Emerging Light

In the Beginning...People Don’t Know Nothing. Or so they say.

They say: People invented God to explain unexplainable things
They say: The Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) doesn’t teach life after death

Little Light Noted in the Early Days Say Experts

• Thomas Ridenour asserted, “There is no ‘uniform and certain doctrine of the afterlife’ offered in the Old Testament.”¹
• Another example, “The Old Testament teaches virtually nothing about resurrection or life after death.”²
• R. H. Pfeiffer was only slightly more positive, concluding that the doctrine of the resurrection was “a doctrine unknown in the Old Testament before the third century.”³

Jesus Shows There is More in the Book Than Most See

“But now, as to whether there will be a resurrection of the dead—haven’t you ever read about this in the Scriptures? Long after Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had died, God said, ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ So he is the God of the living, not the dead.” Matthew 22:31-32 (NLT)

Light Shines

“But as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and he will stand upon the earth at last.”
Job 19:25 (NLT)

Foundation Era: New Beginnings with Solid Connections

Job was alive during the Foundation Era. He had the opportunity to learn from those who knew God.

Conversation with God

• Job didn’t make up what God might be like because He already had been taught.
• Job didn’t freak out talking to God because he knew people who talked to God.

Life After Death
And after my body has decayed, yet in my body I will see God! I will see him for myself.
Yes, I will see him with my own eyes. I am overwhelmed at the thought!
Job 19:26-27 (NLT)

God is Revealed in Nature
They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them. For ever since the
world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they
can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no
excuse for not knowing God. Romans 1:19-20 (NLT)

Faith in God from the Beginning
It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did. Abel’s
offering gave evidence that he was a righteous man, and God showed his approval of his
gifts. Although Abel is long dead, he still speaks to us by his example of faith.
Hebrews 11:4 (NLT)

Heaven: God’s Place
It was by faith that Enoch was taken up to heaven without dying—“he disappeared, because
God took him.” For before he was taken up, he was known as a person who pleased God.
Hebrews 11:5 (NLT)

More From Before the Flood
Enoch, who lived in the seventh generation after Adam, prophesied about these people. He
said, “Listen! The Lord is coming with countless thousands of his holy ones to execute
judgment on the people of the world. He will convict every person of all the ungodly things
they have done and for all the insults that ungodly sinners have spoken against him.”
Jude 1:14-15 (NLT)

God’s Light Came
And the judgment is based on this fact: God’s light came into the world, but people loved the
darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil. All who do evil hate the light and
refuse to go near it for fear their sins will be exposed. But those who do what is right come
to the light so others can see that they are doing what God wants.
John 3:19-21 (NLT)

Emerging Light
- God has revealed Himself in creation
- God has revealed Himself in communication
- God has revealed Himself in His people before and after the flood
- God has revealed His invitation to people
- Some people choose the darkness rather than the light
- God’s people respond to His invitation to live in the light