

67 April 30, 2022 – Lands of Noah

An interesting study of the dispersion of Noah's sons and their lineage after the flood notices the lineup of current nations and their internal social and political makeup as to how they interface with the nations of the current world. Of particular interest is the mention of these nations at the end of time depicted in the Bible, particularly in the Book of Revelation and the various Books of the Prophets. The war in Ukraine and Russia tends to focus many of us as to these prophecies. To kickoff this study first we need a review of the Tribulation period that was covered in an earlier Post 22 June 19, 2021.

"A man all but unknown at the beginning of the first 3-1/2 years of The Tribulation comes forth from the Middle East, specifically from an area of kingdoms around the Mediterranean Sea to gain respect and notoriety and then to assume a worldly position of leadership in the last 3-1/2 years of The Great Tribulation. This man from the ancient kingdom of Babylon (Rev 17:10-11), namely the current nations of Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon wages war on and conquers the three original ancient kingdoms and still known nations of Egypt, Sudan (Ethiopia), and Libya. With an army formed by this conquest this man known as the Antichrist, who denies and opposes God and the Saints, wages the war of Gog (the person) and Magog (the Nations) against Israel in the mountainous land of Israel with his armies (Eze 38-39). The Antichrist leading as the Four Horseman of the Apocalypse (Rev 6:1-2) rides a white horse followed by black, brown, and pale horse riders in conjunction with the Kings of the North (Turkey and Central Russia), Kings of the East (Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan), and Kings of the South (Egypt, Sudan/Ethiopia, Libya) together face the military power of Israel. This war is so devastating that the anger of God supernaturally intervenes to stop the slaughter with eighty-five percent of the armed forces killed. It takes seven years to burn all the weapons resulting from this war. The Book of Daniel describes the coming makeup of the kingdoms and nations in Dan 7:23-24 "Thus he said: The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will be different from all the other kingdoms, and it will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it. As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings will arise; and another will arise after them, and he will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings". The three kingdoms before the fourth are the Babylonian, Persian, and Grecian empires to then comes the fourth being the kingdom of the Beast or Antichrist and False Prophet which is the king that is different from the other ten. The ten horns represent the nations of Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt, Sudan (Ethiopia), Libya, Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. The three kings are the nations of Egypt, Sudan (Ethiopia), and Libya. A global drought of water including no rain and lack of food along with a meteorite striking the earth causes massive deaths. Israel with its abundance of water and food causes the leaders of the nations of the world including China and Russia with 200 million men to come against Israel because of its resources. At the end of the seven years Jesus' Second Coming on a white horse".

So, Noah had three sons born to him, Japheth, Shem, and Ham, before God sent a flood to destroy the world (Genesis 5:32). Whenever the names of Noah's three sons are recorded, Shem is always mentioned first (e.g., Genesis 9:18; 10:2, 21), even though Shem was the second-born - the Bible often lists people according to prominence rather than age. Shem was 100 years old at two years after the flood (Genesis 11:10), so he must have been born when Noah was 502 years old. Noah blessed Shem above his brothers (Genesis 9:26–27), and it was through Shem that the promised seed destined to crush Satan came (Genesis 3:15). That seed is traced back to Adam's son Seth (Genesis 5:1–32), through Shem, and on to Abraham, Jacob, Judah, and David, leading all the way to Christ (Luke 3:36). Shem was the ancestor of all the sons of Eber (Genesis 10:21), and this is important because the word *Eber* is the origin of the Hebrew word for "Hebrew." It was through Shem's son Arphaxad that Eber came as the ancestor of the Israelites and Ishmaelites. The word *Shem* means "name," which implies that Noah expected this son's name to

become great. He was right—the modern words Semitic and Semite are derived from Shem's name. The Bible records that Shem had five sons: Elam, Ashur, Arphaxad, Lud, and Aram (Genesis 10:22). Shem lived to be 600 years of age (Genesis 11:10–11) and became the ancestor of the Semitic peoples (Genesis 10:1, 21–31) denoting a family of people who speak Hebrew, Arabic, and Aramaic. Abraham, a descendant of Shem, is the first person in the Bible who is referred to as a "Hebrew" (Genesis 14:13). Shem's son Elam was the father of the Elamites now known as southwestern Iran, who later settled east of Mesopotamia now known as Iraq, Kuwait, Turkey, and Syria. Shem's son Ashur, whose name is related to the word *Assyria*, is most likely the father of those who settled the ancient region of Assyria (Genesis 2:14) now known as northern Iraq, southeastern Turkey, northwestern Iran, and northeastern Syria. Arphaxad is thought by many scholars to be a compound form of the Hebrew word for "Chaldea," which was a region in southern Mesopotamia (Genesis 11:10–13) primarily located in Iraq who fled because of persecution and today primarily live in the southwestern United States. Scholars believe that the descendants of Shem's son Lud became known as the Lydians of Asia Minor an area in western Asia known today as the major part of Turkey. And Aram is identified by Bible scholars with the area northeast of the Promised Land, known today as Syria (2 Kings 16:6). The sons of Aram are listed in Genesis 10:23 with Uz later referred to in the book of Job (Job 1:1).

Noah's firstborn son, Japheth, and thus the oldest of his three sons is listed as the father of Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras (Genesis 10:2). Their descendants became the people who lived to the north and west of Israel today known as western Europe and, after Babel, spoke what today are classified as Indo-European languages. Japheth was born when Noah was 500 years old, and the flood came 100 years later (Genesis 7:6–7). In blessing his son Japheth, Noah said, "*May God extend Japheth's territory; may Japheth live in the tents of Shem, and may Canaan be the slave of Japheth*" (Genesis 9:27). Some scholars are of the opinion that the enlargement of Japheth's territory refers to a great numerical increase of his descendants. The comment "may Japheth live in the tents of Shem" means that Japheth will share in the blessings of Shem. According to this view, there was to be a time when God worked primarily with Shem (the people of Israel), but later Japheth would be brought into connection with the faith of Israel to share Israel's blessings. A similar prophecy is evident in the Abrahamic Covenant, when God promises to bless all nations through Abraham's seed (Genesis 12:3). The fulfillment is found in Christ and in the gospel coming to the Gentiles at the inception of the church (Acts 15:7; Romans 15:16; Galatians 2:2). Other scholars are of the opinion that the extension of Japheth's territory refers to territorial enlargement, and living "in the tents of Shem" is the conquest of the Semites' territory by the descendants of Japheth. According to this view, the fulfillment was the Greek and Roman conquests of Israel.

Ham, the youngest of Noah's three sons with no record of when Ham was born other than the fact that he was born sometime after Shem (Genesis 9:24). He had four sons: Cush, Mizraim (Hebrew for "Egypt"), Put, and Canaan (Genesis 10:6; 1 Chronicles 1:8). Egypt was later called the "land of Ham" (Psalm 78:51; 105:23; 106:22). The Hamitic peoples are shown in Genesis 10:6–20 as becoming a godless and worldly power. It was the land of Israel that was assigned to Ham's son, Canaan, and for centuries it was under the control of the Egyptians. Ham is the father of the Arabians, Canaanites, and Africans, including the Egyptians. Due to Ham's sin against his father (Genesis 9:20–25), Noah cursed Canaan, saying Canaan would be a servant to Shem (Genesis 9:26). This was fulfilled centuries later when the Israelites entered the land of Canaan and subdued the inhabitants of that land (1 Kings 9:20–21). So notice from the

description above concerning the Tribulation that the first three nations to support the coming Antichrist were the heritage of Put and Cush of Egypt, Libya, and Sudan (Ethiopia).

Thus offered as a contrast or similarity are a summary of the current nations that lineup with the sons of Noah and their lineage:

Magog = far northwest of Asia adjacent to Pakistan and China – central Russia, Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Tajikistan.

Gomer = Turkey, Germany.

Cush = Sudan (Ethiopia)

Put = Libya, Algeria, Tunisia

Rosh = Russia, and some of the former Soviet Nations

Persia = Iran

Meshech = western Europe and part of Turkey