

12/19/04

Genesis 10-11

The entire earth has been destroyed due to their sinful lives that were in rebellion against God and Noah alone with his three son and their wives survived the flood and are to sole source of the new world population, which is the present population.

- 1) Chapter 10 is known as the table of Nations which gives to us the common descent of all mankind from the three sons of Noah.
- 2) The record of the families, tongues, lands and nations that were established, totaling seventy nations. Gen. 10:1, 31-32
 - a) Chapter eleven continues to gives us the genealogy of Shem's descendents leading to Terah, the father of Abraham, without doubt to be able to calculate the years. Gen. 11:10-26
 - b) As we have seen already a general account is given and greater details in the following chapters. Gen. 1, 2
- 3) Moses make reference to God giving the nations their inheritance. Deut. 32:8
- 4) From the line of Shem, God would choose Abraham, whose total number of seed is seventy at the end of the book of Genesis. Gen. 46:27; Ex. 1:5

- 5) Abraham becomes the father of the nation of Israel, a type of second Adam.
- 6) Even the critics have attested to the accuracy of this record.
- 7) There are also some important historical notes in the chapter. Vs. 8-12, 1, 19, 25
 - * Nimrod and his kingdom, the Philistines, the Canaanites with Sodom and Gomorrah and the days the earth was divided.
- 8) The key words are "lesonet" language, "mispehot" families or clans, "gowy" nations, " 'erets" lands or territory and, Vs. 5, 20, 31-32
- 9) Chapter ten and eleven go together evident by the mention of division by language, yet the confusion did not take place till chapter eleven and the repetition of Shem;s genealogy. Gen. 1:1-9; 10-26

10:1-5 The genealogy of Noah and his sons.

- 10:1 The succeeding generations.
- 1) The are three, Shem, Ham and Japheth.
 - a) In all the list Shem comes first , except in the table of nations, he is last.
 - b) It is believed by most that Shem is the youngest and they stand in reverse order. Gen. 5:32, 6:10, 7:13, 9:18, 10:1

c) Japheth the eldest and Ham the second oldest. Gen. 10:21; 9:24

2) The sons that were born after the flood.

10:2-5 The sons of Japheth, the Indo-European people.

1) Gomer, the Cimmrians, who settled in Capadocia, Germany and Armenia

2) Magog is the area of Black Sea, the Scythians, Gog, Magog. Ezk. 38:2

3) Madai are the Medes now Persia.

4) Javan is the Ionian Greeks.

5) Tubal Modern day Russia, Moscow and Tabolsk

6) Meshech, southern and eastern Antolia

7) Tiras the Thracians.

10:3 The sons of Gomer.

8) Ashkenaz.

9) Riphath.

10) Togarmah, the upper Euphrates.

10:4 The sons of Javan.

11) Elishah believed to be part or all of Cyprus.

12) Tarshish, Spain.

13) Kittim, south-eastern coast of Cyprus.

14) Dodanim, the area of Dardanelles, the island of Rhodes.

* Seven sons and seven grandsons, a total of fourteen names.

10:5 The summary statement of Japheth's descendents.

1) From these the coastland peoples of the Gentiles were separated into their lands.

* The Gentile descendants in Indo-European world.

2) According to their language.

a) This declares that chapter 10 was written after the events of chapter eleven.

b) And traced only to the 2nd generation.

3) According to their families.

4) Into their nations.

10:6-20 **The sons of Ham, the Africa, Mesopotamia and East.**

10:6 The sons of Ham.

1) Cush is Ethiopia.

2) Mizraim is Egypt.

3) Phut is Libya, Somalia.

4) Canaan, the Canaanites.

10:7-8a The sons of Cush.

* The area of Sudan and Arabia.

1) Seba.

2) Havilah.

3) Sabtah.

4) Raamah.

5) Sabtechah.

* The sons of Raamah, Grandchildren of Cush.

- 6) Sheba.
- 7) Dedan.
- 8) Cush begot Nimrod;
 - * Four sons, five Grandsons and two Great-Grandsons of Ham.

10:8b-9 The man Nimrod.

- 1) He began to be a Mighty hunter on the earth could refer to his hunting skill in the new order of meat eating. Vs. 8b
- 2) He began to be a Mighty hunter before the Lord, referring to his being a tyrant and affront to both God and man in defiance against God. Vs. 9a
 - a) 1Chron. 1:10; Mic. 5:6
 - b) Perhaps in rebellion of God's prophecy. Gen. 9:25-26
- 3) He was a proverb in the mouth of the people, "Like Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD." Vs. 9b-c

10:10-12 His Kingdom In area of Babylon

10:10 The beginning of his kingdom.

- 1) Four cities are named, Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh.
- 2) The cities were in the land of Shinar.

10:11-12 The extension of his kingdom.

- 1) From that land he went to Assyria.

- 2) Nimrod built there five more cities, Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir, Calah and Resen between Nineveh and Calah, which are identified as the principal city, the present day Nimrud.

* Jonah and Nahum addressed the Ninevites on the Tigris River, the capital city of Assyria, regarding the judgment of God!

10:13-20 The rest of the genealogy of Ham.

10:13-14 These are connected with Egypt.

- 1) Six names, Mizraim begot Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim, Pathrusim, and Casluhim. Vs. 13-14b
- 2) The footnote identified that from them came the Philistines and Caphtorim. Vs. 14c

10:15-18 The Canaan city states and tribal groups. **Hartly**

- 1) Sidon is the Phoenicians. Vs. 15
 - * Canaan begot Sidon his firstborn, and Heth;
- 2) The Jebusite, the Amorite, and the Girgashite, were the enemies of Israel. Vs. 16
- 3) Six names are given, the Hivite, the Arkite, and the Sinite; the Arvadite, the Zemarite, and the Hamathite. Vs. 17-18c

* Believed to have migrated to East area of China, etc.

- 4) The footnote of migration, “Afterward the families of the Canaanites were dispersed.” Vs. 18d

10:19 The boundaries.

- 1) And the border of the Canaanites was from Sidon as you go toward Gerar, as far as Gaza.
- 2) Then as you go toward Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim, as far as Lasha.

10:20 The summary of the genealogy of Ham.

* The summary of the genealogy of Ham under the common formula.

- 1) These were the sons of Ham.
- 2) According to their families.
- 3) According to their languages.
- 4) In their lands.
- 5) In their nations.

* Ham's genealogy is traced to 3rd generation.

10:21-32 **The sons of Shem. (Hebrew or Semites)**

10:21

- 1) Eber is where the word for Hebrew is derived.

- 2) Japheth is the oldest though not listed first. Gen. 10:21

10:22 The sons of Shem.

- 1) They are five.
- 2) Elam is in the Aranian plateau.
- 3) Asshur is the one on the Tigris River name of the Assyrians.
- 4) Arphaxad. Gen. 11:10
- 5) Lud.
- 6) Aram is the ancestor of the Arameans or Syrians.

10:23 There were four sons of Aram.

10:24-25 The sons of Arphaxhad and his sons.

- 1) Arphaxhad had three sons. Vs. 24
- 2) Eber had two sons, Peleg, the time is when the earth was divided. Vs. 25
 - a) Peleg means divided, probably referring to the dispersion at the Tower of Babel. Gen. 11:1-9
 - b) It could correlate with the continental drift theory but the context is Babel.
 - c) His brother is Joktan.
- 3) Most likely in its context it refers to the divisions of family, tongues, lands and nations, 10:31

10:26-29 The sons of Joktan.

- 1) Thirteen sons are named.

- 2) Jobab is believed to be Job in the Scriptures, which also is believed to be the oldest book we possess.

10:30 The boundaries.

- 1) Both placed are believed to indicate Arabia, the area of Yemen.
- 2) The hill country of the east.

10:31 The summary statement for the genealogy of Shem.

- 1) The constant four-fold classification.
- 2) According to their families, according to their languages, in their lands, according to their nations.

10:32 The summary of the genealogy of Noah.

- 1) According to their generations.
- 2) In their nations.
- 3) From these the nations were divided on the earth after the flood.
 - a) 14 nations from Japheth.
 - b) 30 nations from Ham.
 - c) 26 nations from Shem.
 - * A total of 70 nations!
 - d) 70 souls went to Egypt. Gen. 46:27
 - e) 70 elders. Ex. 24:9
 - f) 70 week of Daniel. Dan. 9
 - g) 70 disciples. Matt.

11:1-9 **The conditions and events that led to the Tower of Babel.**

11:1 The earth had only one language.

- 1) Literally one lip and one set of words
- 2) The language could very well be Hebrew, there is no reason to dismiss it for all the name and places pre-Babel have Hebrew meaning.

* “For then I will restore to the peoples a pure language, That they all may call on the name of the LORD, To serve Him with **one** accord.” Zeph. 3:9

- 3) This section is still part of chapter ten and fits probably in verse twenty-five in the days of Peleg, when the earth was divided. Gen. 10:25
- 4) Chapter ten declared the genealogies “according to their language”. Vs. 5, 20, 31

11:2-4 They people became self willed and rebellious towards God.

- 1) The indictment was their refusal to disperse throughout the world, instead they attempted to build Nimrod’s religious system in the land of Shinar. Vs. 2
 - a) They journeyed from the east.
 - b) They found a plain in the land of Shinar and dwelt there.

- c) God had told them to fill the earth.
Gen. 1:28, 9:1, 7
- 2) They were well advanced making their own bricks and asphalt for mortar. Vs. 3
- 3) Their plans were to build a city and the tower of Babel, whose top is in the heavens in order to make a name for themselves. Vs. 4a-e
- a) The reference is simply to a system and spiritual resource available to the people to have access to God through the corrupt worship of nature, creation and the zodiac. Rom. 1.20-32
- b) It is believed the heavenly bodies spell out the gospel message which became corrupted by astrology, the zodiac.
- c) The goal was to make a name for themselves as a religious center for the civil government of Nimrod's kingdom already established. Vs. 4e
- 1) Pride and rebellion marks event.
2) Power is the goal and self glory.
- d) The great ziggurat or stage tower of the Marduk temple in Babylon, Etemenanki, consisted of six square stages one on top of the other, the last one crowned by a small chapel for the god. Excavations of Babylon have revealed important cuneiform text which gives the measurements of the temple and its parts furnishes valuable

evidence for reconstruction. (The Inter. Dict.:334)

- 4) The rebellion is clearly stated, "lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." Vs. 4f
- a) Babylon Mother of Harlots, Rev. 17:5
* Nimrod, Samiramis and Tammuz worship. Jer. 44:17-19, 25; Ezk. 8:14
- b) Nimrod is a type of anti-Christ.

11:5-6 God came down to examine the word and judged the people.

- 1) The judgment of God was based on personal knowledge. Vs. 5
- a) The sharp is expressed by the word "But"
- b) God is Omniscient, He does not need to come down but is simply stated to describe the actions of God in human terms. called Anthropomorphism.
- c) God says this about Sodom and Gomorrah and the mistreatment of His people in Egypt. Gen. 18:21; Ex. 3:7
* Every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."
Gen. 6:5
- d) Nothing had changed after the flood!
- 2) The judgment of God was due to man's evil intent. Vs. 6

- a) Yahweh understood the unity of their evil by the one language. Vs. 6a-c
- b) Yahweh also understood the potential for their evil, nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. Vs. 6d
 - 1)) Adam failed and sinned.
 - 2)) Noah sinned.
 - 3)) Noah's sons descendants sinned.
 - 4)) All have sinned... Rom. 3.23

10:7-9 The judgment of God was to stop the idolatrous work. Vs. 7

- 1) The trinity conversed, “Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language.” Vs. 7a-b
 - a) The word confuse “balal” means to mix, mingle or confuse the languages.
 - b) The word Babel “babel” means confusion, not “Gate of God”.
 - c) The play on words can not be missed.
- 2) The purpose of Yahweh is clearly stated, “That they may not understand one another’s speech.” Vs. 7c
 - a) Without being able to communicate they could not be united.
 - b) Without being united, they could not continue to build.
- 3) The judgment of God was to scatter the people throughout the world as God had commanded. Vs. 8

- a) The original intent and command of God was accomplished.
- b) At Pentecost, the people were united and joint to the church through the confounding of the languages. Acts 2
- c) The work of building the city ceased.
- 4) The judgment of God was memorialized. Vs. 9
 - a) The tower and city of Babel speak of rebellion by self-will, to be remembered as “confusion”.
 - b) The people recognized it was God who sent them throughout the earth.
 - 1) The languages of the world are interesting in that most can be traced to each other by certain words, some more than others.
 - 2) The possibility that Hebrew was the original language is not as far fetched as it may seem.
 - 3) The Mayas used the word “ish” for man and “isha” for woman. How in the world can this be? What are the chances of people in Southern Mexico and Central America used Hebrew words for male and female? Only if they were there!
 - 4) What about all the pyramids in Egypt, Central and South America, where did the idea come from, if not from the tower of Babel!

11:10-26 The genealogy of Shem.

11:10-11 The focus is an one son of Shem.

- 1) The generation “towl@dah” of Shem, the familiar formula for the natural divisions of Genesis. Vs. 10
- 2) Shem’s genealogy focuses on Arphaxad, one of his five sons, bore two years after the flood. Gen. 10:22
- 3) Shem had other children including sons and daughters. Vs. 11
- 4) The genealogy of Shem is the only one repeated and expanded. Gen. 10:22-31; 11:10-26

11:11-25 The genealogy of Arphaxad, the son of Shem leads us to Terah, the father of Abram.

- 1) There are seven generations mentioned from Arphaxad to Terah. Vs. 11-26
- 2) Peleg is important because during his life the Tower of Babel occurred. Vs. 16-17a
- 3) Eber is important also because it is from him that the root and origin for the word “Hebrew” . Vs. 17b
 - a) Abraham is call the Hebrew. Gen. 14:13
 - b) Eber had two sons Peleg and Joktan. Gen. 10:25; 1Chron. 1:19-23
- 4) Nahor is the father of Terah. Vs. 24-25

- a) Through Shem’s line are the people more commonly called “Semites”, the spelling “Sem” from the Greek.
- b) There are many other sons and daughter stated. Vs. 25

11:26-32 The genealogy of Terah, the Father of Abram.

- 1) Terah fathered three sons, Abram, Nahor, and Haran, according to his genealogy. Vs. 26-27
- 2) Haran died before his father Terah in the Ur of Chaldeans. Vs. 28
 - a) According to the archaeologists UR was a great city, highly civilized having great libraries yet idolatrous and wicked.
 - b) Joshua worshipped moon-god. Josh. 24:2-3,14,15
- 3) Then Abram and Nahor took wives: the name of Abram’s wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran the father of Milcah and the father of Iscah. Vs. 29
- 4) The interesting footnote is, “But Sarai was barren; she had no child.” Vs. 30
 - a) Shem was still alive when Terah died
 - b) Terah lived till Isaac was thirty-five years old.
 - c) By the time Abraham was born, with an average marriage age of 30, with 8

children, the population could have been 80 million. (Brown 273)

- 5) This is the first call of Abraham when he dwelt in Mesopotamia before he dwelt in Haran, Vs. 31; Acts 7:2
- a) And when his Father died then Abram departed from Haran. Gen. 2:4
 - b) Abram is called the friend of God.
 - c) Abraham is called the Father of faith.
 - d) Abraham is claimed by the Moslems, Jews and Christians.
 - e) He occupies 14 chapters, Ch. 12-25.