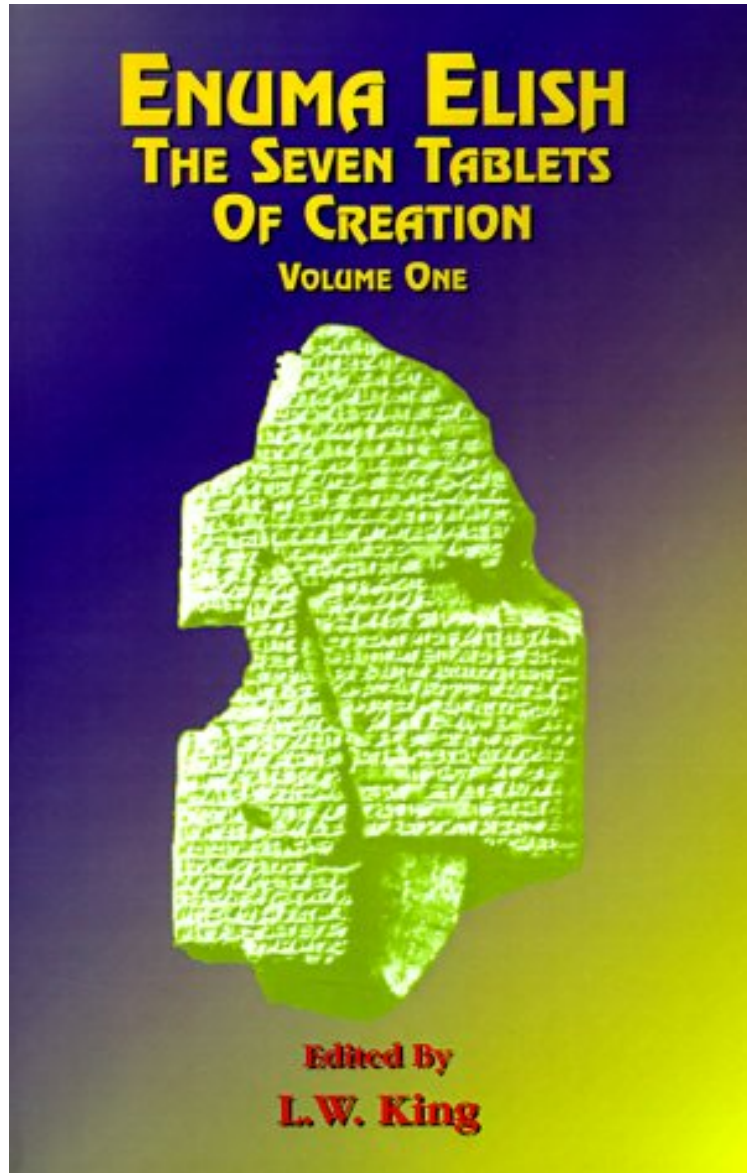


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before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Enuma Elish Vol 1: The Seven Tablets of Creation; The Babylonian and Assyrian Legends Concerning the Creation of the World and of Mankind*:

16 of 16 people found the following review helpful. outdated but might be helpful to some. By Christopher B. SirenOne might think, looking at the 1999 publishing date and the publisher's description that King's translation is among the most recent. If so, one will be sorely disappointed upon reading this book. This is a reprint of King's 1902 translation of the *Enuma Elish*, the Assyro-Babylonian creation myth. In the intervening years, additional copies of the text have been discovered, filling in most of the gaps found in King's translation and correcting his tentative translations of lines that in his day were only partially known. If you are looking for a more complete more updated translation, you'd be much better served with Stephanie Dalley's 1989 work, *Myths from Mesopotamia*, where you'd also get translations of several other Akkadian language myths. Further off-putting is the one page preface by Paul Tice, which spends more space endorsing the rather questionable theories of Zecharia Sitchin than it does addressing the contents of King's book. There are some useful features in this book though. More than half of the *Enuma Elish* that King worked with was complete and his translation is presented in parallel with a transliteration of the original Akkadian. There are included additional scholarly essays by King on varying subjects related to the creation story including parallels with Genesis. Some of these essays, are hampered by the lack of available knowledge at the time and for significant portions of them King must make speculations which are no longer justified. Ninety-eight years ago, this must have been one of the more thorough, cutting-edge works on the subject, but so much more has been learned in the mean-time, that I would only recommend this work to those who already have more recent translations of the *Enuma Elish*.

The Babylonian and Assyrian Legends Concerning the Creation of the World and of Mankind. The *Enuma Elish* is one of the oldest stories known to mankind. It is a story first written down by the ancient Sumerians thousands of years ago. As a one time assistant in the Department of Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities at the British Museum. L.W. King provides us with a qualified translation of the tables which were originally written in cuneiform script. The *Enuma Elish* is receiving renewed interest from modern researchers delving into the origins of mankind, the earth, and the solar system. Over the centuries a copy ended up in the library at Nineveh in the 7th century B.C., and was uncovered by archaeologists in the late 1800s. Written to cuneiform text and preserved on seven clay tables, the entire story was called "The Seven Tablets of Creation." After being translated the story revealed how the planets became aligned, how a cosmic catastrophe affected the earth, how mankind came upon the scene, and how the "gods" played a role in all of it. The Seven Tablets of Creation have had many profound implications since they were first discovered and subsequently published. They predate many parts of the Book of Genesis as well as other worldwide creation myths. Volume One includes this epic poem's English translation. It also includes information on parallels in Hebrew literature, the date and origin of the Babylonian creation legends, and more. Volume Two includes other accounts of creation, an Assyrian "Tower of Babel" story, and supplementary texts showing the actual cuneiform tablets.