

# Peer Review: The First Book of Enoch - The Oldest Book in History

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## Overview

This edition of *The First Book of Enoch* by The God Culture is a fully curated restoration that treats 1 Enoch not only as a preserved ancient text but as scripture, vetted by the Torah and affirmed throughout the Bible, Qumran, and early ecclesiastical writings. This work provides a fresh presentation of Enoch's writings alongside extensive marginal commentary, historical tracking, and deep theological affirmation-making it a standout contribution in restoring the oldest biblical text in recorded history.

## Purpose and Scope

Rather than offering a loose translation or isolated commentary, this volume tests 1 Enoch as a candidate for inspired scripture. The book's introduction executes a comprehensive Torah Test, rebutting claims of contradiction and dating errors, and effectively establishes authorship, textual integrity, and theological alignment. The authors also address the prophetic nature and messianic prophecy of the text, including the direct quotation of 1 Enoch in Jude 1:14.

## Strengths

- 1. Robust Torah Validation:** The introduction is scholarly and substantial, executing a multi-point Torah Test and dismissing modern claims that attempt to date 1 Enoch solely by a later manuscript copy. The authors show this is flawed logic and prove the book's own internal claims of pre-Flood authorship are aligned with biblical timelines and supported by external sources like the Book of Jubilees and Dead Sea Scrolls.
- 2. Restoration of Context and Continuity:** The authors trace the use and preservation of Enoch from its antediluvian origin through post-Flood reintroduction, Temple priest usage (sons of Zadok), New Testament citations, and beyond. Contrary to modern dismissals, they demonstrate its continuity through Ethiopian tradition and other historical streams, refuting the notion that Ethiopia stood alone in preserving the text.
- 3. Historical and Translation Integrity:** The choice to use R.H. Charles' English translation is well explained, and while the authors do not retranslate the base text, they heavily annotate problematic notes (especially those attempting to connect Enoch to the Talmud or occult sources). This curatorial approach increases

reader confidence while respecting the oldest available English rendering.

4. Doctrinal and Thematic Cohesion: The Book of Enoch is shown to align with Genesis, the Book of Jubilees, and New Testament doctrine. The identification of Enoch as the original scribe of scripture-pre-Torah-is thoroughly defended, and the classification of five books of Enoch as affirmed in Jubilees is presented with clarity and justification.

#### Areas for Future Enhancement

1. Comparative Textual Analysis: While the R.H. Charles translation is well-curated, future editions may benefit from direct engagement with Ge'ez and Aramaic manuscript variants. Even a brief discussion or chart of significant textual variations could reinforce confidence in the edition's accuracy.

2. Visual Timeline or Map: Given the deep historical tracking of Enoch's use across eras-from Noah to the Apostles to the Ethiopian canon-a visual timeline or flowchart might aid readers in grasping the long-preserved continuity of Enochic literature.

#### Conclusion and Recommendation

The First Book of Enoch: The Oldest Book in History is a deeply researched, theologically responsible, and much-needed restoration of a book neglected by modern canon but revered in ancient tradition. Through Torah-based validation, early church and Qumran affirmation, and systematic dismantling of modern propaganda against the book's authorship and value, the authors restore Enoch to its rightful place in biblical understanding.

#### Final Verdict:

Strong Accept - Highly Recommended as a scholarly and theological restoration of 1 Enoch. This volume should be included in biblical libraries, seminaries, Dead Sea Scroll studies, and any academic pursuit of pre-Torah scripture.