

## Read Genesis 9:1-7

- (Verse 1) Where have you heard these words before?
- (Verse 3) Does this mean that before the flood everyone were vegetarians?
- (Verse 6) God said, “Whoever sheds man’s blood, his blood will be shed by man, for God made man in His image.” Why would God include that last phrase here?
- (Verse 7) “After reaffirming the sanctity of life, God restated his will that the human race multiply and spread abroad on the earth.” (People’s Bible Commentary: Genesis, p.96)

## Genesis 9:8-17 (the Rainbow)

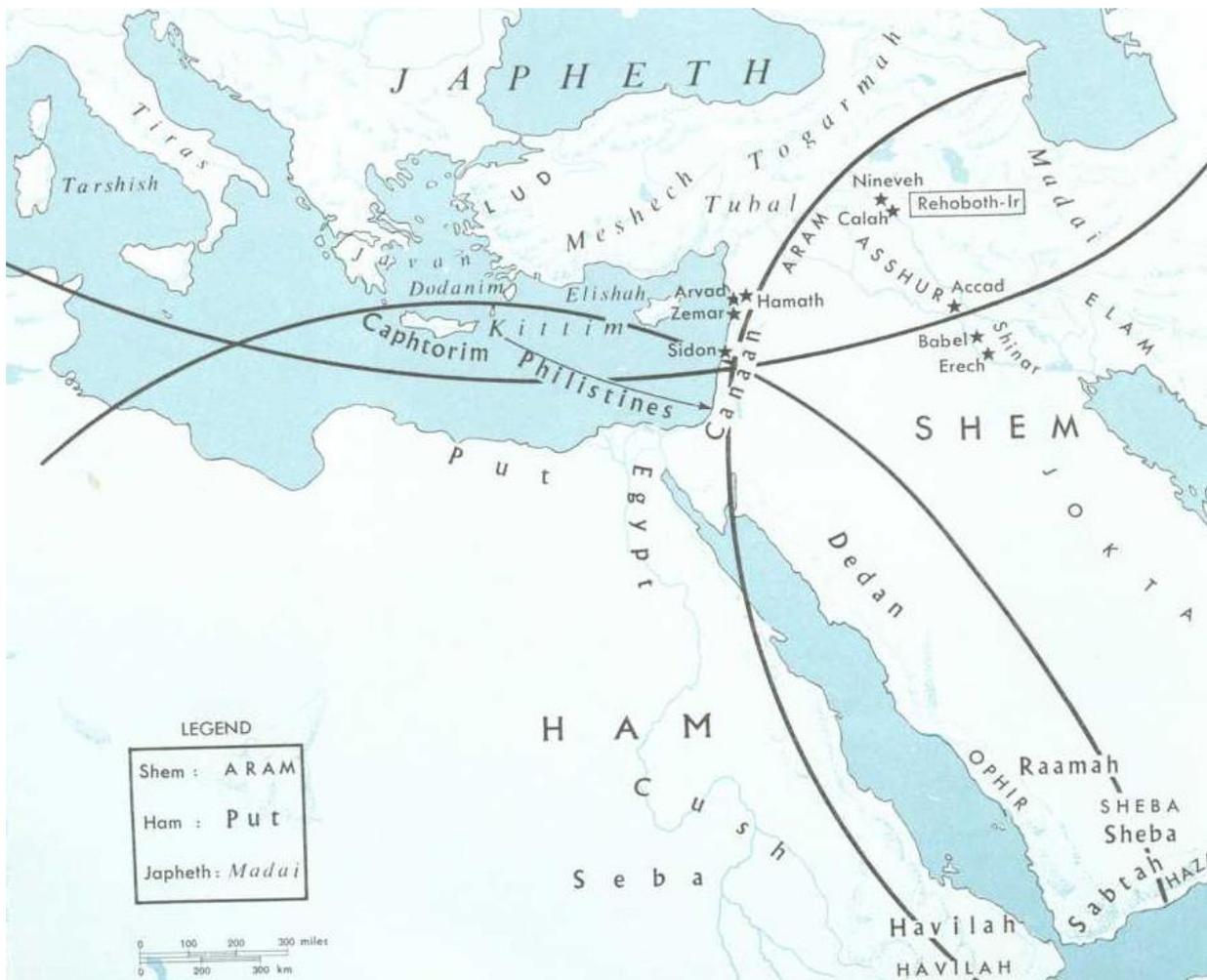
- Why would God add the visible sign of the rainbow as a reassurance for Noah and his family that a flood like this would never come again?
- Is this the first time a rainbow has ever occurred?

# Chapter 10

# The Table of Nations

Some things to note:

- This section makes up the fourth “Toledoth” (HCSB—records; NIV—account; KJV—generations) – the Toledoth of the Sons of Noah (10:1-11:9)
- Chronologically, this section of Scripture is out of order – Chapter 10 relates family information that really takes place after the Tower of Babel in Chapter 11.
- “There are a number of factors which divide the nations of the world today. Racial antagonisms, religious differences, radically different political ideologies, barriers of language—these have a tendency to pit nation against nation, to divide nations. Genesis 10, usually referred to as the ‘Table of Nations,’ is a needed and wholesome reminder of what unites all nations. It teaches that the entire human race has a common ancestry.”  
– A Commentary on Genesis 1-11 (Carl Lawrenz & John Jeske (p.305))



- Outline of Chapter 10:
  - (v.1) – Introduction
  - (v.2-5) – Descendants of Japheth
  - (v.6-20) – Descendants of Ham
  - (v.20-31) – Descendants of Shem
  - (v.32) – Conclusion
  
- Note: Genesis 5 and Genesis 11 both give us a genealogy. Chapter 10, although it lists genealogy, it has a very different purpose. Its purpose is to show us how all people descended from Noah’s family. It gives us some history about the peoples we are going to read about later in Israel’s history.

## Chapter 11:1-9

## Tower of Babel

### Read Genesis 11:1-4

- Remember that chapters 10 and 11 are not in chronological order. Chapter 11 describes what led to the dispersion that we see in the genealogy of Noah in chapter 10.
  
- Evaluate this statement: “The multiplicity of languages upon the face of the earth is a monument not to human ingenuity but to human sin.”
  
- Contrast God’s command to Noah in 9:7 with what the people decided to do. What were their motives for doing this?
  
- What does their choice of building materials indicate?
  
- Note the danger: “Satan doesn’t have to persuade us to kneel down in front of an idol if he can get us to look at life in terms of ourselves.” *(People’s Bible: Genesis, p.108-109)*

Read Genesis 11:5-9

- The people wished to ignore God's command to spread out over the face of the whole earth. Yet, God made sure that his command was followed. God did this by confusing their languages. What would confusing their language accomplish God's desire?
  
- (verses 5-6) What is significant about the fact that the name for God used here is "LORD"?
  
- Martin Luther called God's action at Babel a much more horrible judgment than the flood. Can you guess why?
  
- How are God's actions here evidence of his grace?