

It was the best of times, it
was the worst of times, it was
the age of wisdom, it was the
age of foolishness...

Far Out in the uncharted
backwaters of the unfashionable
end of the Western Spiral arm
of the galaxy lies a small
unregarded yellow sun.

**All children, except one,
grow up.**

It is a truth universally
acknowledged, that a single
man in possession of a good
fortune, must be in want of a
wife.

In a hole in the ground,
there lived a hobbit

As far back as I can
remember, I always wanted
to be a gangster.

Whenever I get gloomy with the
state of the world, I think
about the arrivals gate at
Heathrow airport.

I'm 36 years old, I love my family, I love baseball, and I'm about to become a farmer. But until I heard the voice, I'd never done a crazy thing in my whole life.

In the beginning God created
the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1: 1-5, 26-31





FOR MORE RESOURCES, VISIT

→ winvin.org.uk/yobl

After reading the Bible, ask yourself...

- 1 What does this passage tell you about God?
- 2 What does this passage tell you about you?
Or people in general?
- 3 What does this passage tell you about living in a way that pleases God?
(1 Thessalonians 4:1)
- 4 As a result of reading this passage I will...





The Big Story of God

AN OVERVIEW OF THE WHOLE BIBLE



YEAR OF
Biblical Literacy

The Bible is a library of writings that are both divine and human that, together, tell a unified story which leads us to Jesus.





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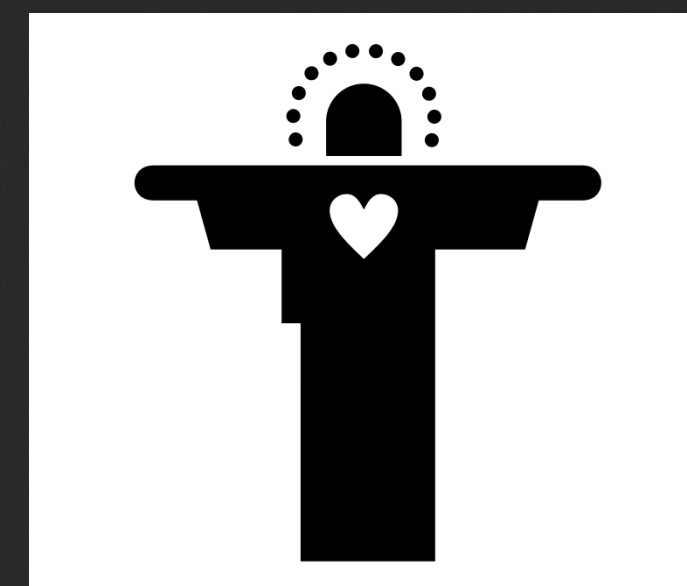
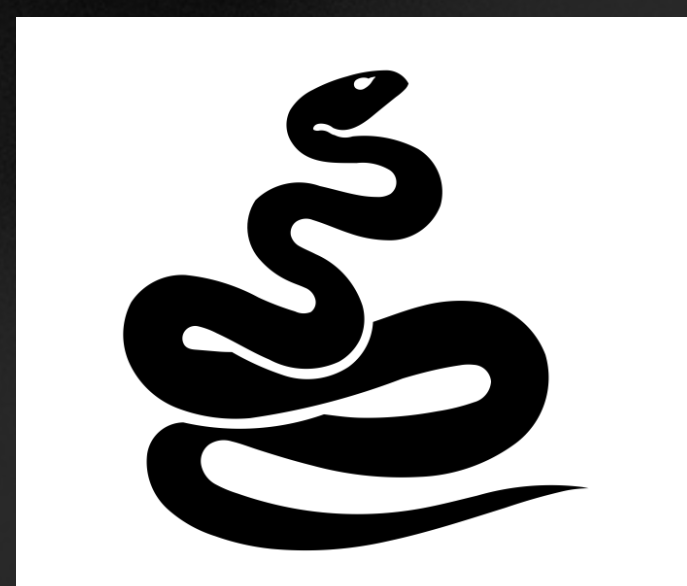
ACT 1 CREATION

ACT 2 THE FALL

ACT 3 ISRAEL *(THE COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM)*

ACT 4 JESUS & THE CHURCH *(THE NEW COVENANT)*

ACT 5 THE RESTORATION OF ALL THINGS



GENESIS 1&2

1. A different kind of story
2. A different set of questions
3. A different way to live



'ENUMA ELISH' - ancient Babylonian creation narrative

CREATION GENESIS 1-2

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DAYS 1-3

DAYS 4-6

GOD FORMS THE CREATION

GOD FILLS THE CREATION

1

God separates the light from the darkness

1:3-5

2

God separates the water from the sky

1:6-8

3

God separates the earth from the sea

God creates vegetation

1:9-13

4

God creates the sun, moon and stars

1:14-19

5

God creates the sea creatures and birds

1:20-23

6

God creates the land creatures and humanity

God gives vegetation for food

1:24-31

7

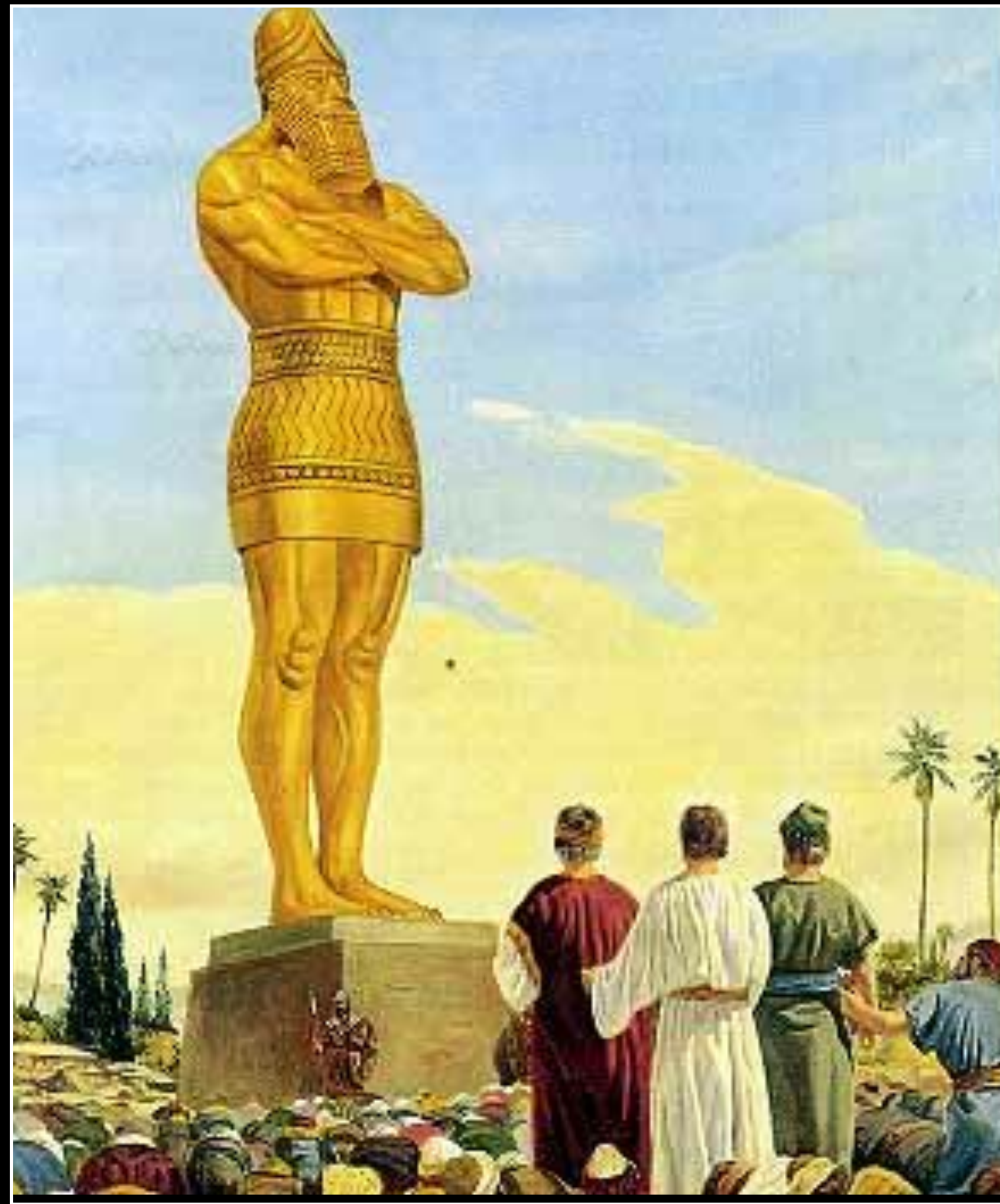
God rests from his work of creation

2:1-3



Hadad-yis'i'

(ruler of Guzan in Syria
in 9th century BC)
FOUND in 1976



Daniel 3:1-7

King Nebuchadnezzar made an **image**
of gold, whose height was sixty cubits
and its breadth six cubits.....



1 Samuel 5:3-4

When the people of Ashdod rose early the
next day, there was Dagon, fallen on his face
on the ground before the ark of the Lord!
They took Dagon and put him back in his
place. But the following morning when they
rose, there was Dagon, fallen on his face on
the ground before the ark of the Lord! His
head and hands had been broken off and
were lying on the threshold; only his body
remained

"I can't imagine how nature, in the case of the universe, could have created itself. The very fact that the universe had a beginning implies that someone was able to begin it, and it seems to me that had to be outside of nature."

*Francis Collins,
Head of the Human Genome Project
that mapped DNA*



"An evolutionary worldview may not lead to superstition, but it will lead to relativism because there are no absolute values, only the values you decide to assign to things. It will also lead, if you follow its logic through, to Nihilism, a loss of absolute meaning, because there is no inherent significance to the accidental organisms of the world, only the significance you choose to attach to them."

Dr. John Dixon,

*Founding Director of the Australian
Centre for Public Christianity (2007-17)*



CREATION VS EVOLUTION



"If we try to turn Genesis 1 into an explanation of modern cosmology, we are making the text say something it never said. It is not just a case of adding meaning, it is a case of changing meaning. Since we view the text as authoritative, it is a dangerous thing to change the meaning of the text into something it never intended to say."

John Walton,
Old Testament Scholar



"The creation narrative provides answers for the two most fundamental questions that all philosophies and religions answer in different ways. **Where are we and who are we?**

That is to say, first, what is this universe in which we find ourselves, where did it come from and why does it exist and is it even real?

And then, second, what does it mean to be human? Are we gods or merely animals that have evolved a bit further than the rest? Does human life have any value, meaning and purpose?"

Christopher Wright,
Old Testament Scholar





Gen 2: 15 -17

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.



God's Way or Our Way?

**Bringing order from chaos,
structuring the world around us,
celebrating life & creating beauty.**



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