

Isles of the Gentiles

Genesis 10:1 – 11:4



~ In this report from our Spiritual Safari we will visit the isles of the Gentiles very briefly before heading off for the land of Canaan with Abraham. We won't be spending much time at all with the Gentiles on these islands, because the origins of the nations of the world in chapter ten just aren't all that interesting, quite frankly; although I must say that this chapter IS far more important than it will be given credit for in this report. Don't think of this as corner cutting, though – because you dear readers know this safari doesn't cut corners; but, rather, think of this as taking a more efficient route. Some things can be done the hard way or the easier way with the exact same end result – and the easier way is how I feel led to guide us through this chapter. Another reason for an abbreviated study here is that this chapter will only appeal to certain people, such as those who are interested in ethnology, anthropology and other culture related origins that just aren't the subject of study in this expedition through the entire Word of God.

A chart pertaining to this chapter of the Bible is available which was made by a man with a master's degree in ethnology, Mr. H S Miller. It is an extremely complicated chart, showing where all the races of the world and nations originated. You can locate on the chart where YOU came from, too; and you can be assured that the sons of Japheth are not part of the erroneously mislabeled "ten lost tribes" of Israel. Mr. Miller uses the tenth chapter of Genesis to provide the basis for his three-fold division of his subject of study.

Today, we are living in a world that is divided into three major races, basically, and those three are all mentioned in this chapter as the sons of Noah: Shem, Ham and Japheth. This chapter brings us the genealogy of each of them. The line of Japheth runs from verse two through five; the

descendants of Ham are found in verses six through twenty; and those of Shem are located in verses twenty-one through thirty-one. The line of Ham will be the outstanding family here in the beginning. The pattern of revelation we found when we examined Cain and Abel will also be found here - and will be found throughout the rest of the Bible, by the way - and that is, God gives the rejected line first with but a few words concerning them, and then He drops them as the subject – never to be brought up again. After that, God gives, in detail, the accepted line that will lead to the Lord Jesus Christ....

X

¹ Now these are the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth: and unto them were sons born after the flood.

² The sons of Japheth; Gomer, and Magog, and Madai, and Javan, and Tubal, and Meshech, and Tiras.

³ And the sons of Gomer; Ashkenaz, and Riphath, and Togarmah.

⁴ And the sons of Javan; Elishah, and Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim.

⁵ By these were the isles of the Gentiles divided in their lands; every one after his tongue, after their families, in their nations.

~ From Japheth comes the Japhetic peoples — the Medes, Greeks, Cypriots – and this probably includes the Caucasian people of Europe and of northern Asia. Many scholars would also include the Orientals here. H.S. Miller's chart includes four groups that came from Japheth: (1) those who proceeded from Magog: Scythians, Slavs, Russians, Bulgarians, Bohemians, Poles, Slovaks, and Croatians (2) those from Madai: the Indians and the Iranic races — Medes, Persians, Afghans, and Kurds (3) those from Javan: Greeks, Romans and the Romance nationalities such as French, Spanish, Portuguese and Italian and (4) those from Tiras: Thracians, Teutons, Germans, and the east Germanic and European races, the north Germanic - the Scandinavians - and the west Germanic from which comes the High

German and the Low German - and the Anglo-Saxon race, the English people.

From Ham came the Hamitic peoples — Ethiopians, Egyptians, Canaanites, Philistines, Babylonians, and possibly the remaining African and Oriental peoples, too; though many scholars view the Orientals as Japhetic. As we can see, Ham had sons other than Canaan; even though it was only Canaan who was cursed. Why? – Well, we went over that reason in our previous report from our Spiritual Safari; and I'm not inclined to go into that again here, but only Canaan was cursed by Noah, you will recall. From Canaan come the Phoenician's, the Ammorite's, the Hittite's, Hivites, the Jebusite's, the Gergite's and probably all electric lights, too. The African's came from Cush; and they are referred to generally as Ethiopian's in Scripture....

6 And the sons of Ham; Cush, and Mizraim, and Phut, and Canaan.

7 And the sons of Cush; Seba, and Havilah, and Sabtah, and Raamah, and Sabtecha: and the sons of Raamah; Sheba, and Dedan.

8 And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth.

9 He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.

~ Nimrod's goal was to be the world's ruler; and he had no compunction about killing anyone and everyone that he had to in order to obtain his aspirations. He was a mighty hunter, all right; but not of the big-game animal hunter style. No, friends, Nimrod hunted for PEOPLE that he could kill and pilfer. I heard a grandmother one time say of her grandson, who had been hunting with a BB gun - and had killed a whole lot of sparrows, "he's a little Nimrod!" Well, Nimrod wasn't shooting sparrows, I can assure you of that; and he wasn't after men's souls to save them, either. A thrilling study on Nimrod from secular history can be found in Alexander Hislop's book entitled *The Two Babylon's*. If you are serious about a study of the black race this is must-read. Check it out if you would like, because I must conclude commentary of the Hamitic line in our safari study here.

Also, be sure to read the verses I have omitted from this report in your Bible....

10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.

11 Out of that land went forth Asshur, and builded Nineveh, and the city Rehoboth, and Calah,

~ This is where God bids a loving farewell to humanity as He leaves all the nations of the earth to themselves and begins to deal with Israel, His chosen people, beginning with Abraham and moving on down from there. God may be leaving them for a while, but He still loves humanity, in general, very much. God created all of the nations and has ordered their futures by genealogies because of His love for humanity! Fourteen nations came from Japheth; thirty nations came from Ham; twenty-six nations came from Shem - and that totals seventy nations in all – which brings us to Shem. From Shem came the Semitic peoples — Jews, Arabs, Libyans, Syrians and Arameans. This is the line that will lead to Abraham and then ultimately to the Lord Jesus Christ. I know this leg of our so called safari is turning into a dizzying zigzag, but we have a pattern that we will have to follow when we follow Christ. So, now we will follow Shem’s line for a while....

21 Unto Shem also, the father of all the children of Eber, the brother of Japheth the elder, even to him were children born.

~ Apparently, we live in a day and age when the white man has come to the front of world leadership. This was not always the case in world history, of course. In this beginning, at the time in which we are studying, the world’s leadership was with the black man - or colored races. Then, during the time of David, the sons of Shem made a tremendous impact in this world. So, the logical question now becomes: where do we go from here? - And what is the point of all of this information, really? – Well, I believe the point is that, irrespective of man’s lineage, he is incapable of ruling the world! If man were capable of ruling himself then man wouldn’t need God! This is God’s public demonstration of that tenet of truth. When you see a

crowd protesting to defy the government in some town square somewhere, THIS is the ONLY thing that they are protesting! If you can see what I am saying – then you see it is a tremendous thing! Alright, to pull us out of this chapter let's look at another verse that has had endless commentary on it....

25 And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of one was Peleg; for in his days was the earth divided; and his brother's name was Joktan.

~ There are many weird, wild and absurdly wacky contending conundrums for the statement, "...the earth was divided" – and they range from physical catastrophe to theories that cannot even remotely be taken seriously. The simplest interpretation seems to be the one that so many people miss; and that is: that Moses was anticipating the next chapter and the tower of Babel; which is when the earth was truly divided. So, with that, we have literally run through chapter ten of Genesis; which is certainly one of the greatest chapters in the Bible. I have intentionally omitted many verses from this section of Scripture; so, again, I suggest you take the time to read it completely. We have spent less time here than in any chapter so far in our safari. Anyone seeking an honest appraisal of the human family would do well to spend quite some time researching these lines of the human family. As we have seen, many remarkable scholars have used, indeed, majored in, this section of the Word of God. We aren't looking for or into those mundane things in our Spiritual Safari, though. We are looking for the One thing that most religions are not even the slightest bit interested in – finding the Lord Jesus Christ. Ever heard of a mission from God? – Well, we're on it, friends; and that search for Him will bring us hurtling into chapter eleven – after just one more verse....

32 These are the families of the sons of Noah, after their generations, in their nations: and by these were the nations divided in the earth after the flood.

XI

1 And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.

~ All of the sudden we are going to see what Dr. J Vernon McGee has called the “greatest tongues movement on record:” the Tower of Babel. We won’t get much further from here in this report; but we will visit the construction site at Babel - and on this construction site the men are all speaking the same language right now. I don’t know what language it was - but I am almost sure it was Texan! Of course, it could have easily been something else; but whatever that language was, my personal estimation is that it is the language that is spoken in Heaven; and, again, I have been wrong before so I could be wrong here. What I am very sure of is that it is a better language than we have today; more precise terminology with sharper adjectives, more definitive verbs - and so on. Apparently, man was going towards the west as the Bible tells us man was journeying FROM the east! Obviously, they found a land in the plain of the Tigris-Euphrates valley....

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 And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar.

4 And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.

~ There is no natural stone in that area of the world, so they manufactured brick. Brick – or cinder block - is still the most popular building material today, by far; but that’s not really all that amazing. What is amazing about verses three and four is the self-will of man at this point. God didn’t tell them to build this thing. They decided to make themselves something. This tower was to be a place to rally - a place for man to show what he is made of. The tower at Babel was a ziggurat: an ancient Mesopotamian temple tower consisting of a lofty pyramidal structure built in successive stages with outside staircases and an altar – or shrine - at the top. There are many of them in the Tigris-Euphrates river valley – all in ruins, of course.

Now, man’s altars – or let’s call them shrines - on most occasion’s, had upon it human sacrifices. Children were usually the best offerings; typically,

being placed in the arms of some idol that had been heated to red hot. All of that craziness was connected with the ziggurat; but THIS tower at Babel was made for one sole purpose: to reach up to Heaven! Some people have theorized that they were trying to get their feet out of the water; but they aren't even trying to build above flood stage, I'm sure – that's NOT the thought here at all. The picture here is of a rebellious mankind who will not accept God to lift him up but, rather, sets his heart against God and decides he will construct his own way to Him! There's no sense over thinking this; because it all boils down to simple-minded willful disobedience of man against Almighty God.

I'm sure you noticed the emphasis on "us" in verse four. These people had a fatal case of perpendicular ietus. Perpendicular ietus is "I" trouble – and it also causes spiritual blindness. It's the disease where all that matters are me, myself and I. Evidently, it was Nimrod who perpetuated all of this construction business, too. This was to be the place from which Nimrod could establish and maintain his world empire, which was in defiance of and directly opposed to God, of course; but there were two factors and features that would be essential to attaining this goal. First, a *center of unity* would need to be established; a headquarters, of sorts, or a capitol - a place where assembly was easy and where people could look forward to coming and being a part of the action. The rallying point necessarily had to be geographical AND psychological; because it would have to help motivate people and give them purpose to be successful. This was a place of spark and inspiration - sort of like "rally around the flag" or some other song - or even a battle cry. Second, the Tower of Babel would have to have impelling and compelling motivators. It was probably a lot like Lenin's tomb today, where communism meets. That's the sort of monument the Tower of Babel was. These people were going to declare themselves something special because of what they had done. They had an arrogant, defiant attitude against God combined with an appalling and overweening ambition.

When God said to man, "...scatter abroad on the earth"....man replied, "nothing doing." They didn't scatter, they decided to just join hands and they got even closer together. They were through with God, and they told Him they were going to replace Him. This is an extremely dangerous cliff our Spiritual Safari ends this leg of our expedition through the entire Word

of God on, so do be extra careful in your reading through here. All of this Babel business was very religious stuff. Don't get the idea that these people had no religion. All through the valley the ruins remain today. They were worshipping, but they worshipped the creature – not the Creator! They worshipped the sun, the moon and the stars - and all of that – everything except Him! Some towers were round, and some were square, interestingly enough; but, either way, they only went to the top to see the sun, moon, stars - and so on. Of course, these people needed to see the stars because, after all, if you can see stars, then there aren't any clouds in the sky – which means it's not going to flood again. These people thought God was a pretty mean God for having sent that flood, too, you know. So, we now have some very deep things to consider as we move to our next report. Let's be careful and let's actually read and study our Bible lest we remain ignorant of the loving and gracious God in Heaven, Who loves us, shall we? ~

