

Nephilim, Anunnaki and other tall stories

Introduction

If you haven't come across it already, you soon will. Wacky ideas about a race of angelic/alien/human giants are everywhere these days. There are hordes of books, films, YouTube videos, conferences, ministries and speakers on this matter. There are multiple conferences given over solely to this topic. There are 'Christian' ministries that exist only to speak about Nephilim. People will tell you that this is the key to understanding the past and the future.

One key to realising that there is something fishy about all this is the reliance upon non-Biblical sources. Supporters of this will refer to apocryphal books mentioned by Biblical authors, such as the Book of Enoch and the Book of Jasher. Others will refer to mythological sources, such as Mayan documents or Sumerian legends. Some people have even produced books that contain Biblical texts, apocryphal texts and secular myths side by side in parallel. Often these teachers will deny that the Bible is the complete authority for believers (denying 2 Tim 3:16-17) while affirming that apocryphal books should be added to the canon (denying God's sovereignty of history).

Well, this paper is going to analyse this and demonstrate that it is all nonsense. It is simply a part of the end-time deception that is on the face of the earth. It is a distraction to steer people away from knowing and doing the truth as found in God's word. It is a satanic lie. Flee from it.

Common sources used for information on the Nephilim

The Book of Enoch

Despite what you may think, this book was not written by Enoch and not even in patriarchal times. It was composed during the last two centuries before Christ and is considered a 'pseudepigrapha',¹ that is spurious or pseudonymous writings, especially Jewish writings, ascribed to various biblical patriarchs and prophets but composed within approximately 200 years of the birth of Christ. In fact, there are several books that claim to be written by Enoch.

There is no reference to this book in the Bible apart from an oblique quote by Jude (1:14-15), and we do not know which book he was actually quoting. This does not mean that secular books quoted by Biblical writers were inspired, Paul quoted often from Greek poets, it just means that the verse quoted suited them to illustrate a point.

The Book of Jasher

In Hebrew the word *yasher* means: straight, upright, and correct. It is referred to in the Bible in Jos 10:13 and 2 Sam 1:18. The LXX² calls it 'the Book of the Just'. At least one rabbinical scholar³ affirms that the Book of Jasher was a reference to the Pentateuch.

¹ Pseudepigrapha = a late 17th century, neuter plural of the Greek *pseudepigraphos* meaning: 'with false title'.

² The Greek 'Septuagint' [Latin for '70'] translation of the Hebrew OT, supposedly by 70 or 72 elders in Alexandria. It was composed between 200-300 BC.

³ Medieval Jewish scholar Rashi.

This was probably a collection of songs and poems praising the heroes of Israel but we do not have an authenticated copy of this book today.

However, there are at least five books that have this title and they were all composed much later than Biblical times. One commonly used is a Hebrew book printed in 1613, '*Sepir Ha Yasher*'. An earlier edition (1552), *Sefer ha Yasher* is a Hebrew midrash also known as the *Toledot Adam* or *Dibre ha-Yamim be-'Aruk*. Even the Jews do not accept that this is the original Book of Jasher. This was translated into English and published by Mordecai Manuel Noah and AS Gould in 1840. It was later discovered that the translator was a Moses Samuel of Liverpool. This was later accepted by Joseph Smith of the Latter Day Saints (Mormons).

Another one was published in 1750, which is often called 'Pseudo-Jasher', a forgery written by Jacob Llive. This claims to be an English translation by Flaccus Alcuinus⁴ of the lost Book of Jasher. Llive went to prison for this fraud in 1756. In 1829 a revised edition of this was published in Bristol and then again in 1934 by the Rosicrucians in San Jose, California.

The conclusion is that we do not have the original book of Jasher and modern books by that name have no relevance to Biblical studies whatsoever.

The Book of Enoch and the Book of Jasher are the main sources for modern Nephilim teaching – and these two books are frauds.

Philo

Philo of Alexandria was a Greek / Jewish philosopher living between about 25BC and 50 AD. He sought to harmonise Greek and Jewish philosophy and heavily utilised allegory. Some early church fathers were influenced by him.

Targum⁵ of Jonathan

Jonathan supports the idea of angelic intermarriage with humans and mentions them by name, calling them Schanchazai and Uziel, who fell from heaven, and were in the earth in those days. This is just Jewish mythology.

The Dead Sea Scrolls

The Dead Sea Scrolls are a collection of Hebrew and Aramaic manuscripts, the first of which were found in 1947 by shepherds in a cave near the northwestern shore of the Dead Sea. They belonged to the library of the Essene⁶ community at nearby Qumran, and were probably hidden shortly before the Roman destruction of 70 AD. The scrolls include fragments of nearly every book of the OT.

Josephus

Flavius Josephus (born Joseph ben Matthias; c.37–c.100) was a Jewish historian, general, and Pharisee. He was a leader of the Jewish revolt against the Romans from 66, but was captured in 67. His life was spared when he prophesied that Vespasian would become emperor. He subsequently received Roman citizenship and a pension, and is remembered as the author of the *Jewish War*, an eyewitness account of the events leading up to the revolt, and of *Antiquities of the Jews*, a history running from the Creation to 66.

⁴ Alcuin was an 6th-century English abbot and theologian.

⁵ Targum (from Aramaic targūm 'interpretation') is an ancient Aramaic paraphrase or interpretation of the Hebrew Bible, of a type made from about the 1st century AD when Hebrew was ceasing to be a spoken language.

⁶ An ascetic Jewish sect.

The Apocrypha: Judith, Sirach, Baruch and the Wisdom of Solomon etc.

- Wisdom of Solomon: a book of the Apocrypha ascribed to Solomon and containing a meditation on wisdom. The book is thought actually to date from about the 1st century BC to the 1st century AD, composed in Alexandria.
- The apocryphal Book of Judith tells the story of this Hebrew heroine who saved her city of Bethulia when it was besieged by Nebuchadnezzar's general, Holofernes. Judith, a widow of great beauty, went to the enemy's camp, beguiled Holofernes into a drunken stupor with her charms, and then beheaded him with a sword.
- Sirach, or the Book of Ecclesiasticus, is a book of the Apocrypha containing moral and practical maxims, probably composed or compiled in the early 2nd century BC.
- Baruch is a book of the Apocrypha, attributed in the text to Baruch, the scribe of Jeremiah (cf. Jer 36).

These are all extra-Biblical works of human origin and were rightly excluded from the Canon of Scripture by Protestants.

Early church fathers

Justin Martyr, Tertullian, Cyprian, Ambrose and Lactantius.

The problem with the early church theologians is that they were very mixed. Even the best of them taught errors alongside good things. Some fathers have very little to offer Bible students. Tertullian was originally a good theologian but was later marred by joining the Montanist movement.

The list of 'giant' races involved: Biblical

Nephilim

There were giants [Nephilim] on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown. **Gen 6:4**

There we saw the giants [Nephilim] (the descendants of Anak came from the giants [Nephilim]); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight. **Num 13:33**

'Giants' = *Nephilim*.

Meaning

The root meaning of 'Nephilim' is either 'violent' (i.e. falling upon one's enemy) or 'causing to fall'.⁷ It was a word to signify a violent tyrant; by extension – a murderer or mugger.

There are some that believe the word derives from a root signifying 'wonder' and hence some kind of monster, but this has little academic linguistic traction.

The LXX translates this with '*gigantes*', which actually means 'earth-born' not giant, but later English translators, not knowing how to translate 'Nephilim' used the Greek term, abbreviated to 'giant'. Thus the distinction in Gen 6:4 is between 'earth-born' sinners and godly 'sons of God'. The whole concept of the Nephilim being giants is based on a mistranslation of a translation from Hebrew to Greek.

⁷ If a derivative of the Hebrew verbal root *n-ph-l* 'fall'.

There is confusion as to whether the Nephilim are the sons of God or the offspring.

Despite the myriad of books and speeches on the Nephilim, there is not much more we can say with certainty. There is no Biblical indication that these were giants; but even if they were – so what?

Anakim

There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight. **Num 13:33**

... a people as great and numerous and tall ['high', 'lofty'] as the Anakim. But the LORD destroyed them before them, and they dispossessed them and dwelt in their place. **Deut 2:19-21**

'Giants' = *Nephilim*.

Meaning

'Anakim (Deut 2:10, 11, 21; Jos 11:21, 22, 14:12, 15) are the sons of Anak, (Num 13:33) or the children of Anak, (Num 13:22; Jos 15:14) a nomadic race of giants descended from Arba (Jos 14:15), the father of Anak, that dwelt in the south of Palestine near Hebron (Gen 23:2; Jos 15:13). They were a Cushite tribe of the same race as the Philistines and the Egyptian shepherd kings.

David encountered them on several occasions (2 Sam 21:15-22); including facing Goliath (1 Sam 17:4).

Rephaim

'And *when* you come near the people of Ammon, do not harass them or meddle with them, for I will not give you *any* of the land of the people of Ammon *as* a possession, because I have given it to the descendants of Lot *as* a possession.' (That was also regarded as a land of giants; giants formerly dwelt there. But the Ammonites call them Zamzummim, a people as great and numerous and tall as the Anakim. But the LORD destroyed them before them, and they dispossessed them and dwelt in their place. **Deut 2:19-21**

For only Og king of Bashan remained of the remnant of the giants. Indeed his bedstead *was* an iron bedstead. (*Is* it not in Rabbah of the people of Ammon?) Nine cubits *is* its length and four cubits its width, according to the standard cubit. **Deut 3:11**

The rest of Gilead, and all Bashan, the kingdom of Og, I gave to half the tribe of Manasseh. (All the region of Argob, with all Bashan, was called the land of the giants. **Deut 3:13**

The other king was Og king of Bashan and his territory, *who was* of the remnant of the giants, who dwelt at Ashtaroth and at Edrei. **Jos 12:4**

All the kingdom of Og in Bashan, who reigned in Ashtaroth and Edrei, who remained of the remnant of the giants; for Moses had defeated and cast out these. **Jos 13:12**

So Joshua answered them, 'If you *are* a great people, *then* go up to the forest *country* and clear a place for yourself there in the land of the Perizzites and the giants, since the mountains of Ephraim are too confined for you'. **Jos 17:15**

The dead [rapha] tremble, those under the waters and those inhabiting them. **Job 26:5**

Then Ishbi-Benob, who *was* one of the sons of the giant, the weight of whose bronze spear *was* three hundred *shekels*, who was bearing a new *sword*, thought he could kill David. **2 Sam 21:16**

Now it happened afterward that there was again a battle with the Philistines at Gob. Then Sibbechai the Hushathite killed Saph, who *was* one of the sons of the giant. **2 Sam 21:18**

Yet again there was war at Gath, where there was a man of *great* stature, who had six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot, twenty-four in number; and he also was born to the giant. **2 Sam 21:20**

These four were born to the giant in Gath, and fell by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants. **2 Sam 21:22**

Now it happened afterward that war broke out at Gezer with the Philistines, at which time Sibbechai the Hushathite killed Sippai, *who was one* of the sons of the giant. And they were subdued. **1 Chron 20:4**

Again there was war at Gath, where there was a man of great size, who had six fingers on each hand, and six toes on each foot, twenty-four in number; he also was descended from the giants. **1 Chron 20:6**

These were born to the giant in Gath, and they fell by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants. **1 Chron 20:8**

Will You work wonders for the dead? [rapha] Shall the dead arise *and* praise You? Selah. **Ps 88:10**

For her house leads down to death, and her paths to the dead [rapha]. **Prov 2:18**

But he does not know that the dead [rapha] *are* there, *that* her guests *are* in the depths of hell. **Prov 9:18**

A man who wanders from the way of understanding will rest in the assembly of the dead [rapha]. **Prov 21:16**

Hell from beneath is excited about you, to meet *you* at your coming; it stirs up the dead [rapha] for you, all the chief ones of the earth; it has raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations. **Isa 14:9**

They are dead, they will not live; *they are* deceased [rapha], they will not rise. Therefore You have punished and destroyed them, and made all their memory to perish. **Isa 26:14**

‘Giants’ = *rapha*; i.e. the Rephaim.

Meaning

A race of giants who lived on the east of Jordan, from whom Og was descended.

They were probably the original inhabitants of the land before the immigration of the Canaanites who were conquered by Chedorlaomer (Gen 14:5) and their territories were promised as a possession to Abraham (Gen 15:20). The Anakim, Zuzim, and Emim were branches of this stock.

In Sam 21:16, 18, 20, 22, ‘the giant’ is the rendering of the singular form *ha raphah*, which may refer to the father of the four giants, or of the founder of the Rephaim.

It is rendered as ‘dead’ in Ps 88:10 Prov 2:18, 9:18, 21:16; Isa 14:9 and ‘deceased’ in Isa 26:14. The context makes it clear that ‘giants’ is not the concept in these verses.

Emim

In the fourteenth year Chedorlaomer and the kings that *were* with him came and attacked the Rephaim in Ashteroth Karnaim, the Zuzim in Ham, the Emim in Shaveh Kiriathaim. **Gen 14:5**

(The Emim had dwelt there in times past, a people as great and numerous and tall as the Anakim. They were also regarded as giants, like the Anakim, but the Moabites call them Emim.
Deut 2:10-11

‘Giants’ = *rapha*; i.e. the Rephaim.

Meaning

The root meaning of *'emin* is ‘terrors’ and refers to an ancient tribe that formerly lived in Moab; a warlike tribe of ancient Canaanites.

We can infer that they were giants since they are linked to the Rephaim and were as ‘tall as the Anakim’.

Zamzummim

That was also regarded as a land of giants; giants formerly dwelt there. But the Ammonites call them Zamzummim. a people as great and numerous and tall as the Anakim. But the LORD destroyed them before them, and they dispossessed them and dwelt in their place. Deut 2:20-21

Meaning

Hebrew *Zamzom*, called Zamzummims in the KJV. The word means ‘plotters’. It was the Ammonite name for the people who others called Rephaim, and were described as a numerous nation of giants; perhaps the same as ‘Zuzim’.

They were overcome by the Ammonites. They belonged to the Rephaim, and inhabited the country afterwards occupied by the Ammonites. It has been conjectured that they might be Ham-zuzims, i.e. Zuzims dwelling in Ham, a place apparently to the south of Ashteroth (Gen 14:5) the ancient Rabbath-ammon.

Zuzims

In the fourteenth year Chedorlaomer and the kings that *were* with him came and attacked the Rephaim in Ashteroth Karnaim, the Zuzim in Ham, the Emim in Shaveh Kiriathaim. Gen 14:5

Meaning

‘Roving creatures’. It refers to an ancient people of uncertain origin, perhaps, inhabitants of ancient Ammon east of the Jordan. Some have said that the word means: ‘restless’ or ‘sprouting’. Some have identified this tribe with the Zamzummims.

Giant

In Job 16:14, in the KJV, ‘giant’ appears but this is a wrong translation. The word is *gibbor* meaning ‘a mighty one’, i.e. a champion or hero. In its plural form (*gibborim*) it is rendered ‘mighty men’ (2 Sam 23:8-39; 1 Kg 1:8; 1 Chron 11:9-47, 29:24).

Conclusion

Not all the words translated as ‘giant’ by the KJV refer to giants.

Not all the Hebrew words that can refer to giants (such as *rapha*) are actually referring to a giant.

The Nephilim, of all the Hebrew words, do not refer especially to giants but to violent tyrants.

Giants were: some of the house of Anak (the Anakim) and some of the Rephaim (including the Zamzummins and Emim).

The idea of angels mating with humans

There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God [Elohim] came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown. **Gen 6:4**

This is the only verse that can be used to support this mad idea. I will not spend much time on this since I have covered it in my paper, *'Can demons mate with humans?'*.

Angels?

Firstly, the word 'angels' does not appear in this verse at all; the reference is to the 'sons of Elohim'. If Moses had wanted to specifically refer to angels he would have used the appropriate term (*mal'ak*).

Can 'sons of God' refer to angels? Yes, but rarely (Job 1:6, 2:1).

Job 38:7 does not have to refer to angels at all being a poetic reference to the stars.

'Sons of God' are God's children i.e. humans in Matt 5:9, Lk 20:36, Rm 8:14, 19, Gal 3:26.

Even the word '*Elohim*' is sometimes applied to human beings (Ps 82:6).

Thus the predominant reference is to human beings not angels and the only references to angels are in a poetic book. No Biblical writer outside of Job, a very early patriarch predating Mosaic Law, refers to angels as 'sons of God'.

Note also that the judgment of God resulting from this behaviour fell upon men and not angels (Gen 6:6).

Note also that angels are not mentioned in the Genesis narrative before this point. To do so in this context would be exceedingly odd.

The angelic state

Angles are spirit beings; that is they are not material at all. As immaterial beings it is impossible for them to be able to mate with a human.

Although angels sometimes appeared on earth to men in an apparent physical human form, they did not change their actual composition but only their appearance.

In Genesis 18 the Lord appears with two men, whom we can presume to be angels. Abraham arranges for food to be prepared for these men. They give the appearance of eating, but this was a miraculous and unusual appearance by God; it does not mean that the angelic bodies were physically human.

The wonder of the incarnation of Jesus Christ is that this was the first and only time a heavenly Person became an actual human being, having both a human and a divine nature in one person. Claims that immaterial angels/demons mated with humans on a regular basis from antiquity contradict the miraculous nature of the incarnation of Jesus.

Demons

The Nephilim angered God by their doings and cannot be elect angels that never sinned. Thus if these were angels then they had to be demons.

Fallen angels (demons) were cast out of heaven when they chose to rebel against God and support the satanic insurrection (2 Pt 2:4-5). They were imprisoned in the aerial regions around the earth (thus Satan is the, 'prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience'; Eph 2:2).

Demons cannot take on genuine corporeal form; they are spirits. Furthermore, God restrained them from doing as they pleased (Rev 20:2-3). Even if a demon could attain some kind of corporeal form (which is impossible), and even if it could mate with a woman, it could not be able to produce sperm. The whole idea is nonsensical.

A spirit being has no DNA and could not reproduce of its kind in a hybrid fashion. In fact, God has set laws in creation so that different physical kinds cannot reproduce chimeras. Some animals can mate with animals from the same family (such as lions⁸ with tigers⁹) but different kinds cannot reproduce.¹⁰ Even when different species from the same family mate the offspring is sterile.

What is meant?

When the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them.

The long held historic interpretation of this sentence is as follows:

The sons of God are the children of Seth, the line of godly people that had originally kept a pure, godly racial line. At some point they intermarried with the line of Cain and the result was corruption of godliness. There is also the possibility that polygamy is also in view here; we know that Lamech had practised this (Gen 4:19).

This view goes back to Augustine, earlier fathers and even beyond to Jewish rabbis.

The idea that the 'sons of God' refers to angels is mostly held by non-Christian sources,¹¹ but a few church fathers held this view (Tertullian, Lactantius). Throughout church history the idea of demons mating with humans has been denied by all sound scholars, and even by many unorthodox scholars.

The wrong sources

The sources that drive the modern notion of demons mating with humans to produce a super race stems almost wholly from unbiblical writers. These propose a range of nonsensical things. For example, the *Book of Jubilees* proposes that although the flood rid the earth of Nephilim, God allowed 10% of the disembodied spirits of the Nephilim to remain after the flood as demons to lead the human race astray. This is just fanciful rubbish.

⁸ Genus: *Panthera leo*, family: Felidae (cats).

⁹ Genus: *Panthera tigris*, family: Felidae.

¹⁰ There is dispute as to exactly what 'kind' means (Gen 1:11). It is above species and probably above genus and so is most likely a family.

¹¹ E.g. the Enochic literature, the Dead Sea Scrolls, Josephus, Judith, Sirach, Baruch and the Wisdom of Solomon etc.

Objection Jude 1:6-7

And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

‘Domain’ = *arche*: meaning beginning, the leader, the first place, principality, rule, magistracy.

‘Abode’ = *oiketerion*: meaning dwelling place or habitation. Compare 2 Cor 5:2, the spiritual body awaiting believers, used figuratively.

Thus, ‘the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode’ means: **The angels who abandoned their primary, authorised position but departed their dwelling place. The KJV has it right, ‘the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation’.** It is a simple reference to the rebellion in heaven when some angels disobeyed God and were cast out.

‘These’ = *toutois* which Nephilim writers affirm is referring to angels; however scholars affirm that it refers either to Sodom and Gomorrah or their inhabitants.¹² This is the obvious and logical reading. ‘The cities around them’ included, Admah and Zeboiim (Gen 10:9; Deut 29:23). Zoar, the other city, was spared.

Sodom and Gomorrah are given in Scripture as the classic case of judgment on sinners for iniquity involving heavenly fire and are thus a picture of hell.

Some claim that this verse means that some angels left their normal spiritual bodies to assume an abnormal physical form in order to marry human women.¹³

Note that Christ asserted that angels cannot marry (Matt 22:30; Mk 12:25; cf. Lk 20:34-35); distinctly implying that it is impossible for angels to have sex because they had no gender. How did angels (that could not have sex) acquire this ability after abandoning heaven?

What Jude is saying is a warning about the condemnation of hell for sinners. As John explains that the Lake of Fire is reserved for the devil and his angels and those who followed them (Rev 19:20, 20:10, 15, 21:8), so also Jude refers to both classes found in hell: angels and human sinners. First, angels that fell and became demons are reserved for judgment; then human sinners, exemplified by those rebels in Sodom and Gomorrah, will be condemned in eternal fire. The verses say absolutely nothing about angels mating with humans.

Conclusion

The concept of demons mating with humans is not only impossible to achieve, it is laughable.

There is no clear Biblical text which teaches this idea. Such an important occasion in human history would have demanded that Scripture gives us some information about it – but there is none. However, it is a repeated concept in pagan mythology; indeed, the most

¹² Keil & Delitzsch, *Biblical Commentary*, 1:132-133.

¹³ E.g. Stewart Custer; *The Sons of God*.

well known source of mythology in the west (Greek mythology) is filled with stories of gods mating with humans and the peril that ensues.

The list of races involved: secular

Anunnaki

These characters feature in ancient Sumerian myths.

It is claimed by some that they are extra-terrestrial aliens, beings that descended from the sky, and such people aver that the term means, '*those who came from the heavens*'; usually in flying saucers of some kind.

Meaning

'Anunnaki' does not mean 'alien' but 'princely seed', 'royal seed' or 'princely blood'. They were direct creations of the chief god Anu. The point in Sumerian religion is that the Anunnaki were creations of Anu (or An) and his consort Ki, conceived in the sky (the meeting of heaven and earth). No aliens; no flying space vehicles.

One of the fathers of the modern Anunnaki aliens theory was Zecharia Sitchin who wrote many books about it in the 1970s when multiple cheap paperbacks ploughed this alien gods idea.¹⁴ Sitchin did not even understand the rules of basic Sumerian grammar and all his conclusions were based on a false semantic premise.

Sumerian images of winged solar discs are connected by some to the Anunnaki. In fact, these images are not connected by ancient Sumerians to the Anunnaki at all but to the sun and the sun god. The winged images have nothing to do with spacecraft.

Ancient images of winged 'genies' (like angels) are also published showing figures that appear to be in some kind of spacesuit, with wristwatches and boots. These are claimed to be Anunnaki. In fact they are not even Sumerian but Akkadian; these genies are thought to be in control of crop fertilisation. The 'watch' was a symbol for Ishtar, the goddess of fertility and appears on both hands and the forehead.

Some claim that the Anunnaki came from the hidden planet Nibiru beyond Pluto and came here to steal gold from the earth. No mention of this in Sumerian texts or reliefs.

Another claim is that when the Anunnaki aliens became tired of mining Sumerian gold, they created human beings as slave workers, called Adamou. In fact the texts speak about the gods being tired creating the world with its mountains and rivers and made man at that time out of clay. Then follows the flood story as mankind angered the gods.¹⁵

The claim that the Sumerian flood epic was copied by Moses cannot stand up. There is no textual evidence for dependence of that sort. In fact, both appear to stem from an earlier common tradition, either a written source or knowledge of the event transmitted by oral tradition. Note that almost every culture on earth has its own variation of a global flood myth.

¹⁴ Such as 'Chariot of the Gods' by Von Daniken – which has been completely trashed.

¹⁵ The *Epic of Gilgamesh*, one of the best-known works of ancient literature, was written in cuneiform on twelve clay tablets in c.2000 BC, and discovered among the ruins of Nineveh. The epic contains an account of a great flood that has close parallels with the Biblical story of Noah. Gilgamesh was a legendary king of the Sumerian city-state of Uruk in southern Mesopotamia.

Conclusion

The linking of the Anunnaki to the Nephilim and thus making the Nephilim extra-terrestrial aliens has no substance whatsoever.

Even if the Sumerian texts did support the idea of aliens, this would have no impact on the Biblical story of the Nephilim anyway. There is no connection.

Have there ever been giants on earth?

Yes there have; the Bible mentions this openly.

Firstly, one must understand the principles of gigantism. Before the flood climatic conditions were favourable for gigantism. Thus we see the giant reptile dinosaurs, giant mammals, huge fish and aquatic creatures (e.g. Megalodon) or even giant dragonflies. Since we have hard physical evidence of this it cannot be denied.

This changed after the flood when the climatic conditions on earth changed. Instead of the hot, humid tropical type of climate, we now had seasons that included a cold winter. In addition there was a different type of atmosphere with probably a lower oxygen level. Unable to cope with this the giant animals died off slowly over time. Dinosaurs were made extinct fairly quickly but some animals continued for thousands of years, like Mammoths. Giant lizards in the form of Komodo Dragons are still with us today, having been small enough to adapt.

The Bible mentions giants apart from the Nephilim.

The Israelite spies mention giants amongst the Canaanites. Goliath was a giant from the Philistine tribe. There are credible tales of giants in folklore and some large bones have been discovered (but little publicised), such as extra long human femurs. There have also been many finds of giant human footprints in rocks. We still have giants of a sort with us; some people have grown to seven-foot high in recent times.

Goliath's height was, 'six cubits and a span'. This is hard to identify exactly as the cubit standard varied. If we take the normal average of 18 inches, then Goliath was 117 inches or 9¾ feet tall.

The tallest recorded man is Robert Pershing Wadklow of the US, born in 1918 who measured 8 foot 11 inches (2.72 metres). So historic giants are not hard to imagine. However, modern giants tend to be skinny and awkward and not very strong. Historic giants like Goliath were much stockier and warlike.

The claims of writers on the Nephilim include postulation that early giants grew as tall as 20 feet. Without hard evidence I cannot comment on this.

However, a large human femur was found that would belong to a person taller than Goliath. Og's bed is stated in the Bible to have been 9 cubits long; that is 162 inches or 13 feet 5 inches. Of course we cannot say with certainty that Og was over 12 foot tall; many royal people have beds much larger than themselves; nevertheless Og was a giant and may have been 12 foot tall.

Goliath was far removed from pre-flood times when the gene pool had already degenerated somewhat. Thus it is likely that ancient giants were taller than 10 feet.

Genetics

Some of the writers on the Nephilim make a strong point about genetics. They claim that the Nephilim introduced a rogue type of DNA into the human genome and this posits a race of people tainted with evil genes. Such people are un-savable.

Now if the claim that the Nephilim are products of an angelic / human offspring is false, then the claims about a genetic malfunction in certain humans is also false.

Such writers also posit that since most of the giants in the Bible stem from Ham and Canaan, the command of God to wipe out the Canaanites was due to the strain of rogue DNA in the populations of the various tribes, which needed to be eliminated to prevent all of humanity being corrupted by this rogue DNA.

It is claimed that man's genes came perfect from God but the Nephilim corrupted certain tribes and this can never be eliminated – it is constantly reproduced once the genes are altered. However, note that the first sin of murder came directly from Adam's loins when Cain murdered his brother. Nothing to do with Nephilim, just the result of the Fall.

Of course the Bible says nothing about this genetic component at all. The Biblical reason for the destruction of the Canaanites¹⁶ was that they were condemned for their sin (and especially their idolatry), which had come to fulness of evil and needed judging.¹⁷ The sin of the Canaanites was an abomination to God and required removal from the earth.

There is a great danger in pushing the genetic theory about the Nephilim. Because it is essentially Hamite, this can lead to racism towards Hamite people – chiefly Africans.

Resurrecting Nimrod

Another strand of Nephilim teaching is based upon the claim that Nimrod is the Antichrist. It is claimed (without explanation) that other contenders, such as Osiris, Baal and Apollo, are merely different names for Nimrod and their myths are fables based on Nimrod's life.

¹⁶ Deuteronomy 7:1-2 'When the LORD your God brings you into the land which you go to possess, and has cast out many nations before you, the Hittites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than you, and when the LORD your God delivers them over to you, you shall conquer them **and utterly destroy them**. You shall make no covenant with them **nor show mercy to them**'.

¹⁷ Deut 7:4-5, 'For they will turn your sons away from following Me, to serve other gods; ... But thus you shall deal with them: you shall destroy their altars, and break down their sacred pillars, and cut down their wooden images, and burn their carved images with fire'. Deut 20:17-18, 'you shall utterly destroy them: the Hittite and the Amorite and the Canaanite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite, just as the LORD your God has commanded you lest they teach you to do according to all their abominations which they have done for their gods'.

Even at the mythological level this is nonsense since Nimrod is perhaps identified in Sumerian mythology as being deified as the sun god with his wife as the moon goddess.¹⁸ Baal was a Phoenician storm and fertility god. Although Apollo is associated with sunlight, the Greek god of the sun was Helios, who drove the chariot of the sun across the sky each day. Helios was a Titan whereas Apollo was an Olympian. Osiris was the Egyptian god of the afterlife, the underworld and the dead, but also of resurrection. Without any further analysis there are no mythological connections with Nimrod here.

Others claim (wrongly, see footnote) that Nimrod is also Gilgamesh (supposedly a giant) and that the body of Gilgamesh was discovered and captured by American troops in the occupation of Iraq. Then the claim is made that the elite is interested in the DNA of Gilgamesh which contains the Nephilim components and have the key to resurrection. Even if the body taken was a man called Gilgamesh (the flood story about Gilgamesh was just that, a story) – all this is utter baloney. Any possible connection between Nimrod and Gilgamesh is with the grandfather of Gilgamesh (the founder of Uruk / Erech).

Without any evidence at all, many teachers claim that Nimrod will be resurrected at the end and will be the Antichrist. The use of Nimrod's Nephilim DNA, or alien DNA, is asserted to be 'the Omega Plan' (not the diet) of the Illuminati to bring about the rise of a new Babylon and that this was the key purpose of the Iraq War.

The only evidence for this is a series of non-sequiturs.¹⁹ In other words, there is no evidence at all.

Example of false exegesis

Multiple writers aver that the Antichrist will be the resurrected Nimrod, who is a Nephilim creature, who is also known as Apollo to the Greeks. No evidence is given for this. However, they claim Biblical support in the form of Rev 9:11.

And they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon.

It is claimed that this king is the Antichrist and that 'Apollyon' is just another word for 'Apollo' and this proves their point.

Hogwash! This is total nonsense. Note the following:

- This king is not Antichrist at all; it is Satan.

¹⁸ The identification of Nimrod is difficult. Some ancient Babylonian historians (e.g. Berossus, 3rd cent.) have identified him with the first king after the flood (Euechoios of Chaldea). Others affirm that he was the grandfather of Gilgamesh and the founder of Uruk. Other modern scholars affirm that Nimrod is to be identified with Lugal-Banda, a mythological king of Marad. Others suggest that he is to be identified with Ninurta, an Assyrian god. Yet others try to place him as Tukulti-Ninurta I, a Middle Assyrian emperor. Hislop affirms that Nimrod was self-deified as the sun god and set up the pattern of occult idolatry. Rohl claims that Nimrod is Enmerkar, the Sumerian founder of Uruk (this has traction). There are also Assyrian and Babylonian inscriptions carrying the name 'Bel-Nibru' ('Nibru' means 'to make one flee' in Akkadian). Some identify him with Sargon the Great, builder of Akkad and Babylon. The Biblical record is that Nimrod established the first post-deluvian empire, was a tyrannical hunter of men and we can infer that he developed the idolatrous occult system typified by Babel. He also probably started the pattern of powerful kings deifying themselves and commanding worship that we see in Egypt, Rome etc. Since the sun god is often the first in a pantheon, it is quite possible that Nimrod was deified as the sun god and Phoenician writings support this. So, it is difficult to certainly identify him with either mythological or historical kings.

¹⁹ Drawing a conclusion that does not logically follow the premises.

- The context shows that this king is, ‘a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit’ (Rev 9:1). The symbolism is of the devil’s ejection from heaven with his fallen angels.
- Scorpions arise from this pit. This is a symbol of the fallen angels or demons subservient to Satan. [Note their torment of man comes from the sting in their tails; that is a reference to hidden danger from behind, i.e. deception.]
- The king of these demons is the devil.
- In other words, this king is not a human being, but a fallen angel.
- ‘Abaddon’ is the Hebrew word for ‘destroying angel’, just to make the point stronger that this is an angelic being thrust down from heaven, not someone from the earth thrust upwards to power. The word can also mean ‘destruction’. It cannot mean ‘Apollo’. The word appears in the OT in the Wisdom books (Job 26:6; Ps 88:11; Prov 15:11) where it is rendered in the LXX by *Apwleia*, ‘destruction’. Thus even the Greek Septuagint supports the translation of ‘destruction’ or ‘destroyer’
- ‘Apollyon’ (Greek, *apolluon*) is a Greek word meaning ‘destroyer’.
- Thus both the Hebrew and the Greek word mean the same thing, a destroyer. They do not indicate the Greek god Apollo. The point is the death that comes from Satanic control over men.
- The Hebrews never called the Greek god Apollo ‘Abaddon’.

Thus the affirmation that Antichrist is Apollo reborn, who is also Nimrod, has no traction whatsoever from this verse. It is utter speculative nonsense.

If you were to examine every point made by these Nephilim writers, carefully analysing their arguments and checking their exegesis and historical sources, you will find the same things: speculation, non sequiturs, false premises, poor argumentation, bad definitions, bad exegesis, special pleading²⁰ and so on.

Conclusion

Genetic mutations of humans into demonic Nephilim, Nimrod as Antichrist, and all that is associated with this line of argument is just utter rubbish. If something as massively important in understanding eschatology as this were true, there would be clear apostolic teaching on it. There is a great deal of eschatological doctrine in the NT and none of it refers to this rubbish.

I believe that all this nonsense is merely a disinformation distraction set up by the global elite who actually are better candidates to be an antichristian hegemony that will rule a global government at the end.

Aliens

Many proponents of the Nephilim teaching claim that the Nephilim are actually alien beings sent to the earth. This is often tied in with the Anunnaki myths.

Aliens

The first problem is that there is no life in outer space; period! The only place in the universe where life exists is the place where God said it exists – on earth.

²⁰ Special pleading: an argument in which the speaker deliberately ignores aspects that are unfavourable to their point of view.

You must understand God's purpose in creation, which is centred in man created to be the living, material testimony to the hidden, spiritual character of God. Man is meant to reflect the glory of God in the flesh, which is what he will do perfectly in the new world when we have a resurrected, spiritual body to go with our new nature (1 Jn 3:2).²¹

For more details on this see my paper, '*Did God Create Humanoid Life-Forms On Other Planets?*'.

The Watchers

One aspect of the alien /god theory is that Satan sent 200 of his fallen angels to be Watchers / rulers on the earth. This comes straight from secular mythology and can be immediately dismissed.

Nibiru

The identification of the Anunnaki with the unobserved planet Nibiru leads to multiple speculations about future cosmic events when Nibiru comes into plain view and heralds the end of the world (supposedly soon). This planet has never been identified by astronomers.

See 'Anunnaki'.

Conclusion

The supposed connection of the Anunnaki / Nephilim to extraterrestrial aliens is nonsense and can be immediately dismissed.

The Illuminati

Another strand of Nephilim teaching is the connection between the Nephilim (in the form of the Watchers) and the global elite. The machinations of the elite are the outworking of alien or demonic strategies developed by these Nephilim.

Now this is correct to the point that the elite are working out demonic strategies and seeking to fulfil Satan's purpose for the end of the world – through a global totalitarian empire. However this is being done in a spiritual manner not through direct physical contact with alien or demonic beings that are identified as Nephilim.

Note the contradiction here: the same people who assert the Omega Plan search for Nephilim DNA in buried mummies also assert that the elite are taking orders from Nephilim Watchers. Why the search for buried Nephilim DNA if it already exists in the rulers of the world?

Conclusion

As the world falls into deeper and deeper deception, we see more and more utter nonsense being spouted in churches.

None of the claims made by teachers on the Nephilim stand up to scrutiny. All the fascination with this strand of heresy simply forms a distraction from studying God's word for our good and from focusing on Christ.

²¹ Though we are partakers of the divine nature (2 Pt 1:4) we never become little gods. Man is always going to be a dependent creature while God has life in himself (aseity).

At the end, our focus needs to be on worshipping God, testifying to Christ and doing good to all people, not following pointless mystical, Gnostic speculations of nut-ball heretics (who make a great deal of money by the way). God is in the ordinary things we do every day.

Lessons

- Don't trust extra-Biblical sources, even if they have Biblical names (like the *Book of Enoch*). The apocryphal books were not included in the Canon of Scripture for a good reason. Just because a Biblical writer referred to an existing historical document (e.g. 2 Tim 3:8)²² that does not mean that it is fit for being Scripture. Paul referred to wicked Greek poets (Acts 17:28),²³ that does not mean that they are fit to be added to the Canon.
- Don't trust secular sources.
- Don't trust non-Christian religious sources.
- Don't trust mythological and pagan sources.
- Don't rely upon proven forgeries, like the Book of Jasher.
- Don't try to find secret, hidden, esoteric, themes in the Bible to stimulate the imagination. Study the Bible to learn about God and to promote good works.
- Don't trust definitions of Biblical words that contradict sound Biblical scholarship and academic linguistic studies (such as bad definitions of the word 'Nephilim' or 'Apollyon').
- Don't trust the claims of people who make a prosperous living from wild claims in books, CDs, DVDs, films and speaking engagements.

Be wise in understanding; in understanding be men.

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²² Jannes and Jambres were the traditional names of the magicians who withstood Moses and are mentioned in the Targum of Jonathan (on Ex 7:11).

²³ The reference is to Aratus of Soli from Cilicia (c. BC 270) in '*Ta Phainomena*' and also Cleanthes, a Stoic philosopher (300-220 BC) in his '*Hymn to Zeus*'. Paul knew that the words were written of Zeus but he simply illustrates his point to Athenians that all men are the offspring of God. In 1 Cor 15:32 Paul quotes from Menander [c.342–c.290; Greek comedic dramatist BC] and in Tit 1:12 from Epimenides [Cretan poet]. J. Rendel Harris also finds references in Paul's letters to Pindar [c.518–c.438; BC Greek lyric poet], Aristophanes [c.450–c.385 BC; Greek dramatist] and other Greek writers.