09. Genesis 10  Priestly list of the Nations
The Empire of Israel in relation to other nations of the earth

[Genesis 10]

These are the descendants of Noah’s sons, Shem, Ham and Japeth; children born to them after the flood.

see 5:32 [P] ‘Noah fathered Shem, Ham and Japeth’.
See 9:18 [J] ‘The sons of Noah who went into the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japeth.’

Compare Iapetos, one of the Titans, born of Ouranos [heavens] and Gaia [Earth]
Prometheus and Atlas are among his sons: (See Homer The Iliad 8.479, and Hesiod Theogony 507).

The descendants of Japeth [7 names of peoples or countries]

Gomer


Magog

Also Ezekiel 38:2; 39:6; Apocalypse 20:8 = probably the land of Gog [Gugu, Gyges] = Lydia in western Anatolia, with its capital at Sardis, of which Gog was the first king. He was also the ancestor of the famous Croesus.

Madai

Javan


Tubal and Meshech


Tiras

= one of the Indo-European Sea Peoples who, along with the Philistines, attacked Egypt in the 13th Century BC. Probably the Tyrrhenians from the islands of the Aegean [related to the Etruscans? Thracians?].

The sons of Gomer:

Ashkenaz

Jeremiah 51:27 = Scythians who replaced the Cimmerians as rulers of the north Black Sea.

Ripath

Josephus claims these are the Paphlygonians from between the Black Sea and Bythinia.

Togarmah

Ezekiel 27:13f; 38:3-6 = same area, probably a city bordering Tubal (above).
Javan
Tubal and Meshech
Tiras
The sons of Gomer:
Ashkenaz
Ripath
Togarmah
The descendants of Javan

Elishah

Tarshish

Kittim

Rhodanim

From these the Sea Peoples spread. These are the descendants of Japeth, in their lands, each with its own language by their families, in their nations.

Ezekiel 27:7 = Cyprus

Isaiah 66:19; Psalm 72:10; Jonah 1:3; 4:2; 1 Kings 10:22 = from the Aegean islands? perhaps the Phoenician colony at Tartessos in Spain?

Numbers 24:24; Isaiah 23:1,12; Jeremiah 12:10; Ezekiel 27:6; Daniel 11:30 = another name for Cyprus.

1 Chronicles 1:7 = Rhodes

= Refrain. See 10:20; 10:31

Note. The descendants of Japeth are from the far-north and west of Israel.
The descendants of Javan

Elishah

Tarshish

Kittim

Rhodanim

From these the Sea Peoples spread. These are the descendants of Japeth, in their lands, each with its own language by their families, in their nations.
The descendants of Ham
Cush
Mizraim
Put

Canaan

Descendants of Cush:
Seba
Havilah
Sabtah
Ragmah
Sabteca

The sons of Ragmah
Sheba
Dedan

P = Peoples to the south of Israel and Canaan
• Isaiah 11:11; Jeremiah 13:23 = Nubia and Ethiopia: peoples to the south of Egypt.
• Genesis 12:10,20 = Egypt

= Lybia

= Canaan

• Psalm 72:10; Isaiah 43:3; 45:14 = Iritrea
• = Commercial city of Arabia
• Ezekiel 27:22 = city of southern Arabia

= Shabataca, the foundation of the Nubian Pharaoh.

• Genesis 25:3; Isaiah 60:6; Jeremiah 6:20; Ezekiel 27:22; 38:13 Job 1:5; Psalm 772:15 = Saba, the Sabaeans of south-west Arabia. [J, 10:28!].
The descendants of Ham
Cush
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Put

Canaan

Descendants of Cush:
Seba
Havilah
Sabtah
Ragmah
Sabteca

The sons of Ragmah
Sheba
Dedan
The beginning of his kingdom was

**Cush begot Nimrod.** [= the legendary founder of the eastern empires (Micah 5:5 = Assyria)

*He was the first man of might on earth.*

*He was a mighty hunter before Yahweh. And so it is said: ‘Like Nimrod, a mighty hunter before Yahweh’.*

**The beginning of his kingdom was**

- **Babel**
- **Erech**
- **Akkad**
- **Kalneh in the land of Shinar**
- **From this he went up to**
- **Asshur**
- **Nineveh**
- **Rehoboth-Ir**
- **Kalah**
- **and Resen, between Kalah and Nineveh, the great city.**

- **Genesis 11:9; Isaiah 13:1= Babylon**
- **The city of Gilgamesh to southeast of Babylon**
- **North of Babylon, founded by Sargon I c. 2500BC.**
- **Kalneh?. Shinar = Modern Southern Iraq**
- **Important city of the Assyrian Empire on the Tigris.**
- **Capital of Assyrian Empire. South of Asshur.**
  - ( Jonah 1:2; 3:2,3; 4:11; Judith 1:1)
- **A city near Nineveh**
- **The royal residence south of Niniveh**
Cush begot Nimrod. He was the first man of might on earth. He was a mighty hunter before Yahweh. And so it is said: ‘Like Nimrod, a mighty hunter before Yahweh’.

The beginning of his kingdom was Babel Erech Akkad Kalneh in the land of Shinar From this he went up to Asshur Nineveh Rehoboth-Ir Kalah and Resen, between Kalah and Nineveh, the great city.
And Mizraim begot Egypt

the Ludim Jeremiah 46:9; Ezekiel 30:5 = in region of Egypt

the Anamim ?

the Lehabim = Lybians

the Naphtuhim ?

the Pathrusim Isaiah 11:11; Jeremiah 44:1,15; Ezekiel 30:14; Psalm 68:31 = Patros in upper Egypt.

the Casluhim ?

and Kaphtorim, from whom come the Philistines.

Amos 9:7; Jeremiah 47:4 = Cretans
And Canaan begot
Sidon his firstborn
Heth
the Jebusites
the Amorites
the Girgashites
the Hivites
the Arkites
the Sinites
the Arvadites
the Zemarites
the Hamathites.

Afterwards the Canaanites spread abroad so that the territory of the
territory of the Canaanites extended from Sidon toward Gerar as far as Gaza and
towards Sodom and Gomorrah and Admah and Zeboim as far as Lasha.

These are the descendants of Ham, by their families,
their languages, their lands, and their nations [= 10:5,31]
To Shem also, the father of all the children of Eber, the elder brother of Japeth, children were born.

The descendants of Shem:

- Elam • = East of Babylon, capital at Susa. In fact non-Semitic!

- Asshur • = City of the middle Tigris

- Arpachshad • = Kasdim: another name for Babylon, Genesis 11:10-11

- Lud = Lubdu in the Upper Tigris

- Aram = Syria. Amos 9:7 (language = Aramaic)

The descendants of Aram:

- Uz, Hul, Gether, Mash Presumably regions of Syria.
To Shem also, the father of all the children of Eber, the elder brother of Japeth, children were born.

The descendants of Shem:
Elam
Asshur
Arpachshad
Lud
Aram

The descendants of Aram:
Uz, Hul, Gether, Mash
Arpachshad begot Shelah, and Shelar begot Eber. Verses 24-25 are names of persons.

And to Eber two sons were born: the name of one was Peleg, because in his days the earth divided [Palag] itself and the name of his brother was Joktan.

Verses 26-30 refer to tribes, mostly from South Arabia, east of Yemen.

Joktan begot Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah Obal, Abimael, Sheba Ophir, Havilah, Jobab. All these are the sons of Joktan.

- Hazarmaveth is modern Hadramaut on the southwest coast of Arabia.
- Sheba, Genesis 25:3

And their territory extends from Mesha towards Separ as far as the mountains in the east. These are the descendants of Shem, by their families, their languages, their lands, and their nations.
These are the families 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.
There is a Place