

07: Genesis 5:1 - 6:22

I. This begins with the **Priestly genealogy** (5:1-32). The aim is to establish Israel as going back to the beginning of history

Genesis 5:3-32	
	Adam .
→	Seth .
	Enos .
	Cainan .
	Mahalaleel
	Jared .
	Enoch .
	Methuselah
	Lamech .
→	Noah .

I. Adam (Genesis 5:1-5)

- ¹This is the list of the generations of mankind [אָדָם]. When God created mankind [אָדָם], he made them in the likeness of God.
- ²Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them 'mankind' [אָדָם] when they were created.

Genesis 5:3-5

- ³When Adam [אָדָם] had lived one hundred thirty years, he became the father of a son in his likeness, according to his image, and named him Seth. ⁴The days of Adam after he became the father of Seth were eight hundred years; and he had other sons and daughters. ⁵Thus all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred thirty years; and he died.

2. Seth (Genesis 5:6-8)

- ⁶When Seth had lived one hundred five years, he became the father of Enosh. ⁷Seth lived after the birth of Enosh eight hundred seven years, and had other sons and daughters. ⁸Thus all the days of Seth were nine hundred twelve years; and he died.

P traces the line through Seth (contrast J through Cain = handing on of sin leading to the Flood)

3. Enosh (Genesis 5:9-11)

- ⁹When Enosh had lived ninety years, he became the father of Kenan. ¹⁰Enosh lived after the birth of Kenan eight hundred fifteen years, and had other sons and daughters. ¹¹Thus all the days of Enosh were nine hundred five years; and he died.

4. Kenan (Genesis 5: 12-14)

- ¹²When Kenan had lived seventy years, he became the father of Mahalalel {J = Mehujael}.
¹³Kenan lived after the birth of Mahalalel eight hundred and forty years, and had other sons and daughters.¹⁴Thus all the days of Kenan were nine hundred and ten years; and he died.

5. Mahalalel (Genesis 5: 15-17)

- ¹⁵When Mahalalel had lived sixty-five years, he became the father of Jared {J = Irad}.
¹⁶Mahalalel lived after the birth of Jared eight hundred thirty years, and had other sons and daughters. ¹⁷Thus all the days of Mahalalel were eight hundred ninety-five years; and he died.

6. Jared (Genesis 5:18-20)

- ¹⁸When Jared had lived one hundred sixty-two years he became the father of Enoch.
¹⁹Jared [J = Irad]. lived after the birth of Enoch eight hundred years, and had other sons and daughters. ²⁰Thus all the days of Jared were nine hundred sixty-two years; and he died.

7. Enoch (Genesis 5:21-24)

- ²¹When Enoch had lived sixty-five years, he became the father of Methuselah. ²²Enoch walked with God after the birth of Methuselah three hundred years, and had other sons and daughters. ²³Thus all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty-five years. ²⁴Enoch walked with God; then he was no more, because God took him.

- [Hebrews 11:5; Jude]

8. Methuselah (Genesis 5:25-27)

- ²⁵When Methuselah [J = Methusael] had lived one hundred eighty-seven years, he became the father of Lamech. ²⁶Methuselah lived after the birth of Lamech seven hundred eighty-two years and had other sons and daughters. ²⁷Thus all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred sixty-nine years; and he died.

9. Lamech (Genesis 5:28-31)

- ²⁸When Lamech had lived one hundred eighty-two years, he became the father of a son; ²⁹he named him Noah, saying, “Out of the ground that YHWH has cursed this one shall bring us comfort [*naham*] from our work and from the toil of our hands.”
- ³⁰Lamech lived after the birth of Noah five hundred ninety-five years, and had other sons and daughters. ³¹Thus all the days of Lamech were seven hundred seventy-seven years; and he died.

10. Noah (Genesis 5:32)

- ³²After Noah was five hundred years old, Noah became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Comparison between Yahwist (Genesis 4) and Priestly (Genesis 5)

Genesis 4:1, 17-18

Adam
Cain
Enoch
Irad
Mehujael
Methushael
Lamech

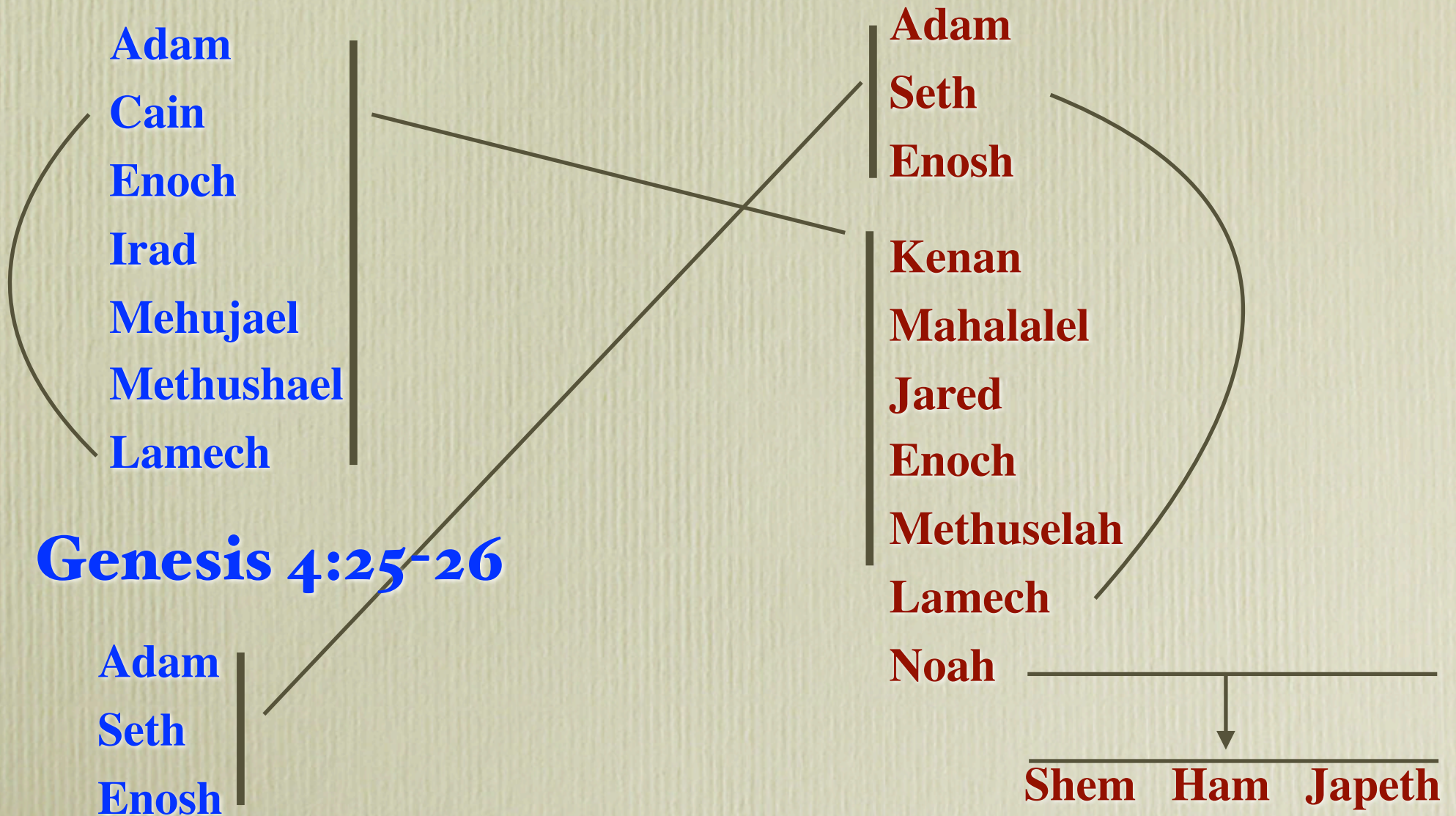
Genesis 4:25-26

Adam
Seth
Enosh

Genesis 5:3-25

Adam
Seth
Enosh
Kenan
Mahalalel
Jared
Enoch
Methuselah
Lamech
Noah

Shem Ham Japeth



- As for length of lives of these ancestors prior to the flood: 'Josephus can call on Egyptian, Chaldean, Phoenician and other ancient witnesses for the remarkable, and gradually receding, life-span of people' (Delitzsch).
- There are variations in the manuscripts. MT adds up to total of 1656 years, the Samaritan text to 1307 and the Greek to 2242!
- [The Babylonian king list adds up to 432.000 years!]

II. Sexual violence and arrogance as human corruption spreads (Genesis 6:1-3) - from the **Yahwist**.

¹When human beings [*'âdâm*] began to multiply on the face of the ground [*'adâmah*], and daughters were born to them, ²the sons of the gods saw how beautiful were the daughters of human beings [*'âdâm*], and they took wives for themselves from them all, from whomever they might choose. ³YHWH said: 'My spirit shall not remain for ever in human beings [*'âdâm*], because they are flesh. Let their life-span be 120 years.'

Genesis 6:4

- 4[The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and even afterwards, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of human beings [*'âdâm*] who bore children to them. These were the heroes of days gone by, the men of renown].

- Echoes of the myths which see the great heroes as being the result of the union of women with the gods.
- His interest is in the warrior class, who act like gods, and take it upon themselves to take any women they choose. The pharaoh is an example (Genesis 12:10-12), as is David himself who sinned against Uriah by having him murdered to cover up David's sin with his wife Bathsheba. (2 Samuel 11-12).

General corruption and disorder, except for Noah
(Genesis 6:5-8) - from the **Yahwist**

- **5**YHWH saw that great was the evil of mankind [*'âdâm*] on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of their heart was evil, all the day long. **6**And YHWH regretted that he had made mankind on the earth, and he was grieved at heart. **7**So YHWH said: “I will remove mankind [*'âdâm*] whom I have created from the face of the earth [*'adâmab*] - human beings [*'âdâm*], beasts, creeping things and the birds of the heavens, for I regret that I made them. **8**But Noah found favour in the eyes of Yahweh.

III. Noah. Genesis 6:9–22

- 1. Universal corruption leading to universal collapse: Preparations for the Flood

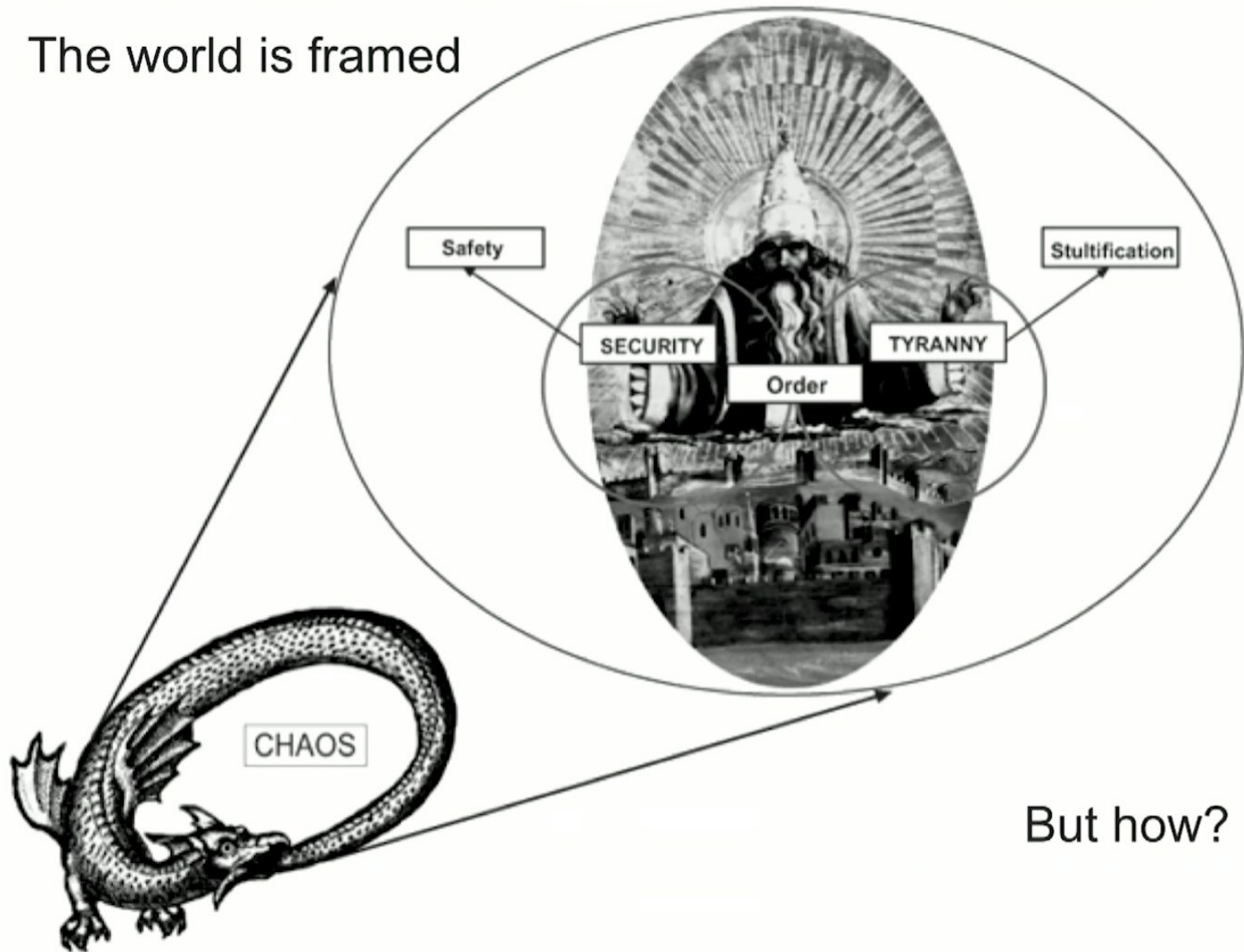
Genesis 6:9–10

- ⁹These are the descendants of Noah. Noah was a just man, blameless in his generation (compare 6:8). Noah walked with God. ¹⁰Noah fathered three sons: Shem, Ham and Japeth.

Genesis 6:11-13

- ¹¹The earth was corrupt in God's eyes; the earth was filled with violence. ¹²God saw that the earth was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted its ways on the earth. (compare 6:5).
- ¹³God said to Noah: 'I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. Now I will destroy them along with the earth'. (compare 6:7).

The world is framed



But how?

In P (the Priestly Redaction), violence is the sin that threatens to destroy the harmony created by God [= the cosmos]. Contrast the ‘very good’ of 1:31.

‘You [king of Tyre] were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you. Through your widespread trade you were filled with **violence**, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, O guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones. Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendour. So I threw you to the earth’ (Ezekiel 28:15-17).

‘As a well pours out its water,
so she pours out her wickedness.

Violence and destruction
resound in her;
her sickness and wounds
are ever before me.

Take warning, O Jerusalem,
or I will turn away from you
and make your land desolate
so no one can live in it’ (Jeremiah 6:7-8).

The construction of the ark (Genesis 6:14-16)

- ¹⁴Make for yourself an ark [tēbah = the basket in which Moses was saved] of cypress wood; make rooms in the ark, cover it with reeds, and coat it inside and outside with pitch. ¹⁵This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark 300 cubits [135m]; its width 50 cubits, and its height 30 cubits. ¹⁶Make a roof for the ark and finish it to a cubit above [the roof is to project out a cubit from the walls?]; and put the door of the ark in the side; make three decks: lower, middle and upper.





habuano in illis animalium

ARCHA NOE
habuano in illis animalium

habuano in illis animalium

Apotheca herbarum

Stercoraria

Apotheca specierum

The construction of the ark (Genesis 6:14-16)

- The ark is a microcosm of the cosmos: Three levels = underworld, earth, heaven.
- It is a symbol of the Temple [60 x 20 x 30. Three levels - 1 Kings 6:6].

c: The 'punishment' – the results of the corruption
(Genesis 6:17)

- ¹⁷For my part, I am going to bring a flood of waters upon the earth, so as to destroy from under heaven all flesh that has in it the breath of life. Everything that is on the earth shall perish.

d: God's promise (Genesis 6:18-19)

- ¹⁸BUT I WILL ESTABLISH MY COVENANT WITH YOU. You are to go into the ark, you and your sons, and your wife and the wives of your sons with you. ¹⁹And from all that lives, from all flesh, you are to bring **two of each kind** into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female.

Genesis 6:20-21

- ²⁰From every kind of bird, from every kind of animal, from every kind that creeps on the ground, 2 of all these are to come to you to be kept alive. ²¹You are to take for yourself every kind of food that is eaten, and store it up; this is to serve as food for you and for them. [primeval harmony - vegetarian]

e: Noah's obedience (Genesis 6:22).

- ²²Noah did this; he did everything just as God commanded him.