

T 4

a sage whose orders none could oppose, the sagacious, the most wise among the
 which was a group of lesser gods, was he, blameless, clean
 of hands, anointed, who executed divine commands. With the bakers he was
 baking, with the bakers of Eridu, he was baking; the food and drink
 of the city of Eridu / he prepared daily. With clean hands he set the table;
 without him the table cleared. The ship he steered. For Eridu / he fished and
 hunted. At that time Adapa of Eridu, son of in a chamber upon the bed
 daily he looked after the closing of Eridu. Of the sacred key, the key of
 the new moon, he embarked upon the sailing ship. The wind blew, his ship
 sailed away; with a rudder he steered the ship upon the wide sea. Now this
 is a description of the man. Do you immediately recognize Adam in the descrip-
 tion. The name Adapa sounds a little bit like the name Adam, but not a great
 deal like, and the description--he certainly is not the first man. He is a
 leader among men. He is one who has certain god-like qualities which set him
 out as above other men in this account. I don't think if this was all we had
 anybody would think of it as having much to do with Adam. But now read on
 and see what happened to this man. The next tablet has the first part of it
 broken and we jump right into the middle of a situation. We read, "The south
 wind--" and then there is a break and from what follows later we are safe in
 assuming that the south wind blew and capsized him, because later on he speaks
 of that as having happened. Then it says, "To the house" and then there is
 a break which doubtless is "of the deep". going down into the water.
 It made him go down. "Oh, south wind, increase thy wrath as thou canst. Thy
 wings will I break." See how angry he was with the south wind, for capsizing
 his boat. He says, "Thy wings will I break;" as with his mouth he spoke the
 wings of the south wind were broken. "even days the south wind blew not on
 the land. Well, this is a terrible thing that Adapa has done. He has broken
 the wings of the south wind. Now we have another god, the god of heaven.
 is a god who is quite important but not nearly as important in Babylonian