

After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands;

Revelation 7:9



The Mark of Cain and the Curse of Ham—Tradition says the mark of Cain and the curse of Ham is dark skin, but tradition upholds the opinion of man and rarely reflects God's truth.

Friday Night Special #8c

We have heard the story of Cain slaying his brother Abel and identify Cain as the first murderer. However, the first man to murder was not the first murderer of mankind. ⁴⁴ *Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. John 8:44*

Jesus said if you hate in your heart, you have committed murder. *Matthew 5:21-26* John reiterated this same thought. ¹⁵ *Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him. 1 John 3:15* Before Cain slew Abel, Lucifer caused the death of his brother Adam and his sister Eve.

God is the Father of us all and the Heavenly creatures are our brothers. *Revelation 19:10; 22:9* The angelic beings know we are their brothers and sisters; but from their perspective we are born on the wrong side of the universe. Satan hated mankind from the very beginning and predetermined to deceive us with empty promises so we would choose death over life. Cain was deceived by the devil; Abel was not.

Our first mother and father were led to their death by Lucifer. As a result, we no longer have a legal claim to the House of God; however, we still reside within the heart of God. He established a plan of salvation from the foundation of the world to provide humanity with a legal claim of citizenship within the Kingdom of Heaven. God covenanted with Adam and Eve to provide them and their progeny a way back into His presence as children of the Living God though dead in our sins.

To be brought back into the House of God required a blood sacrifice to satisfy the law of sin and death which is the ordinance against us. *Colossians 2:13-15* Adam, Eve and Abel accepted this sacrifice. Cain thought it was a bloody mess and considered God blood thirsty to require the shedding of innocent blood. Cain brought produce from the ground as an offering unto the living God. He believed the sweat of his own brow (his works) should serve a better purpose than the blood of innocence.

When God refused his offer, Cain rebelled.

The works of our own hands seem good to us as a worthy sacrifice. A self-righteous notion conflicts with the consideration that we cannot save ourselves. Most of the world's religions provide mankind with a list of deeds that once complete will lead him into righteousness. However, the shedding of innocent blood declares our unworthiness to a Holy God demanding a worthy substitute.

This stings the conscious of the self-righteous. The guilty see those applying the shed blood of the innocent one resting in what was done for them. In comparison, the self-righteous work just as hard as they can to be pleasing to a Holy God. When those appearing to be lackadaisical ones please God without breaking a sweat, the self-righteous become jealous and accuse God of playing favorites. It is in this moment they hate the ones with the applied blood. Therefore, Cain hated his brother Abel just as Lucifer hated Adam and for the same reason.

When the angelic beings saw God shed the blood of the innocent one on behalf of the man and the woman, they recognized the symbolism. Suddenly, many of the mysterious furnishings and services in the heavenly temple began to make sense. Someone within the holy place will die on behalf of the man and the woman!

The angels became fearful it would be one of them causing many to resent mankind. Lucifer fed their fears and doubts causing rebellion in the hearts of heavenly beings. No one knew the one to die from within the holy place was Himself, God! That would have been a heretical thought since God cannot die. Certainly, according to their understanding, God would not die. . . or would He?

When Cain went to the fields to talk to his brother Abel about the demands of God, Abel witnessed to Cain about the mercy of God and the wisdom of His plan. He encouraged Cain to put aside his own plans and accept the benevolence of the Father. The testimony of Abel offended Cain's personal self-worth and demeaned his best efforts. In anger toward God, Cain killed the brother he once loved.

This story has multiple victims; Abel who died for his faith, and Cain who lost his place in his father's house just as Adam lost our place in the Heavenly Father's house. Adam and Eve lose both sons; one to death and the other to the distance rebellion always brings.

Lucifer is delighted! He plans to destroy all the sons of Adam and Eve so the Promised One can never be born. However, God has a plan put in force from the foundation of the world, and it will not fail.

¹⁴ Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that findeth me shall slay me. ¹⁵ And the LORD said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the LORD set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him. Genesis 4:14-15

God came down from Heaven to earth just to meet with Cain. As God councils with this son, Cain shares his fear. He knows the law of sin and death. *Genesis 2:16-17; 3:1-3* Since he has committed a crime against humanity, even mankind can demand his life. He is terrified that someone will kill him. Lucifer, as the death angel, cannot wait to slay Cain. God extends the same covenant He made with Adam to his son Cain. He puts His mark upon Cain so all in Heaven and earth, including the death angel, will know to pass over Cain.

Many have pondered this mark and consider it to be dark skin. I differ with that notion. It is just not Biblical. Nowhere in the Bible is the mark of God identified as a particular skin color. Even if it was, the sons of Cain were washed away by the flood; therefore, we have no way of knowing the color of skin Cain had.

Cain was a murderer. Satan was the first murderer. Yet, it was God that shed the first blood. He, as the head of His household and patriarch of Adam and Eve, slit the throat of the innocent one with His own hand. In doing so, God spared the life of Adam's family with the blood of the Promised One.

I suggest to you the mark God put upon Cain was the bloody handprint of God visible to Heaven's host but also to mankind for the first time. The very thing Cain detests saves his life for a time. He reconsiders God's plan each time he sees the hand of God on him. Sadly, it only hardened his heart as he continued in his rebellion all the days of his life and led his sons to also rebel. *Genesis 4:32*

The handprint of God is still stained with the blood of the innocent one and when we reach up and are touched by the hand of God, the shed blood becomes applied blood. It is God's blood stained hand that shut the door of the ark leaving the mark of God covering all that were in the ark. It is the mark of the shed blood applied to the doorpost of the Israelites that spared their first born.

The shed blood is for the world, but the shed blood saves no one until it is applied blood. If the Israelites had not taken the hyssop and applied it to their doors, their firstborn would have been slain just like the Egyptians because both were equally dead in their sins. The applied blood of God marks a person for resurrection. The blood of the innocent is the resurrection and THE WAY to life and not just a way.

The mark of Cain is a misnomer. God put His bloody handprint as a mark upon Cain (visible to humanity) to give Cain a stay of execution from both Heavenly and earthly beings. We all wear the mark of God. The mark of God is a gift to mankind. Without it, the death angel would have slain us all long ago. This is a temporary condition that does not eliminate our execution but only delays it.

Just as an earthly mother marks her children with her own blood and an earthly father offers his last name to his children, the God of Heaven redeems us with His own righteous blood by His holy name. Once you willingly receive the name of God declaring you are His, you have claimed your legal right to enter the House of God as a child of God. *Matthew 28:16-20; Revelation 14:1; 22:4*

Claiming the name of the Father applies the blood of Christ to your person and you are a new creature. The spirit that now resides within you will war and prevail against your carnal nature. The things you used to love you will now hate and vice versa.

In claiming the name of God as your own, you enter the promised resurrection of Christ and overcome the law of sin and death. All mankind has this right; yet, most never claim it. Some even blaspheme the name of God. In cursing the name of God, you curse you and yours.

Cain was cursed when he killed his brother, but he remained in his curse when he failed to repent. God longs to bless us removing all curses. Are we not all cursed? Abel died, but because he claimed the blood he will be in the resurrection. By God's grace Cain lived for a while, but he is now also dead. At the coming of Christ, Cain and all those that follow after the way of Cain will remain in the grave. *Jude 1:11*

Since the first familial homicide, brothers have continued to kill brothers. We are all brothers; and yes, we are also our brother's keeper. Yet, in all humanity there is hatred one for another. It is especially sad when hatred enters the hearth of the home.

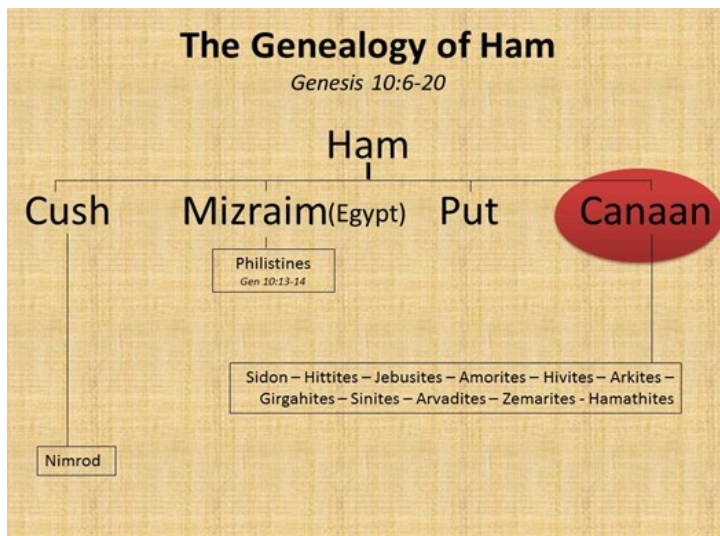
Consider this, Christ became our brother and shed His blood so God could continue as our Father. Christ, by becoming human **and** nailing the ordinance of sin and death that was against us to the cross restored what Adam lost. Christ willingly became His brothers' keeper and our way back into the family of God.

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 1 Corinthians 15:22

God left His house and traveled the narrow road looking for the return of you, His prodigal son or daughter. The mark of God is a blessing not a curse. There is not a skin color that requires the mark of God over any other skin color. We have all sinned and come short of the glory of God. Also, no one red, yellow, black, white, etc. claiming the applied blood will be denied the mark of God.

The Sons of Ham

When studying the table of nations found in *Genesis 10*, we discover the genealogy of Ham. Ham has four sons: Cush, Mizraim (Egypt), Put and Canaan. Nimrod built the Tower of Babel and is a descendant of Cush. The table of nations declare the Philistines are originally descended from Mizraim (Egypt).



The Philistines are *not* Canaanite in origin. It wasn't until they intermarried with the Canaanite women that some of the Philistines (Goliath and his brothers) became giants. The Canaanite curse (*Genesis 9*) manifest in certain physical attributes of the Nephilim mentioned in *Genesis 6* and *Numbers 13*. An understanding of the genealogy of Ham's sons and grandsons is significant to this study.

The Torah does not record the Philistines as one of the nations to be displaced from Canaan Land. *Genesis 15:18-21* In *Genesis 21:22-27*, Abraham agrees to a covenant with the Philistine King Abimelech and his descendants. Isaac honors this covenant. Neither does Moses tell the people they will conquer the Philistines. *Deuteronomy 7:1, 20:17* God also directed the Israelites away from the Philistines upon their exit from Egypt. *Exodus 13:17*

Any willing to stand up to the fierce Canaanite giants found favor with God. *Deuteronomy 2* For many generations Egypt was the head of the nations and not the tail. Since God sets up kingdoms and takes them down, it appears Egypt once found favor with God. When others were in a famine, God often preserved other nations from an Egyptian bounty. God even preserved the life of His only begotten son by hiding Him in Egypt. *Hosea 11:1; Matthew 2:12-15* I suggest God favored Egypt because

they sent the Philistines, a royal navy of elite fighting men, to war with the giants in Canaan when others were too cowardly. God will remember Egypt. *Isaiah 19:18-25*

The following information comes from:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philistines>

Outside of the Bible there is not a lot of information about the Philistines archeologist can agree upon. However, it is noted they were incredible seafaring people. For many years, no one believed the Biblical account that the Philistines originated with Egypt, but since 1822 archeologists have given more consideration to that possibility.

Many find a connection between the Philistines and Crete which would make them descendants of Japheth not Ham. With ability to traverse the Great (Mediterranean) Sea and the location of Crete northwest of Egypt, it would not be difficult to imagine the Hamitic Philistines went to Crete and intermarried with descendants of Japheth.

The Curse of Canaan

Killing the Canaanites and giving their land to the Israelites has called God's character into question. In this study, we will explore the Biblical account and the preconceived ideas and notions of man regarding God and the Canaanites. In accordance with God's account, the Canaanites aggressively and without provocation committed horrible crimes against humanity and would not repent regardless of how merciful God was to them.

God gave them four hundred years to repent and they only grew more evil to their fellow man. The Canaanites were driven out of the land because of their crimes against humanity and not their skin color. The Canaanites and the Israelites could have lived together in the land, but their god Ba'al is antagonistic and provocative.

The Canaanite tribe of Amalek attacked Israel first. If God had not intervened, they would have wiped out and sexually violated any and all, eaten their carcasses and sacrificed the Israeli children to Ba'al. They followed after the evil spirits even offering their own Canaanite children to these spirits. God is just and when Israel is led astray by these demonic forces He also drives Israel from the land for the same reason. *Deuteronomy 18:9-12*

These spirits also led them to extend personal sexuality outside the Biblical parameters. They became so sexually deviant their sexual appetites continued to derail their communities causing a breakdown within their nations and even their families. They did anything to anyone they wanted violating each other, their women, children and animals. They developed an appetite for murder and a taste for human flesh and blood. There is power in the blood of Christ, but death and disease reside in the blood and flesh of all other humans.

God gave Israel a health message to increase their longevity. *Exodus 23:23-33* However, Ba'al hates all mankind including his subjects; therefore, he gives them the reverse

of a health message. Ba'al encourages them to lose control of their appetites. Through unrestrained sexuality and diet, the men, women, children and animals of Canaan become consumed by rampant diseases spread through blood and body fluids.

Christopher Columbus was sailing the ocean blue in 1492 because he was a Jew and that is the year Spain cast out all Arabs and Jews. Christopher Columbus asked the natives of the now known Caribbean islands their name for themselves and they said Caribs. Modern linguists claim we get the word cannibal of Spanish origin from this experience.

Online Etymology Dictionary
www.etymonline.com/index.php?term=cannibal

Columbus claimed he witnessed the natives eating human flesh, and as a Jew, he would have recalled the Canaanites were called cannibals for eating other humans in service to Ba'al. Combining the name of the people with the name of their god (Canaan + Ba'al) we should consider another possible origin for the word cannibal.

When God gave the seventy nations land upon the earth, He also gave them guardian angels. Some of these angels went rogue and taught the nations to join their rebellion. *Acts 17:26; Daniel 10:10-21* God gave Africa to Ham and his sons. However, only Cush, Mizraim (Egypt) and Put went to Africa. Ham's youngest son, Canaan, stayed in the area known today as Canaan Land to serve Ba'al who usurped the Holy Land.

When God divided the land among the nations He kept the land of Canaan for Himself as the most holy spot on the planet. However, Ba'al chose a nation that would defy God by dwelling in God's sacred space. Satan, in the guise of Ba'al promised to protect them as if he was god when he is only a covering cherub gone rogue.

Instead of slaying the defiant Canaanites, God spent the next four hundred years calling them out of the bondage of Ba'al. The God of Heaven pleaded with the Canaanites to become His sons but they would not. They became a curse to all the nations just as their grandfather, Noah predicted. Many justify the subjugation of men with darker skin with the story of the Canaanites assuming the Canaanites had dark skin. This is not Biblical.

Many casual Bible readers have read *Genesis 9:18-28* and declared Ham was cursed with black skin justifying the enslavement of certain men especially those from Africa. This is not Biblical.

Many think Noah's sons were black (Ham), brown (Shem) and white (Japheth). However, brown is the vastly predominant color for hair, skin and eyes in our world today declaring the original gene pool consisted of people with brown hair, skin and eyes. Very dark skin **and** very light skin is adapted from the original DNA. All the sons of Noah were brown because they shared the superb genetic makeup of their mother and father. *Genesis 6:9*

God chose all the animals in the ark as seed to repopulate the animal habitats. *Genesis 6:19-21* It makes

sense that he would choose animals with superb genetics. He also chose a righteous man with perfect DNA as seed to repopulate humanity. Noah, his wife, their sons *and* the wives the men chose also went on board the ark.

Ham was Noah's youngest son that looked upon his father's nakedness and was chastised by his father, Noah. Noah is the one that declared to Ham that his youngest son, Canaan, would be a curse. *Genesis 9:20-29* God did not curse Ham or any of his sons! In fact, God had just blessed all Noah's sons and grandsons including Ham. *Genesis 9:1-19* Who cursed Canaan? His father, Ham. All mothers and fathers bring consequences upon our sons and daughters when we make weighty decisions without divine input. Choosing the mother (or father) of your children is the weightiest decision a person can make.

Many people want to raise families in the suburbs or the countryside because they fear the influence of the city upon their children. All the sons of Noah were influenced by the antediluvians to some degree. Based upon what felt right in the flesh, the sons of Noah made decisions of great bearing upon their sons. All mankind make decisions without considering or consulting God.

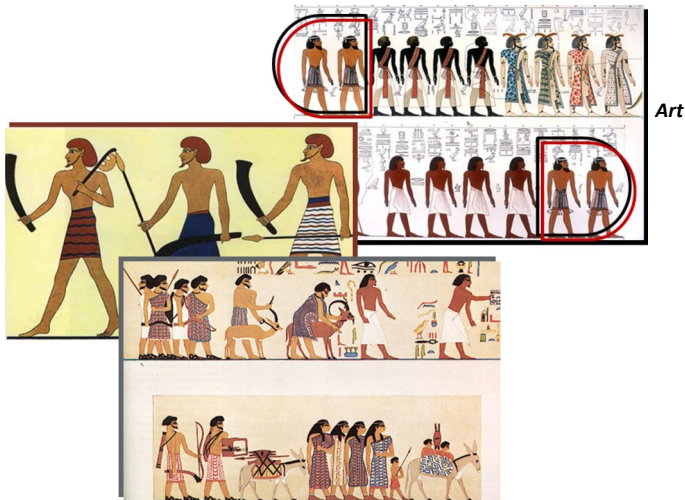
Under the influence of the perversions of the antediluvians (*Genesis 9:20-27*) Ham chose his wife from among those born of the cursed union between the sons of God and the daughters of men. *Genesis 6:1-4* Ham's strong genetics from his father prevailed in all his sons but Canaan. Noah warned his baby son (Ham) that his baby son (Canaan) would be a curse because of Ham's choices.

Canaan's curse is no big thing to the God of Creation and Recreation. He has the great power and the paternal desire to cleanse Canaan's cursed blood. All the blood of every man has been cursed, but God is in the business of curse removal and blood cleansing. However, God will not forever tolerate acts of defiance and crimes against humanity of any color.

Many apply Canaan's assumed black skin to the nations of Africa. Change in skin color is in part the result of our body's ability to adapt to extreme climates within our habitats. Until recently, the closer to the equator a person lived the darker their skin; and the closer to the poles a person lived the lighter their skin with few exceptions. This color adaptation is apparent in Noahic sons and grandsons settled in various geographical areas.

The sons of Ham living in Africa display the design of the human body to adapt to extreme climates beautifully. The farther south the sons of Ham settled in Africa, the darker their skin. Many assume Canaan was cursed with black skin and misapply this notion to the nations of Africa. The skin tones of Ham's handsome sons has nothing to do with the curse. Canaan was the only son cursed and he refused to go to Africa; therefore, the curse is not even relative to Africa. Most importantly, Canaan's skin color is not problematic for God since He has no preferred skin tone. Only man does—his own.

Hold on to your preconceived notions because they are about to be challenged by the preserved images in the tombs of Egypt. According to these images, Canaanites are light skinned, red headed people with hairy bodies—for real! That ought to shake up some paradigms.



The Canaanites were also famous for their robes of many colors as seen in this artistic rendering of a wall painting on the tomb of Knumhotep in Beni Hasan, Egypt. Both men and women wore these very colorful garments. The multicolored robes the Canaanites wore were symbolic of the honor bestowed upon them by their God Ba'al.

Who do you know that made a robe of many colors for his son? Jacob lived among the Canaanites based upon a promise of land that would not be fulfilled for hundreds of years. While living among the Canaanites, Jacob made a coat of many colors for Joseph but not his other eleven sons provoking them to jealousy. Since then the multicolored robe has become symbolic of a father's favor.

What color of robe does the Heavenly Father give His children? He gives us white robes symbolizing righteousness. However, when the love of God like the sun shines through the Holy Spirit poured upon us like water, our robes of white reflect the glory of God and we light up like the rainbow in the sky causing our white robes to become multi-colored.

Color is the signature of the Creator God reflected in flowers, sunsets and people. The rainbow is a sign of God's covenant with Noah on behalf of all the nations of the world and displays His favor toward all men.

In the beginning God gave Eve the promise of a son and the sons of Adam began to vie for favor with God. After the flood, the sons of Noah continued man's fixation with blood lines and began to consider skin tones as each nation attempted to exert favor with the gods over another.

Not all the sons of Ham had dark skin. It is Ham, not Noah, that had a black son (Cush), a brown son (Mizraim or Egypt) a light skinned son (Put or Lybia) and Canaan. It is assumed the Egyptians categorized the people of the world into four categories: Libyan, Nubian, Asiatic and Egyptian. This assumption is based upon the artistic rendering

by Heinrich von Minutoli (1820), copied from a mural found in the tomb of Seti I.



The Biblical understanding regarding the sons of Ham is a challenge to the current thinking among archeologists and anthropologists regarding this recorded image. Therefore, please consider the Egyptians may not be recording the people of the world with this image. Perhaps they are recalling the history of their descendants back to their common forefather Ham. It appears to me that this may be a remembrance by the sons of the sons of Ham.

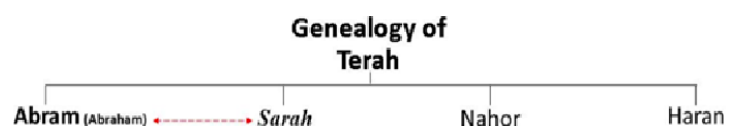
The first man is Libyan descended from Put. Light skinned native Libyans are widely recognized by the world at large even today. Some of their most noted leaders have been very light in skin tone. The people of Libya run the color spectrum from very light to very dark. The garment of the Libyan is still worn by them in celebrating their ancient religious ceremonies.

Each man wears attire designed to identify the man with his ancient culture. The clothing and personal appearance of the second called Nubian is descended from Cush. The third one known as the Asiatic wears the traditional many colored garments the Canaanites were known for. The fourth is wearing the light white linen of Egypt, the descendants of Mizraim.

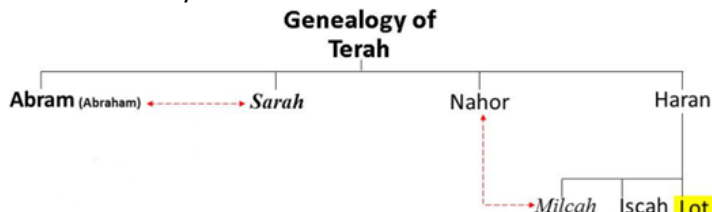
There is logic in reconsidering the purpose of recording the men and their attire in this image in light of the Bible. However, the possibility the world will ever accept this explanation is highly unlikely since it would remove the foundation for so many cultural biases including the evolutionary development of mankind.

The Blessed Blood Line vs The Cursed Blood Line

The following is a chart of the genealogy of Terah, the father of Abram. As most family trees, this one gets gnarly. Terah is descended from the lineage of the Promised One; from Adam to Seth then through the ages to Noah to Shem and down to Terah and his sons. According to the Biblical account Terah had three sons, Abram, Nahor and Haran plus a daughter, Sarai (Sarah).

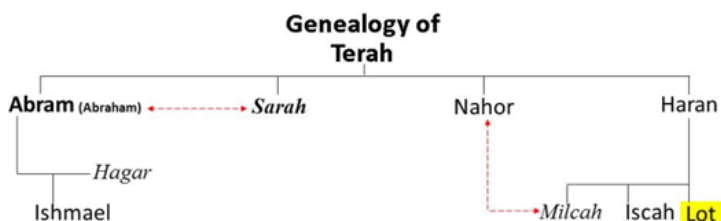


Haran is the eldest son of Terah and has two sons, Lot and Iscah, plus a daughter, Milcah. As the eldest son with sons, Haran is in a good spot to receive the birth right of the Promised One. Abram, the father to many nations including Arabs and Jews, was a man born of the royal blood line once defined by political aspirations. Therefore, Abram married his half-sister Sarai so his sons would have more royal blood than that of his brother Haran.



After marrying his half-sister Sarai to insure having children of greater nobility, Sarai is ironically barren. Abram's frustration is exponentially increased when the gods of Mesopotamia even Bel (Ba'al) cannot make her fruitful. Sarai eventually becomes the woman of Abram's heart; but for now she is just political expediency, and without a child, her value is reduced to nothing.

Sarai being barren is bad news for Abram, but good news for his brother Nahor who also has political ambitions and marries his niece Milcah. If Abram cannot have children with Sarai, Nahor's sons with Milcah will have more royal blood than Lot and Iscah. Nahor's sons will move to the head of the line to receive the birthright of the Promised One.



Sarai also understands the politics of her day. She knows the law and if she cannot deliver heirs to Abram, she believes he will divorce her. Sarai offers her handmaid, Hagar to Abram. If Abram agrees to the arrangement any male child from this union will be a child of Abram's household as rightful son and heir by Sarai. Since the handmaid belongs to Sarai, the child Hagar produces also belongs to Sarai. By law, Sarai has fulfilled her obligation to produce an heir and cannot be set aside by Abram. Apparently, Sarai has aspirations of her own.

Ishmael is born and is greatly loved by his father Abram. The Creator God of Heaven has promised Abram a son and Ishmael becomes this promise in the heart and mind of Abram. Ishmael, born from the seed of Abram, is of noble blood. As a member of the royal family he is in line to receive the birthright of the Promised One. Unfortunately, he is in line behind his cousins Lot and Iscah. This son does not buy Abram a place in the politics of Mesopotamia. However, like any loving father that has made eye contact with a firstborn son resting in his arms,

Abram gives Ishmael prime real estate in his heart and full reign in his household. This arrangement seems to satisfy all those involved as well as any of *the best laid plans of mice and men*.

Anyway, by the time Ishmael is born, Abram has distanced himself from Mesopotamia both geographically and politically. Abram has his own little prince and could care less about his ranking within the royal family; probably, in part, because the royal family no longer has a lofty place within the city of Ur. Interesting story!

The following information comes from:

<https://www.chabard.org>

<https://www.virtualjewishlibrary.org>

When Abram is born, Nimrod is king. He claims the throne by divine appointment. However, Nimrod is a rebel against the Kingdom of Heaven and an usurper. It is Lucifer, the one that stole dominion from Adam and Eve (known as Ba'al to the Canaanites), that appoints Nimrod to the throne and not the Creator God. Nimrod gives Terah a place within his kingdom by joining church and state in the first world order.

Remember, Nimrod is a son of Cush not Canaan and is not part of the original curse. ¹⁰ *And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be mighty upon the earth. 1 Chronicles 1:10* However, the word **mighty** is gibbôr (H1368) is translated as mighty, warrior, tyrant, champion, chief, giant, strong man. It also takes us back to the antediluvian world.

⁴ *There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty [gibbôr (H1368)] men which were of old, men of renown. Genesis 6:4*

The Canaanites were the giants in the world after the flood having the same phenotype of the men born from the unholy union between the sons of God and the daughters of men. Ham's wife was a carrier of the recessive gene of the Nephilim. However, only Canaan was cursed with the genetics of the giants.

Nimrod intentionally did something to change his phenotype by potentially altering his genotype when he *began to be mighty upon the earth*. Nimrod willingly took upon himself the curse of Canaan. Men offer explanations, but I suspect as Solomon said, ⁹ *The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun. Ecclesiastes 1:9*

Surely we are not so vain as to think there is no possibility a previous generation might know more about genetically modified plants, animals and even humans than this generation. What we call a new thing may not be new. The fertile ground in Canaan could have explained the grapes, but maybe not exclusively. *Numbers 13:23-25*

The Canaanites did not look like ogres but were attractive in appearance. They were large warriors fierce in battle. They were superior in every way to the Israelites and all other men in stature, knowledge, and technology. *Numbers 13:31-33* They attributed all their attributes as gifts from Ba'al. It is small wonder Nimrod desired to be like the Canaanites. However, in gaining their large stature and other physical qualities, he took upon himself the curse of Canaan by serving Ba'al. Nimrod made a deal with the devil and gave the world hell to pay.

There are powerful men in every generation making deals with the devil keeping them awake at night. Nimrod was no different, and he knew he was at odds with the God of Creation. On the night Abram was born, Nimrod dreamed a star would rise in the sky and defeat him. Fully aware the sons of Terah were the rightful royal blood line, Nimrod demanded their father continue demonstrating his fealty to Nimrod by bringing this son to him.

Terah brings an alternate infant whom Nimrod grabs by the ankles and bashes his head. Abram is hidden until he becomes older then sent to Noah and Shem. When he comes of age, he returns to the house of his father. One day Terah leaves Abram in charge of feeding, watering and providing care for the idols. According to the legend, Abram breaks all the idols with a stick then places the stick in the hand of the largest idol. His explanation to Terah is that the big idol broke all the other idols. Terah says what any other father would say, "Are you crazy? These idols can't talk and walk." Abram says, "Exactly!"

Does Abram know what he has done? The Bible describes Terah as a maker of idols. However, this is understated as the Bible tends to do. Terah is a maker of national idols. He has been commissioned by Nimrod to make massive idols from priceless materials. The people of Mesopotamia visit the idols, bow down and bring offerings. Terah takes his share on behalf of the temple and sends the vast portion to Nimrod. It is a sweet deal and Abram has just destroyed this opportunity for the family of Terah.

Since Terah does not have the time or resources to replace the idols before the worshippers come, he must now go to Nimrod and explain. He also has to come clean about Abram. He would worry more about that if his own neck wasn't stretched so far on the line. Nimrod tries to give Abram an opportunity to be as faithful as his father, but he refuses and is thrown into the fiery furnace. Abram is saved from the fiery furnace by the God he serves.

When his brother Haran tries the same thing, he is consumed by the fire because he does not have the relationship with the God of Heaven that Abram has. Haran's act was presumptuous; however, with the devil's spin on truth, Haran becomes memorialized as a worthy sacrifice to the gods. His death becomes an opportunity to declare the worthiness of the gods of Mesopotamia which Terah remains faithful to all the days of his life. *Joshua 24:2*

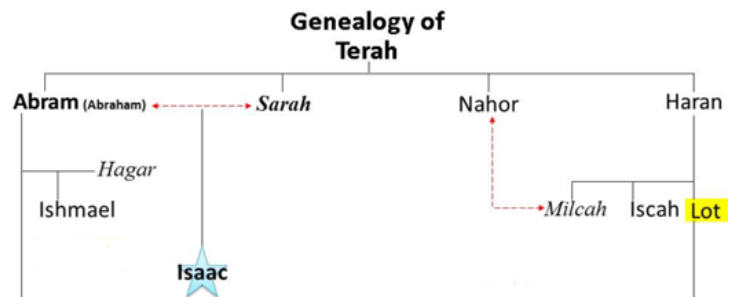
The God of Heaven saves Abram forcing the hand of

Nimrod to provide Abram with riches. It is also understood it is time for the family of Terah and Nimrod to part ways. Terah and his family leave Ur moving northward toward Haran out of near sight and mind of Nimrod.

I suspect it is more than coincidental this new city has the same name as Terah's eldest. *Genesis 11:28* Haran died honorably in Ur as an acceptable sacrifice to the gods of Mesopotamia. Archeological evidence demonstrates the worship in Haran was very similar to that of Ur but less grand in size. Did Terah reestablish the temple service of Ur in Haran naming the city in memory of his eldest and most faithful son and supreme sacrifice to Baalism?

When Terah dies, God commands Abram to leave his country, his kindred, and his father's house to go look at a piece of real estate he will never possess. Abram leaves the city of Haran as a member of a prominent, wealthy family. Willingly, he leaves his father's prosperous priesthood and temple idols to the future generations of his brother Nahor. *Genesis 31*

Abram leaves with the intent purpose of forsaking the rich heritage of his earthly father to follow after the promises of his Heavenly Father. Abram provides the perfect example for his future progeny including the rich young ruler who thought he had too much to lose in following Christ. *Matthew 19; Mark 10; Luke 18*



Lot, having lost his bid as first heir through his deceased father, has nothing to hold him in Haran so he goes with Abram. After all, Abram needs an heir, and Lot thinks he may get lucky. However, Abram is about to cash in on the promises of the God of all Creation. Abram leaves Haran at the age of 75 and ten years later, at the age of 85-86 and while in Canaan, Ishmael is born. We are ready now to continue with the genealogy of Terah including the son promised to Abram and his legal wife Sarai. At 100 years of age, Isaac is born and the household of Abraham is about to get interesting.

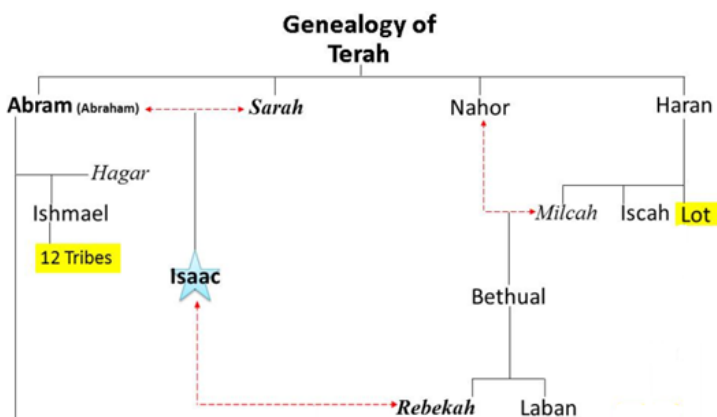
Abraham loves Hagar and their son. Sarah, the legal wife of Abraham, has also now given birth to a son. The dynamics between the two women and their sons render Abraham's household dysfunctional. Abraham is devastated when Sarah demands Hagar leave and pleads with God to let Ishmael be the son of promise. God is law abiding and refuses. He demands respect for the cosmic laws and demonstrates His own respect for Sarah's rights within the laws of mankind and the confines of marriage. Her faith may have waived, but God made a promise to Sarah.

Sarah has the legal right as a free woman in the house of Abraham. Hagar, as a slave, has no legal claim within the house of Abraham and neither does her son. Even Abraham cannot give to the bond woman what has already been given to Sarah. God will keep His promise to Sarah and Abraham will be expected to do the same.

God tells Abraham to send Hagar and Ishmael out into the desert. How could a merciful God do such a thing? So He can free them! He will bring the sons of Sarah out into the desert many days later to free them from Egyptian bondage as well. The grandsons of Sarah thought God hated them for bringing them into the wilderness of the desert (*Deuteronomy 1:27*), but it was His great love for them that desired their release from slavery. As long as they remain in the house of pharaoh, they are in bondage. The way to freedom goes by way of the wilderness.

Before God freed the sons of the sons of Sarah, He freed the bondwoman Hagar and her son Ishmael. As long as Hagar and her son remain in the house of Abraham, they remain in bondage. God brought them into the desert so He could be a provider for the bond woman and a Father to her now fatherless son. God wanted to bring Hagar and Ishmael into His own house with privilege. He saved Ishmael and made kings of his descendants as He promised Abraham he would.

Abraham trusted God completely with Ishmael, his greatly beloved son, or this story would have a very different telling. God did not let any of them down. Bringing Isaac to the altar was not the first time Abraham trusted God with a son. If Abraham can trust God to keep His promises regarding his sons, so can we.

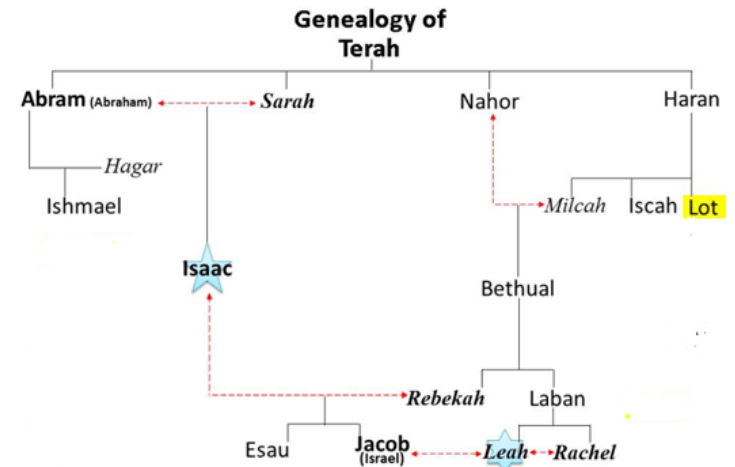


Word comes to Abraham and Sarah that Nahor has children. A daughter named Rebekah was born to Bethual, a son of Milcah and Nahor. This made Rebekah a daughter from the family of the promised heritage and the most royal blood. She was a perfect mate for their son Isaac. *Genesis 22:20-24*

Abraham did not want his son born of the blessed blood line to marry the cursed Canaanites. *Genesis 24:1-3* Abraham also made his servant promise to never take Isaac back to his family. With the most royal blood Isaac was in a position to claim what Abraham walked away

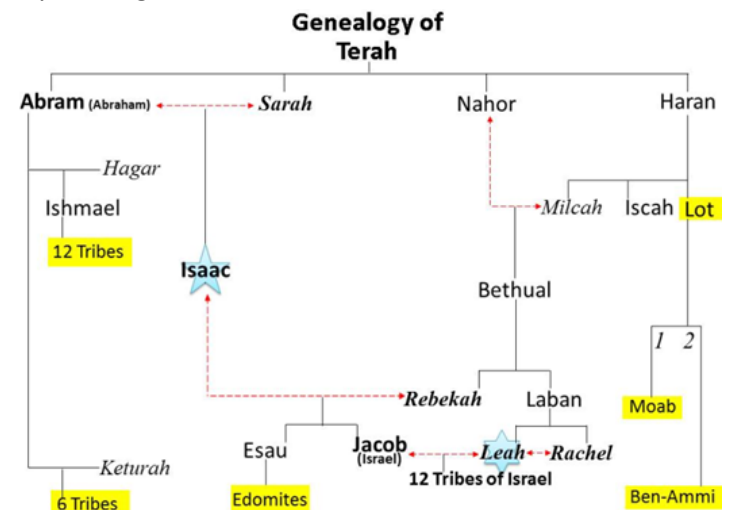
from. Perhaps, the sons of Nahor would consider Isaac a threat and kill him! Perhaps Abraham was more afraid Isaac would be tempted to worship the gods of his grandfather, Terah. *Genesis 24:4-9*

Rebekah and Isaac have twin sons; and Rebekah's brother, Laban has two daughters! These girls will be perfect mates for their sons, Esau and Jacob. Remember how adamant Abraham and Sarah were that Isaac not marry a Canaanite? Well, Esau means red because he is red headed and hairy! Somebody in the royal family has Canaanite blood, possibly Rebekah's mother. This may explain why Rebekah favored Jacob over Esau since the birth of this son revealed her own heritage.



After traveling so far to find their son a wife without Canaanite blood, it is ironic their grandson has Canaanite heritage and a disregard for the birthright. As Isaac and Rebekah are making marital plans between their sons and Laban's daughters, Esau marries a Canaanite woman and grieves his parents. *Genesis 26:34-35*

Jacob loves Rachel, but is tricked into marrying Leah. He marries the woman he loves and the woman rejected by Esau. Between these two women and their concubines, Jacob fathers all the twelve tribes of Israel. God knows Leah is unloved by Jacob and becomes her great advocate. It is Leah that gives birth to the son that will carry on the royal lineage and not Rachel.

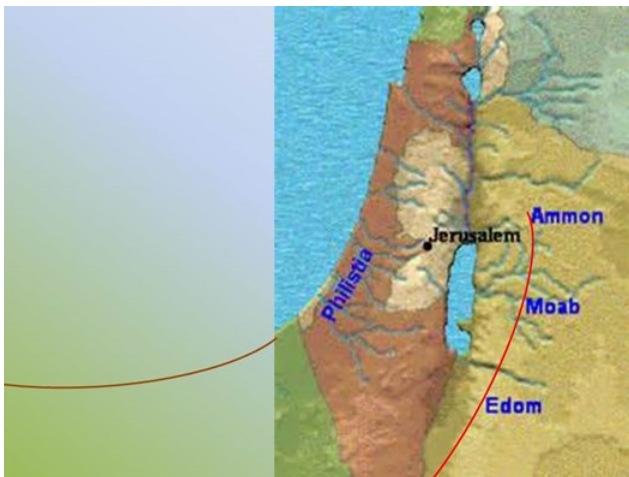


In the meantime, the family tree of Terah fills up with family members that will become part of a large family feud still going on in the Middle East today. All the family members highlighted in yellow had enmity with the sons of Israel. Yet, God loves them all and will save anyone that will seize the opportunity. God reached out multiple times to touch the hearts of all the descendants of Terah.

The Land of Promised Carnage

In the beginning going to Canaan was like going to Vegas...what happens in Canaan stays in Canaan. Merchant men traveling from one continent to the other had to go through Canaan since it is the navel of the earth connecting all other land masses.

Many men looked forward to going to Canaan where they were totally uninhibited and could do things that would not be acceptable to the society of their origin. However, over time and as the Canaanites became more vulgar and evil, it was not safe for a group of men to go through the land of Canaan. It surely was not safe for a man traveling alone or a man and his family.



Mizraim sent the Philistines from Egypt as border patrol to keep the Canaanites from Egypt via the Great (Mediterranean) Sea. This is in part why God had a special relationship with Egypt for so long. Egypt was the head of the nations for many generations. When everyone else was in famine, God continued to bless Egypt as they blessed other nations. It was even to Egypt God sent His only begotten son for safety. *Matthew 2:13-15*

Abraham was a friend to the Philistine nobility and made peace treaties with them. The Philistines were not one of the tribes mentioned to Abraham that his descendants would replace. The Philistines were not Canaanites. Neither were they giants until they began marrying the Canaanite women and incorporated the Canaanite gods into their worship.

God is so merciful He made a safe route going around Canaan. It is known as the King's Highway and separates Canaan Land from today's Jordan. God rewards courage and blessed the nations willing to war against Ba'al the god of the giants. The giants of Canaan were fierce and it

required great courage to go up against humanly impossible odds. The descendants of Lot (Ammon, Moab) and Edom (Esau) were willing to trust in the power of God; therefore, He blessed them with land.

When the descendants of Abraham came to Canaan, God told them they could not touch the land God had given to these nations because they had followed Him into battle against the giants. *Deuteronomy 2:1-28* Knowing this information makes it easier to understand why God was so furious with the Israelites when they refused to follow God into battle. It made the God of the Israelites look quite foolish to the surrounding nations.

The Edomites, Moabites and Ammonites routinely met people with food and water as they exited the desert—for a price! God not only gave them land, but land that was rich in resources they could market. God blessed these nations with abundance because of their courage.

However, when the Israelites came out of the desert with hungry, thirsty children they were not met with food and water for any price. Instead they were harassed. The Moabites even tried to curse them. Therefore, God said a Moabite or Ammonite could never enter the temple and they were to refrain from ever marrying a Moabite or an Ammonite. *Deuteronomy 23:3-6* Now we must consider the genealogy of a man named Jesse.

Genealogy of Jesse

Matthew 1:1-16; Luke 3:23-38

Abraham
Isaac
Jacob
Judah
Perez
Hezron
Ram
Amminadab
Nahshon
Salmon **-Rahab the Canaanite harlot**
Boaz **-Ruth the Moabitess**
Obed
Jesse

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Information comes from the following link:

http://m.chabad.org/theJewishWoman/article_cdo/aid/280331/jewish/Nitzevet-Mother-of-David.htm5

Jesse was a prominent, wealthy man serving Israel in a most prestigious position within the Sanhedrin (like our supreme court). After several years of marriage to his wife, she had given Jesse seven beautiful Hebrew sons with brown hair, brown eyes and brown skin. Jesse had prosperity, prestige and progeny. He should have been the most content man; however, he lost sleep at night because he had a secret.

This mystery caused him to put his wife away. He had not been intimate with his wife in three years. Jesse felt like a hypocrite. He was a pretentious, honorable Hebrew

when Jesse knew he was a Moabite man unlawfully judging “real” Hebrews. His grandmother Ruth, the Moabite woman, was only part of the problem. His great-grandmother was a Canaanite harlot!

The Canaanites were cursed and had bad blood. They looked different, too! Moabites had the same blood line as Jesse since they descended from Terah. They looked like Hebrews with brown hair, brown eyes and brown skin. Jesse’s greatest fear was that he would have a red-headed, hairy son. Everyone would then recall Jesse’s Canaanite heritage because his wife’s genealogy was fully Hebrew.

Once they remembered he had a Canaanite ancestry, they would also remember his Moabite grandmother. His enemies would demand he be stripped of his office. He would lose everything he had worked so hard for and have nothing to give his sons. Oh, his sons! They too would be rejected because Jesse has contaminated the blood of his sons with his own bad blood.

Jesse is desperate to know how contaminated his blood is. It is strong enough to produce seven apparent Hebrew sons; perhaps he is worrying about nothing. However the number seven may be a full measure of blessing from God and the eighth son would be tempting God.

Jesse makes an offer to his wife’s Canaanite servant. If their child is red-headed and hairy everyone will assume that he took from his mother’s heritage. If their son has brown eyes, hair and skin then Jesse will know his blood is strong and he will not need to worry about his sons having sons with the appearance of a Canaanite.

Jesse’s wife is a sweetheart and treats people well. Her servant reveals Jesse’s plan to her, and she takes the place of her servant and conceives a child. Everyone knows she has been set aside by Jesse although no one knows why. When she starts showing, people assume she has been unfaithful and her own sons want to stone her. However, Jesse tells them to leave her alone, but the child will be ostracized within the family and community.

When the child is born he is red-headed and hairy. Jesse breathes a sigh of relief because everyone assumes this is not Jesse’s child and will not reflect upon his own tainted blood. The child and his mother is treated with revulsion, commonly abused and certainly neglected.

The son is not allowed to eat with the family. He is sent out to shepherd the sheep exposed to lions and bears where the family hopes he will die. When he comes back into the community, he is blamed for any crimes committed and forced to pay restitution for things he did not do. His heart is broken and so is the heart of his mother. Please read Psalm 69.

One day Samuel is sent to anoint the king replacing Saul. All God has told Samuel is that he is a son of Jesse. Jesse’s family and community know the prophet is coming but they are not told why. Jesse is asked to bring his sons. Samuel looks at the first tall, good looking Hebrew young man with brown hair, brown eyes and brown skin and

thinks this must be it. He is not it! The second son is rejected also. As is the third and so on until all of Jesse’s sons have been rejected.

The oil will not pour from the vessel to anoint any of Jesse’s fine-looking Hebrew sons. Samuel asks if there are more. Jesse hedges by telling him there is one more, but he is a long way off looking after the sheep. Samuel refuses to feast until he arrives.

Finally, the red-headed, hairy son arrives. He is not Hebrew in appearance. He has the look of a Canaanite with bad blood and a curse! However, as he is walking up God whispers to Samuel and he perceives the beauty God sees in this son. *1 Samuel 16:12* Samuel tips the vessel and the oil pours out to anoint this young man declaring him the rightful heir and son of Jesse. Israel’s new monarch will become known as King David and Bethlehem is recognized as the birth place of the Messiah.

In surface reading from the Bible, it comes across as if God is very preoccupied with the royal bloodline of the Messiah. Abraham’s descendants preserve heritage, but God prefers those committed to His colors. Not only is Jesse descended from the Moabite and the cursed Canaanite, but so is Jesus. I believe God deliberately tainted the bloodline of the Messiah for demonstrative purposes.

Matthew 9:20-22; Mark 5:25-34; Luke 8:43-47

In the gospels there is a story of a woman with a blood issue. The Jews restricted women during their menstrual cycles. *Leviticus 15:19-30* During the days of Jesus, they took the law to the extreme and even forced women to stay separate from the rest of the family until the priest declared them clean.

Once her cycle completed the woman was considered unclean for seven days. This poor woman had been bleeding for years. Just about the time she thought her cycle was complete during the seven days she would begin again. She missed seeing her children and grandchildren grow up. She had no friends or neighbors to communicate with. She missed home.

Everyone in the community knew of her condition. It was unlawful for her to come out of the house of the women with her blood issue because the people feared being contaminated by her. She took a huge risk coming out into the street. Normally, she would be stoned, but the people were preoccupied with Jesus, the great healer. She hoped to sneak out there and receive healing without being recognized.

When she touched the hem of His garment, power went out of Him and He said, “Who touched me?” The disciples reminded Him He was in a throng of people touching Him. The woman knew she was healed and threw her trembling self at the feet of Christ, but He lifted her up and declared her clean. Jesus exercised his right as her great high priest and declared to the crowd familiar with this woman that she was clean indeed.

We all have a blood issue. The Canaanites are not the only cursed ones, we all live under a curse. All the sons and daughters of Adam have diseased blood; but Jesus, a son of Adam, has power in His blood! The woman with the blood issue spent all her resources going to physicians that could not heal her. There is not a doctor in the world of modern medicine that can heal us from our blood issue. All men are doomed to die, and our only hope is the Great Physician.

Matthew 27:32; Mark 15:21; Luke 23:26

Jesus lived like a Jew, died like a sinner and rose from the grave like the Son of God. His great benevolence has power to remove every curse ever placed on any man—black, white and all colors in between. Consider the man, Simon of Cyrene. “And they compel one Simon a Cyrenian, who passed by, coming out of the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to bear his cross” *Mark 15:21*

Simon was a descendent of Ham with a Jewish name. Simon was a black Jew from Cyrene, a city in the country of Libya on the continent of Africa. Dr. Morris said that Simon was possibly the same as “Simeon who is called Niger,” a preacher of the church in Antioch (Acts 13:1; Henry M. Morris, Ph.D., *The Defender’s Study Bible*, World Publishing, 1995, p. 1199; note on Acts 13:1). Spurgeon believed he was a black man, (*The Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit*, Pilgrim Publications, vol. XXVII, p. 562).

Simon and his sons are entering Jerusalem possibly as a pilgrimage like the Ethiopian eunuch baptized by Phillip. *Acts 8:26-40* As he enters the city, Roman soldiers are herding a man dragging a cross out of the city gate. Simon is going in the opposite direction of Christ (as many of us are) and only intends to pass Him by (as most of us do). In that moment, Christ falls under the weight of the cross.

Jesus has been up all night in the Garden of Gethsemane sweating great drops of blood, dejected by the disinterest of His disciples, fully aware Peter will deny Him, dragged into illegal trials over and over facing twisted, scheming men and false witnesses. Then, He hears the mob of His own relatives screaming, “Crucify Him!”

Jesus was thrust into the midst of Roman soldiers, the most vile, perverse army of that generation. They knew how to bring a man to the point of death and revive Him many times over. He lost copious amounts of blood and was denied fluids. Blood ran from the piercing crown of thorn spikes meant to humiliate Him, the King of the Jews. The two rough beams of wood tossed upon His shoulders were truly more than He could bear.

The flesh on His naked body was in shreds from the lashing that kills most victims; however, they were able to preserve the beaten and battered body of Jesus so He would live to suffer a punishment far worse than death. Satan would have never allowed Christ on the cross if he understood God’s plan, but Christ’s desire to be the curse for humanity drove Him to live and fulfill His purpose.

Many claim there are multiple paths to God and multiple ways to Heaven. There was a time when Jesus hoped they were right. In the Garden of Gethsemane the night before His crucifixion, he prayed with men failing the friend test but loved like brothers. He knew the kind of death He was commissioned to die and begged His Father to consider another way.

If there were other ways, God would have spared His Son and expected us to use another way. Jesus accepted He is our only way and willingly hung on a tree breaking the curse for every man. No Jesus, no hope! *Jesus said unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. John 14:6*

The Roman soldiers are in a hurry to get Him on the cross so they can crucify Him before sundown. They look for someone to carry the cross, which is unlawful to force a Roman citizen to do. Carrying the cross of a condemned man covered in blood will defile a Jew and prevent him from participating in the Passover. Forcing a known Jew will cause a riot. Suddenly, they see a broad-shouldered black man. Simon looks at the convicted man whom he does not know and is repulsed by the wooden beams dripping with His blood. Simon would resist if he could.

Simon’s family is traveling with him as they hurry into the city before Passover begins. Certainly he is surly at the delay, but bends down to pick up the cross. The blood soaks his robe while dripping on his head and down his face. Suddenly, he looks into the condemned man’s eyes and witnesses innocence. Simon has no idea the crime Jesus is accused of, but he knows they are hanging a blameless man.

The Roman soldiers disrespect Simon’s person when they force him to carry Christ’s cross. However, Simon passing Jesus at the very moment He drops the cross is not a mere chance meeting but a divine appointment. As Mary was blessed above all women, Simon is blessed above all men.

We all have a cross to bear; but this man Simon was of great integrity and especially chosen by God to bear the burden of the cross for His Son. What was initially considered a great intrusion becomes a greater honor. Suddenly, the cross he is carrying seems light as a feather.

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. Matthew 11:28-30

I am intrigued regarding the things Simon and Jesus may have said to one another on the way to Golgotha. When Simon enters Jerusalem he never intends that his family will become important early Christians, but apparently they were mighty missionaries. Simon and his family carry the cross of Jesus to the continents of the world.

We are told [Simon] was the father of Alexander and Rufus...Surely Mark knew these two sons, or he would not have cared to mention them; they must have been familiar to the church, or he would not have thus described their father. It was their father who carried the cross. It is exceedingly likely that this Rufus was he of whom Paul speaks in the last chapter of his epistle to the Romans, for Mark was with Paul, and by this means knew Simon and Rufus. Paul writes, "Salute Rufus chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine." [Rufus'] mother was such a motherly person that she had been a mother to Paul as well as Rufus...it would look as if [Simon], his wife, and his two sons all became converts to our Lord after he had carried the cross... (C. H. Spurgeon, "The Great Cross-Bearer and his Followers," The Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit, Pilgrim Publications, 1973 reprint, volume XXVIII, pp. 562-563).

The wood beams fall to the ground as Simon watches the hands that made the cross pierce the hands that made the tree and knows they are hanging the Righteous One. Simon came to Jerusalem seeking the Jewish Messiah and finds, by way of the cross, every man's Promise of God.

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: Galatians 3:13

Earlier in the morning, the Jews cried, "Crucify Him, Crucify him." *Luke 23:21; Mark 15:13* "Let his blood be on us and our children." *Matthew 27:25* Simon stood there covered in Christ's blood feeling it seeping through his skin and its power coursing through his veins and prays, "Indeed, let this blood be on me and my sons!"

...and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. 1 John 1:7

Considering the cost of God to save sinners, is it possible He hated the Canaanites? God loved the Canaanites as much as He loved any man, and *God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son... John 3:16*

The Canaanites mercilessly shed the blood of many loved by God. Innocent ones were being slain and misused daily in Canaan. If God could be faulted for anything, it was His delay in retribution on behalf of the innocent. *Revelation 6:9-11*

Yet, God knew the Canaanites had been targeted by His personal enemy. One of God's own rogue sons, known to many in the world at that time as Ba'al. God does all He can to draw the Canaanites from Ba'al as their hearts harden with each attempt. He is calling your name today as well. I pray that you will hear His voice and heed the bell that tolls for you today before it ceases to ring.

Eventually, the Canaanites give the heart of their nation entirely to Ba'al. Their evil and perverse ways persist until they consume even each other by disease and death. Does God have the power to save the Canaanites? Yes, but only if the Canaanites desire the will of God to do so. God saved as many Canaanites as possible. Satan is the god of force, but the Creator calls the choosing ones.

Consider Rahab the Canaanite harlot from Jericho. She pled with two spies she hid on the roof of her house to save her father's household. As one of faith, God empowered the Israelite army to bring down an entire city to save this woman and all those in her father's house. Would He have done the same for other Canaanites?

Uriah was a Hittite that lived in the time of King David. He was a residual from the original Canaanites and a faithful servant to the king. His fidelity to the God of Israel and the nation surpassed that of David in the moment. Uriah had a wife and David wanted her badly enough to break many of God's commandments including taking the life of the guiltless. Uriah, though a foreigner, was a national hero and had done nothing to warrant David's mistreatment.

David found insight into the Heavenly Father's heart when God refused to spare his newborn. It was not David's illicit union with Bathsheba that caused God to deprive him of his innocent son. Evidence of that is found in the great love God had for Solomon. It was God declaring His great capacity for affection toward Canaanites and all sinners. David was both sinner and Canaanite; yet, David, knowing the heart of God, discounted Uriah as if he did not matter within the tribe of Judah. Now David and all of us know the love God has for Uriah, His son born a Canaanite, but born again as a son of the tribe of Judah.

There are other Biblical examples of God's love for Canaanites. *Matthew 15:21-28* If God hated the Canaanites, he would hate us all. Yet, the love of God abounds and surrounds us. It is the work of the great dragon, the old serpent, the one called the Devil, Satan, Ba'al and many other aliases blinding humanity to the love of God.

There is none so blind as he that will not see. Open your eyes to the love of God for you today. For God so loved you my friend that if you believe on him you will not perish, but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

Information regarding Abraham and his experience with Nimrod is found among Jewish Midrash as ancient oral traditions written down for preservation. The following are good internet sources:

- ◆ www.chabad.org
- ◆ [www..myjewishlearning.com](http://www.myjewishlearning.com)
- ◆ www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org

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