

those who in this manner will be preserved for the day of burden and tribulation.

On that day, my Elect One shall sit on the seat of glory and make a selection of their deeds,

their resting places will be without number, their souls shall be firm within them when they see my Elect One, those who have appealed to my glorious name.

On that day, I shall cause my Elect One to dwell among them, I shall transform heaven and make it a blessing of light forever. I shall (also) transform the earth and make it a blessing, and cause my Elect One to dwell in her.

Then those who have committed sin and crime shall not set foot in her. For in peace I have looked (with favor) upon my righteous ones and given them mercy, and have caused them to dwell before me. But sinners have come before me so that by judgment I shall destroy them from before the face of the earth.

46 At that place, I saw the One to whom belongs the time before time. And his head was white like wool, and there was with him another individual, whose face was like that of a human being. His countenance was full of grace like that of one among the holy angels. And I asked the one from among the angels who was going with me, and who had revealed to me all the secrets regarding the One who was born of human beings. Who is this, and from whence is he who is going as the prototype of the Before-Time? And he answered me and said to me, This is the Son of Man, to whom belongs righteousness, and with whom righteousness dwells. And he will open all the hidden storerooms; for the Lord of the Spirits has chosen him, and he is destined to be victorious before the Lord of the Spirits in eternal uprightness. This Son of Man whom you have seen is the One who would remove the kings and the mighty ones from their comfortable seats and the strong ones from their thrones. He shall loosen the reins of the strong and crush the teeth of the sinners. He shall depose the kings from their thrones and kingdoms. For they do not extol and glorify him, and neither do they obey him, the source of their kingship. The faces of the strong will be slapped and be filled with shame and gloom. Their dwelling places and their beds will be worms. They shall have no hope to rise from their beds, for they do not extol the name of the Lord of the Spirits. And they have become the judges of the

Jn 14:23

Charlesworth, ed. The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha, vol. one
OS
of
incarnation

e. Charles thinks that "he will make a selection" is a corruption and suggests "he will try" instead. See EC, p. 85, n. 21.
f. B: "their spirits."
g. Text: "ones."
h. So B and C. A reads *la'ela*, "over," "upon," instead of *la'ela*.
i. B adds "holy."
j. Text: "ones."
k. Lit. "her."
l. Lit. "her. D'D" *Dh 79r, 13122* *P'NY* *aged of days advanced*
m. Text: "ones."

46 a. Lit. "Head of days," "Chief of days," "he who precedes time," "the Beginning of days," "the First of days," "he who is of primordial days," "the Antecedent of time."
b. Lit. "whose face was like the appearance of a person."
c. Eth. *zatawalda 'emsabe*. B and C read *zaku walda sabe*, "that Son of Man [or "human beings"]."
d. Following B and C, we should translate this passage: "... from where could he be, and for what ... with him who precedes time?" A

the addition of *ment*, "what"—which it omits. However, I have here translated the passage as it stands, with a minimum adjustment.
e. "Man" in this context means "people" or "human beings." Though this passage could be rendered "Son of human beings," to avoid unnecessary confusion, I have used "Son of Man," which has become an accepted and standard expression among scholars for a long time.
f. So B and C. A: "it will be open."
g. So B and C. A: "has dwelled."
h. So B and C. A: "above."
i. A: "I."
j. Lit. "lift them up" or "unseat."
k. Lit. "beds." Cf. "couches," "reclining chairs," "sofas."
l. Lit. "fell."
m. Lit. "push off."
n. So B and C.
o. Lit. "from where the kingdom was bestowed upon them."
p. B C: "Their dwelling places will be darkness, and their beds will be worms."
q. Lit. "those who judge." Also cf. EC, p. 87.

stars of heaven; they raise their hands (to reach) the Most High while walking upon the earth and dwelling in her. They manifest all their deeds in oppression; all their deeds are oppression. Their power (depends) upon their wealth. And their devotion is to the gods which they have fashioned with their own hands. But they deny the name of the Lord of the Spirits. Yet they like to congregate in his houses and (with) the faithful ones who cling to the Lord of the Spirits.

Prayer of the righteous

47 "In those days, the prayers of the righteous ascended into heaven, and the blood of the righteous from the earth before the Lord of the Spirits. There shall be days when all the holy ones who dwell in the heavens above shall dwell (together). And with one voice, they shall supplicate and pray—glorifying, praising, and blessing the name of the Lord of the Spirits—on behalf of the blood of the righteous ones which has been shed. Their prayers shall not stop from exhaustion before the Lord of the Spirits—neither will they relax forever—(until) judgment is executed for them." In those days, I saw him—the Antecedent of Time, while he was sitting upon the throne of his glory, and the books of the living ones were open before him. And all his power in heaven above and his escorts stood before him. The hearts of the holy ones are filled with joy, because the number of the righteous has been offered, the prayers of the righteous ones have been heard, and the blood of the righteous has been admitted before the Lord of the Spirits.

See 1 382

The Son of Man: the Antecedent of Time: his judgment

48 Furthermore, in that place I saw the fountain of righteousness, which does not become depleted and is surrounded completely by numerous fountains of wisdom. All the thirsty ones drink (of the water) and become filled with wisdom. (Then) their dwelling places become with the holy, righteous, and elect ones. At that hour, that Son of Man was given a name, in the presence of the Lord of the Spirits, the Before-Time, even before the creation of the sun and the moon, before the creation of the stars, he was given a name in the presence of the Lord of the Spirits. He will become a staff for the righteous ones in order that they may lean on him and not fall. He is the light of the gentiles and he will become the hope of those who are sick in their hearts. All those who dwell upon the earth shall fall and worship before him; they shall glorify, bless, and sing the name of the Lord of the Spirits. For this purpose he became the Chosen One; he was concealed in the presence of (the Lord of the Spirits) prior to the creation of the world, and for eternity. And he has revealed the wisdom of the Lord of the Spirits to the righteous and the holy ones, for he has preserved the portion of the righteous because they have hated and despised this world of oppression (together with) all its ways of life and its habits in the name of the Lord of the Spirits; and because they will be saved in his name and it is his good pleasure that they have life. In those days, the kings of the earth and the mighty

6.11
6.11
36:3
Lk 2:32

r. Lit. "into the Most High."
s. So A and B. C omits "all their deeds are oppression."
t. B and C read, possibly more correctly, "they persecute the houses of his congregations and the faithful who cling to the Lord of the Spirits."
47 a. B C: "In those days."
b. B and C omit "all."
c. B and C, which read "unite," "be companions," "co-operate," may be more accurate.
d. B and C add "of the righteous ones."
e. Lit. "there will not be patience to them."
f. Lit. "in order that," "so that," "to the end that."
g. Lit. "which surround him."

48 a. A erroneously: "sons."
b. Lit. "named . . . by the name."
c. Lit. "before the beginning [or "head"] of days."
d. Eth. *ta'amer*, "the wondrous thing"—but to be understood in Ge'ez (Eth.) as "the moon" (cf. 2Chr 33:3; Jer 10:2; Job 4:17).
e. B: "they shall glorify . . . to him, to the name." C omits "the name."
f. Lit. "he concealed (him) in his (own) presence."
g. Lit. "and hated."
h. Lit. "its deeds."
i. Lit. "its ways."
j. C reads erroneously "In vain days."