
Pearl Seeking

TREASURING HIS WORD

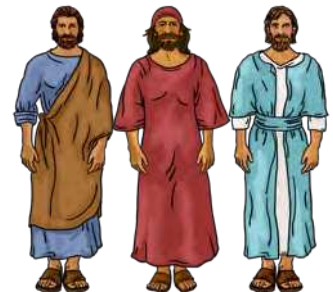
Let's do a quick overview of the entire Torah portion:

Monday:	Gen. 6:9-22	Yahweh tells Noah to build an ark
Tuesday:	Gen. 7	The story of the flood
Wednesday:	Gen. 8:1-19	The flood is over
Thursday:	Gen. 8:20 - 10:32	The covenant of the rainbow; Noah's drunkenness; Genealogy of Noah's sons
Friday:	Gen. 11	The Tower of Babel; The genealogy of Shem to Abram

In this week's Parsha Pearls lesson, we will look into the genealogy of the sons of Noah and the scattering of the people at the Tower of Babel. We will also introduce our first patriarch: Abram. Now, let's read Gen. 10 & 11.

PARSHA POINTS

- The 3 (**shalosh**) sons of Noah who were born before the flood were (10:1):
 - Shem
 - Ham
 - Yepheth (Japheth)



Facts about Yepheth

- He had 7 (**sheva**) sons - 10:2
- From these 7, the coastland peoples of the nations were separated into their lands by clans, each according to their language - 10:5

Facts about Ham

- He had 4 (**arba**) sons - 10:6
- Ham's son Kush fathered Nimrod, who was a mighty one on the earth - 10:8
- Nimrod is described as a mighty hunter before Yahweh - 10:9
- His reign included Babel (Babel) and Ninewah (Ninevah) - 10:10-11
- Ham's son Mitsrayim brought forth the nation of the Philistines - 10:14
- Ham's son Kena'an brought forth nations such as the Yebusites, the Amorites and the Hiwwites, also known as the Kena'anites, who spread abroad - 10:15-18

Facts about Shem

- He had 5 (**chamesh**) sons - 10:22
 - He was the father of all the children of Eber - 10:21
 - Their dwelling place was a mountain of the east - 10:30
 - Abram and Lot are descendants of Shem - 11:26-27
-
- From all these clans, the nations were divided on the earth after the flood - 10:32
 - All the earth had one (**achat**) language (**saphah**) and one speech (**devarim**) - 11:1
 - They found a plain in Shinar (earlier name for Babel), and dwelt there - 11:2
 - They said to each other (11:3-4):
 - Let us make bricks and bake them
 - Let us build a city (**iyer**) for ourselves
 - Let us build a tower (**migdall**) whose top reaches the heavens
 - Let us make a name for ourselves so we are not scattered over all the face of the earth
 - Yahweh looked upon what they had done and knew that their plan was to overthrow His authority - 11:6
 - Yahweh Elohim decided to disrupt their plan and prevent them from finishing the city. So He confused their languages to make them scatter them over the face of the earth - 11:7-8
 - The name of the place was called Babel (meaning, 'to confuse') because there Yahweh turned their one language into many, so they could not understand one another. In this way He forced mankind to scatter over the face of all the earth - 11:9



Facts about Abram

- He was the son of Terah - 11:26
- He had 2 (**shtayim**) brothers - Nahor and Haran (Lot's father) - 11:27
- He married Sarai who was barren - 11:29-30
- He departed from Ur-kasdim with Sarai his wife, his father Terah, and his nephew Lot and his wife Milkah, and travelled to the land of Kena'an in Haran to dwell there - 11:31

DIGGING DEEPER

Parents/Teachers may choose to use these prompts for further discussion of the Torah portion.

- Follow the line of Ham. Which nations did they form?
- Research the biblical stories that feature the clans of the Kena'anites that tried to keep the Yisra'elites out of Kena'an.
- Why was Nimrod called the mighty hunter before Yahweh? Is this a compliment? Who was he hunting? Discuss Nimrod's connection to the Tower of Babel.
- What does Shem mean? Discuss the true meaning of 'reputation'.
- Genesis 11:5 states that Yahweh came down to see the city and the tower. Do you think this is figurative or literal? Did Yahweh already know what they were planning to do?
- What does the name Abram mean?

