

Genesis Chapter 10

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

- **“Shem”** - “Name”, blessed above his brethren, who would live in his tents (Gen 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, Persians, 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.

- 1st mention of Gentile nations, descendants of Japheth.

“⁵according to his language, according to their families, into their nations.”

- Same as verses 20 & 31 for Ham & Shem respectively.
- Shem is recording these events after they happened. Later the division of languages was also according to family lines.

1. Gomer = Germany
2. Magog = Russia
3. Madai = Persians, Iran.
4. Javan = Greece
5. Tubal = Tubalsk, Russia.
6. Meshech = Moscow, Russia
7. Tiras = Thracians, Etruscans of Italy.

2nd generation / grand kids from Gomer:

8. Ashkenaz = Germany / eastern Europe
9. Riphath & Togarmah = Turkey & Armenia

Still 2nd generation, now from Javan.

10. Elishah = Greeks
11. Tarshish = Spain / UK
12. Kittim = Cyprians
13. Dodanim = Dardanelles & Rhodes

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

V: 6 The sons of Ham:

1. Cush = Ethiopia
2. Mizraim = Egyptians, Egypt was also known as the land of Ham.

Ps.105:23 *“Israel also came into Egypt, and Jacob dwelt in the land of Ham.”*

3. Put = Libya, region of North Africa.
4. Canaan = Canaanites & the land of Canaan.

V: 7 Sons of Cush: (2nd generation)

1. Seba: Sudan

2. Havilah, Sabtah, - Arabia
3. Raamah
4. Sabtechah

- **Sons of Raamah, (3rd generation) Sheba & Dedan = Saudi Arabia**

V: 8 Announces the birth of Nimrod – “We shall rebel”. Cush's 6th son. Great grandson of Noah.

- A mighty one / a powerful man.
- Told that his descendants would be “servants” – he worked hard to make sure that this would not happen.

Micah 5:6 “They shall waste with the sword the land of Assyria, and the land of Nimrod at its entrance...”

V: 9 A mighty hunter (of men) – before / against the Lord. The Hebrew word is defined as before or “in front of” - as in standing in the way, blocking, or against.

Proverbs 21:30 “There is no wisdom or understanding or counsel against the LORD.”

- Placing ourselves in an adversarial position against God is a losing tactic.

Psalms 52:7 “Here is the man who did not make God his strength, but trusted in the abundance of his riches, and strengthen himself in his wickedness.”

V: 10-16 “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 who's 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 trees 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 it's beginning – which is why we celebrate Christ-mass or more commonly Christmas, which had formerly been referred to by it's pagan name of "Saturnalia".
- The problem with many of our Christian 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, Nineveh, Philistines, Amorites, etc.

V: 17-20 "Sinite" - "Sino" – Chinese & Japanese races.

V: 21 The listing of the brothers is usually "*Shem, Ham, and Japheth*" but this genealogy has them in reverse order. Japheth is Noah's oldest son. Shem is the most prominent because the Messiah would eventually descend from him.

- 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.
- All the children of "Eber" – root name for "Hebrews".
- "Japheth the elder" – Shem was 98 when the flood happened / 100 two years later.

Genesis 5:32 "And Noah was five hundred years old, and Noah begot Shem, Ham, and Japheth."

Genesis 11:10 "This is the genealogy of Shem: Shem was one hundred years old, and begot Arphaxad two years after the flood."

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

V: 22-30 Lists various descendants of Shem, the important line being through Arphaxad – his line leads to Abram, then to Jesus!

- Mesha, Sephar, and the mountains toward the east likely refer to Arabia.

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

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

Genesis Chapter 11

V: 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 Cain’s sacrifice of “Caine’s works”.
- The tower was an appeal to the flesh, it grew to idol worship, and into “religion”.
- The land of Shinar, the area of Babylon is where many of the occult and pagan practices originated.
- 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.

V: 4 Rebellion!

- Build for ourselves, reach to heaven, make a name for ourselves.

Psalms 49:11 “Their inner thought is that their houses will last forever, their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names.”

- Like Satan who wanted to be lifted up on high, and to be worshipped as God.

Isaiah 14:12-14 “¹²How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! ¹³For you have said in your heart: I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides

of the north; ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.”

- 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.

John 3:13 “For no man has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven.”

- This led to pantheism, polytheism, and idolatry of every kind.

Romans 1:18-32 (turn to)

V: 5 “*But the Lord*” – God intervenes in the affairs of men.

V: 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”?

V: 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.”

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

Isaiah 59:1-2 “¹Behold, the LORD’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. ²But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.”

Luke 1:51 “He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.”

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

- “Babel” is short for “Babylon” = “Confusion.”

Acts 17:26 “And he has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their pre-appointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings.”

- We all started off from one blood, one people. When we talk about different races of people, we’re making a mistake because there is only truly one race, that is the human race. There may be different ethnicities & cultures and so on, but there is still only one race. We all came from one blood.

V: 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 Messiahship.

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 & confusion of languages.
- **Chapters 12-50 speak of individuals: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph.**