

The Hidden Wilderness and Paul

by Noel Joshua Hadley 1/27/2023

UNCOVERING ancient texts which describe the hidden wilderness isn't exactly easy. It's not like I can go to my local library and thumb through books on the subject in the catalogue cards. Globe earth has done its work on our post mud-flood consciousness, *clearly*, as very few if anyone seems remotely interested in pursuing this subject. Such a shame. Supposing my thesis *is* true, then I am of the opinion that the ancients wrote about it. Even if its whereabouts is only hinted at in a passing line or two. *Found one*. As I was saying, that wasn't easy. In our modern world, the process involves random keyword searches which lead to web pages linking me to other web pages, which in turn link to other pages, and then another page, and so on and so on. You never really know what you will discover and where. There's a reason why they put an "x" marks the spot in the unexpected, and I never anticipated the hidden wilderness topic would be a text attributed to **Pa'al**. Go figure.

The writer of 13 epistles in canonical Scripture, *that* Pa'al. Remember those words which were not lawful to speak? He wrote about a man he knew in Mashiach some fourteen years earlier who had made the trip to the third heaven. The claim comes from 2 Corinthians.

³ I knew a man in Mashiach above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: Elohiym knows;) such an one caught up to the third heaven. ⁴ How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

Qorintiym Sheniy (2 Corinthians) 12:3-4

The man he knew some fourteen years earlier was none other than himself. Pa'al was the person who visited the third heaven, and everybody knows it. Why do you have to be so secretive, Pa'al? Many suppose the incident in question happened in Acts 22:17-18, the occasion when he fell into a trance at the Temple in Yerushalayim. I don't though. It's why I'm not going to quote from it. I will make you do that on your own. If I had to put my finger on any one timeframe, then Pa'al's three year pilgrimage to Mount Sinai would make for a good contender. That's something else you will have to seek out on your own. I'm trying to advance through this with as few distractions as possible.

The book we now know as 'Visions of Pa'al' was apparently discovered while **Theodosius Augustus the Younger** was Emperor of Constantinople, the eastern wing of the Roman Empire. We are told in the opening lines that an angel appeared to a certain **Cynegius**, a nobleman then living in Tarsus, and in the very house which was had once been occupied by Pa'al no less, instructing him to pry open the floorboards and publish what he found there. I totally recommend that you read <u>Visions of Paul</u> for yourself. That is a link in case you were wondering. I have taken the time to edit my very own copy, and so, seeing as how this is the show and tell hour, it is being shared for my reading audience. And now, for the part about the hidden wilderness.

21 And the angel answered and said to me, Whatever I now show thee here, and whatever thou shalt hear, tell it not to anyone in the earth. And he led me and shewed me: and there I heard words which it is not lawful for a man to speak. And again, he said, For now follow me, and I

will shew thee what thou ought to narrate in public and relate.

And he took me down from the third heaven, and led me into the second heaven, and again he led me on to the firmament and from the firmament he led me over the doors of heaven: the beginning of its foundation was on the river which waters all the earth. And I asked the angel and said, Adonai, what is this river of water? and he said to me, This is Oceanus! And suddenly I went out of heaven, and I understood that it is the light of heaven which lightens all the earth. For the land there is seven times brighter than silver.

The Visions of Pa'al: 21









I will ask you to *pause* so as to appreciate precisely what is being described for us here. Firstly, we see the part where Pa'al is instructed on what is unlawful to speak in Paradise. That doesn't even happen until the twenty-first chapter. But then look at what happens immediately afterwards. He leaves the third heaven, continues on through the second heaven, passes through the firmament *via* a doorway, and arrives to its foundation upon the outer extremity of the earth.

The general suggestion has a circular ice wall surrounding the oceans of the flat, motionless plane, but I am reminded of the ending to "The Truman Show". The oceans simply pan out in all directions until they meet their barrier, which is the firmament. That's what happened to the Truman character at the end of the film. He set sail hoping to discover the greater realm but then thumped right into a matte painting of the horizon, thereby discovering that he had been in a movie studio all along. It wasn't a snow wall. No, there was quite literally a staircase and a doorway leading into the world beyond. That is the picture given to us in The Truman Show and it sure does seem as though Pa'al is describing it in like manner.

And I proceeded with the angel, and he carried me by the setting of the sun, and I saw the beginning of heaven rounded on a great river of water, and I asked: What is this river of water? And he said to me: This is Ocean which surrounds all the Earth. And when I was at the outer limit of Ocean I looked, and there was no light in that place, but darkness and sorrow and sadness: and I sighed.

The Vision of Paul: 31

You have to jump ahead by an entire ten chapters to learn that Pa'al describes the outer extremities of the earth in two ways, depending upon where he is standing at the moment. We have already seen a landscape lit up seven times brighter than silver. The Ocean still surrounds the earth here but now there is only darkness. Pa'al describes it as the region beyond the setting of the sun. I think that's his way the sun has no circuit here. In both instances, the sun is nowhere to be found, which furthermore tells us that the first location would be cast into the same icy gloom if it were not for the light of heaven.

One thing that seems certain in all of this, you can't say Hyperborea is being described in Pa'al's journey to the earth's uttermost extremities. Unless we have the location of Hyperborea totally wrong. The firmament doesn't touch down in the center of the earth. We are dealing with a land so far removed from the course of the sun and moon that no natural light as prescribed by a post Newtonian world can be found there. Pa'al should have been entombed in the darkness, and in fact he was on one occasion. *Continuing*.

And I said, Adonai, what is this place? And he said to me, This is the land of promise. Hast thou never heard what is written: Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the

earth? The ruachoth therefore of the just, when they have gone out of the body, are meanwhile dismissed to this place. And I said to the angel, Then this land will be manifested before the time? The angel answered and said to me, When Ha'Mashiach, whom thou preach, shall come to reign, then, by the sentence of Elohiym, the first earth will be dissolved and this land of promise will then be revealed, and it will be like dew or cloud, and then Adonai Yahusha Ha'Mashiach, the King Eternal, will be manifested and will come with all his saints to dwell in it, and he will reign over them a thousand years, and they will eat of the good things which I shall now show unto thee.

The Visions of Pa'al 21

And there it is. The hidden wilderness we've all been seeking. Read it and weep. The land was disclosed in Pa'al's time but then we see how it would be *revealed* and *manifested* when Yahusha Ha'Mashiach arrived with the setapart. The span of his rule is even given. A thousand years. My critics always neglect that part. They're like: "Nuh-uh, no way, man. Messiah's kingdom is forever, you're so wrong, teach the Bible for once," neglecting the thousand-year measurement. The thousand years is important because something else happens afterwards and hardly anyone cares to admit that the deception has done a work on them.

Somebody is bound to tell me that Yahusha said the meek would inherit the earth and that it wouldn't have been written in a gospel yet, thereby disproving this text. Psalms 37:11. Go read it and then get back to me. Yahusha wasn't the first one to claim it. Also, the part about the earth being dissolved has to do with the fire judgement. Melted cities and all that. What seems evident in all of this is that the countries of the world would be ruled afterwards from the land of promise, which is the same thing as saying the hidden wilderness. The picture seems to get clearer and clearer with every discovery. Yahusha the king and Messiah never went anywhere. If anything, our Controllers built a wall around him. You will see more of what I mean as we *continue*.

22 And I looked around upon that land and I saw a river flowing of milk and honey, and there were trees planted by the bank of that river, full of fruit: moreover each single tree bore twelve fruits in the year, having various and diverse fruits: and I saw the created things which are in that place and all the work of Elohiym, and I saw there palms of twenty cubits, but others of ten cubits: and that land was seven times brighter than silver. And there were trees full of fruits from the roots to the highest branches, of ten thousand fruits of palms upon ten thousand fruits. The grapevines moreover had ten thousand plants. Moreover, in the single vines there were ten thousand thousand bunches and in each of these a thousand single grapes: moreover, these single trees bore a thousand fruits.

The Visions of Pa'al: 22

Mind blown. speak for myself on that one. Perhaps yours is about to be though. Get ready because you never really know. It's the *way* in which the grapevines are described. Read it again. There are ten thousand-thousand bunches in a single vine and in each of these another thousand single grapes. That is a defining character element of the coming but it is *also* one of Yahusha's quotes, you just won't find it any of the gospels. I've been meaning to talk about his grapes quip for quite some time now, and so, *here* it is.

As the elders who saw Yochanon the disciple of Adonai remembered that they had heard from him how Adonai taught in regard to those times, and said: The days will come in which vines shall grow, having each ten thousand branches, and in each branch ten thousand twigs, and in each true twig ten thousand shoots, and in every one of the shoots ten thousand clusters, and on every one of the clusters ten thousand grapes, and every grape when pressed will give five-and-twenty metretes of wine. And when any one of the godeshiym shall lay hold of a cluster, another shall cry out, 'I am a better cluster, take me; bless Adonai through me.' In like manner, He said that a grain of wheat would produce ten thousand ears, and that every ear would have ten thousand grains, and every grain would yield ten pounds of clear, pure, fine flour; and that apples and seeds and grass would produce in similar proportions; and that all animals, feeding then only on the productions of the earth, would

become peaceable and harmonious, and be in perfect subjection to man.

Fragments of Papias: 4

See what I mean? Yahusha *did* happen to say the same thing as what Pa'al observed in 'Visions'. You might be wondering who this **Papias** person was and how he ended up with original Yahusha quotes in his pocket. It probably has something to do with the fact that he wrote the Besorah of Yochanon. Yes, you heard me the first time. I said it and I'm not taking it back. The person responsible for penning Yochanon was somebody by the name of Papias. *Oh*, stop it. Don't get your knickers in a twist over this one. It was perfectly acceptable for authors to dictate their books or letters to a scribe. Even Pa'al was guilty of it. Marqus was the name of Kepha's handyman. Papias just so happened to be one of those people holding the pen.

Yes, that is his name. Papias. Claims such as this one by Messiah didn't make it past the cutting room floor. No biggie though because Papias wrote the first ever commentaries upon Yochanon and Revelation, packed with original material. Then again, if his name is not familiar to you, it's probably because Papias was such an embarrassment to the church fathers that his work was scrubbed. Only snippets such as the one I have shown has survived. *Bummer*. His original critics all claim his association with Yochanon though. You'd think any words purportedly spoken by Messiah would be carefully guarded by his followers, but the overriding issue from what I have found almost entirely relies upon Papias' insistence that Yochanon as well as Yahusha advocated a coming Messianic kingdom upon the earth, a physical one rather than simply spiritual, and it wasn't Rome. Our Controllers couldn't have that. All things considered, it's amazing that we even have the Scripture we do.

Another element of the coming kingdom which Yahusha spoke about in the Papias quip were the peaceable animals. That's obviously a reflection upon the lion and the lamb passage in Yesha'yahu. Seeing as how Pa'al connected the grape clusters with the hidden wilderness, I'm thinking we consider the same approach with the prophet's prophecy.

⁶ The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.
⁷ And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones

shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸ And the suckling child shall play on the hole of asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. ⁹ They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of YAHAUAHA, as the waters cover the sea.

Yesha'yahu (Isaiah) 11:6-9

What I have just quoted from is probably the most recognized character trait of Messiah's kingdom. Oddly enough, I have yet to comment upon it. Just the other day I was taking a walk around the neighborhood wondering why, but now I know. It was being set aside for this very moment. Keep reading to the end. It doesn't say the lion and the lamb won't destroy each other anywhere in the world. It doesn't say an asp won't bite a child anywhere in the world either. No, the context is YAHAUAHA's holy mountain. The lion and the lamb will not hurt nor destroy each other in one specific location. Also, I am well aware that it says wolf rather than lion but I cannot bring myself to say it. I remember exactly what it used to say, reading from the passage and then quoting from it often. Chalk this one up to the Mandela Effect.



When the lion lies down with the lamb and shalom reigns over all there shall be found the Kingdom of Heaven.

The Book of Britain

Well, that's more like it. Here is another Yahusha quote, though it derives from the rarely read 'Book of Britain', and what have we learned? That the wolf lion would lie down with the lamb. I am often told I'm misquoting Yesha'yahu and that my memory is bad, but it must come from Top Brass because Yahusha made the same slip up. We're all misquoting the Yesha'yahu passage because of 'The Book of Britain', apparently. That must be it. Artists and pastors as well as Bible students all over the world were reading from 'The Book of Britain' all along and getting their wires crossed, LOL. A raise of hands. How many of you have even heard of 'The Book of Britain' before, let alone those of you who have afforded the time to read it? Exactly. I'll gladly take the residue wherever I find it.

The holy mountain being described isn't in modern day Israel. The Yahudim as well as Yashar'el were divorced from the land. If you've read Revelation all the way through, then you know YAHAUAHA was done with it as well. The city became a haunt for demons and devils. The Joos who live in it today are free to do so, I *suppose*, mostly because they are not the Yahudim of old. The Zionists and their supporters will have to keep waiting around for nothing to happen though, because the Yesha'yahu scene takes place elsewhere in the *hidden* wilderness. It is from there, once revealed and manifested for the entire world, that the knowledge of YAHAUAHA would be spread all throughout the earth. I especially like the added description, how those teachings would be spread about as "the waters cover the sea," mainly because the land was described for us in the exact same relationship with the oceans of the world in 'The Vision of Pa'al.' Speaking of which, I am nearly neglecting Pa'al's visit to the hidden kingdom. He has much more to say on the matter. *Continuing*.

And I said to the angel, Why does each tree bear a thousand fruits? The angel answered and said unto me, Because YAHAUAHA Elohiym gives an abounding flood of gifts to the worthy, because they also of their own will afflicted themselves when they were placed in the world doing all things on account of his holy name. And again, I said to the angel, Sir, are these the only promises which the Most Holy Elohiym makes? And he answered and said to me: No! there are seven times greater than these. But I say unto thee that when the just go out of the body they shall see the promises and the good things which Elohiym has prepared for them. Till then, they shall sigh, and

lament saying: Have we emitted any word from our mouth to vex our neighbor even on one day? I asked and said again: Are these alone the promises of Elohiym? And the angel answered and said unto me: These whom you now see are the ruachoth of the married and those who kept the chastity of their nuptials, containing themselves. But to the virgins and those who hunger and thirst after righteousness and those who afflicted themselves for the sake of the name of Elohiym, Elohiym will give seven times greater than these, which I shall now show thee.

The Visions of Pa'al: 22

The hyper grace people with a communist view of heaven will not be pleased with passages such as this one. Some of them still read my work at a cautious distance though most have moved on. I am only trying to get ahead of the rebuttals, and I can already see them opposed to the idea that souls of the righteous are presented with a rewards system based upon their works of the Torah. 'Visions of Pa'al' has the idea that the least in the kingdom will inhabit the hidden wilderness. *Correction*, all ranks of kingdom citizens will inhabit the City of Messiah, as we shall see, but not everyone will be allowed everywhere. And certainly, not everyone will be allowed into the City of Messiah unless they are first purified. Papias is one of the few other individuals more obsessed with the Millennial Kingdom than I am and here is what he had to say regarding the multiply system.

As the presbyters say, then those who are deemed worthy of an abode in heaven shall go there, others shall enjoy the delights of Paradise, and others shall possess the splendor of the city; for everywhere the Savior will be seen, according as they shall be worthy who see Him. But that there is this distinction between the habitation of those who produce an hundred-fold, and that of those who produce sixty-fold, and that of those who produce thirty-fold; for the first will be taken up into the heavens, the second class will dwell in Paradise, and the last will inhabit the city; and that on this account Adonai said, In my Father's house are many mansions: (Yochanon 14:2) for all things belong to Elohiym, who supplies all with a suitable dwelling-place, even as His

word says, that a share is given to all by the Father, according as each one is or shall be worthy. And this is the couch (Mattithyahu 22:10) in which they shall recline who feast, being invited to the wedding. The presbyters, the disciples of the apostles, say that this is the gradation and arrangement of those who are saved, and that they advance through steps of this nature; and that, moreover, they ascend through the Ruach to the Son, and through the Son to the Father; and that in due time the Son will yield up His work to the Father, even as it is said by the apostle, For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. (1 Corinthians 15:25-26) For in the times of the kingdom the just man who is on the earth shall forget to die. But when He says all things are put under Him, it is manifest that He is excepted which did put all things under Him. And when all things shall be subdued unto Him, then shall the Son also Himself be subject unto Him that put all things under Him, that Elohiym may be all in all. (1 Corinthians 15:27-28)

Fragments of Papias: 5

When mentioning earlier how Papias had written down the Gospel which bares Yochanon's name, I had failed to mention that he was a friend and contemporary of Polycarp. Polycarp of course was a disciple of Yochanon, but then Papias obsessively tracked down the other known disciples of the Twelve so as to interview them. What we learn in all of this is that there was a consistent view across the board regarding eternal rewards, dependent of course on how set-apart one truly was in their lifetime. Those who with the best tasting fruit would have access to the highest of heavens. Those who win the second-place silver are allowed to dwell in Paradise. And then there are those who cross the finish line. They will in the very least inhabit the city. Which city are we talking about, New Yerushalayim or the City of Messiah? Both is my best guess, seeing as how the smaller Yerushalayim is intended as an earthly reflection of the City above. Again, and this all guesswork, I am under the impression that the kings and priests of the Millennial Kingdom, those who were chosen to rule over men upon the earth, had achieved the highest ranking. In the very least, Pa'al wasn't joking when he compared our spiritual journey to a race.

²⁴ Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receives the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. ²⁵ And every man that strives for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we incorruptible.

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

What is the point in even running a race if participation prizes are handed out equally to everyone afterwards? That can't be, seeing as how Pa'al has already explained that not everyone who runs receives the prize. Why use the analogy to begin with if nothing about the running of a race lines up with our spiritual reality? Pa'al might as well have said *nap* instead. He furthermore describes the man who strives, and he is a master of temperance in all things. You will tell me you're not really into heavy crowns or fancy clothing anyways. How about running to receive an allaccess pass then rather than general admission? And then there are passages such as this one.

¹³ Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. ¹⁴ If any man's work abides which he has built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. ¹⁵ If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

Qorintiym Ri'shon (1 Corinthians) 5:13-15

How about running the race in such a manner so that all of your works aren't burnt up in the fire? Even in Pa'al's thinking, the works of an unfruitful soul will be burned in the end. Thus, another hyper-grace myth is tossed into the coffin. Eternity will be inhabited by the set-apart who manage unfathomable wealth, but also by those who only arrive with a garment to show for their efforts. Every other work on the earth has been burned in the fire. What sort of goals have you set for your retirement?

Just so you know, that is all I can find on the hidden wilderness in 'The Visions of Pa'al.' It was short and brief but educational all the same and totally worth it in every regard. We learned something. Though I am not through with the lecture quite yet. There are 51 chapters to the book in total, and so, you can see there is plenty of content on either side of this spectacular find. Pa'al is shown any number of locations, including

Paradise and She'ol. Those are dishes best served however with another cosmological supper, particularly since they're not what you signed up for. The only problem with ending the discourse here is that somebody is bound to pick up 'Visons' for himself and read what follows immediately afterwards. It is nothing scandalous, though it may very well be deemed as fuel for argument by my detractors. I have nothing to hide, and so, an explanation is probably in order. Reading further.

And then he took me up from that place where I saw these things and behold, a river, and its waters were greatly whiter than milk, and I said to the angel, What is this? And he said to me: This is the Acherousian Lake where is the City of Messiah, but not every man is permitted to enter that city; for this is the journey which leads to Elohiym, and if anyone is a fornicator and impious, and is converted and shall repent and do fruits worthy of repentance, at first indeed when he shall have gone out of the body, he is led and adores Elohiym, and thence by command of YAHAUAHA he is delivered to the angel Miyka'el and he baptizes him in the Acherousian Lake, thus he leads them into the City of Messiah alongside of those who have never sinned. But I wondered and blessed YAHAUAHA Elohiym for all the things which I saw.

The Visions of Pa'al: 22

I was as shocked and pleased as some of you to read about this so-called City of Messiah immediately proceeding the hidden wilderness discussion. 'Visions of Pa'al' is packed with all sorts of surprises. On that note, I probably wasn't even able to finish reading the twenty-second chapter before my critics started off on their victory parade, seeing as how New Yerushalayim has just made an appearance. Yes, this is New Yerushalayim being described and there is no reason to fight it. Calling it the City of Messiah creates further connotations from what was previously described regarding the thousand years. Regardless, I have already shown how there are two Yerushalayim's during the Millennial Kingdom, one in heaven and another on earth. The confusion is understood. The *earthly* city as well as its Temple complex was expected to be built after Messiah arrived, and with the exclusive purpose of being a smaller representation of New Yerushalayim in the third heaven, yet still impressive in scope.

The number one argument put forward by the detractors is that New Yerushalayim comes down at the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom rather than afterwards. I feel as though I have shown the error in this line of thought, but assuming that is the case, the Millennial Kingdom hadn't even begun yet when Pa'al visited the lost continent. If the City of Messiah is New Yerushalayim and it had already arrived, then nobody else saw it descend nor did they receive the memo. That would make us both wrong in this argument. New Yerushalayim has been here upon the earth all along, apparently, and that can't very well be right. There must be something else going on then. Even if Pa'al is saying New Yerushalayim descends to the earth at the beginning of the Reign rather than afterwards (though let's be clear, he never once mentions it descending at any given moment), it doesn't matter either way, as the Wilderness with its city was hidden from the people in Pa'al's day and it is still hidden from us today. New Yerushalayim could very well be on the earth at present, tucked away in the hidden wilderness, though I say that isn't the case.

It's why we must recall that Pa'al was only given a vision. Notice the transition in the text. "And then he took me up from that place where I saw these things and behold…" It's the same thing as saying: "after these things." He was taken to the hidden wilderness and told it would be known during the Thousand Years and then shown another event of importance afterwards. One might even imagine the angel carried Pa'al to a completely different location in the earth or the cosmos, which has been the trend anyways, and I am bound to think this way. The Acherousian Lake is our clue.

The Acherusia is a body of water familiar to Greek mythology, connecting the Earth to the underworld. Such associations will immediately discount 'Visions of Pa'al' as something pagan in the minds of many. Try not to forget then that Tartarus springs up in 2 Peter. Was it original to the text? Was either of the two names original to their parent text? I haven't the faintest clue. My KJV is a serial abuser of the pagan *hell* word and I know for certain somebody swapped that out with She'ol. Doesn't make the Bible pagan. The Acherusia Lake is mentioned in many texts, including First A'dam and Eve and Revelation. In those other instances it is referred to as a sea of glass. Otherwise, it is only mentioned by name in a scarce few, and *here* is one of them.

¹ As Sheth was telling that to Cha'uaha, at once a great angel blew the trumpet and all the angels who were

prostrated on their faces stood up again. They besought A'dam and cried out in a loud voice, and said, ² "Blessed is Elohiym, by all blessing. You pardoned the protoplast."

³ And when the angels had said these words, one of the six-winged Seraphs was sent towards him. He took A'dam to the **lake of Acheron**, ⁴ and he **dipped him in it three times**. Then he led him back before Elohiym and A'dam remained prostrate on his face for three hours. And after that, Elohiym stretched out his hand from his Throne, raised A'dam up and gave him to **Mikha'el**, and he told him, ⁵ "Take him to the third heaven, to paradise, and set him before the altar until the day of the "oikonomia" which I contemplate concerning all the fleshly (beings) with my well-beloved Son."

The Book of A'dam

There it is again. The Acherousian Lake. And what do we see is happening? The *same* thing as what is being recorded in 'Visions of Pa'al,' only A'dam is the dead soul being referred to on the first go-around. By the command of YAHAUAHA, the righteous soul is delivered to the angel Miyka'el and baptized in the said location before he can be led into the City of Messiah. Mikha'el is a busy fellow. Let's not get distracted though. Acheron parts ways with the Greek Bards in that the Lake or the River or the Sea as it is also known is situated just outside of Yerushalayim in heaven. I am putting all options on the table. One of them involves a literal Lake in the furthest extremities of the Earth that one must cross before ascending upwards through the firmament to heaven. That very well may be the case now that I think further upon it. Nearly ever account regarding the land of promise involves an uncrossable river and this very well maybe it.