



GENESIS: THE FOUNDATION FOR EVERYTHING

A person stands on a dark, silhouetted hill, looking up at a vast, starry night sky. The Milky Way galaxy is visible, stretching across the center of the frame with a bright, pinkish-purple core. The sky is filled with countless stars, and the horizon is dark with some grass visible.

A SELF-MADE MAN

GENESIS 10:6-12

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“Now the sons of Noah who came out of the ark were Shem and Ham and Japheth; and Ham was the father of Canaan. These three were the sons of Noah, and from these the whole earth was populated” (Gen. 9:18-19)

“These are the families of Noah according to their genealogies, by their nations; and out of these the nations were separated on the earth after the flood.” (Gen. 10:32)

“Even higher critics have often admitted that the tenth chapter of Genesis is a remarkably accurate historical account. There is no comparable catalog of ancient nations available from any other source. It is unparalleled in its antiquity and comprehensiveness.... There is nothing in any ancient writing discovered by archeologists which is at all comparable in scope and accuracy.”

(Henry Morris)

Who was Nimrod, and why does God single him out for mention in Genesis 10?

Nimrod is an early example of the devastating influence of a self-made man.

Nimrod stands as a testimony to how one man's wicked rebellion can negatively impact entire societies of people, and how easily people will turn themselves over to human heroes to do for them what only God can do.

I. The Making of a Self-made Man (Genesis 10:8)

Noah's youngest son = Ham. He lived in rebellion.

Ham's youngest son = Canaan. He lived in rebellion.

Cush's (Ham's oldest) youngest son = Nimrod. He will be characterized by a heart of willful rebellion.

I. The Making of a Self-made Man (Genesis 10:8)

Cush's father, Ham, was ungodly. Cush was raised among people who actively sought to throw off the authority of God.

He is of the line of those who Scripture said would live in opposition to God. Scripture's testimony is against him.

In Nimrod, we have a product of Cush's home and life.

Cush named him *Nimrod*, which means rebellion or let us rebel.

I. The Making of a Self-made Man (Genesis 10:8)

“Cush, as Ham’s oldest son, had apparently resented this curse more and more as the years passed by. By the time Nimrod was born, the resentment had become so strong that he gave his son a name meaning ‘let us rebel!’ The inference is that Cush trained Nimrod from childhood to be a leader in a planned and organized rebellion against God’s purposes for mankind. Had God destined them to perpetual servitude to the descendants of Shem and Japheth? Oh, no! They would rule instead! And so Cush, perhaps encouraged by Ham and his other sons, began to train Nimrod to struggle for ascendancy among men.” (*Henry Morris*, emphasis added)

I. The Making of a Self-made Man (Genesis 10:8)

Moses is instructing the Hebrews in both the origins and influence of this spirit of rebellion.

Nimrod became like his teachers.

II. The Motive of a Self-made Man (Genesis 10:8-9)

III. The Manner of a Self-made Man (Genesis 10:10-12)

“And the beginning of his kingdom was....”

III. The Manner of a Self-made Man (Genesis 10:10-12)

- Nimrod was obviously gifted as a leader of men.
- He was an able organizer/administrator.
- He had an engineer's eye for building.
- He knew people and how to motivate them.
- He was brave and ambitious.

IV. The Measure of a Self-made Man (Genesis 10:8-12)

A person stands on a dark rock in the foreground, looking up at a vast night sky filled with stars and the Milky Way galaxy. The text "GRACE CHURCH" is written in large, white, serif capital letters, and "WILLIAMSBURG" is written in smaller, white, serif capital letters below it.

GRACE CHURCH

WILLIAMSBURG