

SYNCHRONIZING THE HOLY BIBLE (KJV) and JASHER

The story format is for easier reading. Duplications removed.

Nimrod and Abram, Part 1

By Maralyn B. Dyck

Introduction: Where the Dead Sea Scrolls are the same as the Bible, I have used the Dead Sea Scrolls for this story. The Bible version, of course, you can read from the Bible. My comments are in brackets. The Holy Bible will be in black normal writing when **not** in the scrolls and the scrolls will be in Italics. Mine are in ().

Holy Bible:

Gen. 11:1-2 And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. (Current studies place the "Land of Shinar" at the southern end of Babylonia, east of the Tigris River. The children of Cush lived in the bottom area of the Land of Shinar.)

Jasher 7-12: When Nimrod was forty years old, at that time there was a war between his brethren and the children of Japheth, so that they were in the power of their enemies. Nimrod went forth at that time and he assembled all the sons of Cush and their families, about 460 men.

He also hired about 80 men from among his friends and he went with all of them into battle. They fought against their enemies and subdued and destroyed them. Nimrod placed standing officers over them and took some of their children as security. They became servants to Nimrod and his brethren.

His brethren were so thrilled with the battle he had one that they decided to make him king over them all. He and his counsellors decided to build a city where he could place his palace. They found a large valley to the east and they built a large and extensive city and named it Shinar (later called Babel).

The Lord had vehemently shaken his enemies and destroyed them. Nimrod dwelt in Shinar and reigned securely. He prospered in all his battles and his kingdom became very great. Nimrod reigned over all his brethren, and they were all under his power and counsel.

However, Nimrod forgot the ways of the Lord and became very wicked, even more wicked than others before the flood. He made gods of wood and stone and taught all his subjects to do likewise. He rebelled against the Lord in every way. His son Mardon became even more evil than his father.

Terah (Abram's father) the son of Nahor, prince of Nimrod's host, was in those days very great in the sight of the king and his subjects, and the king and princes loved him, and they elevated him very high.

Terah married Amthelo, daughter of Cornebo. She conceived and bare him a son; they named him Abram.

It was in the night when Abram was born. All the wise men of Nimrod, and his conjurers were eating and drinking with Terah and rejoiced greatly over the birth of his son.

When they were leaving the house, they looked up towards the stars and saw one very large star that came from the east and ran across the heavens and swallowed up the four stars from the four sides of heaven! They were all astonished at the sight but the wise men understood this matter and its importance.

They said to each other, "This only betokens the child that has been born to Terah this night, who will grow up to be fruitful and multiply and possess all the earth, he and his children forever, and he and his seed will slay great kings and inherit their lands."

They planned to keep the sight they saw that night as secret from Nimrod, but they became afraid that Nimrod would find out and condemn them for not telling him. They decided it would be best to tell him themselves, even though he would not take the news well.

They told the king. They then said to him, "If it seems good to the king to give his father value for this child, we will slay him before he shall grow up and increase in the land, and his evil increase against us, that we and our children perish through his evil."

The king immediately had Terah brought before him and told him the vision the sages had seen.

The king said to Terah, "Now give me your child that we may slay him before his evil springs up against us, and I will give for his value thy house full of silver and gold."

Terah answered, "My Lord and king, I have heard your words, and your servant shall do all that his king desires. But my lord and king, I will tell you what happened to me last night, that I may see what advice the king will give his servant, and then I will answer the king upon what he has just spoken; and the king said, "Speak."

Terah said, "Ayon, son of Mored, came to me last night saying, 'Give me the great and beautiful horse that the king gave thee, and I will give you silver and gold, and straw and provender for its value;' and I said to him, 'Wait till I see the king concerning your words, and behold whatever the king says, that will I do.' And now my king, behold I have made this thing known to you, and the advice which my king will give unto his servant, that will I follow."

The king heard his words and his anger was kindled and he considered him in the light of a fool.

He answered him, "Are you so silly, ignorant, or deficient in understanding, to do this thing, to give thy beautiful horse for silver and gold or even for straw and provender? Are you so short of silver and gold, that you would do this thing because you cannot obtain straw and provender to feed your horse? And what is silver and gold to you, that would give away the fine horse which I gave thee, like which there is none to be had on the whole earth?"

And Terah answered the king, "Like unto this has the king spoken to me. I beseech thee, my king, what is this which you said to me, 'Give your son that we may slay him, and I will give you silver and gold for his value; what shall I do with silver and gold after the death of my son? Who shall inherit me from me? Surely then at my death, the silver and gold will return to my king who gave it?"

When the king heard the words of Terah, and the parable which he told concerning the king, grieved him greatly and he was vexed at this thing, and his anger kindled against him.

When he saw the anger kindled against him, Terah said, 'All that I have is in the king's power; whatever the king desires to do to his servant, let him do, for even my son and his two older brothers are in the king's power, without value in exchange.'" The king said, "No, I will purchase your younger son for a price."

And Terah said, "I beseech you to let me have three days to consider the matter and consult my family concerning the words of my king, and he pressed him greatly to agree to this. The king agreed and gave him the three days.

Terah came home to his family and told them all that the king had said to him and they were greatly afraid. When the third day had arrived, the king sent word to Terah, "Send me your son at a price as I spoke to you. If you fail to do this, I will slay everyone and everything in your house belonging to you, including your dogs!" The word from the king was urgent, so Terah took a newborn baby from one of his servants, pretending he was Abram, and received value for him.

The Lord was with Terah in this matter, that Nimrod might not cause Abram's death.

The king took the child from Terah and with all his might dashed his head to the ground, thinking it was Abram.

This fact was concealed from the king and the whole event was soon forgotten. It was not the Lord's will for Abram to die.

Terah took Abram, his mother and his nurse and concealed them in a cave; he brought them their provisions monthly.

The Lord was with Abram in the cave and he grew up. Abram was in the cave for ten years. The king and his men thought he was dead. Abram knew the Lord from three years old, and he went in the ways of the Lord until the day of his death.

Haran, Abram's oldest brother, got married in those days. She conceived and bare him a son and called him Lot. He was Abram's nephew.

Haran's second daughter was called Sarai. She was ten years younger than Abram. It was at this time that his mother and nurse left the cave and went to live with Noah and Shem. The king and his subjects had all forgotten about Abram. He remained with Noah to learn instruction of the Lord and his ways, and no man knew where Abram was. Abram served Noah and Shem his son for a long time.

Abram was actually 39 years in Noah's house. He went in the ways of the Lord until the day of Noah's death. After Noah's death the sons of Noah forgot God and followed Nimrod who taught them to make and worship idols of wood and stone.

The king and all his servants, and Terah with all his household, were the first of those that served false gods. Terah never changed. Noah and his household, including Abram, were the only ones who stayed true to God during these years. After Noah's death things changed rapidly, taught by Nimrod and Terah from the beginning.

God gave Abraham an understanding heart, and he knew all the works of that generation were vain, and that all their gods were vain and were of no avail.

The king reigned securely, and all the earth was under his control. Everyone spoke the same language.

The princes of Nimrod took counsel together and decided to build a great city and in it a great tower, with its top reaching to heaven, to show the whole world, their enemies, that they would continue to reign over them and they agreed to stay together and not be scattered around the whole earth.

They spread out to seek out and find an extensive piece of ground that would be large enough to build a big city and a large tower. They found a valley at the east of the land of Shinar, about two days' walk from where they were currently. They packed up and journeyed there and dwelt there while they built their city and tower.

They began to make bricks and burn fire to build the city and tower. The building of the tower was unto them a transgression and a sin. While they were building the tower against the Lord God in heaven, they imagined in their hearts to wage war against him and to ascend into heaven.

The people divided themselves into three parts: the first said, "We will ascend into heaven and fight against him," the second said, "We will ascend to heaven and place our own gods there and serve them," and the third group said, "We will ascend to heaven and smite him with bows and spears."

God knew all their works and all their evil thoughts, and he saw the city and the tower which they were building. On account of the height of the tower it took a full day to get the bricks and mortar to the top. This was done daily, some going up and some coming down.

While they were building, some of them would cast arrows into the heavens. When the arrows fell, they would see blood on them. They thought they were killing those in heaven. God knew their hearts and thoughts. He allowed this in order to cause them to err, and in order to destroy them off the earth.

Many days and years were spent in building the tower and God did nothing yet to stop them. Finally, God took action. Speaking to the 70 angels who stood before him, he said, "Come, let us descend and confuse their tongues, that one man shall not understand the language of his neighbour, and they did so unto them.

From the following day they could no longer understand each other and chaos quickly pitted them against each other in anger and frustration. The Lord smote the three divisions that were there. He punished them according to their works and their design.

Those who said, "We will ascend to heaven and serve our gods there became like apes and elephants [black and white colored] (not my comment; in translation)."

Those who said, "We will smite the heaven with arrows," the Lord killed them by making them kill each other.

And those who said, "We will ascend to heaven and fight against him," the Lord scattered them throughout the earth. When those who were left knew and understood the evil which was coming upon them, they forsook the building of the tower and also became scattered upon the face of the earth. They called the place Babel.

As to the tower which the sons of men built, the earth opened its mouth and swallowed the bottom third of it. Fire descended from heaven and destroyed the middle third of it. The remaining third God left to remind mankind what happens when you go against God.

The top part of the tower was still very large. Its circumference was a three days' walk. Many of the sons of men died in that tower, a people without number.

Nimrod and his court were not killed; they were not actively working on the tower. This included Abram and his family.

Some of the sons of Shem decided to travel abroad and found places to build cities. Others stayed put for many years.

Nimrod continued building cities in Shinar and he reigned over them. He dispersed the rest of his people into four cities in Shinar. He established his court in Babel. (This land became known as the land of the Chaldees. The capital city's name was changed to Ur.) Nahor, Abram's brother, died in Haran, when Abram was 49 years old.

The next year Abram went to pay a visit to his father, Terah, who was living in Ur at this time. Abram knew the Lord and he went in his ways and instructions, and the Lord his God was with him.

Terah was still captain of the hosts of Nimrod, and he still followed strange gods.

The anger of Abram was kindled when he saw the twelve gods standing there in their temples, in his father's house. (He decided to provide his father with a real object lesson.)

He had his mother prepare savory meat for each of the gods and placed them before them. He sat there and waited for them to reach out and eat. He did this for four days. He talked to them. Nothing. His father must have been very confused, but he still said nothing, just watched him.

Finally, he had had enough of these false gods. He destroyed all but one large god. In his hand he placed the tool he had used to destroy the gods.

When his father came in and saw his destroyed idols, he demanded why Abram had destroyed them. He denied destroying them. He said, "Not so my Lord, for I brought savory meat before them, and when I came nigh to them with the meat that they might eat, they all put out their hands to eat before the great one had put forth his hand to eat. This made him angry so angry that he broke them all. See, the hatchet is yet in his hand as you can see."

And Terah's anger was kindled against Abram. "What is this tale that you are telling me? You speak lies to me. Is there in these gods spirit, soul or power to do all that you have told me? Are they not wood and stone, and have I not myself made them, and can you speak such lies, saying that the large god smote them? It is you that placed the hatchet in his hands and then accused him of smoting all the others!"

And Abram answered his father, "How can you serve these idols in whom there is no power to do anything? Can those idols in which you trust deliver you? Can they hear your prayers? Can they deliver you from your enemies? Will they fight your battles for you? You still insist on serving wood and stone that are useless to you in every way? It is not good for you nor for the men connected to you. Are you so silly, so foolish or so short of understanding that you serve wood and stone in this manner?"

"Have you forgotten the Lord God who made heaven and earth and created you and thereby bring a greater evil upon your souls in this manner by serving wood and stone? Our fathers of old sinned in this manner and God wiped them all off the face of the earth with a flood!" He pleaded with him to change and follow the Lord God of heaven. Then he grabbed up the hatchet and fled from his presence when he refused to do so.

Terah went before King Nimrod and confessed that Abram was his son (the one that was supposed to have been killed) and told him all that he had said to him and what he had done to his idols. He told the king to get Abram and bring him to court and try him before them before he could cause any more trouble.

Abram was brought before the court and they asked him the same questions his father had asked him, and he answered him in exactly the same way. He beseeched the king to return to the Lord God and to get rid of the idols in the land so that God would not punish the world again. He accused him of the folly of serving gods of wood and stone that could not do anything! When he finished his reply to the king, he looked up to heaven and said, "The Lord sees all the wicked, and he will judge them."

He was temporarily placed in prison for ten days while King Nimrod assembled his counsels and asked them what he should do as a sentence. They declared that burning by fire was for treason against the king and that is what should happen in this case. The king agreed and ordered the furnace to be heated to its maximum. Because Terah had deceived him with a baby not his own, Haran, brother of Abram, was also sentenced to burn with him. His heart was not right with God, for he decided to go with the victor in this case. It was his undoing. That was the only punishment for Terah.

The two men were stripped to their lower underwear and were tossed into the flames. They were bound hand and foot. Haran burned to ashes instantly, but only the cords on Abram was burned. He walked about freely in the fire for three days, while everyone took turns coming to look at him.

Finally, Nimrod ordered servants to get him out of the furnace. Their faces were badly burned and eight of them died. Nimrod then asked Abram to come out of the fire and stand before him. He did so.

When Abram told him that the Lord had delivered him out of the flames, they all offered him gifts and bowed down before him. He stopped that and preached to them. He took the gifts and about 300 men decided to go with him. He left in peace. From that day forward Abram instructed and taught the people in the ways of the Lord God. Many men inclined their hearts to God as a result of his teaching and testimony.

Before leaving both Nahor and Abram took wives, daughters of their brother Haran. Nahor married Milca and Abram married Sarai. Sarai was barren and had no children in those days.

Holy Bible: Haran died before his father Terah in the land of his nativity, in Ur of the Chaldees. Terah took Abram and his son and Lot, the grandson of Haran, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife. They left Ur of the Chaldees, to go into the land of Canaan, but when they came to Haran on their journey, they decided to dwell there.

Jasher: *Nimrod continued to rule securely for many years. His subjects and princes changed his name to Amraphel, saying that at the tower many of his princes and men fell through his means. (History has him working as Hammurabi, an ally of Chedorlaomer, Elam and Tidal when they fought a major battle in the Jordan River Valley and ended up taking Lot and his family and others captive. Abram gathered his trained men and they went after them. Striking at night, they chased them away and rescued Lot and all the other captives as well as all their belongings. You can read this story in the Bible. It is not part of this story.)*

Nimrod fought Elam and took them captive. They served him for 12 years, giving him a yearly tax. About this time Nahor, Abram's brother died.

Two years later Nimrod had a dream. He described his dream to his wisemen and magicians. He was terrified and wanted to know the meaning of his dream.

They said, "This is nothing else but the evil of Abram and his seed which will spring up against my Lord and king in the latter days. The day will come when Abram and his seed will battle against you. You and your three kings will escape. In the end Abram and his armies will succeed in killing the king."

They reminded the king what was prophesied about Abram when he was born! They recommended that he kill Abram before Abram could kill him.

He hearkened to their voices and ordered men to go in secret to go and seize Abram, so that he could suffer death at the king's hand.

Eliezer, Abram's servant, whom the king had given him, overheard the plot and went in haste to Abram and told them what they were planning to do to him.

At this Abram hearkened to his servant's voice and ran for safety to the house of Noah and his son Shem. He concealed himself there and found a place of safety.

Nimrod's men searched for Abram for many days but could not find him anywhere. Since they could not find him Nimrod calmed his anger and soon forgot about him.

One month later Terah came to see his son secretly at Noah's house.

Noah said to Terah, "Do you not know that the king wants to slay me? What have you here and what have you in this land? Arise and let us go together to the land of Canaan, that we may be delivered from his hand, lest thou also perish through him in the latter days. It is not through love that Nimrod gives you honor, but it is only for his own benefit that he gives you honor and gifts....all the wealth in the world cannot avail in the day of his wrath and anger. Now hearken to my voice and come with me to Canaan, out of the reach of injury from Nimrod; and serve thou the Lord who created you in the earth and it will be well with thee; and cast away the vains things which you are now pursuing."

Abram ceased speaking.

Noah and his son Shem spoke to Terah, "True is the word which Abram has said to you."

Terah hearkened to the voices of Abram, Noah and Shem and did all that Abram had said, for this was from the Lord, that the king should not cause the death of Abram.

And Terah Abram, Lot, Sarai and Abram, plus all the souls of their households and their belongings went from Ur Casdim (Chaldea) on the journey to Canaan.

However, when they came to Haran, which was on their route, they decided to stay there for a while, as it was exceedingly good land for pasture and sufficient room for all those who accompanied them.

The people of Haran saw that Abram was good and upright with God and men, and that the Lord was with him, and some of the people of Haran came and joined Abram. He taught them the instruction of the Lord and his ways; these men remained with Abram in his house and they adhered to him.

NOTE: Since the story of Abram is a very long one, I shall write it in sections. I shall upload them as I can get them completed. Just remember, Jasher is history, not the inspired word of God. However, in my opinion I believe ancient history is far more reliable than modern history where they are always changing their minds or making things up to suit their own agenda. I find them fascinating and enjoy reading the Dead Sea Scrolls.

I deliberately left out some interesting parts so that you can read them for yourselves when you purchase the Book of JASHER. I am only providing an outline story to whet your appetites to study further on your own.

Ancient Book of Jubilees by Ken Johnson, Th.D., The Books of Enoch by Joseph B. Lumpkin, Ancient Book of Jasher by Ken Johnson, Th.D. OR all three in one volume called Genesis by Rob Skiba. Available on Amazon.