

The Secrets of Enoch in Charles, R. H., ed. *The Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha of the Old Testament in English*, 2 vols. Oxford: Clarendon, 1976.

Chapter 22

In the tenth heaven the archangel Michael led Enoch to before the Lord's face

¹On the tenth heaven, *which is called* Aravoth, I saw the appearance of the Lord's face, like iron made to glow in fire, and brought out, emitting sparks, and it burns.

²Thus *in a moment of eternity* I saw the Lord's face, but the Lord's face is ineffable, marvellous and very awful, and very, very terrible.

³And who am I to tell of the Lord's unspeakable being, and of his very wonderful face? And I cannot tell the quantity of his many instructions, and various voices, the Lord's throne *is* very great and not made with hands, nor the quantity of those standing round him, troops of cherubim and seraphim, nor their incessant singing, nor his immutable beauty, and who shall tell of the ineffable greatness of his glory.

⁴And I fell prone and bowed down to the Lord, and the Lord with his lips said to me:

⁵Have courage, Enoch, do not fear, arise and stand before my face into eternity.

⁶And the archistratege ⁽⁵⁾ Michael lifted me up, and led me to before the Lord's face.

(5) **Archistratege.** Or, "the commander of the armies of the nations, named Michael."

⁷And the Lord said to his servants tempting them: Let Enoch stand before my face into eternity, and the glorious ones bowed down to the Lord, and said: Let Enoch go according to Your word.

⁸And the Lord said to Michael: Go and take Enoch from out *of* his earthly garments, and anoint him with my sweet ointment, and put him into the garments of My glory.

⁹And Michael did thus, as the Lord told him. He anointed me, and dressed me, and the appearance of that ointment is more than the great light, and his ointment is like sweet dew, and its smell mild, shining like the sun's ray, and I looked at myself, and *I* was like one of his glorious ones ⁽⁶⁾.

(6) **Glorious ones.** Or, "one of the seven highest angels."

¹⁰And the Lord summoned one of his archangels by name Pravuil, whose knowledge was quicker in wisdom than the other archangels, who wrote all the deeds of the Lord; and the Lord said to Pravuil: Bring out the books from my storehouses, and a reed of quick-writing, and give *it* to Enoch, and deliver to him the choice and comforting books out of your hand.

Chapter 23

Of Enoch's writing, how he wrote his wonderful journeyings and the heavenly hosts and himself wrote three hundred and sixty-six books

¹And he was telling me all the works of heaven, earth and sea, and all the elements, their passages and goings, and the thunderings of the thunders, the sun and moon, the goings and changes of the stars, the seasons, years, days, and hours, the risings of the wind, the numbers of the angels, and the formation of their songs, and all human things, the tongue of every human song and life, the commandments, instructions, and sweet-voiced singings, and all things that it is fitting to learn.

²And Pravuil told me: All the things that I have told you, we have written. Sit and write all the souls of mankind, however many of them are born, and the places prepared for them to eternity; for all souls are prepared to eternity, before the formation of the world.

³And all double thirty days and thirty nights, and I wrote out all things exactly, and wrote three hundred and sixty-six books.

Chapter 24

Of the great secrets of God, which God revealed and told Enoch, and spoke with him face to face

¹And the Lord summoned me, and said to me: Enoch, sit down on my left with Gabriel.

²And I bowed down to the Lord, and the Lord spoke to me: Enoch, beloved, all *that* you see, all things that are standing finished I tell to you even before the very beginning, all that I created from non-being, and visible things from invisible.

³Hear, Enoch, and take in these my words, for not to My angels have I told my secret, and I have not told them their rise, nor my endless realm, nor have they understood my creating, which I tell you to-day.

⁴For before all things were visible, I alone used to go about in the invisible things, like the sun from east to west, and from west to east.

⁵But even the sun has peace in itself, while I found no peace, because I was creating all things, and I conceived the thought of placing foundations, and of creating visible creation.

Chapter 25

God relates to Enoch, how out of the very deepest parts came forth the visible and invisible

¹I commanded in the very lowest *parts*, that visible things should come down from invisible, and Adoil ⁽⁷⁾ came down very great, and I beheld him, and lo! He had a belly of great light.

(7) **Adoil.** Or, "Light of creation."

²And I said to him: Become undone, Adoil, and let the visible *come* out of you.

³And he came undone, and a great light came out. And I *was* in the midst of the great light, and as there is born light from light, there came forth a great age, and showed all creation, which I had thought to create.

⁴And I saw that *it was* good.

⁵And I placed for myself a throne, and took my seat on it, and said to the light: Go thence up higher and fix yourself high above the throne, and be a foundation to the highest things.

⁶And above the light there is nothing else, and then I bent up and looked up from my throne.

Chapter 26

God summons from the very deepest a second time that Archas, heavy and very red should come forth

¹And I summoned the very lowest a second time, and said: Let Archas ⁽⁸⁾ come forth hard, and he came forth hard from the invisible.

(8) Archas. Or, "Spirit of creation."

²And Archas came forth, hard, heavy, and very red.

³And I said: Be opened, Archas, and let there be born from you, and he came undone, an age came forth, very great and very dark, bearing the creation of all lower things, and I saw that *it was* good and said to him:

⁴Go thence down below, and make yourself firm, and be a foundation for the lower things, and it happened and he went down and fixed himself, and became the foundation for the lower things, and below the darkness there is nothing else.