

2 The vision of Issiah * son of Amoz, concerning Judah & Jerusalem.
 It will happen in the final days
 that the mountain of Yahweh's house
 will rise higher than the mountains
 and tower above the heights.
 Then all the nations will stream to it,
 many peoples will come to it and say,
 "Come, let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh,
 to the house of the God of Jacob
 that he may teach us his ways
 so that we may walk in his paths."
 For the Law will issue from Zion
 and the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem.
 Then he will judge between the nations
 and arbitrate between many peoples.
 They will hammer their swords into ploughshares
 and their spears into sickles.
 Nation will not lift sword against nation,
 no longer will they learn how to make war.
 House of Jacob, come, let us walk in Yahweh's light.

BAAL I.iii

10 Bow at the feet of Anatu and fall down,
 prostitute yourselves, honour her.
 And say to the Virgin Anatu,
 repeat to the Wanton Widow of the Nations:
 'A message from Ba'lu the Almighty,
 a word from the Mightiest of heroes:
 15 Oppose war on earth,⁴³
 put love-fruit in the ground,⁴⁴
 pour peace in the middle of the earth,⁴⁵
 tranquillity in the middle of the fields.
 Hurry! Move on! Make haste!⁴⁶
 Let your feet run to me,
 20 let your legs rush to me!
 For I have a word, which I want to speak to you,
 a message which I want to communicate to you,
 a word of trees and a whisper of stones,⁴⁷
 a groaning of the heavens to the earth,
 25 of the Flood to the stars:

PSALM 29

Hymn to the Lord of the storm.
 Psalm of David
 Give Yahweh his due, sons of God,¹
 give Yahweh his due of glory and strength,
 give Yahweh the glory due to his name,
 adore Yahweh in the splendour of holiness.²
 Yahweh's voice over the waters, the God of glory thunders;
 Yahweh over countless waters.
 Yahweh's voice in power, Yahweh's voice in splendour:
 Yahweh's voice shatters cedars,
 Yahweh shatters cedars of Lebanon.
 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
 Siron³ like a young wild ox.
 Yahweh's voice curves out lightning-shafts,⁴
 Yahweh's voice convulses the desert.
 Yahweh convulses the desert of Kadesh,
 Yahweh's voice convulses terebinths,⁵
 strips forests bare.
 [This paicee⁶ all cry, 'Glory!'
 Yahweh was enthroned for the flood,⁷
 Yahweh is enthroned as king for ever.
 Yahweh will give strength to his people,
 Yahweh blesses his people with peace.]

Psalm 29 is probably
 a Baal-Hymn that
 has been "Yahweh"-ized!

PSALM 46

God is with us
 For the choirmaster. Of the sons of Korah. For oboe. Song
 God is both refuge and strength for us,
 a help always ready in trouble;
 so we shall not be afraid though the earth be in turmoil,
 though mountains tumble into the depths of the sea,
 and its waters roar and seethe,
 and the mountains totter as it heaves.¹
 (Yahweh Sabaoth is with us,
 our citadel, the God of Jacob.)²
 There is a river whose streams bring joy to God's city:
 it sanctifies³ the dwelling of the Most High.
 God is in the city, it cannot fall;
 at break of day⁴ God comes to its rescue.
 Nations are in uproar, kingdoms are tumbling,
 when he raises his voice the earth crumbles away.
 Yahweh Sabaoth is with us,
 our citadel, the God of Jacob.

RITUAL IV

174
 the firstlings¹⁰ of Ba'lu we shall consecrate,
 the 'bitpu-sacrifice'¹¹ of Ba'lu-we shall fulfil,
 the tithe of Ba'lu¹² we shall pay,
 we shall ascend the sanctuary of Ba'lu,¹³
 the paths of the house of Ba'lu we shall walk.¹⁴
 Then Ba'lu will listen to your prayer.
 He will chase away the strong one from your gate,
 35 the warrior from your walls.¹⁵

Come, consider the wonders of Yahweh,
 the astounding deeds he has done on the earth;
 he puts an end to wars over the whole wide world,
 he breaks the bow, he snaps the spear,
 shields he burns in the fire.
 Be still and acknowledge that I am God,
 supreme over nations, supreme over the world.
 Yahweh Sabaoth is with us,
 our citadel, the God of Jacob.

Lament on the sack of the Temple

BAAL IV. viii - V. j

BAAL I. iiii

What enemy has risen against Ba'lu?

What foe against the Rider on the Clouds?

Did I not slay Yammu, Beloved of Ila?

Did I not destroy River, the god of the Big One?

Did I not muzzle Tunnanu?

Did I not stop his mouth?

I did slay the coiling serpent, so

the tyrant with the seven heads!

I did slay Arichu, Beloved of Ila!

I silenced 'Atiku, the bull-calf of Ila!

BAAL III. iv

Leap from the hand of Ba'lu,

like an eagle from his fingers!

Strike the shoulder of his Highness Yammu,

Judge Naharu between the arms!

The axe leapt from the hand of Ba'lu,

like an eagle from his fingers.

It struck the shoulder of his Highness Yammu,

Judge Naharu between the arms.

Yammu was strong, he did not fall down,

his joints did not quiver,

his pelvis did not shake,

Kotharu took down (another) double-headed axe

and proclaimed its name:

"You - your name is Ayyamu!

Ayyamu, expel Yammu,

expel Yammu from his chair,

Naharu from the throne of his dominion!

Leap from the hand of Ba'lu,

like an eagle from his fingers!

Strike the skull of his Highness Yammu,

Judge Naharu between the eyes!

Let Yammu collapse

and fall to the earth!

63 [but did eat bread with my brothers]

[and did drink wine with my kin,]

[while I, (o) Ba'lu, was forgotten -]

[(therefore) I shall certainly pierce you,]

[... you!]

Edge:

[Scribe: Ilimilku, official of Niqmaddu, king of Ugarit.]

Nothing is missing between the restored end of column VIII of tablet IV and column I of tablet V.

BAAL V

PSALM 74

1 "Although you despised Ba'lu,

destroyed the coiling serpent,

the Tyrant with the seven heads,

I [I Ila [

[you shall be] cut into the land of Makhanani,

Break the neck of Yammu with the forked-tongue

which is licking the sky!

Break the neck of Yammu with the fish-tail,

put a muzzle on Tunnanu,

and the salt-marshes will not rise (again),

if [your] faces is not terrified,

if you do not fall down

is the message of [(broken)

PSALM 68

Let God arise, let his enemies scatter,

let his opponents flee before him.

You disperse them like smoke;

as wax melts in the presence of a fire,

so the wicked melt at the presence of God.

The upright rejoice in the presence of God,

delighted and crying out for joy.

Sing to God, play music to his name,

build a road for the Rider of the Clouds!

God, why have you finally rejected us,
your anger blazing against the flock you used to pasture?
Remember the people you took to yourself long ago,
your own tribe which you redeemed,
and this Mount Zion where you came to live.

Come up to these endless ruins!
The enemy have sacked everything in the sanctuary;
your opponents made uproar in the place of assemblies,
they fixed their emblems over the entrance,
emblems never known before.

Their axes deep in the wood, lacking at the panels,
they battered them down with axe and pick;
they set fire to your sanctuary,
profanely raised to the ground the dwelling-place of your name.

They said to themselves, "Let us crush them at one stroke!"
They burned down every sacred shrine in the land.
We see no signs, no prophet any more,
and none of us knows how long it will last.

How much longer, God, will the enemy blaspheme?
Is the enemy to insult your name for ever?
Why hold back your hand,
keep your right hand hidden in the folds of your robe?

Yet, God, my king from the first,
author of saving acts throughout the earth,
by your power you split the sea in two
and smashed the heads of the monsters on the waters.

You crushed Leviathan's heads,
gave him as food to the wild animals.
You released the springs and brooks,
and turned primordial rivers into dry land.

Yours is the day and yours the night,
you caused sun and light to exist,
you fixed all the boundaries of the earth,
you created summer and winter.

Remember, Yahweh, the enemy's blasphemy,
a foolish people insults your name.
Do not surrender your turtle dove to the beast;
do not forget for ever the life of your oppressed people.

Look to the covenant!
All the hiding-places of the land are full,
haunts of violence.

Do not let the downtrodden retreat in confusion,
give the poor and needy cause to praise your name.

Arise, God, champion your own cause,
remember how fools blaspheme you all day long!
Do not forget the shouting of your enemies,
the ever-mounting

GENESIS 6.1

years old, Noah became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

6 When people began to multiply on the face of the ground, and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that they were fair; and they took wives for themselves of all that they chose. 3 Then the LORD said, "My spirit shall not abide in mortals forever, for they are flesh; their days shall be one hundred twenty years." 4 The Nephilim were on the earth in those days—and also afterward—when the sons of God went in to the daughters of humans, who bore children to them. These were the heroes that were of old, warriors of renown. 5 The LORD saw that the wickedness of humankind was great in the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually. 6 And the LORD was sorry that he had made humankind on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. 7 So the LORD said, "I will blot out from the earth the human beings I have created—people together with animals and creeping things and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." 8 But Noah found favor in the sight of the LORD.

9 These are the descendants of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation; Noah walked with God. 10 And Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

11 Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. 12 And God saw that the earth was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted its ways upon the earth. 13 And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence because of them; now I am going to destroy them along with the earth. 14 Make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. 15 This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. 16 Make a roof for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above; and put the door of the

ark in its side; make it with lower, second, and third decks. 17 For my part, I am going to bring a flood of waters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is on the earth of life; everything that is on the earth shall die. 18 But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. 19 And of every living thing, of all flesh, you shall bring two of every kind into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. 20 Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground according to its kind, two of every kind shall come in to you, to keep them alive. 21 Also take with you every kind of food that is eaten, and store it up; and it shall serve as food for you and for them." 22 Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

7 Then the LORD said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation. 2 Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and its mate; and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and its mate; 3 and seven pairs of the birds of the air also, male and female, to keep their kind alive on the face of all the earth. 4 For in seven days I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights; and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground." 5 And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him.

6 Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came on the earth. 7 And Noah with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives went into the ark to escape the waters of the flood. 8 Of clean animals, and of animals that are not clean, and of birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground, 9 two and two, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had commanded Noah.

4 Meaning of Heb uncertain 5 Or window

6:5 → 8:22 comparison GENESIS 8.17

10 And after seven days the waters of the flood came on the earth.

11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. 12 The rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. 13 On the very same day Noah with his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons entered the ark, 14 they and every wild animal of every kind, and all domestic animals of every kind, and all creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every bird of every kind—every bird, every winged creature. 15 They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. 16 And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in.

17 The flood continued forty days on the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. 18 The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the waters. 19 The waters swelled so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered; 20 the waters swelled above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. 21 And all flesh that moved on the earth, birds, domestic animals, wild animals, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all human beings; 22 everything on dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. 23 He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, human beings and animals and creeping things and birds of the air; they were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those that were with him in the ark. 24 And the waters swelled on the earth for one hundred fifty days.

8 But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and all the domestic animals that were with him in the ark.

And God made a wind blow over the earth, and the waters subsided; 2 the fountains of the deep and the windows of the heavens were closed, the rain from the heavens was restrained, 3 and the waters gradually receded from the earth. At the end of one hundred fifty days the waters had abated; 4 and in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. 5 The waters continued to abate until the tenth month; in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains appeared.

6 At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made 7 and sent out the raven; and it went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. 8 Then he sent out the dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground; 9 but the dove found no place to set its foot, and it returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took it and brought it into the ark with him. 10 He waited another seven days, and again he sent out the dove from the ark; 11 and the dove came back to him in the evening, and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; 12 so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. 12 Then he waited another seven days, and sent out the dove; and it did not return to him any more.

13 In the six hundred first year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and saw that the face of the ground was drying. 14 In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry. 15 Then God said to Noah, 16 "Go out of the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. 17 Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—so that they may abound on the earth,

Exodus 13-14

Yahwist

Eloh^{ist}

Priestly

13

When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, 'Lest the people repent when they see war, and return to Egypt.' ¹⁸But God led the people round by the way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea. And the people of Israel went up out of the land of Egypt equipped for battle. ¹⁹And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him; for Joseph had solemnly sworn the people of Israel, saying, 'God will visit you; then you must carry my bones with you from here.'

²⁰And they moved on from Succoth, and encamped at Etham, on the edge of the wilderness. ²¹And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night; ²²the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night did not depart from before the people.

Then the Lord said to Moses,

²³Tell the people of Israel to turn back and encamp

²⁴in front of Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, in front of Baal-zephon; you shall encamp over against it, by the sea.

²⁵For Pharaoh will say of the people of Israel, "They are entangled in the land; the wilderness has shut them in."

²⁶And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will pursue them and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host; and the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord.' At they did so.

²⁷When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled,

²⁸the mind of Pharaoh and his servants was changed toward the people, and they said, 'What is this we have done, that we have let Israel go from serving us?' ²⁹So he made ready his chariot

³⁰and took his army with him,

³¹and took six hundred picked chariots

³²and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them.

³³And the Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt and he pursued the people of Israel as they went forth defiantly.

³⁴The Egyptians pursued them,

all Pharaoh's horses and chariots, and his horsemen and his army,

and overtook them encamped at the sea, by Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon.

³⁵When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them; and they were in great fear. And the people of Israel cried out to the Lord;

³⁶And they said to Moses, 'Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? ³⁷Is not this what we said to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone and let us serve the Egyptians? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.'

¹³And Moses said to the people, 'Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. ¹⁴The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be still.'

¹⁵The Lord said to Moses, 'Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. ¹⁶Lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go on dry ground through the sea. ¹⁷And I will harden the heart of the Egyptians, so that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen. ¹⁸And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots and his horsemen.'

¹⁹Then the angel of God who went before the host of Israel moved and went behind them;

and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, ²⁰coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness; and it lit up the night;

and the night passed without one coming near the other all night.

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea,

^{21b}and the Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and made the sea dry land,

^{21c}and the waters were divided. ²²And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.

²⁴And in the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down upon the host of the Egyptians, and discomfited the host of the Egyptians, ²⁵clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily; and the Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from before Israel, for the Lord fights for them against the Egyptians.'

²⁶Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and upon their horsemen.'

²⁷So Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea,

^{27b}and the sea returned to its wonted flow when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled into it, and the Lord routed the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.

²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen and all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not so much as one of them remained. ²⁹But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel with the Egyptians dead upon the seashore. ³¹And Israel saw the great work which the Lord did against the Egyptians, and the people feared the Lord; and they believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Then Gilgamesh said to Utnapishtim the faraway, "I look at you now, Utnapishtim, and your appearance is no different from mine; there is nothing strange in your features. I thought I should find you like a hero prepared for battle, but you lie here taking your ease on your back. Tell me truly, how was it that you came to enter the company of the gods and to possess everlasting life?" Utnapishtim said to Gilgamesh, "I will reveal to you a mystery, I will tell you a secret of the gods."

"YOU know the city Shurruk, it stands on the banks of Euphrates? That city grew old and the gods that were in it were old. There was Anu, lord of the firmament, their father, and warrior Enlil their counsellor, Ninurta the helper, and Ennugi watcher over canals; and with them also was Ea. In those days the world teemed, the people multiplied, the world bellowed like a wild bull, and the great god was aroused by the clamour. Enlil heard the clamour and he said to the gods in council, "The uproar of mankind is intolerable and sleep is no longer possible by reason of the babel." So the gods agreed to exterminate mankind. Enlil did this, but Ea because of his oath warned me in a dream. He whispered their words to my house of reeds, "Reed-house, reed-house! Wall, O wall, hearken reed-house, wall reflect; O man of Shurruk, son of Ubara-Tutu; tear down your house and build a boat, abandon possessions and look for life, despise worldly goods and save your soul alive. Tear down your house, I say, and build a boat. These are the measurements of the barque as you shall build her: let her beam equal her length, let her deck be roofed like the vault that covers the abyss; then take up into the boat the seed of all living creatures."

"When I had understood I said to my lord, "Behold, what you have commanded I will honour and perform,

but how shall I answer the people, the city, the elders?" Then Ea opened his mouth and said to me, his servant, "Tell them this: I have learnt that Enlil is wrathful against me, I dare no longer walk in his land nor live in his city; I will go down to the Gulf to dwell with Ea my lord. But on you he will rain down abundance, rare fish and shy wild-fowl, a rich harvest-tide. In the evening the rider of the storm will bring you wheat in torrents."

"In the first light of dawn all my household gathered round me, the children brought pitch and the men whatever was necessary. On the fifth day I laid the keel and the ribs, then I made fast the planking. The ground-space was one acre, each side of the deck measured one hundred and twenty cubits, making a square. I built six decks below, seven in all, I divided them into nine sections with bulkheads between. I drove in wedges where needed, I saw to the punt-poles, and laid in supplies. The carriers brought oil in baskets, I poured pitch into the furnace and asphalt and oil; more oil was consumed in caulking, and more again the master of the boat took into his stores. I slaughtered bullocks for the people and every day I killed sheep. I gave the shipwrights wine to drink as though it were river water, raw wine and red wine and oil and white

wine. There was feasting then as there is at the time of the New Year's festival; I myself anointed my head. On the seventh day the boat was complete.

"Then was the launching full of difficulty; there was shifting of ballast above and below till two thirds was submerged. I loaded into her all that I had of gold and of living things, my family, my kin, the beast of the field both wild and tame, and all the craftsmen. I sent them on board, for the time that Shamash had ordained was already fulfilled when he said, "In the evening, when the rider of the storm sends down the destroying rain, enter the boat and batten her down." The time was fulfilled, the evening came, the rider of the storm sent down the rain. I looked out at the weather and it was terrible, so I too boarded the boat and battened her down. All was now complete, the battening and the caulking; so I handed the tiller to Puzur-Amurri the steersman, with the navigation and the care of the whole boat.

"With the first light of dawn a black cloud came from the horizon; it thundered within where Adad, lord of the storm was riding. In front over hill and plain Shullat and Hanish, heralds of the storm, led on. Then the gods of the abyss rose up; Nergal pulled out the dams of the nether waters, Ninurta the war-lord threw down the dykes, and the seven judges of hell, the Annunaki, raised their torches, lighting the land with their livid flame. A stupor of despair went up to heaven when the god of the storm turned daylight to darkness, when he smashed the land like a cup. One whole day the tempest raged, gathering fury as it went, it poured over the people like the tides of battle; a man could not see his brother nor the people be seen from heaven. Even the gods were terrified at the flood, they fled to the highest heaven, the firmament of Anu; they crouched against the walls, cowering like curs. Then Ishtar the sweet-voiced Queen of Heaven cried out like a woman in travail: "Alas the days of old are turned to dust because I commanded evil; why did I command this evil in the council of all the gods? I commanded wars to destroy the people, but are they not my people, for I brought them forth? Now like the spawn of fish they float in the ocean."

The great gods of heaven and of hell wept, they covered their mouths.

"For six days and six nights the winds blew, torrent and tempest and flood overwhelmed the world, tempest and flood raged together like warring hosts. When the seventh day dawned the storm from the south subsided, the sea grew calm, the flood was stilled; I looked at the face of the world and there was silence, all mankind was turned to clay. The surface of the sea stretched as flat as a roof-top; I opened a hatch and the light fell on my face. Then I bowed low, I sat down and I wept, the tears streamed down my face, for on every side was the waste of water. I looked for land in vain, but fourteen leagues distant there appeared a mountain, and there the boat grounded; on the mountain of Nisir the boat held fast, she held fast and did not budge. One day she held, and a second day on the mountain of Nisir she held fast and did not budge. A third day, and a fourth day she held fast on the mountain and did not

budge; a fifth day and a sixth day she held fast on the mountain. When the seventh day dawned I loosed a dove and let her go. She flew away, but finding no resting-place she returned. Then I loosed a swallow, and she flew away but finding no resting-place she returned. I loosed a raven, she saw that the waters had retreated, she ate, she flew around, she cawed, and she did not come back. Then I threw everything open to the four winds, I made a sacrifice and poured out a libation on the mountain top. Seven and again seven cauldrons I set up on their stands, I heaped up wood and cane and cedar and myrtle. When the gods smelled the sweet savour, they gathered like flies over the sacrifice. Then, at last, Ishtar also came, she lifted her necklace with the jewels of heaven that once Anu had

made to please her. "O you gods here present, by the lapis lazuli round my neck I shall remember these days as I remember the jewels of my throat; these last days I shall not forget. Let all the gods gather round the sacrifice, except Enlil. He shall not approach this offering, for without reflection he brought the flood; he consigned my people to destruction."

'When Enlil had come, when he saw the boat, he was wrath and swelled with anger at the gods, the host of heaven, "Has any of these mortals escaped? Not one was to have survived the destruction." Then the god of the wells and canals Ninurta opened his mouth and said to the warrior Enlil, "Who is there of the gods that can devise without Ea? It is Ea alone who knows all things." Then Ea opened his mouth and spoke to warrior Enlil, "Wisest of gods, hero Enlil, how could you so senselessly bring down the flood?"

*Lay upon the sinner his sin,
Lay upon the transgressor his transgression,
Punish him a little when he breaks loose,
Do not drive him too hard or he perishes;
Would that a lion had ravaged mankind
Rather than the flood,
Would that a wolf had ravaged mankind
Rather than the flood,
Would that famine had wasted the world
Rather than the flood,
Would that pestilence had wasted mankind
Rather than the flood.*

It was not I that revealed the secret of the gods; the wise man learned it in a dream. Now take your counsel what shall be done with him."

'Then Enlil went up into the boat, he took me by the hand and my wife and made us enter the boat and kneel down on either side, he standing between us. He touched our foreheads to bless us saying, "In time past Utnapishtim was a mortal man; henceforth he and his wife shall live in the distance at the mouth of the rivers." Thus it was that the gods took me and placed me here to live in the distance, at the mouth of the rivers.'