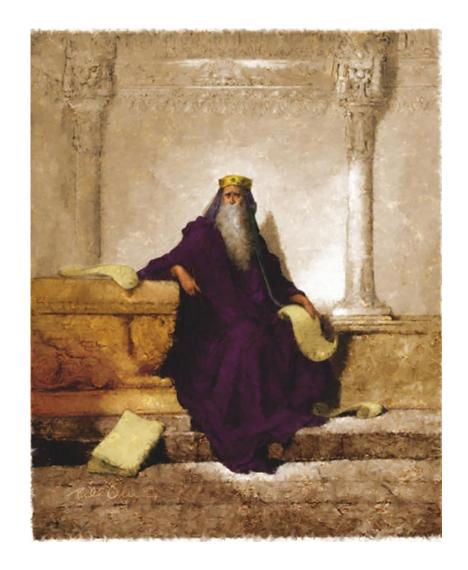
The Intertestamental Period



An Open Seminar Sheldon Greaves, Ph.D. Denise Greaves, Ph.D.

The Wisdom of Solomon



Sophia and the Logos

- Present at Creation
- Accomplished the Creation
- Intimately associated with God
- Spoken of as separate entities



Philo's Logos

"Whereas the voice of mortals is judged by hearing, the sacred oracles intimate that the words of God are seen as light is seen, for we are told that all of the people saw the Voice [Exo. 20:18], not that 6they heard it; for what was happening was not an impact of air made by the organs of mouth and tongue, but the radiating splendor of virtue indistinguishable from a fountain of reason... But the voice of God which is not that of verbs and names yet seen by the eye of the soul, he [Moses] rightly introduces as "visible."" (Migr. 47-48)

Memra of the Targums

- Creates, specifically the light of creations
- Speaks to humans; "And the voice of the Memra called out to them..."
- Reveals the Divine Self to humans
- Saves; the Memra of God led the Children of Israel in a pillar of cloud
- Redeems; "When the Memra of God shall be revealed to redeem his people" Deut. 32:39



The "Two Powers in Heaven" Heresy

- The idea of a second divine presence, apart from God
- Pre-dates Christianity
- Jewish in origin, not derived from Zoroastrian dualism
- Possible throwback to ancient popular Israelite religion
- Heresy was part of the Jewish rejection of Christianity
- Grew out of a Jewish sense of helplessness

