



אֱלֹהִים

A Secret of the Bible, God Elohim

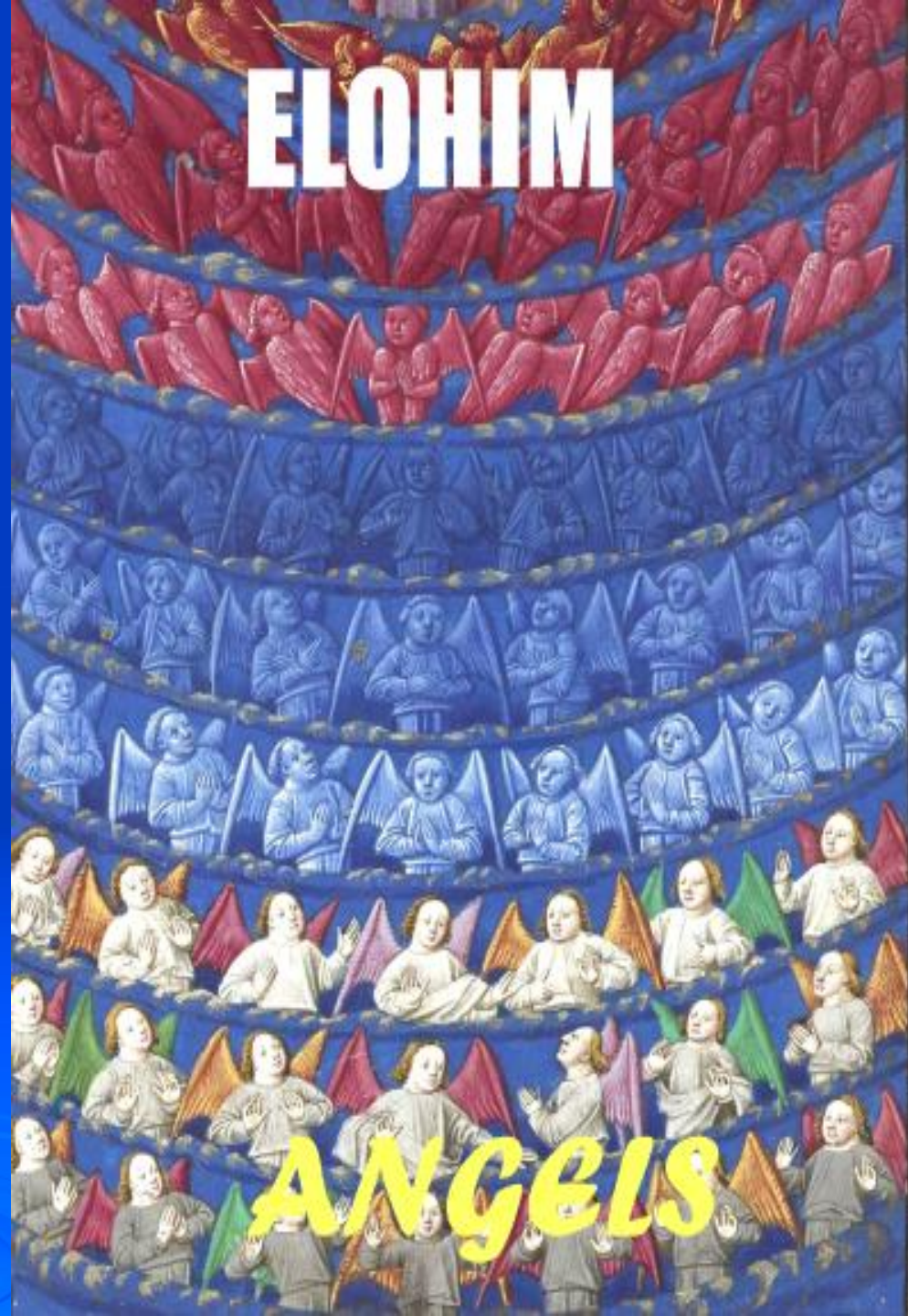
- *Elohim* usually translated as God or gods
- The study of language cognates has vaulted forward our knowledge of the meaning of many ancient words
- The Dead Sea Scrolls gave us OT manuscripts that were 1000 years older than we ever had before
- Very little of that new knowledge has been passed down to the Church leadership in general

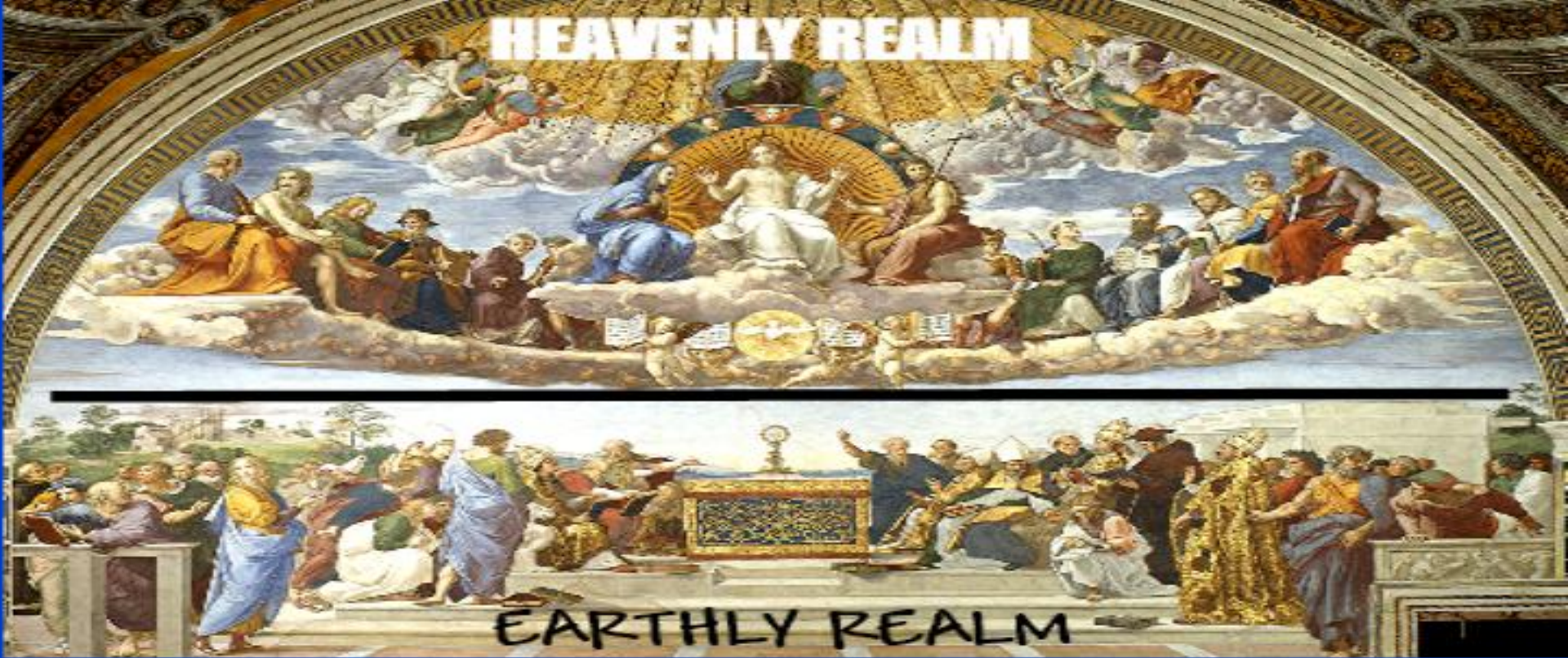


- Our traditional way of interpreting “*elohim*” has led us away from the more vivid meaning
- The Bible is only confusing when we filter it through the lens of modern culture and doctrines
- The Bible says God created a well-populated, complex, highly structured spirit-world BEFORE He created the physical Universe
- That spirit-world became the pattern for the physical world

A DIVINE ORDER

- Angels, archangels, Seraphim, Cherubim, powers & principalities, princes, divine council and elohim
- Angels the lowest, elohim the highest
- Elohim given rule over the nations
- Most High Elohim (God) ruled over Israel
- The elohim had “free-will” sufficient to do wrong and be corrupt





HEAVENLY REALM

EARTHLY REALM

- Humans were intended to be the earthly version of the Heavenly elohim
- Genesis 1:26
- God is above Heavenly elohim and earthly mankind
- Some elohim became corrupted, just as humans became corrupted



WHAT DOES THE BIBLE MEAN BY
"YOU ARE GODS" John 10:31 - 36

- The Greek *theos* means all manner of divine beings
- Since Jesus was quoting Psalm 82, we KNOW that the word He used was *elohim*
- Elohim doesn't mean "gods" in the classical sense we think of gods... it means a special high class of spirit beings
- If we cannot accept the idea of a robust spirit world of many types of spirit beings, we'll never understand the meanings and intents of the biblical writers who DID believe in it

THE PRIDE OF JACOB



- “Yehoveh has sworn” used 3 times in the Bible, each time it is to pronounce a judgment
- “The pride of Jacob” = the arrogance of the people who believe in their brilliant economic and military strategies to protect them
- 1996 Allan Greenspan “irrational exuberance”

ISRAEL IS A MORAL OUTRAGE!



- “10” isn’t referring to a *minyan*
- No one should hold out hope for survival
- Vs. 10 is a fictional narrative
- Mishnaic era tradition should not be read back into Amos
- The idea is that since YHWH is now Israel’s enemy, no one should call out for Him



The heavens declare the the glory of God



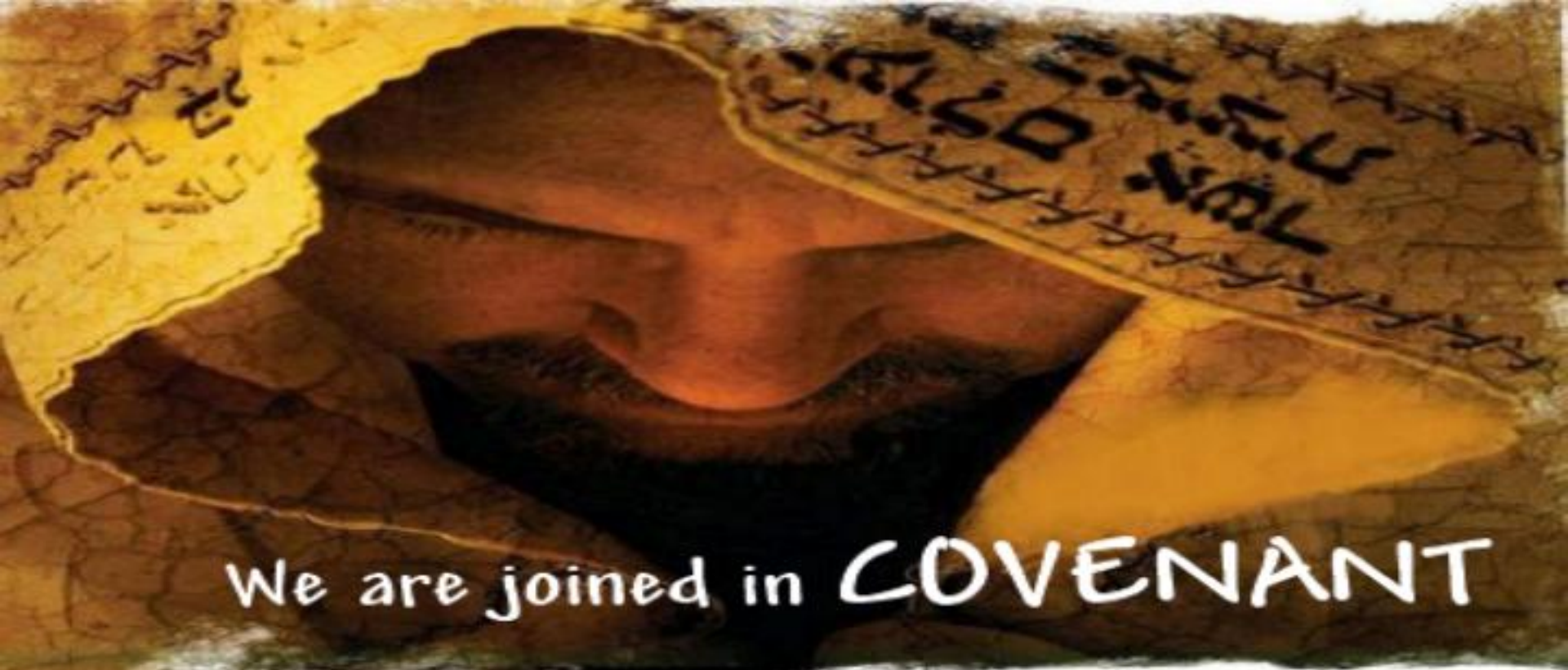
Psalm 19:2

- The Minor Prophets help us to recognize the condition of our world, today
- Atheism is overtly absurd and blatantly foolish
- Romans 1:20 “.....***Therefore, they have no excuse.***”
- The Gender Identity issue may be the greatest moral outrage mankind has ever degraded ourselves with
- Vs. 12 opens with this same kind of deviant mindset



**WE WERE NOT SAVED
TO BE SILENT**

- When our society says that our God-given gender is no longer absolute, we have reached the bottom of the pit
- None of us...Pastor, Rabbi, or layman... can be silent about such immorality
- This silence is not Godly, it is cowardice
- The same sort of things were happening in Amos's day

A close-up photograph of a stone tablet, likely representing the Ten Commandments. The tablet is dark brown with some lighter, yellowish areas. Hebrew text is visible at the top, including the words 'שָׁמַרְתָּ' (You shall keep) and 'בְּרִית' (Covenant). A large, stylized, reddish-brown letter 'C' is prominently displayed in the center. Below the 'C', the text 'We are joined in COVENANT' is written in white, with 'COVENANT' in all caps.

We are joined in **COVENANT**

- Background for Vs. 13 is 2Kings 14:25
- Jeroboam's conquest of Lodebar and Karnaim was illegitimate
- Chaos and confusion the result of Israel's rebellion
- As Believers, we are obligated to the terms of the Covenant