

# The Origin of the Ancient gods

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*A few of the human images of gods of the ancient world*

## Introduction

Today the word “myth” generally means “a story that is told as true but is actually false.” However, in the past this word carried a different meaning: “myth is a story that reveals the truth.” As C.S. Lewis stated, “All myth is an attempt to shine light on truth. True Myth is the ultimate Light shining on the ultimate Truth.”

So it is with the ancient gods, such as Marduk, Bel, Ishtar, Innana, Osiris, Isis, Horus, Baal, Astarte, Ashtaroth, Zeus, Hera, Venus, Aphrodite, Neptune, Pan, and many others. They are mythical but also real. Each of them represented one or more ex-angels (i.e., demons), who took on certain characteristics for the sake of interacting with people. They were depicted either as humans, animals, human/animal combinations, and/or forces of nature.

Many of these gods are associated with the stars and constellations, such as Sirius, Orion, the Pleiades, and Alpha Draconis. The Star Gospel, another “true myth” that depicts both the past and future, fits the ancient gods into an overall context ([Sorensen, 2011](#)). The constellations

involved that in some cases represent them include Draco the dragon – the great enemy and the symbol of Satan; Leo the Lion – symbol of the ruling tribe of Judah and the ancestor of the Messiah; Virgo – the virgin who would conceive and bear a son; Coma – the baby that the virgin would bear who would become the Messiah; Arcturus the Shepherd and Aquarius, the water carrier – ministries of the Messiah; Crux – the cross and the instrument of the Messiah’s death; Capricorn the goat – the atonement for sin; Pisces the fish – symbol of God’s people; Orion the warrior – the Messiah as king after his second coming; Cassiopeia the queen – the people of God as the bride and queen of the Messiah; Libra the scales – the final judgment; and many others.

The ancient gods also served as avatars for kings and dictators ([Hislop, 1857](#)), and our concern here is how the myths of the ancient gods were developed in human society. Whenever we investigate ancient times, we must bear in mind how radically different the culture of that day was – community rather than individual identity, comprehensive control by the gods, the divinity of kings, the centrality of temples, the reality of the spirit world, and ancient conceptions of the universe. Both the gods and the kings were capricious, cruel, egotistical, self-serving, and had a general disregard for morality and human life, except as it served their interests. People lived in fear of the gods.

The interaction of the ancient gods (i.e., ex-angels) goes back to the beginning of humanity and the encounter between Satan and Eve in the Garden of Eden. The actions of the sons of God later expanded on this ([Sorensen, 2025](#)), but there are no surviving records from that time, and little is known of their exploits beyond the hints given in Genesis chapter 6 and several writings from the Second Temple period such as the Book of Enoch. We are much more familiar with the deities of Sumer, Akkad, Babylon, Egypt, Assyria, Persia, Greece, and Rome – these are the ancient gods which are herein considered. They were also spirit beings whose actual origin was in the unknowable past, so when we speak of their “origin” in this paper, we are referring to their arrival and actions in human history. The story given here is myth in the old sense – a tale in which the historical details may be distorted and even incorrect, but which nevertheless reveals an underlying truth.

## **The Story of Nimrod**

The historical origin of these ancient gods is thought to begin with Nimrod. He was born after the Flood in the third generation after Noah. His father was Cush, one of the sons of Ham, and therefore Noah was Nimrod’s great-grandfather.

Before the birth of Nimrod, a strange act of incest and sexual provocation occurred in Noah’s family (Genesis 9:20-27). Canaan, another of Ham’s sons and Nimrod’s uncle apparently committed either a heterosexual act on Noah’s wife or a homosexual act on Noah himself. Noah cursed Canaan, and being shamed by Noah, Ham and his family left and moved south. Canaan and his descendants settled in the land that came to be named after him (later the land of Israel), but the others continued traveling south and west and moved into northeastern Africa.

Cush and his family settled in Ethiopia, far away from the growing settlements on the Tigris and Euphrates river valleys, where most of the people on earth still lived at that time. A mighty son

was then born to Cush. This was Nimrod, who became a hunter and a leader of the tribe. After gaining dominion over his own people, he began dreaming of world conquest and taking revenge on those who had cursed his elders.

Nimrod organized the first army in the history of the world possibly by recruiting his cousins and their families, Sheba and Dedan from Arabia. As the leader of this army, he sailed up the Red Sea to invade Mesopotamia. When he landed with his forces, he engaged a inn-keeper or prostitute said to be from Erech, who was so attractive and sexually adept that Nimrod took her along with him ([Self, 1994](#)). Her original name is unknown, but later she was given the name “Semiramis” after becoming Nimrod’s queen. The name Semiramis is derived from the names Shinar and Sumer, but her name “Sammur-amat” in Sumerian, means “gift of the sea.” This name was given to her because it was not fitting for a king to have a prostitute for his queen, and she was therefore supposedly a “virgin sprung from the sea” whom Nimrod had found when he landed with his army. Later queens of history took their regal name from her, suggesting that she was an historical person ([Hislop, 1857](#)).

Cities at the time were relatively small as was Nimrod’s army (perhaps one hundred men?). Nevertheless, moving north and east, the army conquered all of the cities of the world through force of arms (Genesis 10:8-12), and Nimrod established his kingdom in the lands of Sumer and Akkad. An early Babylonian legend tells of a conquering people who came up out of the Persian Gulf and established an empire from these cities ([Foryan, 1997](#)). This seems to fit well with what we know of the movements of Nimrod. The identity of his capital city is not certain as there are several possibilities: Eridu, Uruk (Erech), Akkad, Babel, and later others such as Ninevah, and he may have moved to different places during the course of his life. The Sumerian city of Kish was founded later and was probably named after Nimrod’s father Cush. Regardless of the specific location, after the fighting was over, the reign of Nimrod began.

His name means “rebellious one” so it was an epithet and a description of his character rather than his actual name. Nimrod’s real name was possibly Gilgamesh. In Genesis he is referred to a “A mighty hunter” but this could also be read as “a mighty tyrant.” After his rule began, this coarse and brutal man then began to engage in debauchery on an increasing scale, holding parties that became orgies of sex and violence. People and animals were tortured for sport while Nimrod and his officials fondled slave girls and watched in a drunken stupor. As he had been a hunter, the king led the revelry dressed as an animal and wearing the horns of a goat or a bull which later became symbols of the gods.

Having been a prostitute, Semiramis was secretly despised by the leading women, and she was also threatened by the many beautiful and seductive females who were vying for Nimrod’s attention. Fearing that Nimrod was tiring of her, Semiramis set about securing her own position as queen, and soon found an ally in the new Sumerian religious leaders. Nimrod despised Noah and his God so after gaining power he appointed his own priests. They became a social class unto themselves, and under Nimrod’s patronage they began to develop the first gods of antiquity. Semiramis secretly rose in power because of her connection with Nimrod and her access to the treasury of Sumeria, which she used to corrupt the new class of Sumerian priests, and to purge all of the godly ones who were not willing to go along with her rule. Aping

Nimrod's ruthlessness and his control over the army, she forced the priests to submit to her authority and gave them a stipend from the taxes imposed on all of the peoples of the kingdom.

Nimrod's heavy drinking, feasting, and partying continued for years, and his body and mind began to grow soft and flabby. He felt the growing weakness in himself and needing all the more to have a way of perpetuating his power, he decided that he would deify himself and command that the people worship him as a god. This gave Semiramis an inspiration – why not use the new deities being developed by the Sumerian priests and become their avatars? The people would then worship Nimrod and herself as divine beings.

To represent Nimrod, the priests created the gods Marduk, the bull and the god of light, and Bel, the master and the planet Jupiter. To represent herself, Semiramis had them create Inanna, the divine mother and the goddess of fertility and the day, and Ishtar, the goddess of war and the moon and sex goddess of the night. Thus she attempted to satisfy Nimrod's desires, while at the same time advancing her own power.

Through Semiramis' sponsorship, the Sumerian priests eventually fashioned and promulgated an entirely new cosmology. The priests told the people that the original teachings from Adam, Noah, and the Star Gospel were superseded by a new revelation, and they began teaching the new religious mysteries that they had developed. They revealed that the world had originally been created by Satan, the Dragon, who they said was the world's rightful creator and owner, and that the problems of the world were caused by Jehovah's warring against the Dragon. The people were taught that this conflict would continue until a divine son would be born to Inanna, the queen of heaven. This son would defeat Jehovah and return the rule of the world to the Dragon, bringing peace and prosperity to all.

The constellation Orion and the warrior planet Mars was then declared to represent Marduk/Bel ([Self, 1985](#)), the king of heaven; the constellation Cassiopeia and the planet Venus was to represent Inanna/Ishtar, the queen; and the constellation Coma was to symbolize the child of Inanna/Ishtar, who would become the Messiah. The other constellations were also re-interpreted in light of this new teaching. Thus Semiramis and the Sumerian priests created the pseudo-science of astrology as a corruption of the Star Gospel, and they began to use the stars as a means of divination and sorcery, and to explore the many ways of calling on demonic power.

Nimrod had still more ideas for self-promotion. At enormous cost he began building a huge tower as a temple to himself and a monument to his own divinity. The priests would there conduct worship services to him, using astrology for inspiration. But while Semiramis' new religious concepts were being taught and absorbed in the population at large, and Nimrod's temple was nearing completion, a divine disaster occurred. The languages of various groups of peoples were changed, communication ground to a halt, confusion set in, and the empire descended into chaos. Nimrod's temple was abandoned and eventually it was derisively called "the tower of Babel"—the tower of confusion. It became a huge political disaster and resulted in the Uruk migration where people from the different language groups left Sumer, went in all directions, and established new societies. This upheaval also spurred the need for writing as a way to communicate between societies, so the script-based symbolic systems of cuneiform and hieroglyphics were developed.

Nimrod's response was to withdraw into a sulking despondency. He drank even more heavily and became mentally unhinged. Nimrod had many women, and Semiramis had long before ceased to be his sexual partner, but seeing his weak and spineless reaction, Semiramis finally abandoned him. Having become very close to the Babylonian priests, she began an affair with the chief priest, by whom she became pregnant. She gave birth to a son and named him Damu or Dammuzi (meaning "blood"), which was "Tammuz" in Hebrew, and "Adonis" in Greek. For some time, Nimrod's advisors had been warning him of his queen's growing power and independence, and her influence over the corrupt, cruel, and powerful religious hierarchy. Thinking of Semiramis as a mere woman, Nimrod had made light of this counsel, and only belatedly began listening to them. But when he discovered her infidelity, his rage and suspicions over her ambitions turned him against her. He planned to expose her true background and have her tortured and killed after the New Year's festival, which was soon to come. But Semiramis' power had grown beyond even what Nimrod's advisors suspected. She had spies throughout the palace and quickly became aware of Nimrod's plans, and she was not about to release the grip on power that she had achieved.

The New Year's festivities were one of the royal Sumerian traditions. It involved tearing apart a live ram in front of all of the guests and then roasting and feasting on it. Nimrod himself had done this many years before as a hunter, so Semiramis came up with a bold plan: she arranged to have a number of the priests seize Nimrod while he was drunk and have him tied up and torn apart instead.

The king who was already tipsy and dressed for the party in his goat horns, was separated from his guards under the pretense of worshiping him. The priests carried him to the unfinished temple in the Tower of Babel where they bound and gagged him. On the altar to his own divinity, he was blindfolded, tied to stakes, and in the red torchlight his arms and legs were chopped off in a wild and gruesome ceremony. So it happened that the mighty hunter and the conqueror of Sumeria died at the hand of his own wife, and in the same way as did the beasts that he had hunted. The priests roasted him on his own altar, and the New Year's feast that year for them consisted of the flesh of Nimrod – the flesh of a god – which they ate with gusto. The chief priest ate his phallus, thus symbolically transferring the power of Nimrod to himself and to the priestly class, who afterward ruled the kingdom along with Semiramis.

After this horrific deed had been accomplished, Semiramis quickly seized supreme power and, with the aid of the religious leaders, she had all of the loyal supporters of the king rounded up and assassinated. She then explained Nimrod's death with a story that the king had literally become divine and had ascended into heaven as the god Marduk.

The Sumerian people were also told that Semiramis was truly Inanna/Ishtar, the queen of heaven. Her son Damu, supposedly the son of Nimrod, was proclaimed to be the Morning Star, and the promised son from the reinterpreted Star Gospel, who would save the world. Many "Madonna and Child" pictures and figurines of Semiramis as the mother nursing her supposedly divine son were created and given to the people so that they would believe the lie that she was the mother of the gods, rendering her power unassailable. Sumer was afterward thus ruled for a time by a woman who was the first and the most influential femme fatale of history.



Revolts had occurred and many people had departed from Sumer due to the confusion of language. But Semiramis retained her power with those who remained, in large part because of the lies about her divinity and the premise that she was the regent for her supposedly divine son until he came of age to rule. Meanwhile, Damu grew up in the palace where his every desire was instantly gratified. Years later when he came of age, he demanded that his mother step down completely and give him the authority that was rightfully his. Semiramis refused to surrender power and began planning to kill her son. But knowing what she had done to Nimrod, Damu struck first, killing his mother with his own sword before she could have him killed. To prevent a revolt by the priests and to cement his own power, Damu appointed new religious leaders and had the chief priest, his real father, killed along with his mother.

The deaths of Semiramis and the chief priest were likewise explained as their ascension as gods. Damu further commanded that rituals be conducted to symbolize his strange quasi-Messianic relationships with his mother, father, and step-father. In these rituals he and his mother would descend into Hades to seek the souls of Damu's fathers in order to atone for their deeds. Thus the kingdom of Sumer was established in the pattern designed by Satan, with greed, deception, treachery, and violence; with man exploiting woman, woman betraying man, and the divine plan of God perverted.

## **Transmogrification of the Ancient gods**

People who now spoke different languages migrated away and established new societies. Some migrated to the land of Egypt where they developed the legends of Osiris and Isis. Amazingly, all of the weird stories of this Egyptian god and goddess came directly from the sordid family of Nimrod and Semiramis, with only a few of the details changed.

In the Egyptian version of the story, Nimrod became Osiris, Semiramis became Isis, Damu became Horus, and Satan became Set. Osiris (Nimrod) was torn to pieces, not directly by his evil brother Set (Satan), but by Isis (Semiramis) herself under Satan's influence. The parts of Osiris' body were scattered; his phallus – symbolizing his power – was eaten by crabs (the chief priest, also Semiramis' paramour). Thereafter, Osiris was sent to the land of the dead to rule over it so that Isis could seize power and rule by herself. Isis became pregnant, not by Osiris, but rather by the chief priest, who by consuming the flesh of Nimrod, had, in a mystery, taken the king's virility and authority. Their son Horus (Damu) became the promised child, and the heir to the kingdom. Just as Semiramis had created Madonna and child pictures and figurines in Sumer, the same images of Isis nursing Horus were also created in Egypt (see below). The pharaohs of Egypt subsequently claimed their descent from Horus, just as the Sumerian kings were biologically descended from Damu.

The basic doctrine of Egyptian society was *maat*, which meant the overall system of morality, justice, and universal equilibrium ([Darnell & Darnell, 2022, p. 18](#)). *Maat* was maintained by the worship of the many gods of Egypt and by worshiping Pharaoh, who was considered to be divine due to his descent from Horus, and who in some cases explicitly claimed divinity. The priests of Egypt, like the Sumerian priests before them, had little to do with ordinary people who

were generally afraid of and avoided them. These religious leaders performed rituals meant to serve and appease the gods. These ceremonies were usually done in the dark and in secret and sometimes involved hallucinogenic drugs. If the gods were not worshipped, if Pharaoh wasn't ruling, and if Maat was not maintained, Egyptian society was supposedly in danger of dissolution.

The Pharaohs sought the approval of Isis for their rule by the hieros-gamos ritual of sexual intercourse with an avatar of Isis ([Black, 2024](#)), (Britannica, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/hieros-gamos>). This was done periodically at their jubilee or *sed* festivals ([Reeves, 2022, pp. 66-68](#)). In many of the Egyptian tales Isis and Horus rule together and are either metaphorical or actual oedipal lovers rather than the son killing his mother. Horus instead obtains Isis's authority through a hieros-gamos-type mating ritual. But perhaps the real reason for the assumption of the story in that form was because most of the people who migrated to Egypt had left Sumer before the slaying of Semiramis by Damu. Never having seen it, that portion of the story was not included in the Isis/Horus legend. Isis and the demons behind her were then worshipped in Egypt for thousands of years.

The people later known as the Assyrians also left Sumer in the dispersion following the Tower of Babel incident. Likewise, they based their gods and goddesses on the same history and the same stories – the goddess Astarte in Ninevah was simply another Ishtar with minor differences. The ritual wailing for Tammuz to return from Hades in the spring, which was an intimate part of the worship of Astarte, also came directly from this story. Tammuz (Damu) was supposedly the Messiah, and “died” in the winter in order to seek his father Osiris in Hades. The Assyrian women would mourn and wail for the rebirth and release of Tammuz in the spring, when the crops would be renewed.

In the land of Canaan Bel became Baal, the Master, and Astarte became Ashtaroah – one of the cities in Bashan was named for her. The people of Israel who were supposed to worship Jehovah struggled with Baal worship throughout their history. Cult prostitution, which was a part of Canaanite worship and may have begun in Sumer, also came directly from Semiramis, who, having been a prostitute and snubbed by the high society ladies of Sumer, wanted other women to experience her humiliation.

The Greek, Roman, and eventually the Scandinavian gods such as Zeus, Apollo, Wodin (Odin), Thor, and others were also knock-offs. The Greek version of Ishtar was Aphrodite, meaning “form-born” (i.e. from sea-foam); the name came directly from Sammu-amat which meant “gift of the sea” as described above. Venus was the Roman version of Ishtar, and according to legend, she was born when her father Uranus' phallus was cut off and thrown into the ocean, just as Semiramis came from the sea, and was “born” into power when she had Nimrod murdered and castrated. Both Aphrodite and Venus were often depicted as coming out of the water as in the famous painting *The Birth of Venus* by Botticelli, and all of these goddesses were associated with the trademarks of Semiramis – eroticism, power, and treachery. Likewise, the male deities all derived from Marduk and Bel, who were supremely powerful and immortalized as gods, but in some cases were duped by women. As stated in an ancient quote: “There are women whom it is dangerous to love, as in Eden there stood a tree that was death to taste. But the forbidden fruit

was gathered nevertheless; and these beauties seem to allure more than their share of victims, to win more than their natural need of triumph.”

The ancient gods were therefore not mythical in the contemporary sense of the word. Rather, they were avatars of real spirit beings. The identity of the individual spirit beings behind the gods is not important – in most cases we don't know their real names. The significant thing is that all of them were and are demonic and evil. Furthermore, they are still here – the same demons who were behind the ancient gods Marduk, Baal, Ishtar, Isis, and all the others still exist today and continue their activities in contemporary society. When people engage in seances, divination, witchcraft, casting a circle, remote viewing, spirit guides, and even seemingly innocent things such as seeking their fortune through astrology, Tarot cards, or Ouija boards, they are entering the realm of the demonic, and flirting with dangerous powers. Just as these spirit beings tempted ancient peoples centuries ago with wealth, power, relationships, drugs, and sex, so they continue to do so today in an effort to bind, addict, control, and destroy us ([Sorensen, 2012](#)). The New Testament explains:

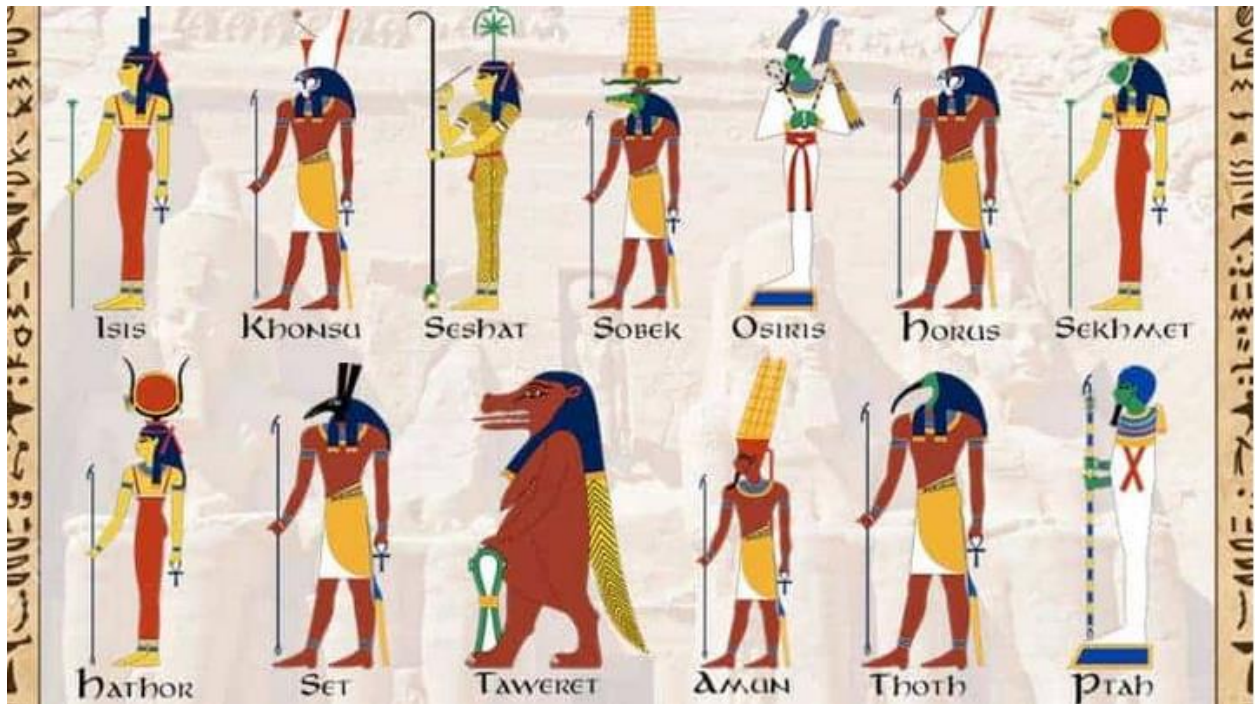
What am I saying then? That an idol is anything, or what is offered to idols is anything? Rather, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to demons and not to God, and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of demons. Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy, and are we stronger than He? (1 Corinthians 10:19-22)

The thief comes only to steal, kill, and destroy. I have come that they may have life and have it abundantly. (The words of Jesus in John 10:10)





Ishtar/Isis/Astarte/Ashtaroth contemplating Satan



Some of the gods of Egypt



Osiris and Isis



Osiris and Isis





Osiris and Isis (Nimrod and Semiramis)



Isis nursing Horus figurines



Isis nursing Horus figurines



Isis nursing Horus figurines



Isis nursing Horus figurines



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