

III.

HAM. HIS DESCENDANTS AND TRIBES.

The fifth chapter of Genesis gives us the genealogy of Adam through Cain. The descendants of Cain through one son are carried down six generations, as will be there seen. After giving the names of Lamech's children, nothing further is said concerning them. It is interesting to know that the writer of Genesis (Moses) speaks of the fact that the first city was built by Cain and named for his son Enoch; that Cain's son Jabal was the first nomad herdsman; that Jubal, Jabal's brother, was the inventor of musical instruments both stringed and wind; and that Tubal Cain was the first artificer in brass and metals. Lamech's apostrophe to his wives is the earliest example of poetry extant. All of these facts warrant us in assuming that there was a high state of civilization developed in antediluvian times, through the descendants of Cain, and, singular to add, of the arts named, those of literature, music and workers in metals, belonged particularly to the descendants of the rebel Cain. It is said that Cain's blood was taken into the Ark through the wife of Ham, 2448-2350 B. C., when the Flood occurred, according to the Biblical chronology.

Ham's three sons are credited with the fatherhood of the races which inhabited parts of Asia, and nearly all of Africa.

We invite a study of Bible history, of Josephus and of any good general history material here given of the so-called Hamitic races. Especially do we recommend Dr. Smith's "Old Testament History."

Ancient Secular History. When history first opens its doors to us outside of the Bible pages we are faced by the chronological conjecture of modern excavators in Egypt, Babylonia and Assyria. The conclusions of these scientists need not alarm us or cause a weakening of our faith, for while they generally unite in announcing a civilization thousands of years before the accepted time of Adam's birth upon the earth, we may comfort ourselves with the reflection that these same scientists have long refused to accept any Scriptural historical facts until forced to do so in recent times by discoveries in ancient remains. Furthermore, chronology is a study of modern times. The ancient and medieval peoples gave little attention to it. The fragmentary records of ancient times do not enable historians of our time to distinguish contemporary dynasties clearly from consecutive dynasties of kings. Excavations of ancient cities are constantly bringing this condition to light. And hence the chronology of the world is ever drawing nearer that of the Bible. Mind you, we

refer to historical data and not to the conjectures and theories of men. They generally neglect, too, this sacred historical truth that besides God's being the Father of Adam, He was also his teacher in such things as religion and language. As Enoch wrote, "For a book of remembrance, we have written among us, according to the pattern given by the finger of God; and it is given in our own language" (See Pearl of Great Price). Therefore, our students will accept the data concerning Egypt, Babylon and Assyria with whatsoever mental reservations may be necessary. In this lesson we will consider the ancient descendants of Ham, the second son of Noah.

The Dark Continent. It is generally understood that the continent of Africa was settled by the descendants of Ham, yet this statement requires modification, for there were both Semites and descendants of Japheth who settled in the northern part of Africa and who are referred to under their tribal chapters.

The history of ancient Africa is the history of the few countries settled along its northern shores, for there was little known of the interior of Africa until the last century, with the exception of Abyssinia, which lies at the southern end of the Red Sea.

With recent discoveries by travelers and students, the various negro tribes inhabiting darkest Africa have been divided and again subdivided. Among the black races are the Pigmy tribes in central Africa, the Congos, the Bantus, with the Bushmen and Hottentots. There are considerable differences between this vast race of people, according to those who make a study of ethnology. The various languages and the somewhat differing physical conformation of the black peoples is most interesting, if one has the desire to follow it up. The population of Africa at the present day consists of the following elements: The Bushmen, a race of short, yellowish brown nomad hunters; with them may be classed, provisionally, the Hottentots, an agricultural people of medium stature and yellowish brown complexion. The Hottentots who live in what is now Cape Colony are a blend of the Bushmen and Negroid races. The Negroes inhabit vast tracts of forests, some of them unknown to the white man. The upper country, along the Mediterranean, always has been and still is inhabited by Semito-Hamites, or mixed races from Shem and Ham. Africa is a country where one may find all gradations of the human race from the very lowest intelligence up through human strata to the most cultured and enlightened peoples of the ancient and modern world. Indeed, Africa is a living refutation of the false conclusions of evolutionists who claim our descent from monkeys and apes; for the living peoples which represent the various stages of man's development from the cave man up, are found to day scattered throughout the vast reaches of the Dark Continent.

Egypt. Egypt, settled by Egyptus, a female descendant of