

Chapter 1:

The Language of Words

Words are an extremely vital part of human communication or what we call language. The origin of language and its evolutionary emergence in the human species has been a subject of speculation for centuries. The topic has been deemed difficult to study because of the lack of direct evidence. But is there really a lack of evidence?

The Quran 55:3-4 (The Book of the Muslims)

“Allah created humanity, and taught them speech.”

The same sentiments are reiterated in Jewish legends:

The Legends of the Jews 1:4:103 (The Book of the Jews)

To every nation a peculiar language was assigned, Hebrew being reserved for Israel—the language made use of by God at the creation of the world.

In the Old Testament of the Hebrew Bible, the Tower of Babel narrative provides another clear origin myth, explaining why the world’s people speak different languages. According to the story, a united nation of people following the Great Flood, speaking a single language and migrating westward, came to the land of Shinar in ancient Babylon. There, they attempted to build a tower so high that it would reach the heavens and put them on a par with God.

But God intervened. He disrupted the construction of the tower by confusing the people’s language so that they could not understand each other. He then dispersed them across the entire Earth.

Genesis 11:1-9 (The Book of the Hebrews)

Now the whole Earth had one language and the same words. And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. And they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly.” And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar.

Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a City and a Tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole Earth.”

And The Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. And The Lord said, “Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another’s speech.”

So, The Lord dispersed them from there over the face of all the Earth, and they left off building the city. Therefore, its name was called Babel, because there The Lord

confused the language of all the Earth. And from there The Lord dispersed them over the face of all the Earth.

This passage serves as the origin of the word babel and marks the end of the Adamic language—the language God primarily used to address Adam in the Garden of Eden. Babel here should not be confused with the word babble. The two words are a classic example of what is known as homophones, words that sound alike, but have different meanings. For examples: weak and week, compliment and complement, there, their, and they're.

Let's use a standard dictionary to define babel and babble:

babel (noun): a confused noise made by a number of voices. (*"the babel of voices on the road"*)

In short, the word babel is a synonym for the word clamor.

babble (verb): to talk rapidly and continuously in a foolish, excited, or incomprehensible way. (*"they babbled on about their vacation"*)

babble (noun): artificial cooing sounds uttered by an infant or toddler who does not yet produce recognizable words. (*"I could not understand the baby's babble"*)

The language of words can be tricky and confusing. Another unique property of words is the palindrome—a word or phrase that reads the same forward and backward. Examples include words like deified, radar, and names like Hannah or Bob. Phrases such as “never odd or even” and “Do geese see God?” are palindromes when you ignore capitalization, punctuation, and spaces.

Some words in the English language remain identical in both singular and plural forms, such as: fish, deer, and species.

This complexity contributes to how words, in any language, can be arranged in ways that reveal a great deal—and yet say absolutely nothing. It also creates opportunities for phrases to be taken out of context, manipulated, or misunderstood.

Adding to the confusion, many words are ambiguous—that is to say, they have multiple meanings. So, in short, words and language are not foolproof. A prime example of an ambiguous word is the word incredible. Let's define it.

incredible (adjective): impossible to believe. (*"an incredible tale of triumph and tragedy"*)

incredible (adjective): amazingly good or beautiful; extraordinary. (*"I was mesmerized by how incredible she looked"*)

The first definition of incredible means “not credible” or “unbelievable.” Yet, over time, its usage has softened to mean “amazing or “extraordinary,” which can lead to misinterpretation.

For example:

The story of my best friend, Jonah killing an anaconda with his bare hands, is incredible.

You may think this sentence is praising Jonah’s feat as amazing. However, I, as the writer, actually mean that the story is a heap of unbelievable nonsense.

This brings us to an essential point: words in Sacred Scripture are not foolproof. The Holy Bible is not only riddled with double-meaning words and phrases, but also antiquated words and phrases—words and phrases whose meanings have changed.

As we start dissecting and discerning the true meanings of some of the more bewildering and disguised words throughout this holy Jewish Book, ambiguous words like: God, man, church and world, you will see that without reinforcement from the Arabic Quran, the Hebrew Bible is rendered indecipherable.

Nothing has been lost in translation, as many seem to believe. If anything, a wealth of edifying information has been successfully camouflaged to go over the heads of even the most critical scholars and readers.

The Quran 2:79 (The Book of the Muslims)

“Woe to those who distort the Scripture with their own hand then say, ‘This is from God—seeking a fleeting gain! So, woe to them for what their hands have written, and woe to them for what they have earned.”

Romans 16:17 (The Book of the Christians)

“Watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them.”

The original meanings are all there, hidden in plain sight. With a little divine intervention, I have been enlightened to strip away the deception and unveil the barebones truth for you. I will do so by integrating imperative and substantiating passages from the Quran, rejected apocrypha and pseudepigrapha, and old Jewish legends.

The Quran 10:37-40 (The Book of the Muslims)

“It is not possible for this Quran to have been produced by anyone other than Allah. In fact, it is a confirmation of what came before, and an explanation of the Scripture. It is, without a doubt, from The Lord of all worlds. Or do they claim, ‘He made it up!’? Tell them O Prophet [i.e., the Mahdī], ‘Produce one sūrah [i.e., a chapter] like it then, and seek help from whoever you can—other than Allah—if what you say is true!’ In fact, they hastily rejected the Book [i.e., the Quran] without comprehending it and before the fulfilment of its warnings. Similarly, those before them were in denial. See then what was the end of the wrongdoers! Some of them will eventually believe in it; others will not. And your Lord knows best the corruptors.”

Before we proceed, there is one extremely important word that is used loosely in our culture today. Its true context has been so badly misconstrued that it plays a huge role in the grand scheme of deception. That word is myth.

I want you to pause for a moment and consider what the word myth means to you personally. How do you define it? Once you come up with your definition, let’s compare it with the actual dictionary definition.

Ready? Let’s proceed.

myth (noun): a traditional story, especially one concerning the early history of a people or explaining some natural or social phenomenon, and typically involving supernatural beings or events. (“*the heroes of Greek myth*”)

myth (noun): a widely held but false belief or idea. (“*It’s a commonly believed myth that Santa Claus brings gifts to good children*”)

Do you notice how different these two definitions are? Depending on your generation, your understanding of the word myth likely leans toward the second definition—a false belief or idea. This distorted understanding has been ingrained over time.

The first definition reveals something far more significant. A myth is described as a traditional story that often contains supernatural elements and serves to explain history or phenomena. The supernatural aspects of these stories are not inherently false; otherwise, they would fall under the second definition.

Where in the world has this definition been hiding?!

I’m going to interpret this definition in my own words to share how I understand the meaning of myth. The definition of a myth, in this sense, is a time-honored story about people, places, and/or events—often containing supernatural elements associated with it.

The Legends of the Jews 1:2:29 (The Book of the Jews)

Like all creatures formed on the six days of creation, Adam came from the hands of the Creator fully and completely developed. He was not a child, but like a man of twenty years of age.

Take note that nowhere in the definitions, mine or the formal one listed above, does the word imply something fabricated, false, or bogus. Yet this false perception of myth has been carefully cultivated over time. This is where the pill starts getting harder to swallow, and the deception slowly begins to unfold. So, brace yourself. Let’s just check out the dictionary definition for the word extraterrestrial.

extraterrestrial (noun): a hypothetical or fictional being from outer space, especially an intelligent one.

Notice how the word hypothetical and fictional appear in the definition. The dictionary folks know better than anyone on this planet the importance of proper word selection and usage. Words have power, and their manipulation can either enlighten or deceive. Your intuition and moral compass are designed to warn you when you’re being fed lies and deception. So, use them!

To further clarify, let’s examine the word legend, as it often overlaps with the concept of myth.

legend (noun): a traditional story sometimes popularly regarded as historical but unauthenticated. (“*the legend of King Arthur*”)

legend (noun): an extremely famous or notorious person, especially in a particular field. (“*Martin Luther King, Jr., is a civil rights legend*”)

Again, depending on your generation, your understanding of the word legend likely leans toward the second definition—a famous or notorious person.

From the first definition, one word stands out: unauthenticated. While it implies something unproven, it does not mean untrue. A legend, then, is a time-honored story believed to be true by many but lacking concrete validation.

Legend has it, that King Solomon had a flying magic carpet.

The Legends of the Jews 4:5:116 (The Book of the Jews)

Solomon had a precious piece of tapestry, sixty miles square, on which he flew through the air so swiftly that he could eat breakfast in Damascus [i.e., Syria] and supper in Media [i.e., Iran]. To carry out his orders he had at his beck and call Asaph ben Berechiah among men, Ramirat among demons, the lion among beasts, and the eagle among birds. Once it happened that pride possessed Solomon while he was sailing through the air on his carpet, and he said: "There is no one like me in the world, upon whom God has bestowed sagacity, wisdom, intelligence, and knowledge, besides making me the ruler of the world."

The vagueness surrounding legends often masks their true significance. In my life span, I have realized where there is uncertainty, there is usually a real story waiting to be uncovered.

Now that we have a better understanding of the original definition for the word myth, let's call that particular myth "historic myth" to distinguish it from the other conflicting meaning of the word.

So, what would be considered historic myth in the sense of this newly realized definition? That would be Judeo-Christian mythology (in other words, every story in the Bible): Adam and Eve, Noah's Ark, Moses parting the Red Sea, and Jesus walking the Earth, to name a few.

And you know what else would constitute historic myth, based on the sense of that very same definition? Greco-Roman mythology. Oh, yes! That would include Zeus, the god of the sky; Ares, the god of war; Hades, the god of the Underworld; and Poseidon, the god of the sea.

These stories are not necessarily false; they are historic accounts passed down through generations.

Homer's the Odyssey 1:381-382 (The Book of the Gentiles)

"I will call upon the gods that live forever and pray that Zeus may grant deeds of requital."

Acts 14:13 (The Book of the Christians)

And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was at the entrance to the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds.

In the King James Version, the name "Zeus" is replaced with his Roman counterpart:

Acts 14:13 (The King James Version)

Then the priest of Jupiter, which was before their city, brought oxen and garlands unto the gates, and would have done sacrifice with the people.

The word mythology, therefore, refers to a collection of historic myths—stories of divine beings, ancient heroes, and supernatural events that form the foundation of cultural and religious traditions.

mythology (noun): a collection of myths [i.e., historic myths], especially one belonging to a particular religious or cultural tradition. (“*a book discussing Jewish and Christian mythologies*”)

mythology (noun): the study of myths [i.e., historic myths]. (“*this field includes archaeology, comparative mythology, and folklore*”)

Overall, mythology is not the study of false beliefs and ideas. So, how is it possible that Zeus and the entire pantheon of Greek gods be associated with historic myth, you ask? We will discuss that at length in Chapter 3. I devoted an entire chapter to just that subject matter because it is worthy of its own discussion.

We have to proceed in logical increments so you don't get too overwhelmed by information. I know it's a lot to take in all at once. So, I'll just plant a seed for now and let it marinate in your brain cells for a little bit before we dive back into it in Chapter 3.