CREATION MYTHS – A COMPARISON

- Zoroastrianism, Norse, Egyptian, Japanese, Hindu, Babylonian, Aztec, Chinese, Judeo-Christian-Islamic, Greek

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| **Similarities** | **Differences** |
| - men from mud, natural elements- natural elements (air, ice…) made into gods or parts of them- importance of rain- good and evil- eating children?- brothers/sisters- initially only a few beings- revenge/conflict/violence- pregnancy – odd circumstances- multiple gods | - Yin and Yang – two forces making earth and sky- cosmic eggs?- names of gods/goddesses- coughing up kids/elements (sky, earth)- gods become elements- multi-limbed gods – Hindu- very specific about how long earth lasts- humans created to serve gods- God created earth in 6 days- eternal sin- castration - Cronus |

**What can we learn?**

- many creation myths use natural elements to explain creation

- very creative – seems odd but must use perspective

- early people sought to explain natural phenomenon using elaborate stories

- myths help us to learn about what early civilizations valued (ex. peace vs. conflict…)