**MIDRASH II: ABRAHAM DISCOVERS ONE GOD**

While Abram was a little boy growing up in the cave, he began to wonder about the world he lived in. From the cave he would look out and watch the night follow day and day follow night. He saw how winter came after summer, how there were hot days and rainy days. He watched the beautiful trees become green and blossom and give fruit. Then he saw them lose their leaves and stand naked to shiver in the winter wind. Abram wondered about what could make all this happen.

Very early one morning Abram woke up and went out of the cave to sit at its opening. The sun was just about to rise. Slowly, he saw a great ball of fire rising and blazing. It lit up the world and made him feel warm. Birds woke up and began to sing. Forest creatures came down to drink at the river. Flowers in the field opened and turned their faces toward the sun. Abram watched all this happen. He thought, “This blazing ball must have made everything. It must be God. I will worship the sun.”

But the long day passed, and Abram saw the sun going down in the west. Little by little it became darker and darker. It was no longer hot. “No,” thought Abram, “The sun can’t be God. There must be something else that orders it to rise and shine and then commands it to sink and set.”

It grew dark. Stars appeared in the sky, and the full moon rose. As Abram sat looking at the wonderful moon and the stars that were spread all across the night sky, he thought, “Surely the moon is God and the stars are its servants.”

But before he could pray to this new “God,” clouds covered the moon, and it was totally dark. Soon, it was morning again.

Then Abram understood that there was someone greater than the moon and higher than the sun; that someone must have made them and was now ruler over them. That someone must be so great that he could not be seen at all.

Abram’s heart filled with joy. He raised his hands to heaven and sang a prayer. Then he bowed down to the earth and lay there, because he felt so small before that great and invisible God. As he lay there he thought he heard a voice saying, “Abram, I’m proud of you because you have come to know the Lord who is God of heaven and earth.”

One day Terach climbed the mountain, and there to his delight he found Abram alive and well. Terach brought him back to Ur.