

Shem, Ham, and Japheth

Gn 9¹⁸ Now the sons of Noah who went out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And Ham was the father of Canaan. ¹⁹ These three were the sons of Noah, and from these the whole earth was populated. ²⁰ And Noah began to be a farmer, and he planted a vineyard. ²¹ Then he drank of the wine and was drunk, and became uncovered in his tent.

²² And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father,

and told his two brothers outside.

²³ But Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and went backward and covered the nakedness of their father.

Their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father's nakedness.

²⁴ So Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done to him. ²⁵ Then he said: "Cursed be Canaan; A servant of servants He shall be to his brethren." ²⁶ And he said: "Blessed be the LORD, The God of Shem, And may Canaan be his servant. ²⁷ May God enlarge Japheth, And may he dwell in the tents of Shem; And may Canaan be his servant." ²⁸ And Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years. ²⁹ So all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years; and he died.

* **Genesis** mid ch 9 – mid ch 11 is taken up with the _____ and lineages of the sons of Noah, and how they set the stage for human history after the flood. All post-flood humanity descended from these three, and the three major _____ humanity will take show themselves in the lives of these three.

* **What does** the narrator keeps interjecting into the story? (18, 22, 25)

* **How does** ch 10 illuminate us?

* **What are** the three paths of the three sons? (25-27)

– Ham

– Shem

– Japheth

* **What is** the timing of these events following the flood, and what stage of life are Noah's sons in?

* **What is** the nature of the story telling; how do we get the full meaning?

* **What does**, "Noah began to be a farmer" (20) really mean, and how does a vineyard tie in?

Psalm 104 ¹⁴ He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, and vegetation for the service of man, that He may bring forth food from the earth. ¹⁵ And wine that makes glad the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread which strengthens man's heart.

Gen 14 ¹⁸ Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High.

Deut14 ²⁶ "And you shall spend that money for whatever your heart desires: for oxen or sheep, for wine or similar drink, for whatever your heart desires; you shall eat there before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice, you and your household."

* **With vs 21**, what does everyone want to know, and what insight can we gain regarding that question? (21, 22, 24)

Prov 23²⁹ Who has woe? Who has sorrow? ...³⁰ Those who linger long at the wine ...³¹ Do not look on the wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup ...³² At the last it bites like a serpent, and stings like a viper.³³ Your eyes will see strange things, and your heart will utter perverse things.

Eccl 10¹⁶ Woe to you, O land, when your king is a child, and your princes feast in the morning!¹⁷ Blessed are you, O land, when your king is the son of nobles, and your princes feast at the proper time—for strength and not for drunkenness!

*** Vs 23 says** in the Hebrew, “Shem and Japheth took the garment.” What is the significance of this?

*** What two** key things does the Hebrew structure of vs 22-23 tell us?

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1) Ham’s seeing his father’s nakedness ...

2) Ham’s looking upon his father’s nakedness and telling his brothers ...

*** Thoughts & applications.**

1Pt 4⁸ [L]ove covers a multitude of sins.

Eph 6² “Honor your father and mother,” which is the first commandment with promise:³ “that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.”

Luke 2⁴⁶ [A]fter three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers ...⁴⁷ And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers.⁴⁸ So ... His mother said to Him, “Son, ... Your father and I have sought You anxiously.”⁴⁹ And He said to them, ... “Did you not know that I must be about My Father’s business?” ...⁵¹ Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them ...⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

John 5⁴⁴ “How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God?”

Heb 5⁵ Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: “You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.”⁶ As He also says in another place: “You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek”;⁷ who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear,⁸ though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.⁹ And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,¹⁰ called by God as High Priest “according to the order of Melchizedek”