

The Birth of the Covenant Nation

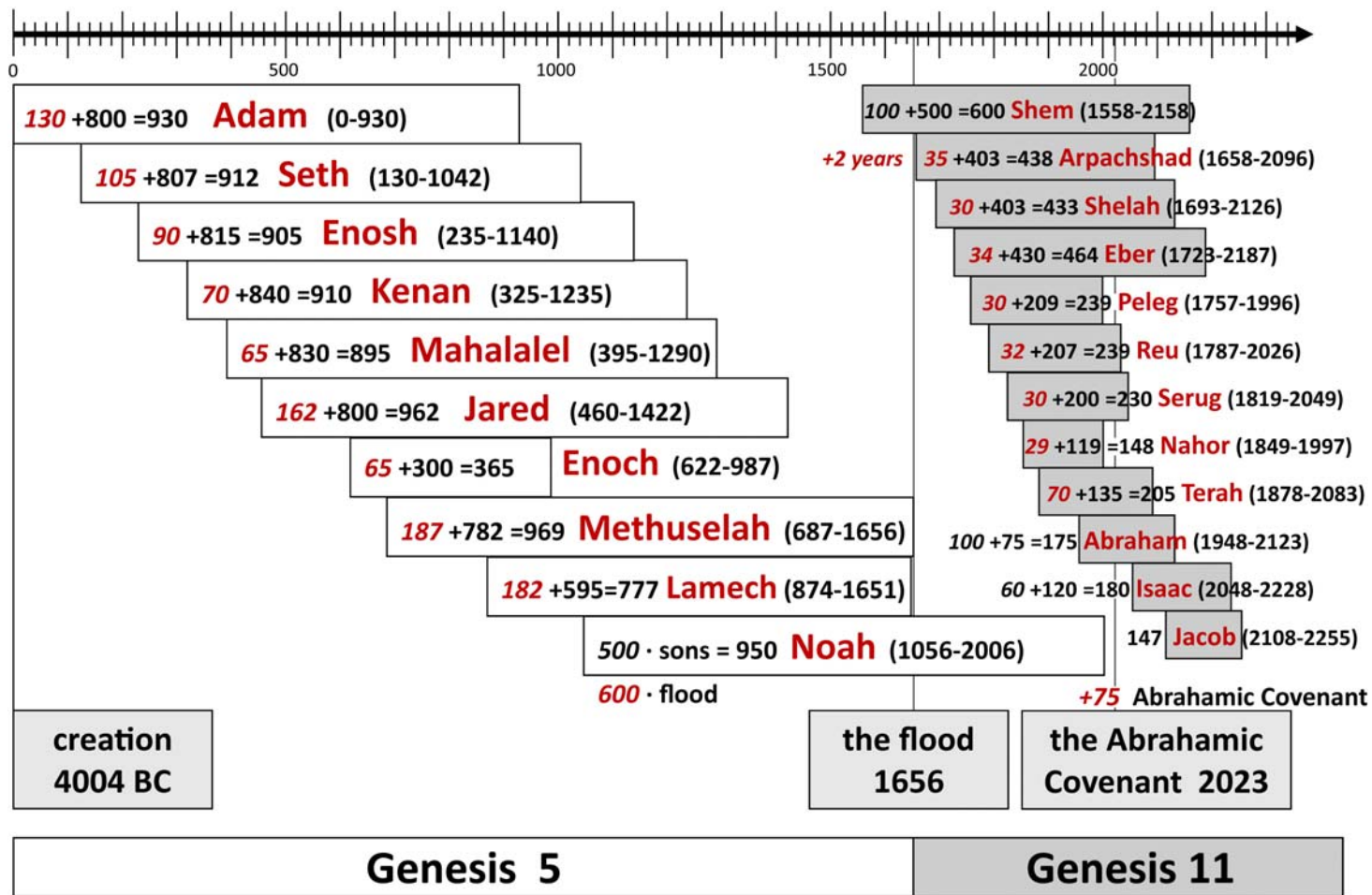
“Who is YHWH?”

Lesson 3

Exodus 5-6

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
September 20, 2020*

Genealogies of Genesis from Adam to Jacob



The Great Nation that is Not! (1-2)

- ▶ Having no hope and without God in the world (Ephesians 2:13)
- ▶ God remembered His Covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (2:23-25)
 - Blessing – salvation to and through Abraham
 - Great nation (people, land, constitution)
 - Blessing for all nations
 - The future Seed of Abraham
- ▶ Exodus opens with a listing of the sons of Israel in their distress
- ▶ The birth and preparation of Moses – a man of faith (Heb 11:23-26)
- ▶ The floodgate of revelation is opened and recorded by Moses

The Work Begins with Moses (3-4)

- ▶ Moses met the Angel of YHWH at the burning bush
- ▶ YHWH revealed His plan to deliver Israel from bondage by Moses
- ▶ Moses prepared with Truth and Power
- ▶ The Great “I AM WHO I AM” is YHWH
- ▶ Moses, the reluctant deliverer – weakness exposed
- ▶ A strange encounter with God on the way – the bridegroom of blood
- ▶ Moses, Aaron, and the people are ready to go (4:31)

“Who is YHWH?” (Exodus 5-6)

- ▶ A bad start with Pharaoh (5:1-9)
- ▶ The bondage intensifies (5:10-21)
- ▶ Moses complains to YHWH (5:22-23)
- ▶ God revealed as YHWH (6:1-9)
- ▶ A look at Moses and Aaron (6:10-30)

A Bad Start With Pharaoh (5:1-9)

- ▶ A hopeful start turns bad (4:29-5:2)
- ▶ Send My people away to celebrate YHWH, the God of Israel
- ▶ Pharaoh poses the question of the Exodus: “Who is YHWH that I should obey?”
- ▶ Moses offers a compromise out of fear
 - “The God of the Hebrews”
 - Sacrifice to YHWH our God
- ▶ Pharaoh, the point man of a spiritual battle (Eph 6:12)
 - Heavy labor imposed
 - To prevent worship of YHWH (5:8)
 - To prevent “false words” (the words of YHWH) (5:9)

The Bondage Intensifies (5:10-21)

- ▶ The willing agents of Pharaoh – taskmasters and foremen
- ▶ Beatings for the foremen
- ▶ A failed appeal to Pharaoh – repeats opposition to worship of YHWH (5:17)
- ▶ The foremen of the children of Israel accuse Moses and Aaron
 - A curse upon Moses and Aaron
 - Moses and Aaron were really a surrogate for their anger against YHWH
- ▶ The hidden God (Savior) remains hidden (Isa 45:15)

Moses Complains to YHWH (5:22-23)

- ▶ Moses returns to YHWH and addresses Him as Lord
- ▶ Accuses the Name of God as a point of weakness
- ▶ Accuses YHWH of unfaithfulness (Lam 3:24)

God Revealed as YHWH (6:1-9)

- ▶ Notable lack of well-deserved rebuke from YHWH
- ▶ Not failure, but working out His will in His time: “Now you will see . . .”
- ▶ Compulsion (NASB) is literally “by a strong hand” – God’s strong hand
- ▶ God restates His purpose: to reveal that “I am YHWH” (6:2, 6, 7, 8)
 - YHWH x 166 in OT and 9 in Exodus (6-17, 29, 31)
 - Ezekiel x 63 – the prophecy of judgment and redemption
- ▶ The work of YHWH presented
 - I will bring you out from the burdens of the Egyptians
 - I will deliver you from their bondage
 - I will redeem you with power and great judgments
 - I will take you for My people
 - I will be your God
 - I will bring you to the land sworn to the patriarchs
 - I will give it to you for a possession
- ▶ Israel did not listen due to despondency and cruel bondage

A Look at Moses and Aaron (6:10-30)

- ▶ Text begins and ends with the same message:
 - Reference to refusal of Pharaoh to let Israel go
 - YHWH speaks to Moses to go to Pharaoh with the same message
 - Moses excuses himself
- ▶ A search for Moses and Aaron through Israel, beginning with 3 disgraced tribes
 - Reuben, Simeon, Levi
 - 3 generations into the tribe of Levi – Moses and Aaron
 - The sons of Aaron mentioned – future priests
 - The sons of Korah (cousin of Aaron) mentioned
- ▶ Two members of insignificant parts of Israel will bring blessing

Who is YHWH?

- ▶ The revelation of the Great I AM as YHWH
- ▶ The main message of the Bible
- ▶ This truth seen most clearly in Jesus Christ

Concl: Christian, are you in a place like Moses was.

Do you have problems?

Have things gone wrong in your work for the Lord?

Are you struggling with the problem of unanswered prayer, or an answer that appears to be, no?

Would you like to give up?

Are you mad at God? Do you think He might be dead after all?

Is everything you believe being tested?

THEN LISTEN.

Moses knew all about these things — AND HE DISCOVERED THAT GOD LET ALL OF THESE THINGS HAPPEN SO HE WOULD BE ABLE TO LEARN THAT GOD IS JEHOVAH!