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WHAT HISTORY AND THE BIBLE TELL US ABOUT OUR EARLY ANCESTORS

By Joe Spears

MAny people have become interested in genealogy and in tracing their roots. Have any of you ever wondered, “Just how far back can we trace our ancestors?” The answer may be, “Farther than you think!”

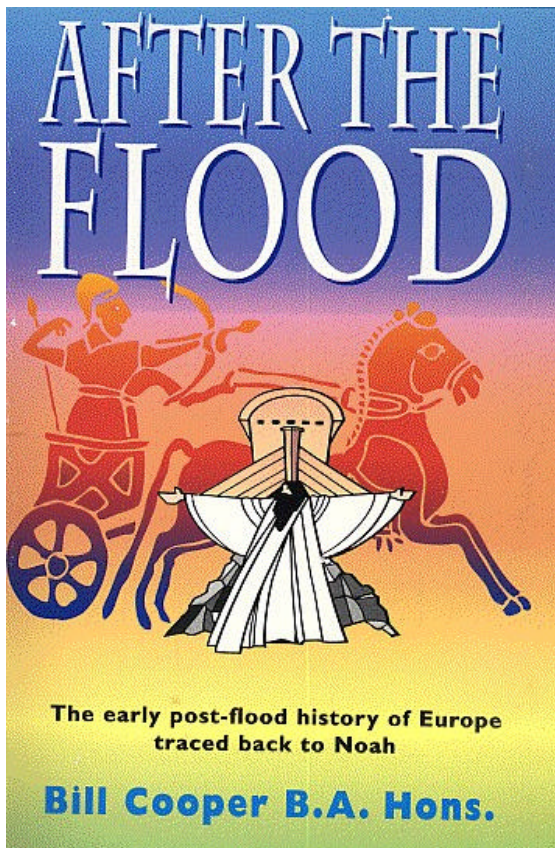
Also, many have wondered about the origins of nations, shrouded in the mists of antiquity and in mystery. Where did the Egyptians come from? The Mayas? It seems that many ancient civilizations sprang up, if not from nowhere, at least more rapidly than one would expect.

Have you ever wondered if the history given in the Bible is actually true? Are all people descended from Noah and Adam? According to the Bible, there was a flood, and only eight souls survived—Noah, his wife, and their three sons and their sons’ wives. From these

people the earth was repopulated after the flood. Perhaps you have believed this story on faith, but maybe wondered if there was any evidence to support it.


Bill Cooper was one person who had heard that the Bible account was actually true, but he had also heard that it was *not* true—that it was myths and fables. So Cooper decided to investigate this himself and has published his findings in the book *After the Flood*. (All quotes herein are from his book, which can be found online at www.ldolphin.org/cooper.)

Cooper began investigating the part of Genesis which names names—the part that tells of the ancestors of nations. He reasoned that if the record of Noah and his descendants given in Genesis were true, then there should be some mention of the names of these



AFTER THE FLOOD

The author lays out astonishing evidence showing how the earliest Europeans recorded their descent from Noah through Japheth in meticulously kept records, knew all about Creation and the Flood, and had encounters with creatures we would call dinosaurs. These records of other nations lend chapters 10 and 11 of Genesis a degree of accuracy that sets them apart from all other historical documents of the ancient world. In a book which is the fruit of more than 25 years of research, he traces the development of the creation / evolution controversy that raged in the ancient world, and explodes many of the myths and errors of 'modernist' biblical critics.




Bill Cooper is a council member and trustee of the Creation Science Movement. He is married with two daughters and has recently been awarded an Honours degree by Kingston University (England) for combined studies in the History of Ideas (Religion, Philosophy and Political Theory) and English Literature. He has lectured on The Table of Nations, under the auspices of the CSM, in Germany, Belgium and at many venues in England including Leeds University.

He has written numerous articles for the Creation Science Movement and for the Creation Ex Nihilo Technical Journal published by the Creation Science Foundation of Australia, on The Table of Nations (The Early History of Man series), the historical Jonah and other subjects.

This book shows how European history can be traced right back to the flood and the descendants of Japheth, through contemporary accounts and a table of nations.

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individuals in the records and documents of other Middle Eastern nations, in addition to the Bible. Allowing for the vast time periods involved and possibly the loss of documents due to decay, etc., he decided that if only 40% of these names could be found, he would be satisfied. To his amazement, he found not only 40% but over 99% of the names to be verified.

He then went beyond this test. He went outside the bounds of the Middle East to carry his search into Europe, specifically requiring that the documents and records had to date from a time before any European nation was converted to Christianity. Therefore, there would be no possibility of copying the names from Christian documents. Cooper wrote concerning the Biblical account in Genesis, chapters 10 and 11:

“The Table of Nations had listed all the families and tribes of mankind in their correct groupings, whether those groupings were ethnological, linguistic or geographical. All the names, without exception, were accurate, and in more than twenty-five years of searching and analyzing, I uncovered not one mistake or false statement of fact in the Table of Nations.

“It has to be said here that such a result could simply not be expected or obtained from any comparable historical document, especially one as ancient as this.”

There we find record of the three sons of Noah—Shem, Ham, and Japheth. In the mythology of the old world, Japheth was regarded as the father of many peoples. The Greeks called him Iapetos, the son of heaven and earth and the father of many nations. He is called Pra-Japati in the Sanskrit Vedas of India, Father Japheth, the sun and lord of creation, the source of life for his descendants. Romans called him Ju-Pater, Father Jove, and later Jupiter. Saxons traced their royal house from him, whom they called Scaef. Cooper reminds us that all these peoples were pagans who had no knowledge of Genesis.

Gomer, the first son of Japheth, fathered the Cimmerians who lived near the Caspian Sea. Riphath was a son of Gomer. His descendants were named Riphaei by Pliny and Riphaces by Melo. The similarity in names is apparent.

Documents from the 14th century BC tell of Tegarama, a region where descendants of Togarmah settled. Togarmah was another son of Gomer.

Yet much of the history tracing man’s origins and the origin of nations back to the flood has not been included in our history books. Why?

The history of the early Britons was practically “erased” because of the massacre of British Christians by Rome near the end of the sixth century AD. This included many scholars and monks. Then, for about 500 years, only Roman, Saxon, and later Norman versions of history were taught.

But in the 1130s archdeacon Walter of Oxford gave a book to the British monk Geoffrey of Monmouth. The book was a very ancient copy of the history of the early Britons, whose language was even then so ancient that it sorely needed translating into Latin before the language became forgotten. However, this book has been criticized. Some criticisms, along with answers, are listed below:

1. it contains errors
 - a. the author notes that if we rejected all historical sources that contained errors, we would have no history at all
2. the original no longer exists
 - a. it is extremely rare to have the original of an ancient document
3. there is nothing else like it in Medieval Welsh literature
 - a. actually, there are 58 surviving manuscript copies of the same historical material

Why then the criticism of the book? Cooper tells us, “... it is an account that flies entirely in the face of everything that we are taught nowadays about where we come from, ...”

Cooper gives much evidence that the book of Geoffrey of Monmouth is not a forgery. He gives an account of the descent of six Anglo-Saxon royal houses from Woden, who is traced back to Japheth and Noah. There Cooper gives six lists from four nations, which trace the ancestry of Woden. A comparison of these lists indicates that Woden is descended from Noah.

Another very ancient source is Nennius’ *Historia Brittonum*. Nennius names Madai, Gomer, Tubal, and Magog—all brothers, grandsons of Noah and sons of Japheth—as fathers of various nations and peoples.

Cooper points out that after the fifth generation following the flood, the lines of the British and Irish Celts diversify. Before that, the four names of their ancestors are common to both. And it is in the fifth generation after the flood that, according to the Bible, the dispersal of the nations from Babel took place! This would of course explain the separation of these two lines of descent.

Cooper writes, "...we note in these ancient genealogies that after the fifth generation the Irish and continental pedigrees diverge in a most pointed way in exact accordance with the Genesis account."

Now, let's look back to something mentioned earlier—the appearance and development of some civilizations faster than one would expect. This has been said of Egypt and others.

Consider this: after the Flood, there was no civilization left; but, just as Noah had prepared for a world after the flood by bringing animals on the Ark with him, perhaps he had also prepared by bringing with him source texts of technical knowledge. Certainly, knowledge of agriculture, architecture, mathematics, and other types of knowledge would prove useful if one were basically starting all over again to rebuild a whole world. It makes sense to bring such knowledge along.

And, if such knowledge was available to the early builders and founders of the most ancient civilizations, then we would expect them to develop somewhat more rapidly than if they were starting out from scratch, with no accumulated knowledge.

There is much more in Cooper's book. For example, the descent of a Chinese people, the Miautso, from Adam, with similar names to those found in Genesis, based on their own oral history and without having the Bible to copy it from.

A very interesting area of research is dealt with in Cooper's book, showing amazing corroboration of the Biblical account of the descent of nations from Noah. To quote one reviewer, "This book is bold in its thesis, well argued in its analysis, fascinating in its detail and will no doubt be particularly controversial to those scholars whose assumptions and paradigms it seeks to refashion." ☺

OPPORTUNITY FOR CREATION SCIENCE BULLETIN BOARD FOR YOUR CHURCH

One of our TASC members, Javier Valdivieso, offers to place a creation science bulletin board in your church to announce information and place articles about creation science evangelism for children, adults, and professionals. This bulletin board would include information, pictures, and announcements about seminars and local events from different sources such as Institute for Creation Research, Answers in Genesis, Creation Magazine, Triangle Association for the Science of Creation, and other national and international ministries. The goal is to let members in your church know of the scientific evidences that support God as

our Creator to help you strengthen your faith and reach out to a secular world that dismisses God. To obtain this bulletin board for your church, you can contact Javier at 919-833-6927 or by e-mail at Creation_Science_ccg@juno.com

COMING EVENTS

Thursday, December 9, 7:30 P.M., Providence Baptist Church, 6339 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh.

The Origin of Life, a new video, by Mike Riddle from the Institute for Creation Research.

Topics covered in the video will be:

- the Miller experiment and attempts to create life
- probability and the origin of life
- the primordial soup and science
- the Second Law of Thermodynamics
- DNA, information, and computers

Please plan to come out, bring a friend, and we will discuss above items after the video.

Thursday, January 13, 7:30 P.M., Providence Baptist Church, 6339 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh.

Topic to be announced.

TASC

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