

20-21 Bible Study #2

9/22/20

2020-2021 Introduction and Overview (Cont)

Review of the New Testament Settings

Question – What is the Difference Between:

- **Hebrew** – a descendant from Eber in the line of Shem
- **Jew** - a member of the tribe of Judah
- **Israelite** – a member of those living in Israel

Exiled from the Garden (Cont)

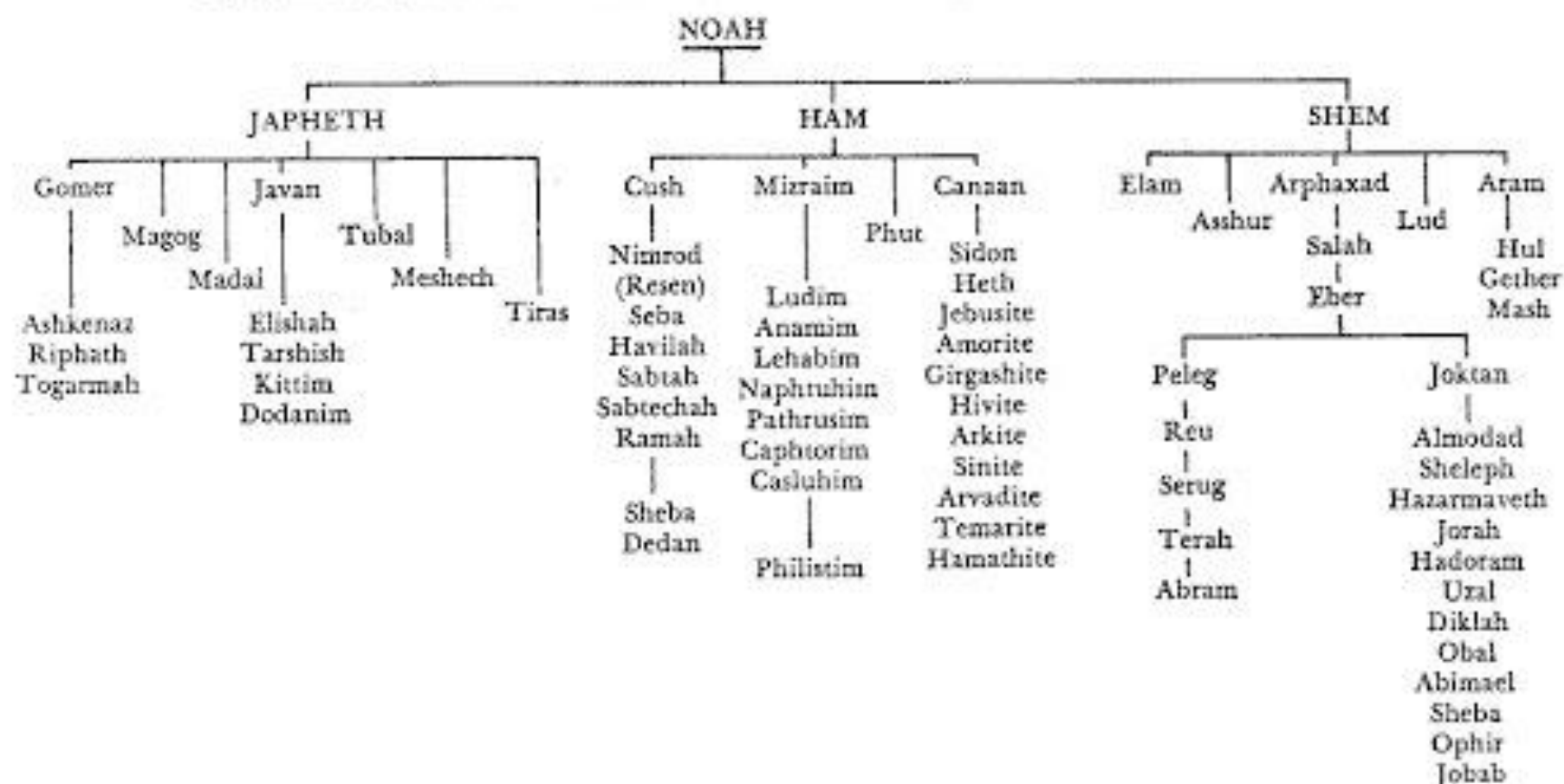
Evil

- Adam
- Cain
- Enoch
- Irad
- Mehujael
- Methushael
- Lamech

Good

Adam
Seth
Enosh (Prayer)
Kenarn
Mahalalel
Jered
Enoch (Assumption)
Methuselah
Lamech
Noah

GENEALOGICAL TABLE OF THE DESCENDANTS OF NOAH

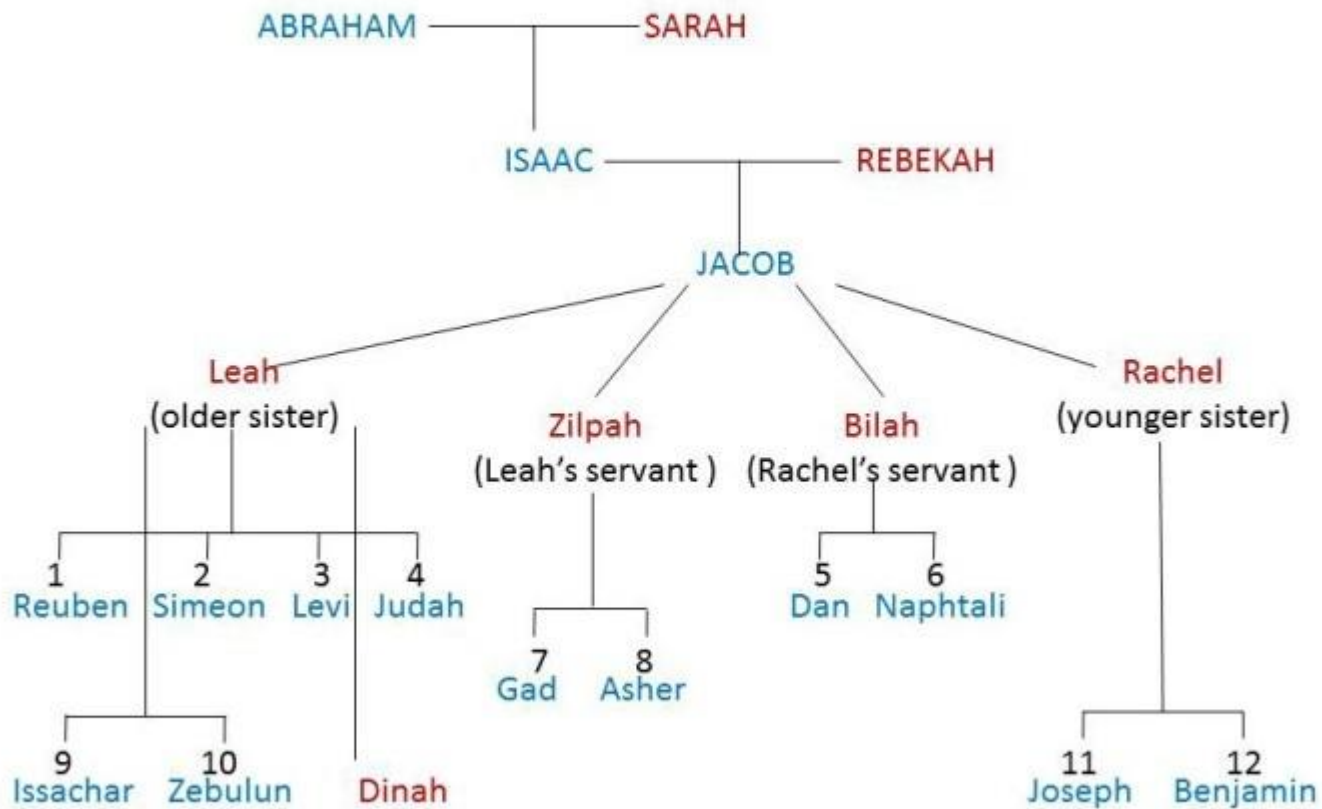


The Patriarchs and the Flood

Gn 11:10-26

- The genealogy of Shem (Semites) leads to Abram:
 - Shem
 - Arpachshad
 - Shelah
 - **Eber**
 - Peleg
 - Reu
 - Serug
 - Nahor
 - **Terah**
 - **Abram**

12 Tribes of Israel



Outline for Introductory Class (Cont)

- Land of Israel
- Languages
- 1st Century Players
- Religious Authorities
- Old Testament Sources
- Political Groups
- Occupations
- Early Christian Time Line

Review of Last Week's Class

- Administrative Information
- Overview of 2019-2020 Introduction to the New Testament
- Initial Questions and Highlights of the Catholic Faith
- Types of Biblical Criticisms
- Review of what a 1st Century Jew Knew about Scripture (the Old Testament)

i

- As a 1st century Gentile, do you accept the “Good News” of *Jesus* of Nazareth?

c

- *It is all about Faith – pray for the gift of Faith*

Transition

- What did 1st Century Israel look like?

Land of Israel

- Galilee – Northern most part of Israel
- Judea – Land of the Jews
- Samaria – Land of the Samaritans
- Jerusalem - Capital city of Israel
 - The Temple
 - Fortress Antonia
 - Synagogues

Land of Israel (Cont)

- Qumran – near the Dead Sea

Languages

- Aramaic
- Greek
- Latin
- Hebrew

1st Century Players (Cont)

- Governing Authorities
 - Pontius Pilate – Roman Governor
 - Herod the Great – King of the Jews
 - Herod Antipas
 - Herod Philip
 - Archelaus
 - Herod Agrippa

1st Century Players (Cont)

- Religious Authorities and the Sanhedrin
 - High Priest
 - Caiaphas – Selected by the Roman Authorities
 - Annas - Former High Priest and father-in-law of Caiaphas
 - Priests – Those who offered sacrifices in the temple
 - Levites – Descendants of Aaron who served in the temple

1st Century Players (Cont)

- Lawyers – Experts in the Pentateuch (the Law)
- Scribes – Those who made copies of the scriptures
- Rabbi – A Jewish scholar or teacher, especially one who studies or teaches Jewish law
- Disciple – A follower who lived with, shared meals with, prayed with, ,studied with, and imitated a rabbi

1st Century Players (Cont)

- Sadducees
 - High priestly families
 - Members of the ***Sanhedrin***
 - Only accepted the Pentateuch
 - Did not believe in life after death
- Pharisees
 - Lay political party
 - Served out of synagogues
 - Accepted all of Hebrew scriptures
 - Believed in life after death
- Yahweh – Holy Name of the God of Israel

Old Testament Sources

- **Individual scrolls**

- May have begun as early as 1440 BC

- ***The Septuagint***

- Translation of Hebrew scrolls into Greek (began in the 3rd Century BC)
 - Completed in 2nd Century BC (around 132 BC)

- ***The Hebrew Bible***

- Reached its current form in the 2nd Century AD

What was the Law?

- The first five books of the Bible (Torah, Pentateuch, the Law)
- It contained:
 - The 10 Commandments
 - 613 Commandments (Laws) in the Old Testament
 - 248 Positive Commandments
 - 365 Negative Commandments
 - 30 Dietary laws

What Constituted The Jewish Scriptures in the 1st Century?

- ***Septuagint* - 46**

- Pentateuch – 5
- Prophets - 18
- Historical - 16
- Wisdom - 7

- **Hebrew Bible - 39**

- Pentateuch – 5
- Prophets - 21
- Writings - 13

Books of The Old Testament

Septuagint

- *Pentateuch - 5*
 - Genesis
 - Exodus
 - Leviticus
 - Numbers
 - Deuteronomy

Hebrew Bible

- *Pentateuch - 5*
 - Genesis
 - Exodus
 - Leviticus
 - Numbers
 - Deuteronomy

Books of The Old Testament (Cont)

Septuagint

- *Historical Books - 16*
 - Joshua
 - Judges
 - Ruth
 - 1 & 2 Samuel
 - 1 & 2 Kings
 - 1 & 2 Chronicles
 - Ezra
 - Nehemiah
 - **Tobit***
 - **Judith***
 - Esther
 - **1 & 2 Maccabees***

* Deuterocanonical books

Hebrew Bible

- *Writings - 13*
 - Job
 - Psalms
 - Proverbs
 - Ruth
 - Song of Songs
 - Ecclesiastes
 - Lamentations
 - Esther
 - Daniel
 - Ezra
 - Nehemiah
 - 1 & 2 Chronicles

Books of The Old Testament (Cont)

Septuagint

- *Wisdom Books - 7*
 - Job
 - Psalms
 - Proverbs
 - Ecclesiastes
 - Song of Songs
 - **Wisdom***
 - **Sirach***

* Deuterocanonical books

Hebrew Bible

- *Wisdom Books - 0*
 - Part of the Writings

Books of The Old Testament (Cont)

Septuagint

- *Prophets - 18*
 - Isaiah
 - Jeremiah
 - Lamentations
 - **Baruch***
 - Ezekiel
 - Daniel
 - Hosea

Hebrew Bible

- *Prophets - 21*
 - Joshua
 - Judges
 - 1 & 2 Samuel
 - 1 & 2 Kings
 - Isaiah
 - Jeremiah
 - Ezekiel
 - Hosea

Books of The Old Testament (Cont)

Septuagint

- *Prophets (Cont)*

- Joel
- Amos
- Obadiah
- Jonah
- Micah
- Nahum
- Habakkuk
- Zephaniah
- Haggai
- Zechariah
- Malachi

Hebrew Bible

- *Prophets (Cont)*

- Joel
- Amos
- Obadiah
- Jonah
- Micah
- Nahum
- Habakkuk
- Zephaniah
- Haggai
- Zechariah
- Malachi

1st Century Players

- Political groups
 - Essenes
 - A religious community near the Dead Sea
 - Copied scriptures (Dead Sea Scrolls)
 - Hoped to be the remnant
 - Zealots
 - Political activists who wanted to attack the Romans
 - Started the seven year war that led to the destruction of the temple in 70 A.D.

1st Century Players (Cont)

- Samaritans
 - Remnants of the 10 tribes of Israel after the Assyrian assimilation
 - Bitter rivals to the Jews
- Neighbor – a member of the tribes of Israel
- Gentile – a person who is not Jewish

1st Century Players (Cont)

- Some Occupations:
 - Land/plantation owner
 - Courtier
 - Physician
 - Shopkeeper
 - Carpenter
 - Laborer
 - Blacksmith
 - Artisan
 - Weaver

1st Century Players (Cont)

- Temple Guard
- Farmer
- Fisherman
- Shepherd
- Sailor
- Servants/ Slaves
- Tax collector

Early Christian Time Line

- 37BC – 4 AD Herod the Great – Roman Puppet
 - Archelaus 4BC-6AD - Banished by Rome
 - Herod Philip 4BC-34AD - Died
 - Herod Antipas 4 BC-39 AD – Banished
- 0-6 AD - Birth of Jesus the Christ
- 6-15 Annas – High Priest appointed by Rome
- 18-37 Caiaphas – High Priest selected by the Jews

Early Christian Time Line (Cont)

- 26-36 Pontius Pilate – 5th Prefect of Rome
- 30-33 Christ is crucified, raised, and ascends
- 33 Pentecost
- 33 Stephen is martyred
- 33-34 Saul's conversion
- 41-44 Herod Agrippa I

Transition

- Next, we will briefly explore:
 - The Synoptics
 - The Gospel of Matthew

Introduction to the Synoptic Gospels

9/22/20

Outline for Intro to Synoptics

- Definitions
 - Synoptic
 - Gospel
- Questions to be posed when reading one of the books of the Bible:
 - Who is the author?
 - Who was his audience?
 - What was the purpose of him writing to that audience?

Outline for Intro to Synoptics (Cont)

- Highlights of the synoptic gospels
 - Matthew
 - Mark
 - Luke
- Infancy narrative
 - Matthew
 - Luke

Introduction to the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke)

- Synoptic:
 - To be looked at together
 - Lined up in columns, compared, or contrasted because they are so similar
- Gospel
 - From the English word *godsel* “Good News”
 - From the Hebrew *bsorah*
 - From the Greek *euangelion*
- A term found in the Old Testament meaning the information brought from the battlefield by a runner related to victory in battle ²

Introduction to the Synoptic Gospels (Cont)

- Isaiah - *How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings **good news**, tidings” (Isaiah 52:7)*
 - This was about “salvation”(being saved from your enemies; restoration of the kingdom) ₃
- In the New Testament, it is about being **saved from sin and death**

Introduction to the Synoptic Gospels (Cont)

- For every book in the Bible, you need to ask three questions:
 - Who is the author ?
 - Who was his audience ?
 - What was the purpose of him writing to that audience ?

Introduction to the Synoptic Gospels (Cont)

- Matthew
 - Tax collector and Apostle known as Levi
 - Jewish Christians in Jerusalem and Judea
 - To attract other Jews to the New Way
- Mark
 - Young secretary to Peter in Rome
 - Jewish and Gentile members of the church in Rome
 - Provided a copy of Peter's message
- Luke
 - Medical doctor and traveling companion of Paul
 - Gentile converts to Christianity in Asia Minor
 - Helped Paul bring others to Christianity

Setting the Stage for Matthew

- You are a 30-year-old 1st Century Jew
 - Living in Jerusalem in 65 A.D.
 - Married with a family
 - Working as a shopkeeper
 - Attempting to live a “righteous life”
 - Curious about “the New Way” of Judaism including:
 - Who is the Rabbi *Joshua*, son of *Joseph* the carpenter, from Nazareth
 - The rumor that he is the long-awaited “Messiah”

Setting the Stage for Mark

- You are a 30-year old, 1st Century Gentile:
 - Living in Rome in 65 A.D.
 - Married with a family
 - Working for the Roman Government
 - Worshipping the Roman gods including the emperor
 - Curious about a new religion presented by Peter and his followers in Rome based on the teachings of a deceased Jewish rabbi

Setting the Stage for Luke

- You are a 30-year old, 1st Century Gentile:
 - Living in Asia Minor in 65 A.D.
 - Married with a family
 - Working in a trade
 - Living as a Greek Pagan
 - Curious about a new religion presented by Paul of Tarsus and his followers based on the teachings of a deceased Jewish rabbi