

Three Men And Lots Of Babies: The Beginning Of Races & Nations

Genesis 10:1-32

I. The Faces Of Races (1-31)

- A. The Descendants Of Japheth (1-5)
- B. The Descendants Of Ham (6-20)
- C. The Descendants Of Shem (21-31)

II. The Diversification Of Nations

³² *These are the clans of the sons of Noah, according to their genealogies, in their nations, and from these the nations spread abroad on the earth after the flood.*

A. All Races And Nationalities Come From One Man

Acts 17:26 *"He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place."*

B. The Church Is To See Us Unified In Christ, Not Divided By Race

Galatians 3:28 *"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."*

Acts 2:5-11 *5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven.*

C. The Scriptures Urge Us To Love The Immigrant

Deuteronomy 10:19 *"Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt."*

D. All Nations And Nationalities Are To Seek Their Place Before Christ More Than Their Place In The World

Revelation 7:9 *After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,*

Conclusion:

1. We must intentionally seek to be a community church reaching all nations and nationalities.
2. Consider inviting people of different ethnicities and religions into your home. Build relationships through intentionally modeling the love of Christ and sharing the Gospel through hospitality apologetics.
3. Consider ministry to international students. Many students come to study in the U.S. and have not been to an American home or a Christian Church. Providing food and help with English is a great open door.
4. Go on a short term missions trip to another country or attach a missions trip to your family vacation. (Mt 28:19-20)

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Introduction:

- Great discussion on immigration.
 - There should be immigration.
 - Questions: How many? From where?
 - Laws should be followed.
 - Questions: How can we legalize those who are here?
 - Vetting should be done.
 - Questions: How can we determine who is a threat and who is not?
- In times, U.S. has gone into extremes because of fears:
 - Chinese Exclusion Act
 - Japanese Internment Camp – including Tanforan, no Japanese-American detained in those internment camp was ever a threat, many served heroically for the U.S. in WW2
- Racism
 - Don't call somebody a racist unless you are certain (not based on personality, but in acts)
 - Clear situations in history: Hitler's Third Reich, the Ku Klan Klan, ethnic cleansing in central Asia and Africa (Rhawanda)
- Racism and slavery was big in the South and the Southern Baptist Church denomination – the largest in the U.S. barely blinked an eye. In 1995, they made a formal resolution to repudiate and ask forgiveness from the African-American community.

"We lament and repudiate historic acts of evil such as slavery from which we continue to reap a bitter harvest, and we recognize that the racism which yet plagues our culture today is inextricably tied to the past," and "we apologize to all African-Americans for condoning and/or perpetuating individual and systemic racism in our lifetime; and we genuinely repent of racism of which we have been guilty, whether consciously (Psalm 19:13) or unconsciously (Leviticus 4:27)." Furthermore, in this resolution Southern Baptists asked for "forgiveness from our African-American brothers and sisters" and committed themselves to "eradicate racism in all its forms from Southern Baptist life and ministry."

<http://www.sbc.net/resolutions/amResolution.asp?ID=899>

cited by William Shreiner in forward: *Williams, Jarvis (2010-10-01). One New Man (Kindle Locations 273-279). B&H Publishing Group. Kindle Edition.*

- David Platt: **"Consider the starting point in the gospel: the creation of man and woman in the image of God with equal dignity before God. This means that no human being is more or less human than another. All are made in God's image.** It is a lack of trust in this gospel truth that has led to indescribable horrors in human history. Slavery in America, the Holocaust in Germany, the Armenian massacre in Turkey, the genocide in Rwanda, and the Japanese slaughter of six million Koreans, Chinese, Indo-Chinese, Indonesians, and Filipinos all derived from the satanic deception of leaders and citizens who

believed that they were intrinsically superior to other types of people. From the first chapter of the Bible, however, this much is clear: all men and women are made in the very likeness of God. The Bible's story line depicts a basic unity behind worldly diversity." *Platt, David (2015-02-01). Because We Are Called to Counter Culture: In a World of Poverty, Same-Sex Marriage, Racism, Sex Slavery, Immigration, Persecution, Abortion, Orphans, and Pornography (Counter Culture Booklets) (pp. 45-46). Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.. Kindle Edition.*

I. The Faces Of Races (1-31)

A. The Descendants Of Japheth (1-5)

¹ These are the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Sons were born to them after the flood. ² The sons of **Japheth**: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras. ³ The sons of Gomer: Ashkenaz, Riphath, and Togarmah. ⁴ The sons of Javan: Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim. ⁵ From these the coastland peoples spread in their lands, each with his own language, by their clans, in their nations.

- Birth order of Noah's sons: Shem, Ham & Japheth
- Order of Genesis 10: reverse
- 14 nations come from Japheth
- His name means "enlarge"
- **Gomer** & his 3 boys lived by the Black Sea
 - Gomer's descendants would later be called the Cimmerians. They were nomadic people north of the Black Sea
 - **Ashkenaz** – Scythians or Armenia. Jeremiah 51:27 associates his offspring with Ararat and Minni. They may have settled later in what would become Germany. There are still **Ashkenazi Jews** who have German and Eastern European roots
 - **Riphath** – Josephus connects him with being the ancestors of the **Ripheans** settling in modern-day Turkey
 - **Togarmah** – Phrygians, in the Southern Balkans. Capital was Gordium from where the "Gordian Knot" was originated and impossible to untie (so Alexander the Great cut it with a sword)
- **Magog** settled in the Caucasus (southeast of the Black Sea)
 - John Phillips: "His were a fierce and warlike people ruled over by princes who bore the royal appellation 'God' (comparable to 'Pharaoh' or 'Caesar')." (*Exploring Genesis*, p. 97)
 - Their descendants were thought to be Scythians.
- **Madai** – the **Medes** came from him and occupied Northwest Iran (2 Kings 17:6; Jer 51:11; Dan 5:28)
- **Javan** – later became the Ionian **Greeks** and settled in Southern Greece and western Asia Minor
 - **Elishah** – possibly Cyprus, though disputed, descendants called Elysians
 - **Tarshish** – possibly between Carthage to Tartessus (southwest Spain)
 - **Kittim** – southern Cyprus
 - **Rodanim** – island of Rhodes
- **Tubal** may have been in Pontus, northern Armenia and modern day Russia
- **Meshech** may have been in Phrygia

- **Tiras** may have settled in Thrace (**Thracians**) or may be the Sea People of Turscha by the Aegean Sea
- Each son's descendants developed their own languages and nations
- Ezekiel 28:1-6 mentions Magog, Meshech, Tubal and Gomer as geographical regions
- Magog, Meshech, Tubal, Gomer and Togarmah are part of the antichrist coalition in future prophecy
- Japheth's descendants spread through Asia along the Black Sea to the Caspian Sea
- Japheth's spiritual heritage isn't mentioned because it isn't pertinent to the biblical line to Jesus

B. The Descendants Of Ham (6-20)

⁶ *The sons of **Ham**: Cush, Egypt, Put, and Canaan.*

- 30 different nations will descend from Ham
- Several of these nations will be in conflict with Israel – including Canaan
- Ham in Heb. means "hot" or "black"
- **Sons of Ham:** Cush, Egypt, Put and Canaan (nothing is mentioned about Put)
 - **Cush – Ethiopia** – some migrated to the Persian Gulf
 - **Egypt** (also called Misraim) – Egypt that enslaved Israel
 - **Put** – Libya (his descendants aren't listed)
 - **Canaan** – Southern Syria (Phoenecia and Palestine), his land would eventually become Israel's

• Sons of Cush

⁷ *The sons of **Cush**: Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah, and Sabteca. The sons of Raamah: Sheba and Dedan.* ⁸ *Cush fathered Nimrod; he was the first on earth to be a mighty man.* ⁹ *He was a mighty hunter before the LORD. Therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod a mighty hunter before the LORD."* ¹⁰ *The beginning of his kingdom was Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.* ¹¹ *From that land he went into Assyria and built Nineveh, Rehoboth-Ir, Calah, and* ¹² *Resen between Nineveh and Calah; that is the great city.*

- But his sons went towards southern Arabia
- **Seba** – Northern Africa (according to Josephus, ancient Ethiopia)
- **Havilah** – Southwest Arabia
- **Sabtah** – Southern Arabia (Shabwat)
- **Raamah** – Southern Arabia (Najran)
- **Sabteca** – Southern Arabia (Nubia, south of Egypt)
- **Sheba** – Southern Arabia
- **Dedan** – North Arabia
- **Nimrod** –

- Jonathan Safarti: "The Bible portrays Nimrod as the first major dictator and empire builder." (*The Genesis Account*, p. 642)
 - his reputation is well known to Israel
 - Nimrod controlled all of Mesopotamia (Shinar = all of Mesopotamia) including Babylonia (south 10:10) and Assyria (north, 10:10-12)
 - His name means "we shall rebel" (he is a powerful influence on the Tower of Babel)
 - Warrior (Heb. means "tyrant")
 - Mighty hunter – unlike David, a shepherd king, the ancient Near Eastern kings were proud hunters
 - Babylon was the major power in Ancient Israel's time (like Rome was in the days of the NT)
 - By the time Nebuchadnezzar presided over Babylon, the city was over 225 square miles (San Francisco is roughly 16 squ.miles)
 - "Babel" = semitic, means "the gate of the god"
 - Nimrod was known for building cities (he didn't focus on worshipping God)
- **Egypt** (7 sons) – vv. 13-14
¹³ **Egypt** *Lehabim, Naphtuhim, ¹⁴ Pathrusim, Casluhim (from whom the Philistines came), and Caphtorim. fathered Ludim, Anamim,*
 - V. 13 **Egypt** *fathered Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim, ¹⁴ Pathrusim, Casluhim (from whom² the Philistines came), and Caphtorim.*
 - His sons settled in the land of Egypt
 - Casluhim was the father of the Philistines – who wreaked havoc on Israel
 - **Caphtorites** - Cretans
- **Canaan** (11 sons) – vv, 15-20
¹⁵ **Canaan** *fathered Sidon his firstborn and Heth, ¹⁶ and the Jebusites, the Amorites, the Girgashites, ¹⁷ the Hivites, the Arkites, the Sinites, ¹⁸ the Arvadites, the Zemarites, and the Hamathites. Afterward the clans of the Canaanites dispersed. ¹⁹ And the territory of the Canaanites extended from Sidon in the direction of Gerar as far as Gaza, and in the direction of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim, as far as Lasha. ²⁰ These are the sons of Ham, by their clans, their languages, their lands, and their nations.*
 - V. 15 – **Sidon** – Sidon was also the oldest city in Canaan. Along with Tyre, Sidon was was a maritime city.
 - **Heth** – probably ancestor of the **Hittites**
 - V. 16 **Jebus** is the father of the Jebusites who founded the ancient city of Jebus
 - The city of Jebus would become Jerusalem when Israel takes over the land of Canaan
 - **Amorites** – also one of the cofounders of ancient Jerusalem with the Hittites (Ezek 16:3)
Ezekiel 16:3 Thus says the Lord GOD to Jerusalem: Your origin and your birth are of the land of the Canaanites; your father was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite.
 - Gaza – where modern Gaza is

C. The Descendants Of Shem (21-31)

²¹ To **Shem** also, the father of all the children of **Eber**, the elder brother of Japheth, children were born. ²² The sons of Shem: **Elam, Asshur, Arpachshad, Lud, and Aram.** ²³ The sons of Aram: Uz, Hul, Gether, and Mash. ²⁴ Arpachshad fathered Shelah; and Shelah fathered Eber. ²⁵ To Eber were born two sons: the name of the one was Peleg, for in his days the earth was divided, and his brother's name was Joktan. ²⁶ Joktan fathered 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 The territory in which they lived extended from Mesha in the direction of Sephar to the hill country of the east. ³¹ These are the sons of Shem, by their clans, their languages, their lands, and their nations.

- Shem father Arpachshad who fathered Eber
 - **Elam** had the Elamites
 - **Eber** (v. 21) is the origin for the word **Hebrew**
 - *Eber* means "emigrant"
 - An "emigrant" is leaving their country for another
 - An "immigrant" is arriving at a country from a previous
 - E.g. one leaving Japan to the USA is an emigrant
 - One coming to the USA from Japan is an immigrant
 - "It is interesting that the Ebla tablets, Sumerian texts from the mid-third millennium B.C., refer to a king named Ebrum, who ruled Ebla (northern Syria) for twenty-eight years. Some scholars have speculated that Ebrum and Eber was in fact the same person. Abraham is the first person in the Scriptures referred to as a "Hebrew" (Gen. 14: 13)." *Gangel, Kenneth; Bramer, Stephen J. (2003-04-01). Holman Old Testament Commentary - Genesis: 1 (p. 106). B&H Publishing Group. Kindle Edition.*
 - Eber had 2 sons – **Peleg** (name means "division") and **Joktan** (Aramaic name meaning "watchful" or "small,"/ "insignificant")
 - V. 25 The earth was divided
- **Asshur** (v. 22) is related to **Assyria**
 - **Arphaxad** – not sure where territory is, but his line is mentioned in 11:12-17
 - **Lud** – Lydians in Asia Minor
 - **Aram** – Aramean people
- Allen P. Ross: "The human race, although united by origin, is divided by language, territory, and politics as a part of God's design to bring blessing to the human race." (*Creation & Blessing*, p. 230)
 - John Piper: "The bloodline of Jesus Christ is deeper than the bloodlines of race. The death and resurrection of the Son of God for sinners is the only sufficient power to bring the bloodlines of race into the single bloodline of the cross." *Piper, John (2011-09-08). Bloodlines (Foreword by Tim Keller): Race, Cross, and the Christian (pp. 13-14). Crossway. Kindle Edition.*

II. The Diversification Of Nations

³² These are the clans of the sons of Noah, according to their genealogies, in their nations, and from these the nations spread abroad on the earth after the flood.

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Acts 17:26 "He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place."

B. The Church Is To See Us Unified In Christ, Not Divided By Race (Gal 3:28, Acts 2:5-11)

Galatians 3:28 "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

Acts 2:5-11 5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from **every nation under heaven**. 6 And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. 7 And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? 9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, 11 both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

C. The Scriptures Urge Us To Love The Immigrant (Deut 10:19)

Deuteronomy 10:19 "Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt."

D. All Nations And Nationalities Are To Seek Their Place Before Christ More Than Their Place In The World (Rev 7:9)

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1. We must intentionally seek to be a community church reaching all nations and nationalities.
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3. Consider ministry to international students. Many students come to study in the U.S. and have not been to an American home or a Christian Church. Providing food and help with English is a great open door.
 - Russell Jeung: "What I've learned from my family and gained from my refugee neighbors is a more precious gift. I have come to realize that both now and in the future, each of us is honored as a guest of the King. Even despite our temporary sufferings, in the midst of

this fallen world, and in light of our shame, God knows our yearnings. And given his loyal love and his overwhelming peace, all of us—refugees, foreigners, aliens, and strangers—can learn to be at home in exile. (*At Home In Exile*, p. 213)

4. Go on a short term missions trip to another country or attach a missions trip to your family vacation. (Mt 28:19-20)