

THE PATTERN OF NIMROD

GENESIS CHAPTER 11

REVIEW:

God has given us Genesis chapter 1 through 11 as a basis for understanding the rest of the Bible. The very first phrase, Bereshit, "in the beginning.." gives us the complete Gospel. The First Letter of Bereshit is emphasized by its size, which indicates what the rest of the book and, in fact, the whole rest of the Bible is all about. That "B" represents 'house or home,' telling us that it's all about God our Father creating "home" we will share with Him.

And it's all about patterns.

He shows the pattern of sinful man, so quickly turns from the Great God who created and cares for him and follows someone who promises heaven and delivers hell.

Chapter 10 lays out the generations of Shem, Ham and Japheth and where they migrated.

Seventy men are listed, who settled throughout the world to create 70 basic nations,

God told them to replenish the earth, but for 100 plus years they remained around the same area, not too far from the ark's landing. It wasn't until the languages were scrambled that they shot out in all directions with their families to begin their own settlements.

Why did they not obey God in the first place?

Chapter 11:1-9

Let's look at Nimrod, to start. He was the spoiled son of Cush, the child of his old age. Noah's great-grandson. He became a renown hunter, using dogs, then a pet leopard, even wearing leopard skins as a sign of speed and prowess. His press went to his head and soon he became the "hunter of mens' souls. He was defiant (his name means "Rebel") believing he didn't need God, but could build his own world on earth, His followers were manipulated into believing the lie, much like Hitler mesmerized his followers into believing he had all the answers. Both were likely under demonic control.

The tower of Babel (means 'confusion') was build in defiance of God's command to migrate to other places.

Some who were born after the flood became nervous with each rainfall, doubting God \s promise not to destroy the earth with water again. Nimrod fed that apprehension, convincing them to build a tower to the "gods," to contact those who came down before the flood. They wanted their knowledge and power.

Using brick was in itself a defiance of God. When an altar is built God always commands stone, something made without human hands. Stones are like people, each one is different as God made us. Bricks are man-made, each uniform, a picture of what one world governments want: for each person to fit the same little box.

Horodotus, the Greek historian of around 400 BC, wrote of seeing the remains of the tower, describing it as taking up 25 acres (20 football fieds) 8 stories high. Visualize a wedding cake of 8 layers. Each layer was a different color and there was a staircase that spiraled around the whole thing with seats on each level for people to rest. The top had had some type of altar, but was burnt. Perhaps lightning struck it; perhaps God destroyed it.

Part of its purpose was for astronomy or really, the beginning of astrology. The zodiac was an integral part of the worship.

One other practice that developed from this is the worship of ancestors. Because younger generations were living shorter lives, they began to give their living ancestors god-like status, as if they had some secret to life.

All occultic practices originated here at Babel. He was the originator of all false religions.

After the language confusion, Nimrod moved his operation and built the city of Ninevah, the city where Jonah was to declare its doom.

Nimrod sordid history included marrying his mother, Semiramis. When he was killed, she claimed her child who was born after that, was conceived by a sunbeam and was the reincarnation of Nimrod.

Thus began the mother/son worship that has been part of cults since that time. Satan has used that as a counterfeit of the virgin birth of Messiah.

After the language division people took these occultic practices with them. Names change but the demon gods they worship are the same. They also took the building plans for pyramids and we find them in some form in Japan, China, Egypt, The Americas, etc.

The pattern of leader who wants to control all the people is set here for us to understand Nimrod was the first, but that pattern was to be repeated until in the future, we will see the Man of Sin in the Days of Jacob's Trouble attempt a final take-over in defiance of God.

Through the ages there have been many who tried; Nebuchadnezzar, Alexander the Great, Antiochus Epiphanes, the Caesars, Napoleon, Hitler, etc, etc.

God's plan is given 3 times in Genesis 10:5, 20, and 31.

Families, land, languages, nations.

What does the one-world government seek?

Families as God commands, destroyed

Open borders, no individual countries,

One language for all is the goal.

Chapter 11:10-32

Now that people have scattered as God wanted, the focus is on Shem and his generations through which God will bring Messiah to the world.

From this point on,

Scripture will concentrate on Abraham and his descendants.

So, what has tools do we have to understand the rest of Scripture?

We know God is our Creator and Father of all who love Him. If we follow His instructions, our lives will be blessed.

We know that we are all sinners and need a Savior, which God would/has provided.

We know that He set up families to care for, to teach the younger that they learn about God, how to work, to live Godly lives and to care for older generations. The family is also an important part of a good economy.

God wanted these families to grow into cities and nations with governments. Governments were instituted for mutual protection and for capital punishment to control evil.

Then there are the patterns. God wants us to recognize these patterns, as history repeats itself. We are to be aware of circumstances and not get pulled into things with blinded eyes.

The other side of the pattern principle is personal. It is easy to get into life patterns that are destructive. We might see someone who keeps choosing the same type of person as a mate, a person who is abusive. If we can recognize the patterns then we can take steps to change the pattern.

Most of us have little patterns that we might want to break.

And, of course, many patterns are good. Perhaps we need to encourage more of those.

One final thought: We all trace our a family line back to these three sons of Noah. That means there is only one race: the human race. We are all brothers and sisters.

Even though Canaan's line was cursed, there were still people from that line that followed God, Rahab, one great example.