

An Epic Matrix

Session I



"I was impatient at the delay of two years which had to pass before the girl whom I had asked to marry became my wife, and because I was more a slave to lust than a true lover of marriage, I took another mistress, without the sanction of wedlock."

(Augustine, Confessions VI.15.1)

Chapter One

1. How is a "matrix" deeper and broader than "context" or "background"?
2. Share an example of your own "matrix" that people thousands of years ago could not have comprehended.

Chapter Two

1. How do you find a "matrix"?
2. What are some examples of clues leading to a grasp of the Sumerian matrix (textual, archaeological, and historical)?

Chapter Three

1. What's the point of the story of the *Epic of Gilgamesh & Enkidu*?
2. How does a "Sumerian Matrix," the "Matrix of Hebrew Scripture," and the "Augustinian Matrix" change the meaning of these parables?
3. The story of "the Fall" has its origins primarily in passages from Paul and prudish interpretations from Augustine. How does the meaning of the Garden story change when interpreted in its original matrix?