**SDG Lesson #8**

**Genesis 10 & 11**

Because of the format of this lesson and these chapters, it is best to read both chapters before beginning this study.

1. What do we learn about Noah’s grandsons from verse one?

All of Noah’s grandsons were born after the flood.

2. Compare verses 5, 20, and 31. What do we learn from these verses?

As people spread out to fill the world, they spread by their clans, languages, land and nations. This gives us a clue as to how God confused their languages at the Tower of Babel. In His mercy and grace He kept the families together by giving the families the different languages.

3. Where did the descendants of Japheth settle?

The descendants of Japheth stayed close to the coast and were known as people of the coastlands.

4. How many sons did Japheth have? (vs. 2) 7 sons

5. How many sons did Ham have? (vs. 6) 4 sons

6. How many sons did Shem have? (vs. 22) 5 sons

7. How many verses are dedicated to Japheth and his descendants? 4 verses

8. How many verses are dedicated to Ham and his descendants? 15 verses

9. How many verses are dedicated to Shem and his descendants? 11 verses

10. Compare your answers to the last six questions. What do you observe?

Japheth, the one who had the most sons has the least amount of information concerning his descendants.

Shem, the one who is in the middle when it comes to the number of sons also is in the middle when it comes to the amount of information given concerning his descendants.

Ham, the one who had the least number of sons has the most amount of information concerning his descendants.

11. Keep these observations in mind as you begin to study the genealogy of Ham. What were the names of Ham’s sons?

His sons were Cush, Egypt, Put and Canaanites.

12. What do the following verses say about the descendants of these sons?

Exodus 1:8-14 - Egypt fathered a great nation that eventually put the descendants of Shem under servanthood.

Genesis 28:1&8 - Isaac did not want Jacob to take a wife from the Canaanite women because they did not please him. They were pagan.

Exodus 33:2 - The Canaanites were to be driven out of the Promised Land.

Deuteronomy 32:49 – The land of Canaan was to be taken as the Promised Land.

13. The genealogy of Ham goes beyond his sons and begins to address his grandson. The descendants of Cush are the first to be examined. Cush had six sons. One of these six was Raamah. Who were Raamah’s sons?

Sheba and Pedan

14. What more can we learn about them? (1st Kings 10:1-13)

From Sheba came the kingdom of Sheba.

15. Cush also fathers Nimrod. What do we learn about Nimrod?

Vs. 8 – He was the first mighty man or warrior.

Vs. 9 – He was a mighty hunter.

Vs. 10 – He was the King of Babel.

Vs. 11 & 12 – He built the great cities of Assyria, including Ninevah.

16. Egypt fathered Casluhim. What note is made concerning his descendants? Why” (1st & 2nd Samuel)

The Philistines came from Casluhim. The Philistines were the arch-enemy of the Israelites. Goliath was a Philistine.

17. Canaan fathered several nations. What do we know about the Jebusites? (Judges 1:21) – They were to be driven out and destroyed.

Amorites, Hivites (Joshua 12:8) – Both were conquered by Joshua.

18. Finally, the territory of the Canaanites extended as far as Gaza (the land of the Philistines) and in the direction of five other cities whose whereabouts are unknown. However, two of those cities are known. What do we know about them? (Genesis 18 & 19)

Sodom and Gomorrah were so perverse that God came down and destroyed them with fire and brimstone.

19. Ham had the least number of sons and yet has the most written about him and his descendants. Why?

From Ham came all the enemies of the Israelites. When Moses wrote the book of Genesis he gave the people an understanding of who they were going to be doing battle with. Their battles with the Canaanites, the Philistines, Babylonians and Assyrians are a major theme of the historical books of the Old Testament. Their deliverance from Egypt is the basis for the Passover and led to the giving of the Law.

20. The genealogy of Shem is unique. Who is first mentioned? What relation was he to Shem?

Eber, Shem’s great-grandson is the first mentioned.

21. Why is this person singled out? (10:25 & 11:10-26)

Eber was the father of Peleg. The word Peleg means division. Sometime during his life, possibly at the time of his birth the Lord dispersed the people from Babel. Eber is also the root word for the name Hebrew. The Hebrew people were the descendants of Eber through his son Peleg who shared the same language of his father.

22. At the beginning of this lesson we focused on verses 5, 20, and 31 of chapter 10. These verses tell us that descendants of Noah spread out by their clans, languages, land and nations. The first half of chapter 11 explains why. What is the first piece of information we are given in chapter 11?

The whole earth had one language.

23. What did the people do following the flood?

They migrated from the east and settled in the plain of Shinar.

24. What did they intend to do?

They intended to build a city with a great tower to make a name for themselves and unite them in their goals.

25. What was the problem with this?

Genesis 9:1 – God had told them to go and fill the earth. They were choosing to stay put in one area.

1st Corinthians 10:31 – In all that we do we are to seek to bring glory to God.

26. What is meant when God says, “And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them?”

The people were openly disobeying Him. United in language, they would be able to continue on their self-glorifying path. There was nothing to stop them.

27. How did God show judgment, mercy and grace in the confusing their language?

Judgment – What was being done was sinful. God judged them, stopped them and delivered a sentence on them.

Mercy – They deserved to be put to death but God spared their lives.

Grace – God’s judgment was not haphazard, He confused their language according to family lines – such as Eber through his son Peleg began the Hebrew nation.

28. At the end of chapter 11 we are given a complete genealogy of Shem. How long did Shem live?

Shem lived to be 600 years old.

29. How old was Shem when Peleg was born?

Shem was 208 when Peleg was born.

30. How long did Peleg live?

Peleg lived 239 years. He was 30 when he fathered Reu and then lived another 209 years.

31. Based on your last three answers and the information given in 10:25, what do we know about Shem?

Shem was alive at the time of the confusing of the languages at the tower of babel. Since it happened during the life of Peleg and Peleg died at the age of 239 when Shem was only 447.

32. Was Shem alive when Abraham was born? If so, how old was he?

Shem was 329 years old when Abraham was born.

33. The genealogy ends with Terah who fathered three sons, Abraham, Nahor and Haran. Where did Terah live?

Terah lived in Ur of the Chaldeans.

34. What happened to Haran?

Haran died in the arms of his father.

35. Following Haran’s death, what did Terah do?

Terah took Abram and Sarai, and his grandson Lot and began a move to Canaan. However, he stopped in a town called Haran and made their residence there.