

Lesson 3 Genesis 4 – 11

STUDY QUESTIONS:

1. *What is the result of the Fall? What motivates Cain's action? How do you explain the existence of other people?*
2. *How closely was mankind made in God's image? Note chapter 5:1-3.*
3. *What could be an explanation for the great length of life of these ancient peoples? What is unusual about Enoch?*
4. *What is the connection between the Fall and the Flood? A covenant is mentioned the first time in 6:18. What is a covenant? Why is one needed between God and mankind? Why was Noah chosen? Why is the Church referred to as "The Ark." What are the early basic commands God gives for human life to continue on earth? 9:1-7*
5. *Why must God confuse the languages? What does this story tell us about mankind's basic problem? Chapter 11.*

Psalm 1 and prayer.

Review the diagram of last week which describes the three triune unities. Man, male and female, was created in the image of the Triune God. The attitude of response, first, of woman, and secondly, man and woman together toward God, is absolutely essential to the continuance of Perfection.

Bliss and happiness were lost through turning from God's Will to the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Satan convinced the responder to attempt to be initiator - actually impossible for either the woman or mankind by themselves, so the holy attitude of trusting response was lost to mankind. After their decision to be their own masters, the Holy Spirit who had been the unity of the two, both mankind to Godhead, and man to woman, could no longer be their divine bond. They were left cut off from God and from each other.

Mankind is a unity of male and female. In Genesis chapter 5, the language even more clearly presents mankind as one being, a unity of male and female. "He created Man, male and female, and named them Man." In Perfection Man was meant to be as close to God and as like

God as Seth was close to and like Adam. Son and father are very similar. It is just so that mankind was meant to be like God - this by the divine gifts added to human nature. Creature Man must never gravely misunderstand himself to be God, but he is given equality only in the sense that both supernaturally gifted Man and Holy God are each as whole and holy as they can be. This holy creature is meant to share eternity with God. This astounding information is corroborated in the New Testament which tells us about our destined equality in two ways: that we are growing into the likeness of Jesus, and that we, the People of God, will be the bride of the Second Person of the Trinity.

The first result of the Fall is envy which leads to murder. Cain is jealous of his brother's position. An alien value system has invaded the earth under the new master, Satan. One man now strives to have the place of another. Why is Cain's sacrifice not acceptable? The Bible doesn't say directly, but implies that it is the heart condition God alone sees that is unacceptable. Not only was Cain sullen after his sacrifice was refused, he came in a bad state of heart for his worship of God. Very early in man's consciousness was the command that only blood sacrifices could remit sin - his sacrifice, therefore, was not sufficient. Yet Cain receives mercy from God who protects him in his wanderings.

Other people are on the scene. In the myth, Adam is mankind; yet the Church teaches that Adam and Eve mean only two, one man and one woman, who were the first people to sin against God, and from whom original sin, the fatal flaw is inherited. Yet, there are other "people" living at the time of the children of Adam and Eve who may be the forms paleontologists discover, not having been created to be "sons of God" by the in-spiration (the in-breathing) of the Holy Spirit in the manner of the two created in God's image, Adam and Eve. This may be hinted at in Genesis 6:1 - a mysterious verse, and also by Jesus in a parable in which he states there are imitations of people planted by Satan (Mt 13 The Church has no anthropological definition of this enigma.

Patriarchs ages span time. The ages of the ten patriarchs before the flood are meant to be symbolic of a great span of time that linked the first man, Adam, and the patriarch Noah. There were great names in this long span of history, names that may have been patriarchs of nomadic tribes. The myth tells us that these great fathers of the people lived long lives, that they were weighty people, important people, and they fathered numbers of peoples over the centuries. Perhaps we could say they were fathers of epochs of history. And their ages could be seen to contrast with the ages of men later, in that sin did not have its grip so tightly on man. Did lives shorten as sin gained momentum? God himself shortens the life span to control the growth of evil. That was the way one of the old stories explained it. Enoch was holy, he did not die, but ascended directly to heaven. Seth's favored line is the important genealogy to watch.

Sin is the connection between the Fall and Flood. Because of growing sin things get so bad that God regrets having made the earth and He is determined to wipe out evil. Afterwards a covenant is instituted, a legal form which now takes the place of the original unity between God and mankind's unity in the Holy Spirit. Covenant will bind redeemed Man and God until the consummation of the Ages. Something must hold God and Man in a relationship until that Day when the Bride/Church is fully one with the Bridegroom, so a legal agreement along the lines early used in human disputes is instituted by God with Noah. Because Noah still heeds God, after the flood God makes a promise to Noah and his Sons that He will never again purge the earth with a flood. In return they are to keep the rules of this covenant: 1) that man shall not eat blood, 2) that a life will be taken for a life, and 3) that man and woman shall be fruitful and multiply.

Rebellion is considered an assault on heaven. God must confuse the languages to keep men, in their arrogance and pride, from joining together in their assault on heaven. In other words, Man will continue to try to take over God's place; he is incurably power mad, and the large buildings he raises are presumptuous as he tries to make himself

a god. These buildings that were symbolic of Man's attack on heaven were the ziggurat towers, temples to gods of the Shinar plain; some ruins still stand today. Such structures astounded the nomadic Hebrews when they saw them, and became a symbol of the evils of civilization, affronting God Himself with the presumption of climbing up into the sky. The inspired writers presented the pervading problem of Man - wanting to be his own god, and described how this was punished by God's scattering these people over the earth and confounding their language so that communal sin would be discouraged.

The loss of the Holy Spirit. Beginning with the diagram of last week, we shall see just what happened to Man with the Fall, and why this word "covenant" becomes so very important. The diagram depicts the unity of God and Man, and man and woman according to God's original intent to share His unique relationship within the Trinity. On each level there is an initiator and a responder, loving each other in the Spirit from a polar position. The Holy Spirit is the binding force, the divine love, between the equal but polar persons. Incorporated in this love have been gifts of supernature added to Man's nature that make him a capable partner in the divine life. If the perfection of unity is to be broken, the responder must be taught not to value the stance of response. Satan had to convince the woman to despise her role in this union and seek the opposite role. When her disaffection ripened into disobedience, it displaced the Holy Spirit. He could not continue to bond disobedient mankind and Holy God, because obedient love on the part of Man was gone. Here we erase the Holy Spirit from the diagram, leaving mankind isolated; and man and woman two estranged persons. The goal of God's work will be to reunite mankind to Himself once more in the Holy Spirit. Jesus, the Second Person, will be sent to forgive sins through His death, making a way for the Holy Spirit to take up His place again as the bond of unity between God and Man, man and woman, and the individual and the Father. This will be the work God accomplishes in time. In the meantime, something must hold the estranged together.

And so . . .the Law. After man and woman turned away from God in Perfection and all was spoiled, God put man and woman under the

Law. He put Satan under the Law, which eventually meant that woman's seed (woman's not man's) would crush Satan's head. He put the man under the Law, man would have to go out and work to earn bread to feed himself and his family by the sweat of his brow. The earth would not yield easily, it would take hard effort. The woman would bear children in pain and the man would rule over her. This is the first and primal law which is beyond man's remembering in the very earliest of social ordering; but it is not the way God meant His world to be. This law was put upon God's creation, not to punish them, although it had that effect, but to hold things together for the working out of Salvation History. The Holy Spirit could no longer be Perfect Unity, disobedience had ruined that, so the binding Law took His place; it would necessarily be a harsher, less than ideal arrangement that would be temporary until Perfection would be reestablished. The earliest Law, one that Man knew as binding to his psyche and his societal ordering, is mentioned in the third chapter of Genesis.

Through History, which is His Story, God will work out salvation and the ultimate restoration to Oneness with Him. This is the story of the Bible - it is the story of God's work to restore His Plan. Restoration would come about through the exercise of Man's own will in perfect freedom - God will woo His Bride. It would have been possible for God to forget freedom and just manipulate men and women straight again, and then take their freedom away so that disobedience would never happen again. That would be a defeat to love - contrary to His nature. There can be no love between a Manipulator and an object. There must be freedom of choice for love. There must be freedom for the choice of loving and serving God or not. Free choice of obedience is the climate conducive for the Holy Spirit to do His love work of unity. So Salvation History is the story of mankind learning to exercise his freedom toward love, not toward his own destruction.

Mankind's special gifts are lost. Before the Fall, Man, male and female, had very special properties added to his integral human nature, properties that were lost by disobedience. The chemistry

formula we all know makes an illustration. Mankind in union with the Holy Spirit is like the formula H Hydrogen is a good element in itself, but cannot do the things that water can do. Human nature, H, is good in itself, but it does not have the capability to be friends with God and share the divine life. For that he must be lifted to a higher plane by sanctifying grace given by the Holy Spirit, O. Sanctifying grace accounts for those additions to human nature that made him fit for eternal divine life. And the preternatural gifts of immortality and integrity were also given by the Holy Spirit's bonding with Man. When I was a Baptist I was taught that mankind was depraved, his original nature damaged beyond repair. But the Catholic Church teaches that though we are not what God had in mind in Perfection, mankind is still good in himself. Human nature was not changed by the Fall, but by itself it is not capable of union with God. Though Man does rotten things, and is imperfect (he no longer has the gift of integrity by which the impulses of his lower nature were under the control of his reason and will), but he still is good. There are lots of good people in the world, but without the Holy Spirit they simply cannot be, they cannot have, the divine properties God originally intended given to man and woman. In baptism and confirmation we receive the Holy Spirit who makes us new creatures capable of living life on an entirely different level than we are without the Spirit, and the promise of one day regaining our full inheritance. In this world of sin this is just a down payment of the complete Gift we will someday experience. The Spirit is the promise of the full blown reunion of God that is coming. We are not intended to remain merely human; a total reunion with the Spirit is meant to transform us for Eternal Life.

Mankind can no longer be one with God. Overall, mankind has lost the Holy Spirit who makes it possible for him to be one with God. But God does not desert him in this misery (pain and suffering are directly or indirectly the consequence of sin, ignorance and folly). After the Fall, God begins by placing man under Law and binding him to Himself by Covenant. Both of these, and they are very similar, have the nature of supernatural glue. They will hold man and woman together, they will hold mankind together, so that God can save them singly and collectively.

In their souls, men know their need to make amends. Noah, one of the figures in God's early work with Man, comes off the ark with his sons and makes a sacrifice in thanksgiving. The need to make peace with God is in the very fibre of Man's soul. Noah and his sons make their blood sacrifice on an altar. Sacrifices and altars are ancient forms in the consciousness of mankind as he tries to make restitution for his alienation from God which he senses in his spirit - to reunite his fallen self to God in some way. See Gn.9:4-7. Noah was righteous, he listened to God and he made sacrifice; therefore, God made a covenant with Noah and his sons. They would do certain things God commanded, and He would give them a promise in return. It is the first covenant (or did Adam have a covenant with God also?) 1) They will not eat blood. Blood is a very important symbol throughout the Old Testament - the symbol of life. God alone gives life, and life is mysteriously in the blood. Blood is a most holy substance. Blood will reunite man and God. A bloody sacrifice will reestablish man and God in a kind of friendship; they will be joined by the life blood of an animal given by God, and returned to God by the person making the sacrifice. Blood, therefore, must not be eaten in the meat - it must be drained. This holy element will be used in Salvation History as the bond of the holy covenant. 2) God will require a life when a life is taken. It is not possible for mankind to continue if because of envy and jealousy, men are committing mayhem on every side. There must be some restraint on the evil in Man's heart. Man may not take life without giving up his own life. This vengeance law was common through the nomadic tribes of the Near East, seemingly written in their consciousness. 3) And, mankind must be fruitful and multiply - history must go on so that God's plan will come to a successful conclusion. Long before Abraham, the wandering tribes of the earth knew these laws as natural, and observed them.

Man has been told his part, now God tells His part. He promises that He will never again destroy the world by the waters of a flood. See II Peter 3:10. Here the Bible tells us that at the end sin will become so bad, freedom so misused, that the earth will be destroyed, but with

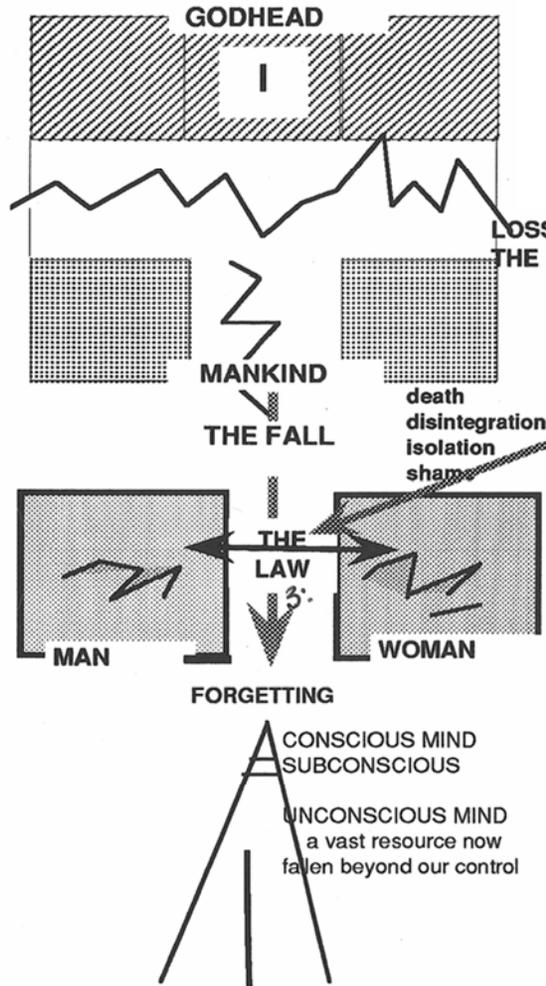
fire; all the elements will be burned up. With a great sound, everything will dissolve in fire. Through Salvation History mankind is coming closer to the End Time. Mankind is either becoming holier or more evil depending on the choices that are made. The cleavage between the world, those who do not accept Christ, and the Christian who has received the Holy Spirit is greater and greater. There is a chasm between those obedient to God's Word and the disobedient. As the Evil side gets darker the Redeemed side lightens. It is part of the mystery of redemption. Though the world will dissolve in fire, which reads like an atomic holocaust, those "in Christ" will be removed before the end to a new heavens and a new earth (check this with the Catholic Catechism which has a different take on Thess. 4-5). Here existence will be in an immortal "body," and not as disembodied spirits. Once more the Original Order of the state of Perfection described in the myth of the garden of Eden will be the experience of those in the Redeemed Order.

Our diagram will symbolize this for us. Throughout the remainder of the course this diagram will be a reminder that we came from Perfection and we are returning to Perfection. It symbolizes unity - the unity of Man and God, the unity of mankind, and the unity of man and woman. Unity in the bond of love. Here is the symbol of what we have fallen from and what we are returning to. With the loss of the Spirit, the Law was instituted to be the glue to hold things together until the Restoration. The Bible is the story of that long trek toward restoration. We are returning home in two ways: 1) This trek is the journey that each one of us undertakes. As sinners we have all been dissociated from God. We have tried to run our own lives and everything has fallen apart both inside ourselves and in our relationship to other persons, certainly to God. We are on a personal journey toward God, to loving unity with God and with our neighbor. So it is our personal odyssey that the Bible tells about. 2) In another sense it is also a communal journey. We are all together on this journey with those who have gone before and those who will come after. Together we will see the salvation of God at the End Time. So there are two dimensions in those layered meanings of scripture, the communal, all of us together - the Church, and the personal, each one on his own journey to God. The two cannot be separated.

In the next lesson we will complete our study of the earliest myths of the Bible - these great stories which came out of the haze of the ancient past that tell us in an inspired way the story of God and Man and the need for salvation. We will begin to read the account of historical times that can be documented in time and place. God begins to form a people; He begins with a real man whose culture we recognize, and a name that appears in other records - Abraham with his wife Sarah.

A note on how to do your Bible reading: this is not speed reading, but should be done deliberately. Before beginning to read, turn to the Spirit asking Him to speak to you. Read through the questions on the assignment page, then read asking for enlightenment in understanding. Then put yourself on the scene, into the actions, make it present and real as opposed to super-spiritual. Then attempt to write down at least some of the answers to the questions. Expect that you will hear God speak to you in the course of this study. God speaks - it is His nature to communicate. He speaks to individuals; He is concerned and reveals. Scripture records His revelation. We have access to Him because these people listened. God directs, He makes demands, He issues invitations, and commandments. He is interested in the course of our lives. God promises. Today He speaks through the Church (the teaching of Pope and Bishops) in prayer, prophecy and Scripture. Listen for Him to speak to you, be open to what He directs you to do, and embrace His promises as meant for you personally.

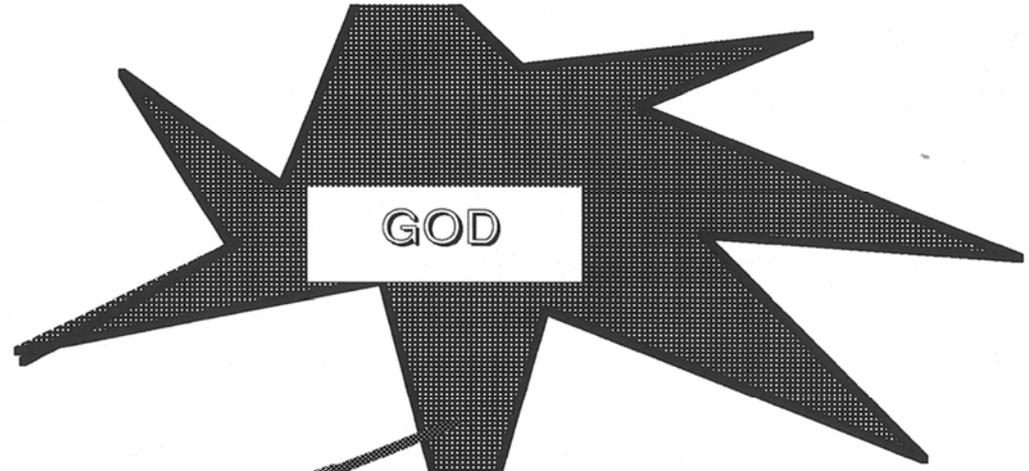
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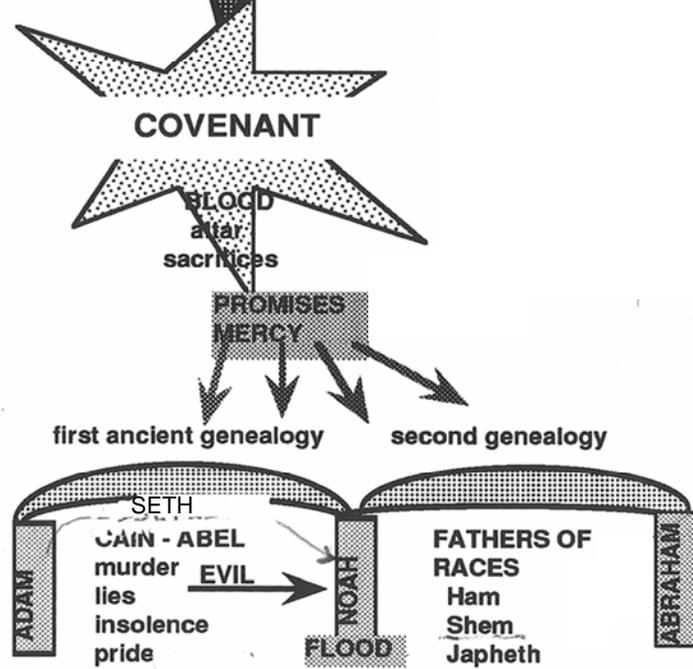
H₂O
H - human nature is good.

But infused with the Spirit ... O ... it has capabilities that fit the human for friendship with God in an equality of holiness -

In our analogy, hydrogen is a good element, but joined to oxygen, two to one, it gains incomparable qualities and becomes a whole new substance.



STABLE... JUST... UNCHANGING... PURPOSEFUL
AUTHOR... LOVER...



BRIDGES FROM PREHISTORY TO RECORDED HISTORY

SALVATION HISTORY

Lesson 3 Genesis 4 - 11 Synopsis

4. Adam *knew* Eve, she conceived bears a son, Cain
"I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord" conceives Abel; a shepherd Cain is a farmer
Cain's brings offering of fruit Abel offers an animal (blood) God regards Abel's offering but not Cain's, who is angry God counsels him to do well and be accepted warns him that sin desires him
but he must master sin Cain kills Abel
The Lord asks "where is your brother?"
"Am I my brother's keeper?"
"The voice of your brothers blood cries from the ground"
"Cursed, you shall be a fugitive"
Cain says, "Whoever finds me will slay me"
The Lord marks Cain for safety from vengeance Cain dwelt in the Land of Nod away from God's presence Cain begot Enoch a city named after Enoch four generations later Larrech, whose son is Jabal the father of those in tents who have cattle his brother is Jubal the father of players of flutes, lyre

another brother, Tubal-cain, forger Lamech's war chant filled with spirit of vengeance Adam, Seth, Enosh
men call upon the name of the Lord
5. God created man (Adam) in God's image male and female He created them named them Man (Adam) when they were created Seth in Adam's image and likeness Adam died at 930 yrs Seth, 912 yrs.; Enosh, 905 Kenan, 910; Mahalalel, 895 Jared 962; Enoch walked with God who took him at 365 yrs Methuselah, 969 yrs Lamech, 777 yrs.
Noah became the father of Shem, Ham, Japheth
6. the daughters of men were fair to the sons of God God limits man's life to a hundred years Nephilim in those days were the mighty men the wickedness is great men do evil continually the Lord is grieved to the heart He will blot out man and all creation Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord flesh has corrupted men's way make an ark 450'x75'x45' a door in the side, three decks all evildoers will die in a flood but a covenant with Noah will save him and his children he is to bring sons, wives, children

two of every living creature and a store of food for all Noah did all that God commanded
7. took seven pairs of all clean animals and a pair of animals not clean seven pairs of birds rain will blot out every living thing Noah did all God commanded after seven days the flood came the fountains of the deep open the heavens are opened rain fell for forty days and nights all entered the ark the Lord shut them in for forty days the water increased all the mountains were covered all who breathed died only Noah and those in the ark survived waters prevailed 150 days
8. a wind blew the waters subsided fountains of the deep were closed windows of heaven were closed waters receded continually the flood lasted five months the ark came to rest on Mt. Ararat waters abated more in three more months tops of the mountains seen Noah sent out a raven it went to and fro sent a dove, it returned after seven days sent the dove again came back with an olive leaf another seven days sent the dove which did not return

eleven months from entering ark the earth is dry God says, "Go forth may the animals breed and replenish the earth" all went forth by families Noah built an altar took one of every clean animal and bird offered burnt offerings the Lord was pleased with the smell "I will never again destroy because of man his heart is evil from his youth while earth remains, life will go on"
9. God blessed Noah and his sons "Be fruitful and multiply fill the earth,"
dread of you will be on nature they *are* delivered into your hand eat every living thing but eat no blood the life of *man* will require a life because God created man in His image this is the covenant that man never again will be cut off by a flood the rainbow is the sign of covenant between God and man the earth is peopled from Ham, Shem and Japheth Ham the father of Canaan Noah was the first tiller of the soil he planted a vineyard became drunk and lay uncovered Ham saw his fathers nakedness and told his brothers

Shem and Japheth walk backward
to cover Noah's nakedness
Noah finds out what Ham has done
and curses Ham
to be a slave to his brothers
Shem is blessed
Canaan will serve Shem
Japheth will be enlarged
and learn in the tents of Shem
Canaan will serve Japheth
Noah lived 950 years and died

10. the generations of Noah

sons of Japheth

peoples called Indo-Europeans
of the north and west

sons of Ham include
southern peoples

all enemies of Hebrews
Canaanites (some were actually
Semites) Egyptians, Ethiopians,
(Nimrod, the first mighty man)
also the Babylonians, Assyrians
and antecedents to the Philistines
Canaan and his descendents
all enemies of the Hebrews
by families, languages, and nations

sons of Shorn were Eber, Aram
and all truly Semitic tribes
these are the sons of Noah

11. the whole earth had one

language and few words
men migrated east to
Shinar used brick for stone
bitumen for mortar said,
"come let us build a city"
built a city and tower the
Lord came down to see
concerned at their effrontery
nothing impossible

for such arrogance
God confuses their language
and scatters to confound them
therefore, tower called Babel
descendents of Shem 600 yrs
Arpachshad 403,
Shela 433, Eber 464, Peleg 239
Reu 239, Serug 230
Nahor 149, Terah 205
Terah, the father of
Abram, Nahor, Haran
Haran the father of Lot
Abram's wife Sarah
Nahor's wife, Milcah
Milcah, Haran's daughter
Sarai was barren
Terah took his extended family
from Ur to go to Canaan
settled in Haran where Terah died

Lesson 3 Genesis 4 - 11 Outline

I. Historical and Geographical Perspective

A. Origin of these inspired myths in Prehistoric times

1. they have connections with myths of other Near East people
2. God takes man's expression and raises it to be bearer of divine truth
 - a. Egyptian myths - do not explain the origins of creation or the gods who rise from the waters and begin to procreate, argue and fight.
 - b. the Gilgamesh tale of Mesopotamia
 - 1) a secular tale of adventure
 - 2) Gilgamesh's uncle had experienced the flood
 - 3) some of the poetry very similar to parts of the Noah story
 - c. the Hebrew story of the flood encompasses the purposes of a God of righteousness who loves His creation and grieves over it

B. Historic backgrounds

1. Jericho the oldest city on earth - 7000 B.C. with earlier roots
2. writing began in Sumer and Egypt in 3000 B.C.
 - a. as a result of trade and commerce
 - b. hieroglyphics in Egypt retained picture writing 10⁰44-
 - c. cuneiform in Sumer lost its picture base early
 - d. great library of all kinds of writing discovered in Ugarit, also an alphabet of 30 letters greatly simplified writing, an invention of the Phoenicians
 - e. writing common (scribes) from 2500 B.C.
3. the pyramids were built in 2600 B.C.
4. **the Nile** settled from 7000 B.C.
5. human roots of the Hebrew scriptures are in the nomadic tribes
 - a. off the fringes of the deserts, nomads intruded into settled areas of the Fertile Crescent
 - b. had tribal gods, and the law of revenge
 - c. from these Semites, religious revelation would influence the world

II. Ancient genealogies span the time from Adam to Abraham A. Adam's descendants

1. Cain and Abel
 - a. Abel is killed by his brother in jealousy over sacrifice
 - b. Cain's line (Kenites?) gets more and more vengeful

- 1) God warns about his heart's attitude
- 2) Lamech's war chant 4:23 2.

Seth and his line of patriarchs

- a. from this line a Lamech also, similar names of this Lamech's father, Methusaiah, and other Lamech's mother, Methushael but one line sinks into vengeance, the other is line of the blessed
- b. spans time between Adam and Noah
- c. ages of these ten patriarchs are all great
 - 1) divides ancient history into epochs dominated by tribes whose fathers may have been these men
 - 2) total ages of ten patriarchs 8,575 years - though they overlap
- d. one of the line was assumed into heaven - Enoch

B. Existence of other peoples

1. an enigmatic scrap of information 6:1-5
 - a. explains **the** existence of aborigines in the area, called Nephilim, **who** were tall and strong - considered giants
 - b. the daughters of men and the sons of God
 - 1) the daughters - part of humanoid "people" not infused with the divine - not bearing the divine image?? Adam's line being the sons of God?? Jesus' parable: Mt. 13:38f
 - 2) or the story tells of angelic beings having intercourse with humans?? does it imply fallen angels, explaining growing evil?
 - 3) the result was these extraordinary Nephilim
2. see **Job 1** where Satan is called a son of God

C. Noah's descendants

1. all the earth's people are part of one family
2. describes the relationship of peoples as the Hebrews later understood it
3. Ham received a curse 9:25
 - a. his descendants will be all the peoples whom the Hebrews will consider enemies
 - b. Egypt (Gush), Canaan, Assyria (Nineveh) and Babylonia (Babel and Mead), even though some of these people were Semites 10:6ff and the Philistines 10:14 who were Indo-European
 - c. even the Semitic Amorites, Gargashites, **and** Hivites 10:16
 - d. Noah's curse opens the way to enslave these people 9:20
4. Japheth - the northern peoples **who** are known as Japhethites are Indo-Europeans

- 2) relationships with the Japhethites would be friendly
- 5. Sheen
 - a. blessed by the Lord God - Yahweh, the Semite's God
 - b. Canaan will be his slave
 - c. among the descendants - the origin of Semitic names
 - 1) Eber - *Hebrew*
 - 2) Aram - *Aramean*
 - d. Shem's line dominates by tribes
 - 1) long lived patriarchs - again symbolic?
 - 2) why shorter epochs than earlier? the result of God's command? 6:3 to shorten man's span of life?
 - 3) spans the time between Noah and Abraham
 - 4) Terah the father of Abraham, Haran and Nahor
 - a) Haran the father of Lot, Milcah (meaning queen), and Iscah die in Ur
 - b) Abram marries barren Sarai (meaning princess)
 - c) Nahor marries Milcah, his niece
 - d) the family moves to Haran on their way to Canaan
 - e) Torah dies in Haran

III. The Effects of the Fall

A. Death 3:19

- 1. the Tree of Life is denied Man
 - a. there is no way back 3:24
 - b. the Cross of Calvary is to be the Tree of Life
- 2. now Man is "like God" in exercising his own will
- 3. Man's will brings terrible evil upon creation 3:22

B. Disintegration of the Divine Unity

- 1. brought out again clearly in 5:1
- 2. analogous to the likeness of Adam and Seth
- 3. Man's nature and supernatural gifts compared to H₂O
 - a. human nature (H) plus the divine gifts of grace(O) create new possibilities for Man which are impossible without grace
 - b. raises human nature to friendship with God - like a new nature
 - c. when the Holy Spirit (O) has left - with Him goes eternal life and Man is reduced to the capabilities of mere human nature (H)
- 4. Mankind loses remembrance of who he is and that his meaning

- a. psychoanalysis posits a vast unconscious, out of Man's conscious reach, but affecting Man in many ways
- b. upon this unconscious mind Man's consciousness floats precariously

C. Primeval law 3:14 ff - the glue to hold things together - prophetic

- 1. laid down before language developed, in the very being of men
- 2. curse on the serpent - prophetic of the work of Mary and Jesus
 - a. cursed above all other creatures
 - b. woman's seed would crush his head
 - c. he would strike at the heel of her seed
- 3. the woman
 - a. would have pain in childbirth
 - b. but would have desire for her husband
 - c. her husband would rule over her
- 4. the man
 - a. the ground is cursed, will bring forth reluctantly
 - b. will labor to provide for himself and his family
 - c. they will return to dust in death

D. Procreation begins

- 1. Eve conceives with the help of the Lord
 - a. (recent DNA studies find the origin of mankind in one woman Anthropologists have determined all humankind has one female antecedent whom they have named Eve)
 - b. it takes three - man and woman with "the help of the Lord"
- 2. genealogies cover the span of thousands of years a. explain certain developments in music, technologies

E. *Adversio Deo* - adverse to God - is the stance of Man after the

Fall 1. Cain's murder of Abel

- a. the value of the two sacrifices
 - 1) by nomadic value - the shepherd is the greater
 - 2) God demands a blood offering - seen later
 - 3) Cain's sacrifice would have been acceptable
 - a) his heart was not right 4:6
 - b) he harbored envy - which is the key attitude of the Fall
- b. Abel's blood calls from the ground
 - 1) the blood is the element of life -from God alone
 - 2) blood is, therefore, holy
- c. Cain's insolent lie to God as though God does not know
- d. God tells Cain he must master sin 4:7

- e. God protects Cain from the laws of vengeance by a mark
 - 1) God is just - there is a punishment
 - 2) God is merciful as well - Cain will be protected
 - 2. spirit of vengeance multiplies - Lamech's chant
 - 3. God limits Man's span to 120 yrs. 6:3
 - 4. the Lord is grieved to the heart by the evil of men 6:5
(no mention of Satan who is revealed completely only in N.T.)
 - a. God will blot out mankind and begin again
 - b. Noah finds favor, he hears and obeys 6:8 (two traditions blended together for this story)
 - 1) makes an ark according to God's directions
 - 2) brings his three sons, wives and children
 - 3) two of every living creature -or seven pairs of clean birds and animals 7:2; a pair of unclean
 - 4) provisions for ail
 - c. the flood of Mediterranean world about 3000 B.C. (did not affect Egypt - no record there)
 - 1) opening the deep
 - a) a theory that melting glaciers (not of the Great Ice Age) raised ocean levels which broke through land bridge at the straits of Gibraltar flooding the Mediterranean
 - b) a theory that a meteor crashed into Indian Ocean creating a huge tidal wave
 - c) a theory that a portion of the mid-orient and Europe sank even with their mountains, the rivers then flooding vast areas near the Clikoeic'l Sea
 - 2) the rains - archaeological evidence of a great flood leaving 10' mud layer in Euphrates basin
 - 3) forty days and forty nights
 - 4) all died 7:21 - only Noah and family survived
 - d. the ark rested in Ararat Mt. range of Eastern Turkey
 - 1) astronaut James Irwin by 1987 had made seven attempts to find the ark on Mt. Ararat
 - e. Noah offers sacrifice 8:20
 - 1) first mention of altar and sacrifice in N.T.
 - 2) common throughout the Near East
 - a) sin speaks to the sinner, he feels cut off from God
 - b) a blood sacrifice will restore relationship to God
 - 3) God determines not to blot out man again 8:21
5. Covenant first mentioned in 9:11
 - a. a covenant approximates the original relationship of love
 - 1) agreement on both sides
 - 2) bound by the covenant: two in one
 - b. God is in charge - instituting the covenant
 - 1) God promises not to destroy again with a flood
 - a. the sign of the covenant is the rainbow
 - b. waters never again will destroy all
 - 2) God blesses with fruitfulness
 - 3) God gives dominion of the earth to Man
 - c. Man agrees to obey
 - 1) he will not eat blood: may eat animals, plants
 - 2) for a life taken, a life will be required
 - 3) he will be fruitful and multiply filling the earth ;,
6. The drunkenness of Noah and the curse of Ham
 - a. an explanation of the place of the Hebrews in their world with other peoples
 - b. the sin - seeing and exposing the shame of his father
 - 1) has to do with the shame of sin in the Fall - Ham dishonors Noah by seeing and telling
 - 2) the other two honor him by covering his nakedness without looking on him
7. the tower on the plain of Shiner
 - a. ziggurat temples in the cities of the Sumerians
 - b. considered blasphemous by the nomadic tribes - an intrusion on God - to live all bunched up; to build a high building was presumptuous
 - c. symbolic of mankind's envy of God's authority
 - 1) Glory to man in the highest!
 - 2) attempt to build a civilization without God
 - d. *sin* explains the alienation of human society and the inability to communicate.