

ner, and she considered this without the Spirit's consent and without the knowledge of her partner. Nonetheless, she gave birth. [10] And because of the invincible power within her, her thought was not an idle thought. Something came out of her that was imperfect and different in appearance from her, for she had produced it without her partner. It did not resemble its mother and was misshapen.

When Sophia saw what her desire had produced, it changed into the figure of a snake with the face of a lion. Its eyes were like flashing bolts of lightning.<sup>45</sup> She cast it away from her, outside that realm so that none of the immortals would see it. She had produced it ignorantly.

She surrounded it with a bright cloud and put a throne in the middle of the cloud so that no one would see it except the holy Spirit, who is called the Mother of the living. She named her offspring Yaldabaoth.

### *Yaldabaoth's World Order (10,19–13,13)*

This is the first ruler, the archon who took great power from his mother. Then he left her and moved away from the place where he was born. He took control and created for himself other aeons with luminous fire, which still exists. He mated with the mindlessness<sup>46</sup> in him and produced authorities for himself:

The name of the first is Athoth, whom generations call the [reaper].<sup>47</sup>

The second is Harmas, who is the jealous eye.<sup>48</sup>

The third is Kalila-Oumbri.

The fourth is Yabel.

The fifth is Adonaios, who is called Sabaoth.<sup>49</sup>

The sixth is Cain, whom generations of people call the sun.

The seventh is Abel.

The eighth is Abrisene.

The ninth is Yobel. [11]

The tenth is Armoupieel.

The eleventh is Melcheir-Adonein.

The twelfth is Belias, who is over the depth of the underworld.<sup>50</sup>

45. On the child of Sophia with his eyes flashing, cf. *Gospel of Judas* 51. 46. Or "was amazed in the mindlessness." Yaldabaoth's mating with his mindlessness (*aponoia*) probably suggests that he masturbated. 47. The reading (*p|jaio|h's*) remains tentative. 48. I.e., the evil eye (*pbal \*mpkoh*). BG 8502, 40 and NHC III,16 read "the eye of fire" (*pbal \*mpkoht*). 49. Adonaios is

also mentioned in the *Holy Book of the Great Invisible Spirit*, the *Second Discourse of Great Seth*, and the *Gospel of Judas*. On the first part of this list of names, cf. *Gospel of Judas* 52. 50. The twelve cosmic authorities probably correspond to the signs of the zodiac. On this list of names, cf. *Holy Book of the Great Invisible Spirit* III, 58.