



Magnolia Bible Church Men's Group - Creation Series

Lesson #8 (Genesis 10 – The Table of Nations) | Thursday, April 6, 2017

The principal aim of this series is to explore what the Bible has to say about Creation and the early history of mankind up to the Tower of Babel. The first eleven chapters of Genesis define for us what God's Word has to say about the early days of man. For many people this portion of the Bible is nothing more than fables, while for others it is the inspired Word of God that clearly establishes the origin of man, civilization, and the universe. As Christians, it is important to know what we believe and be able to clearly communicate to others the basis of our beliefs. The world needs well-read, articulate Christians who are confident in their beliefs built on a strong, Biblical foundation.

Listed below is the basic outline for our Creation Series, along with the schedule for each lesson.

Topic	Location in Genesis	Planned Date
Introduction	N/A	February 2
Six days of Creation	Genesis 1 – 2	February 9
The Fall	Genesis 3	February 16
Cain and Abel	Genesis 4	February 23
Genealogy (Adam to Noah)	Genesis 5	March 2
Wickedness of Man	Genesis 6:1-8	March 9
Noah and the Flood	Genesis 6 – 8	March 23 (*)
God's Covenant with Noah / Sons of Noah	Genesis 9	March 30
Table of Nations	Genesis 10	April 6
Tower of Babel	Genesis 11:1-9	April 13

* Spring Break is scheduled for March 13-17; there will not be a lesson on Thursday, March 16.

In Genesis 10 we read the account of Noah's sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth. As a reader it is encouraging to see that God had a plan for mankind after the Flood. More than likely He "breathed" into the hearts of Shem, Ham and Japheth a desire to build families, conduct commerce, and forge empires. Certainly within several generations after the Flood we see men building cities and making names for themselves and their clans. The world we know today started with the industrious efforts of these men.

While it is true that all humans alive today have descended from Noah's and his sons, it is equally important to note that all of our nations in some capacity derive themselves from those nations founded by the sons of Noah. In reading through Genesis 10 and its genealogies, consider several important points:

- Most humans take great pride in their respective nations, where we find our culture, values, and sense of national pride. National independence and sovereignty has become an important part of the world in which we live. In many circumstances, people are willing to die for their nation.
- Technology, science, art, literature, and a host of other "cultural icons" descend from the families and societies that are identified in Genesis 10's Table of Nations.
- More important than anything, we see that God had planned *from the beginning* that the Messiah would come through the line of Shem. In His infinite wisdom, God preserved this family line and maintained a lineage of Godly men and women who would continue to follow Him, in spite of opposing forces from the world around them.

