

Genesis Chapters 10-11

10:1 The genealogy or generations of the sons of Noah:

Shem: "Name", blessed above his brethren, who would live in his tents (Genesis 9), father of the Semitic peoples.

- Shem's descendants were centrally located, possibly staying near Noah in his old age, and eventually became the Hebrews, Syrians, and those of the Euphrates valley.

Ham: "Hot", 2nd son, root name / word for Egyptians, Canaanites, and Chaldeans.

- Hams descendants generally spread out towards Arabia, the Mediterranean, and Africa.

Japheth: "Opened" / "May he have space", sharing in Shem's blessings because of his reverence for his father Noah. An early indication of non-Israelites sharing in God's blessings along with "God's people".

- Japheth's descendants spread out towards Europe and Asia.

Japheth fathered	14 nations.
Ham fathered	30 nations.
Shem fathered	<u>26 nations.</u>
	70 nations in all.

The number 70 plays a significant role in Hebrew history, which is yet future at this point.

- **Genesis 46:27** 70 is the number of family members that fled the famine in the land of Canaan to Egypt, then later re-emerged as a nation with Moses.
- **Daniel 9:24 / Psalm 90:10** 70 years were determined upon the nation of Israel in judgment for failing to keep the Sabbath years.
- Also there would be 70 weeks of years with relation to Israel and the last days.
- Israel was led by 70 elders (**Numbers 11:16, 25.**), later there were 70 members of the Sanhedrin.
- 70 scholars translated the Old Testament into Greek producing the Septuagint version of scriptures.
- Herod's temple was destroyed 70 years after he killed the Jewish boys at the Nativity.

V: 2-5 We follow the descendants of Japheth for 2 generations.

- “according to his language, according to their families, into their nations.”
- Same as verses 20 & 31
- Shem is recording these events after they happened. Later the division of languages was also according to family lines.

Gomer = Germany

Magog = Russia

Madia = Persians, Iran.

Javan = Greece

Ashkenaz = eastern Europe

Riphath & Togarmah = Turkey

- Gentiles mentioned for the first time, descendants of Japheth.

10: 6-20 We follow Ham's descendants for 2 generations, with a couple of notes about a few of them.

- As we get into the descendants of Shem, we realize that the Bible does not list all the descendants, there were a great many more, the only ones that we're interested in are those that lead to our Lord Jesus.

Cush: Ethiopia

Mizraim: Egyptians, Egypt was also known as the land of Ham (Ps.105:23)

Put: same as Lybia, region of North Africa.

Canaan: Canaanites & the land of Canaan.

10:7 Sons of Cush:

Seba: Sudan

Havilah, Sabtah, - Arabia

V: 8 Announces the birth of Nimrod – “We shall rebel”.

A mighty one / a powerful man.

- Told that his descendants would be “servants” – he worked hard to make sure that this would not happen.

V: 9 A mighty hunter of men – before the Lord.

Not in a good way at all!

V: 10 "His kingdom". King / dictator.

- Nimrod sets up an alternative choice / option / form of government – in opposition to the Theocracy established by God.
- This area known as Babylon was also the birth place of many pagan religions and traditions. One of them is commonly celebrated today – amongst others.
- Nimrod's wife's name was "Simeramos" – referred to as the "Queen of Heaven", while still a virgin she bore a male child whose name was "Tamoos", who was later killed by a wild boar.
- 3 days later at the winter solstice, in late December, he was resurrected from the dead.
- His re-birth is celebrated with a "yule log" which after burning through the night would be transformed into an evergreen tree decorated with candles.
- Later, Emperor Constantine blended this pagan celebration with a Christian celebration of the birth of Jesus – which actually happened most likely in September.
- Constantine didn't just legalize Christianity, it became the official Roman universal church – the word for universal in Latin is Catholic – thus the Roman Catholic Church had its beginning – which is why we celebrate Christ-mass or more commonly Christmas, which had formerly been referred to by its pagan name of "Saturnalia".

The problem with many of our traditions is that there is no biblical basis for them, but there is substantial pagan roots and relevance to them.

- The geographical area under his dominion has been in opposition to the work of God ever since: Shinar / Babylon, Assyria, Ninevah, Philistines, Amorites, etc.

V: 17 "Sinite: Sino – Chinese & Japanese races.

10:21 The listing of the brothers is usually "Shem, Ham, and Japeth"

- All the children of "Eber" – root name for "Hebrews".
- It appears that Japeth is the oldest, possibly listed in reverse order because Shem is the line through which Abraham, and Jesus would descend, and or because Shem was the one recording the facts.
- "Japeth the elder" – Shem was 98 when the flood happened / 100 two years later according to Genesis 11:10. Genesis 5:32

- Noah started having children 100 years prior to the flood.

10:21-30 List various descendants of Shem, the important line being through Arphaxad – his line leads to Abram, then to Jesus!

10:31-32 Shem is recording these events after they happened.

Later the division of languages was also according to family lines.

Genesis Chapter 11

11:1-3 Approximately 100 years after the flood.

- The tower “unto” Heavens – might have been “sold” as a work or sacrifice to God, but was covertly a power play by Nimrod and at best could be compared to Caine’s sacrifice of “Caine’s works”.
- The tower was an appeal to the flesh, it grew to idol worship, and into “religion”.
- They used brick instead of stone – man made bricks instead of God made stones.

Exodus 20:25 “And if you make Me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stone; for if you use your tool on it, you have profaned it.”

- Temple: huge stones hewn away from temple, then brought to fit into place so that no sound of a tool would be heard in the Temple.

1 Peter 2:5 “you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to god through Jesus Christ.”

- That is why we are being chipped, ground, and smoothed into shape here on this earthly quarry, waiting to be sent to our heavenly place where we’ll fit in perfectly.
- Asphalt / slime refers to a by-product of oil, which led J.D. Rockefeller / Standard Oil Co. to discover oil deposits, and became a wealthy man.

11:4 Rebellion!

- Build for ourselves, reach to heaven, make a name for ourselves.
- Like Satan who wanted to be lifted up on high, and to be worshipped as God.
- Lest we be scattered, disobeying God's commandment to "fill the earth" in Genesis 9:1
- Knowing that Satan is undoubtedly working behind the scenes, we see this picture of mankind, led by Nimrod, willfully leaving the knowledge and worship of the true God and creator, they began instead to worship the creation.
- This led to pantheism, polytheism, and idolatry of every kind.

Romans 1:18-32 **turn to:**

11:5 "But the Lord" – God intervenes in the affairs of men.

11:6 Man can do anything if they have one language.

- In excavating areas around the pyramids they found batteries, that still had a charge.
- They had technology to move huge stones, that we still haven't figured out.
- Interesting how the various world leaders have been pushing for a new "World Order" – how many times have you heard "global economy" or "global crisis"?

11:7 "Us" – another inference to the "Trinity" of God.

1 Corinthians 14:33 "For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints."

- God is not the author of confusion – except to His enemies.

Psalms 129:5 "Let them all be confounded and turned back that hate Zion."

11:8 Sin again causes separation, this time from fellow mankind.

11:9 Even though men were separated by language, and then by geography – every major culture has it's flood legends. Ziggurats, and pyramids in Egypt, South America are not uncommon, each with pagan altars and forms of worship attached to it.

11:10-27 The genealogy that leads from Shem to Abram, 10 generations.

- The Messianic lineage can be traced from Adam to Jesus, but no further.
- No records after Jesus, destroyed in 70 AD.
- No one else can claim & prove to have been from the tribe of Judah, or the house of David – no claim to Messiaship.

V: 27-30 1st time anyone is “barren” – no child.

- God would do something different – everyone would know that it was God.
- God maintained this so that Abraham, unlike Haran & Nahor, had no children in either Ur or Mesopotamia.
- The child of promise would be born in the land of promise.

V: 31-32 The call of Abram...

Chapters 1-11 speak of the human race and 4 great events:

1. Creation.
2. The fall of man.
3. The flood.
4. The tower of Babel.

Chapters 12-50 speak of individuals: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph.