

Comparison of Contemporary Creation Myths

	ENUMA ELISH [Babili]	CANAANITE	GENESIS
Initial State of earth	Chaos, enveloped in darkness	Chaos, enveloped in cloudy darkness	Chaos, emptiness and darkness
First action		Ruach (spirit, air, breath) blows over the chaos.	Ruach (spirit, air, breath) hovered over the chaos.
First development	Light	Light	Light
Next development	Firmament created, also perceived as a rigid dome.	Firmament created, a rigid dome over the earth separating earth and heaven.	Firmament created, a rigid vault over the earth separating earth and heaven.
Next development	Dry land	Dry land	Dry land
Next development			Vegetation
Next development	Sun, moon, stars	Sun, moon, stars	Sun, moon, stars
Next development		Plants and animals	Living creatures
Next development	Man and woman.	Man and women made from clay “took dust of the earth and breathed into them and they became living souls – live in the garden of paradise	Man and women made from clay “took dust of the earth and breathed into them and they became living souls – live in the garden of paradise
Next development	The gods rest and celebrate.		God rests and sanctifies the Sabbath.