

## CHAPTER 14

### Christian cubits

(Genesis 6: 13-17)

***After that God said to Noah: "I have decided to put an end to all flesh, because the earth is full of violence on account of them, so I am bringing them to ruin together with the earth. Make for yourself an ark from resinous wood. You will make compartments in the ark and cover it with tar inside and outside.***

***This is how you will make it: The ark should 300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, and 30 cubits high. You will make a window for light for the ark, one cubit from the top. You should put the entrance of the ark its side and make it with a lower deck, a second deck, and a third deck.***

***"As for me, I am going to bring floodwaters upon the earth to destroy from under the heavens all flesh that has breath of life. Everything on the earth will perish".***

*New World Translation*

This explicit reference to the cubit in the first book of the Bible comes directly from God to his faithful servant Noah. From the Creation up to that moment humanity consisted only of the descendants of Adam and Eve. They were God's children and yet God decided upon the deluge (flood). Genesis provides the names and in many cases ages of God's children from Adam and Eve to Noah and also Noah's children after the flood.

After the flood Noah started off as a farmer and planted a vineyard. One day waking with a hangover and learning that his sons had covered his naked body with garments Noah attacked Canaan, a grandson. Noah said:

**(Genesis 9: 25 and 27)**

**25** *“Cursed be Canaan Let him become the lowest slave to his brothers.”*

**27** *“Let God Grant ample space to Japheth. And let him reside in the tents of Shem Let Canaan become a slave to him also.”*

The Bible says Noah continued to live for 350 years after the flood. Noah passed away at the age 950 years. Canaan went on to establish his own land which became the nation of Canaan, in the Levant, a neighbor of ancient Egypt.

The book of Genesis covers the antediluvian period, the time from the Creation to the deluge. Genesis is the first of five books in the Old Testament written by Moses. These books teach the lessons of how to behave as an individual, group, society and civilization. They define God’s law for man’s behavior and our law today is derived from these teachings of Moses.

God gave Noah specific dimensions for the ark in cubit measures, so this is evidence of measurement defined by Moses when he wrote Genesis. This early writing demonstrates the significance that cubits played in ancient times. It turns out that the Israelites used cubits as their ruler as did all of the neighbors of ancient Egypt even before Noah built the Ark.

The search by historians, religious leaders, and authors for the length of Noah’s cubit has been underway for centuries. Rabbis in the second century declared Noah’s cubit to be six palms with each palm measuring 3.5 inches for a total length of twenty one inches. Eiphanus the Bishop of Salamis wrote “On Weights and Measures” in 392 AD. He declared Noah’s Cubit to be the length of the forearm from elbow to fingertip. In 1901 the Reverend W. Shaw –Caldecott was the first to propose the existence of a “Biblical Cubit”. He was studying the many references to the word cubit in Biblical scripture. Shaw-Caldecott was an expert on the use of lined measures of Babylonia used by Israelites to construct structures like Solomon’s Temple. The oldest cubit ever found is the Sumerian copper rod found in Nippur dated back to 2650 BC. The Nippur rod established the standard for measurement used throughout Mesopotamia for centuries. It measured 518mm versus the Royal Cubit which is 524mm in length. Dozens of recent books on Noah and the Ark propose a variety of cubit lengths from seventeen to twenty-one inches.

Tim Lovett, an expert in Ark measurement, wrote a paper "Which Cubit for Noah's Ark?" published in the 2006 Journal of Creation. His study examines many Noah's Ark cubit theories and he concludes that there are two cubits that Noah could have used to build the Ark. First, he states that Moses wrote Genesis in about 1450 BC, and obviously was familiar with Egypt's common and royal cubits. Lovett believes Moses would choose the royal over the common cubit for the sacred construction of what became the World's most important boat. Second, given when and where the Ark was built, using the Nippur cubit length standard may better apply. It is closer to the geographic location of the post flood world where the Ark landed. In addition, the Nippur Cubit originated close to the Tower of Babel where the Genesis story of Noah begins. Mr. Lovett cannot decide between these two cubit length standards. Using either standard one ends up with an Ark of about 510 feet long by 51 feet in height and with an 85 foot beam. It is amazing to think about how much study has gone into this one question. Genesis is perhaps the most popular book in the Bible.

The ancient Greeks began their study of Egyptian Civilization around 500 BC. One thing they gained was the means to refine their metrology to include geodesy in calculating distances. Long before Greece became an ancient civilization the Egyptians and their neighbors were making sophisticated measurements needed to build their cities and temples as they advanced their lives and societies. Historians debate who was the first to make a cubit ruler: Israelite, Sumerian, or Egyptian. It is amazing that the mythology of all three ancient civilizations states that gods gave the first rulers to their people. From the myths the cubit was created by the gods.

Historians also debate which of these three civilizations (Hebraic, Sumerian, or Egyptian) was the first to create the written word. Recent discoveries of the Hebrew Dead Sea Scrolls may change the historic narrative that cuneiform script is older than Egyptian hieroglyphics. The point is that all three alphabets were born at about the same time. The three Near Eastern cultures in fact had nearly identical creation theories. All three built rectangular temples whose axes were oriented to the equinoxes or solstices. The evidence shows they shared many of the same beliefs. They gave birth to the Cradle of Civilization.

Of the three, the Sumerian theory of creation provides the most information regarding the origins of man. Their alphabet was cuneiform distinguished by wedge shape impressions pressed into clay tablets. The term *cuneiform* literally means "wedge shaped". It dates back to 4000 BC and between 500,000 and 2,000,000 tablets have been found. So many have been collected that no one knows the real number.

Only around 50,000 of them have been translated leaving a wealth of history to be explored. The cuneiform created in Sumeria spread through the millennia and was used in Akkadian, Elamite, Hittite, Luwian, Hattic, Hurrian and Urartian civilizations, Cuneiform existed until Phoenician writing replaced it in around 700 BC. Phoenicia was a powerful sea faring empire whose alphabet succeeded because it was the first phonetic based lettering system. The Greek alphabet was later based on the Phoenician's.

The Sumerian creation myth is very rich because the records show that their religion was more focused on the origins of humanity. They strove to understand who are we and where did we come from. Their myth says that their gods came from the heavens in around 450,000 BC. They arrived with only the intention to mine the earth for minerals (especially gold) needed on their planet, Nibiru.

Yes, their myth states that the gods were ancestral alien beings from another planet. Nancy Lieder was the first to propose that Planet X (Nibiru) existed and that its orbit would be revealed to us at some future date. This mystic made this claim in 1995. Today many sky watchers are searching to find the planet which could come into our view.

Zacharia Sitchin, like Champollion, is a philologist (one who studies literature and disciplines relative to literature). He can interpret cuneiform writings and translate them into English. He discovered the Sumerian creation myth and wrote a series of bestselling books about the Anunnaki deities. These gods after millennia of labors on Earth decided to elevate man into a servant to carry on the burdens of their own labors. Mankind was created by them during the antediluvian period and placed in Eden (a flat space).

So here we arrive at the crossroads of three different creation myths. Science tells us Homo sapiens evolved around 200,000 BC. The Bible places Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. God created man out of the dust and picked a rib out of Adam to create Eve. The Anunnaki created man out of mud and placed him in the flat space called E.din.

In the Egyptian creation myth, the creator gods of the Great Ennead are the same as the Sumerian deities but with different names. So all three creation myths share the belief that God or gods created humanity. And, also they made man in the image of the gods themselves.

Manetho, a priest and historian during the reign of Ptolemy I (30<sup>th</sup> Dynasty) was the historian who recorded the history of the kings and pharaohs of ancient Egypt. His record, the *Aegyptiaca*, included the names and dates of the kings of thirty dynasties. This record is the foundation of Egyptology and the history of ancient Egypt. It was Manetho who compared the creator gods of Egypt with the creator gods of Sumeria. Marduk of Sumeria was the same as Ra of Egypt. Both were the creator and principle gods. And both Marduk and Ra were the god of the sun. Jesus Christ was God's Son sent to Earth to pardon man for his sins and bring the Word to humanity.

No one has the answer to the question: Is there a god? Every individual has to find their own beliefs. We are here to admire, witness and love the wonders of life. We are here for a reason. No matter what religion or faith one has, the gods or myths are all providing us with ideals to follow. The gods brought the rulers to mankind. Measurement provides a foundation for the construction of each civilization!

Tim Lovett wrote a paper called "Cubit Reference" that compares cubits from around the ancient world. The Hebrews had both a short and long rod just like the Egyptians. The Babylonian's (after Sumeria) also had a short and long cubit rod. Lovett compares cubits from Arabia, Prussia, Mexico (Aztec) and England (Druid). All of the ancient cubit rods were within inches in length from each other. It is interesting that man's first rulers were so close in length. But the oldest one by far is the Royal Cubit of ancient Egypt.

The Eye of Horus became one of the most powerful religious symbols of all time. The myth of Horus has been recorded and recited throughout the ages. The Eye of Horus was created in ancient Egypt and is still respected around the world. For example, it is the center of The Seal of the United States and printed on the one dollar bill. The Eye symbol represents protection, health, and restoration. The right eye of Horus was seen as the Sun, his left eye the Moon. The Eye of Horus is the Sun and the Sun is God. The son of the Sun is Jesus Christ.

In ancient Egypt only a few cubits have been found. There is no physical evidence of architectural plans, tools, machines or scripts about the construction. Could it be that their gods hid this evidence away to force modern man to search deeper for the answers concerning our creation? Perhaps this secret was all along part of the plan.

