If you happen to look up the names in Genesis 10 in most Bible Commentaries, etc, they are going to tell you that they are probably of foreign origin. They’re wrong, but most of them were written before Mount Saint Helens blew up & Creationists started studying volcanic activity. The names have always been Hebrew words, but until recently they didn’t make sense to the readers. Back in the early Post Flood Days, the sons & grandsons of Noah named their kids according to whatever was going on at the time. The first 5 generations of names are mostly describing geological events.

I first got the idea that Hebrew might be the original language from Dr. Henry Morris Sr. Then as I began to study Hebrew, & saw the correlation between the literal & symbolic pictures in the alphabet & the meanings of the Hebrew words that they spelled, I began to realize that only God could have put that language together, & that it had to be uncorrupted right from its beginning. I too became convinced that Hebrew was the original language. Then as I began to translate Genesis 1-11, my Hebrew Teacher exhorted me ‘to let the words say what they say, without incorporating into the transliteration what I thought they should say’. By the time I got to Genesis 10, because I had also been intensely studying Creation Science for several years, including the research on Mount Saint Helens, I began to see that the names in the second generation were describing volcanic activity, & afterwards, I began to see that most of the names in the first generation were also describing geological events, & then as I worked on the names of Joktan’s sons I discovered that they too were describing geological events! Then I sought out a geologist, because although I could translate the words, I didn’t comprehend some of the geological events that they were describing.

This Brain Pickers:
‘Genesis 10 (part 1)’ is a summary of the research for the 1st & 2nd generations born after the Flood. Then ‘Genesis 10 (part 2)’ is guaranteed ‘To Pick Your Brains!’[Earth Roll, Eber’s name ‘overflow’, migrations, etc.]

Genesis 10 (part 3) will be about the ‘Sons of Eber’ (a.k.a. ‘Peleg’ & ‘Joktan’).

Genesis 10 (Part 4) will be the actual Hebrew Text research, which is about 29 pages long.

….. And did you think that Genesis 10 was nothing more than just a bunch of names that God decided to mention?

When I first got married, my Great Aunt gave me a trunk that contained a few items that belonged to my Great Grandmother. Among those items were 2 newspapers from the week that President Kennedy was assassinated. Although the newspapers are now about 50 years old, the headlines still describe vividly what happened during those days. In a similar way, right after the Flood for at least the first 5 generations, the boys were named after the ‘headline events’. In other words, whatever was going on at the time of the child’s birth, that ‘event’ became the child’s name. (The only one to deviate even slightly from this custom is Shem.)
This is going to be full of ‘brain-pickers’!

The research is still on going, so please share your insight if you have some. If you want to see how the Hebrew words are broken down, look them up in part 4. That technical research is laid out according to ‘Bible verse order’. [Did you know that Ancient Biblical Hebrew is generally written in the ‘present tense’? That’s why the names are also prophetic. ]

Before we get started on the names, let’s back track a bit to the Flood itself. For various reasons I’m convinced that during the Flood the Ark was mostly floating over what is now Africa, being ‘fenced in’ over that area by the Fountains of The Great Deep. Then, as the hydroplates began to slide away from the Mid Ocean Ridge, the Ark was pulled in the wake towards Ararat. Apparently the turbulence was intense because ‘Ararat’ means ‘to be plucked from the swirling flow’. Apparently the waters over ‘Armenia’ were a ‘dead zone’, a natural harbor formed by the circle of mountains that were underwater at that time. The ark floated around in that ‘safe harbor’ for many days, & finally 'beached' near the top of Mt Ararat on the side that faces 'Armenia'. (We will see later that the names describe the Armenian side of Ararat.) Later, when they exit the Ark, they find that ‘Lake Armenia’ is below them at the foot of Mt Ararat, & on the 'Turkey' side of Mt Ararat there is another lake also at the foot of the mountain. Consequently they live on the side of Mt Ararat for a few years. What they didn’t understand at that time is that Mt Ararat is an active volcano. A volcano is something that they would have never experienced, or even heard of before, because there were no such things before the Flood. (& the fact that they stick around Mt Ararat & produce 2 generations of babies before leaving, proves it!)

The 1st Generation: When they exit the Ark, they find big black puffy burnt rocks (pillow lava) so Ham names his first born son 'Burnt there is!' (Cush). Japheth names his first born son ‘the end!’(Gomer) because the Flood has ended. Shem names his son after the sacrifices that were made on the altar. To him that was of upmost importance, that was ‘the headline news’! So he names his son ‘Elam’, which is a plural word meaning ‘to ascend or mount up’ & here it is describing the sacrifices ‘ascending’ up in smoke. Then they set up camp somewhere up high on the side of Mt Ararat. Ancient Armenian tradition says that it was in the vicinity of the Ahora Gorge . The meaning of what they named some of their sons also verifies that: Apparently during that first year the massive amounts of debris still floating around in ‘Lake Armenia’ below, began to accumulate in the area where it was draining into the ‘Araxes Gorge’. The accumulation apparently dammed up the drain field, causing the water level of the lake to rise. If there was a ‘Spring Melt’ at that time, it would have also contributed to the water content of the lake. Japheth names his next son ‘on account of the surface rising’ (Magog) and Ham names his next son ‘Mizraim’ (pronounced ‘Mitz-rye-m’): The first part means ‘to suck, drain, wring out’ & the ending means ‘to be high’ (referring to the mountain). The first 3 letters also mean ‘to shut, limit, to boarder’. The ending of the whole word ‘mizraim’ is a ‘dual plural’ word, & that would mean that there was 2 of whatever it was that they were safely high above. My conclusion is that the name is describing Mt Ararat’s water shed draining into both lakes. [Hold that thought, as we’ll get back to it 7 names from now!]

Genesis 11:10 says that Shem’s son Arphaxad (pronounced ‘Ār-păč-shăd’, kind of like ‘our- pack-shad’, except the 'R' rolls into an ‘L’) was born 2 years after the Flood. It also says that Asshur was born before him.
It’s possible that the 2 were twins as their names seem to go together. Asshur means ‘to be happy, to be blessed’, & Arphaxad means ‘to be set free from your enemies to the point that you can utterly relax!’.

In stark contrast, the next boys born are ‘Afflicted’ (Phut) and ‘Humble’ (Ch’naan/Canaan)². My guess is that they are born as premature underweight twins to Ham, & the older of the two is afflicted somehow. I’m also guessing that Ham has a hard time trusting God concerning them, & instead becomes angry, which in turn is manifested when he treats his father with disrespect during the wine incident in Genesis 9:20-27.

And concerning the wine incident.... It's possible that you may have enough grapes to produce wine at the end of 3 years, but it takes about 4 years for a vineyard to be at full capacity. The next set of names describe that incident, & they also indicate that what happened with the fermentation process was new to them, which in turn would mean that Noah was caught off guard. (It was an accidental drunkenness.) Obviously twins, Madai (which means 'From-what-is-enough') & Javan (which means 'To effervesce', which is the process of wine fermentation caused by heat) were born right after Genesis 9:20-27. Apparently before the Flood, the wine making process took longer because of the air pressure being greater. (At greater air pressure there is less room for gas bubbles to be released during the fermentation process, so grape juice takes longer to change into wine. Noah would have used the same process that he had used for 100s of years, which had never previously made him drunk!)

Apparently, after this incident the debris dam (located just past present day Naxcivan and Nechrám) broke loose and the huge volume of water burst through the canyon below, & in the process eroded by ‘syphoning’ all the material just before the canyon. [Go to Google Earth and follow the Aras River past Naxcivan and Nechrám.]

³Google Earth & Map © 2013 Naxcivan
The erosion scares indicate that at some time in the past the water was bottle-necked there, and rose. Then whatever was the cause of the problem suddenly broke loose and the huge volume of water left quickly, eroding the area just below the ‘neck’. In the process ‘Lake Armenia’ disappeared, and was replaced by the Aras River at the base of Mt Ararat. So... Japheth named his next son Tubal, which means ‘to increase & flow (as a mighty river)’.

Mt Ararat with Araxes River below

Afterwards all the seeds left in the muddy lakebed sprouted, & then began to multiply and cover the area, so then Japheth named his 6th son ‘Meshech’ (It’s the process by which seeds are scattered, then germinate & grow, producing more seeds, which in turn ‘take over’ the ground, & thus become strong & durable. They ‘acquisition’ themselves!)

And then, probably because of the water table decreasing radically, a huge terrifying fracture developed in the area where they lived. [Maybe it was the beginning of the Ahora Gorge?] As a result Japheth named his youngest son ‘Terrifying Fracture!’ (Tiras).

Apparently the terrifying fracture motivated them to move down to the ‘Armenian’ valley below the Ahora Gorge. At that point in time, Mt Ararat was approximately 20,000 feet high. (The pre-Flood mountains have been estimated to be about 9,000 feet high.) Shem then names his next 2 boys ‘If only I could fly’ (Lud) and ‘To be high!’ (Aram). They may have been twins, as their names go together.
**Birth Order of 1st Generation Born After The Flood**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sequence</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Shem</td>
<td>Elam, exit Ark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Cham (Ham)</td>
<td>Cush, Mizraim (born here?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Yafet (Japheth)</td>
<td>Gomer, lake level rises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Arphaxed</td>
<td>Fut (Phut) twins, low weight premature babies born?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ch-naan (Canaan)</td>
<td>Praise for deliverance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Madai</td>
<td>twins, wine incident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Yavan (Javan)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tubal</td>
<td>twins, lake replaced by river</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Meshech</td>
<td>twins, seeds in lakebed sprout &amp; multiply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tiras</td>
<td>twins, terrifying fracture develops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Lud</td>
<td>twins, relocation to 'Arminian' valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Aram</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The 2nd Generation names:**

About 35 years after The Flood, Noah calls together the whole family for a council meeting. The plan is to send out 10 of the 16 grandsons to start a new colony. [Genesis 11:10-12]

[The Hebrew translation of the earliest names in the Irish (Magog) & British (Javan) genealogies from 'After The Flood' by Bill Cooper B.A. Hons. (See www.w-rocs.org/stones/Magog_and_Javan_Descendants.pdf) also confirms this. The names also describe the next two generations continuing to send out groups of ten & in the fourth generation, one of them is even named ‘tenth’. Part of the rebellion at Babel was that they refused to continue with this practice. The rebellion is also mentioned in the 5th & 6th generations in the Irish genealogy.]

[If you belong to a Jewish community you automatically understand this concept of 10, which is called a ‘Minyan’. It is the minimum number of Jewish males above the age of 13 required for public worship. The custom probably began right here with Noah, unless it was something they did before the Flood.]

**Who would have been exempt from the numbering?** Most likely the oldest son in each family, because he would be the one to inherit his father’s property, & he was also responsible to look after his parents in their old age. That principal begins to be applied here with Cush being the oldest son of Ham, & Gomer being the oldest son of Japheth, but not with Shem’s boys. Apparently because Shem was the oldest of Noah’s surviving sons, he was already in that position of looking after Noah. With his boys, the youngest one (Aram) stays back. Maybe the responsibility for being the spiritual leader in the new colony fell upon the shoulders of Shem’s oldest son (Elam) and that is the reason that he was sent out.
Out of the 16 grandsons, the ones who remained were Cush, Mizraim, Ch’naan, Gomer, Javan, & Aram.
If the names of their sons are placed column by column according to birth order, & the columns read across, the names describe a progression of events, starting with the council meeting. A condensed ‘layout’ can be viewed on pages 7 & 8 of Brain Pickers Genesis 10 (part 4).

Council Meeting:
Mizraim’s son Lud (If only I could fly!). Ch’naan’s son Sidon (furnish with provisions). Javan’s son Elishah (God is firm!). Aram’s son Uz (to take counsel). Arphaxad’s son Shelach (to send) [Arphaxad left as part of the ‘10, see Genesis 11:10-12].

Formation of Lesser Ararat:
Mt Ararat has a smaller volcano next to it called ‘Lesser Ararat’. The 2 are connected by a 7 mile fault line. The following NASA satellite photo of this can be found at http://www.noahsarksearch.com/wallpaper/sts064-080-087-800x600.bmp The white area is Mt Ararat. The bottom of the photo faces Armenia.

Lesser Ararat ✢ is a cone shaped volcano, about 12,000 feet high. The next set of names describe it’s formation. Apparently Ham’s farm was somewhere near the 7 mile fault line, probably closer to where ‘Lesser
Ara'rat' is located today. After the 10 grandsons left, one day 2 fountains of fire came up out of the ground & began shooting pumice mixed with fire! Here's the names that describe the event:

Mizraim's twins: **Anam** (2 fountains) & **Lehab** (to burn).
Gomer's son **Ashkenaz** (sprinkled with fire).

Javan's son **Tarshish-Kittim**: [In the Hebrew, this is one person with 2 words for his name.]
Tarshish (a destruction that breaks into pieces of white, ie. 'pumice') - Kittim (violent peltings).

Ch'naan's twins **Heth** (terror!) & **Jebus** (He treads underfoot!).
Aram's son **Hul** (to be hurled, 'to fall upon').
Cush's twins **Seba** (surrounds entrance) & **Havilah** (circular) Both names are a good description of a cone shaped volcano (& it also fits the Biblical principal of '2 witnesses').

**Lava Flow from 7 Mile Fault between 2 Ararats:**
And here's what convinces me that they had no prior understanding of volcanoes: Several months later as the magma continued to push towards the surface, the 7 Mile Fault (situated in a straight line between Mount Ararat & Lesser Ararat) began to break open along with side fissures. Then came the pounding earthquakes & at that point in time they were commanded to leave the area. It doesn't say who gave the command, but apparently they fled in the direction of 'present day Armenia'. (Later one of the names attests to this.) Here's the sequence of events according to the birth order of the names:

The 7 Mile fault begins to open, so Mizraim names his next son **Naphtuh** (to open).
As the Magma beneath the fault continues to push upwards, side fissures also begin to appear so Cush names his next son **Sabtah** (surrounded by clefts/fissures).
Then, because of the magma continuing to push upwards, the fractures widen, so Mizraim names his next son **Pathrusim** (enlarged fractures).
Next come intense pounding earthquakes. Cush names his next son **Raamah** (to tremble, quake) & Gomer names his next son **Riphath** (poundings, shakings).
& then the command is given for them to leave the area, so Ch'naan names his son **Amor** (to declare, command) & apparently they flee down to the Armenian valley.

Afterwards the magma breaks through the 7 Mile Fault, and then begins to flow in both directions through the valley between the 2 Ararats.
Gomer names his next son **Togarmah** (to flow out everywhere!) & Ch'naan names his next son **Gir-gash** (to drag, draw away, to impel, drive, approach!)
Afterwards Cush named his next son **Sabtechan** (surrounded by what is built up). The name is actually a testimony to God's faithfulness, because the settlement wasn't taken out in the lava flow.

**Both Ararats erupt at the same time:**
After this both Greater & Lesser Ararat erupt at the same time. There's about 14 volcanoes in the area, & each one has its own particular description. Because Greater & Lesser Ararat are side by side, at that time they described them as '2-breasts'. As far as I know, none of the other volcanoes in the area fit that description. Javan then names his next son **Dodanim** (2-breast judgments or 2-cauldron Judgments). The smoke & ash apparently gave them difficulty breathing & they wondered if they are going to die. When it was over Ch'naan names son #6 **Chivi** (to breathe, to live!). Mizraim's next 2 boys are named **Casluhi** (confident that we will live) & **Caphtor** (a round or spherical knob). You can see the 'knob' in both the NASA Satellite picture & also
at http://www.noahsarksearch.com/wallpaper/souren-topchian800x600-monastery.bmp This picture will also give some idea of the terror they must have felt!

4 of them re-locate to the new colony:
After this event Cush, Mizraim, Gomer,& Javan leave Ararat & head for the new settlement, & this may be the reason why Cush names his next ‘named’ son ‘Nimrod’, which means ‘Let us rebel’ [The research from the Irish & British Hebrew names indicates that the next settlement was around the present day southern end of Lake Van ( it may have even been the City of Van). Javen has another ‘named son’ after he moves there (mentioned in the British genealogy but not the Bible.) .... & apparently they also experienced more volcanic activity down there! ]

Ch’naan (Canaan) & Aram remain at Ararat. Why?
From Ch’naan’s perspective, he probably didn’t want his kids becoming the slaves of his brothers.(Genesis 9:25-27) Aram, being the youngest son of Shem, wasn’t about to rebel! Because these 2 remained behind at that time, the Hebrew language was preserved through them.

They escape a mud flow & wander around:
Apparently a vat shaped lake formed as a result of the volcanic activity & filled with water. Then Aram named his 3rd son ‘Gether’ (vat full). Just before the birth of the next son apparently the walls of the vat breach, & down came a hug mud flow & Aram, Ch’naan & their families had to flee for their lives. Aram then names his 4th son ‘Mash’ (to move, withdraw, depart, escape) and Ch’naan names his twins ‘Ark’ (to flee) & ‘Sin’ (mire). Apparently they were blocked from joining their brothers at the new settlement, so they wandered around for a while, & Ch’naan names his 9th son ‘Arvad’ (a wandering). How far away from Ararat did they go & which direction? Apparently they went in the direction of Padan Aram (the plain of Aram) mentioned in Genesis 25:20, & from there Ch’naan’s band, whose 11 sons formed their own ‘minyan’, spread out all the way from present day Northern Turkey to Southern Israel. Bible maps indicate that Aram’s descendants became Syria. [& before you say, “But the Bible says Babel was the place where they were dispersed”, please wait until you see the rest of the research.]

Danger from wild beasts?
Ch’naan’s 2 youngest sons are named ‘Z-mar-ee’ (wool, or to be shaggy) & ‘Cha-mat-ee’ (to surround with a wall). What would he be building a wall for? At that time in history there wasn’t enough people around to have wars. My guess is that the wall was to protect his sheep from predatory animals. This would be a 2nd witness to there being a need for ‘mighty hunters’ such as Nimrod, mentioned in Genesis 10:9.

Where was Noah & his sons when all this was going on? The best answer is, “If you were in their shoes, what would you be doing?” If it were me, I’d be going back & forth between both places. Armenian legend has it that Noah settled & established Nakhichevan/Naxcivan which is 60 miles down the Araxes river from Mt Ararat. Aside from getting a safe distance away from the volcanic activity of Mt Ararat, why would he choose to live there? Besides it being farmland, there are ancient copper & bronze age sites around the area. The new settlements would have greatly benefitted from such things.
End Notes:

1'Ararat’ means ‘to be plucked from the swirling flow’

Ararat אַרְאָרַת
מָשַּׁלַה to pull or pluck off, to gather וְאַלַּח to flow

הָרֵר to be cursed. curse, execrate [to declare to be evil or detestable]

דָּל the letter ‘tet’ means ‘to ‘twist’ & it’s a picture of a snake. Symbolically it means ‘to surround’

שָׁדָה to spin, twist רָחַם to run, flow, locks, curls, so called for their flowing down the neck

2Cannan is pronounced as Ch’naan in Hebrew. (The ‘Ch’ being like the ch in Bach). Why is this important? Well, because in English it often gets confused with ‘Cain’ the oldest son of Adam and Cainan/Kenan the great grandson of Adam in Genesis 5:9.

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