

-The Patriarchal family of Noach-

The question arises as to why Canaan was cursed by Noach? Why not curse Ham himself, or Cush, or Put or Mitzrayim? By unfolding our Beresheeth narrative a little further than the traditional story, one of Noach getting drunk and Ham coming in and looking at his naked father, we will soon discover Noach's patriarchal roots. My suggestion is that Noach and Ham were enjoying the fruits of Noach's vineyard in Noach's tent, when Noach passed out.

Ham then went into the adjoining chamber and slept with Noach's wife and then came out and being loose lipped because of his merriment told his brothers. They then backed into the tent and covered their father's wife thereby covering their "father's nakedness." Canaan was the child of this union which is why Noach cursed Canaan.

The Canaanites are well known in the Torah for their perverse sexual practices which we are warned to avoid in Wayiqra. A despicable trait of sexual immorality was passed down through the generational line birthed out of Ham's sin that took place in Noach's tent (Beresheeth 9:22). What happened is the very thing that Rav Shaul disciplined the Corinthians for; a man slept with one of his father's wives (Qorintyah Alef/1st Corinthians 5). Yet in our narrative we know that only one of Noach's wives made it onto the ark.

Sefer Ha Yahshar/ Scroll of Jasher and Sefer Ha Yovel/Scroll of Jubilees, tell us of Noach's wives. One named Emzara the daughter of Rakeel who didn't make it onto the ark (Jubilees 4:33). The other named Naamah, Noach's wife, the daughter of Enoch, who wasn't Ham's mother, who did make it onto the ark (Yahshar/Jasher 5:15).

Our text in Wayikra/Leviticus 18:7 & 18:8 supports this by clarifying the phrase for Ham's sin as "uncovering your father's nakedness," which means sleeping with your father's wife (Naamah) who is not your mother. The nakedness of your mother is "her nakedness," but the term used in Beresheeth "your father's nakedness," is in reference to the nakedness of your father's wife, that was uncovered i.e. slept with.

It is also important to note that Abraham/Avraham lived with Noach for thirty nine years (Yahshar/Jasher 9:5) and learnt the instructions of YHWH and His ways. This is clearly where Avraham learned that to order his house into a patriarchal one, was kadosh/HOLY and acceptable to YHWH, just like Noach before him.

Noah was called by YHWH a righteous man in Beresheeth/Genesis 6:9! A perfect covenant man, despite the fact that he had at least 2 wives! (Confirmed by 2 witnesses; by the wording of Torah and also by the historical Book of Jasher). So from heaven's perspective, plural marriage done right, is both a blessing and a covenant truth. Let YHWH be true and every man a liar