

The Book of Genesis

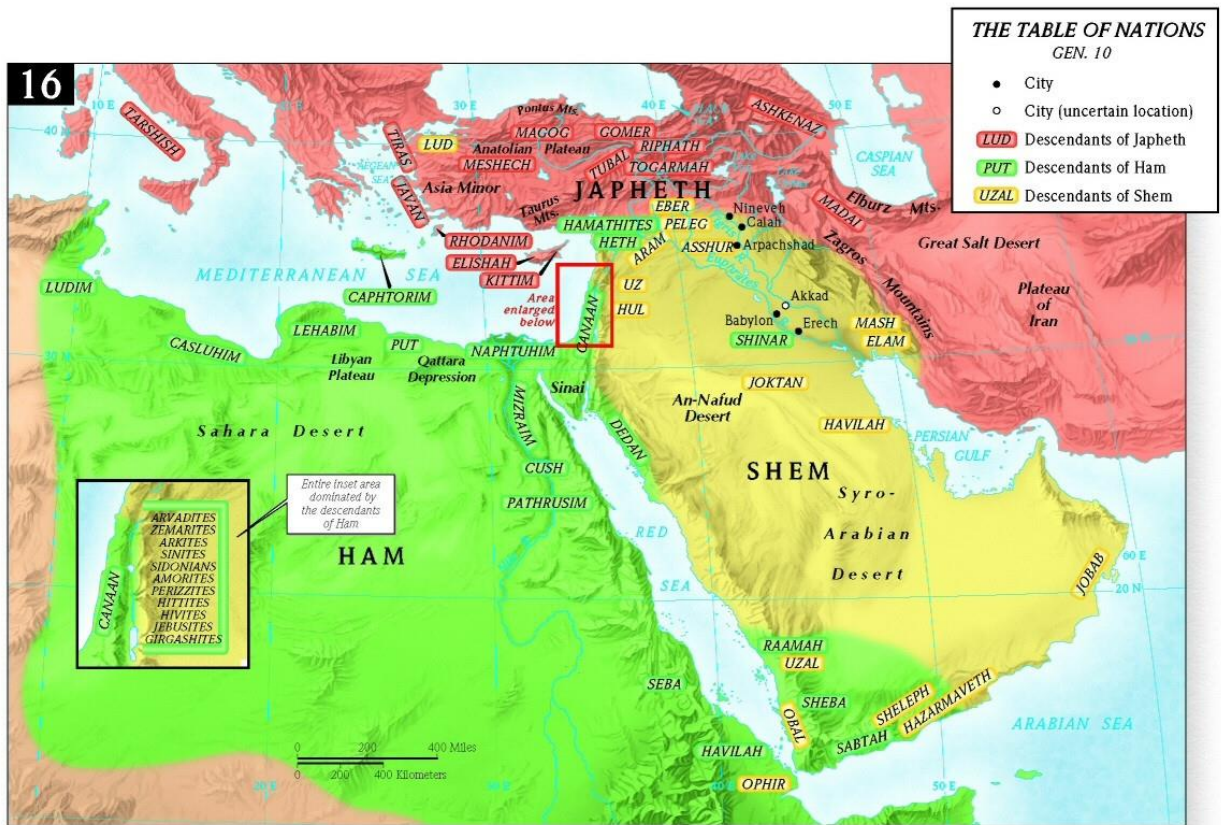
The Book of Genesis

The Table of Nations

- I. The Descendants of Japheth (Genesis 10:1-5)
- A. The descendants of Japheth are given as seven sons and seven grandsons.
 - 1. These genealogies may not be complete.
 - 2. The purpose seems to be to list those who became the founders or heads of nations that were prominent in history.
 - B. Gomer – located near the Black Sea (cf. Eze. 38:2-6)
 - 1. Ashkenaz – Asia Minor (probably the Phrygians and Mysians) but later moved to Armenia (cf. Jer. 51:27)
 - 2. Riphath – unknown
 - 3. Togarmah – usually associated with northern Armenia (cf. Eze. 27:14; 38:6)
 - C. Magog – “Land of Gog” – probably the Scythians (cf. Eze. 38:2-6; 39:6; Rev. 20:8)
 - D. Madai – refers to the Medes
 - E. Javan – Hebrew word for the Greeks (cf. Isa. 66:19; Eze. 27:13, 19)
 - 1. Elishah – inhabited islands of the Aegean Sea [Aeolians] (cf. Eze. 27:7)
 - 2. Tarshish – Spain
 - 3. Kittim – Cyprus
 - 4. Dodanim – either Troy or the Isle of Rhodes
 - F. Tubal and Meshech – probably settled southeast of the Black Sea, approaching the Caspian Sea (cf. Isa. 66:19; Eze. 27:13; 32:26; 38:1-3; 39:1)
 - G. Tiras – thought to refer to the Thracians or to the Etruscans of Italy
- II. The Descendants of Ham (Genesis 10:6-20)
- A. The descendants of Ham are listed as 4 sons, 24 grandsons, and 3 great-grandsons.
 - B. Cush – often refers to Ethiopia, but also refers to a region in Asia, a part of Mesopotamia (cf. Gen. 2:13; Isa. 11:11; Eze. 38:5), and to a region in southern Arabia (cf. Num. 12:1)
 - 1. Seba – part of Egypt, called Sabaeans in Isa. 45:14 (cf. Isa. 43:3; Psa. 72:10)
 - 2. Havilah – possibly southern Arabia or near modern Somalia (Gen. 28:15)
 - 3. Sabtah – probably northern Arabia
 - 4. Raamah – probably eastern Arabia
 - 5. Sabtecha – unknown
 - 6. Nimrod – Assyria, founder of Babylon (often associated with Gilgamesh)
 - C. Mizraim – Hebrew name for Egypt
 - 1. Ludim – Lud, either Lydia in Asia Minor or Nubia in Africa (cf. vs. 22)
 - 2. Anamim – unknown
 - 3. Lehabim – Libya
 - 4. Naphtuhim – Egypt, probably Memphis
 - 5. Pathrusim – Pathros
 - 6. Casluhim – unknown
 - 7. Caphtorim – possibly Crete, origin of the Philistines
 - D. Phut – Libya, north Africa (cf. Jer. 46:9; Eze. 27:10; 30:5; 38:5; Nahum 3:9)
 - E. Canaan – Palestine and southern Syria
 - 1. Special interest is given to the Canaanites, due to their history with Israel.

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- III. The Descendants of Shem (Genesis 10:21-32; 11:10-26)
- A. The descendants of Shem are given as 6 sons and 5 grandsons – with focus then shifting to a great-grandson, Eber, and his descendants.
 - B. Elam – Persia
 - C. Asshur – Assyria
 - D. Arphaxad – Chaldea
 1. Salah was the father of Eber.
 2. Eber had two sons, Peleg and Joktan.
 3. Joktan had 13 sons who became heads of tribes of Arabians.
 4. Through Peleg would come Abraham and the nation of Israel.
 - E. Lud – Lydia of Asia Minor
 - F. Aram – likely Syria (cf. Num. 23:7)
 - G. In Genesis 11, the genealogy of Shem is recorded to introduce Abram.
 1. Shem → Arphaxad → Salah → Eber → Peleg → Reu → Serug → Nahor → Terah → Abram
 2. Of course, this is where the history of man takes a dramatic turn...
 - H. God had not abandoned man after the Flood or the sin at the Tower of Babel.
 - I. Instead, He was working out a plan for man's redemption through His chosen man and seedline.



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