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Genesis Part 2
Lesson 7, Chapters 10–11

LESSON SEVEN

Shem, Ham, Japheth, and the Nations

THIS LESSON
INCORPORATES

The following located in the Appendix:
Observation Worksheets of Genesis 10–11
“Genesis 1–11 at a Glance”
“The Overlapping of the Patriarchs’ Lives”
Cross-references

In our last week of study, Beloved, you’ll discover many fascinating insights concerning the new world Noah and his family encountered . . . the world we know today.

A world of nations, multiple languages, continents. How did it all get started from just three men and their wives after a worldwide catastrophe?

It’s going to be quite a finale to our study of this second segment of Genesis, and will prove very valuable to your study of the Old Testament and the various prophecies about the nations of this world.

DAY ONE

1. After committing your study to the Lord in prayer, read Genesis 9:18 through Genesis 10:32. Now make a new Key Word Bookmark for your Observation Worksheet of Genesis 10. Then mark:
 - a. every reference to *Shem, Ham, and Japheth*, each in a distinctive color.
 - b. every occurrence of the following words and/or phrases (including any others you want to mark):
 - 1) *the generations of*
 - 2) *after the flood*
 - 3) *nations*
 - 4) *the earth*
 - 5) *each one with his own language (by their languages)*



- 6) *by their lands (in their lands)*
 - 7) *Peleg*
 - c. every reference to geographical locations as you've done previously. This is very important, so don't miss anything.
 - d. references to time.
2. From Genesis 10, record the following:
- a. When sons were born to Shem, Ham, and Japheth
 - b. Everything you learn from marking *nations*
 - c. What you learn from marking *the earth*

DAY
TWO

1. Now observe Genesis 11 and mark the words on your bookmark in addition to the following. Add these to your Genesis 10–11 bookmark.
- a. Include in your markings every occurrence of the following words and/or phrases (including, of course, pronouns and synonyms):
 - 1) all references to the people beginning with *the whole earth* in verse 1
 - 2) *language(s)*
 - 3) *Nahor* (but not Terah's son Nahor)
 - 4) *Terah*



- 5) *Abram* (You'll want to mark him the same way throughout the Word of God.)
 - 6) *Sarai*
 - 7) *Lot*
 - 8) *city*
- b. Don't forget to double underline references to geographical locations, including *Shinar*. Locate these on the map at the end of the lesson. By the way, *Shinar* is critical in this chapter.
 - c. Don't forget to mark references to time, with the exception of people's ages. Instead, you might want to total the number of years each man lived and record it in the margin of the text next to the verse that mentions him.
2. Now to summarize what you observed, do the following:
- a. List everything you learn from marking *city*.
 - b. Where is this city? What present-day country is it in?
 - c. What does the text tell you about the people at the time the city was built?
 - d. What do you learn from marking *language*?



Lesson 7, Chapters 10–11

- So why? What is God's plan, His purpose in laying out these two chapters?



- c. Do you see the same pattern as in Genesis 1 and 2? In Genesis 1, God gives the overview of creation, and in chapter 2 He fills in the details. What is God doing in Genesis 10 and 11? Explain it and give the reason for your answer.

- d. How do the events of chapters 10 and 11 relate to one another chronologically? For example, do the events of chapter 10 precede the events of chapter 11?

- e. Where do you think the account of building the city and confusing language fits into Genesis 10? How do you know?

- 5. Now, having observed Genesis 10 and 11 what would you record as the theme of each of these chapters? Put them on your At a Glance chart.

Isn't this interesting? Don't you just stand in awe of the Word of God! Do you realize how privileged we are to be able to study the Word of God the way we do, and then to learn from one another in our class discussions? And to have the fellowship we have with one another? This is so important—treasure it, Beloved. Another Day of Judgment is on the horizon and we need the love, the prayers, the fellowship and support of one another.



DAY
THREE

1. At the end of this lesson, you'll find the chart "Noah's Offspring." You will notice that the offspring of Shem, Ham, and Japheth are listed on the chart. Review the names of their offspring and mark any that stand out to you. If more information is given in the text with a name, summarize it on the chart near that name.
2. Why do you think God gives us more detail with respect to Shem than to others?
3. Since we marked Peleg earlier in our study this week, let's see what the text tells us upon closer observation (unless you've already discovered it).
 - a. Note what you learn about Peleg's place in the genealogy of Shem in Genesis 10:25. Simply from observing the text, what significant event happened in Peleg's days? Can this answer skeptics questioning how the offspring of Shem, Ham, and Japheth crossed oceans?
 - b. Using the "Noah's Offspring" chart as a chronological guideline
 - 1) When was Babel built and language on the earth confused—how many generations from Ham?
 - 2) When was the earth divided—how many generations from Shem?
 - 3) Were the languages confused before or after Peleg?



4. What makes the account of Noah's sons and offspring significant? Read Genesis 10:5, 20, 31-32 and then record your answer.

Is your tongue hanging out? Press on. Take a big drink from the water of life. You are almost finished. Whatever it costs you to do it right and finish it will bring future rewards.

DAY
FOUR

1. Read Genesis 11:1-9. List below all you learn from the text about the tower of Babel and the confusion of the language. Remember the 5 Ws and an H: who, what, where, when, why, and how. Seek out their answers.

2. Now let's examine this passage.

- a. According to Genesis 11:4, why did the people want to build a city and a tower?
- b. Compare this with Genesis 9:1, 7.



- c. What did God do?
 - d. What did God say about man's potential as "one people" in Genesis 11:6?
 - e. How would all this apply to us today and to our ability to communicate with others around the world regardless of distance and language differences? Think about this one! In fact, take a minute and look up Daniel 12:4 and consider how it fits!
3. Read Genesis 11:8-9.
- a. When was the city given its name and what was its name?
 - b. Look at the offspring of Ham. Who is connected with the city and how? Note the geographical locations in chapters 10 and 11.
4. At the end of this lesson, you'll find a map taken from the *New Inductive Study Bible*¹ which suggests where the offspring of Shem, Ham, and Japheth settled. You might want to look at it. It would be helpful to color the nations

¹ *The New Inductive Study Bible*, Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2013.



that descended from Shem, Ham, and Japheth each with a different color in order to see the distribution clearly.

5. Look at the chart in the Appendix “The Overlapping of the Patriarchs’ Lives.” If you have a *New Inductive Study Bible*, you’ll find the same chart in Genesis. Use the chart to help you answer the following:
 - a. Look at the men who lived before the Flood. What was their average life span?
 - b. How old was Noah when he died?
 - c. Look at Genesis 11:10-26 and observe the ages of Shem’s offspring who lived after the Flood. Remember, you noted these on your Observation Worksheet. What do you observe about their life spans?
6. Read Psalm 90:1-12, which is printed out for you at the end of the lesson.
 - a. Mark every reference to *the Lord* and *days*. Then consider what you learn.
 - b. What do you learn about man’s life span?



- c. How does the psalmist suggest that you apply this information?

DAY
FIVE

1. As you begin your final day of Genesis Part 2, look at your “Genesis 1–11 at a Glance” chart in the Appendix. Read the chapter themes. See if you want to change or add anything to the chart.

To the left of your chapter themes, you will see “Segment Divisions.” A segment division is a major division in a book, such as a group of chapters that deal with the same subject, doctrine, person, place, or event. Look at your chapter themes. Do you see several chapters that cover the same subject? For instance, what subject is covered in Genesis 1 and 2? Record it under “Segment Divisions.” Use a horizontal line to delineate the beginning or end of a segment. Have fun with this. It will be a great way to review what you’ve learned in Genesis 1–11.

2. Feel free to read what commentaries say about Genesis 10 and 11.

Well, Beloved, our study is completed! You have examined Scripture in depth. You have wrestled with serious issues of your time. You have built solid foundations on which truth can stand. But there is so much more to come. Incredible insights for living await you as we study Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph.

The truths of Genesis Parts 3, 4, and 5 will ignite your heart until, like Abraham, you can lay your Isaac on the altar of consecration in perfect trust, for you know your God and that He watches over His Word to perform it. Abraham was the only man in the Old Testament to be called the friend of God. What is it like to be a friend of God? That, Beloved, is what you will discover in Genesis, Part 3.



Genesis Part 2

The Settlement of the Offspring of Shem, Ham, and Japheth

The Settlement of the Offspring of Shem, Ham, and Japheth

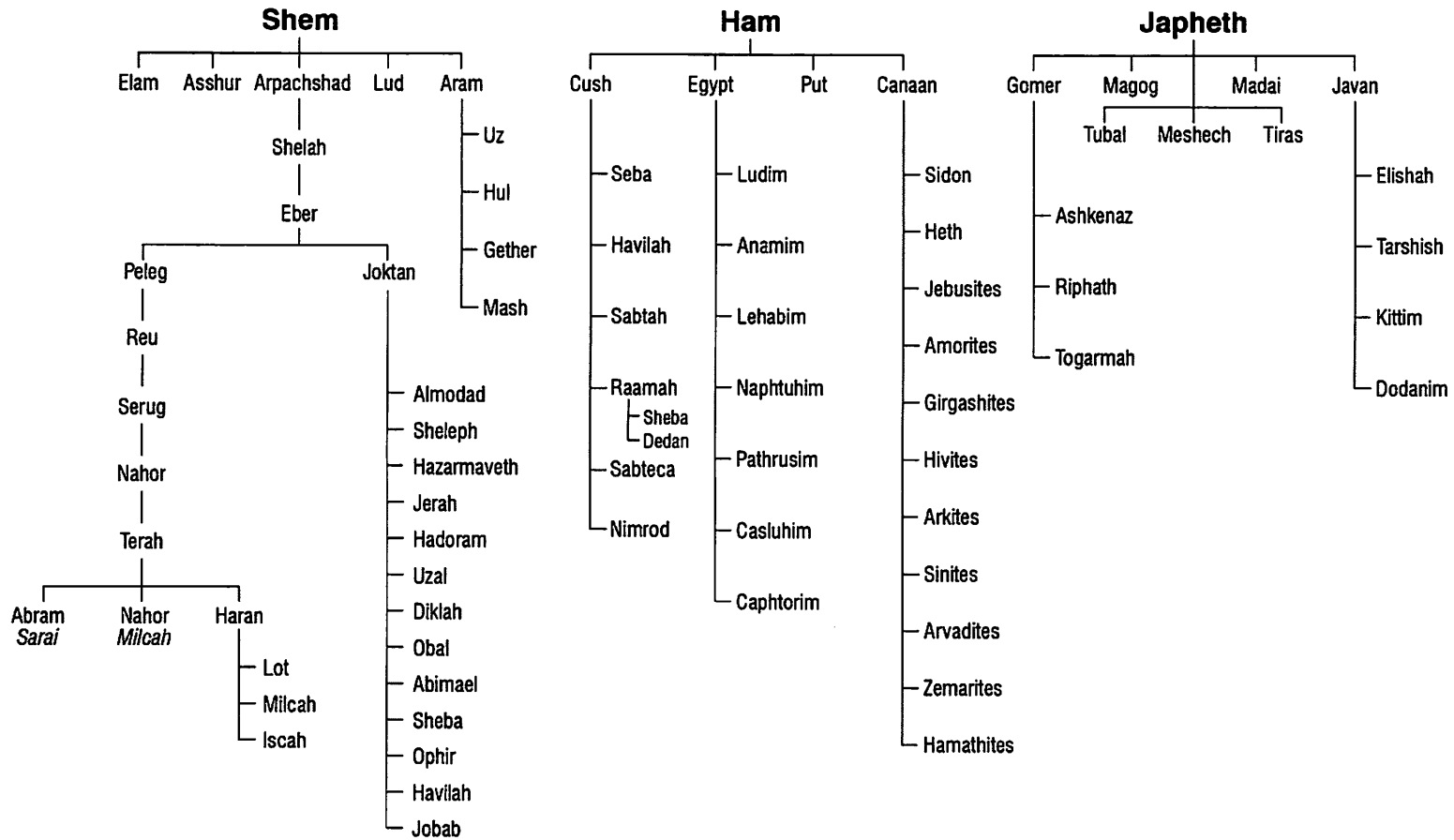




PSALM 90:1-12

- 1 Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
- 3 You return man to dust
and say, "Return, O children of man!"
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight
are but as yesterday when it is past,
or as 'a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning:
- 6 in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.
- 7 For we are brought to an end by your anger;
by your wrath we are dismayed.
- 8 You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your presence.
- 9 For all our days pass away under your wrath;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
- 10 The years of our life are seventy,
or even by reason of strength eighty;
yet their span is but toil and trouble;
they are soon gone, and we fly away.
- 11 Who considers the power of your anger,
and your wrath according to the fear of you?
- 12 So teach us to number our days
that we may get a heart of wisdom.

Noah's Offspring





GENESIS 10

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

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.

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

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.

13 Egypt fathered Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim,



- 14 Pathrusim, Casluhim (from whom the Philistines came), and
Capthorim.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.





GENESIS 11

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

NOW the whole earth had one language and the same words.

- 2 And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there.
- 3 And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar.
- 4 Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth."
- 5 And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built.
- 6 And the LORD said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them.
- 7 "Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech."
- 8 So the LORD dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city.
- 9 Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth. And from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth.



- 10 These are the generations of Shem. When Shem was 100 years old, he fathered Arpachshad two years after the flood.
- 11 And Shem lived after he fathered Arpachshad 500 years and had other sons and daughters.
- 12 When Arpachshad had lived 35 years, he fathered Shelah.
- 13 And Arpachshad lived after he fathered Shelah 403 years and had other sons and daughters.
- 14 When Shelah had lived 30 years, he fathered Eber.
- 15 And Shelah lived after he fathered Eber 403 years and had other sons and daughters.
- 16 When Eber had lived 34 years, he fathered Peleg.
- 17 And Eber lived after he fathered Peleg 430 years and had other sons and daughters.
- 18 When Peleg had lived 30 years, he fathered Reu.
- 19 And Peleg lived after he fathered Reu 209 years and had other sons and daughters.
- 20 When Reu had lived 32 years, he fathered Serug.
- 21 And Reu lived after he fathered Serug 207 years and had other sons and daughters.
- 22 When Serug had lived 30 years, he fathered Nahor.
- 23 And Serug lived after he fathered Nahor 200 years and had other sons and daughters.
- 24 When Nahor had lived 29 years, he fathered Terah.



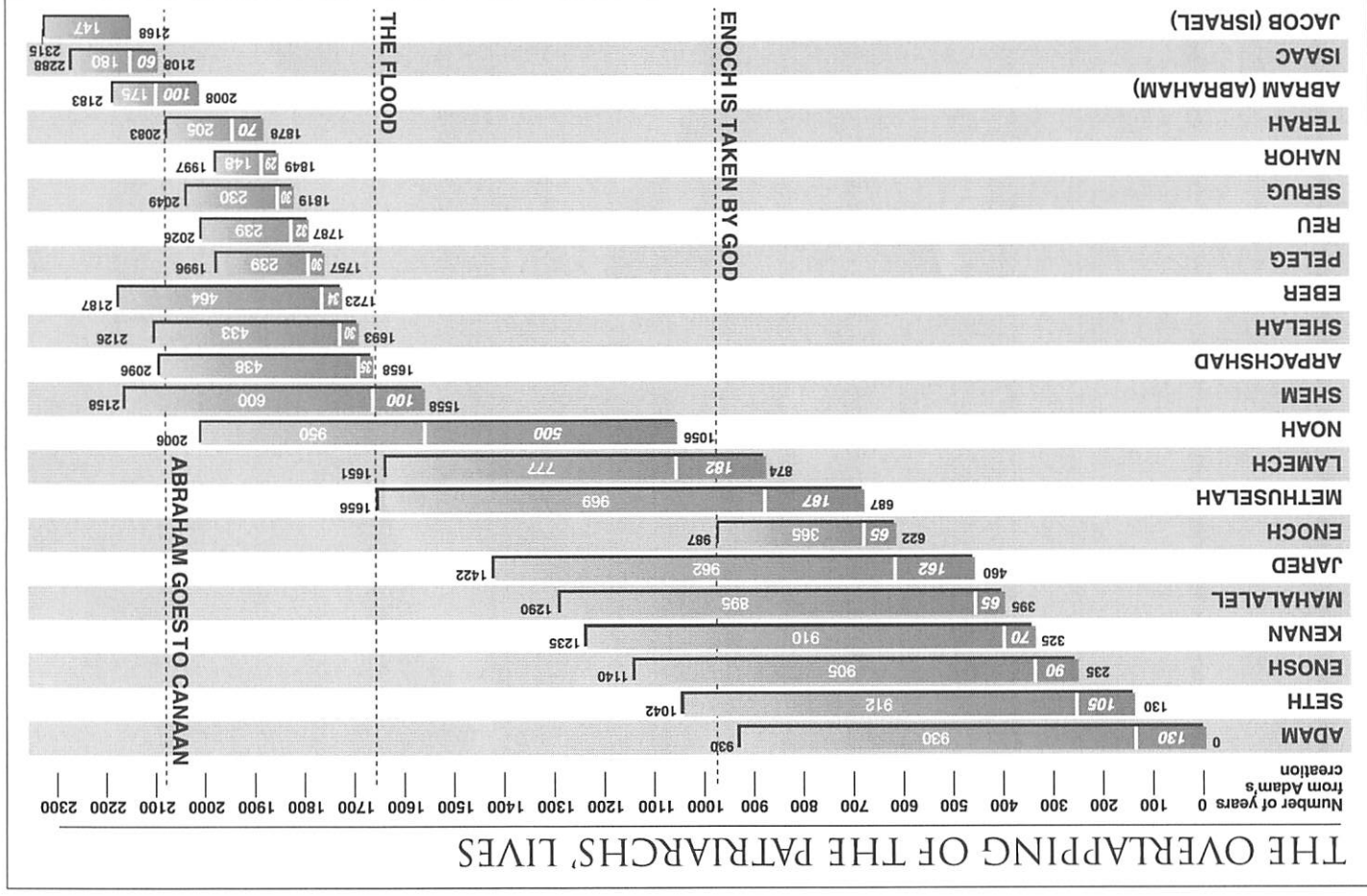
- 25 And Nahor lived after he fathered Terah 119 years and had other sons and daughters.
- 26 When Terah had lived 70 years, he fathered Abram, Nahor, and Haran.
- 27 Now these are the generations of Terah. Terah fathered Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran fathered Lot.
- 28 Haran died in the presence of his father Terah in the land of his kindred, in Ur of the Chaldeans.
- 29 And 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 Iscah.
- 30 Now Sarai was barren; she had no child.
- 31 Terah took Abram his son and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife, and they went forth together from Ur of the Chaldeans to go into the land of Canaan, but when they came to Haran, they settled there.
- 32 The days of Terah were 205 years, and Terah died in Haran.





Genesis Part 2

The Overlapping of the Patriarchs' Lives



KEY: The first number inside the block is the man's age when his son (whose name is in the next line below) was born. The second number in the block is the number of years the man lived. The numbers preceding and following each block are the number of years from Adam's creation. (Note also: Shem's 1558 birth reflects Genesis 11:10's note that he was 100 two years after the flood, and Abram's 2008 birth is based on his trip to Canaan [Gen. 11:32; 12:1] at 75 [12:4].)

