

The Entangled Enoch – Handout

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1. BIBLICAL TEXTS

Deuteronomy 28:12, NRSV:

The LORD will open for you his rich (or “good”) storehouse, the heavens, to give the rain of your land in its season and to bless all your undertakings

יפתח יהוה לך את אוצרו הטוב את השמים לתת מטר ארצך בעתו ולברך את כל מעשה ידך

ἀνοίξει σοι κύριος τὸν θησαυρὸν αὐτοῦ τὸν ἀγαθόν, τὸν οὐρανόν, δοῦναι τὸν ὑετὸν τῇ γῆ σου ἐπὶ καιροῦ αὐτοῦ εὐλογῆσαι πάντα τὰ ἔργα τῶν χειρῶν σου,

Job 38:22–29, NRSV:

- ²² “Have you entered the storehouses (אוצרות, θησαυρούς) of the snow, or have you seen the storehouses of the hail,
²³ which I have reserved for the time of trouble, for the day of battle and war?
²⁴ What is the way to the place where the light is distributed, or where the east wind is scattered upon the earth?
²⁵ “Who has cut a channel for the torrents of rain, and a way for the thunderbolt,
²⁶ to bring rain on a land where no one lives, on the desert, which is empty of human life,
²⁷ to satisfy the waste and desolate land, and to make the ground put forth grass?
²⁸ “Has the rain a father, or who has begotten the drops of dew?
²⁹ From whose womb did the ice come forth, and who has given birth to the hoarfrost of heaven?”

Jer 10:12–13, NRSV

- ¹² It is he who made the earth by his power, who established the world by his wisdom, and by his understanding stretched out the heavens.
¹³ When he utters his voice, there is a tumult of waters in the heavens, and he makes the mist rise from the ends of the earth. He makes lightnings for the rain, and he brings out the wind from his storehouses.

Job 31:6, NRSV

Let me be weighed in a just balance, and let God know my integrity!
ישקלני במאזני צדק וידע אלוה תמתי
ἵσταίη με ἄρα ἐν ζυγῷ δικαίῳ, οἶδεν δὲ ὁ κύριος τὴν ἀκακίαν μου.

2. ETHIOPIC AND SLAVONIC ENOCH TEXTS

Parables of Enoch	2 Enoch (Longer Recension)
41:3 And there my eyes saw the secrets of the lightnings and the thunder, and the secrets of the winds, how they are divided to blow upon the earth, and the secrets of the clouds and the dew. And there I saw whence they proceed in that place, and from there they saturate the dust of the earth. ⁴ There I saw closed storehouses, and from	5:1 And there I perceived the treasures of the snow and ice (or “frost”; see discussion below) ² and the angels who guard their terrible storehouses. And the treasury of the clouds, from which they come out and go in.

<p>them the winds are distributed; the storehouse of the hail and the winds, the storehouse of the mist and of the clouds, and its cloud abides over the earth since the beginning of the age.¹</p>	<p>6:1 And they showed me the treasuries of the dew, like olive oil ... and the angels who guard their treasuries, and how they are shut and opened.²</p> <p>40:8 And the dwelling places of the clouds, their organization and their wings, and how they carry the rain and the raindrops—all this I investigated.</p> <p>40:10 I wrote down the treasuries of the snow and the storehouses of the cold (or “ice/frost”, see discussion below) and the frosty winds. I observed how, depending on the season, their custodians fill up the clouds with them, and their treasuries are not emptied.³</p>
<p>5 And I saw the storehouses of the sun and the moon, from which they emerge and to which they return, and their glorious return, and how the one is more praiseworthy than the other, and their splendid course. And they do not leave the course, and they neither extend nor diminish their course. And they keep faith with one another according to the oath that they have <sworn>.⁴</p>	<p>Chapters 11–16 describe in detail the gates of the sun and moon and the paths that they follow.</p>
<p>43:1 And I saw other lightnings and stars of heaven; and I saw that he called them by their names, and they listened to him. 2 I saw a righteous balance, how they are weighed according to their light, according to the breadth of their spaces and the day of their appearing. (I saw how) their revolution produces lightning, and their revolution is according to the number of the angels, and they keep their faith with one another.⁵</p>	<p>40:9 And I wrote down the rumble of the thunder and the lightning; and they showed me the keys and their keepers, where they go in and come out, by measure. They are raised by means of a chain and they are lowered by means of a chain, so that he does not drop the clouds of anger with terrible injuries and violence, and destroy everything upon the earth.⁶</p>
<p>60:11 And the other angel who went with me and showed me what is hidden told me what is first and last in heaven in the height and beneath the earth in the abyss, and at the ends of heaven and on the foundation of heaven, and in the storehouses of the winds, how the winds are divided and how they are weighed and how the springs of the wind are (divided and) numbered, according to the power of the wind and the power of the moon and according to the power of righteousness.</p>	<p>40:11 I wrote down the sleeping chambers of the winds and I saw how their custodians carry scales and measures. At first they place them in the scales and secondly in the measure, and it is by measure that they release them skilfully into all the earth, lest the earth should be rocked by violent gusts.⁸</p>

¹ Translation of 1 Enoch from George Nickelsburg and James C. VanderKam, *1 Enoch 2: A Commentary on the Book of 1 Enoch Chapters 37–82* (Hermeneia. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2012), 142.

² Translation of 2 Enoch from Francis I. Andersen, “2 (Slavonic Apocalypse of) Enoch: A New Translation and Introduction,” in James H. Charlesworth, ed., *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha. Volume 1: Apocalyptic Literature and Testaments* (New York: Doubleday, 1983), 112.

³ Andersen, “2 (Slavonic Apocalypse of) Enoch,” 166.

⁴ Nickelsburg and VanderKam, *1 Enoch 2*, 142.

⁵ Nickelsburg and VanderKam, *1 Enoch 2*, 142.

⁶ Andersen, “2 (Slavonic Apocalypse of) Enoch,” 166.

⁸ Andersen, “2 (Slavonic Apocalypse of) Enoch,” 166.

Cf.:

69:23 And there are preserved the voices of the thunder and the light of the lightnings. And there are preserved the storehouses of the hail and the storehouses of the hoarfrost, and the storehouses of the mist and the storehouses of the rain and the dew.⁷

3. TEXTS FROM QUMRAN

1QS X, 2.

¹ at the times ordained of God: when light begins its dominion— each time it returns— and when, as ordained, it is regathered into its dwelling place;

² when night begins its watches— as He opens His storehouse and spreads darkness over the earth— and when it cycles back, withdrawing before the light;

³ when the luminaries show forth from their holy habitation, and when they are regathered into their glorious abode; when the times appointed for new moons arrive⁹

4QInstruction, in 4Q418 fragment 126, column II, 3–4:

[... n]ot one of all their host ever rests ...

And y[ou, understandi]ng one, truthfully measure all resources of men ... for with an eph[a]h of truth and a measure of righteousness (משקל צדק) God apportions all [their] d[eeds ...]

He has spread them out, in truth he has established them and by all who delight in them [they] are studied.¹⁰

4. LATER JEWISH TEXTS

bḤagigah 12b

Makon is that in which there are store(house)s¹¹ of snow (אוצרות שלג) and store(house)s of hail (ואוצרות ברד), and the loft of harmful dews (עליית טללים רעים), and the loft of raindrops (עליית אגלים), the chamber of the whirlwind and storm (וחדרה של סופה וסערה),¹² and the cave of vapour (ומערה של קיטור), and their doors are of fire, for it is said: The Lord will open unto thee His good storehouse,¹³ the heavens” (Deuteronomy 28:12), which indicates the existence of a storehouse that contains the opposite of good.¹⁴

3 Enoch

... between one tongue and another is a circle of treasuries of lightning (אוצרי ברקים); behind the treasuries of lightning is a circle of hurricane blasts; behind the hurricane blasts is a circle of

⁷ Nickelsburg and VanderKam, *1 Enoch 2*, 304.

⁹ Translation Michael Wise, Martin Abegg and Edward Cook, “Serek le’anshey ha-Yahad,” in D.W. Parry, and E. Tov, eds., *Dead Sea Scrolls Reader. Part 1, Texts Concerned with Religious Law* (Leiden: Brill, 2003), 37.

¹⁰ Translation, Matthew J. Goff, *4QInstruction*, (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature Press, 2013), 274.

¹¹ I have amended the translation, which uses the word “stores” for the sake of terminological consistency.

¹² וסערה is omitted by R. Elijah of Wilna.

¹³ I have, again, amended the translation (which uses “treasure,” rather than “storehouse” to translate אוצר here).

¹⁴ Translation, Isidore Epstein, *The Babylonian Talmud: Seder Mo'ed* (London: Soncino Press, 1938).

storehouses of storm (גְּנוּי סַעֲרָה); behind the storehouses of storm is a circle of winds, thunderclaps, thunders, and sparks; behind the sparks is a circle of tremors. (37:2)¹⁵

3 Enoch 14:4

Gabriel the angel of fire
Baradi'e'l, the angel of hail;
Ruhi'e'l, who is in charge of wind;
Baraqi'e'l, who is in charge of lightning;
Et cetera ... (14:4)¹⁶

³ How many bridges are there? How many rivers of fire? How many rivers of hail?

⁴ How many treasuries of snow? How many wheels of fire? .How many ministering angels? There are 12,000 myriads of bridges, six above and six below; 12,000 myriads of rivers of fire, six above and six below; 12,000 treasuries of snow, six above and six below; 24,000 myriads of wheels of fire, twelve above and twelve below, surrounding the bridges, the rivers of fire, the rivers of hail, the treasuries of snow, and the ministering angels (22b)

Why is his name called Šoqedhozi? Because he weighs men's merits in scales in the presence of the Holy One, blessed be he. (18:21)¹⁷

5. OTHER PSEUDEPIGRAPHICAL/APOCRYPHAL TEXTS

2 Baruch 59:11

...the multitude of the angels which cannot be counted, the powers of the flame, the splendor of lightnings, the voice of the thunders, the orders of the archangels, the treasuries of the light, the changes of the times ...¹⁸

Apostolic Constitutions

For you are the one ... who brought light out of the treasuries, and at the contraction of this (light), the one who brought the darkness for rest for the living creatures moving about in the world (Apos. Con. 8.12.6)¹⁹

For you filled your world, and divided and arranged it ...
with cycles of years.
with numbers of months and days;
with arrangements of customs;
with courses of rain-producing clouds, for the generation of fruits, and the care of living creatures;
(and with) a balance of winds,
blowing when they are ordered by you. (Apos. Con. 8.12.15).²⁰

¹⁵ Philip Alexander, "3 (Hebrew Apocalypse of) Enoch: A New Translation with Notes," in J.H. Charlesworth, *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha, Volume 1: Apocalyptic Literature and Testaments* (New York: Doubleday, 1983), 290.

¹⁶ Alexander, "3 (Hebrew Apocalypse of) Enoch," 267.

¹⁷ Alexander, "3 (Hebrew Apocalypse of) Enoch," 273.

¹⁸ F.J. Klijn, "2 Baruch," in J.H. Charlesworth, *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha, Volume 1: Apocalyptic Literature and Testaments* (New York: Doubleday, 1983), 642.

¹⁹ Translation, D.R. Darnell, "Hellenistic Synagogal Prayers," in J.H. Charlesworth, *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha, Volume 2: Expansions of the "Old Testament" and Legends, Wisdom and Philosophical Literature, Prayers, Psalms and Odes, Fragments of Lost Judeo-Hellenistic Works* (New York: Doubleday, 1985), 691.

²⁰ D.R. Darnell, "Hellenistic Synagogal Prayers," 691–2.