

**A PERSONAL
VERSE-BY-VERSE COMMENTARY**

1CHRONICLES

**by
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The first nine chapters of this book deal mainly with genealogies. I will go through and make observations as I can and add any interesting comments that I may glean from research.

This quote from the introduction to 1Chronicles from William MacDonald's Believer's Bible Commentary tells us why these genealogies are so important.

"Genealogies were very important to the Jews in seeking to maintain their tribal distinctions. After the confusion of the captivity, it was also important to establish the kingly and priestly lines once more."

It was interesting to note that the Chronicles were originally the last books in the canon of scripture in light of the fact that Matthew begins with the genealogy of Jesus through David and Solomon to his adoptive father Joseph.

**1Chronicles 1:1 ¶ Adam, Sheth, Enosh,
1Chronicles 1:2 Kenan, Mahalaleel, Jered,
1Chronicles 1:3 Henoch, Methuselah, Lamech,**

According to Archbishop Ussher, The Annals of the World, this covers the first 1600+ years of human history; he notes that Methuselah died in the 1,656th year from creation. It is to be noted that the writer only focuses on the descendants of Adam through Seth since it is through him that Noah is descended.

1Chronicles 1:4 Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

It was through Noah and his three sons that the LORD made a new beginning with man after the flood. All people on earth are descendants of Adam through this family. Every person born on earth descends from the godly heritage of Noah. From the beginning, all had knowledge of God, but that knowledge became corrupted through the choices of wicked men to rebel against him.

Research indicates that the sons of Japheth founded the people of Europe and northern Asia. The sons of Ham founded the people of Africa and the Far East. The sons of Shem founded the people of west-central Asia.

1Chronicles 1:5 The sons of Japheth; Gomer, and Magog, and Madai, and Javan, and Tubal, and Meshech, and Tiras.

1Chronicles 1:6 And the sons of Gomer; Ashchenaz, and Riphath, and Togarmah.

1Chronicles 1:7 And the sons of Javan; Elishah, and Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim.

1Chronicles 1:8 The sons of Ham; Cush, and Mizraim, Put, and Canaan.

1Chronicles 1:9 And the sons of Cush; Seba, and Havilah, and Sabta, and Raamah, and Sabtecha. And the sons of Raamah; Sheba, and Dedan.

Some of these names stand out to me because of their significance in prophecy. Magog will be the leading nation in a future war against Israel as prophesied by Ezekiel. Gomer, Meshech, Tubal and Togarmah all figure prominently as allies

of Magog. Sheba, Dedan and Tarshish are noted for staying out of the conflict. (See my journal on Ezekiel 38 for more detail.)

*Ezekiel 38:1-6 "And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of **Magog**, the chief prince of **Meshech** and **Tubal**, and prophesy against him, And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal....**Gomer**, and all his bands; the house of **Togarmah** of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee."*

*Ezekiel 38:13 "**Sheba**, and **Dedan**, and the merchants of **Tarshish**, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?"*

1Chronicles 1:10 And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be mighty upon the earth.

Following is from my research on Nimrod when going through Genesis: He encouraged the people to believe that they could be self-sufficient without God. He eventually established himself as God (the Babylonian god Marduk). The building of the tower of Babel was in direct defiance of God's command to "fill the earth." Their intent was to make a name for themselves (pride). Nimrod was the first ruler of Babylon. He introduced quite gradually and deceptively the worship of the creature and the creation rather than the Creator. In Revelation, Babylon is called the "mother of harlots" (false religions) and is destined for permanent destruction for that very reason.

It was because of Nimrod's leadership that the LORD decided to confuse the languages of the people.

Revelation 17:5 "And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."

Isaiah 13:9 & 19-20 "Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it.... And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation: neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there; neither shall the shepherds make their fold there."

1Chronicles 1:11 And Mizraim begat Ludim, and Anamim, and Lehabim, and Naphtuhim,

1Chronicles 1:12 And Pathrusim, and Casluhim, (of whom came the Philistines,) and Caphthorim.

1Chronicles 1:13 And Canaan begat Zidon his firstborn, and Heth,

1Chronicles 1:14 The Jebusite also, and the Amorite, and the Gergashite,

1Chronicles 1:15 And the Hivite, and the Arkite, and the Sinite,

1Chronicles 1:16 And the Arvadite, and the Zemarite, and the Hamathite.

Mizraim is the Hebrew word for Egypt. Canaan's descendants were the ones from whom the LORD took the land that He promised to give Abraham's descendants through Jacob.

1Chronicles 1:17 The sons of Shem; Elam, and Asshur, and Arphaxad, and Lud, and Aram, and Uz, and Hul, and Gether, and Meshech.

1Chronicles 1:18 And Arphaxad begat Shelah, and Shelah begat Eber.

1Chronicles 1:19 And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of the one *was* Peleg; because in his days the earth was divided: and his brother's name *was* Joktan.

1Chronicles 1:20 And Joktan begat Almodad, and Sheleph, and Hazarmaveth, and Jerah,

1Chronicles 1:21 Hadoram also, and Uzal, and Diklah,

1Chronicles 1:22 And Ebal, and Abimael, and Sheba,

1Chronicles 1:23 And Ophir, and Havilah, and Jobab. All these *were* the sons of Joktan.

Elam was the father of the Persians, Asshur of the Assyrians and Aram of the Syrians.

Special note is made again, as it was in Genesis, that the earth was divided in the days of Peleg. I believe this is when the continents were separated. Maybe it occurred at the same time as the division of languages.

1Chronicles 1:24 Shem, Arphaxad, Shelah,

1Chronicles 1:25 Eber, Peleg, Reu,

1Chronicles 1:26 Serug, Nahor, Terah,

1Chronicles 1:27 Abram; the same *is* Abraham.

This section of verses emphasizes that it was through Shem, that Abraham, the founding father of the nation of Israel, was descended.

1Chronicles 1:28 ¶ The sons of Abraham; Isaac, and Ishmael.

1Chronicles 1:29 These *are* their generations: The firstborn of Ishmael, Nebaioth; then Kedar, and Adbeel, and Mibsam,

1Chronicles 1:30 Mishma, and Dumah, Massa, Hadad, and Tema,

1Chronicles 1:31 Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah. These are the sons of Ishmael.

1Chronicles 1:32 Now the sons of Keturah, Abraham's concubine: she bare Zimran, and Jokshan, and Medan, and Midian, and Ishbak, and Shuah. And the sons of Jokshan; Sheba, and Dedan.

1Chronicles 1:33 And the sons of Midian; Ephah, and Epher, and Henoah, and Abida, and Eldaah. All these *are* the sons of Keturah.

This section identifies all the sons of Abraham. Isaac is given preeminence as the child of promise through Sarah. Ishmael was born of Sarah's handmaid, Hagar, and is the father of the Arab people.

After listing the descendants of Ishmael, the historian records the sons of

Abraham by Keturah. These sons founded the people of Arabia and Yemen.

1Chronicles 1:34 And Abraham begat Isaac. The sons of Isaac; Esau and Israel.

1Chronicles 1:35 The sons of Esau; Eliphaz, Reuel, and Jeush, and Jaalam, and Korah.

1Chronicles 1:36 The sons of Eliphaz; Teman, and Omar, Zephi, and Gatam, Kenaz, and Timna, and Amalek.

1Chronicles 1:37 The sons of Reuel; Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah.

1Chronicles 1:38 And the sons of Seir; Lotan, and Shobal, and Zibeon, and Anah, and Dishon, and Ezer, and Dishan.

1Chronicles 1:39 And the sons of Lotan; Hori, and Homam: and Timna *was* Lotan's sister.

1Chronicles 1:40 The sons of Shobal; Alian, and Manahath, and Ebal, Shephi, and Onam. And the sons of Zibeon; Aiah, and Anah.

1Chronicles 1:41 The sons of Anah; Dishon. And the sons of Dishon; Amram, and Eshban, and Ithran, and Cheran.

1Chronicles 1:42 The sons of Ezer; Bilhan, and Zavan, *and* Jakan. The sons of Dishan; Uz, and Aran.

The focus turns to the sons of Isaac, Esau and Jacob / Israel. This section focuses on the sons of Esau.

V42 "Uz" – Job is noted as being from the land of Uz and could possibly even be a descendant of Esau.

Job 1:1 "There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job...."

1Chronicles 1:43 Now these *are* the kings that reigned in the land of Edom before *any* king reigned over the children of Israel; Bela the son of Beor: and the name of his city *was* Dinhabah.

1Chronicles 1:44 And when Bela was dead, Jobab the son of Zerah of Bozrah reigned in his stead.

1Chronicles 1:45 And when Jobab was dead, Husham of the land of the Temanites reigned in his stead.

1Chronicles 1:46 And when Husham was dead, Hadad the son of Bedad, which smote Midian in the field of Moab, reigned in his stead: and the name of his city *was* Avith.

1Chronicles 1:47 And when Hadad was dead, Samlah of Masrekah reigned in his stead.

1Chronicles 1:48 And when Samlah was dead, Shaul of Rehoboth by the river reigned in his stead.

1Chronicles 1:49 And when Shaul was dead, Baalhanan the son of Achbor reigned in his stead.

1Chronicles 1:50 And when Baalhanan was dead, Hadad reigned in his stead: and the name of his city *was* Pai; and his wife's name *was* Mehetabel, the daughter of Matred, the daughter of Mezahab.

1Chronicles 1:51 Hadad died also. And the dukes of Edom were; duke Timnah, duke Aliah, duke Jetheth,

1Chronicles 1:52 Duke Aholibamah, duke Elah, duke Pinon,

**1Chronicles 1:53 Duke Kenaz, duke Teman, duke Mibzar,
1Chronicles 1:54 Duke Magdiel, duke Iram. These *are* the dukes of Edom.**

Edom (also known as Seir) is a reference to the land God gave Esau and his descendants in the land today known as Arabia.

Deuteronomy 2:5 "Meddle not with them; for I will not give you of their land, no, not so much as a foot breadth; because I have given mount Seir unto Esau for a possession."

This section lists all the rulers of Edom. Some commentators note that Jobab is the same as Job.