Agenda

• Overview of Early Genesis
• World Cultures and Early Genesis
• Greek Art/Greek Mythology
  – Noah/Nereus in Greek Art
  – Herakles/Nimrod
  – Zeus/Adam
  – Athena/Naamah
• East Pediment of Parthenon
  – Understanding
  – Characters
Genesis (1-10)

- Days of Creation (resting on the 7th)
- The Creation of Adam and Eve
- The Fall of Man
- Cain and Abel
  - Cain’s descendants
- Descendants of Adam
- The Corruption of Mankind
- The Flood
- The Flood Subsides
- Covenant of the Rainbow
- Descendants of Noah
  - Shem
  - Japheth
  - Ham - Cush - Nimrod
Genesis in Cultures from Around the World
Noah to Nimrod

Shem  Japheth
On this vase-painting, Herakles threatens Noah with his club.
Here, Herakles pushes Noah aside.
And here, the vase-artist depicts Herakles bringing Noah and his rule to a halt.
Herakles’ first 11 labors and his other battles all had one objective—embodied in his 12th and final labor—getting back to the serpent-entwined tree in the ancient garden for another bite of the serpent’s apple.
And Athena rewarded the great hero after he had pushed Noah and his God out of the picture and reestablished the way of Kain.
12 Labors of Herakles

Temple of Zeus
Zeus/Adam at Olympia
Parthenon
• Displays the Greek “story” of Genesis
• Man’s “triumph” over God
• Reflection of Eden
• Triumph of the Serpent
• Deifies real people of history
THE EAST PEDIMENT

HERAKLES
THE

EAST PEDIMENT

THE HESPERIDES
The Greek poets and playwrights traced Zeus and Hera back to an ancient paradise they called the Garden of the Hesperides.
The FATES: Clotho, Lachesis and Atropos
THE EAST PEDIMENT

NIKE
THE EAST PEDIMENT

ATLAS
THE EAST PEDIMENT

HEPHAISTOS
THE EAST PEDIMENT

HERA
THE EAST PEDIMENT

ATHENA
Two opposite interpretations of the very same event.
Conclusion

• Once again – Bible provides proper framework
• Stories from cultures around the world
  – Noah’s Flood
  – God the Creator
• Greek Mythology
  – Garden of Eden
  – Adam/Eve Zeus/Hera Brother/Sister
  – Noah
  – Line of Seth
  – Nimrod/Herakles
  – Naamah/Athena
  – Cush/Hermes
  – Noah’s Flood destroying the “good” line of Kain
  – Serpent is “good”
  – Nimrod/Herakles rebellion against God
YOU MAY BE RIGHT, PYTHAGORAS, BUT EVERYBODY’S GOING TO LAUGH IF YOU CALL IT A "HYPOTENUSE."

Questions?