# Bible Maps & Resources In the beginning was the Word...John 1:1a

### **Contents**

#### Flood Maps

There are three maps and four teaching cards in the Flood Series

#### These include:

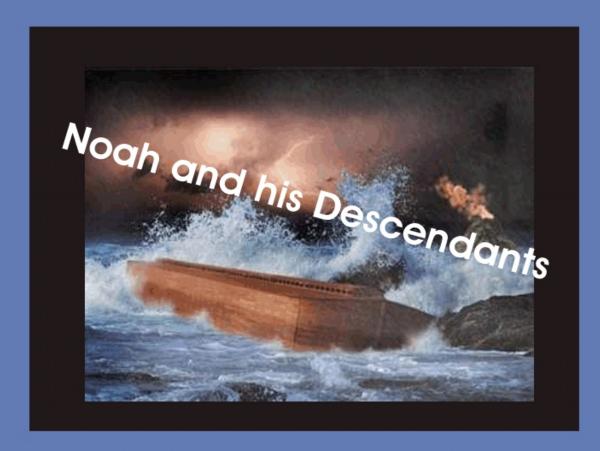
- **1. Noah and His Descendants,** plus teaching card Provides you with the migration of Shem, Ham and Japheth after landing in the Ararat mountains, some of the interesting archeological findings and other interesting information about their lives and adventures.
- 2. What about the Ice Age? The map shows the ice sheets, where they are located, and the animals around there at the time. The teaching card explains how the ice age formed following the flood and why, how the mountains were pushed up and valleys pushed low. The ice age covered a period of approximately 500 years. There are still plenty of glaciers and ice sheets still remaining that never did melt away.
- 3. Ten "Lost" Tribes Shows the battles and migration of the so-called missing tribes of Israel. They are definitely not lost!

  The map is accompanied with a teaching card that explains all the activities and wars in detail, plus some archaeological information.
- 4. Adamic and Noah Timelines This teaching chart shows the timelines for Noah's Flood and also for the Adamic Time Line which gives a list of the ancestors of Jesus Christ from Adam to Mary and Joseph. A few historical events are also given.

## Life of Abraham Map

This map is a teaching and outline map of the life of journeys of Abraham (Abram), Sarah (Sarai), his nephew Lot and all his retinue. Follow Abraham from Ur of the Chaldeans to Haran, Schechem, Bethel, Hebron, the Negev, Gerar and Beersheba, plus a sojourn in Egypt and his rescue of his nephew Lot and his family. Added to your Bible, it becomes an excellent teaching card which in turn can be printed and laminated and used as a table placemat!

# FLOOD SERIES

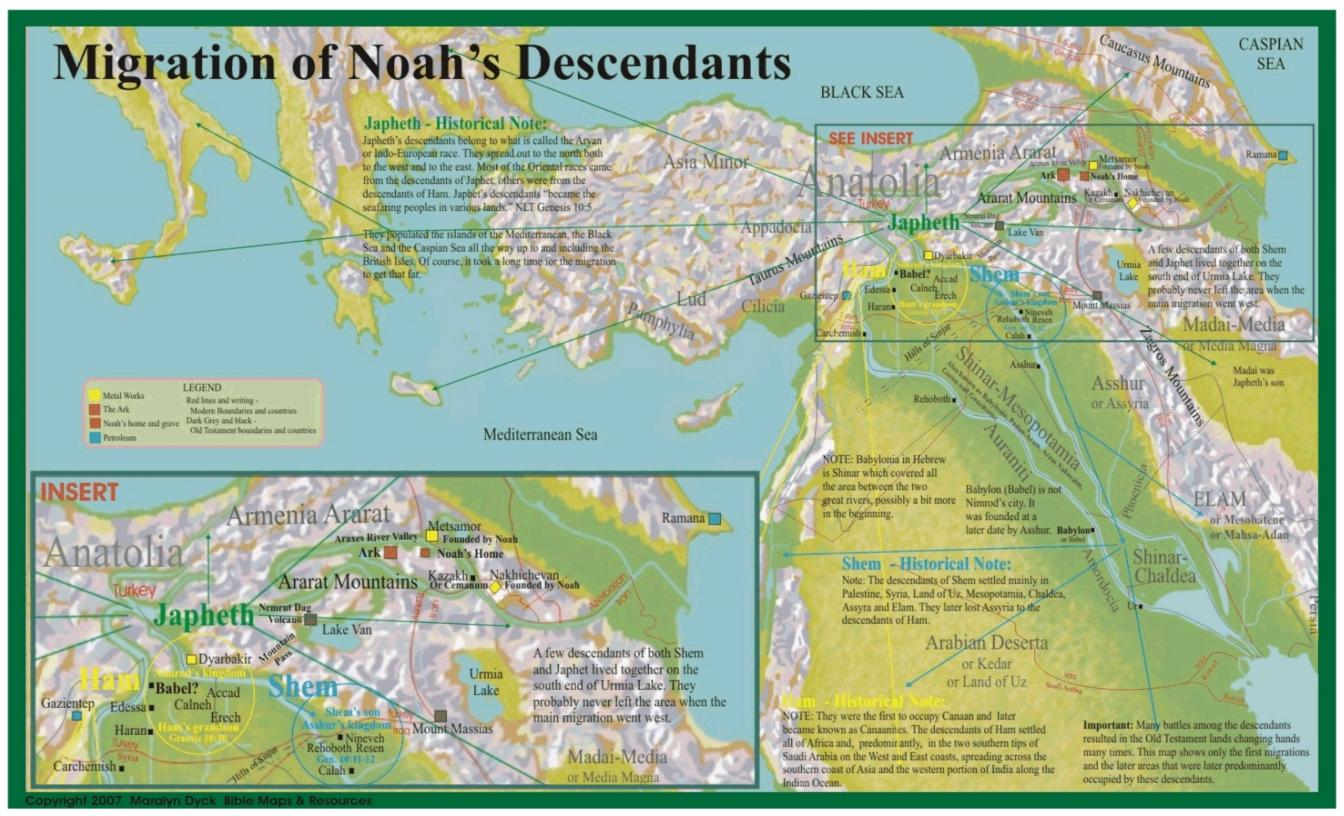




Ten "lost" tribes?

Adamic and Global Flood Timelines





# Migration of Noah's Descendants after the Flood A brief research study

#### Noah's ark

In Genesis 8:4 we read "...the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat." It does not state that it landed on Mt. Ararat, the traditional site for the Ark. On the north side of Mount Ararat there is a beautiful fertile valley called Araxes River Valley. This valley is high in the Mountains of Ararat. It is about 70-90 miles in length and follows the Araxes (Aras) River. Some believe the ark came to rest in this valley just a few miles north of Mt. Ararat. Today there is a town in the eastern part of the valley called Cemanum (Kazakh or Kazan), which interpreted means "eight," possibly named after the eight persons who came out of the ark and are thought to have built the town in that location. The people who lived in that area would, for generations, have known the exact location of the ark.

#### Noah's home

In this valley there is a vast complex of extremely ancient stone fences radiating outward from an ancient stone house. North of this complex is a very ancient stone altar upon a ridge between two hills. In front of this house they discovered two tombstones which seem to indicate that they were marking the graves of Noah and his wife. Perhaps this was Noah's home where he lived out the next 350 years of his life. South of this home is a village in which a large number of anchor stones (from the ark?) can still be seen today, some with eight crosses carved on them, possibly representing the eight people that left the ark.

#### Metallurgical Sites

Across the Araxes River from this home lies the site of Metsamor. Within a few miles of the home, is what has been termed "one of," if not "THE" oldest metallurgical site ever found! Analyses of the copper found there showed 14 different alloys, including tin, lead, antimony and zinc. This metallurgy center is quite sophisticated! It is believed that Noah founded this metallurgical site. Archaeologists, at the earliest inhabited level of this dig, found bronze slag. This bronze alloy requires tin and sometimes zinc for increased hardness. Glass making also flourished at Metsamor, as indicated by six types of metallurgical material, including zinc and mangonese, alloyed in different ways to make different colors. Large samples of ballast possibly from the hull of the ark tested over 85% manganese. They also discovered large metal rivets, from the ark? Noah and his sons obviously had vast knowledge from the pre-flood years that they taught to their descendants.

Another extremely old metallurgical site has been uncovered farther east along the Araxes Valley at Nakhichevan. Numerous Armenian traditions ascribe the founding of this city to Noah. Noah probably traveled the area with his descendants, helping to get them established in various areas where they would have room for their crops and animals. It is possible that many other small towns were founded in this area that no longer exist today. There seems to be strong evidence that Noah's descendants first migrated eastward, following the Araxes River. The fact that what is believed to be Noah's grave was found in the valley, seems to indicate that Noah stayed in the valley until the time of his death 350 years later. People wonder why there are so few artifacts found that are metal. Metal was a very precious commodity. When an item was no longer useful or was worn out, it would most likely have been melted down and made into something else. Metal products would

never have been left behind the way pottery was. Pottery was cheap and easy to obtain. That is probably why so many pottery artifacts are found and so few metal artifacts. They did have tools made from obsidian. Several volcanoes in the area would have made obsidian readily available.

The first concentration of Noah and his family would have been to plant crops and increase their herds and flocks. They also had to build their homes. Migration could not really have begun until there were more people on the earth. This would not have taken more than about one hundred years. They lived very long lives, had large families and were extremely healthy. The death rate would have been relatively low.

#### Food

Before entering the ark God told Noah to provide enough food for his family and for all the animals. This meant not only food for the long period that they were in the ark but also for the first months after leaving the ark. They would have brought all kinds of seeds and plants with them for planting in the New World. Noah became a farmer and planted a vineyard (Genesis 9:10). We are not told what the sons did, but it is obvious they would have planted grains, vegetables and fruits that were necessary to their survival. Also, they all had to start building up their herds and all the other farm animals. These were necessary, not only for food, but also for the sacrifices that God required of them.

The Araxes River Valley possesses a special fertility which is indicative of the careful provision God made for the first family in reestablishing life on earth. Even today travelers are discovering the size of the vegetables from this area are larger than found in most areas of the world!

It was in Anatolia (Turkey) that many plants were rebornplanted in Turkey by Noah and his family from seeds brought there from before the flood. Recent studies have shown that a large percentage of plants are found only in Turkey, nowhere else in the world. Archaeologists and scientists who do not accept the account of Noah and the flood have long puzzled over this fact. Of course, as Christians, we know how those plants got there. When the people migrated, they would only have room to take essential foods, fruits and grains, leaving behind a variety of plants whose beginnings were in the pre-flood world.

Even to this day Turkey has fruits that thrive in spite of the cold climate of northeastern Turkey! Apples, plums, apricots, peaches and mulberries are common in the Eastern Highlands, including the districts around Lake Van, where they are hardy enough to survive the severe winters.

#### First major migration

Genesis 11:1-3 says, "And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. 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. And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime (a petroleum product) had they for mortar." Shinar

referred to the land between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers and has also been referred to as Babylonia or Mesopotamia. Traveling the Araxes River Valley westward and then following other tributaries, they would have reached either the Euphrates or the Tigris River and by following them down would emerge upon the plain of Shinar, a distance of about 250 miles. The only other route would have been along the west side of Lake Van and through a mountain pass to the Tigris River and then follow it down to the plain of Shinar. Either route would take them to the same general area, because the two rivers are very close together where they exit from the mountains. In the area just out of the mountains the land is fertile. They would most likely not have traveled any farther for some time, as long as all their needs could be met in this area, and they were.

After studying the map carefully, it seems most logical for Babel to be located on the east side of the Euphrates, just a short distance beyond the mountains. There is plenty of water and fertile land in this area. The mountains nearby would provide the trees and metals necessary for their survival.

Another ancient metallurgical site has been found, located at Dyarbakir. Coincidence? I think not. Dyarbakir is located on the east bank of the Tigris River at the closest point after both rivers emerge from the mountain range to the north. Samples of old brick from tells in this area had mortar consisting of a mixture of sand and tar (bitumen/asphalt) which hardens when dried. This is a petroleum product. Did they have access to this product to build a city and tower? Yes!

#### Petroleum Sites

Just a few miles from the suggested site for Bethel is a town called Gazientep. There is an oil field there today. There is another oil field called Ramana near today's city of Bacu located on the coast of modern Azerbaijan. Oil is still bubbling and oozing out of the ground there. It is possible that this was even happening at Gazientep in the days of Babel. Archaeological evidence seems to point to this fact.

#### Babel

The command had been given to Noah's family to "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth." Genesis 9:1 The people, however, didn't want to be separated, so they decided to build a city with a big tower that would "reach unto heaven" so that they could make a name for themselves by which they would be remembered. This was possible for them to do because all the necessary materials were near at hand.

But God looked down from heaven and decided to interfere in the plans of the humans He had created. They were disobeying the command that He had given them. Genesis 11:5-9 states, "But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. "Look," He said. "If they can accomplish this when they have just begun to take advantage of their common language and political unity, just think of what they will do later. Nothing will be impossible for them! Come, let's go down and give them different languages. Then they won't be

able to understand each other." In that way, the Lord scattered them all over the earth; and that ended the building of the city. That is why the city was called Babel, because it was there that the Lord confused the people by giving them many languages, thus scattering them across the earth." str

The name of this city means "confusion."

#### Descendants of Shem (In blue on the map)

Genesis 10:11—"Out of that land went forth Asshur, and builded Nineveh, and the city Rehoboth, and Calah, and Resen between Nineveh: the same is a great city." Shem's son, Asshur, had founded the next kingdom. Asshur left Nimrod's Kingdom and founded Rehoboth, Calah, Resen and Nineveh. They are all very close together and situated on the banks of the Tigris River southeast of Babel. The location of Nineveh has been confirmed. From there Shem's descendants migrated south, spreading out to the west as they did. Eventually, they went as far as the southern end of Saudi Arabia and west to the Mediterranean coast, settling mainly in Palestine, Syria, Land of Uz, Mesopotamia, Chaldea, Assyria and Elam.

#### Descendants of Japheth (In green on the map)

Japheth's descendants first settled in the area near the ark. His descendants belong to what is called the Aryan or Indo-European race. They spread northward both to the east and to the west. Most of the Oriental races were from his descendants, the descendants of Ham making up the rest. Japheth's descendants "became the seafaring peoples in various lands." Genesis 10:5 They eventually populated the islands of the Mediterranean Sea, the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea and all the way up to and including the British Isles, Europe and Russia.

Many battles among the descendants of Noah resulted in the Old Testament lands changing hands many times. The map on the reverse side shows only the first migrations and the later areas that were predominantly occupied by these descendants.

#### Descendants of Ham (In yellow on the map)

Ham's descendants were the first to occupy Canaan and later became known as Canaanites. The descendants of Ham settled all of Africa and, predominantly, in the two southern tips of Saudi Arabia on the West and East coasts, spreading across the southern coast of Asia and the western portion of India along the Indian Ocean.



# WHAT ABOUT THE ICE AGE? A brief research study

The only clear evidence we have is for ONE ice age. It can still be seen in such things as glaciers and the u-shaped valleys that they carved. Or did they? Some scientists are beginning to believe that the rapid assuaging of the waters after the flood were responsible for many of the u-shaped valleys, the top soil being stripped by the rapid flowing waters. It is also believed by some that the ice shields were formed in place and melted in place, with only small episodes of sliding. Underwater mass flows traveling at speeds of more than 50 mph can produce tillite-like deposits, as well as striated bedrock, including the striated stones in the "tillite." Such mass water flows would be expected following a massive global Flood. All the top soil, loose rocks and other debris present in the water would create a tremendous abrasive effect. We will discuss all of this in more detail.

## Cause of the Ice Age



Cold Landmass

Warm Oceans

For an Ice Age to develop, where ice actually accumulates on land, the oceans need to be warm at the mid and high latitudes. The land masses need to be cold, especially in summer. The warm oceans would evaporate lots of water. Clouds would form and move across the cold land masses. Cold continents would result in the water precipitating as snow rather than rain and would prevent the snow from thawing during the brief summer months. The ice would accumulate very quickly.

Long-ice-age theories involve a slow cooling down of the earth, but this would not generate an ice age. If the oceans and land both cooled down at the same rate, by the time everything was cold enough so that the snow didn't melt during summer, evaporation from the oceans would be insufficient to produce enough snow to generate the massive ice sheets. A frozen desert could result, not an ice age. The global flood described in the Bible, however, does provide a simple mechanism for an ice age. At the end of the flood, we would expect warm oceans. Why? During the flood there would have been hot subterranean water pouring into the pre-flood ocean, plus there would be heat energy released through volcanic activity. There is evidence that

the ocean waters were in fact warmer just before the Ice Age, as recorded by the oxygen isotopes in the shells of tiny marine animals called foraminifera. The Bible tells us in Genesis 8:11 "...the underground waters burst forth on the earth, and the rain fell in mighty torrents from the sky." This would have resulted in many volcanoes, earthquakes and tidal waves! Once the waters covered the earth, God caused a mighty wind to blow and He closed the underground water sources as the land began to dry off. Where did all the water go? There would have been a grand shuffling of the earth! Mountains were raised high and deep basins were formed to contain much of the water until, after many months, Noah and the animals could leave the ark on dry land. Of course, a lot of water would have been evaporated by the winds.

Large amounts of volcanic dust and aerosols from residual volcanic eruptions at the end of and after the Flood would have reflected solar radiation back into space, causing low temperatures over land, and especially causing the summers to be cold. Dust and aerosols slowly settle out of the atmosphere, but continued post-flood volcanism would have replenished these for hundreds of years following the Flood. In support of this, there is evidence of continued widespread volcanism in the large quantities of volcanic rocks among so-called 'Pleistocene' sediments, which probably formed soon after the flood.

Using standard knowledge of atmospheric circulation, we see that the warm oceans after the Flood, and the rates of cooling at the poles, would have driven extreme atmospheric convection. This would have created an enormous polar hurricane-like storm system covering a large portion of the Arctic. This system could have functioned for much of the 500-year period up to the glacial maximum. Such circulation patterns would have delivered vast amounts of snow to the higher latitudes. They would quickly have become ice sheets, spreading firstly over the continents, and then later over the oceans as the water cooled down towards the end of the glacial period.

The map on the reverse side gives you an idea of the areas that were covered by ice during the maximum period of glaciation caused by the Ice Age. Later, as the glaciers started melting and land became visible, the land dried out and turned into vast dry deserts. After years of being buried under the ice, there was no vegetation. See the following map for information on where the severe deserts (in yellow) are located. The green represents closed forests.

There seems to be a possible reference to this Ice Age in the book of Job, an ancient book in the Bible. Job most likely lived in the waning years of the Ice Age. He lived in the land of Uz. Bible scholars agree that Job probably lived during the period



of time between the Tower of Babel episode and Abraham. When God spoke to Job, Job understood what God was talking about! Just what did God say to Job? In Job 37:9-10 God says, "The stormy wind comes from its chamber, and the driving winds bring the cold. God's breath sends the ice, freezing wide expanses of water." In chapter 38:22-23 God says to Job, "Have you visited the treasuries of the snow? Have you seen where the hail is made and stored? I have reserved it for the time of trouble, for the day of battle and war." In verses 29-30 God says, "Who is the mother of the ice? Who gives birth to the frost from the heavens? For the water turns to ice as hard as rock, and the surface of the water freezes." \*\*IJ\*\*

The migration of the descendants of Noah to the "plains of Shinar," where they built the Tower of Babel, could have been partly due to the weather in the Araxes River Valley gradually becoming too cold to grow proper crops and raise their vast herds and flocks. When the Ark first landed in the Ararat mountains, the land would have been lush and green from the moisture in the ground and the return of the sun. Some Creation Scientists believe the weather would have been mild in winter with a cool gentle sun in summer at that time, ideal conditions for starting their crops and herds. It was spring when they left the Ark. The Araxes River Valley is one of the most fertile valleys in the world. Even today they grow better and larger vegetables than anywhere else! God was ready for Noah and his family to begin again to populate the earth.

After the Flood the animals quickly spread out over the earth going in many directions. The animal population would have rapidly increased. Bodies of thousands of woolly mammoths have been discovered in the mid and northern latitudes. They, and many other animals, including the many varieties of dinosaurs, have become extinct because of the drastic climatic changes that destroyed their habitats. At that time there were no predators preying on the woolly mammoths. Based on doubling rates of 10 years (observed in Africa) there should be no problem for the population of woolly mammoths to reach many millions toward the middle of the ice age, some 500 years after the flood.

Near the end of the ice age, as the ocean surface temperature cooled at mid and high latitudes, and evaporation slowed, the ice age climate would have changed to a drier, more continental

climate with more seasonal extremes. At this time permafrost would begin developing, and the substrate would become boggier in summer. As this process continued, animals in Siberia would tend to migrate closer to the Arctic Ocean, where the waters were still unfrozen and the climate would have been less continental. However, the changing climate finally caught up with them and they ended up buried in the permafrost that has continued to this day. There are many ways they could have been trapped and interred into the permafrost. One is becoming trapped in bogs. Some would have been trapped by flooding rivers that were draining the ice sheets and were buried in fluvial or lacustrine deposits. However, most of them were buried in muck and yedomas (loess)... buried in wind-blown silt, which rapidly covered them wherever they lay or stood! Much data support the wind-blown origin of this sediment. The loess is rich in ground ice and ice wedges. The ground ice formed by a segregation process in which layers and denses of ice, sometimes clear and sometimes inter-mixed with sediment, developed within the silt. The loess is not thousands of feet deep in Siberia and Alaska, as some have thought, but is a relatively thin veneer that is widespread in Beringia (Northeastern Russia and Alaska area). Some of the loess, especially in Alaska, has been reworked by the downslope mass flow of water. Redisposition of the loess has broken and twisted the vegetation and disarticulated the mammal bones. Most of the mammoths in the Beringia area were killed and/or buried by dust storms and frozen there by the cold. Storms of variable intensity likely blew from time to time for a few hundred years near the end of the ice age. The dust buried the remains very quickly. From the Dust Bowl era in the United States, it is known that a dust storm can produce dust drifts several meters high, burying tractors and partially covering buildings. It is possible that dust storms at the end of the ice age were so intense that they could cover and suffocate a woolly mammoth trying to survive the storm. The animal would have been buried quickly, since his body would act like a snow fence. It is not inconceivable that a few of these animals would have been left in a standing position, braced by the dust around them. The Permafrost would then rise after the loess was deposited and rapidly freeze the remains. This accounts for the rapid burial, which seems impossible any other way. Broken bones could be explained by the shifting of the ground ice and frozen sediment. Reasonable explanation for all these mysteries are available within the context of a unique post-flood ice age. Astral catastrophies, polar shifts and other such exotic hypotheses are not needed. A few of the woolly mammoths drifted south in an effort to get away from the extreme climatic conditions only to die in the deserts left behind by the receding ice and snow. Remains of these animals have been found in Central North America and in Central Asia. Dinosaurs were among those that drifted south from Alaska into Central North America where remains are still being found today. Other animals survived and are found all over the world, surviving in areas that support their lifestyle and requirements. Many animals are on the verge of becoming extinct due to the advance of mankind into their territories.

Visit www.answersingenesis.com for a more detailed account of the information on this chart, plus many more interesting facts.

# Where are the ten "lost" tribes of Israel today?

1 In 732BC - Subjugation and deportation of Israel to Media by three Assyrian kings, Tiglath-Pilesar, Shalmaneser and Sargon II. These accounts are detailed in the Bible and Assyrian records confirm the Biblical account.

There is a "Black Obelisk of Shalmaneser" in the British museum that reports the "Tribute of Iaua of Bit HUMRI", that is the "Tribute of Jehu of the House of OMRI." OMRI was one of the kings of Northern Israel and he is shown on this Assyrian monument kneeling in submission before the Assyrian king. Over the years to follow the Israelites were called by many different names, changed by the languages of the different countries through which they traveled.

- 2 In 707BC Assyrian frontier reported that armed forces of Uratu were invading the area in which Israel had been placed 15 years earlier. Israel (called GAMIRA) halted them. That puts the Israelites in Media, very much alive and well. The report states, "When the king of Uratu came into the land of Gamir (or Gamira) his army was routed."
- 3 In 700BC Jerusalem was attacked by the Assyrian king, Sennacherib, as he returned northward following his invasion of Egypt. II Kings 14:3 He took 200,250 men, women and children captive. These were deported to join the Israelites already in Media. Still remaining in Jerusalem were the rest of the tribe of Judah, most of Benjamin and most of the tribe of Levi.
- 4 About 130 years after the fall of Samaria Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, attacked Jerusalem. Jerusalem was destroyed and most of the people of Judah were taken captive to Babylon where they remained for 70 years. Many stayed there while others returned to Jerusalem after the 70 years was over. This is where the real fun begins in tracking the tribes. We have the Ten Tribes of Israel, plus over 200,000 from the two-tribed house of Judah. which were deported to Assyria and seemingly "lost."

(70AD) said, "There were but two tribes in Asia and Europe subject to the Romans, while the Ten Tribes are beyond Euphrates and are an immense multitude, not to be estimated by numbers." What actually happened next? They did **not** disappear into thin air and become lost!".

5 In the reign of Saigon II an Assyrian intelligence report places a large group of people called GIMIRA located just west of the upper Euphrates, north of the Taurus mountains. Others were farther east still in Media.

6 II Edras 13 (in the Apoccrypha) states that some of the Ten Tribes escaped from Assyrian control via the upper Euphrates valleys. They later became notorious in Asia Minor when they overthrew King Midas of Phrygia. These were the western group of GIMIRA or CIMMERIANS, called KIMMEROI by the Greeks, another version of the Assyrian KHUMRI!

7 In 679BC, the second year of Esar Haddon of Assyria, another group of GIMIRA were defeated by his forces and were pursued westward into Asia Minor. Some of them settled in the Sinope area on the Black Sea, some migrated across the Sea to settle in the Crimea and in Arsereth (II Edras 13). On one of their forays they captured the city of Sardis.

8 c600BC - King Alvattes of Lydia drove them out of Asia Minor altogether. Their movements continued westward.

9 500BC to 100BC Most of the western CIMMERIAN group migrated up the Danube Valley and settled as CELTS in central Europe. Others moved north and west into sparesly inhabited regions of the Baltic, where they were given yet another name by the Romans, CIMBRI, a name probably derived from CIMMERIAN. These people were the ancestors of the Picts and Jutes. Small numbers of these Israelites followed the Phoenician trade routes from the port of Miletus on the southwest coast of Asia Minor. Others settled for a time in Spain before moving on to settle in Ireland. That accounts for the Western group. Back to the Eastern group.

10 In 573BC ISKUZA are mentioned for the first time in any historical documents, locating them still in Media. The Eastern group were still dominated by Assyrian powers and their successors, The Jewish general and author, Josephus, in his book "Antiquities" being threatened by Babylonians and Medes from the south. This group of Israelites, known as GIMER were also known to the Assyrians as ISKUZA, a name derived from the name ISAAC - one of the names that ancient Israel used to describe themselves, "sons of ISAAC." The Greeks had a word for these ISKUZA. They called them SCUTHAE or SCYTHIAN. The Persian name for the ISKUZA was SAKKA.

There is a great rock carving at Behistan in northern Iran. The writings on this rock are repeated in three languages--Old Persian, Susian and Babylonian. The people who are called SAKKA in Persian are called GIMERA in Babylonian, thus proving them to be one and the same people.

11 612BC After the fall of the Assyrian capital, Ninevah, the main body of Scythian Israelites came under such pressure from the Medes that they were forced northwards through the Dariel Pass in the Caucasus mountains and on into the steppe region of Southern Russia. As wave after wave of these people were forced north through the Caucasus, the leaders in the west crossed the rivers Don and Dniper and came into contact with CIMMERIAN Israel groups who had earlier moved across the Black Sea, thus pushing them westward along the valley of the Danube into Central Europe.

## 12 In the Sixth to the third centuries BC they were forced northward towards the North Sea and the Baltic.

The Scythians tried to establish themselves in the area of southern Russia. They found themselves squeezed between a people advancing from the east - the Sarmatians - and the CELTS (also Israelites), already occupying Central Europe to the west. Consequently, this group formed the last of the migrating Israelites to arrive in the northern islands and the Baltic and became the Ango-Saxon group from the area now called Germany.

Others moving northward through Jutland became known as Danes and Vikings. Others settled for a time in northern France and were known as Northmen or Normans. These Normans arrived in the eleventh century, the last large group, finally completing the regathering of what Sir Arthur Keith, worldfamous ethnologist, described as one family - NOT a racially mixed group. Many of these settled in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

As in all migrations many people traveled in many other directions, gradually spreading out all over the world, mixing in with many other peoples and nations, no longer a separate nation.

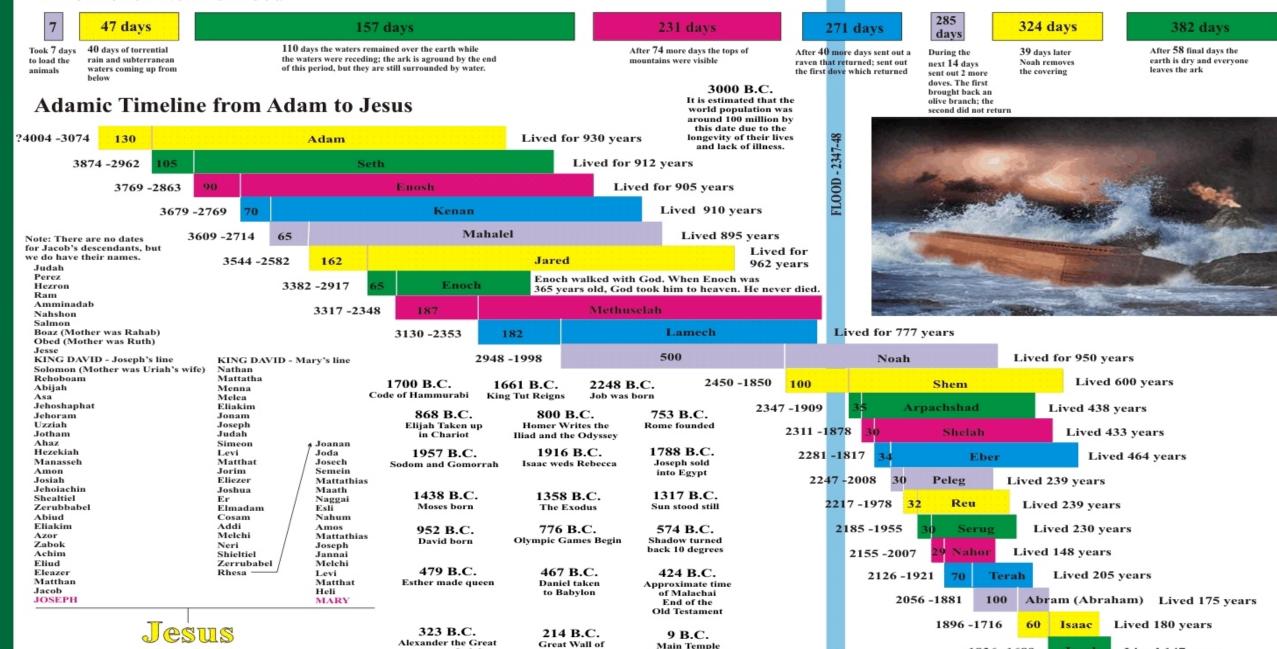
The Ten Tribes are NOT lost but are absorbed into various countries all over the world!

# Adamic Timeline from Adam to Jesus and the Global Flood Timeline

captures Judah

China Begun

## Timeline for Noah's Flood

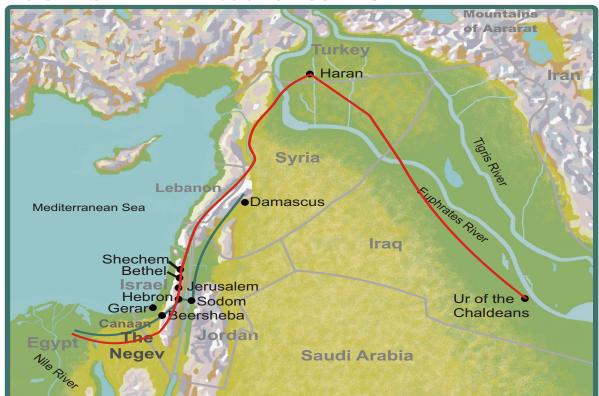


building finished

Lived 147 years

1836 -1689

## Life of Abraham - 2056 to 1881BC



#### Ancient Mesopotamia and Ur of the Chaldeans

been considered the first urban civilization, namely, the first society which has provided evidence of people deliberately living in close proximity to one another, with attendant social and economic structures to allow that to occur peaceably.

People speak of north and south Mesopotamia especially during the period from 3000-2000BC. The peoples of this time were very religious in that they worshipped many gods and in later years every town had its temples to their favorite

These gods bound people together in their social groups and were believed to have provided what they needed to survive. At the time when Abraham was born here in 2056BC there were four dominant gods know as the four creator gods. These four Mesopotamian gods did not act alone, but consulted with an assembly of 50, which is called the Anunnaki. Innumerable spirits and demons shared the world with the Anunnaki.

These gods and godesses were more concerned with their feasting, sacrifices (including their own children), drinking, fighting and arguing.

Into this background Abram was born in 2056BC. In Gen.11 The land between the Euphrates River and the Tigris River has we read that his father was Terah. Through Terah, Abram's ancestry is traced back to Shem, and he is thus related to Mesopotamian and Arabian families that belonged to the "Semitic" race. He is further connected with this race geographically by his birthplace, Ur, and by the place of his pre-canaanitish residence, Haran in the Aramaean region.

> The purely Semitic ancestry of his descendants through Isaac is indicated by his marriage with his own half-sister (Gen 20:12 and still further emphasized by the choice for his daughter-inlaw, Rebekah, descended from both of his brothers Nahor and Haran (Gen 11:29; 22:22).

#### Abram's Calling

Abram, endowed with Jehovah's promise of limitless blessing, leaves Ur with his father. Terah, and all the family, and travel to Haran where they reside for a number of years

#### Harran (Haran)

Very little is known about Haran during the patriarchal period, but it is connected with the home of Laban, Isaac and Jacob. This was also the home of Isaac's wife, Rebekah. See Gen 31:38, 41) This city was the chief home of the

Mesopotamian moon god Sin, under the Assyrians and Neo-Babylonians/Chaldeans and even into Roman times.

Dates are unknown but Terah remains in Haran until his death. Abram leaves Haran with Lot, Sarai and all their establishment, and enters Canaan. Successive stages of the slow journey southward are indicated by the mention of Shechem, Bethel and the Negeb (South-country).

Driven by famine into Egypt Abram finds hospitable reception, though at the price of his wife's honor, whom Pharaoh treats in a manner characteristic of an Egyptian monarch, viz. "the Pharaoh takes away the wives from their husbands whither he will, if desire seize his heart,"

After the famine Abram and his augmented train retrace their path back into Canaan to Bethel. At Bethel Abraham and Lot find it necessary to part company. Lot and his dependants choose the Great Jordan Valley. Abram follows the backbone of the land to Hebron, where he settles, not in the city, but before its gates "by the great trees" of Mamre. (See photo.)

Affiliation between Abram and the local Amoritish chieftains is strengthened by a brief campaign, in which all unite their available forces for the rescue of Lot (who was living at Sodom at this time) from an Elamite king and his confederates from Babylonia.

The pursuit leads them as far as the Lebanon region, then past Damascus. On their return to Mamre they are met by the king of Salem, Melchizedek, a priest. He blessed Abram, in his priestly capacity, which Abraham recognizes by presenting him with a tithe of the spoils.

Being impatient to have a son, Abram slept with Hagar who gave birth to Ishmael. His existence from his inception proves a source of moral evil within the patriarchal household. The sign of circumcision and the change of names (Abram to Abraham and Sarai to Sarah) are given in confirmation of the covenant still unrealized, together with specification of the time and the person that should begin its realization. After this Abraham is granted the deliverance of Lot and his family from the impending destruction of Sodom by Divine action for the extreme evil going on in Sodom at the time. Only Lots daughters join him to escape when given the opportunity.

Moabites and ammonites are traced in their origin to these cousins of Jacob and Esau.

This was followed by a succession of more or less temporary resting-places in the South-country. The first one was Gerar, with whose king, Abimelech, Abraham and Sarah had an experience similar to the earlier one with the Pharaoh.

The birth of Isaac was followed by the expulsion of Ishmael and his mother, and the sealing of peaceful relations with the neighbors by covenant at Beersheba.

Even the birth of Isaac, however, did not end the discipline of Abraham's faith in the promise, for a Divine command to sacrifice the life of Isaac was accepted as real, and only the sudden intervention of a Divine prohibition prevented its obedient execution,

The death of Sarah became the occasion for Abraham's purchase of the first permanent holding of Palestinian soil, the nucleus of his promised inheritance and at the same time suggested the probable approach of his own death. This thought led Abraham to provide for a future seed to inherit through Isaac, a provision realized in Isaac's marriage with Rebekah, granddaughter of Abraham's brother Nahor and of Milcah the sister of Lot.

A numerous progeny unassociated with the promise grew up in Abraham's household, children of Keturah, a woman who appears to have had the rank of wife after Sarah's death, and of other women unnamed, who were his concubines. Though this last period was passed in the Negeb, Abraham was interred at Hebron, in his purchased possession, the spot with which Semitic tradition has continued to associate him to this day. He had lived a total of 175 years.



Picture of a Ziggurat built in the town of Ur of the Chaldeans



Traditional mud brick "beehive" houses in Harran (Haran), Turkey



Ibrahim Mosque built over and around the Cave of Machpela



One of the great trees of Mamre that has survived to this day. Note how small the people look compared to the size of the tree!



Natural cave entrance to the Cave of Machpela