

MESOPOTAMIAN FLOOD STORIES

SUMERIAN	BABYLONIAN	YAHWIST	PRIESTLY
Enlil decrees the destruction of mankind because of their noise Nintu protests Hero of the Flood: Ziusudra (Akkadian Atrakhasis) Is "pious"	Gods decree flood Utnapishtim	YaHWeH decrees destruction of man for his wickedness, regrets creation Noah Is "righteous"	ELoHiM decrees destruction of all flesh for its corruption Noah Is "perfect" or "blameless"
Is warned by Enki (Ea) in a dream (by Ea through wall)	Is warned by Ea through wall of reed hut	Finds "favor in the eyes of" YaHWeH, is led to <i>the</i> ark	Is instructed by ELoHiM to build an ark
Vessel: A huge ship	A cube: 120 by 120 by 120; 7 stories, 9 divisions. Every kind of animal	7 pairs of clean, 2 of unclean animals YHWH shuts door	Of cypress wood, 300 x 50 x 30 cubits w/ rooms & 3 decks 2 of all animals
Storm and Flood	Flood from heavy rain, windows of heaven opened	Flood from heavy rain	Fountains of great deep broken up, windows of heaven opened: cosmic Flood Exact dates
Flood lasts 7 days	Flood lasts 6 days Ship grounds on Mt. Nisir Utnapishtim sends out dove, swallow, & raven	Flood lasts 40 days, retires after 3 weeks Noah sends out a dove (3 times)	Flood lasts 150 days, retires in 150 days Ark grounds on Mt. Ararat Noah sends out a raven
Ziusudra sacrifices to Sun-god in ship	Utnapishtim offers sacrifice on Mt. Nisir God's gather like flies around smoke	Noah offers sacrifice on an altar YHWH smells the sweet savor	
Immortality given to Ziusudra	Immortality and deification given to Utnapishtim & wife Ishtar's necklace of lapis-lazuli: sign of remembrance	YHWH resolves not to curse the ground again for man's sake	ELoHiM makes a covenant with Noah not to destroy the earth again by a flood ELoHiM sets rainbow in the clouds as a sign of his covenant