

with other descendants of Ham, nor is there the slightest evidence that the Negroes are descendants of Ham. They might equally well be descendants of either Japheth or Shem.

Great changes have occurred in the physical constitution of mankind since the days of Noah. The Chinese, the Japanese, the American Indians, the Negroes, and other groups illustrate the great variety of appearance that has arisen. What the appearance of Noah was, nobody knows. It may be easier scientifically, to think of a background of the yellow race being altered in natural development into both the white and the black, than to think of the yellow as having come from either of these. There is no evidence to tell in what direction the development went. All that we can say from a Biblical viewpoint is that all the human beings upon the earth are descendants of Noah. We have no way of telling from which son any of us came, except those who are specifically mentioned in this table - and this includes only those in the general region in which the Israelites lived in the Old Testament times. The others are simply not discussed in this chapter.

¶ It would be of value to note the nature of Noah's curse on Canaan (Genesis 9:24-27). Noah did not bring a calamity upon some of his descendants. There was no way in which he would have power to do this. He simply was allowed to make a prediction about something that, in God's providence, was going to occur. His prediction referred to the Israelite conquest of the Canaanites many centuries later.

It is interesting to compare Genesis 49:7, where Jacob speaks of the bloody deed that had been done by two of his sons, Simeon and Levi, and predicts that they would be scattered abroad among the tribes of Israel. This was literally fulfilled in the case of Simeon, which tribe disintegrated and the people were scattered among all the other tribes. In the case of Levi