

MacMillan Bible Atlas

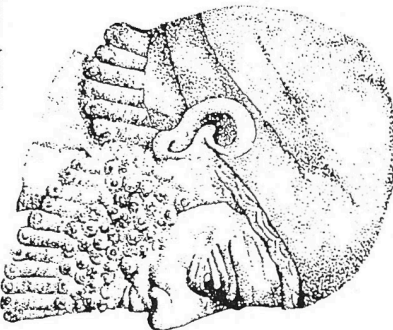
Revised Edition
4th printing, 1980



Japheth—Creton (wall painting at Knossos)



Ham—Ti, Queen of Egypt
(beginning of fourteenth century B.C.)



Shem—Assyrian
(relief from palace of Sargon at Khorsabad)

THE FAMILIES OF THE NATIONS IN THEIR LANDS

OT 1023
B

(TABLE OF NATIONS)

GEN. 10; CHRON. 1: 4-23

IN THE BIBLE there has been preserved a unique list of the nations of the world, within the scope of the people of Israel, the list of the family of man ("the generations of the sons of Noah"). The lands of the world and the peoples are divided into three main lines: the sons of Shem in Mesopotamia and Arabia, the sons of Ham in Egypt and within its sphere of influence, and the sons of Japheth in the northern and western lands. Included in the list are also royal cities and important centers within the Fertile Crescent: in the land of Shinar (southern Mesopotamia) and the land of Canaan. Even if not all the identifications are certain—and some of the names have not been identified at all—the general division is quite clear: three spheres of peoples and lands, which meet in the region of the Holy Land.

