

**The Preserved Holy Line**  
**Bible Study Notes**

*'And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.'*

**Genesis 3:15**

**M**any times, we read of the various genealogies in the Bible and browse past them not really pausing to understand the significance of what we are actually reading. We fail to remember that *'all Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine...'*, **2 Timothy 3:16**, and as a result we neglect to grasp what the Holy Spirit is trying to teach us.

*'Every word of God is pure...'*, **Proverbs 30:5**, *'the word of the Lord endureth forever'*, **Isaiah 40:8**, nothing in Scripture is by chance, there is always a lesson to be learnt.

With this in mind, we will seek to search the Scriptures to find out why the Biblical genealogies are written, for *'whatsoever things were written a foretime, were written for our learning'*, **Romans 15:4**.

In **Genesis 3:15**, we see that God is here laying the foundation for the Great Controversy between Christ and Satan after the fall of man occurred in the Garden of Paradise. As a result of our first parent's disobedience to the word of God, sin came into this world and all of us have been subject to this disease called sin and death. But praise God, that we have a Saviour, Jesus Christ, *'the seed of the woman'*, who has come to set us free from the clutches of the enemy.

Here God foreshadows to the serpent, that He, the Almighty Father, was to give His eternal Son for the salvation of this world. He was the Seed that was to come, who in the fullness of time was to bruise or crush the head of the serpent.

*'And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly.'* **Romans 16:20**

There are other genealogies in the Bible, for e.g. Cain's, Ishmael's and also Esau's, *also called Edom*, but the primary ones, which are much more exhausted deal with Adam's posterity through Seth and Shem, his descendant through Noah.

The primary focus of the genealogies, therefore, was to reveal to us the Holy line from Adam to Abraham until the promised *seed, Jesus*. We know this because after the accounts of the ministry of Jesus in the gospels, there are no more genealogies found in Scripture.

Let us now do an in-depth study into this *'Holy line'* starting first in **Genesis 5:3-32**.

**FROM ADAM TO THE FLOOD**

**vs.3-5**

*'And Adam lived **one hundred and thirty years**, and begot a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him **Seth**. After he begot Seth, the days of Adam were **eight hundred years**; and he had sons and daughters. So, **all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years**; and he died.'*

After the death of Abel, God blessed Adam & Eve with another son, and they called his name Seth. He was born when Adam was 130 years old.

*'For God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed.'* **Genesis 4:25**

After having Seth, they had other sons & daughters and Adam lived an additional 800 years and lived to a total of **930 years old**.

It is interesting to note that the promised seed, Jesus Christ, was to come out of the lineage of Seth as opposed to Cain's.

**vs.6-8**

*'Seth lived **one hundred and five years**, and begot **Enosh**. After he begot Enosh, Seth lived **eight hundred and seven years**, and had sons and daughters. So, all the days of Seth were **nine hundred and twelve years**; and he died.'*

Seth had his first born, Enosh, when he was 105 years old, by this time **Adam was now 235 years old**. Seth then had more sons & daughters after another 807 years and he died at **912 years old**.

**vs.9-11**

*'Enosh lived **ninety years**, and begot **Cainan**. After he begot Cainan, Enosh lived **eight hundred and fifteen years**, and had sons and daughters. So, all the days of Enosh were **nine hundred and five years**; and he died.'*

Enosh, the grandson of Adam, had Cainan when he was **90 years old**. By this time, **Seth was 195 years old**, and **Adam was 325 years old**. Enosh then lived another 815 years, where he had more children and died at the age of **905 years old**.

**vs.12-14**

*'Cainan lived **seventy years**, and begot **Mahalalel**. After he begot Mahalalel, Cainan lived **eight hundred and forty years**, and had sons and daughters. So, all the days of Cainan were **nine hundred and ten years**; and he died.'*

Cainan begat Mahalalel when he was **70 years old**. By the time Mahalalel was born, **Adam was 395 years old**, **Seth was 265 years old** and **Enosh**, the grandfather of Mahalalel was **160 years old**.

**vs.15-17**

*'Mahalalel lived **sixty-five years**, and begot **Jared**. After he begot Jared, Mahalalel lived **eight hundred and thirty years**, and had sons and daughters. So, all the days of Mahalalel were **eight hundred and ninety-five years**; and he died.'*

We see that Mahalalel [*praise of God*], had Jared, his first born when he was **65 years old**. At the birth of Jared, **Adam** was still alive, he was **460 years old** by this time, **Seth was 330 years old**, **Enosh was 225 years old**, and **Cainan was 135 years old**. Mahalalel had more children after this time and died at the age of **895 years old**.

**vs.18-20**

*'Jared lived **one hundred and sixty-two years**, and begot Enoch. After he begot Enoch, Jared lived **eight hundred years**, and had sons and daughters. So, all the days of Jared were **nine hundred and sixty-two years**; and he died.'*

Jared, the grandfather of Methuselah, had his first son Enoch when he was **162 years old**. At this time, all of the patriarchs of the *Holy line* were still alive. **Adam was 622 years old; Seth was 492 years old; Enosh was 387 years old; Cainan was 297 years old** and **Mahalalel**, the grandfather of Enoch was **227 years old**.

Jared then lived a further 800 years and begat more sons and daughters during this time; he then died at the age of **962 years old**.

**vs.21-24**

*'Enoch lived **sixty-five years**, and begot Methuselah. After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God **three hundred years**, and had sons and daughters. So, all the days of Enoch were **three hundred and sixty-five years**. And **Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him**'*

Enoch, the seventh from Adam who prophesied to the people of his time about the Second Coming of Jesus, **Jude 1:14**, was the first man never to see death, for he walked with God and pleased God by his godly and faithful living, **Hebrews 11:5-6**. Daily he walked in accordance with God's will, not deviating to the left or to the right, while others lived for themselves, Enoch lived whole heartedly for God. As a result, he *'was not found, for God had taken him.'* **Hebrews 11:5**.

He had his first born, Methuselah when he was **65 years old** and at this time, **Adam was 687 years old; Seth was 557 years old; Enosh was 452 years old; Cainan was 362 years old; Mahalalel was 292 years old** and **Jared**, his father was **227 years old**.

Enoch continued to walk with God daily for another 300 years, where he had more sons and daughters, and he was then translated and taken to heaven when he was **365 years old**.

Enoch's translation to heaven was a guarantee to the righteous living at that time that eternal life was the reward awaiting those who remained faithful to God throughout all the ages.

**vs.25-27**

*'Methuselah lived **one hundred and eighty-seven years**, and begot Lamech. After he begot Lamech, Methuselah lived **seven hundred and eighty-two years**, and had sons and daughters. So, all the days of Methuselah were **nine hundred and sixty-nine years**; and he died.'*

Methuselah [*his death shall send*], was the oldest recorded person in the Scriptures. He was the father of Lamech, and the grandfather of Noah. He had his first son Lamech when he was **187 years old** and after this, he had more sons and daughters and died at the good old age of **969 years old**.

By the time of the birth of Lamech, **Adam was 874 years old; Seth was now 744 years old; Enosh was 639 years old; Cainan was 549 years old; Mahalalel was now 479 years old; Jared was 414 years old and Enoch, at this time was 252 years old**, still dwelling upon the earth.

It is interesting to note that the name Methuselah in the original Hebrew means '*his death shall send*' and what we will notice very shortly is that at the time of the flood in Noah's 600<sup>th</sup> year, Methuselah died. With his *death*, Jehovah did indeed *send* the flood upon the wicked.

#### **vs.28-31**

*'Lamech lived **one hundred and eighty-two years** and had a son. And he called his name Noah, saying, "This one will comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands, because of the ground which the LORD has cursed." After he begot Noah, Lamech lived **five hundred and ninety-five years**, and had sons and daughters. So, all the days of Lamech were **seven hundred and seventy-seven years**; and he died.'*

Lamech begat his first born, Noah when he was **182 years old**; he [*Noah*] was to be a comfort to the people who faithfully followed Christ in his day. Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Lamech understood that God was going to do a mighty work through his son, and he took comfort in this divine promise.

At the time of **Lamech's 56<sup>th</sup> year** we notice that all of the early Hebrew Patriarchs were still alive, from the now aged Adam to Lamech in his '*youth*'. It is not difficult to imagine that Adam would have passed down to all of his descendants the knowledge of the mighty Jehovah and reverence for his Holy name, with His laws and commandments. Only Cain and his apostate descendants decided to disregard the knowledge of God, instead choosing to be on the side of satan [*his seed*] **Genesis 3:15**.

We see that Cain '*went out from the presence of the Lord*' never to return, **Genesis 4:16**, in addition, instead of dwelling in tents as a stranger and pilgrim on this earth, **Hebrews 11:9,13**, in the presence of nature where he could learn more of God's will and grow in holy character, he decided to build a name [*reputation*] for himself and construct a city for himself and his descendants, **Genesis 4:17; Genesis 11:4**.

By the time of Noah's birth, **Adam had now died 126 years prior; Seth had died 14 years prior; Enosh was 821 years prior; Cainan was 731 years old; Mahalalel was now 661 years old; Jared was 596 years old, Enoch had been translated to heaven 69 years prior and Methuselah at this time was 369 years old**.

69 years prior, at the time of Enoch's translation to heaven, all of the patriarchs were still alive except Adam, who had died just 57 years before this time.

*'But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.'* **Genesis 2:17**

The complete consequence of Adam's disobedience had now been fulfilled and the punishment was to fall upon every one of his descendants until the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Jesus.

**vs.32**

*'And Noah was **five hundred years old**, and Noah begot Shem, Ham, and Japheth.'*

It is customary for the first born to be listed first as we have seen with all the previous examples, however, in the case of Noah's sons, Shem was listed first. Japheth was the actual first born of Noah, **Genesis 10:21**, however, Shem was the child of Noah from which the Messiah would come, hence he is listed first. The descendants of Shem became the children of Abraham from which Jacob's twelve sons came, who became the children of Israel.

In Noah's 500<sup>th</sup> year when he had Japheth, **Adam had died 626 years prior; Seth had died 514 years prior; Enosh had died 416 years prior; Cainan had died 321 years prior; Mahalalel had died 266 years prior; Jared had died 134 years prior**, and **Enoch had been translated to heaven 569 years prior**. Only **Methuselah [869 years]** and **Lamech [682 years]** remained alive from the early patriarchs.

Noah was a preacher of righteousness, *'a just man and perfect in his generation'* **2 Peter 2:5**, **Genesis 6:9**, who preached unto the ungodly of his day warning them of the soon coming destruction of the world by water, yet they scoffed and mocked him. For 120 years, Noah preached unto the heathens to repent of their sins and to return to the true worship of the one true God, Jehovah, **Genesis 6:3**, however, they rejected the message of salvation that God sent to them through His servant Noah and as it was in Noah's day, so shall it be in the days leading up to the Second Coming of Christ.

Says the Apostle Peter, *'by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.'* **2 Peter 3:6-7**

And Jesus said to His disciples, *'For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.'* **Matthew 24:38-39**

**Genesis 7:6**

*'Noah was **six hundred years old** when the floodwaters were on the earth.'*

**By the time of the flood Noah was 600 years old**, his first born, **Japheth was 100 years old** and **Shem the second born was 98 years old**. We know this because Shem was 100 years old, 2 years after the flood, when he begat his first born Arphaxad, **Genesis 11:10**. Noah also had another son, **Ham**, who it appears, was the youngest of the three sons according to **Genesis 9:22-24**, however the Bible does not give Ham's age.

In the year of flood all of the early patriarchs had passed, excluding Enoch, for he was taken to Heaven not seeing death.

**Adam had died 726 years prior to the flood; Seth had died 614 years prior; Enosh had died 516 years prior; Cainan had died 421 years prior; Mahalalel had died 366 years prior; Jared had died 243 years prior; Enoch had been translated 669 years prior; Lamech had died 5 years prior. Methuselah**, Lamech's father, *[his death shall send]*, **was 969 years old in the year of the flood and he died in the same year**, thus fulfilling the promise that with his death, God would send the flood waters upon the earth to destroy the unrepentant.

This shows us the vast amount of important information that we can learn by studying the genealogies mentioned in the Bible. What we see here is that God, preserved a Holy line from Adam up until Noah in a world which was rife with wickedness, *'every inclination of the hearts of men were evil continuously'*. In the same way, God will have a holy line, a remnant of believers, in the last days before he rains destruction upon the wicked at His Second Coming, for as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be at the Coming of the Son of Man.

From this timeline of the creation of Adam to the flood were **1,656 years**. We can establish this by taking all of the years that Adam lived, **930 years** [**Genesis 5:5**] and adding them to the total number of years that he had already passed by the time of the flood, **726 years**.

### **FROM SHEM TO ABRAHAM**

**Genesis 11:10-26**

**vs. 10-11**

*'This is the genealogy of Shem: **Shem was one hundred years old, and begot Arphaxad two years after the flood. After he begot Arphaxad, Shem lived five hundred years, and begot sons and daughters.**'*

By the second year after the flood, **Shem was now 100 years old** and had begat his first born Arphaxad, and **Noah**, his father was **602 years old**, **Genesis 7:6**. From the creation of Adam until this time was **1,658 years**.

Shem lived another 500 years and had more children and died at the age of **600 years old**.

**vs.12-13**

*'Arphaxad lived **thirty-five years, and begot Salah. After he begot Salah, Arphaxad lived four hundred and three years, and begot sons and daughters.**'*

Immediately we notice a stark difference in the ages of these sons of Adam after the flood. Their life spans immediately decreased as their diet now included meat wherein it was plant based before the flood and also the entire environment had drastically changed, **Genesis 9:3**.

At 35 years old, Arphaxad begat Salah and by this time, **Noah was 637 years old**, and **Shem was 135 years old**. Arphaxad then lived another 403 years had other sons and daughters and he died at **438 years old**.

**vs.14-15**

*'Salah lived **thirty years, and begot Eber. After he begot Eber, Salah lived four hundred and three years, and begot sons and daughters.**'*

In Salah's 30<sup>th</sup> year he begot his firstborn Eber. At this time Noah was 667 years old; Shem was 165 years old and Arphaxad was 65 years old. Salah lived another 403 years and begot other sons and daughters and died at 433 years old.

**vs.16-17**

*'Eber lived **thirty-four years**, and begot Peleg. After he begot Peleg, Eber lived **four hundred and thirty years**, and begot sons and daughters.'*

After Eber had lived 34 years, he had Peleg the brother of Joktan. In the days of Peleg, *'the earth was divided'* among the sons of Noah and each son dwelt in their own land after departing from the mountains of Ararat.

**Genesis 10:25.**

At this time, Noah was 701 years old, Shem was 199 years old, Arphaxad was 99 and Salah was 64 years old.

Eber lived another 430 years and had more children and he died at 464 years old.

**vs.18-19**

*'Peleg lived **thirty years**, and begot Reu. After he begot Reu, Peleg lived **two hundred and nine years**, and begot sons and daughters.'*

Peleg then had his first born Reu in his 30<sup>th</sup> year. At this time, Noah was 731 years old, Shem was 229 years old, Arphaxad was 129 years old, Salah was 94 years old and Eber, the father of Peleg was 64 years old.

Peleg then died at 239 years old after he had more sons and daughters.

**vs.20-21**

*'Reu lived **thirty-two years**, and begot Serug. After he begot Serug, Reu lived **two hundred and seven years**, and begot sons and daughters.'*

Notice the decrease in the length of years from patriarch to patriarch. The vital energy which God bestowed upon Adam and Eve at their creation was slowly dwindling away as the centuries went by.

At the birth of Serug, Noah was 763 years old, Shem was 261 years old, Arphaxad was 161 years old, Salah was 126 years old, Eber was 96 years old, and Peleg was 62 years old.

Reu lived another 207 years and died at the age of 239 years old.

The birth of Serug marked 163 years after the flood and 1,821 years after the creation of Adam until this time.

**vs.22-23**

*'Serug lived thirty years, and begot Nahor. After he begot Nahor, Serug lived **two hundred years**, and begot sons and daughters.'*

In his 30<sup>th</sup> year, Serug begat Nahor, the grandfather of Abraham. At this time, Noah was still alive and was **793 years old**, **Shem was 291 years old**, **Arphaxad was 191 years old**, **Salah was 156 years old**, **Eber was 126 years old**, **Peleg was 92 years old** and **Reu his father was 62 years old**.

The patriarch Noah was still alive at this time and was able to pass down the pure teachings of God's word which he had learned from his fathers in the days before the flood unto his posterity.

#### **vs.24-25**

*'Nahor lived **twenty-nine years**, and begot Terah. After he begot Terah, Nahor lived **one hundred and nineteen years**, and begot sons and daughters.'*

Again, there is a marked contrast in the length of days of the descendants of Noah as time progresses. At the time when Terah is born, Noah is **822 years old**, **Shem was 320 years old**, **Arphaxad was 220 years old**, **Salah was 285 years old**, **Eber was 155 years old**, **Peleg was 121 years old**, **Reu was 91 years old** and **Serug was 59 years old**. All of these descendants of Lamech were still alive, **222 years after the flood** took place. After the birth of Terah, Nahor lived until **148 years old** and then he passed. Consider the fact that Adam lived until 930 years old and 1,880 years after Adam's creation, his 'son' lives only until the age of 148 years old. What a marked contrast; the disease of sin has truly degraded the mental faculty and the life span of man.

#### **vs.26,32**

*'Now Terah lived **seventy years**, and begot Abram, Nahor, and Haran... So, the days of Terah were **two hundred and five years**, and Terah died in Haran'*

Here we see the first mention of Abraham, at this time called Abram. He was to be the Father of many nations, both literal and physical. Says the Apostle Paul, *'And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.'* **Galatians 3:29**.

From henceforth we will focus only on the descendants of Abraham and not of Nahor or Haran.

Terah begat Abraham when he was 70 years old when they dwelt in Babylon, in Ur of the Chaldees, **Genesis 11:31**.

It is interesting to note as we shall see that Noah and Abraham were contemporaries, that is, they both lived on the earth at the same time. Abraham was born **292 years after the great flood** which destroyed the wicked ante-diluvians from off of the face of the earth. He also lived **1,950 years after the creation of Adam**.

At the time that Abraham was born, Noah was **892 years old**, **Shem was 390 years old**, **Arphaxad was 290 years old**, **Salah was 355 years old**, **Eber was 225 years old**, **Peleg was 191 years old**, **Reu was 161 years old**, **Serug was 129 years old** and **Nahor was 99 years old**.



Terah lived another 135 years and died at the age of **205 years old** in the land of Haran.

Using Noah as a base, we see that from Adam to Lamech were 10 generations [*before the flood*], and using Abraham as a base, Shem to Terah was also 10 generations [*after the flood*], a total of **1,950 years from Adam to Abraham**.

Noah went on to live another 58 years before he died **Genesis 9:28-29** and passed away in the 58<sup>th</sup> year of Abraham, 42 years before the birth of his son Isaac, **Genesis 21:5**, the son of the promise.

At the time of **Abraham's death at the age of 175, Genesis 25:7, Shem was 565 years old**, he had not yet died as Shem lived until the age of 600 years old according to **Genesis 11:10-11**. The variance in both the age of Shem and Abraham shows the degrading power of sin after the fall of man, but more specifically after the flood. It is interesting to note that Shem was still alive when Abraham, Isaac and Ishmael were all alive.

It was therefore through Abraham's descendants that the seed of the woman first mentioned in **Genesis 3:15** was to come into the world. Through the covenant made to Abraham in **Genesis 12:3, Genesis 22:18**, the promised Messiah was to come and by Him, would the head of the serpent be crushed. It is true that the serpent would have bruised the heel of the seed, **Genesis 3:15**, at His crucifixion but Jesus would have the final say as He will crush the head of the serpent when satan shall be finally destroyed after the millennium and *'iniquity shall not raise its head a second time.'*