

## Introductory Discussion

1. Introduce yourself. How long have you been a part of BCN?
2. Do you consider yourself a “water person” (do you like swimming/the lake/the ocean)? Why or why not?
3. What about last week was the most interesting or surprising to you?

## Review

## The Sea

Timeline of Israel's history:

Exile



Sea=Primeval Chaos

**Marduk vs. Tiamat**

## **Ba'al vs. Yamm and Mot**

## **Leviathan & Rahab**

## Psalm 74: God the Warrior

*You, O God, are my king from ages past, bringing salvation to the earth.  
You split the sea by your strength and smashed the heads of the sea monsters.  
You crushed the heads of Leviathan and let the desert animals eat him.  
You caused the springs and streams to gush forth, and you dried up rivers that never  
run dry.  
Both day and night belong to you; you made the starlight and the sun.  
You set the boundaries of the earth, and you made both summer and winter.  
-- Psalm 74:12-17*

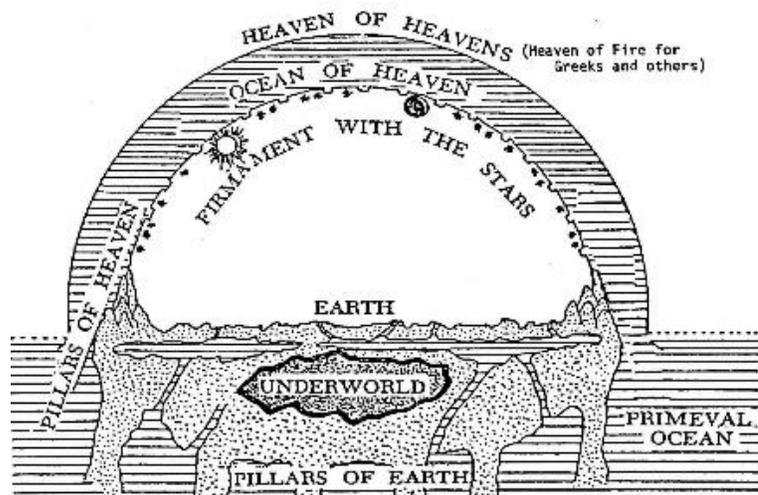
## Genesis: Creation and Uncreation

When God began to create the heavens and the earth, the earth was **formless and empty**, and darkness covered the **deep waters**. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. Then he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light “day” and the darkness “night.” And evening passed and morning came, marking the first day.

Then God said, “Let there be a space between the waters, to separate the waters of the heavens from the waters of the earth.” And that is what happened. God made this space to separate the waters of the earth from the waters of the heavens. God called the space “sky.” And evening passed and morning came, marking the second day.

Then God said, “Let the waters beneath the sky flow together into one place, so dry ground may appear.” And that is what happened. -- Genesis 1:1-9 (NLT)



*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... The flood continued forty days on the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the waters. The waters swelled so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered; the waters swelled above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. And all flesh died that moved on the earth.*  
-- Genesis 7:11, 17-21 (NRSV)

*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; the fountains of the deep and the windows of the heavens were closed, the rain from the heavens was restrained, and the waters gradually receded from the earth.* -- Genesis 8:1-3 (NRSV)

## Jesus and the Seas

### Calming the Storm

*As evening came, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's cross to the other side of the lake." So they took Jesus in the boat and started out, leaving the crowds behind (although other boats followed). But soon a fierce storm came up. High waves were breaking into the boat, and it began to fill with water.*

*Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat with his head on a cushion. The disciples woke him up, shouting, "Teacher, don't you care that we're going to drown?"*

*When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Silence! Be still!" Suddenly the wind stopped, and there was a great calm. Then he asked them, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?"*

*The disciples were absolutely terrified. "Who is this man?" they asked each other. "Even the wind and waves obey him!" -- Mark 4:35-41*

### Walking on Water

*Jesus insisted that his disciples get back into the boat and head across the lake to Bethsaida, while he sent the people home. After telling everyone good-bye, he went up into the hills by himself to pray.*

*Late that night, the disciples were in their boat in the middle of the lake, and Jesus was alone on land. He saw that they were in serious trouble, rowing hard and struggling against the wind and waves. About three o'clock in the morning Jesus came toward them, walking on the water. He intended to go past them, but when they saw him walking on the water, they cried out in terror, thinking he was a ghost. They were all terrified when they saw him.*

*But Jesus spoke to them at once. "Don't be afraid," he said. "Take courage! I am here!" Then he climbed into the boat, and the wind stopped. They were totally amazed, for they still didn't understand the significance of the miracle of the loaves. Their hearts were too hard to take it in. -- Mark 6:45-52*

## Next Week

### Homework

*Read each of the following passages. Read them a few times each if you can. For each of the passages, answer the questions.*

### Scriptures:

Exodus 14:21-31 (read all of chapter 14 for context if you want)

Exodus 15:1-18

Job 38:4-18

Psalm 29

### Questions:

1. What role does the Sea play in this passage?
2. How is God described? What images and metaphors are used?
3. How does God interact with the Sea?
4. What is surprising or noteworthy in this passage? What sticks out?