

# *The Bible Does Not Teach The CURSE of HAM*

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## *Introduction*

I have been asked by brethren involved in the African work about the “curse of Ham” that is being advanced. Actually the phrase “curse of Ham” **is not found in the Bible**. The “curse of Canaan” is. But we will see that the “curse of Canaan” had nothing to do with the origin of the Black race, as some wrongly contend. Further, we will find nothing in the Bible that says Ham’s skin was black and nothing in the Bible states that Ham was to be the servant or slave of Shem and Japheth.

Categorizing races by color is at best relative. We speak of the Chinese as being “Yellow,” but they are not literally yellow. Caucasians are called the “White” race, but actually anyone that is literally white has a serious skin pigment problem. Africans are spoken of as being “Black,” but in reality they have various shades of dark brown skin. However, because of the common usage of the words “Black” and “White,” I will use these terms, although they are not literally true designations.

Part of God’s penalty for sin was that man would have to sustain his life by hard labor—“the sweat of his brow.” Satan soon gave that a twist. He tempted fallen man with slavery—to survive by the sweat of **his fellow man’s brow**. Slavery became pervasive in fallen human thinking long before so-called “Black” slavery.

The **history of slavery** covers slave systems in historical perspective in which one human being is legally the property of another, can be bought or sold, is not allowed to escape, and must work for the owner without any choice involved. As

Drescher observes, “The most crucial and frequently utilized aspect of the condition is a communally recognized right by some individuals to possess, buy, sell, discipline, transport, liberate, or otherwise dispose of the bodies and behavior of other individuals. An integral element is that children of a slave mother automatically become slaves. It does not include historical forced labor by prisoners, labor camps, or other forms of unfree labor in which laborers are not considered property.”

Slavery can be traced back to the earliest records, such as the Code of Hammurabi (c. 1760 BC), which refers to it as an established institution. Think of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Think of the many ancient marvels of architecture. How were they built? Yes, with slave labor. Every segment of the human race used slave labor. Whether they were yellow, black, white, light brown or dark brown, they indiscriminately made slaves of their fellow men.

The “curse of Ham” is indeed a curse. Not because it is true, **which it is not**, but because this false concept was used by Muslims and Christians to commit upon African people the greatest diabolical acts of man’s inhumanity to man in human history.

The writing of this booklet has been a repulsive experience. The discretion of decency prevents me from describing the realities of slavery. I have laid awake nights in sickening disgust at how man can crawl into Satan’s depravity.

As horrible as it was, the Muslims were the greatest offenders of White slaves, which of course disproves the “curse of Ham.”

By the late 1600s the “curse of Ham” was well entrenched as a divine sanction for slavery. In Colonial America, the belief that Ham was Black and that Noah’s curse was race-related was widely subscribed to in the North and the South. By the 1830s when the American Anti-Slavery Movement had become a political force, slavery advocates had evolved an elaborate

systematic defense of slavery arguing from Scripture. Author Stephen R. Haynes writes, “Noah’s curse had become a stock weapon in the arsenal of slavery’s apologists and references to Genesis 9 appeared prominently in their publications.” For example, J. J. Flourney, writing in 1838, says “The blacks were originally designed to servitude by the Patriarch Noah.” Even many Blacks accepted this as their God-ordained estate.

Belief in the “curse of Ham” did not stop with the abolition of slavery. Throughout the late 1800s and early 1900s the notion that the lowly status of Black people was divinely ordained was repeated in sermons and speeches. Since then, gradually public sentiment for the most part has agreed that Noah’s “curse on Ham” was a false myth.

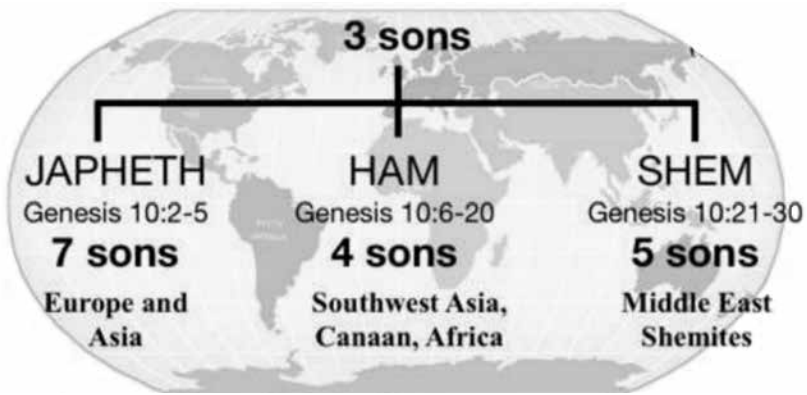
Kenneth Rawson

# *A Suggested Chart of Noah's Sons*

## *Genesis 10*

*These three were the sons of Noah,  
and from these the whole earth was populated.*

*Genesis 9:19—NAS*



<i>Gomer</i> <i>France, Spain, Germany, Wales</i>	<i>Cush</i> <i>Ethiopia</i>	<i>Elam</i> <i>Iran</i>
<i>Magog</i> <i>Romania, Ukraine</i>	<i>Mizraim</i> <i>Egypt</i>	<i>Asshur</i> <i>Assyria</i>
<i>Madaï</i> <i>Medes</i>	<i>Put</i> <i>Libya</i>	<i>Arpachshad</i> <i>Chaldea</i>
<i>Javan</i> <i>Greek</i>	<i>Canaan</i> <i>Canaan</i>	<i>Lud</i> <i>Lydia</i>
<i>Tubal</i> <i>Georgia</i>		<i>Aram</i> <i>Syria</i>
<i>Meshech</i> <i>Moscow</i>		
<i>Tiras</i> <i>Macedonia, Yugoslavia</i>		

## ◆ CHAPTER ONE ◆

### *The “Curse of Ham”*

We will need to first identify the sons of Noah and then the descendants of Ham. This information is recorded in Genesis 10. Noah had three sons: Japheth, Shem and Ham. The whole issue centers around Ham and his sons so we will list them in the sequence of birth—Cush, Mizraim, Phut and Canaan the youngest. Each, except Canaan, was the founder of an empire or nation. Cush founded Sudan, also called Nubia or Mumbi, and indirectly founded Aksum, later called Ethiopia. Mizraim founded Egypt. Phut founded Libya. Genesis 10:1,6. Canaan did not found an empire, but his descendants dwelt in the land of Canaan which consisted of a number of city-states each independent of the other. Due to genetics, not all of Ham’s offspring were black.

#### *After the Flood*

Genesis 9 and 10 delineate the sons of Noah and their descendants for several generations. But notice, Genesis 9:18 is basic to the whole issue of the “curse of Ham” versus the “curse of Canaan.” One might react—the “curse of Canaan”—**what is that?** That is the whole problem. As we shall see, the Bible teaches the “curse of Canaan” but **not the diabolical “curse of Ham” that the bigotry of the past centuries has seized upon.** Over the centuries, thousands

upon thousands have suffered brutality and death motivated by belief in the “curse of Ham” concept. Even thousands in our freedom loving country, the United States, used the “curse of Ham” to justified the brutal slavery of Blacks. Yes, the “curse of Ham” played a part in the cessation of the Southern States that helped precipitate the Civil War. In our 21st century a minority still believes in the “curse of Ham” albeit in a modified degree which, nevertheless, belittles our African brethren.

Now a key scripture. Genesis 9:18: “And the sons of Noah that went out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. **And Ham is the father of Canaan.**”

Unfortunately Genesis 9:18 is casually read. What is so significant about Verse 18? It singles out the main character and real culprit in this abominable fiasco. How? *An important rule of Bible study is if a Verse contains a seeming irrelevant or out of context word or phrase, stop and ask yourself—Why? What is the purpose of that irrelevant phase? In this case what is out of context in Verse 18?*

**The purpose of Verse 18 is to identify the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth,** which it does. Then Verse 18 completely out of context goes on to say “...**Ham is the father of Canaan.**” Canaan is the grandson of Noah, but the self-stated purpose of Verse 18 is to identify the **sons of Noah, not Noah’s grandson,** Canaan. Noah’s grandsons are not listed until Chapter 10 of Genesis, which contains the listing of all Noah’s grandsons, including Canaan, and also all the great grandsons of Noah. In all of this only Canaan was especially singled out in Verse 18 and mentioned before the general listing of Noah’s grandsons **Why? Canaan, not Ham, is the main villain in this tragedy that is unfolding.**

After the flood the longevity of life still remained with Noah, and, to a lesser degree, the sons of Noah. Noah lived nine hundred and fifty years. However, as time passed after the Flood, lifespans were significantly reduced. Lifespans were not the only thing that had changed with this new world, as Noah soon found out. Wine is mentioned for the first time in the Bible in

Genesis 9:21. This incident became a crucial moment in the lives of each of the sons of Noah.

The natural assumption of Noah was that he and his sons would still practice the same farming and food gathering methods as they had before the flood. Unknown to Noah, the change in environment in the new world would have a profound effect on farming.

### *Noah and His Sons*

After the Flood receded Noah returned to farming before the food supply on the ark ran out. Certainly he brought seeds with him. Whether it was grape or some other berry juice, Noah, as was his custom before the Flood, evidently made many containers of berry juice. Br. Russell observed that before the flood the climatic conditions were different and the berry juices did not ferment. After consuming a few bottles of berry juice, Noah probably noticed the juice began to have a tangy taste which he possibly enjoyed. Each bottle tasted tangier until the juice became completely fermented. Unaware that it would have any adverse effects, Noah drank enough to become completely intoxicated. He staggered to his room and while undressing fell down in a drunken stupor and lay naked.

Noah's son Ham had occasion to go into his father's room while Noah lay naked in a drunken stupor. A distinct difference is seen in the reaction of the sons of Noah. Ham snickered and reveled in Noah's mishap and informed his brothers. Whereas, Shem and Japheth immediately went to their father's room with a blanket and entered backward, so as not to see their father in his shame, and covered his naked body.

Then Genesis 9:24,25 reveals, "And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son [Ham] had done unto him. And he said, Cursed be Canaan. He shall be a servant of servants to his brothers."

Noah knew that Ham looked at him with perverted satisfaction and laughed in mockery. Remember, Ham the son of Noah, in turn, had four sons—"Cush, Mizraim, Phut and Canaan the youngest." Prophetically, by **divine inspiration**, Noah said, "Cursed be Canaan...." Why did Noah say Canaan was cursed



and not Ham? Noah realized Ham found perverted pleasure in seeing his father without clothes, but **Noah knew** Ham’s perversion was a perversion in **thinking**.

Inherited qualities are diversely passed on to children of the same parents, so Noah was prophetically clarifying that of the four sons of Ham, **Canaan**, Ham’s fourth son, would inherit the immoral qualities of Ham. Remember, Genesis 9:22 identified Canaan, not Ham, as the main player in this tragic drama. Ham’s pleasure in seeing his father’s nakedness revealed that Ham had a perverted character that would continue to increase through the inherited lineage of Canaan.

There are many wrong theories as to why Ham was cursed and the curse passed on to Canaan. But that is just what they are—**theories**. Only this much is scripturally certain—**Canaan, not Ham**, was cursed and both Scriptures and history describe how this curse on Canaan was fulfilled by 138 BC.

### *The “Curse of Ham” Not Scriptural*

**The non-scriptural phrase “curse of Ham”** concept is based on an unwarranted interpretation of Genesis 9:22,23: “And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brothers outside. Then Shem and Japheth took a garment and laid it upon both their shoulders. And they went backwards and covered the nakedness of their father. And their faces were backwards, and they did not see their father’s nakedness.”

Some, without warrant, claim the word “**saw**” in Verse 22 is a special word that means that Ham engaged in an immoral act on his naked father and then Ham told his two brothers only that their father was naked. His brothers by contrast showed dignity for their father by walking in backwards with a sheet and covered him. **By creating an immoral Ham**, they feel they now have a perverted Ham worthy of a curse or punishment, which enabled them to create **the non-scriptural phrase “curse of Ham.”**

But the Hebrew word “saw” in Verse 22 is Strong’s #7200 which means “to see literally or figuratively.” It is the main biblical word in the Old Testament to denote “see,” and consequently is used over 250 times. In no way is it a special word in Verse 22 to denote perversion.

An interesting translation is found in one of the most prolific and respected commentaries of the 4th century AD—commonly known as the *Cave of Treasures*. This Aramaic translation of the Bible and several other sources had Ham gossiping about his father’s drunken disgrace “in the street” (a reading which some claim has a possible basis in the original Hebrew), so that being held up to public mockery was what had angered Noah. As the *Cave of Treasures* puts it, “Ham laughed at his father’s shame and did not cover it, but laughed aloud and mocked.” Evidently the 4th century Christian Church did not believe Ham was physically involved with his father, Noah. Rather Ham only looked at him, laughed and, at most, mocked him.

This confirms the curse was **not** placed on **Ham** but on **Canaan**. Also, we will see that Canaan was **not black**. This **proves** that the so-called “**curse of Ham**” **theory is false**. **It is not found in Scripture**.

### *A Man-Made Conspiracy*

It is significant that the Christian Church, up to the 4th century did not believe in the “curse of Ham” theory, the concept that Africans, as the “sons of Ham,” were cursed, “blackened” for their sins, was advanced only sporadically during the Middle Ages (*Wikipedia*), but it became increasingly common during the slave trade of the 18th and 19th centuries where it is abundantly found in Nominal Christian writings since the 1600s.

How sad that so-called Christian writings could endorse the “curse of Ham” supposition, which was a diabolical, arrogant, man-made conspiracy that has caused much brutal suffering, pain and death. Think of the cracking of the whip on the

slave-ships, the chopping-off of toes of slaves who attempted to escape, the abuse of woman slaves, etc. **How sad, how sick and how unchristian.**

We thank the Lord that during the 1800s there were Christians like Henry Grew, William Miller, George Storrs, and Pastor Charles Russell who did not believe in the "curse of Ham."

True, slavery is nearly as old as human history, but that does not make it right. True, God permitted slavery in Israel, but His Law defined very humane treatment and Hebrew slaves were to be freed every seven years with a severance payment. But it is wrong to claim that God singled out the African people to endure this curse.

Black Africans being slaves of Whites is not the fulfillment of Bible prophecy but of man's lust for power and wealth. Imagine a Southern plantation owner with fifty to a hundred slaves instead of having to pay a living wage to fifty to a hundred hired laborers. Thus, slavery provided sheer wealth and luxury for a few at the expense of brutality for tens of thousands of African slaves.

### *The Land of Canaan*

The curse placed on Canaan had only to do with his descendants, the Canaanites. They settled in a territory they called the Land of Canaan where they established **many Canaanite "city-states."** The Canaanites were not black, nor was Canaan the land they settled in a part of Africa. Remember, God gave this Land of Canaan to Israel. Israel was not in Africa. Consequently, the skin texture of Israelites and Canaanites at the time of Israel's invasion of Canaan under Joshua was probably very similar. The problem concerning the Canaanites was not in the color of their skin, but rather in the inherited condition of their hearts.

In addition to the many Canaanite "city-states," the southwest section of the Land of Canaan was invaded and occupied by the Philistines (not Palestinians) from Crete.

Actually they were Japhethites, the descendants of Japheth. The Philistines were aggressive against the Canaanite city-states. Of course the Land of Canaan was to become the Land of Israel. But when?

One of the determining factors is found in Deuteronomy. Speaking of the Canaanites, the Prophet Moses later told Israel, (Deuteronomy 9:5, ESV) “...because of the wickedness of these nations (city-states of the Canaanites) the LORD your God is driving them out from before you....” Just how wicked were these city-state nations in Canaan?

Bible historian Henry H. Halley notes: “...in a large measure the land of Canaan had become a sort of Sodom and Gomorrah on a national scale.... Archaeologists who dig in the ruins in the Canaanite cities wonder that God did not destroy them before he did.” If, after the iniquity of the Canaanites had reached its full, the sins of the Canaanites continued unabated, what would be the consequences? The following generations of Canaanites would have become so morally degenerated that if their lineage continued their consciences would have become too seared for the Truth to appeal to them in the Millennium. Therefore, their destruction was a blessing in disguise so they could have a Kingdom opportunity for life.

At this time in the Land of Canaan we have a unique scriptural mix of the descendants of Noah’s sons—Canaanites, Ham; Philistines, Japheth; Israel, Shem. This fulfills Genesis 9:26,27 which tells us that Canaan shall be the servant of both Shem and Japheth. The Canaanites were captured by both Shemites, Israel, and Japhethites, Philistines.

It is claimed by some that a few Canaanites recouped and intermarried with Phoenicians in Carthage and then ceased to exist after the Third Punic War (149 BC), which destroyed the city-state of Carthage and the Phoenicians as a people. This much is certain: the Canaanites ceased to exist long before the Christian church began. The “curse of Canaan” never related to all the people of Africa. The

“curse of Canaan” is dead and buried, yet some insist on resurrecting it.

When we investigate our world, we see that God has put in place a gene pool that has made possible a whole panorama of color and shapes in the flower world and in the breeds of animals that are possible. The same is true with the human race. We have a spectrum of profiles and colors, as this seems to have been God’s plan from the beginning. We don’t have to explain it; we only need to accept it. Some arrogantly suggest that the descendants of Shem and Japheth are farther up the ladder because they have a superior intelligence than the descendants of Ham. We can be sure that the devil is behind this type of absurd reasoning since Acts 17:26 tells us “that God **made of one blood all nations** of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth....”

In conclusion, Genesis 9:24,25 says **nothing about a “curse on Ham.”** It just mentions a “curse on Canaan.” The “curse of Canaan” is not that he and his descendants would be black and serve the descendants of Japheth and Shem. All indications are that the Canaanites were light brown in skin color. The “curse of Canaan” was not that his skin was black, but that because his descendants would become so grossly immoral that God would need to have Israel destroy them so there would be some conscience left in the Canaanites for God through Christ to appeal to in the Kingdom on earth.

## ◆ CHAPTER TWO ◆

### *Nimrod*

Now back to the main flaw in the “curse of Ham” myth. The centuries-old bigotry that the Black people are doomed to be servants of Shem and Japheth **is not true**. It is claimed to be based on the genealogy of Noah’s descendants listed in Genesis 9 and 10. We have found that nothing in Genesis 9 and 10 says that Ham or all of Ham’s descendants would be the servants of Ham’s brothers, Shem and Japheth and their descendants, which would be the remainder of mankind. The Hamites, many of whom were dark skinned, were not scripturally doomed to be the servants of the descendants of Shem and Japheth as has been claimed.

If this were true, you would expect that after the death of Noah the descendants of Shem and Japheth would excel in the advancement of civilization. But, as Adam Clarke, a noted Bible commentator and an ardent believer in the “curse of Ham,” had to concede, (Vol. 1, p. 83), this never happened. He conceded that the first great empires like Babylon, Assyria, and Egypt, and the republics of Sidon, Tyre, and Carthage, were founded by Hamites. All of this time, the Shemites and Japhethites maintained a simple pastoral and agricultural life.

Genesis 10:6 tells us that Cush, who all agree was black, was the first son of Ham. Then we read: “And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, ‘Even as

Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.” Genesis 10:8,9. Grasp this. **Nimrod, supposedly a lowly Hamite, “is a mighty one in the earth.”** It is generally agreed by Bible scholars that Nimrod was a Black man. And where does this supposedly lowly Hamite have his kingdom? In Africa? No!

Genesis 10:10 reads—“And the beginning of his [Nimrod’s] kingdom was Babel and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.” Daniel 1:1,2 identifies the land of Shinar as the land of Babylon. And where does this supposedly lowly Hamite have his kingdom? In the Land of Shinar! **Here is a Hamite ruling not in Africa but in Babylon, which was to become one of the greatest empires in the history of the world.**

The descendants of Ham were not confined to Africa. Ham’s grandson Nimrod and his clan first chose to settle in the Tigris-Euphrates river valley around major rivers—the Tigris and Euphrates in Mesopotamia, Asia Minor. By the time Nimrod, the son of Cush, had become of age, he established himself as a **“mighty one in the earth.”** The *Jerusalem Targum* has this to say about him:

He was powerful in hunting and in wickedness before the Lord, for he was a hunter of the sons of men, and he said to them, ‘Depart from the judgment of the Lord, and adhere to the judgment of Nimrod!’ Therefore it is said: ‘As Nimrod [is] the strong one, strong in hunting and wickedness before the Lord.’

*McClintock and Strong’s Cyclopedia* observes:

Nimrod, the mighty hunter of the **earliest imperialist power**, is the grandest name, not only of the children of Ham, but **in primeval history**. He seemed to have been deified under the title of Bilu-Nipru, or Bel-Nimrod.

Josephus wrote:

Now it was Nimrod who excited them to such an affront and contempt of God. He was the grandson of Ham, the son of Noah, a bold man, and of great strength of hand. He persuaded them not to ascribe it to God, as if it were through his means they were happy, but to believe that it was their own courage which procured that happiness. He also gradually changed the government into tyranny, seeing no other way of turning men from the fear of God, but to bring them into a constant dependence on his power. He also said he would be revenged on God, if he should have a mind to drown the world again; for that he would build a tower too high for the waters to reach. And that he would avenge himself on God for destroying their forefathers.

Now the multitude were very ready to follow the determination of Nimrod, and to esteem it a piece of cowardice to submit to God; and they built a tower, neither sparing any pains, nor being in any degree negligent about the work: and, by reason of the multitude of hands employed in it, it grew very high, sooner than any one could expect; but the thickness of it was so great, and it was so strongly built, that thereby its great height seemed, upon the view, to be less than it really was. It was built of burnt brick, cemented together with mortar, made of bitumen, that it might not be liable to admit water.

When God saw that they acted so madly, he did not resolve to destroy them utterly, since they were not grown wiser by the destruction of the former sinners; but he caused a tumult among them, by producing in them diverse languages, and causing that, through the multitude of those



languages, they should not be able to understand one another. The place wherein they built the tower is now called Babylon, because of the confusion of that language which they readily understood before; for the Hebrews mean by the word Babel, confusion...

Sir Walter Raleigh's *History of the World* (1634) shows a map in which the Caspian Sea was once known as the 'Marde Bachu,' or the Sea of Bacchus (Nimrod). One of the chief cities of Assyria (modern Iraq) was named Nimrud, and the Plain of Shinar, known to the early Syrians as Sen'ar, was itself once known as the Land of Nimrod. Iraqi and Iranian Arabs speak his name with awe even today (1634 AD), and such is the notoriety of the man that his historical reality is quite beyond dispute.

Imagine the Caspian Sea, the largest inland body of water, was named after Nimrod, supposedly an inferior Hamite. Look at a map. Here we have Nimrod and his fellow Hamites, East of Africa and North of Arabia in what is modern Iraq, Iran, Syria and Turkey. **Nimrod a Hamite ruling over the decendants of Shem.** A further proof that the so-called "curse of Ham" is not true.

Another British writer Charles Wentworth Dilke in his book, *The Athenaeum* (1870) confirmed all of this:

A Cushite [Nimrod], and therefore a Hamite, founded this first world-monarchy or tyranny. Another Hamite power arose simultaneously in Egypt. **A branch of the Cushites seem to have gone eastward, and spread over India.** But another branch spread through the South of Arabia, and, crossing into Africa, came into contact, sometimes into alliance, and sometimes into collision with the Egyptian monarchy. The eastern empire is noticed particularly, because it intruded into **Shemitic** ground, and aimed continually at extending its sway over the nations descended from Shem.

*The Caspian Sea, once known as  
the “Sea of Bacchus” (Nimrod)*



Notice the broad geographical spread of the descendants of Ham outside of Africa. Also, the eastern Hamitic empire actually conquered nations descended from Shem. What irony! We hear about the so-called “curse of Ham”—Hamites being the servants of Shem’s and Japheth’s descendants. **Here we have the descendants of Shem and Japheth in the then known world as the servants of Ham. A further proof that the so-called “curse of Ham” is not true.**

George Smith, of worldwide fame as an Assyriologist, writing in 1876, verifies that:

...in the BC 1100 to 800, we have in Egypt many persons named Nimrod, showing a knowledge of the mighty hunter there.' (*Chaldean Genesis*, p. 313). Nimrod was probably the most notorious man in the ancient world who is credited with instigating the Great Rebellion at Babel, and founding features of paganism, including ... astrology and human sacrifice. Moreover, there is much evidence to suggest that he himself was worshipped from the very earliest times. His name, for example, was perpetuated in those of **Nimurda**, the Assyrian god of war; Marduk, the Babylonian king of the gods; and the Sumerian deity **Amar-utu**. His image was likewise incorporated very early on in the Chaldean zodiac as a child seated on his mother's lap, and both mother and child were worshipped, she as the Queen of Heaven, and he as her erstwhile sacrificial son, the precursor of today's worship of the Madonna and Child.

Nimrod was also worshipped by the Romans under the name of **Bacchus**, this name being derived from the Semitic **bar-Cush**, meaning the son of Cush. A mountain not far from Ararat, has been called **Nimrud Dagh** (Mount Nimrod) from the earliest times since the Flood, and the ruins of **Birs Nimrud** bear the remains of what is commonly reputed to be the original Tower of Babel. The Caspian Sea was once called the **Mar de Bachu**, or Sea of Bacchus [Nimrod], as is witnessed by the map appearing in Sir Walter Raleigh's *History of the World*, published in 1634. One of the chief cities of Assyria was named **Nimrud**, and the Plain of Shinar, known to the Assyrians as Sen'ar and

the site of the Great Rebellion, was itself known as the Land of Nimrod. **Iraqi and Iranian Arabs still speak his name with awe, and such was the notoriety of the man that his historical reality is beyond dispute.**

**Thus we see it is generally recognized by scholars that Nimrod, a black man, a frowned upon Hamite, dictatorially ruled over the then known world including the descendants of Shem and Japheth. What a decisive *knockout blow to the “curse of Ham” theory.***



*The Chaldee paraphrase of 1 Chronicles 1:10 says:  
“Cush begat Nimrod, who began to prevail in wickedness,  
for he shed innocent blood, and rebelled against Jehovah.”*

*[Appendix 28 from The Companion Bible]*



*The Pyramids and Sphinx of Egypt*



## ◆ CHAPTER THREE ◆

### *The Egyptian Empire*

Over 3,500 years ago, Rome, founded by descendants of Japheth, was no more than a soggy marsh, and the Acropolis of Greece, also founded by Japhethites, was just an empty rock. But Egypt, founded by **Mizraim, the second son** of so-called cursed Ham, was on the brink of becoming one of the greatest empires in history. **Another proof the “curse of Ham” is untrue!**

Mizraim, Ham’s second son, according to God’s genetic code was light skinned unlike Ham’s grandson Nimrod, who many feel was Black. The Ancient Egyptian Empire began in approximately 3,000 BC and lasted until 300 BC. Then it gradually became dominated by Arabs. When Egypt became a unified country under the Pharaoh Menes, it was just a small civilization in the Nile River Valley. Eventually, though, as the kingdom grew and new pharaohs came into power, Egypt conquered many other nations. Much wealth was gained from temporarily conquering Nubia. Egypt then stretched the entire length of the Nile River and continued to expand by conquering what is modern day Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Iran. At one point Egypt’s boundaries even extended into Asia. However, Egypt did not hold control of these faraway lands for long. It was just too much for the pharaoh to control.

**Behind the power of the Egyptian empire lay a vast wealth of natural resources. Chief among these was the River Nile, the freeway of the ancient world. Egypt became a very**

**strong Empire with a vast army. The Egyptians were the first ones to tame wild horses, breeding and bringing forth the finest horses and chariots on earth. We read in 2 Chronicles 1:16-17 how Solomon and the kings of the Hittites and Syria eagerly purchased horses and chariots from the Egyptians.**

Egypt attained a high culture that marked it superior to all its neighboring nations. One historian's descriptive portrayal was:

“Five thousand years ago, nearly two millennia before the Romans [Japhethites] built their first mud huts, ancient Egyptians [Hamites] began creating edifices so vast and architecturally sophisticated they remain to this day among the most impressive structures ever built. For thousands of years, without the benefit of computers, cranes, trucks or power tools, the Hamite Pharaohs' engineers oversaw the construction of monumental masterpieces whose scale, beauty and craftsmanship still boggle the mind. Egypt's massive pyramids, lavish burial temples, impenetrable fortresses and towering obelisks were the result of unparalleled architectural genius, unrivaled technology and millions of man-hours of backbreaking labor. As Egypt's succession of Pharaohs alternately conquered and ceded vast expanses of what is today the Middle East, their dedicated royal architects stretched the boundaries of imagination and human potential, essentially inventing the science of structural engineering as they went along.”

Yes, the world's oldest stone super structures are found in ancient Egypt. *The Great Pyramid*, which constitutes one of the Seven Wonders of the World, was built with perfect symmetry. *The Great Sphinx* was the marvel of the world. *The Temple of Amun* stands 338 feet wide and 1,200 feet long, the largest ever of its kind built by human hands. The Egyptians not only mastered architecture, but it is claimed they gave the world what has become modern calculus.

The descendants of Mizraim, Ham's son, founded Egypt the first superpower in history, proving again the **“curse of Ham” is false. It is universally recognized that the descendants of so-called cursed Ham pioneered in developing civilizations while the descendants of Shem and Japheth followed their example.**

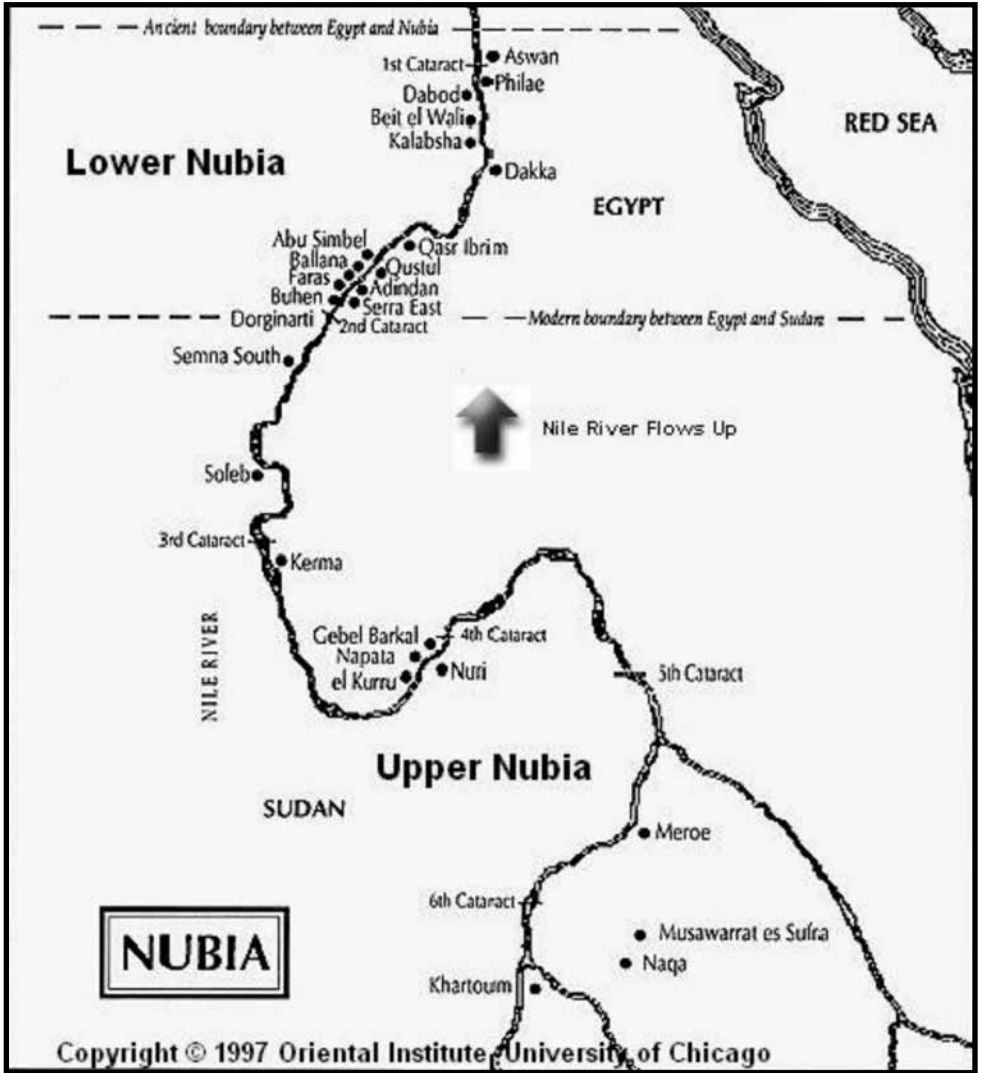
### *Modern Women*

Egyptian **religion** gave women a central role and they were seen as central to their husband's success. Although there were few women in power like Nefertiti and Tiy, all women were treated with respect and enjoyed legal rights that other women would still be waiting for thousands of years later.



*Temple of Amun*





*Map of the Nubian Empire*

## ◆ CHAPTER FOUR ◆

### *The Sudanese/Nubian Empire*

Have you ever heard of the ancient empire named Nubia? Probably not. Why? It was a **Black empire**. And Black prejudice has lingered since the 16th century, especially in the US, so that ancient Black history was marginalized. After all, how could you own Black slaves and read about noble Black ancient history? Therefore, **racial prejudice wiped the Black Nubian Empire off the pages of history**. The ancient Black Kingdom of Nubia, also known as Kush, occupied what is now northern Sudan.

#### *“Black Is Beautiful”*

During the civil rights movement, “Black is Beautiful” was a cultural movement in the 1960s that began in the United States by African Americans. It later spread to much of the Black world. For the most part, the emphasis of the 1960s “Black is Beautiful” movement was on physical appearance. But the following quotes describing the beauty of ancient Black people were especially used to denote the inner beauty of character.

Timothy Kendall was the main activist to re-establish the Black Race to its legitimate place in history for the world to view and esteem. A Harvard University graduate in archaeology and frequent writer for the *National Geographic* magazine, he proved the existence and dominant role the Black Nubian/Kush Empire played in the ancient world, which was in

what today is Sudan. The following are quotes from his writings. Some of these quotes are the words of ancient heathens who could not know Jehovah, since some of them date back to the Patriarchal Age when only Noah, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob had fellowship with Jehovah. Whether you agree with these quotes is not the point. The purpose of these quotes is to reflect what the White Race thought of Black people in ancient times in contrast to our post-AD 1600s Black Slavery Era.

Whether we take it literally or not, I have frequently come across this ancient quote about the black Nubian Empire that has been repeated by Kendall and many others.

Greek traditions told of Memnon, a legendary Nubian king who had fought in the Trojan War; **they spoke of Nubia's people, who were the "tallest and handsomest on earth,"** and whose piety was so great that the gods preferred their offerings to those of all other men. They also knew that historical Nubian kings had once conquered Egypt and ruled it for sixty years and that their dynasty was counted as Egypt's Twenty-fifth. The Greeks, however, did not call these people "Nubians" or "Kushites," as we do today; they called them Aithiopes ["Ethiopians"], which in Greek meant "Burnt-Faced Ones." They knew perfectly well that Nubians were black-skinned, as are the Sudanese of the same regions today.

The first Black nation to become an empire was Nubia. Diodorus Siculus was a noted Greek historian, who wrote his monumental universal history *Bibliotheca Historica* of 68 Volumes between 60 and 30 BC. **Although White, he devoted one chapter of his work extolling the Black Race above the White Race** and spoke of other historians sharing his views about the Black Race. Diodorus Siculus stated "that by reason of their piety toward the deity they had never experienced the rule of an invader from abroad."

Also, Diodorus Siculus' review of ancient history indicates that the Black Race was at the highest state of freedom and peace with one another. Although many powerful rulers had made war against them, not one of these had succeeded in his undertaking.

Cambyses, for instance, who made war upon them with a great force lost all his army.... Semiramis, had become renowned in battle but after advancing a short distance into Ethiopia [Nubia], gave up.

Other ancient White historians also observed the Black Race excelled in ancient times. These words are eloquent indeed compared to the descriptions of Blacks during the Slavery Era that began in the 1600s, **when the Blacks were considered sub-human in order to justify slavery that provided cheap labor to the Whites.**

***Ancient Nubia Discovered By Shovel  
and Hid by Prejudice***

An article in *National Geographic Magazine* by Timothy Kendall states:

So remote was the northern Sudan that scientific archaeology could not take place there until the British seized control of the country in 1898 and opened it up with the completion of the Cairo-Khartoum Railway. The first major excavations [of Nubia] were undertaken by famed Egyptologist George A. Reisner (1867-1942), whose team, sponsored by Harvard University and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, would first excavate Kerma in 1913, the Gebel Barkal Temples from 1916-1920, and all the royal pyramids of Kush between 1917-1924. Almost single-handedly, Reisner laid the foundations of Nubian history, reconstructing it from the Bronze Age to the dawn of the Christian era. It was a towering achievement, almost unparalleled in the annals of archaeology. ...

**Nubian cultures, he reasoned, were not as developed as the Egyptian because the people were of mixed race, yet by virtue of their relationship to the superior Egyptian race, they were elevated far above the “the inert mass of the Black races of Africa.” This was Reisner at his worst. Such unabashed racist interpretations, widely published in scholarly journals at the time and accepted as gospel by the popular press, [today they offend and embarrass all of us]...**

Reisner, very much a product of his time [racist], seems to have had an unconscious need to believe that his Kushite/Nubian kings were “White” (or “White men” in darker skin, or Dark men with “White souls”) in order to make them and their culture more worthy of study to himself and more acceptable to the contemporary scholarly and museum-going public—and perhaps even to his financial backers at the Museum of Fine Arts....

Over fifty years later **Kendall** observed,

**The empire over which they presided was greater in extent than any ever achieved in antiquity along the Nile Valley. Their kings [Black Nubian kings ruling over Egypt] were said never to have condemned prisoners to death; they forgave their enemies and allowed them to retain their offices; they also actually gave public credit for achievement in their inscriptions to individuals other than themselves. Such characteristics among other ancient monarchs of Egypt or the Near East are unheard of, and we can only assume these were native [Black] Nubian qualities. Yet for Egyptologists of the first half of the 20th century, the fact that they were “Negro” marked this period as the lowest level to which Egyptian civilization had sunk in all its history.**

**In addition to proving the so-called “curse of Ham” is false, I wanted to show our African brethren what a noble heritage they have.** Black Nubia was the region located along the Nile River in what is now Egypt beginning in the north at the city of Aswan, Egypt, and extending southward to Khartoum in Sudan. (See the map at beginning of chapter on page 20.) The territory decreased and extended according to wars and political negotiations. Besides trading with the Egyptians, archaeologists observed that what they called the **Kerma culture**, named after their capital, Kerma, Nubia, had established regular trade routes into the interior of Africa.

All of Africa’s luxury goods were imported into Kerma and from there passed through a series of middlemen to the islands of the eastern Mediterranean Sea and far beyond. The goods included the exotic animals, leopards and giraffes, as well as their skins; ivory in the form of elephants’ tusks; ostrich eggs and feathers; hardwoods such as ebony; and **gold in vast quantities.**

Actually, Nubia was much richer than Egypt in gold and other mineral deposits, and local craftsmen soon were able to utilize these deposits to craft a variety of items that became highly sought after in Egypt and elsewhere. Through this wealth built up by the exchange of goods, the black Nubians became exceedingly rich.

**It hardly sounds like the “curse of Ham” was adversely affecting these luxurious and wealthy black, Nubian Hamites.**

### *Two Hamites Found Two Great Empires*

Remember, Kush, the first son of Ham, according to God’s genetic code was evidently Black and his Black family developed into the nation of Kush and/or Nubia, which was a nation of Blacks. Many claim the Hebrew word Kush means “black.” Whereas, as we have seen, Ham’s second

son, Mizraim, was light skinned and his descendants founded Egypt, a people of lighter skin but not white. Here we have the two oldest empires in human history bordering each other. One is Brown (Egypt) and one is Black (Nubia), but they are both the descendants of Ham, not Shem or Japheth. If the lighter skinned Egyptians are indeed Hamites, which they are, **the so-called “curse of Ham” is a sad delusion that has caused untold misery to millions.**

Far from serving Shem and Japheth, the Egyptian **Hamites were actually ruling over some descendants of Shem and Japheth. Again disproving the “curse of Ham” theory.**

In the give and take between Nubia and Egypt, the Egyptians at times controlled parts of Nubia. But there were periods when the **Black Nubian kings actually conquered** their lighter skinned brothers in **Egypt**. Consequently, there were Black Pharaohs. History records there were seven.

**The last four Pharaohs of Egypt were Black Nubian Kings who conquered Egypt and took Egypt to its cultural heights.** (See *National Geographic*, February 2008 — “The Black Pharaohs.”)

### ***The Nubian Pharaohs: Black Kings on the Nile***

In 2003, a Swiss archaeological team working in northern Sudan uncovered one of the most remarkable Egyptological finds in recent years. At the site known as Kerma (in Nubia) **archaeologist Charles Bonnet and his team discovered a ditch within a temple from the ancient city of Pnoub in Nubia**, which contained seven monumental black granite statues that portray the seven Black Nubian kings who ruled over both Egypt and Nubia. How they conquered Egypt is remarkable!

Today Nubian pyramids—greater in number than all of Egypt’s—are awesome spectacles in Sudan’s Desert.



The *Los Angeles Times* reported:

***Ancient Kush/Nubia Rivalled Egypt, Experts Say***

Archaeologists have unearthed a 4,000-year-old gold-processing centre along the middle Nile in **Sudan** that suggests the ancient kingdom of Kush/Nubia was **much larger** than scholars previously believed and would **have rivalled the domain of the Egyptians to the north.**

Believed to have begun around 3400 BC, Nubia **flourished from about 2400 BC until the 2nd century AD.** By 2000 BC Cush/Nubia occupied 650 miles of the Nile Valley, as much as Egypt did. Nubia “is gradually coming out of the shadow of Egypt,” said archaeologist Derek A. Welsby of the British Museum... (June 19, 2007)



***The Seven Monumental Black Granite Statues  
Portraying the Seven Black Nubian Kings***



In the year 730 B.C., Piye the Black King of Nubia declared:

“Harness the best steeds of your stable,” he ordered his commanders. The magnificent civilization that had built the great pyramids had lost its way, torn apart by petty warlords. For two decades Piye had ruled over his own kingdom in Nubia, a swath of Africa located mostly in present-day Sudan. But he considered himself the true ruler of Egypt as well, the rightful heir to the spiritual traditions practiced by pharaohs. Since Piye had never actually visited Lower Egypt, some did not take his boast seriously.

North on the Nile River his soldiers sailed. At Thebes, the capital of Upper Egypt, they disembarked. ...By the end of a year-long campaign, every leader in Egypt

had capitulated—including the powerful delta warlord Tefnakht, who sent a messenger to tell Piye, “Be gracious! I cannot see your face in the days of shame; I cannot stand before your flame, I dread your grandeur.” ... [Then Piye] loaded up his army and his war booty, and sailed southward to his home in Nubia, never to return to Egypt again.

As the black king of Nubia and black Pharaoh of Egypt, Piye reigned for 35 years until his death in 715 BC.

**The ancient world was devoid of racism.** At the time of Piye’s historic conquest, the fact that his skin was dark was irrelevant. Artwork from ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome shows a clear awareness of racial features and skin tone, but there is no evidence that darker skin was seen as a sign of inferiority. **Only after the European powers colonized Africa in the 19th century did Western scholars pay attention to the color of the Nubians’ skin, with unfortunate results.**

When Piye died, his brother Shabaka became the king of Nubia and the black Pharaoh of Egypt who “solidified the 25th dynasty by taking up residence in the Egyptian capital of Memphis. ... Shabaka lavished Thebes and the Temple of Luxor with building projects...Through architecture as well as military might, Shabaka signaled to Egypt that the Black Nubians were here to stay.”

### *The Assyrians and Hezekiah*

Here the Bible and ancient history coincide. To the east, the Assyrians were fast building their own empire. When they marched into Judah, a young Black Nubian prince, Taharqa, perhaps 20, the son of the great pharaoh Piye, decided to defend **the Jewish State**. At the city of Eltekeh, the two armies met. Although the Assyrian emperor, Sennacherib, bragged lustily that he “inflicted defeat upon them,” young Taharqa managed to hold his own.

When the Assyrians massed against Jerusalem, the embattled King Hezekiah, hoped his **Black Egyptian allies would come to the rescue.** But the Assyrians issued a taunting reply, immortalized in 2 Kings 18:21:

*“Thou trustest upon the staff of this bruised reed [of Egypt, on which if a man lean, it will go into his hand, and pierce it: **So is [the Black] Pharaoh king of Egypt unto all that trust on him.**”*

2 Kings 18:9 (YLT):

*“And he [Sennacherib] heareth concerning Tirhakah king of Cush [St. #3568 Nubia and/or the black Pharaoh], saying, ‘Lo, he [Tirhakah] hath come out to fight with thee [Sennacherib].”*

All scholars agree that the two names Taharqa and Tirhakah refer to the same person, Piye’s son. Then, according to 2 Kings 19:35,36:

*“And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses. So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.”*

The Assyrian army retreated. Were they struck by a plague? Many scholars suggest it was actually the alarming news that Taharqa, the black Nubian Pharaoh, was advancing on Jerusalem. The Assyrians referred to Piye’s son Taharqa as “the one accursed by all the great gods.” All we know for sure is that Sennacherib abandoned the siege and galloped back in disgrace to his kingdom, where he was murdered 18 years later, apparently by his own sons.

So sweeping was Taharqa’s influence on Egypt that even his enemies could not eradicate his imprint. During

his rule, to travel down the Nile from Napata to Thebes was to navigate a panorama of architectural wonderment.

The four black Nubian kings ruled over all of Egypt for three-quarters of a century as that country's 25th dynasty. The Black pharaohs reunified a tattered Egypt and filled its landscape with glorious monuments, creating an empire that stretched from the southern border at present-day Khartoum all the way north to the Mediterranean Sea. They stood up to the bloodthirsty Assyrians, saving Jerusalem in the process.

**Think of it! Four Black Nubian kings, so-called lowly Hamites, ruled over the territories of the combined empires of Egypt and Nubia. This was the greatest empire in the world at that time. What a blow to the so-called “curse of Ham” theory!**

### *2013 Confirmation*

The January/February, 2013 edition of the highly acclaimed *Biblical Archaeology Review* (BAR) refers to Judah's involvement during Hezekiah's time (Isaiah 30:1-5; 31:1-3) with Egypt, which had been conquered and ruled by the Black Nubian kings, and observes: “They had taken Egyptian culture to new heights.” This is proof-positive. In 2013 BAR, the current authority on ancient history, verified and extolled the rule of the Black Nubian kings over Egypt.



*Map of the Aksumite Empire*

## ◆ CHAPTER FIVE ◆

### *The Aksumite Empire*

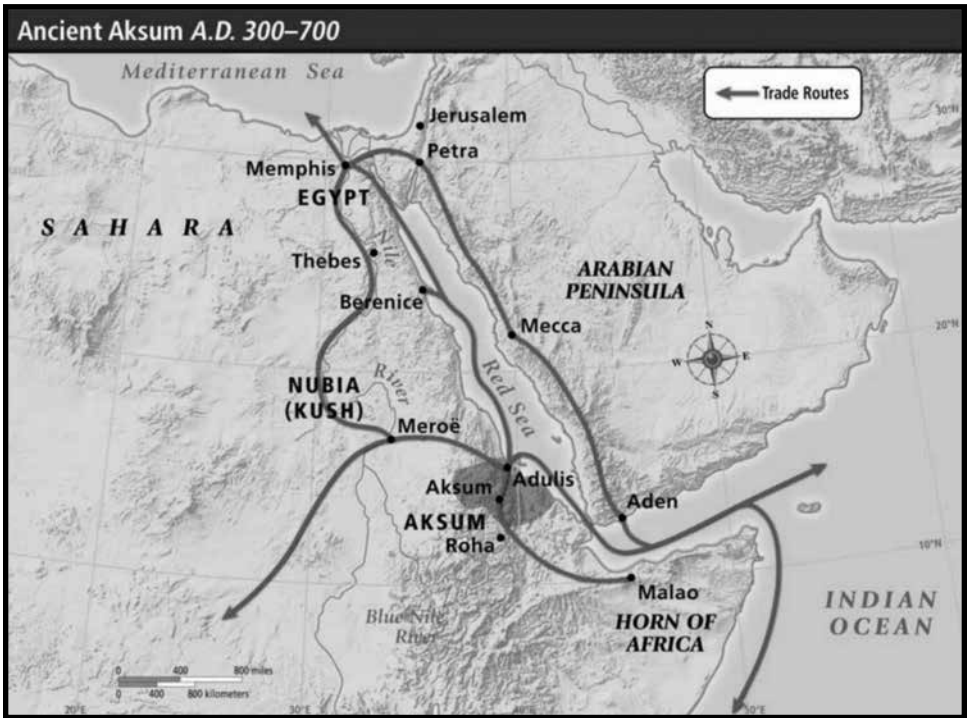
The Black Kingdom of Aksum or Axum was located south of Black Nubia, on the Horn of Africa, situated high on a plateau 7,200 ft. above sea level. At the height of its prosperity, it became the mighty Aksumite Empire. Legend has Aksum founded by Menelik, son of Solomon and the Queen of Sheba.

Covering the area of modern Ethiopia and Eritrea it was an important trading nation in Northeast Africa that continued from 100–940 AD. Prior to this the same area was called D‘mt, a Black kingdom or nation in the same Ethiopia region during the 10th to 5th centuries BC. By then it had already developed irrigation schemes, used plows, grew millet, and made iron tools and weapons. Thus D‘mt, was an advanced Black civilization from the 10th-5th centuries BC. Then as the proto-Aksumite nation from the 4th century BC, D‘mt gradually achieved prominence until it became the Empire of Aksum by the 1st century AD.

#### *An International Trading Hub*

The first mention of Aksum was in a Greek guidebook written around AD 100, “Periplus of the Erythraean Sea.” It describes Zoskales thought to be the first king of Aksum. Under Zoskales and the other rulers, Aksum seized territory

along the Red Sea and the Blue Nile in Africa. The rulers also crossed the Red Sea and took control of the Southwest Arabian Peninsula. Here we have black Hamites in Aksum ruling over Arabs, descendants of Shem in Arabia, **which disproves the “curse of Ham” theory.**



*Map Showing Aksumite Trading Routes*



### ***Aksum Controls International Trade***

Aksum's location and expansion made it a hub for overland caravan routes to Egypt and Nubia.

Access to sea trade on the Mediterranean Sea and Indian Ocean helped Aksum become an international trading power. Traders from Egypt, Arabia, Persia, India, and the Roman Empire crowded Aksum's chief seaport, Adulis. Look at the map and follow the trade routes.

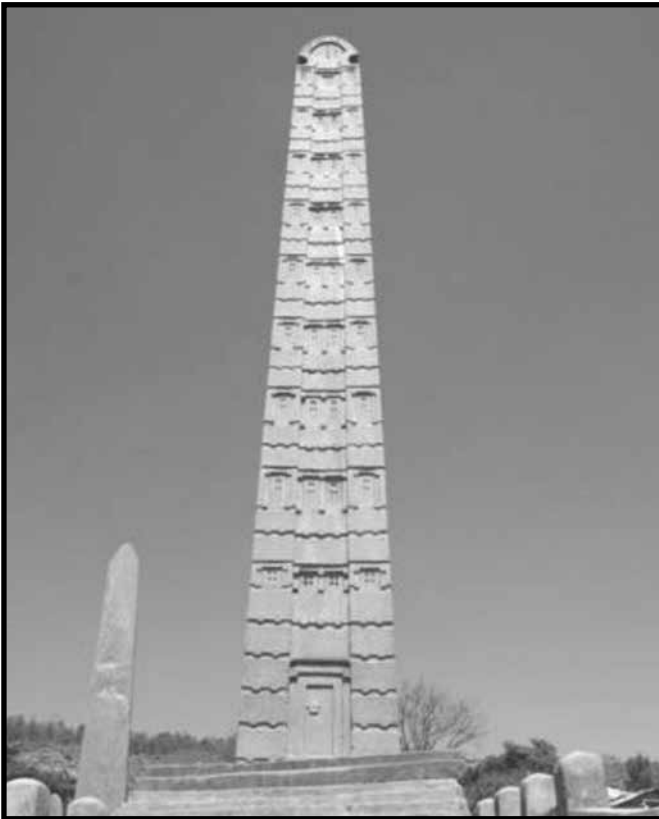
Throughout the Roman Empire, Aksum traded salt, ivory, cloth, brass, iron, gold, glass, olive oil, and wine. Animal traders bought giraffes and elephants. Actually Aksum took over a good portion of the Arabian Peninsula.

No wonder Mani (AD 216-276) a Persian prophet declared **Aksum one of the four great powers** of his time along with Persia, Rome, and China. Yes, Aksum, a lowly Hamite nation surpassed most Shemite and Japhethite nations in world trade, **again disproving the "curse of Ham" theory.** The Aksumite rulers facilitated trade by minting their own currency. Aksum established its hegemony over the declining Black Empire of Kush/Nubia which we considered in the last chapter. Aksum regularly entered the politics of the kingdoms on the Arabian Peninsula, eventually extending its rule over the region with the conquest of the Himyarite Kingdom, consisting of Yemen and part of Arabia.



***Pottery from Meroe***





*King Ezana's Stele in Axum*

*Converted to Christianity*

Under the reign of **King Ezana** (AD 330-356) ancient **Black Aksum became the first major empire to convert to Christianity.** In the early 4th century AD, Ezana spread his realm north and east, conquering the Nile Valley kingdom of Meroë, becoming ruler over part of both Asia and Africa. As a result of Ezana's expansions, Aksum bordered the Roman province of Egypt. He constructed much of the monumental architecture of Aksum, including the reported 100 stone obelisks, the tallest of which loomed 98 feet over the cemetery in which it stood and weighed 517 tons.

**Imagine gravestones up to 98 feet tall constructed by lowly Hamites.** In the 7th century the Muslims, who originated in Mecca, sought refuge from Quraysh persecution by travelling to Aksum, a journey famous in Islamic history as the First and Second Hijra.

Aksum's ancient capital, also called Aksum, was in northern Ethiopia. The Kingdom used the name "Ethiopia" as early as the 4th century.

### *Aksum at its Height*

K. Kris Hirst, famed Aksum archaeologist, observed:

Without doubt, Aksum's most impressive remains are the royal tombs and their fabulous markers, the 'stelae' or obelisks. Even the plain examples are impressive, cut from hard local granite. But truly staggering is a series of six carved examples. These seem to depict the dead rulers' palaces—their tombs lay beneath, and it was our good fortune to be the discoverers of this underground world. The stelae—or so we may conjecture—were the stairways to heaven for the kings of Aksum. At the base are granite plates with carved wine-cups for offerings to the spirit of the deceased. **The largest stela is certainly among the biggest single stones ever quarried by human labour. [What these so-called lowly Hamites couldn't do!]** It testifies to the magnificent self-esteem of the unknown ruler who had it extracted and dragged several kilometres to its final site, and to the skill and artistry of those who prepared and decorated it. Over thirty-three metres tall, the stela represents a **thirteen story tower**, with elaborate window-tracery, frames, lintels, beam-ends, even a door with a bolt.

Aksum flourished until the 6th century AD, maintaining its trade connections and a high literacy rate, minting its own coins, and building monumental architecture. A stratified society was in place in Aksum, with an upper elite of kings and nobles, a lower elite of lower status nobles and wealthy farmers, and ordinary people including farmers and craftsmen. Palaces at Aksum were at their peak in size, and funerary monuments for the royal elite were quite elaborate. A royal cemetery was in use at Aksum, with rock-cut multi-chambered shaft tombs and pointed stelae. Some underground rock-cut tombs (hypogaeum) were constructed with large multi-storied superstructures. Coins, stone, clay seals and pottery tokens were used. **All this by lowly Black Hamites!**



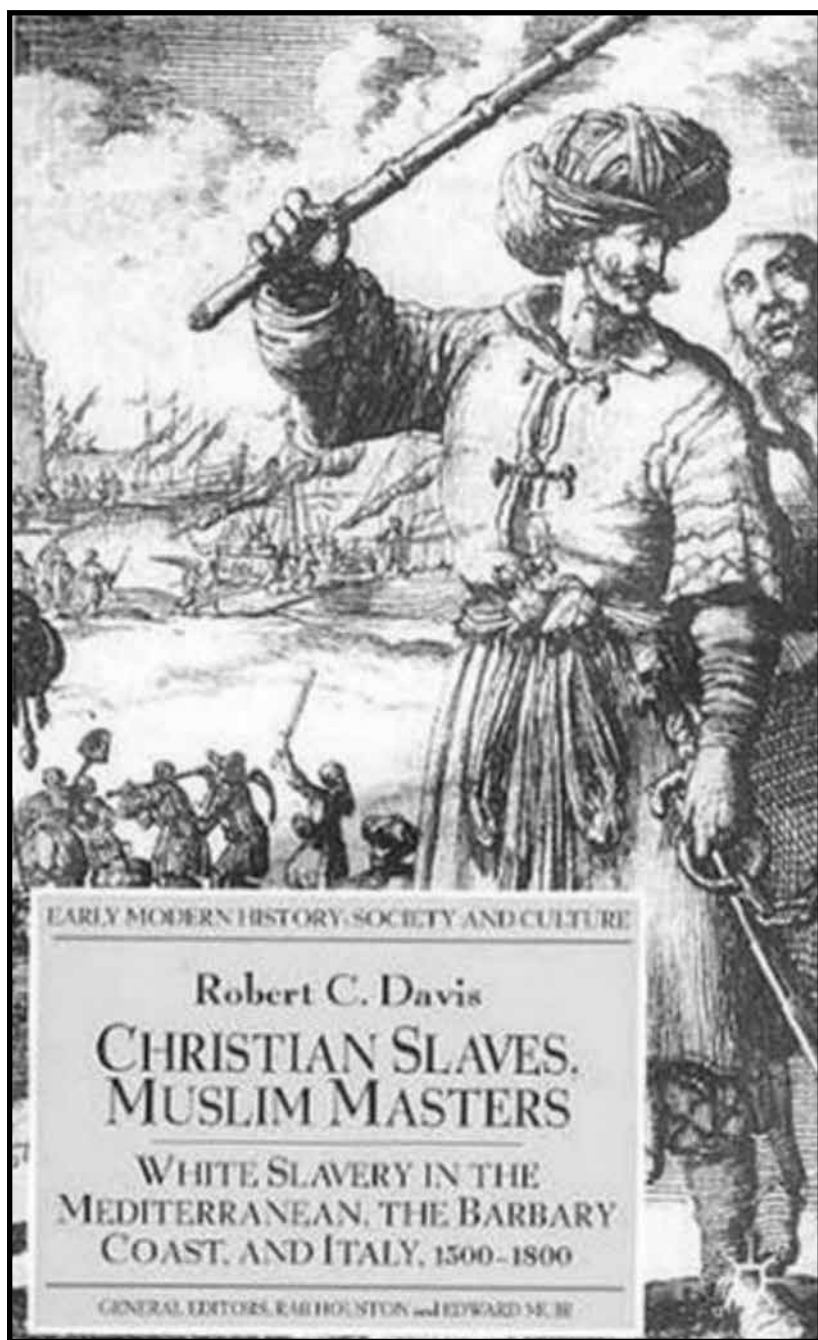
*The Royal Tombs and their Fabulous Markers,  
the 'Stelae' or Obelisks.*

With the rise of the Persian Empire in the 6th century AD, the Arabic world redrew the map of Asia and excluded the Axumite civilization from its trade network, and Aksum fell in importance. But the 2013 *Encyclopædia Britannica* observed, “Aksum continued to dominate the Red Sea coast until the end of the 9th century, exercising its influence from the shores of the Gulf of Aden to Zeila on the northern coast of Somaliland (modern Somalia and Djibouti).”

**The black Hamite Empire of Aksum, one of the five largest empires in the world at that time, with unprecedented engineering skills in many areas disproves the unscriptural “curse of Ham” theory.**



*Coins, Pottery, Jewelry, Clay Seals, and More from Meroe  
(Courtesy of the Oriental Institute)*



EARLY MODERN HISTORY, SOCIETY AND CULTURE

Robert C. Davis

**CHRISTIAN SLAVES,  
MUSLIM MASTERS**

WHITE SLAVERY IN THE  
MEDITERRANEAN, THE BARBARY  
COAST, AND ITALY, 1500-1800

GENERAL EDITORS, RALPH HOUSTON and JEDWARD M. BE

## ◆ CHAPTER SIX ◆

### *White Slaves*

Most of this chapter is based on the research of Robert Davis, professor of history at Ohio State University, that was published in his book: *Christian Slaves, Muslim Masters: White Slavery in the Mediterranean, the Barbary Coast, and Italy, 1500-1800* (Palgrave Macmillan)

Robert Davis observed:

At this point, many of you are probably saying ‘White slaves?’ What in the world is he talking about? Sure, there were white indentured servants and apprentices in Colonial America, and maybe sometimes they were treated badly, but actual White slavery—that’s something that disappeared with the Romans and the Vikings.

One of the things that both the public and many scholars have tended to take as given is that slavery was always racial in nature—that only blacks have been slaves. But that is not true. We cannot think of slavery as something that only White people did to Black people.

**What a refutation of the “Curse of Ham” myth!**

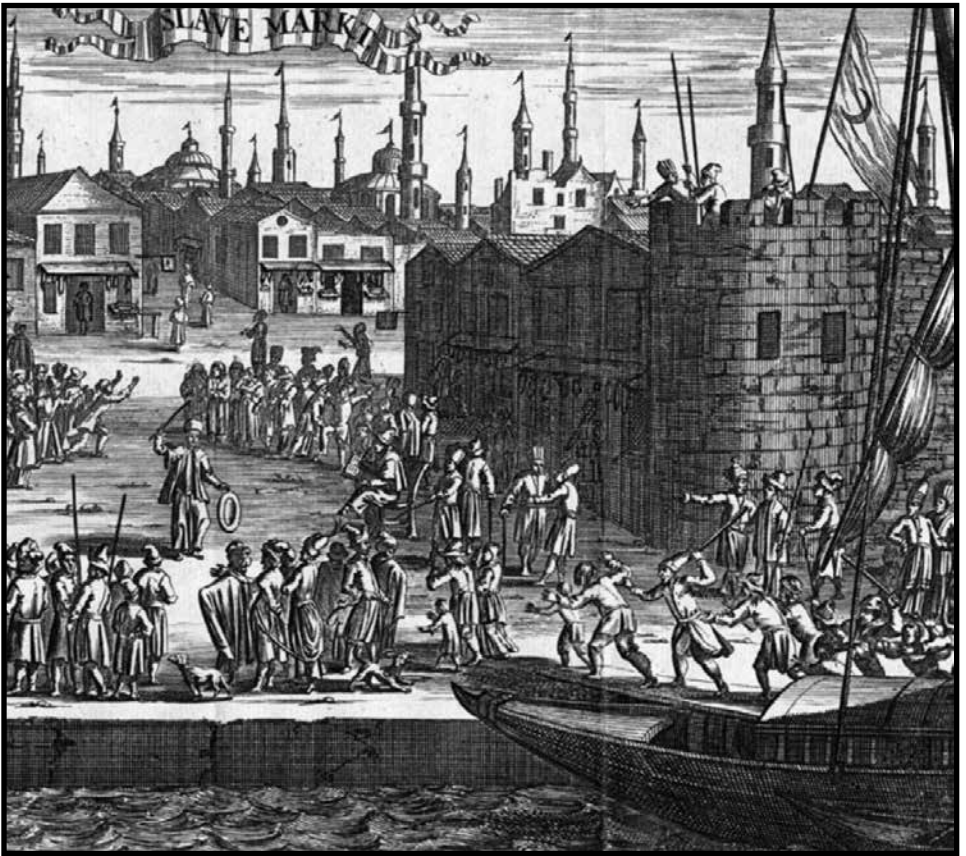


*Abduction of a White Girl by Slave Hunters*



Davis observed that “from AD 1500 to 1650, when trans-Atlantic slaving to the US was still in its infancy, more white Christian slaves were probably taken to Africa than black African slaves to the Americas.”

“One million to 1.25 million White slaves,” mainly women, were captured in Europe by Muslim slave traders and deported in chains to the Barbary ports of North Africa. There they disembarked in chains and were brutally marched, some, hundreds of miles, to Muslim Slave Auctions. **Up to 80% died on the way.**



*European men, women and children auctioned off at Algiers' Slave Market—Pierre Dan*



Muslim Pirates (called corsairs) from cities along the Barbary Coast in North Africa would raid ships in the Mediterranean and Atlantic taking both crews and passengers for the slave trade. Also, they raided seaside villages to capture these unfortunate victims. The impact of these attacks was devastating—France, England, and Spain each lost thousands of ships with their human cargo of crew and passengers doomed to slavery. **Also, try to imagine the long stretches of the Spanish and Italian coasts that were almost completely abandoned by their inhabitants desperately fleeing inland.**



*Slave Market of Algiers in the early 17th Century*

Davis estimates that North African Muslim pirates abducted and enslaved up to 1.5 million Europeans between 1530 and 1780. These white Christians were seized in a series of raids which actually depopulated coastal towns from Sicily to Cornwall.

**Thousands of white Christians in coastal areas were seized every year.** “Enslavement was a very real possibility for anyone who traveled in the Mediterranean or who lived along the shores in places like Italy, France, Spain and Portugal, and even as far north as England and Iceland,” Davis said.

**Slave traders traveled as far as Eastern Europe and Russia.** In fact, the very word “slave” comes from the people of Eastern Europe, the Slavs. Also, remember Islamic Turkey controlled the Balkan States of Europe until 1913, during which time Arab slave traders captured and chained thousands of white Europeans, many of whom collapsed in death in the trek by foot to the slave markets of Islamic Africa. **About 80% of those captured by Muslim slave raiders died before reaching the slave markets.**

Even Americans were not immune. For example, one American slave reported that 130 American seamen had been enslaved by the Muslim Algerians in the Mediterranean and Atlantic between 1785 and 1793. Yes, even early American Presidents faced the problem of paying ransom money to Barbary Pirates.

Davis said, “The vast scope of slavery in North Africa has been ignored and minimized, in large part because it is on no one’s agenda to discuss what happened.” Why?

“The enslavement of Europeans doesn’t fit the general theme of European world conquest and colonialism that is central to scholarship on the early modern era,” he said. “Many of the countries that were victims of slavery, such as France and Spain, would later conquer and colonize the areas of North Africa **where their citizens were once held as slaves.** Maybe because of this history, Western scholars have thought of the Europeans

primarily as “evil colonialists” and not as the victims [of slavery] they sometimes were,” Davis said.

**The result is that between 1530 and 1780 there were “1 million to 1.25 million white, European Christians enslaved” by the Muslims of the Barbary Coast.**

Davis said his research into the treatment of these slaves suggests that, for most of them, their lives were every bit as difficult as that of slaves in America. “As far as daily living conditions, the Mediterranean slaves certainly didn’t have it better,” he said.



*White European Slaves—Muslim Masters*

**One of the strongest disproofs of the “Curse on Ham” myth** was that African Muslims, who for 14 centuries indulged in the perverted luxury of slave ownership, although they captured some slaves from nearby black Africa, **also traveled thousands of miles to take white slaves from the expanses of Europe.**

Remember the interacting for centuries of Muslims with the Black Empire of Aksum. As a result, it is estimated that Muslims have about 17% Black genes. Here we have Muslims who were 17% Hamites holding European Japhethites slaves. Another disproof of the “curse of Ham.”

**The White slaves from Europe were the descendants of Noah’s son Japheth. The fact that the descendants of Japheth were slaves was not because of a “curse” on Japheth. Therefore, the fact that the descendants of Ham, Japheth’s brother, were also slaves does not prove Ham’s descendants were “cursed.”**

## ◆ CHAPTER SEVEN ◆

### *Conclusion*

In Chapter One we found that the concept of “the curse of Ham” was not taught in the Bible. Neither is the actual phrase “curse of Ham” found in the Bible. However, the statement “cursed be Canaan” does occur in Genesis 9:25.

Remember, Canaan was only one of Ham’s four sons, who were Cush, Mizraim, Phut and Canaan. Therefore,

1. Any curse on Canaan would not be a curse on Ham’s three other sons and their descendants.
2. The claim that all the descendants of Ham are cursed is false.
3. The fact that some of them were Black is not a curse.

Yes, there was a “curse on Canaan,” but it was not that he was Black. In fact, it is very questionable that Canaan was Black. The curse on Canaan was that at a given point all his descendants would be cut off in death. This destruction began by the Philistines in the land of Canaan and was finished by Israel when they conquered the land of Canaan, which then became the land of Israel.

Chapter Two and the remaining Chapters prove that far from being cursed, the descendants of the other three sons of Ham became the founders of world dominating empires. As far as

adversity is concerned, history reveals that some of the descendants of all the sons of Noah, Japheth, Shem and Ham lived under adverse conditions.

To our Black Brothers, I say, do not be ashamed of the color of your skin. Just as there is variety in the color and shape of the flowers, so there is variety in the human race. And the bottom line is **“ye are all one in Christ.”**

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To those who have access to the Internet, a climactic proof that Africans are not inferior to Whites is the video *“Joy in the Congo.”* The African nation of the Congo is the poorest nation in the world, yet it has the only all Black symphony orchestra in the world with 200 musicians and vocalists. No one in the Congo could read music, but they acquired broken musical instruments and repaired them.

"We highly recommend watching Joy in the Congo at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2kOMccvaTb0>  
"Remembering Bob Simon: Joy in the Congo"  
or search "Joy in the Congo." Tears will come to your eyes, or at least to your heart as you see proof that the so-called “curse of Ham” is false.