

SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

AN OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

JN. 5:39



Jn. 5:39 **Search the scriptures**; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and **they are they which testify of me.**

I. THE PRIMEVAL HISTORY: BEGINNINGS OF THE HUMAN RACE, 1:1—11:32

A. The Creation, 1:1—2:25

B. The Curse, 3:1—4:15

C. The Catastrophe, 4:16—9:29

1. A World Fast Ripening for Judgment, 4:16—6:22

a. God's Assessment of Those Times, 4:16—6:7

b. God's Answer to Those Times, 6:8-22

2. A World Finally Relinquished to Judgment, 7:1-24

a. The Deliverance of the Godly, 7:1-9

b. The Destruction of the Godless, 7:10-24

This evening, we will see what happened after the days of Noah and the Flood.

D. The Coalition, 10:1—11:32

1.Divine Government, 10:1—11:9

a.The Completeness of Man's Dispersal, 10:1-32 (See 1 Chron. 1)

Gen. 10:1 Now these *are* the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth: and unto them were sons born after the flood.

2 The sons of Japheth; Gomer, and Magog, and Madai, and Javan, and Tubal, and Meshech, and Tiras.

3 And the sons of Gomer; Ashkenaz, and Riphath, and Togarmah.

4 And the sons of Javan; Elishah, and Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim.

5 **By these were the isles of the Gentiles divided in their lands; every one after his tongue,** after their families, in their nations.

6 And the sons of Ham; Cush, and Mizraim, and Phut, and Canaan.

7 And the sons of Cush; Seba, and Havilah, and Sabtah, and Raamah, and Sabtecha: and the sons of Raamah; Sheba, and Dedan.

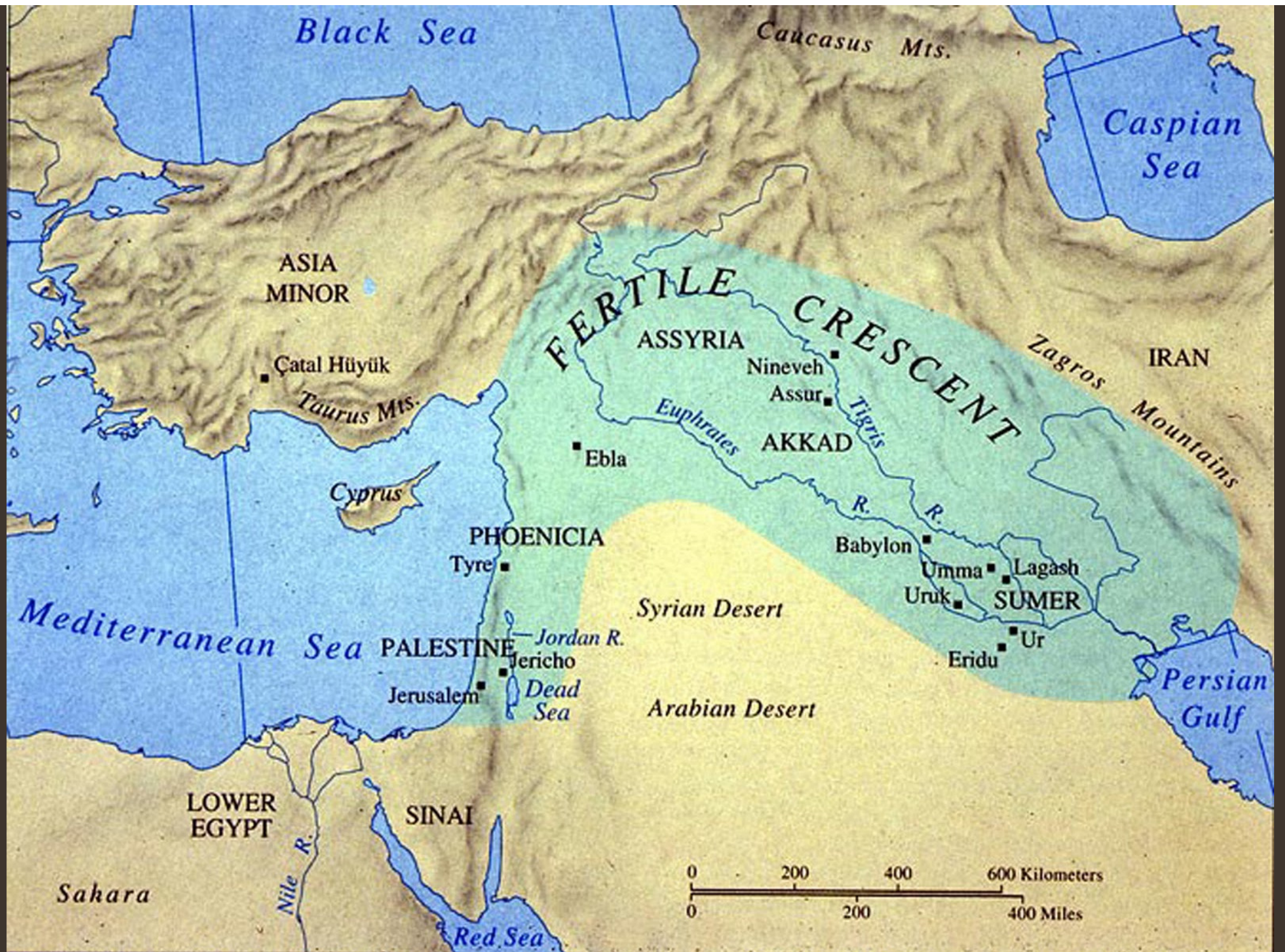
Gen. 10:8 And **Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth.**

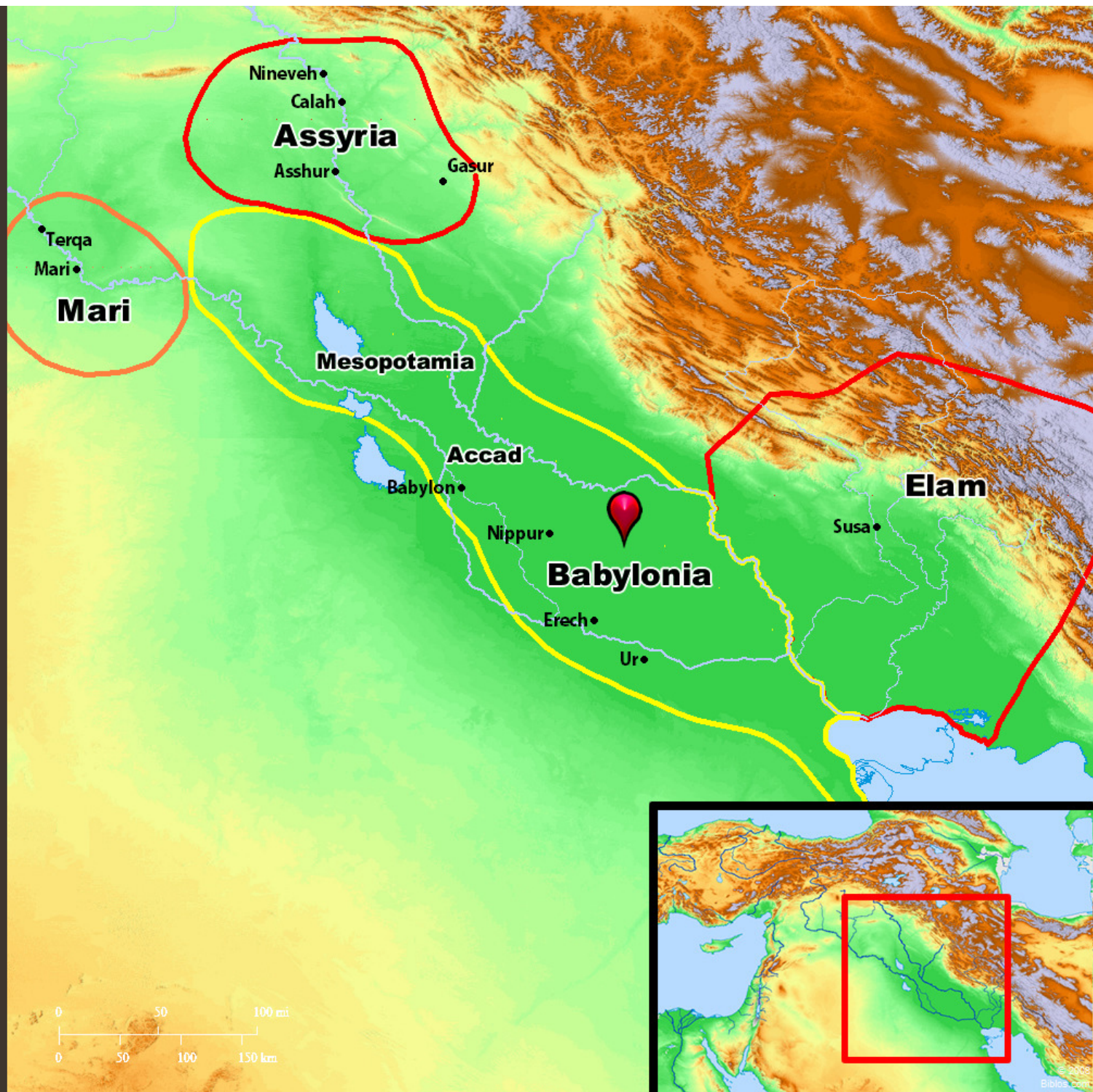
9 He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.

10 And **the beginning of his kingdom was Babel**, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, **in the land of Shinar.**



Original map by Karl Musser





<https://bibleatlas.org/region/babylonia.jpg>

Gen. 10:21 Unto Shem also, the father of all the children of Eber, the brother of Japheth the elder, even to him were *children* born.

25 And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of one *was* Peleg; for in his days was the earth divided; and his brother's name *was* Joktan. (See 1 Chron. 1:19)





Gen. 10:32 These *are* the families of the sons of Noah, after their generations, in their nations: and by these were the nations divided in the earth after the flood.

b. The Cause of Man's Dispersal, 11:1-9

Gen. 11:1 And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.

2 And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in **the land of Shinar**; and they dwelt there.

3 And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them throughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar.

4 And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top *may reach* unto heaven; and let us make us a name, **lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.**

- ❖ The Tower of Babel is verification of man's innate rebellion against God. Mankind, setting themselves as God, (Gen. 3:5) attempted to glorify themselves through building (Gen. 11:4) "...a city and a tower, whose top *may reach* unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth."
- ❖ Many today are still rebelling against God and His word by killing innocent babies, denying that the Creator made only two genders, male and female, and simply having NO FEAR OF GOD!
- ❖ The Bible describes the current lack of spirituality prevalent today:

Rom. 3:10 As it is written, **There is none righteous, no, not one:**

11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; **there is none that doeth good, no, not one.**

13 Their throat *is* an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps *is* under their lips:

14 Whose mouth *is* full of cursing and bitterness:

15 **Their feet *are* swift to shed blood:**

16 Destruction and misery *are* in their ways:

17 And the way of peace have they not known:

18 **There is no fear of God before their eyes.**

- ❖ Mankind today has the same rebellious attitude as those listed in Gen. 11.
- ❖ Adam, and later Noah, were commanded to “...be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth...

Gen. 1:28 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.

Gen. 9:1 And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, **Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.**

❖ When mankind chose to be a god until themselves, God upset their plans.

Gen. 11:8 **So the LORD scattered them abroad** from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city.

9 Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence **did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.**

2. Divine Grace, 11:10-32

- ❖ In spite of the wickedness on the earth before the Flood, Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

Gen. 6:8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

- ❖ In spite of the wickedness after the Flood at the Tower of Babel, God was gracious in His scattering of the people “...abroad upon the face of all the earth.”
- ❖ In Gen. 11, we are introduced to God’s plan for mankind, the arrival of Abram (Abraham.)

Gen. 11:27 Now these *are* the generations of Terah: Terah begat Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran begat Lot.

28 And Haran died before his father Terah in the land of his nativity, in Ur of the Chaldees.

29 And Abram and Nahor took them wives: the name of Abram's wife *was* Sarai; and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran, the father of Milcah, and the father of Iscah.

30 But Sarai was barren; she *had* no child.

31 And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran his son's son, and Sarai his daughter in law, his son Abram's wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees, to go into the land of Canaan; and they came unto Haran, and dwelt there.

32 And the days of Terah were two hundred and five years: and Terah died in Haran.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Year Born, A.C.</u>	<u>Years Lived</u>	<u>Year Died, A.C.</u>
Terah	1878	205	2083 (- 75 Gen. 12:4)
Abram	2008	175	2183

- ❖ Abram was born 2 years after Noah died. He knew Terah for 75 years, and Terah could have known Noah for 128 years.
- ❖ Abram's heritage prepared him to walk by faith and earn the title of being "the friend of God."

James 2:23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, **Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.**

Conclusion

Rom. 4:13 For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, *was* not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but **through the righteousness of faith.**

14 For if they which are of the law *be* heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect:

15 Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, *there is* no transgression.

16 **Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace;** to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of **the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,**

17 (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, *even* God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

18 Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.

19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb:

20 **He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;**

21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

22 And therefore **it was imputed to him for righteousness.**

23 Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him;

24 **But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;**

25 Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.