistis)
Lord	Imperial/Hierarchical	Inverted/Horizontal
Church	Political, Civil, Societal	Communal, Relational, Family
Salvation	Honor (Status), Power, and Order	Truth, Love, Forgiveness, and Union
Source	Imperial Decrees/Propaganda (human)	The Word made Flesh (Eskenosen)

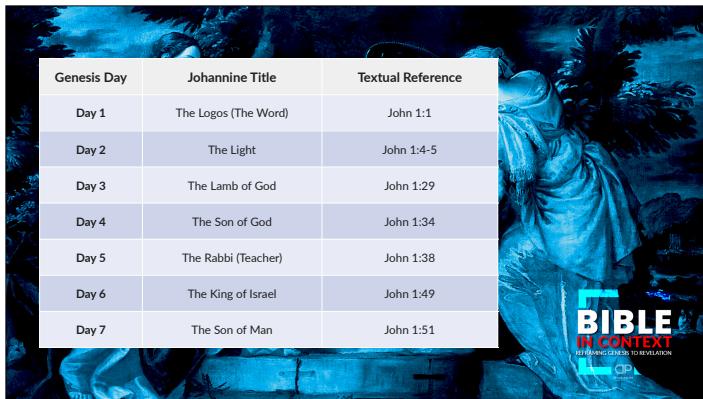


In contrast to the Synoptics: vastly different. Written at a later date, from Asia Minor, John seems to have both built on the previous gospels and leveraged his increased gentile understanding.



The Synoptic Gospels were about the Kingdom of God (or Heaven), but it's surprisingly absent in John's Gospel.

Inclusio: "Kingdom" John 3 to 18



Genesis Day	Johannine Title	Textual Reference
Day 1	The Logos (The Word)	John 1:1
Day 2	The Light	John 1:4-5
Day 3	The Lamb of God	John 1:29
Day 4	The Son of God	John 1:34
Day 5	The Rabbi (Teacher)	John 1:38
Day 6	The King of Israel	John 1:49
Day 7	The Son of Man	John 1:51



Diety	Predicate "I AM" Statements		Absolute Statement	
	1. The Bread of Life	6:35	1. "It is I; do not be afraid."	6:20
Apollo	2. The Light of the World	8:12	2. "Unless you believe that I am..."	8:24
Janus	3. The Door of the Sheep	10:7	3. "Before Abraham was, I am."	8:58
Hermes (Mercury)	4. The Good Shepherd	10:11	4. "The Who speaks, I am"	4:26
Asclepius	5. The Resurrection and the Life	11:25	5. "I told you that I am"	18:5
Hecate (or Athena)	6. The Way, the Truth, and the Life	14:6	6. "I am" (to the disciples)	13:19
Dionysus (Bacchus)	7. The True Vine	15:1	7. "I am" (at the arrest)	18:8

'I Am' s Jewish concept: God's nameless, and the closet thing there was "I am that I am." God would call his people to be holy as he was holy, a call back to Gen 2:1-3 and 2:25. For, in modern times, I can testify that "I think therefor I am" as flawed, and even dumb. Awareness precedes thought is what thought dances within. I am. Period. And I'm grateful for it.

Now, Idiocy is real thing, and deep thing. Something marketing, politics, and tyrants have known for a long time. Aristotle taught we think with ethos, pathos, and logos, all things marketing uses to convince you to buy something. Marketing uses storytelling, and storytelling (and whatever shenanigans they could get up. To) was all they had 2000 years ago, with media and literacy.

1. Ceres
2. Apollo
3. Janus
4. Hermes
5. Asclepius
6. Hecate (Athena of Truth, as well as Apollo)
7. Dionysus



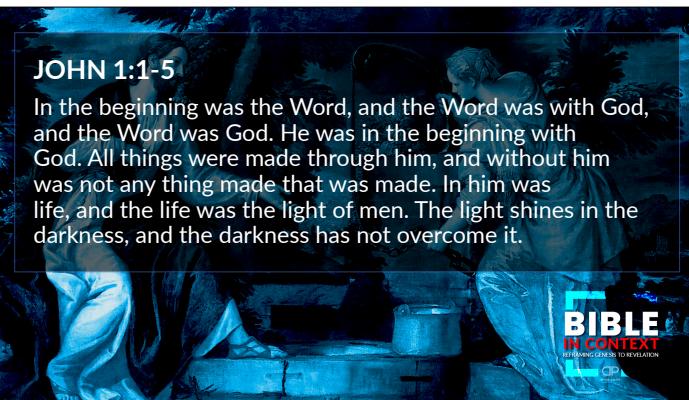
Sign	Event	Significance
Sign 1	Sign 1: Water to Wine (Cana)	The Wedding Feast/Completion (2:1)
Sign 2	Healing the Official's Son	Life given by the Word (4:46)
Sign 3	Healing the Paralytic	Restored strength on the Sabbath (5:1)
Sign 4	Feeding the 5,000	Manna in the wilderness (6:1)
Sign 5	Walking on Water	Victory over the chaos/sea (6:16)
Sign 6	Healing the Man Born Blind	Restoring sight/Light of the world (9:1)
Sign 7	Raising Lazarus	The climax: Victory over death (11:1)
The 8th Day	The Resurrection	New Creation begins (Chapter 20)



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**JOHN 1:1-5**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

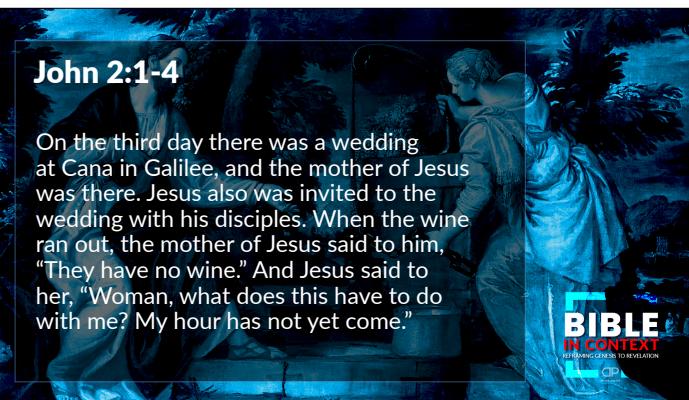


**BIBLE IN CONTEXT**  
REFRAMING GENESIS TO REVELATION

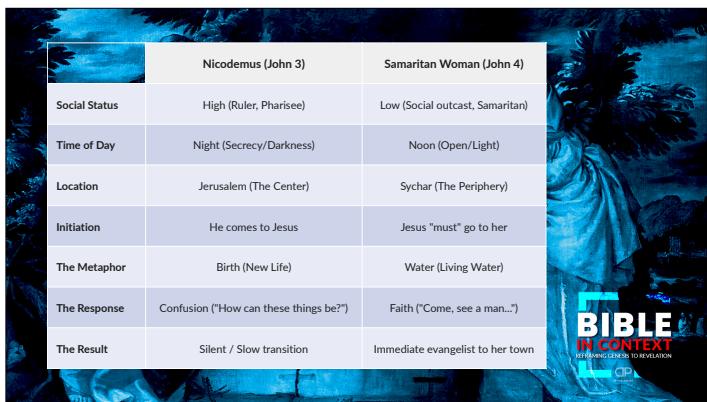
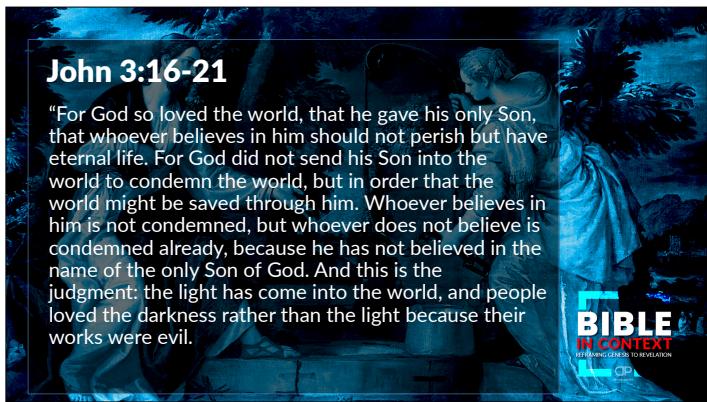
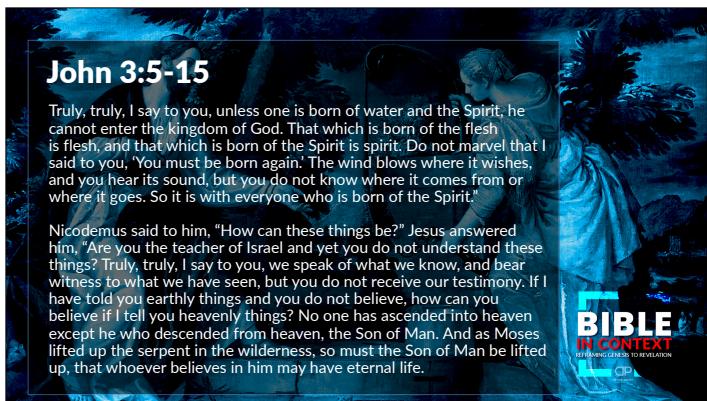
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**John 2:1-4**

On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come."



**BIBLE IN CONTEXT**  
REFRAMING GENESIS TO REVELATION



## John 12:20-23

"Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. So these came to Philip... and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus!... Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified!'"

**BIBLE**  
IN CONTEXT  
REFRAMING GENESIS TO REVELATION  
CP

## John 12:32-34

"And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. So the crowd answered him, 'We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?'"

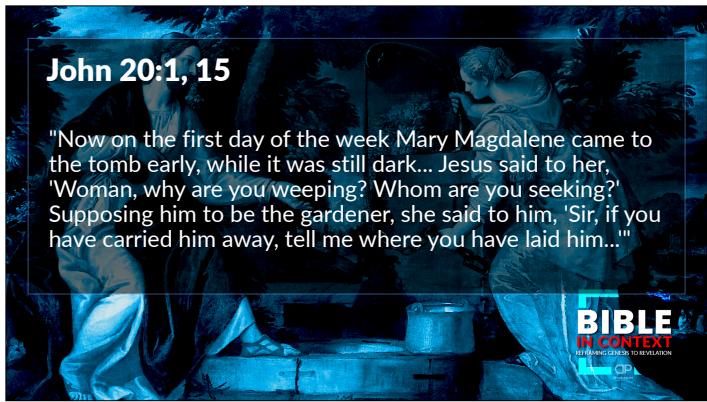
**BIBLE**  
IN CONTEXT  
REFRAMING GENESIS TO REVELATION  
CP

## The Son of Man Archetype

- DANIEL 7:13-14:  
**"I SAW IN THE NIGHT VISIONS, AND BEHOLD, WITH THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN THERE CAME ONE LIKE A SON OF MAN... AND TO HIM WAS GIVEN DOMINION AND GLORY AND A KINGDOM, THAT ALL PEOPLES, NATIONS, AND LANGUAGES SHOULD SERVE HIM."**

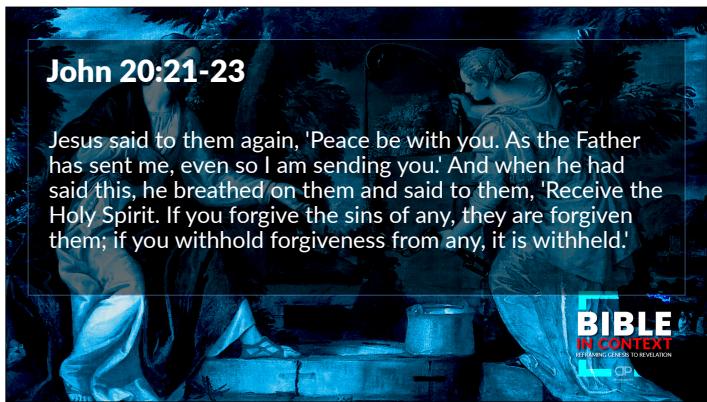
Ps 50

**BIBLE**  
IN CONTEXT  
REFRAMING GENESIS TO REVELATION  
CP



## John 20:1, 15

"Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark... Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him...'"



## John 20:21-23

Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.'

Same ending as Genesis 50, when good and evil are resolved through forgiveness and blessing, when Joseph refused to place himself in God's position. This is more crucial than we realize.



The Kingdom of God is in you, in your midst, Heaven is here and now, Hell is that which we carry and spread unnecessarily, it's that we can be in the light, vulnerable, and ourselves, free from those things we don't want to do and can do what we want to do, that there is forgiveness...and the key to it all is if we're willing to forgive.