



HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

STUDENT BOOK

► **10th Grade | Unit 1**

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HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 1001

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ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS 1

When a society has developed cities, the groundwork has been prepared for the attainment of civilization. Freed of the struggle for basic survival, people can devote their lives to other goals. Technology develops, labor divides and specializes so that new goods can be produced, arts and literature flourish, trade increases, and political organization takes place.

Man's earliest ancestors were Adam and Eve. Having fallen from God's grace in the Garden of Eden, they entered a world of scarcity where they had to work hard for their livelihood. The struggle for dominion of the earth caused civilizations to develop.

The Flood sent by God to punish man's wickedness saw only a handful of people survive—Noah and his family. From them we are all descended. The story of Noah's offspring is our story. Following the dispersion from Babel, they spread out to form the races and civilizations of the world.

One of the earliest of the great civilizations was Egypt. Its accomplishments included the building of great cities and massive structures such as the pyramids. The Egyptians developed a complex economic system, invented paper on which they wrote in new literary forms that we still use today, and invented techniques of embalming. They were an agricultural people who used what they had to its very best advantage.

Babylon was the capital of a great empire, called Babylonia, that encompassed much of Mesopotamia in the Fertile Crescent. The Babylonians were best known for developing a code of laws. They also contributed to mathematics and astronomy. North of Babylonia was Assyria, which was most expert at war, but produced art and literature as well.

The later Persian Empire followed the fall of Babylon. Persia was fair and just to the people it conquered. The Persians had a genius for government and administration. Their lands were joined by post roads which enabled messages to travel a thousand miles in a few days. Persia laid the foundation on which the later Roman Empire would be built.

Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAAC. When you have finished this LIFEPAAC, you should be able to:

1. Define civilization.
2. List the elements of civilization.
3. Relate non-biblical views concerning man's origins.
4. Discuss the biblical views of man's origins.
5. Describe the Fall of man.
6. Discuss the Flood.
7. Explain the rise of rainbows and the seasons.
8. Trace the beginnings of the people and languages of the world.
9. Trace the rise of early nations.
10. Describe the boundaries of ancient Egypt.
11. List the main divisions in the history of ancient Egypt.
12. Name the outstanding rulers of the period.
13. Explain the political relationships of Egypt and its neighbors.
14. Describe the Egyptian economy.
15. List the classes in Egyptian society.
16. Discuss Egyptian arts and literature.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's part of a bound notebook. The top edge of the paper is slightly irregular, and there's a small dark mark near the top left corner.

1. MEANING AND ORIGIN OF CIVILIZATION

Civilization occurs after a society is able to feed itself and to support classes of people who are non-farmers. Then cities arise, specialization of labor develops, and commerce evolves. With wealth from commerce, the arts, literature, and sciences are able to flourish, and political organization is achieved.

Differing views exist concerning the origin of man. Evolutionists believe man evolved from a lower form of life. Most Christians believe in the biblical six days of Genesis. Theistic

evolutionists believe that God started the evolutionary process and then left it to work according to His laws.

Regardless of various interpretations of man's origins, most Christians believe that man's Fall occurred in the Garden of Eden and was followed later by the great Flood from God to punish man's wickedness. From the offspring of Noah, the Flood's survivor, civilization originated with its various races, languages, and nations.

Section Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Define civilization.
2. List the elements of civilization.
3. Relate non-biblical views concerning man's origins.
4. Discuss the biblical views of man's origins.
5. Describe the Fall of man.
6. Discuss the Flood.
7. Explain the rise of rainbows and the seasons.
8. Trace the beginnings of the people and languages of the world.
9. Trace the rise of early nations.

Vocabulary

Study these words to enhance your learning success in this section.

antediluvian
devolution
mandate
ontogeny

cuneiform
evolve
monogamy
polytheism

cyclical
literacy
monotheism
quintessence

Note: All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAK appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are not sure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

MEANING OF CIVILIZATION

Many scholars believe that civilization is only attained by a society that has developed cities. It means the ordering of society in such a way that arts and letters are able to flourish. The very term civilization comes from the Latin word for city, *civitas*, from which “civility” is also derived.

The city is only possible when society is developed sufficiently to support a large population of nonfarmers. Only then can the culture expand since societies produce philosophers, scientists, and teachers only when the problem of providing food is solved. Societies that are concerned with basic survival are not civilized.

One of the most important elements of civilization is technology—the tools and processes used to make things and to satisfy human needs. The more advanced a society’s tools are, the more advanced the society is. The invention of the plow was crucial from the standpoint of civilization; it made food production more efficient and freed more people for other pursuits. Even today, societies that still use hoes and sticks for cultivation are less developed culturally than are those that have adopted the plow. Mechanized tools allow for an even greater productivity and more complex societies.

An advanced society demands a division of labor—people specializing in their work. No one, therefore, is economically self-sufficient. Everyone depends on the work of everyone else. Self-sufficient economic units (families, clans, or tribes) are found only in primitive societies.

An advanced society is marked by commerce and trade. Such a society demands the use of money as a means of exchange. Another feature of an advanced civilization is record keeping; bookkeeping and accounting are needed to record and evaluate transactions.

Civilization requires a higher level of political organization than is ordinarily a part of

primitive societies. The concept of the modern state, for example, is generally considered a recent development. The organization of society becomes more complex as it advances. Legislatures, courts, laws, and constitutions are significant advances over the will of a tribal chieftain.

Scholars generally attribute advanced civilizations with higher moral codes than those of primitive civilizations. Such concepts as **monogamy**, justice, humane treatment of criminals, belief in one God, are considered to be advances over primitive practices. Advanced civilizations, to some extent, reflect the development of religious doctrines. Obviously, someone who accepts the Judeo-Christian tradition and the Old and New Testaments as being from God (divine revelation) cannot believe in any significant evolution of religious beliefs. Historic departures from biblical concepts are **devolutions** from an eternally existing height. This statement does not mean that God’s revelation of Himself and His program has not been progressive. He has revealed His truth in stages, but these stages are not evolutionary. His revelation was not a progression from **polytheism** to **monotheism**. Polytheism is always a perversion of an original monotheistic revelation (Romans 1:17-28).

Music and art can be found in almost every society. The most primitive culture has artists and singers. African tribes make music and so do primitive Amerinds. Their music is not as complex as that of Bach and Beethoven, however. Primitive cultures produce art that is more simple than art produced in more advanced cultures. Such concepts as depth, shading, and precision are often lacking in the art of simpler societies. The works of Rembrandt and Michelangelo are products of a high level of civilization.

Literature and writing in general are the accomplishments of an advanced society.

They require a certain amount of technology (paper-making, ink, and a writing implement), they require an extensive language, and they require a group of individuals with the time and

education necessary both to write and to read their writings. Even more complex business transactions demand some **literacy**. The more civilized a society is, the more books it will have.



Complete the following activities.

- 1.1 What do scholars believe societies must develop before they can have true civilization? (one word) _____
- 1.2 What is necessary before cities can exist? _____

- 1.3 List four elements of civilization.

a. _____	b. _____
c. _____	d. _____
- 1.4 Define *technology*. _____
- 1.5 What was the impact of the invention of the plow? _____

Complete the following statements.

- 1.6 The interdependence of an advanced society demands the division or specialization of _____ .
- 1.7 Isolated, self-sufficient economic units mark a more _____ economy.
- 1.8 The modern _____ is normally held to be a recent development.
- 1.9 A Christian cannot believe in the _____ of religious beliefs.
- 1.10 The term, _____ revelation, means that God's revelation of Himself and His purposes has been in stages.
- 1.11 Polytheism is always a _____ of an original monotheism.

ORIGIN OF MAN

The Christian belief in the origin of man, as described in Genesis chapters 1 and 2, is directly contradicted by evolutionists, who believe man evolved from a lower form of life. Some Christian evolutionists have combined the two ideas, saying that God created man according to His laws of evolution and that both evolution and Genesis are correct. However, if the Bible is divine revelation, as we believe, then man is the highest achievement of God's Creation.

Different views. Many different beliefs are held concerning the origin of man. Those who do not accept the existence of a God who creates, or at least do not accept the biblical story of Creation from Genesis chapters 1 and 2, usually theorize that all life has **evolved** from some lower form of life. In fact, they say that all organisms are still in the process of evolution.

Evolutionists agree that God (if He exists) did not create the earth and man in six days. Most evolutionists deny or ignore the existence of God altogether. Some do believe in God, but they believe that He started the evolutionary process and left it to work itself out according to His laws. This view is called *theistic evolution*.

Some Christians wish to harmonize belief in theistic evolution with the first two chapters of Genesis. To do so, they must deny the literalness of the six days of Genesis. These days cannot be twenty-four-hour days, they say, if Genesis is describing a process of evolution. These Christians point out that the Hebrew word *yōm* does not always mean a twenty-four-hour day. In the prophetic books it is used as the day of the Lord, a prophetic time period. They also quote the apostle Peter (2 Peter 3:8) "One day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."

The difficulty is that such usages are unusual and do not necessarily fit the context of Genesis. Nothing in Genesis suggests a



figurative meaning. The days are described in very graphic terms: "And the evening and the morning were the first (second, third, etc.) day."

Another difficulty is that Genesis describes a completed Creation. No mention is made of a gradual development. This description is particularly true of man. Man is able to name the animals; he is created in the image of God; and he is given a mandate to subdue the earth. Such things would not be said of a creature who was not yet human.

Another difficulty facing those who attempt to harmonize the theory of evolution with Scripture is physical death. According to Romans 5:12, sin and death came into the world through Adam: "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." The indication is that men did not die before Adam sinned. Since evolutionary theory posits a struggle for survival and death, it would seem to be contradicted by Paul's statement.

The point at issue is whether God has truly revealed Himself in the Bible. If the Bible is divine revelation, the heavens and the earth are

God's creation. Man is the **quintessence** of this creation. To be consistent, those who believe in an evolutionary origin of man, must assume that the biblical account is legendary or at least is figurative.

Biblical account. The creation of man was the first major event in the history of civilization. The creation of man was the last event of the creative week. After God had created the globe and space; light and darkness; the sun and the moon; the seas, the land, and the plants; the fish and the birds; and the animals—He made man. The creation of man is the quintessential act of the whole Creation narrative. The very decree to create man is majestic to an extent not found in the previous verses of Genesis (Genesis 1:26):

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

This phraseology differs significantly from such a verse as Genesis 1: 20, "...let the waters bring forth..." In verses 27 and 28 we have a discussion within the Godhead, not simply a joint decree. And the record continues,

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish

of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

God made man a privileged creature. He was made "in the image of God." Most scholars understand this phrase to mean that man is like God spiritually. "God is a Spirit..." said Jesus (John 4:24). Man, too, has a spirit. Man has a personality that includes intellect, emotion, and will. Man shares these qualities with the Creator. No beast has all of the elements of personality. Only of man is it said (Genesis 2:7), "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."

God also gave man a **mandate** to "subdue" the earth and to have dominion over the animals. He placed man in a perfect environment, the Garden of Eden, and gave him the task of caring for it. How much culture Adam had in his innocence is not clear. He obviously spoke a language, and he was able to name the animals, but no indication is given that he was able to write his language. His government was simple; he was governed directly by God. The law was simple; it had only one prohibition. Since nothing was scarce, no need for economy existed. An economy is a means for handling scarce resources.

Before the Fall, man did not have what could be termed a civilization; yet he was not a barbarian. The only word that really describes man's state is *innocence*: neither ignorant enough nor primitive enough to be a barbarian, and not complex enough to be civilized.

**Answer true or false.**

- 1.12 _____ Many different beliefs are held concerning the origin of man.
- 1.13 _____ Evolutionists do not believe in a literal six-day Creation.
- 1.14 _____ The existence of God is not necessary to the discussion of man's origin.
- 1.15 _____ Theistic evolutionists believe that God started the process of evolution.
- 1.16 _____ Christian theistic evolutionists do not interpret Genesis literally.
- 1.17 _____ The Hebrew word *yōm* does not always mean a twenty-four-hour day.
- 1.18 _____ No case is written in the Old Testament in which *yōm* is figurative.
- 1.19 _____ In Romans 5:12, Paul's statement about the origin of physical death seems to contradict the assumptions of evolution.
- 1.20 _____ To those who accept evolution, Genesis seems to be either legendary or figurative.

Match the following items.

- | | | |
|------------|--------------------------|---|
| 1.21 _____ | Creation of man | a. subdue the earth |
| 1.22 _____ | made in the image of God | b. Garden of Eden |
| 1.23 _____ | mandate | c. first major event in the history of civilization |
| 1.24 _____ | perfect environment | d. personality |
| 1.25 _____ | scarce resources | e. man |
| | | f. economy |

Complete the following sentences.

- 1.26 Man's original state was one of _____.
- 1.27 Adam obviously spoke a _____.

THE FALL OF MAN

Adam did not obey the law he was given. Eve, Adam's wife, was deceived by the serpent (who was indwelt by Satan) and ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Adam ate of the fruit knowingly and willingly. Man sinned, and this sin resulted in both spiritual and physical death. The whole story is told in Genesis chapter 3.

From the perspective of this study, the results of the Fall are more important than the Fall itself. Adam and Eve were driven out of the garden. They now faced a world of scarce resources where they had to work hard for a living. They had to till the ground and to care for herds and flocks. Food no longer came easily. Man was still under God's directive to dominate the earth (also known as the cultural mandate), yet he lost the ability to dominate. Huge amounts of human energy and human creativity were now required to fulfill the cultural mandate. The mandate is still in effect and dominion will never be fully regained until the perfect man, Jesus, takes His position as King of the earth.

The struggle for dominion began with the effort to survive, and in that struggle civilization eventually began to develop. To survive more efficiently, men divided their labor and specialized. This division of labor can be observed in the first family: Cain became a farmer and tilled the soil; Abel was a shepherd and cared for animals. The ultimate result of this specialization was trade. Trade resulted in towns and cities, and these towns and cities gave rise to civilization. The more gifted agriculturalists and

artisans are able to support rulers, poets, scholars, lawyers, and artists.

Civilization seems to have first developed among Cain's descendants. After he murdered Abel, Cain was condemned to wander the earth alone, separated from his family. He is said to have "built a city" (Genesis 4:17), but he was still condemned to a life of wandering. The city he built was probably a fort or walled village designed for protection. Even so, it marked the beginning of town life.

Cain's descendants were tent dwellers, musicians, and finally workmen in brass and iron. They apparently devoted more to worldly pursuits than did the descendants of Adam through Seth. Adam probably had other sons, and he definitely had daughters (cf. Genesis 5:4).

Seth's line is recorded because it is the line of the seed of the woman through which the Messiah would ultimately come. Seth's descendants were probably more agricultural than were Cain's. Cain himself had been a farmer, but God said He would no longer bless him in that way (Genesis 4:12). Seth and his line carried on the family tradition. Aside from this scanty information, not much is known about the extent of civilization before the Flood. Possibly it was quite extensive. The Flood itself was so destructive that the records of **antediluvian** civilization, archaeological or historical, were probably destroyed. That the world had become quite wicked and that mankind may well have been under demonic attack is the testimony of Scripture.



Write the letter for the correct answer on each line.

- 1.28** After the Fall, Adam and Eve faced a world of _____ resources.
 a. abundant b. free c. scarce d. ruined
- 1.29** After the Fall, man was still under the cultural _____.
 a. mandate b. challenge c. birthright d. promise
- 1.30** After the Fall, man had lost the _____ to dominate the earth.
 a. stamina b. capacity c. effort d. desire
- 1.31** To regain his capacity, man has to expend huge amounts of human _____.
 a. energy b. freedom c. thyroid d. modules
- 1.32** Man will not fully dominate the earth until _____ returns.
 a. dignity b. wisdom c. Christianity d. Christ
- 1.33** In the struggle for _____, civilization develops.
 a. dominion b. power c. survival d. wealth

Complete the following activities.

- 1.34** Briefly explain the specialization that existed between Cain and Abel. _____

- 1.35** What is the ultimate result of specialization? _____
- 1.36** Among whose descendants did civilization first develop? _____
- 1.37** Name three activities of Cain's descendants.
 a. _____
 b. _____
 c. _____
- 1.38** Why are no more records available about life before the Flood?



| Mt. Ararat and Noah's Ark

THE FLOOD FROM GOD

Several ancient records testify to a great flood. Significantly, the *Sumerian King List* from ancient Mesopotamia (the area most secular historians consider the cradle of civilization), preserves one of the oldest oral traditions of the Flood. This account has several similarities to the account in Genesis, including that of a man named Ziusudra who received special revelation concerning what was coming and was saved by riding out the flood in a huge boat. The Sumerian account differs from the Hebrew Scriptures in its heathen theology and consequent idolatrous nature. In it, cities are founded by local deities, and a heathen goddess mourns over the impending crisis.

The Babylonians had another account. It is found in the *Gilgamesh Epic* (possibly dating around 2700 B.C., but based upon even older documents). In *Gilgamesh* more detail is found about the Flood than in the Sumerian records. The preservation of the animals is recorded, as well as the preparation of the boat, how it was pitched within and without. The same heathen quality is found here, however, as in the Sumerian document. Many warring gods are said to have been responsible for the catastrophe.

The biblical account is found in Genesis chapters 6–10. In Genesis 6:1–7, God's reasons for sending a flood are given. The only one that is not controversial is in verse 5: "...The wickedness of man was great in the earth." That man was wicked is clear.

The information in verses 1–4 is subject to various interpretations. Many scholars believe that the "sons of God" refer to godly Sethites and the "daughters of men" to ungodly Cainites. Thus, God sent the Flood to stop this intermarriage, which is seen as an attack upon the godly line.

The other common view is that the sons of God refer not to men, but to fallen angels. Supporters of this view find a parallel in Job 38:6 and 7, in which God says, "Whereupon are the foundations thereof (of the earth) fastened? Or who laid the corner stone thereof; When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" This phrase seems to refer to the angels at the time of Creation. Further support is found in Jude, verse 6, and the expression "...the angels which kept not their first estate..." This reference (cf. Jude, verse 7) is in the context of perverse immorality.

Those who support the so-called “angel hypothesis” believe that their view better explains the “giants” or “mighty men” who were the **ontogeny** of these parents. Some believe that these offspring may be the source of many ancient mythical super-heroes, such as Hercules. The reason for the Flood in this view is a demonic attack against the whole human race.

Those who support the angel theory believe that the other viewpoint is too weak to account for the magnitude of the punishment. Those who opt for the religious/heathen intermarriage view fault the angel theory for having pure spirits cohabitate with human beings.

In any event, a Flood occurred. Although some evangelical scholars hold that the Flood was a local phenomenon, most conservatives believe that it was universal; that is, that it covered the whole earth. The evil of those days was enough for God to destroy everything (Genesis 6:17) that had the “breath of life.” Only one human family would be spared. The waters would be high enough to cover the mountains of Ararat in Turkey, some of the highest in the world. On Ararat the ark came to rest, and many scholars and explorers believe it is still there.

The importance of Noah and his family in the Flood story stems from the spiritual picture that they portray (that is, a picture of salvation: the ark is a type of Christ, the Flood is a picture of final judgment, and those in the ark are a picture of believers in Christ) as well as from their place in human history.

Whatever civilization existed before the Flood, its only survivors were Noah, his wife, his three sons, and their wives. They had brought with them in the ark seven of every clean beast and two of every unclean beast. No doubt the odd clean beast was for sacrificial purposes, and also perhaps for food. God gave Noah a covenant as well as a renewed **mandate** in Genesis 8:22–9:11:

While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease. And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth. And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered. Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things. But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof shall ye not eat. And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man. Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man. And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein.

And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying, And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you; And with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth. And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.

In the preceding Scripture, God first determined the cycle of seasons with which we are familiar. Seed-time (spring), harvest (fall), winter, and summer shall continue as long as the earth remains (8:22). This cycle is absolutely necessary for civilization to develop because it is the foundation for agriculture. The ability of man to provide food for himself efficiently is a prerequisite for cultural development.

In Genesis 9:1–7, the mandate given to Noah is a restatement of the original mandate given to Adam. Noah and his sons are to be fruitful

and multiply; to have dominion over the beasts, birds, and fish; and to have the right to eat animals and plants. Most significant is the prohibition of murder and the establishment of the death penalty. If a man kills another man, he must forfeit his own life.

The killing of a man derives its seriousness from the fact (Genesis 9:6) that “in the image of God made he man.” Many theologians regard these verses as the source of human government upon the earth. At last, man was given responsibility for governing himself. Previously, government had been by means of conscience or directly by God. How much governing was done by family or clan leaders is not known. In Cain’s case, God Himself meted out the penalty,

and Cain did not receive the death penalty. In Genesis 9:8–11, God made a covenant with Noah and his family as well as with the birds and beasts that were in the ark. God promised that he would never again flood the whole earth. The sign of this covenant is the rainbow, and it is a “perpetual and everlasting” covenant.

The establishment of regular seasons (which probably included rainfall for the first time except for the Flood) and human government set the stage for the development of postdiluvian civilization. A **cyclical** climate allowed the fullest agricultural development, and human government allowed the development of political institutions.



Answer the following questions.

1.39 How does the Sumerian account of the Flood differ from that in Genesis?

1.40 What is the name of the Babylonian account of the Flood? _____

1.41 What are two similarities between the Sumerian and Genesis Flood accounts? _____

1.42 Why did God send the Flood? Tell your view and why you hold it. _____

1.43 What are the two main positions as to why God sent the Flood?

a. _____

b. _____

1.44 How can the view that the Flood was universal be defended? _____

1.45 What spiritual picture does the Flood scenario portray? _____

1.46 Are you in Christ? (If you do not know, ask your teacher how you may be.) _____

1.47 Why are Noah and his family so important to human history? _____

Answer true or false.

- 1.48 _____ Everyone upon the earth can trace his ancestry to Noah.
- 1.49 _____ God established the four seasons after the Flood.
- 1.50 _____ Human government began when the death penalty was established.
- 1.51 _____ God has forbidden man ever to use the death penalty.
- 1.52 _____ The ark was the sign of the Noahic Covenant.
- 1.53 _____ The four seasons and human government set the stage for the development of post-diluvian civilization

THE ORIGIN OF CIVILIZATION

The fertile area between the Tigris and Euphraes Rivers is believed to be the cradle of civilization. There, man learned the cooperation necessary to develop the rich, yet swampy, farmland. Archaeologists in recent years have found the remnants of cities in that ancient area, once known as Mesopotamia.

Location. Most authorities agree that the cradle of civilization was the alluvial plain between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. That area, part of the Fertile Crescent (a rich, crescent-shaped area that stretches from the Persian Gulf to the Mediterranean Sea), contained some of the richest farmland in the world; yet it was so swampy that much cooperation was necessary to cultivate it. That need for cooperation brought the inhabitants together and caused them to organize themselves as a society.

Historians believe that the inhabitants of this area came from the mountains east of the Tigris. Bible believers would agree that, in fact, they came from Ararat. Around 3,000 B.C. cities first arose in Sumer. Those cities were built by Nimrod, called the “mighty hunter.” They were called Babel, Erech, Accad (hence the Akkadian language), and Calneh. Sumer was the location



| The Fertile Crescent

of biblical Shinar. Among archaeological findings in these areas are ziggurats, or temple towers. These ziggurats are reminiscent of the biblical Tower of Babel.

Actually, Erech was in Sumer proper and served as the ancient capital. Babel and Accad were in the region north of Sumer known as Akkad. The cities were really independent city-states. They worshiped local gods, and commerce was regulated by priests.



Write the letter of the correct answer on each line

- 1.54** According to most historians, the cradle of civilization was in _____.
 a. Egypt b. Syria c. Turkey d. Mesopotamia
- 1.55** To cultivate this area, _____ was needed.
 a. patience b. cooperation c. a tool d. a cow
- 1.56** The area that stretches from the Persian Gulf to the Mediterranean Sea, and contains some of the richest farmland in the world, is called the _____.
 a. Fertile Crescent b. ziggurat c. Nile d. Akkad
- 1.57** Cities first arose in Sumer around _____ B.C.
 a. 500 b. 1000 c. 4004 d. 3000
- 1.58** A ziggurat is a _____.
 a. rich farmland b. temple tower c. ancient capital d. workman

Dates. When did all of these events occur? Those who hold to the theory of evolution require great periods of time for the development of man; therefore, they accept the age of the earth given by uniformitarian geology. Uniformitarian geology does not accept the biblical Flood. It states that present processes and rates of change in the earth can be calculated and then projected backwards in time to determine the age of the earth. By this system the earth is calculated to be millions or billions of years old. The Flood, of course, interrupted and changed many of these processes and rates and caused many upheavals. Scientists who accept the universal Flood generally believe

in catastrophism, that violent interruptions in natural processes and rates have occurred.

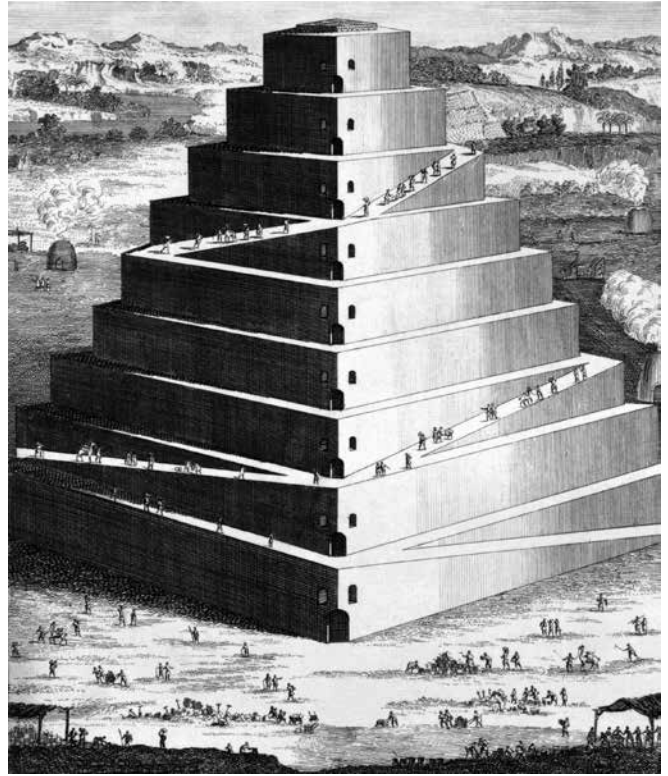
Some very conservative students have simply counted up the years mentioned in Genesis chapter 5 and have concluded that the earth was created about 4004 B.C. Most modern evangelical scholars do not accept this view. They believe that the genealogy in Genesis chapter 5 contains gaps, and that it is not designed to give the details of every generation. Since recorded history (or history well attested by archaeology) generally begins between 5000 and 3000 B.C., this viewpoint is easier to hold.

The older view places the Flood at about 2500 B.C. or later. The more recent view holds that the Flood occurred no later than 3000 B.C. and probably earlier. Between 8000 and 5000 B.C. is the position of Morris and Whitcomb, in their book, *The Genesis Flood*, in which they consider these dates in detail. Other evangelical scholars have accepted much older dates. Those who follow the point of view represented by Morris and Whitcomb would date Creation at about 10,000 B.C. at most. These early dates are at best uncertain.

Historians have tended to date early civilizations between 4000 and 2000 B.C. Will Durant in *Our Oriental Heritage* dates Egypt's Old Kingdom as beginning about 3500 B.C., Sumerian civilization in 3600 B.C., and China back to somewhere in the third millennium. Most other secular scholars cite even later dates. Such dates allow plenty of time for the Flood to have occurred around 4000 B.C.

Spoken language. Genesis chapter 11 records the story of the Tower of Babel and the confounding of the languages. The Tower of Babel represented united human strength in rebellion against God. Traditionally the tower has been viewed as the work of Nimrod of Babylon, the Hamitic hunter and empire builder. He is said (Genesis 10:10) to have ruled in "Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar." The location is Babylon, on the plain between the Tigris and the Euphrates Rivers, the area secular historians view as the "cradle of civilization."

God was not pleased with the tower, and He judged that the unity of language was the problem. For this reason, God divided the languages. When men could not communicate



| The Tower of Babel

with each other, they separated and formed nations consisting of people with similar languages. The Japhethic people developed the Indo-European language type. Semitic languages (from Shem) are all quite similar: Akkadian (Babylon and Assyria populated by Semitic peoples later); Aramaic and Syriac (Northern people); Phoenician, Ugaritic, Hebrew, and Moabite (Northwest); and Arabic, Minaean, Sabaean, and Ethiopic (South).

Many Hamitic people (from Ham), such as the Canaanites, adopted Semitic languages as their own. The Hamitic people were less developed linguistically, although early Egyptian and other North African languages are usually classified as Hamitic.



Match these items.

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 1.59 _____ | uniformitarian geology | a. violent interruption |
| 1.60 _____ | 2500 B.C. | b. exact date of Creation |
| 1.61 _____ | catastrophism | c. probable dates of the Flood |
| 1.62 _____ | 8000 to 5000 or 4000 B.C. | d. third millennium |
| 1.63 _____ | China | e. says earth is billions of years old |
| | | f. most conservative view of earth's age |

Answer the following questions.

- 1.64** What did the Tower of Babel represent? _____

- 1.65** What language group did God make the descendants of Japheth? _____

Complete this activity.

- 1.66** Name at least seven Semitic language groups.

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| a. _____ | b. _____ |
| c. _____ | d. _____ |
| e. _____ | f. _____ |
| g. _____ | |

Written Language. The Sumerians were accustomed to writing early in their history. By 2900 B.C. Sumerians were able to write with signs to represent syllables. Phonetic values were attached to these signs so that words could be constructed without the use of new signs. The style of writing used in Sumer is called **cuneiform**. Impressions were made by a reed on soft clay tablets. The result was a wedge-shaped impression called a *cuneus* in Latin.

Nations. The biblical record of the origin of the nations of the earth is contained in Genesis 9:18–10:32. According to the Bible, all people are descended from the sons of Noah—Shem, Ham, and Japheth. The events described in Genesis 9:18–29 are a sad commentary on the sinfulness of man. These verses depict Noah’s drunkenness and an immoral act on the part of Ham, Noah’s youngest son. Amazingly, these events happened in the family of Noah—among those redeemed from the Flood.

The fact that Ham is the father of Canaan, as emphasized in verse 22, is significant in light of the very depraved moral condition of the Canaanitish civilization that developed in Palestine. In this unit the word *Palestine* is used to refer to the historical geographic region in Western Asia between the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan River. In fact, God used the Hebrews to purge the land of the Canaanites; those few Canaanites whom Joshua spared were made slaves. A curse had been put on Canaan: He would have to serve the descendants of Shem and Japheth (verse 25). Noah did not mention any other descendants of Ham as sharing this curse, although he did not bless them either. Shem and Japheth were blessed (Genesis 9:26–27):

And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant. God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.

The indication was that God would bless the descendants of Shem and that through Shem the offspring of Japheth would be blessed. Abraham and the Hebrews were directly descended from Shem; therefore, the history of God’s blessing may easily be traced to them. In a very real way, however, Japheth has been blessed through Shem’s Hebrew descendants. The Greeks and the people of Europe, thought to be of Japhethic stock, have been blessed with a whole civilization based upon the Hebrew Scriptures and the life and death of Shem’s greatest descendant, the Lord Jesus Christ.

In Genesis chapter 10 a more detailed listing of the nations is given. The general breakdown can be seen on Chart 1, Chart of the Nations. The geographical distribution is shown on the Map of the Nations.

A glance at this map will show that Genesis chapter 10 deals principally with the distribution of those people around the Near East and the Mediterranean Sea. Of course, they spread out from this area. The descendants of Japheth obviously became Europeans. The Hamitic people spread throughout Africa, although some of them remained in Arabia, Palestine, and Mesopotamia. The Semitic people populated most of Arabia, parts of Asia Minor, and most of the Fertile Crescent and Mesopotamia. The Far Eastern people are most probably a blend of Eastward—spreading people from all the groups, although the Japhethic people seem best located to have spread this way.

Most scholars believe that these divisions probably did not actually occur until after the dividing of the languages in Genesis chapter 11 so that Genesis chapter 10 anticipates Genesis chapter 11. Probably there were no marked racial differences between Noah’s three sons. Undoubtedly racial differences were the result of normal genetic development as people moved farther and farther apart, and different language groups intermarried among themselves.

Notice should be taken that the distribution also shifted during subsequent history as a result of intermarriage and wars. Even in Genesis chapter 10 Sheba is credited with both Hamitic and Semitic roots.

Note a few items on Chart 1, Chart of the Nations. Javan is a term close to the Greek *ionos* from which we get Ionian (thus the Ionian peninsula).

The Cushites are thought to have entered eastern Africa by way of the Arabian peninsula¹ since archaeologists have found evidence of them in both places. Mizraim is the Hebrew name for Egypt thus Egypt's antiquity is assured.

The many Palestinian tribes that came out of Canaan were present in Palestine when Abraham lived there and later during the conquest by Joshua. Much archaeological work has been done on these tribes, especially the Hittites, whose existence was doubted in the nineteenth century. The findings by archaeologists have tended to confirm the historicity of the biblical account of ancient people and empires.

From this point on, the biblical narrative concentrates on the line of Shem through Eber and Peleg and finally through Terah and Abraham. Moses, the author of Genesis, was interested in the history of God's purposes for His people, not with world history.



SONS OF NOAH, FATHER OF NATIONS

JAPHETH -INDO-EUROPEANS		
GRANDSONS	PEOPLE	LOCATION
Gomer	Gimirra or Kimmeroi	North of the Black Sea
Magog	Northern Nomads	North of the Caspian Sea
Madai	Medes	South of the Caspian Sea
Javan	Greeks	Greek Mediterranean
Tubal	?	Asia Minor
Meshech	?	Asia Minor
Tiras	Aegean islanders, later Etruscan	Aegean coast and islands
GREAT GRANDSONS BY GOMER		
Ashkenaz	Scythians later Barbarians	Near Ararat
Riphath	?	?
Tegarmah	Armenians	Southwestern Armenia
GREAT GRANDSONS BY JAVAN		
Elishah	Greeks	South Italy Sicily
Tarshish	Greek colonists?	Spain
Kittim	Islanders later Romans	Cyprus then islands
Dodanim	Danunium? Rodanim?	Cilicia, Troy Rhodes?
HAM-AFRICANS, CANAANITES, WEST ASIANS		
GRANDSONS	PEOPLE	LOCATION
Cush	Mixed	Ethiopia or mixed
Mizraim	Egyptians	Egypt
Put	?	Cyrene
Canaan	Canaanites	Palestine
GREAT GRANDSONS BY MIZRAIM		
Ludim	Libyans?	North Africa
Anamin	?	?
	Lehabim	Africa
	Naphtuhim	Africa
	Pathrusim	Africa
Casluhim	Philistines	Africa and Philistia
Caphtorim	Cretans	Crete
GREAT GRANDSONS BY CANAAN		
Sidon	Phoenicians or Sidonians	
Heth	Hittites	Asia Minor Hebrom
	Jebusites	Jerusalem

| Chart 1, Chart of the Nations

	Amorites	West Palestine Mesopotamia
	Girgasites	?
	Hivite (Horites)	Shechem
	Arkites	Arka Phoenicia
	Sinite (Phoenicians)	Phoenicia
	Arvadite (Phoenicians)	Mediterranean Coast, Arvad
	Zemarites	Simura or Sumur
	Hamathites	Syria, now called Hama

GREAT GRANDSONS BY CUSH

Seba	?	South Arabia and East Africa
Havila		South-central Arabia
Raamah	?	Arabia
Sabtechah	?	Arabia
Nimrod	Sumerian or Babylonian	Babylon

GREAT GREAT GRANDSONS BY RAMAAH

Sheba	Sabeans	Southwest Arabia
Dedan	?	Northwest Arabia

SHEM-SEMITES

GRANDSONS	PEOPLE	LOCATION
Elam	Susiana	Susa (Shushan)
Asshur	Assyrians	Assyria
Arphaxed	?	Northeast of Nineveh
Lud	Lydians	Asia Minor
Aram	Aramaeans	Syria and Mesopotamia

GREAT GRANDSONS BY ARAM

Uz		Syrian Desert
Hul	?	Arabia
Gether	?	Arabia
Mash	?	Arabia

GREAT GRANDSONS BY ARPHAXAD

Shalah

GREAT GREAT GRANDSONS BY SHALAH

Eber Arabians, Edomites, Ishmaelites

GREAT GREAT GREAT GRANDSONS BY EBER

Peleg	Progenitor of Hebrews	Mesopotamia
Joktan	Arabians	Palestine

GREAT GREAT GREAT GREAT GRANDSONS BY JOKTAN

thirteen Arabian tribes		Arabia
-------------------------	--	--------



Answer the following questions

- 1.67 Was a curse put on Ham? _____
- 1.68 What curse was put on Canaan? _____
- 1.69 How has God blessed Japheth through Shem? _____
- _____

Complete the following statements.

- 1.70 In Chart 1, Madai is the father of the _____ .
- 1.71 From Chart 1, most Hamitic (descendants of Ham) people went to _____ .
- 1.72 From Chart 1, Arabia and the Fertile Crescent were populated by _____ .
- 1.73 Racial differences are a part of normal _____ development.
- 1.74 Genesis chapter 10, anticipates Genesis chapter _____ .
- 1.76 The Amorites were a _____ tribe.
- 1.77 Egypt was settled by descendants of _____ .

In 2400 B.C. the Akkadian ruler Sargon conquered Sumer and presumably controlled an empire from the Persian Gulf to the Mediterranean Sea. This empire may have been the first world empire. Sargon was a lugal, or secular, ruler as opposed to an ensi, or priest. Sargon distributed many temple lands among the lower classes. He also encouraged trade and the merchant class. Sargon's dynasty collapsed in 2180 B.C.

Sumer enjoyed a revival from about 2125 to 2025 B.C. under the Third Dynasty of Ur. This dynasty was able to unify the city-states under one government. The temple-cities were made into provinces ruled by governors. Priests were appointed by the secular state. During this period, Sumer had a highly regulated and well planned economy. The kings, or lugals, believed that their role was to protect the poor from the rich and powerful. They left a record of much social legislation. In 2025 B.C. barbarians destroyed Ur and the civilization that

it represented. Mesopotamia was in a state of chaos for about 200 years until the rise of Babylon.

In about 2161 B.C. (by conservative dating standards), Abraham, the father of the Hebrews, was born in Ur of the Chaldees. Abraham probably left Ur at about the time the third dynasty rose to power. When Abram (his original name) left Ur with his father, Terah, he moved to Haran. Haran was northwest of Ur along the Euphrates River in the Fertile Crescent. In Haran God spoke to Abram and said (Genesis 12:1-3):

Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

In obedience to God's command, Abram left Haran and went to Canaan. When Abraham became a believer in the one true God is not certain. His father Terah and the rest of his family were idolators like the rest of the people of Ur (cf. Joshua 24:2). Abram's conversion may have been at the time of his call in Genesis 12:1–3.

In his original call, Abraham was promised that he would become a great nation, have a great or famous name, and that he would be blessed and a blessing. Those who blessed Abraham

and his seed would be blessed; those who cursed them would be cursed. Through Abraham, God's blessing would come to the rest of the families of the earth. In Genesis 12:7, after Abram had left Haran and come to the land of Canaan, God again appeared to him and promised one more thing, "... Unto thy seed will I give this land..." The promises of God to Abraham are the basis of the faith of Israel in the Old Testament and, in a certain sense, of Zionistic Judaism. Through Abraham's heir, Jesus Christ, these promises became the possession of the Church, of all believers in Christ.



Answer the following questions.

1.78 What presumably was the extent of Sargon's empire? _____

1.79 What dynasty ruled from about 2125 to 2025 B.C.? _____

1.80 What kind of economy did the Third Dynasty promulgate? _____

1.81 When was Abraham born? _____

1.82 Where was Haran? _____

Define this item.

1.83 lugal _____

Complete the following sentences.

1.84 The members of Abraham's family were _____ before they left Ur.

1.85 Four things promised to Abram in Genesis 12:1–3 and 7 are a. _____ ,

b. _____ , c. _____ , and

d. _____ .

1.86 Abraham's promises became ours through _____ .



Review the material in this section in preparation for the Self Test. This Self Test will check your mastery of this particular section. The items missed on this Self Test will indicate specific areas where restudy is needed for mastery.

SELF TEST 1

Match these items (each answer, 2 points).

- | | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1.01 | _____ civilization | a. divine revelation |
| 1.02 | _____ technology | b. son of Noah |
| 1.03 | _____ specialization | c. believe evolution and Genesis |
| 1.04 | _____ Bible | d. Hebrew word for <i>day</i> |
| 1.05 | _____ theistic evolutionist | e. tools |
| 1.06 | _____ Shem | f. to subdue the earth |
| 1.07 | _____ <i>yōm</i> | g. diluvian |
| 1.08 | _____ God's mandate | h. division of labor |
| 1.09 | _____ man | i. made in God's image |
| 1.010 | _____ scarcity | j. follows the rise of cities |
| | | k. economy |

Write the letter of the correct answer on each line (each answer, 2 points).

- 1.011** Man's original state was one of _____.
 a. health b. sorrow c. innocence d. growth
- 1.012** After the Fall, Adam and Eve faced a world of _____ resources.
 a. abundant b. free c. hidden d. scarce
- 1.013** Man will not fully dominate the earth until _____ returns.
 a. Christ b. intelligence c. the serpent d. wisdom
- 1.014** In the struggle for _____, civilization develops.
 a. art b. dominion c. survival d. power
- 1.015** The ultimate result of specialization is _____.
 a. cities b. growth c. immorality d. trade
- 1.016** Civilization first developed among the descendants of _____.
 a. Cain b. Abel c. Sargon d. Seth

- 1.017** The Babylonian account of the Flood is the _____.
 a. Old Testament
 b. Tel-el-Amarna
 c. Gilgamesh Epic
 d. "Farewell Address"
- 1.018** Everyone is descended from _____.
 a. Noah b. Japheth c. Shem d. Moses
- 1.019** The sign of the Noahic Covenant was the _____.
 a. ark
 b. rainbow
 c. Ten Commandments
 d. hammer and sickle
- 1.020** As a result of Ham's sin, God put a curse on _____.
 a. Cush b. Canaan c. Ham d. Nimrod

Answer true or false (each answer, 2 points).

- 1.021** _____ Most Hamitic people went to Africa.
- 1.022** _____ God confounded the languages at the Tower of Ziggurat.
- 1.023** _____ Many conservative Bible students believe the earth was created in 4004 B.C.
- 1.024** _____ Genesis chapter 10, anticipates Leviticus chapter 11.
- 1.025** _____ Lugal was a city in Ur.
- 1.026** _____ Jesus Christ was an heir of Abraham.
- 1.027** _____ The Tower of Babel represented human rebellion against God.
- 1.028** _____ The cradle of civilization was in Europe.
- 1.029** _____ Nimrod of Babylon was a mighty hunter and empire builder.
- 1.030** _____ Literature is the product of an advanced social system.

Complete these sentences (each answer, 4 points)

- 1.031** The concept that man arose from a lower form of life is known as the theory of _____.
- 1.032** The apostle Peter stated that, "One day is with the Lord as a _____ years."
- 1.033** According to Genesis, God created man on the _____ day.
- 1.034** From 2125 B.C. to 2025 B.C. , Mesopotamia was ruled by the _____ dynasty of Ur.

- 1.035 Cuneiform was a type of Sumerian _____ .
- 1.036 God gave man a mandate to subdue the earth and to have dominion over the _____ .
- 1.037 The *Gilgamesh Epic* contains more detail about the _____ than is found in the Sumerian records.
- 1.038 The Fertile Crescent contained valuable _____ .
- 1.039 In 2400 B.C. Sargon conquered _____ .
- 1.040 Civilization requires a higher order of _____ organization.

80

100

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