

DISCOVERING GOD

THROUGH THE BIBLE #16 - THE GENESIS ACCOUNT IN CHINA: CHINESE CHARACTERS

Chinese ideograms are the earliest form of Chinese writing and date *before* the time of Moses.

What is most fascinating is that in them we find a tantalizing story of creation, the temptation and fall of man into sin, and GOD's remedy for sin in animal sacrifices, pointing to the coming Savior, Jesus Christ. (Incidentally, this is also found in other cultures but to find it in China is especially fascinating)

All the elements of the Genesis narrative are found recorded, and still in use, in over 250 Chinese characters used today. For example:

The Chinese character to Covet or Desire = A woman, facing one tree, coveting the fruit, with her back to the other tree, conveying the idea of coveting or forbidden desire. (See Genesis 3:6)

The Chinese character that means no/not/do not = A serpent lying about a tree with negative consequences. (See Genesis 3:1-5)

The Chinese character that means to refrain from doing something = A mouth not eating fruit from a tree (forbidden fruit). (See Genesis 2:16-17)

The Chinese character that means trouble or difficulty = a tree within an enclosure (garden). (See Genesis 3:16-24)

The Chinese character that means righteousness = a hand & spear which means "me" then covered by a lamb = righteousness. (See Genesis 3:21) the sheep, like a garment covers me. But, "me" is composed of a hand and a lance (a weapon) which suggests that I am ultimately responsible for the death of the Lamb.

WHAT THIS MEANS

Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoism, are all specific to their culture however, the Chinese of antiquity worshipped the same GOD Christians do today. Ancestors of today's Chinese wandered off after false gods. The memory of their original GOD dimmed with time. That GOD of the Bible however, is found in the oldest Temple in China, to this day.

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