

Some Important Background | Genesis 9:25-27

- After the flood, Noah gives an important prophecy concerning his children and grandchildren.
- Concerning Canaan: Canaan was the son of Ham, and was cursed to be **a servant of servants**. (See Josh. 9:23 and 1 Kings 9:20-21).
- Concerning Shem: God **will dwell in the tents of Shem**. This important prophesy foretold that the Messiah would come through the line of Shem.
- Concerning Japheth: **God shall enlarge Japheth**. Though there are no specifics, it gives every appearance of a blessing of strength and prosperity.

Introducing Nimrod | Genesis 10:8-12

- What we know about Nimrod Biblically:
 - He was the son of Cush, grandson of Ham.
 - He was **a mighty one** – a man of strength, likely both physical and political. The Hebrew *geber* is the basis of the name Gabriel, *the mighty one of God*.
 - Strong's Concordance says his name means *rebellion, or valiant*.
 - He was **a mighty hunter** – the term could be to hunt game or *to capture* in any sense.
 - His hunting / capturing was **before the Lord** – literally, “to the face of YHWH.” Grammatically, it opens the possibility that Nimrod was willing to capture his prey blatantly, even while God was looking on. That is, he had no fear of God.
 - He was a man who established a mighty empire, including being listed as the founder of Babel.
- What we know about Nimrod Historically:
 - Nimrod's role in history is mentioned in Josephus, ancient monuments, and other non-Biblical documents. His name was often used as the name of cities, fortresses, etc.
 - Many believe that Nimrod's wife was Semiramis, who is associated in pagan mythology as the Queen of Heaven, and the beginning of mother/son cults which permeate eastern

religion. This cultic belief is a perversion of the Genesis 3:15 promise.

The Tower of Babel | Genesis 11:1-9

- The Biblical story of the tower of Babel is not directly associated with Nimrod in the text, but every indication is that Nimrod is responsible.
- The account of Genesis 11 fits within Genesis 10, and is a *flashback* to the time *before* language was confused.
- In *nimrodian* fashion, the people chose to reject God's command to **multiply on the earth** (Gen. 8:17) and decided to congregate in one location: the plain of Shinar.
- The result of man's arrogance was to divide him by language.
 - This quickly created various ethnicities and their characteristics.
 - God has honored ethnic diversity since Babel, and will do so even into eternity (Rev. 21:26).
 - Modern politically correct movements to remove ethnic diversity are more *Nimrodian* than Christian.

Some Practical Advice

- From Josephus comes some good advice:
2. (113) *He persuaded them not to ascribe it to God as if it was through his means they were happy, but to believe that it was their own courage which procured that happiness.* (114) *He also gradually changed the government into tyranny,—seeing no other way of turning men from the fear of God, but to bring them into a constant dependence upon his power. He also said he would be revenged on God, if he should have a mind to drown the world again; for that he would build a tower too high for the waters to be able to reach! and that he would avenge himself on God for destroying their forefathers!* **3.** (115) *Now the multitude were very ready to follow the determination of Nimrod, and to esteem it a piece of cowardice to submit to God.* (*Antiquities of the Jews*, 2:113-3.115)
- We continually believe that our wellbeing is *procured by our own courage / strength, etc.*, rather than by a “trust and obey” life.
- We continually submit to tyrants whose godless agenda depends on the people depending on Government rather than God.
- Just because a person is strong does not mean they should be followed.
- We continually see efforts to *outbuild* God so that we are out of His reach.
- We continually see a societal view that says it is “a place of cowardice to submit to God.”