

**The Word of God is the Absolute Truth and the final authority.**

Let's go ahead and get started,

So, last week we went over the events that occurred right after the flood.

We looked at the changes that God instituted after the flood.

God put the fear of man in animals,

He also gave us the ok to eat the animals. There was one restriction and that of course was that man could not eat the blood since the blood contains life.

We then saw the covenant that God made with Noah and his three sons as well as the world.

A covenant that He would never destroy the earth by flood again

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God also gave us a symbol as well, to remind us of this covenant and that is the rainbow itself.

We also saw God establish the institution of government as He commands men to utilize capital punishment on any man that commits murder.

We also covered the sin of Ham – as he saw the nakedness of his father and bragged about it to his two other brothers.

Then at the end of the chapter, we saw the curse that Noah pronounced upon Canaan for the actions of Ham.

So here in these next two chapters, 10-11, we have what many have called – the Table of Nations. It's mostly genealogies.

And there are several reasons why this list of names is important in scripture.

- The Holy Spirit inspired Moses to include them in the account of Genesis. This alone is reason enough for us to go through the names as they are all part of His word.
- They help us connect the dots from Noah to Abraham. You see the bible isn't just a collection of events throughout history, it records history – it tells us about people and locations that we can look at a map. Anthropologists consider this genealogy listed here in 10,11 one of the earliest ever recorded.
- This Table of Nation also allows us to see God's faithfulness and blessings. He commanded Noah's children to repopulate the earth and God blessed them with many children.

You see, everybody tonight in this room is a descendent of Noah;

Everyone can trace his or her lineage all the way back to Noah

through one of these three boys. Or a combination of these three,

because after all, peoples have multiplied on the earth, migrated to different parts of the earth, married and intermarried, etcetera, so we have a wonderful ethnic population now in our modern-day world.

But it still all stems back to these three.

All together there is a list of 70 nations that came from these three boys.

Out of Shem will come 26 nations that are listed.

Out of Ham, 30 nations that are listed.

And out of Japheth, 14 nations that are listed.

Everyone is related. So the table of nations: name after name after name.

A list of people because God is interested in people.

And I find comfort knowing that despite billions of people on the earth – God knows each and every one of us individually and calls us by our names (John 10:3)

**Let's pray...**

**[Gen 10:1-5 NKJV] 1 Now this [is] the genealogy of the sons of Noah: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And sons were born to them after the flood. 2 The sons of Japheth [were] Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras. 3 The sons of Gomer [were] Ashkenaz, Riphath, and Togarmah. 4 The sons of Javan [were] Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim. 5 From these the coastland [peoples] of the Gentiles were separated into their lands, everyone according to his language, according to their families, into their nations.**

**Japheth**

Basically the sons of Japheth were the ancestors of what are known as the Indo-European nations.

If you have a European type background, it is probable that you are a descendant of Japheth. These were the people that dwelt in the lands from India to the shores of Western Europe.

- Gomer: From this son of Japheth came what we know today as the German people, and from Gomer, came the other nations of Western Europe. These include the original French, Spanish, and Celtic settlers.
- Magog...Tubal, Meshech: These settled in the far north of Europe and became the Russian peoples.

Now Russia has a significant role coming up in the every near future.

In the book of Ezekiel, we are told a prophesy that has yet to occur, turn with me to Ezekiel 39

This prophesy actually begins in chapter 38 but we are only going to be looking at chapter 39 this evening.

**[Eze 39:1-9 NKJV] 1 "And you, son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD:**

**"Behold, I [am] against you, O Gog, the prince of Rosh,**

**Meshech, and Tubal; 2 "and I will turn you around and**

**lead you on, bringing you up from the far north, and**

**bring you against the mountains of Israel. 3 "Then I will**

**knock the bow out of your left hand, and cause the**

**arrows to fall out of your right hand. 4 "You shall fall**

**upon the mountains of Israel, you and all your troops**

**and the peoples who [are] with you; I will give you to**

**birds of prey of every sort and [to] the beasts of the field**

**to be devoured. 5 "You shall fall on the open field; for I**

**have spoken," says the Lord GOD. 6 "And I will send fire on Magog and on those who live in security in the coastlands. Then they shall know that I [am] the LORD. 7 "So I will make My holy name known in the midst of My people Israel, and I will not [let them] profane My holy name anymore. Then the nations shall know that [I am] the LORD, the Holy One in Israel. 8 "Surely it is coming, and it shall be done," says the Lord GOD. "This [is] the day of which I have spoken. 9 "Then those who dwell in the cities of Israel will go out and set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and bucklers, the bows and arrows, the javelins and spears; and they will make fires with them for seven years.**

So this prophecy states that Russia along with some of its allies, they will one day attack Israel and God will intervene and they will all be destroyed by God.

Again, this hasn't happened yet.

And if you look down at verse 12 and 13

**[Eze 39:12-13 NKJV] 12 "For seven months the house of Israel will be burying them, in order to cleanse the land.**

**13 "Indeed all the people of the land will be burying, and they will gain renown for it on the day that I am glorified," says the Lord GOD.**

There are many that believe that what's going to happen is that Israel will use its nukes on the Russian army and that is why the inhabitants will have to spend seven months burying the bodies of all these nations in order to get rid of the radiation, in order to cleanse the land.

- Madai: From this son of Japheth came the ancient Medes and they populated what are now Iran and Iraq.

Out of Madai would come the Medes and the Persians. The peoples of India also came from this branch of Japheth's family.

- Javan: From this son of Japheth came the ancient Greeks.

**[Gen 10:6-8 NKJV] 6 The sons of Ham [were] Cush, Mizraim, Put, and Canaan. 7 The sons of Cush [were] Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah, and Sabtechah; and the sons of Raamah [were] Sheba and Dedan. 8 Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth.**

### **Ham Descendants**

Now, most of the descendants of Ham settled in the Northern Africa region.

- Cush settled in modern day Ethiopia.
- Mizraim people settled in the area around Egypt

- Phut settled in the area that is present day Lybia
- Canaanites settled in modern day Israel. These are the people that the Children of Israel will have to conquer when they return from Egypt. And we see this happen in the book of Joshua.

Ultimately they would have to be exterminated because of their wickedness and perversion – but not before God gave them 400 years to repent.

Remember that God always displays His grace and mercy before He renders judgment.

- Sheba and Dedan is present day Saudi Arabis and they are also mention in Ezekiel's prophesy that we just looked at.

## **Nimrod**

**[Gen 10:9-14 NKJV] 9 He was a mighty hunter before the LORD; therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD." 10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. 11 From that land he went to Assyria and built Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir, Calah, 12 and Resen between Nineveh and Calah (that [is] the principal city). 13 Mizraim begot Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim, 14 Pathrusim, and Casluhim (from whom came the Philistines and Caphtorim).**

The name Nimrod, literally means "rebel"

Nimrod becomes a shadow or a picture of the ultimate rebel – the antichrist.

And the role that Nimrod plays here in chapter 10-11 is one of gathering people.

You see, verse nine tells us that Nimrod was a mighty hunter – however, he wasn't a hunter of the beasts out in the field. Nimrod was a hunter of man.

He gathered men and turned them against God. In the same way that the scriptures tell us that the antichrist will turn men against God.

The violence, pride, defiance of God and false religion we see associated with Nimrod we will also see in the antichrist of the future.

Now Nimrod because he was a hunter of men and gathered people was able to build impressive cities and we have two of them listed here in verse 10 and 11.

Babel, where it all started. The beginning of his kingdom in modern day Iraq will become Babylon.

And if you are into prophesy and have read the book of Revelation, you know that the One World Government that the antichrist will in the last days is also given the name Babylon.

Verse 11 also tells us that Nimrod went to Assyria and built Nineveh.

We should all know about Nineveh because we finished the book Jonah a few weeks ago on Sundays.

Nineveh is the place where God commissioned Jonah to go before he rebelled and got swallowed up by the great fish.

In verse 14, we have the birth of the Philistines, these are the people that are going to be at war against Israel at the time of King David.

The giant, Goliath, was a Philistine.

**[Gen 10:15-20 NKJV] 15 Canaan begot Sidon his firstborn, and Heth; 16 the Jebusite, the Amorite, and the Girgashite; 17 the Hivite, the Arkite, and the Sinite; 18 the Arvadite, the Zemarite, and the Hamathite. Afterward the families of the Canaanites were dispersed. 19 And the border of the Canaanites was from Sidon as you go toward Gerar, as far as**

**Gaza; then as you go toward Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim, as far as Lasha. 20 These [were] the sons of Ham, according to their families, according to their languages, in their lands [and] in their nations.**

Many historians believe that Asian people were descendants of Sinite and Ham.

**[Gen 10:21-32 NKJV] 21 And [children] were born also to Shem, the father of all the children of **Eber**, the brother of Japheth the elder. 22 The sons of Shem [were] Elam, Asshur, Arphaxad, Lud, and Aram. 23 The sons of Aram [were] Uz, Hul, Gether, and Mash. 24 Arphaxad begot Salah, and Salah begot Eber. 25 To Eber were born two sons: the name of one [was] Peleg, for in his days the earth was divided; and his brother's name [was] Joktan. 26 Joktan begot Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah, 27 Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah, 28 Obal, Abimael, Sheba, 29 Ophir, Havilah, and Jobab. All these [were] the sons of Joktan. 30 And their dwelling place was**

from **Mesha as you go toward Sephar**, the mountain of the east. 31 These [were] the sons of Shem, according to their families, according to their languages, in their lands, according to their nations. 32 These [were] the families of the sons of Noah, according to their generations, in their nations; and from these the nations were divided on the earth after the flood.

## Shem

This is the first mention of the children of Eber. Why is this significant?

Because Eber is believed where we get the name Hebrew.

And it means “crossover” and we will see that it is a fitting name for the children of Israel as Abraham would leave Ur and under the leadership of Moses would cross over into the land that God had promised them.

## **Tower Of Babel**

[Gen 11:1-9 NKJV] 1 Now the whole earth had **one language** and **one speech**. 2 And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. 3 Then they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and bake [them] thoroughly." They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. 4 And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a **tower whose top [is] in the heavens**; let **us make a name for ourselves**, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." 5 But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. 6 And the LORD said, "Indeed the people [are] one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. 7 **"Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language**, that they may

**not understand one another's speech." 8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. 9 Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.**

The Tower of Babel is an even that I find people confused about.

There are some people that believe that the people were simply trying to build a building that would reach the heavens. That is one of the biggest misconceptions that I have heard.

If they were trying to reach the heavens, it would make more sense to start building on top of a mountain instead of a plain in the land of Shinar which is sea level.

Shinar is in present day Iraq where we have Babylon – or Babel as it was mentioned in chapter 10.

The tower is actually a ziggurat, which is a building of different layers. Like a wedding cake and the layers were smaller and smaller as they got up.

The tower of Babel was actually built not to reach the heavens but it was built to for the pagan practice of astrological observations.

So what we actually have here is the start of idolatry. These people had come together to worship the stars and the planets instead of the creator.

Now, in verse three it tells us that they used asphalt to put the tower together. Asphalt was used as a way to make something waterproof. We saw that when Noah built the ark that he put “pitch” on the side of the ark – that is asphalt. To make it water proof.

So the people are building this building and making it waterproof because they do not believe in the covenant of God.

It was total rebellion against God.

Look at verse 4 again,

4 And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top [is] in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."

This was in complete disobedience to what God had instructed them to do to repopulate the entire earth. They wanted to come together and exalt themselves instead of exalting God. This is what is happening here in Babel.

**So what does God do?**

He puts a stop to it. He comes down and He separates the people. No longer did they have a unifying language. They become dispersed throughout the earth.

Look at verse 7,

7 "Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language. Who is Us and why is it capitalized?

Because Us is the Holy Trinity. Father, Son and Holy Spirit, they come down and undo what man had done.

Is this mean???

No, what God is doing here is demonstrating His mercy by simply scattering the people around the earth.

I am going to skip verse 10-23, that just goes into the sons of Shem – you could read this portion on your own.

We will pick up at verse 24 now.

**[Gen 11:24-32 NKJV] 24 Nahor lived twenty-nine years, and begot Terah. 25 After he begot Terah, Nahor lived one hundred and nineteen years, and begot sons and daughters. 26 Now Terah lived seventy years, and begot Abram, Nahor, and Haran. 27 This [is] the genealogy of Terah: Terah begot**

**Abram, Nahor, and Haran. Haran begot Lot. 28 And Haran died before his father Terah in his native land, in Ur of the Chaldeans. 29 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. 30 But Sarai was barren; she had no child. 31 And Terah took his son Abram and his grandson Lot, the son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, his son Abram's wife, and they went out with them from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to the land of Canaan; and they came to Haran and dwelt there. 32 So the days of Terah were two hundred and five years, and Terah died in Haran.**

Genesis 11:26 is the first mention of Abram. Abram (later changed to Abraham) is mentioned 312 times in 272 verses in the Bible. He is arguably the most famous man of the Old Testament, and certainly one of the most influential men in history.

The Book of Genesis covers more than 2,000 years and more than 20 generations. Yet, it spends almost a third of its text on the life of one man – Abram.

It is fitting that we have the introduction of Abram right after we the Tower of Babel, because now God will begin to make man better, and He will start as He always starts: **with a man who will do His will, even if he does not do His will perfectly.**

And over the next couple of weeks, we will read about Abraham's lapses and hopefully learn from them.

**Let's pray...**