

“*Jesus Sends Out the Seventy-Two. After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go.*” Luke 10:1 And because of the subject matter of the context, it appears that the elohim, the supreme *Elohim*, *Yahweh*, has assembled these *72 kosmokratoras* to judge them for their mismanaging the affairs of the world! And remember, the *kosmokratoras* are not the first tier, nor the second, but the third tier of *elohim* under Satan.

(Now the ancient Rabbis and the Ugaritic text taught that the earth was divided up, after Adam's sin and the flood, into 70 different nations. Israel was not one of those nations. If Israel became one of them later on, then that would make it 71 nations. But when Israel later on became divided up into the house of Israel and the house of Judah, then that would make it 72 nations.)

To “*walk on in darkness*” is *bachashkah*. The word **darkness**, *chashakah* had both a literal and figurative meaning. **Literally**, it spoke of the darkness of the night when compared to the day. And used the words night, darkness, black, gloom, obscure, etc.. **Darkness** is the preferred realm of demons and the condition of the netherworld. It is also one of the main elements of chaos.

In Egypt, Babylon and Assyria darkness was always seen as negative and threatening to humans and an outward sign of disaster. **Hunger** and darkness are closely connected, so are **sickness** and **affliction**. Darkness surrounds the sick person and afflicts his body. In healing the individual would pray that a god would “pluck out his darkness”, so that he would be healed. Curses would entail the idea that the cursed person would “wander in perpetual darkness”.

There are six metaphorical usages for **darkness**: Evil, Ignorance, Disaster, Death, Punishment and Curses. And all six of these ideas are found, to some degree, in our passage of these *elohim walking in darkness*. A **curse**, **punishment** and **death** will be upon them due to their failure in ruling over the affairs of man. The element of **evil** is always there because they rejected the paths of light, which would have been there if they had followed *Yahweh's* rules in ruling the earth and men. The concept of **disaster** is definitely there because their **mismanagement** of the world resulted in death, disaster and destruction of the earth and its people. But the first thing that stands out is their **ignorance**; ignorance meaning that they did not possess the sufficient knowledge to properly rule the world and its people.

In darkness uses the preposition be, which has the idea of the action of the verb taking place in the sphere of something. They **walked**, that is, they exercised their dominion over the world and its people in the sphere of darkness. In their **pride** they thought they had the sufficient knowledge to rule over the world and its people, but in reality they didn't! As the result they bungled the whole thing miserably and it ended up in a total disaster for the earth and mankind.

“*The nations were angry, and your wrath has come. The time has come for judging the dead, and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your people who revere your name, both great and small—and for destroying, those who destroy the earth.*” Revelations 11:18 NIV The word for **destroy** here is the present participle of *diaphtheiro*, which shows that they are bringing the world into a worsened state, that it is an intensive concept, and that they are in the process of doing this. The perfect participle isn't used, which would show that they had already destroyed it. But the present participle is used to show they are currently in the process of doing it, as we presently observe.

The context is still on verse one, **who** is there and **what** is taking place there. Who is present in this edah assembly of celestial beings is revealed in the passage by the word *elohim*. They are **gods**. “*Elohim (plural – the God) stands (presides) in the council of El (his own council) (singular); he (singular) judges among the gods, (elohim - plural)*”. They are **assembled** there before the Elohim, *Yahweh*, and they are assembled there to be **judged** by him. The **charges**, or some of the charges are stated, and then their **guilt** is determined and the **pronouncement** of their sentence. They may be gods, they may be judges, but they are going to be judged by him.

“All the foundations of the earth are out of course.” - כָּל-מוֹסְדֵי אָרֶץ - **Out of course** is the niphal future of *mot* – **to be made to totter, or shake**. *Mot* needs to be understood from the perspective of that which totters or shakes, versus that which is stable. To prevent something from moving, or shaking, it must be based upon something that is strong, firm, stable and well-grounded.

A **building** must be firmly attached to a foundation, which is firmly set in the ground. If it is, then the building will be solid, unmovable. But if it isn't, then the building can totter, shake, or be moved around. Our bodies are stabilized by our feet to prevent us from falling down and hurting ourselves. But our feet also need to be supported by shoes that give our feet stability on the ground.

Our **souls** also need stability in their lives and the thing that gives them is Bible Doctrine that we have metabolized by faith under the filling of the Holy spirit. If doctrine in the soul is lacking, then that believer's soul will totter, that is, it will become unstable and eventually end up in mental illnesses.

The **divine institutes** of marriage, family and nationalism, if they are to have any stability, must themselves be grounded upon the precepts of God's Word. For he is the One who created these things. If they are not, as we have going on in America today, then they will totter and fall with the result that they will end up being destroyed.

Now we have the plural of the word *mosadah*, (*mosedey*), used here telling us that not one or two things are involved here, but **every aspect involved in what takes place on the earth**. Biological life, family life, human life, animal life, maritime life, marital life, agriculture, the economy, money, the environment, commerce, whatever field that one can think of that involves life here on the earth are all brought into view and each and everyone of these fields has to be built on a solid foundation, which have been established by *Yahweh* and ones that only *Yahweh* is capable of doing. “**All the foundations of the earth are out of course.**” That is, they are shaken out of their position.

Mot had the idea of a beam being bent, something that had deviated from its position. If one wanted a good foundation for a building it had to be straight, level, true and plumb. To have accurate scales the beam had to be straight. If it wasn't, then you had unjust scales. If a car's drive line isn't straight, then it would wobble and destroy everything.

When *Yahweh* created the earth with all its plant and animal life, and the human beings he put upon it; he created the most complex, wonderful, amazing organism that anyone had ever seen or imagined. And everything about this fascinating thing called man and earth was designed by *Yahweh* to run into perpetuity and it all has an interconnectedness. There has never been, nor will there ever be, anything that man has designed to compare to its perfection.

And each and everyone of these fields, and I could in no way name them all, have a foundation, a basis, upon which they are to operate successfully as God intended them to do. There are foundations that man has to have for proper functioning in life. Things that deal with personal morality, ethical treatment of others, how man treats the land and animals. There are basic rules for the treatment of the environment, etc., etc..

But what we see here in the list of things that these gods are charged with is that the foundations of the earth are tottering. They are being shaken, perverted out of the way that *Yahweh* had originally intended for them! And as the result, the earth and all that dwells upon it **are in the process of being destroyed!**

I used to think that the soul purpose behind these gods/demon's destruction of the earth was because of their hatred of *Yahweh*. And even though that is probably true, I think they are destroying everything because **they are totally inept at the job!** *Yahweh* handed the administration of the earth over to them to let them try to prove their arrogant claim that they could do a better job than him. **But instead all they have done is make a mess of everything!**

D. Stating their position and existence. v.6

"I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High." Psalms 82:6 -

אָמַרְתִּי אֱלֹהִים אַתֶּם כִּי יָדַעְתִּי כִּי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ :

I have said is *aniy amartiy*, which is the qal preterite of *amar* – to say or speak. The preterite is the simple past tense telling us that this is something *Yahweh*, (the one who created these gods), had already stated before this time. He had told them that they were gods and that they were sons of the Most High. The simple verb *amartiy* in the first person singular would translate out as, "*I have said*", but by the use of *aniy* – I, it says, "**I, I have said**", which intensifies the idea. They were gods because he created them as gods! And as powerful as they are, there was one more powerful than them – **the One who created them!**

Again these beings of the divine council of *Yahweh* are designated by the term *elohim*, which, as we have seen, if it was used for *Yahweh* and meant God for *Yahweh*, it has to mean **gods** for them. But there are several concepts that must be brought out in this. Stating that they were gods, which they are, does not mean that they have deity attributes. When *Yahweh* created any being, he gave that being some of his attributes, but did not, and could not, transmit to them and to us deity attributes.

Man has a soul, and he has emotions, intellect and volition just like God does, for he created us in his image. The beings in heaven, although they are at different levels of strength, position and function, have "emotion", (we see at least the emotion of anger), intellect and volition. The *elohim* have **knowledge**, but they do not possess omniscience – all knowledge. They have **power**, but they are not omnipotent - all-powerful. They have **presence**, but are not omni-present – all present. They have been given **everlasting life**, but they do not have eternal life. Their existence began at a point in time and will go on forever, (unless God decides to take it away), but they have not existed forever. They are **dependent on Yahweh** for their existence, but **Yahweh is not dependent upon anyone or anything for his**. He is self-existent. Even though they are gods, **they were created by Yahweh**. Even though they are **judges**, they are judged by Yahweh, for he is not judged by anyone. Even though they **administer** the affairs of the universe, they are accountable to and have to have to answer to him. The attributes they have were given to them by *Yahweh* when he created them, but the one thing he did not and could not give to them was deity attributes. But having said that, they are still *elohim*, gods.

Now he is addressing those beings, who are there at the divine council, when he says, *kullekem*, that **all of them** are gods and that they are all sons of the Most High. But from this we cannot conclude that all the beings in heaven are gods. We can only conclude that these beings brought before him are gods. Some celestial beings are referred to as princes, others as messengers.

These gods are called the **children of the Most High** *ubney elyon*, which is literally *sons of the Most High*. They are also called sons of God, sons of the God, with the definite article, (*b'ney ha-Elohiym*, *sons of the elohim*), in Genesis 6:2, Job 1:6; and sons of God, without the definite article, (*b'ney elohiym*), in Job 38:7, Psalms 29:1.

The term **sons of God** is used for **angels** in heaven; it was used for **Adam**, "*Which was the son of Enos, which was the son of Seth, which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God.*", Luke 3:38; for **Jesus Christ**, "*He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.*" Daniel 3:25, "*Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.*", Matthew 14:33; and for born again **believers in Christ**, "*Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*" 1 John 3:2

E. The rebelling gods will lose their immortality. v.7

"But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes." -

אָכֵן, כְּאַדָּם תָּמוּתוּן וְכְאַחַד הַשָּׂרִים תִּפְּלוּ.

The NASB has it as, "Nevertheless you will die **like men** and fall like any one of the princes." The NIV has it as, "But you will die **like mere mortals**; you will fall like every other ruler." One translates this part of the passage as **men** and the other translation as **mere mortals**. The thought being in the minds of the translators that this refers to men on earth, who have set themselves up to be gods. This is done because of a backlash, or at least a side-stepping, of the word *elohim* that is used in verse one at the beginning of the passage, "he judgeth among the gods."

But if that is the case, then *Yahweh's* statement of them dying *like men* doesn't make sense! To say that their punishment as men is to die like men, what is so unusual about that? What is so different of a punishment for men to die like men? All men die like men! But if they are **gods, if they are gods who have immortality, and now for them to die like men, then that's completely different!**

Their immortality is something that they took for granted. When *Yahweh* created them, when he brought them into existence, he also created them with immortality, that is, they were not subject to death; they were not subject to them losing their existence. **They were going to live forever!** And even though they are gods, they do not possess the attributes of deity, one of which is eternity! They lost sight of the fact, maybe they never thought of it, that *Yahweh alone* possesses immortality and he alone grants it to whomever he pleases! We are all dependent on him for our existence.

Obviously they contested this matter a long time ago and everything that has proceeded out of this is a court case matter where *Yahweh* is proving to them why he is justified in them taking their immortality from them by throwing them into the Lake of Fire, which will totally consume them. "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, **prepared for the devil and his angels:**" Matthew 25:41 The perfect passive participle of *hetoimazo* – to prepare, tells us that **the Lake of Fire was originally prepared for the fallen gods (angels) of heaven.**

Yahweh is the **Most High**, which word is *elyon* and it denotes he who is higher in elevation, position, power, rule, majesty, etc., than all the others. It is also found in the term *el-elyon*, which would translate out as something like *El, the Highest El*. This would bring out the idea of comparison and supremacy among others. It would tell us that among all the *els*, or *elohim*, there is one El who is higher, more majestic, more powerful, more glorious, etc., than all the others and the term given to him would be *El, the Highest El*.

So this whole matter of *Yahweh* stripping away their immortality and throwing them into the Lake of Fire, cannot be just a function of **power**, it has to be based up what is **right!** So a trial is set up whereby *Yahweh* proves in the Court of Heaven, or the Divine Council, that he is justified when he throws them into the lake of fire.

Some will say that God doesn't have to prove anything. Not true. *Yahweh* is the God and Creator of the universe and all that which is in it. He is also the **Ruler** over the universe, and as the ruler he does everything on a legal basis. That is a part of governing things. And as a just ruler everything he does must be right and fair and court proceedings are all a part of that. Even unsaved human beings will be brought before the throne of *Yahweh* to be judged according to the works they have done in the body. This judgment is designed to prove to them why they will not be granted access into eternity! And the standard he will judge them by is the righteousness of the second deity person, Jesus Christ. Having fallen short of that they will be cast into the lake of fire where the devil and his angels are. "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Revelation 20:15

Now, if we take verses six and seven in parallel thought, we have something interesting.

"I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High." v.6

"But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes." v.7

"I have said, Ye are gods ... But ye shall die like men,"

Now to die like *men*, or *mere mortals* as some have it, is in itself a **mind-blowing concept!** These are gods! These are immortals! For them **to die like men** on the planet earth die is in itself something unthinkable and unfathomable! **Yahweh created them with immortality!** **They were supposed to be able to exist forever!** And now to have that stripped away from them to the place where they now are going to die like mere men is incomprehensible! **Maybe they thought it could never happen.**

But we have something else here that we have to look at and that is the Hebrew word, which has been translated as men. The word is *Adam*. Actually in the passage it's *keadam*, or **like Adam**. I know that *adam* can be translated as man, but the words *geber* and *enosh* can also be translated as man. But when we translate it out here as a proper name to describe the original man placed here on the earth, then we have **other concepts brought in with the thought of them losing their immortality and dying.**

So when we carry the parallelism of the thought over, what we end up with is, *"But ye shall die like Adam, and fall like one of the princes."* Or, by carrying over the thought of the passage, ***"I have said, Ye are gods ... But ye shall die like Adam, and all of you are sons of the Most High, but you shall fall like one of the princes."***

Ke is used with *Adam*, *keadam*, not only to establish a comparison between these *elohim* and *Adam*, but also to establish a **parallelism between the two parties.** There is now a comparison and parallel that exists between something that transpired with Adam's situation here on earth that is also going on with the *elohim* that fell. We know that they are going to die like Adam, but we have to look at the circumstances surrounding what took place with Adam here on earth to understand the concept.

When Adam was created, and subsequently placed here on the earth, he was put here to rule over it. He was given dominion, that is, rule over the entire planet and all that dwelt upon it. A study of the first two chapters reveals the instructions that *Yahweh* had given Adam as to what he wanted to do on the earth, dress the garden, keep watch, etc., and he also gave him one command as a test of his obedience to *Yahweh's* rule over him, which was **not** to eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. **He could eat of every other tree, but not that tree!**

Which opens up another concept. Was he allowed to eat of the tree of life **before** that time? Now some say no, but that's because God stationed the Cherubim in the garden to prevent him from eating it after he had sinned! *"So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life."* Genesis 3:24

How could we have missed this! We have assumed that God put the tree of life on the "don't eat" list, along with the tree of the knowledge of good and evil! But no such commandment was made! In fact, we see that *Yahweh* told Adam that he could eat from any tree in the garden, **except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil!** *"And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."* Genesis 2:16,17

What this indicates is that Adam and Eve possessed a form of immortality, a sustainable life, in the garden! Not intrinsically within themselves, but immortality because they had access to the tree of life and could eat from it any time they chose! So we now have a parallel that exists between the *elohim* and *Adam*, in that, both parties possessed immortality! Only Adam and Eve lost their immortality, because they were banned access to the tree of life that gave it to them!

This would be **contingent sustainable immortality**, that is, their immortality was dependent upon eating the fruit from the tree of life. Here's the deal. If Adam was immortal from the moment he was created, **and if his immortality was inherent in his creation, then there would have been no need for passing the test of obedience so he could have access to the tree of life to gain immortality!** Why would one need to eat from the tree of life to gain immortality, when you already had it?

But, if your immortality, (sustaining of life), was contingent on eating the fruit of the tree of life, and if you ate from this tree periodically, or daily, then you would continue to live forever! The question is, then why did *Yahweh* forbid access to the tree of life after he sinned? In Genesis 3:22, "*And the LORD God (Yahweh Elohim) said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever, 'olam:*" ('Olam has been translated forever, but it had the idea of a very, long time, or time protracted out for a very long time, or a time longer than man's usual days, or forever.). And the reason for that is because if he ate from it he would have had continued access to immortality, he would continue to live and not die, and he would live with a fallen sinful nature having a soul permanently separated from God!

Adam disobeyed God and he lost his position of rule over the earth, he lost his immortality, he lost his relationship with *Yahweh* and he was condemned to Hell. These *elohim* sinned against God, they are going to lose their dominion over the earth, they lost their relationship with *Yahweh*, they are going to lose their immortality and they are going to be cast into the lake of fire.

When *Yahweh* created the earth and the man, he placed Adam as the ruler over the world. Adam had dominion over the earth and all that was on it. But when he failed in that one simple test, he lost all that. So now what? This is where the *elohim* came in and were given rulership over the earth. As it says, Satan is the god of this age and the ruler over the world. "*In whom the **god** of this world, (aion – age), hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.*" 2 Corinthians 4:4 "*Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the **prince**, (archon – ruler), of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.*" Ephesians 2:2

The passage is now comparing these *elohim* and their punishment to Adam and his punishment for disobeying *Yahweh*. The comparison does not extend to them being sinless, as Adam was, before he fell, but in the area of the fate of these *elohim* to the fate of Adam, in that, both parties had immortality but both parties, though, were going to die. They were going to die like Adam.

But their death did not take place at the time of their sin against *Yahweh*. It was going to be some time in the future. Just like Adam's physical death did not occur at the precise moment he disobeyed *Yahweh*. Adam did die the moment he sinned, but this death was a spiritual death in which he was spiritually separated from God. Physically you could say that Adam's physical death began at the time when he no longer was allowed to eat from the tree of life! Once Adam and Eve were banned from eating the fruit of the tree of life, then physical death began and centuries later they died – physically.

An interesting concept that needs to be brought in hear is that once again man is allowed to have access to the Tree of Life, which is found in the the eternal city of God! "*In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there **the tree of life**, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.*" Revelation 22:2 This indicates that perhaps immortality is sustained by eating the fruit of the tree each month.

Maybe there are things we don't know about human life and death. Could it be possible that genetics and DNA play a part in sustaining life? Before the flood man could live up to almost 1,000 years. But after the flood, we see that dropping down into the 200 year area or so. But then we see it going down to an allotted 70 years as the average life span, 80 if by strength or health.