

# Studying Scripture

Alexander Thomas

## Raised Fundamentalist Preaching and Ministry

- Baptist
- Christian Church
- Anglican
- Episcopal

## Schooling

- Religious Studies
  - ANE
  - Archeology
- Biblical Studies and Theology
  - Pauline Studies (Romans)
  - Greek (and Latin at a different school)
  - Jewish Poetry

## INTRODUCTION

"Media Evangelist"

NOT

Communications  
Coordinator

**Learn HOW to  
Learn**

**"Frameworks"**

# "Two Types of Studying"

Academic

vs

Devotional

Scholarship

vs

Fundamentalist

Contradictory

vs

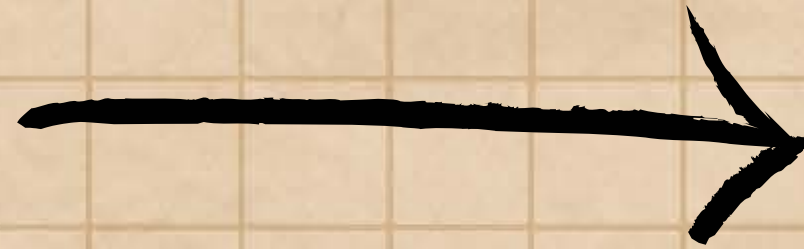
Unified Piece

*te odio. Sed  
elementum  
id aliquet  
na fermen-  
tellus cras  
is ut diam  
iam phasel-  
met dictum*

*er sit amet  
eugiat nibh  
t duis tris-  
auris nunc  
fames ac  
h mauris.  
At*

# "Two Types of Studying"

Academic



Devotional

Contradictory

vs

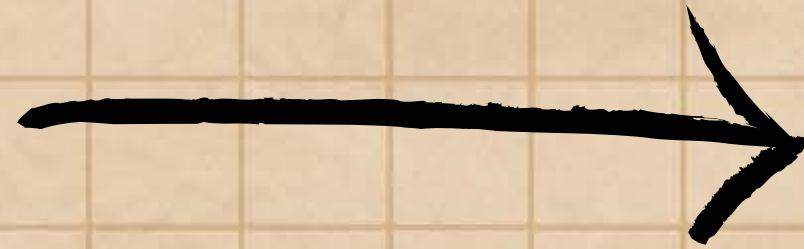
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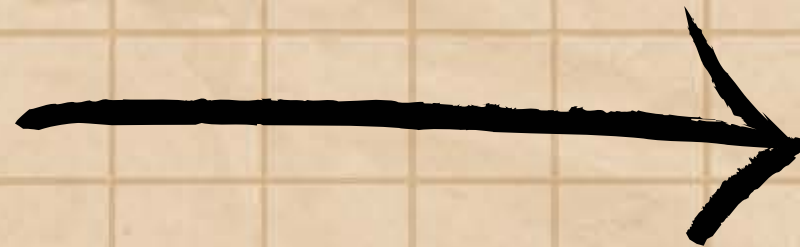
# "Two Types of Studying"

**Academic**



**Devotional**

**Multiple Authors  
and Sources**



**Compiled and  
Edited into  
a Unified**

**"Meta Narrative"**

*te odio. Sed  
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tellus cras  
is ut diam  
iam phasel-  
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At*

# Wrestling with God



## Torah

Genesis  
בראשית

Exodus  
שמות

Leviticus  
ויקרא

Numbers  
במדבר

Deuteronomy  
דברים

## Neviim (Prophets)

Joshua  
יהושע

Judges  
שפטים

Samuel  
שמואל

Kings  
מלכים

Isaiah  
ישעיהו

Jeremiah  
ירמיהו

Ezekiel  
יחזקאל

The Twelve  
תרי עשר

## Ketuvim (Writings)

Psalms  
תהלים

Proverbs  
משלי

Job  
איוב

Song of Songs  
שיר השירים

Ruth  
רות

Lamentations  
איכה

Ecclesiastes  
קהלת

Esther  
אסתר

Daniel  
דניאל

Ezra  
עזרא

Chronicles  
דברי הימים

# Reading the Bible As Literature

## Literature

Just like in English  
Class!

- Author(s)
- Composition Date(s)
  - Oral Traditions Compiled Together
  - Multiple Written Sources Edited
- Setting
- Languages
- Theme
- Plot
- **AND POETRY!**



# "Scholar Hats"

Words or Ideas to Know

- Geography
- EJPD
- Origin Stories
- Priestly Vs NonP
- Creation Myths
- Meta-Narrative
- Doublets
- Chiasm
  - Chiastic Structure

A stylized map of the Middle East region. The landmass is colored in shades of green and yellow, representing different geographical features or terrain. The Mediterranean Sea is shown in dark blue to the north and west, and the Red Sea is in dark blue to the south. A large red area covers the northern and central parts of the landmass, labeled 'ASSYRIA-BABYLON'. A smaller yellow area is located on the western coast, labeled 'ISRAEL'. The Nile River valley is shown in light blue, labeled 'EGYPT'.

EGYPT

ISRAEL

ASSYRIA-  
BABYLON

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Jahwist

**J**

Elohist

**E**

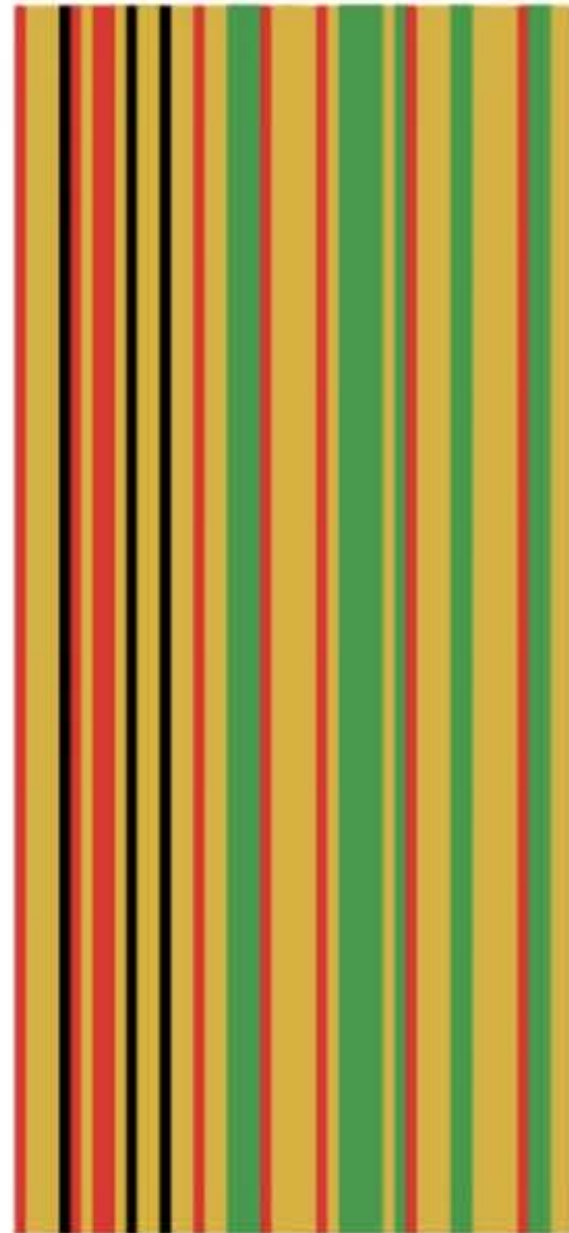
Deuteronomist

**D**

Priestly

**P**

Genesis



Exodus



Leviticus



Numbers



Deuteronomy



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Material  
previously  
labelled  
J or E

Deuteronomist

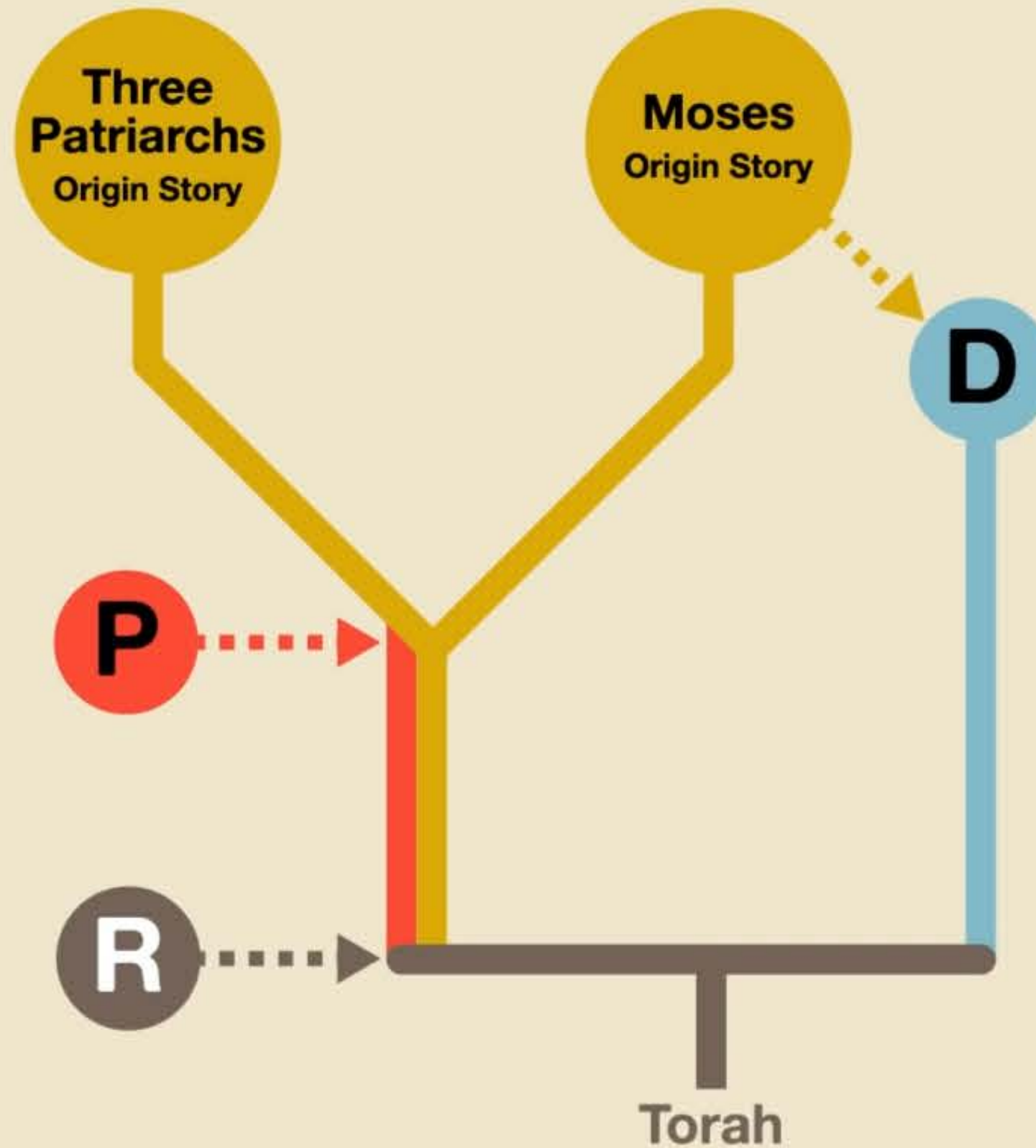
**D**

Priestly

**P**

Redactor

**R**



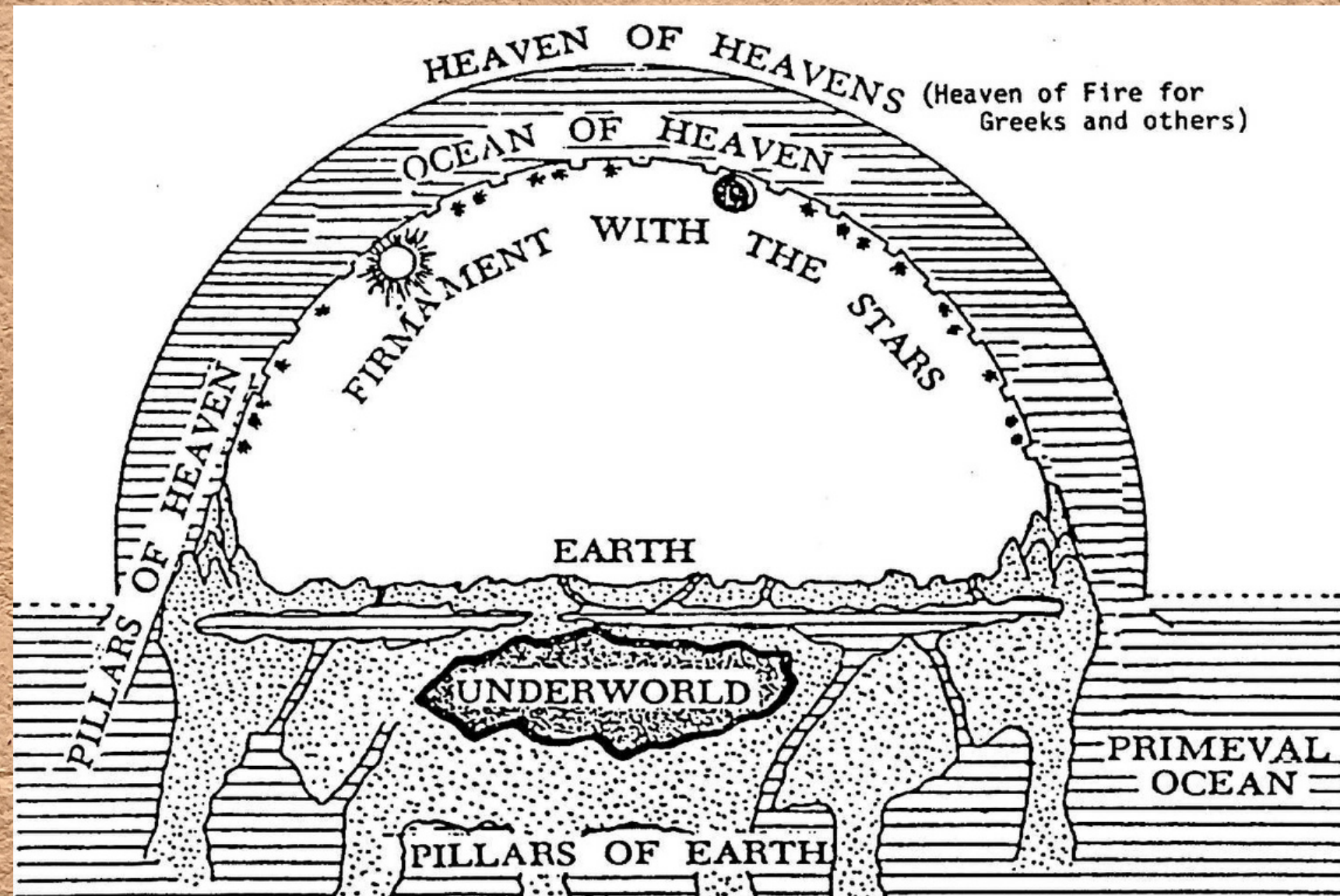
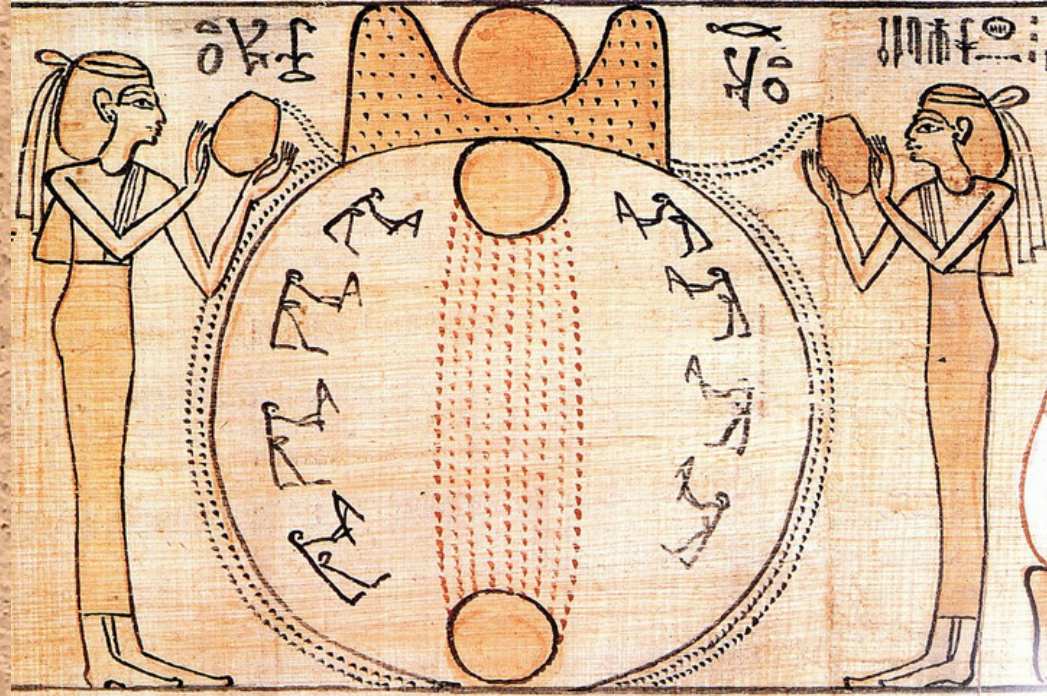
**EJPD**  
**Origin**  
**Stories**  
**Priestly**  
**Vs NonP**

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# Creation Myths



## Play Video about Sumerian Enki

