

Wednesday Night

Bible Study

The Book of Genesis

BIBLE STUDY FAITH SHARING REFLECTION
AND PRAYER

GENESIS

1:1-2:4

A little background

- Bible is Greek for the plural noun of book.
- The Bible is not a book it's a library
- Testament comes from the Latin meaning covenant.
- Hebrew Scriptures are used by both Jews and Christians
- There are forty books in Hebrew Scriptures
Catholics accept six Greek text in the Hebrew Scriptures called the Apocrypha

The “Library” of the Hebrew Scriptures

- The Pentateuch
- The Historical books
- The Prophetic books
- The Wisdom books

Tanakh

- Torah The law
- Neviim the Prophets
- Ketuvim The Writing

The Pentateuch, The Torah, The Books of Moses, The Law

- Genesis (*creation to Joseph, son of Jacob*)
- Exodus (*Moses to the Promised land*)
- Leviticus (*613 laws*)
- Numbers (*the census during the sojourn*)
- Deuteronomy (*the retelling of the story*)

Genesis

- In the beginning
- Dispersion of people
- The flood
- Lives of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob
- The story of Joseph's career in Egypt
- The chosen people

Exodus

- Going out
- Historical account of sojourn from Egypt to the promised land
- The Ten Commandments

Leviticus

- The Ritual laws
- Named after the priestly families of Levi

Numbers

- Two numbering of peoples (leaving and arriving)
- Experiences of the Hebrews during their second year in the wilderness to the arrival on the borders of Moab (close to the Promised Land)

Deuteronomy

- The second law
- Stands apart from the others because its audience is the common person not the priests or leaders.

Scholarship

- Historical accounts
- The literature
- Archaeology

**Hello my name is....
and
Besides the Trinity Father,
Jesus and Spirit
What Biblical Character gives
you a strong feeling.**

Biblical Timeline

3950 Adam and Eve

2294 Flood

1926 Abraham

1446 Exodus (early date) 1290

Exodus (late date)

1450 - 1410 Writing of
Pentateuch by Moses in the
Wilderness (early date)

1400 Death of Moses 1043 -

1011 Reign of Saul

1011 - 970 Reign of David

970 - 931 Reign of Solomon

931 - 722 Divided Kingdom

722 Fall of Northern
Kingdom of Israel

7716 - 687 Reign of Hezekiah

640 - 609 Reign of Josiah

622 Book found during reign
of Josiah 605

586 Fall and exile of Southern
Kingdom of Judah

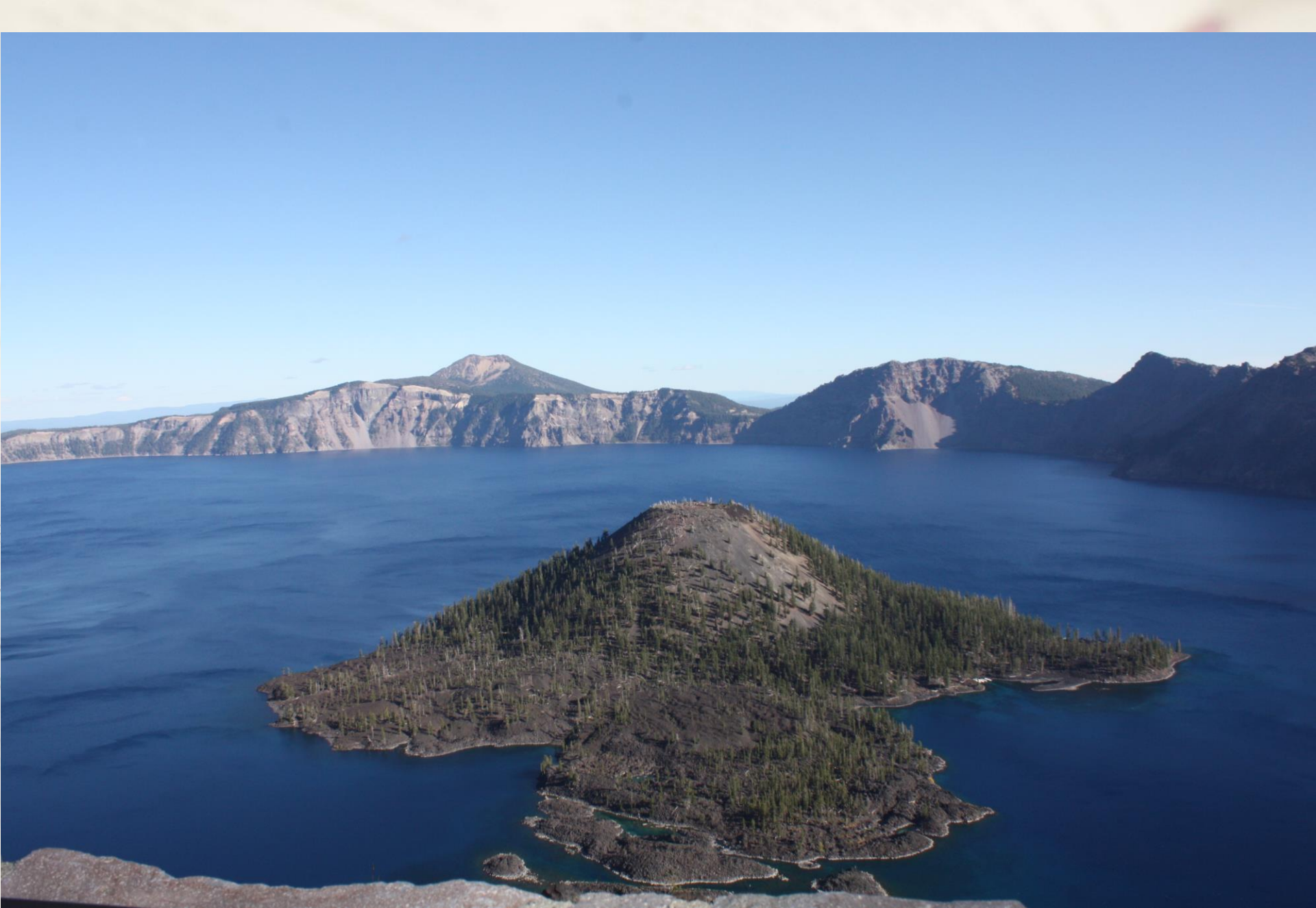
538 Decree of Cyrus II after
capture of Babylon

538 First return of exiles to
Judah with Ezra

515 Temple completed 457

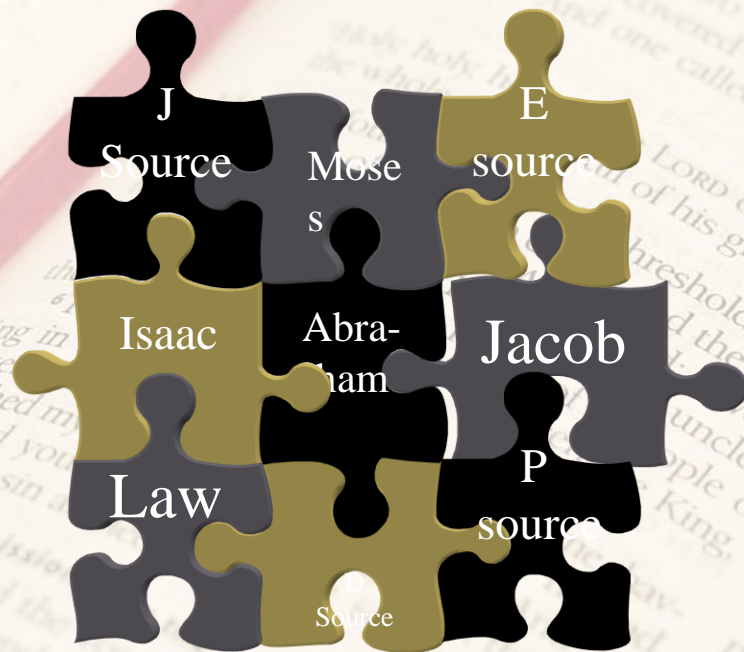
444 Second and third returns
of exiles to Judah

164 Rededication of the Temple



What's going on in Genesis?

- ❑ Why are there two creation stories?
- ❑ Who really wrote Genesis?
- ❑ What does the author want to teach us?



The J Source

The Yahwistic Tradition

- This author(s) call God Yahweh
- Dates to the time of Solomon (950bc)
- Grew out of the royal circles, the kings play an important role in the faith community

The E Source

The Elohistic Tradition

- This author(s) call God Elohim
- Written 750, coming from the Northern
- The E places great importance on the Prophets

The D Source

The Deuteronomistic Tradition

- Basically the entire book of Deuteronomy.
- It begun in the northern kingdom
- The D source influenced the others

The P Source

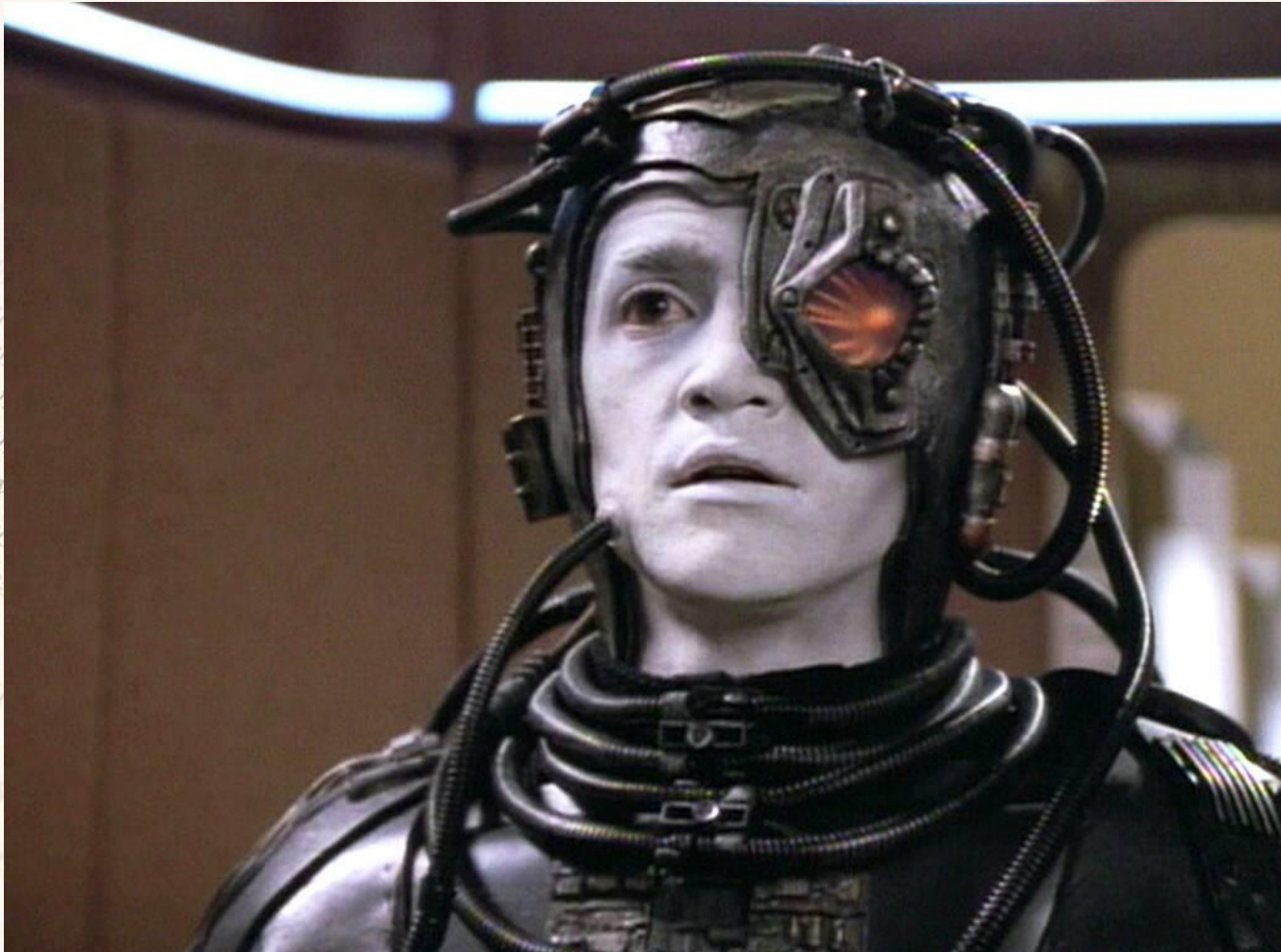
The Priestly Tradition

- Came into being during the Babylonian exile, (587-538bc)
- Written by the priests to keep up the spirit of their people.

Babylonian Captivity



Resistance is futile





Babylonian Captivity

- King Nebuchadnezzar
- King Jehoiakim
- King Cyrus

Enuma Elish



ENUMA ELISH (2000BCE)

GENESIS 1:1-2:3 (500BCE)

The gods are
created from Apsu
(fresh water) and
Tiamat (Salt water,
Tortoise)

God is eternal and
uncreated

ENUMA ELISH (2000BCE)

Maraduk is select as
King of the gods.
He used words for
magic purposes.
His task is to slay
Tiamat

GENESIS 1:1-2:3 (500BCE)

God created out
of nothing
effortlessly
separating and
distinguishing
merely by use of
effective words

ENUMA ELISH (2000BCE)

GENESIS 1:1-2:3 (500BCE)

Maraduk's chariot is
drawn by Killer,
Relentless,
Trampler, and
Swift, with
poisonous teeth. He
arms himself with
Smiter and Combat
and is wrapped in
terror and
fearsomeness

No combat

ENUMA ELISH (2000BCE)

Tiamat's body is split in two; the upper section serves as sky, and the lower section as dry ground

GENESIS 1:1-2:3 (500BCE)

The sky is a thin layer of beaten metal (dome); earth is merely dry ground.

ENUMA ELISH (2000BCE)

The stars are gods,
seated on platforms.

GENESIS 1:1-2:3 (500BCE)

The stars are
merely lights,
signs to tell the
passage of time.

ENUMA ELISH (2000BCE)

Kingu revolts, is slain and his blood and bones are used for the creation of humanity.

GENESIS 1:1-2:3 (500BCE)

Adam/humanity is created in the image of God, the Imago Dei

ENUMA ELISH (2000BCE)

Humans are created
as slaves for the
gods.

GENESIS 1:1-2:3 (500BCE)

Adam/humanity
is given dominion
over the earth.

Let's listen to word proclaimed



A close-up photograph of a person's hand covering their ear, suggesting hearing loss or discomfort. The background is a solid pink color.

Genesis 1:1-2

In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless wasteland, and darkness covered the abyss, while a mighty wind swept over the waters.

Genesis 1:3-5

Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

God saw how good the light was. God then separated the light from the darkness.

God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." Thus evening came, and morning followed—the first day.

Genesis 1:6-8

Then God said, "Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters, to separate one body of water from the other." And so it happened:

God made the dome, and it separated the water above the dome from the water below it.

God called the dome "the sky." Evening came, and morning followed--the second day.

Genesis 1:9-13

Then God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered into a single basin, so that the dry land may appear." And so it happened: the water under the sky was gathered into its basin, and the dry land appeared.

God called the dry land "the earth," and the basin of the water he called "the sea." God saw how good it was.

Genesis 1:9-13 continued

Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth vegetation: every kind of plant that bears seed and every kind of fruit tree on earth that bears fruit with its seed in it." And so it happened: the earth brought forth every kind of plant that bears seed and every kind of fruit tree on earth that bears fruit with its seed in it. God saw how good it was.

Evening came, and morning followed--the third day.

Genesis 1:14-19

Then God said: "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky, to separate day from night. Let them mark the fixed times, the days and the years, and serve as luminaries in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth." And so it happened:

God made the two great lights, the greater one to govern the day, and the lesser one to govern the night; and he made the stars.

Genesis 1:14-19 continued

God set them in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw how good it was.

Evening came, and morning followed--the fourth day.

Genesis 1:20-23

Then God said, "Let the water teem with an abundance of living creatures, and on the earth let birds fly beneath the dome of the sky." And so it happened:

God created the great sea monsters and all kinds of swimming creatures with which the water teems, and all kinds of winged birds. God saw how good it was, and God blessed them, saying, "Be fertile, multiply, and fill the water of the seas; and let the birds multiply on the earth."

Evening came, and morning followed--the fifth day.

Genesis 1:24-25

Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth all kinds of living creatures: cattle, creeping things, and wild animals of all kinds." And so it happened:

God made all kinds of wild animals, all kinds of cattle, and all kinds of creeping things of the earth. God saw how good it was.

Genesis 1:26

Then God said: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and the cattle, and over all the wild animals and all the creatures that crawl on the ground."

God created man in his image;
in the divine image he created him;
male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:26

Then God said: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and the cattle, and over all the wild animals and all the creatures that crawl on the ground."

God created man in his image;
in the divine image he created him;
male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:28-31

God blessed them, saying: "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things that move on the earth."

God also said: "See, I give you every seed-bearing plant all over the earth and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit on it to be your food; and to all the animals of the land, all the birds of the air, and all the living creatures that crawl on the ground, I give all the green plants for food." And so it happened.

God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very good. Evening came, and morning followed--the sixth day.

Genesis 2:1-4a

Thus the heavens and the earth and all their array were completed.

Since on the seventh day God was finished with the work he had been doing, he rested on the seventh day from all the work he had undertaken.

So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work he had done in creation. Such is the story of the heavens and the earth at their creation.

Parallels

Day 1 Light

Day 2 Sea and Sky

Day 3 Dry Land

Day 4 Luminaries

Day 5 Fish and
Birds

Day 6 Land animals
and Humans

Day 7 Sabbath

Questions



Homework and Journaling.



"Your Word is a lamp for my feet, a light for my path" – Psalm 119

The Genesis Bible Study

Journal for Genesis Bible Study

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89775722560?pwd=V1R1eGYvSndadFpKeVhyeHd5eEVKQT09>

Meeting ID: 897 7572 2560

Passcode: TheWord

All sessions begin at 7:00pm

October 21, Week 1–Preamble. The Creation of the World (1:1–2:3)

Homework and Journaling

Homework for this week, Oct 21 – Oct 28

October 28 Genesis 2:4-6:8

Week Two: The Creation of the Man and the Woman, Their Offspring, and the Spread of Civilization (2:4–4:26)

The Pre-flood Generations (5:1–6:8)

1. Which account of creation do you find most interesting and why?



2. Our First parents hid themselves from God. When was a time when you wanted to hide from God?

Come Next Time

- ❑ **October 21, Week 1**--Genesis 1:1-2:3
- ❑ **October 28 Week 2**-- Genesis 2:4-6:8
- ❑ *November 4, Gather for [Build Me a Sanctuary: Why Catholic Churches Look the Way They Do](#)*
- ❑ **November 11, Week 3**-- Genesis 6:9—11:26
- ❑ **November 18, Week 4**-- Genesis 11:27-25:18
- ❑ *November 25, No Session Thanksgiving Prep*
- ❑ **December 2, Week 5**-- Genesis 25:19-36:43
- ❑ **December 9, Week 6**-- Genesis 37:1-20:26
- ❑ *December 16, Gather for [The Birth of Jesus in Art](#)*

Invite a friend!

Sources

The New American Bible

Berit Olam Genesis: Cotter, David

Genesis: Viviano, Pauline

Jerome Biblical Commentary, Ed. Brown, Raymond et.al.

The Documentary Hypothesis: BC Resources

Invite a friend!