

# The Genealogy of the Arabs and Jews

Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Japheth was the eldest and Ham the youngest. Ham had a son Canaan who was wicked and was cursed by God. The descendants of Canaan inhabited the land of Canaan which God gave to Abraham for an everlasting possession.

The descendants of Shem, the second son of Noah, were the Godly line, at least in their early days. Asshur, one of Shem's sons moved away from the Plain of Shinar when Nimrod built his idolatrous Tower of Babel. Eber was the father of the Hebrews whom God chose to preserve Truth in the earth.

Eber had two sons, Joktan and Peleg. Joktan had 13 sons who became Arabian Princes occupying the Arabian Peninsula while Peleg fathered the line from which Abram came. Abraham was the father of the Jewish race and some of his sons mingled with the Arabian peoples.

The days of Peleg were important because "in his days was the earth divided" (by God). No doubt this relates to the time when God sent the confusion of tongues to prevent completion of the tower of Babel. This was the time that Asshur departed and built Nineveh 450 km to the north of Babylon on the River Tigris.

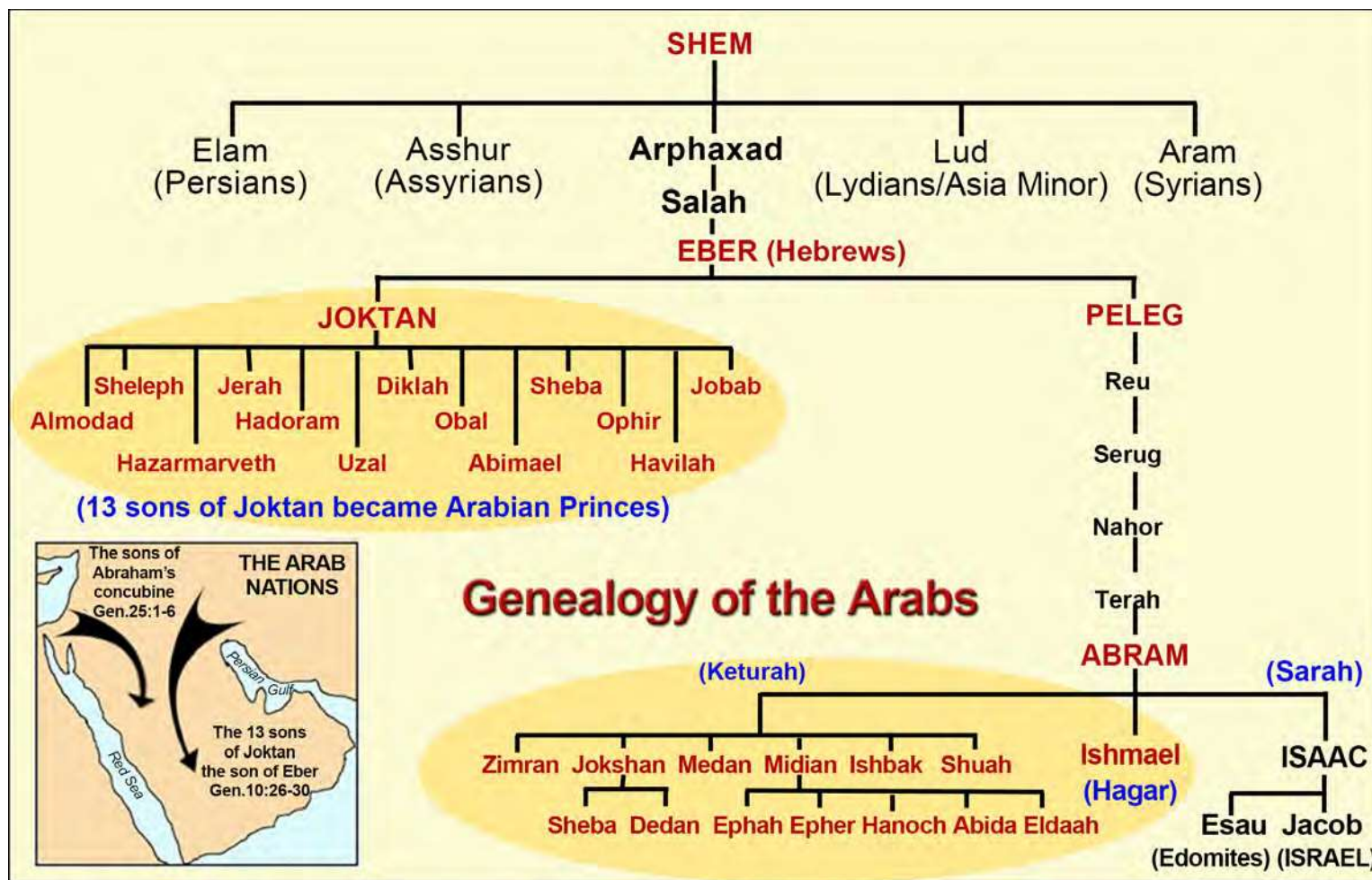
Shem is described as "the father of all the children of Eber" (Gen.10:21) and Abraham is called "the Hebrew" (Gen.14:13). Joseph and the children of Israel in Egypt were referred to as "Hebrews".

From Adam to Nimrod the whole earth spoke only one language which, in all probability, was Hebrew. God has said that in the Last Days "all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy. For **THEN** will I turn to the

people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one consent" (Zeph.3:8-9). The Hebrew language was revived by Eliezer Ben Yehuda who died in 1922.

Abraham's children to Keturah were sent to the "east country" (Gen.25:6) and intermingled with the sons of Joktan; this was because God said, "In Isaac shall thy seed be called" (Gen.21:12).

Jacob was given the land promised to Abraham and Esau displaced the Horites in Mt. Seir which became the land of Edom south-east of the Dead Sea.



## The Families of the Nations

The entire human race sprang from three families: the children of Japheth, Shem, and Ham. After the Flood the ark came to rest on Mount Ararat in eastern Turkey at the head of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers and as the waters receded they followed the Euphrates down to the Plain of Shinar and settled there. God intended that men should decentralize and fill the earth but Nimrod wanted to centralize so that he could control and lead the people into greater idolatry with his idolatrous Tower of Babel. When God confused the languages, work ceased on the Tower and men scattered according to their various languages. From Adam to Nimrod the whole earth spoke only one language which, in all probability, was Hebrew. We can be sure that the Godly people did not join with Nimrod in the construction of the Tower of Babel, therefore their language would not be confused. The purpose in confusing the languages was to cause work to cease on the Tower. Also we note that Asshur, the son of Shem, led his company out of Shinar as Nimrod was constructing Babel (Gen.10:8-12).

Historical records and Biblical history, indicate that the descendants of Japheth spread north and the descendants of Ham moved south into Canaan and Africa while the descendants of Shem remained in the Middle East and perhaps moved east into Asia.

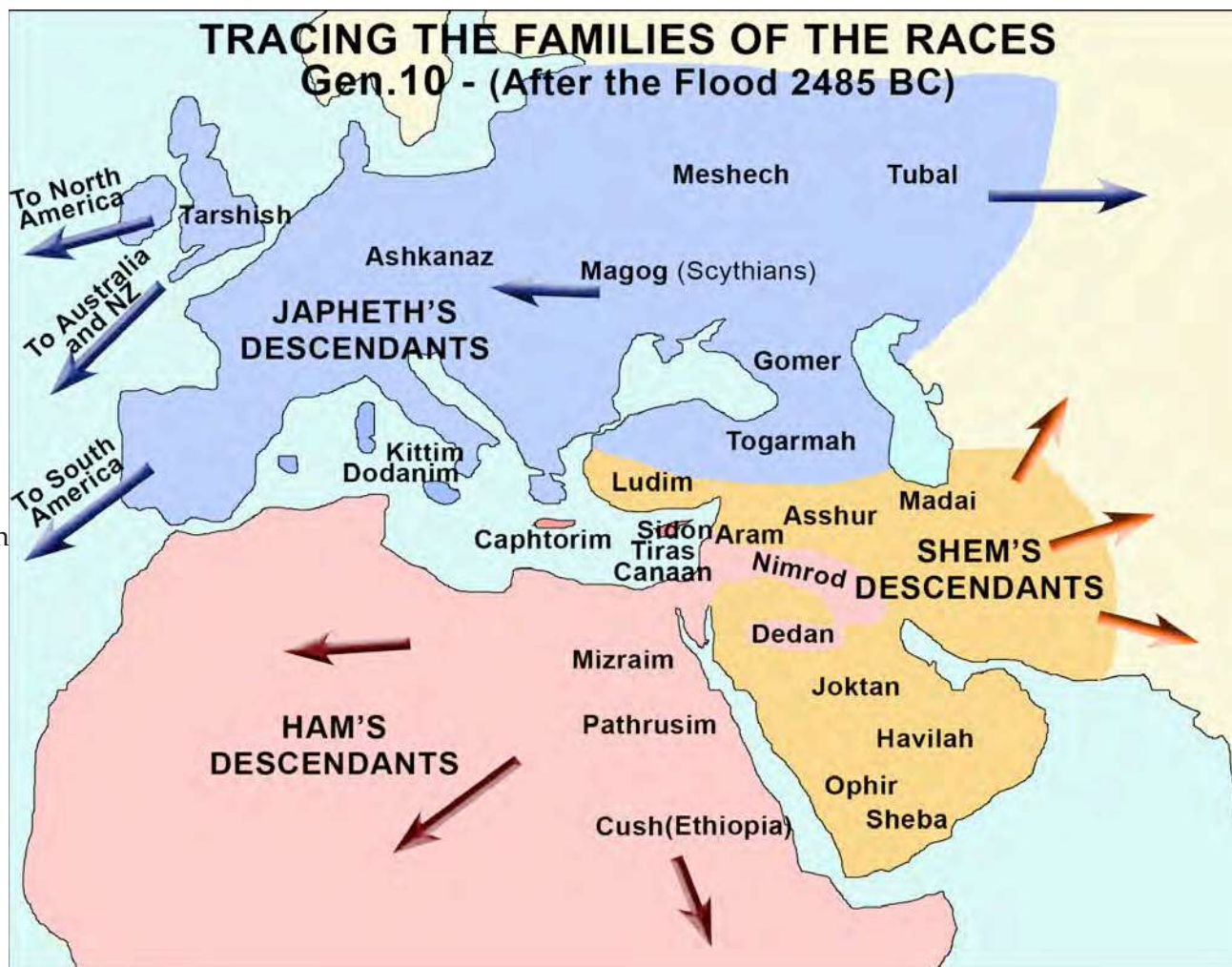
The "Isles of the Gentiles" were divided among the children of Javan (Greece) (Gen.10:4-5). The ancient name of Greece was *Javan* spelt with an I instead of J.

The Greeks were great colonists and seafaring people. Greek colonies dotted the shoreline of the Mediterranean in 500 BC and Tarshish was one of Javan's sons. Britain was known as the "tin Isle" because Cornwall was the only major source of tin in Europe for the past 2,500 years and the "ships of Tarshish" brought tin to the markets at Tyre (Ezek.27:12).

Josephus tells us that the descendants of **Magog were known by the Greeks as Scythians** who lived along the northern shores of the Black Sea, Togarmah and Gomer

settled in eastern Turkey. Over the centuries these people moved within the region when driven from their lands or because of migration.

The sons of Ham were Cush (Ethiopia) and Mizraim (Egypt though modern Egyptians are Arabs since the Islamic conquests). Egypt is called the "tabernacles of Ham" (Ps.78:51). God said the descendants of Canaan would be servants to Japheth and Shem (Gen.9:25-27) and history has shown this prophecy to be true.





## Location of the Families, Tribes, and Nations after the Flood

Josephus was a Jewish Historian who lived AD37 to AD100 and who became interpreter to Titus the Roman General who put down the Jewish revolt (AD66 to AD70). He is famous for his books *Antiquities of the Jews* which tells the story of the Bible from Adam down through history, and the *Wars of the Jews* which describes the conflicts in the Grecian era and the Roman era; he was an eye-witness to the destruction of Jerusalem. Both books are available today.

The first five books of the Bible are known as the **written Torah** and the **Talmud** consisting of the Mishna and the Gemara is known as the **oral Law**.

The Jerusalem Talmud was the oral law put to writing about AD200 because so many Rabbis had perished and it was feared that the oral law would also perish.

The more extensive Babylonian Talmud was published between AD300 and AD350. Josephus recorded many things that were only orally taught in his day and he often sheds light on Biblical history though he is not always accurate.

Josephus had access to many Egyptian, Babylonian, Assyrian and Roman records that have now perished and he provides valuable information on where the families settled after the Flood.

By identifying the ancient family names and the places in which they settled, we can gain a clearer picture of the last-days prophecies because Scripture often uses the family names which were changed during the Grecian era. For instance, the *Magogites* were known to the Greeks as Scythians who dwelt on the northern shores of the Black Sea.

The "House of Togarmah" settled in eastern Turkey and the descendants of "Gomer" settled in the region of Galatia in central Turkey as we know it. In the course of time families and tribes migrated or were driven from their home lands. The Gomerites spread around the eastern side of the Black Sea which we know as the Caucasus region.

Javan and his descendants settled in Greece and established many colonies around the coastline of the Mediterranean and Black Sea. The Greeks also occupied the cities at the western end of Turkey as we know

it, though it was formerly known as Asia. The Greeks were a sea-faring people, traders, and many were mercenary soldiers serving the kings of Persia and Egypt. Pharaoh-hophra (588 - 569BC) had 30,000 Greek soldiers in his army. Many of the Babylonian gods were adopted by the Greeks and Egyptians who changed their names.

The Phoenicians dwelt along the eastern coast of the Mediterranean at Tyre and Sidon and were famous as ship builders; they traded from as far away as Britain which was settled by the descendants of Tarshish (Ezekiel ch.27).

Some nations have ceased to exist. The Philistines, Moabites, Ammonites and Edomites have been destroyed or scattered and absorbed into other nations. Some peoples lost their national identity as Islam spread in the 7th century.

