

Cursing, Blessing, and Origins of the Nations
Genesis 9:18-10:32

Noah's indiscretion: One son disrespects him but two show respect. 9:20-23

- ◆ Drunkenness/nakedness don't reflect well on Noah in this new world.
- ◆ Ham seems glad to blab of his father's indiscretion to his brothers, who in contrast respectfully and painstakingly seeks to cover him.

Noah's oracle: One grandson is cursed, but two sons are blessed. 24-29

- ◆ Why does Noah issue a curse here? And why curse Canaan (Ham's youngest of four sons)? Note the Canaanite people are in focus here.
- ◆ What makes this first curse given in Scripture by a man stick?
- ◆ What should these events remind us of earlier in Genesis?

Nation's origins: All arise from Noah and his three sons. 9:18,19, 10:1,32

A repeated point is the unity of mankind. Before the flood all mankind came from Adam; after the flood all will arise from Noah's three sons.

Nation's development: Each are traced back to one son of Noah. 10:2-31

Special attention is given to Nimrod and Canaan's descendants. Later the land of Canaan dominates the patriarchal accounts.

Why might this brief, odd story be included here?

Can you see in your own family background events that have impacted your present family? Do you see negative cycles that need to be broken or any positive legacies that may need to be instituted?

