

Ch'naan ben Ch'am & God's grace!

Canaan:

His name is pronounced Ch'nään in Hebrew

('Ch' as in Bach the musician, & not like 'ch' in chicken)

Ch'nään
!rK.

[Canaan] 'Humble'

The word for 'Canaan' doesn't look anything like the word for 'Cain'.

Below is the Hebrew word for 'Cain'

Kāy-in
!yq;

Cain} Spear or lance

But in English, because they sound similar, we sometimes get them mixed up;
However, as you can see, their meanings are entirely different from each other!

The choice was left up to Canaan. Whose servant was he going to be? The choice was left up to him. He could choose to follow his grandfather's footsteps and be YAHVEH'S humble servant, or he could choose to go the other way. Although many of his descendants chose the later, and were subsequently thrown into the 'burn barrel', there were also a few who choose to be YAHVEH'S humble servants, because of God's grace extended to them also...

Abraham had some Amorite friends who were three brothers, who were descended from Canaan. Their names were **Mamre, Eshcol, and Aner**. They helped Abraham win a war and rescue his nephew Lot, of whom **Ruth**, the grandmother of **King David** came from. (Genesis 14, 19, and Ruth 4)

There was **Rahab** the harlot who rescued **Joshua's spies**. (Joshua 2:6, 6:25, Hebrews 11:31) She became the great grandmother of King David (Ruth's second Mother-in-law), and one of the ancestor grandmothers of the Messiah. (Matthew 1:5)

The **Giddionites** who tricked the Israelites into making a covenant with them, became servants in the Temple, chopping wood and hauling water for the sacrifices. (Joshua 9) Literally they were YAHVEH'S servants. They went as captives with the Jews to Babylon, and they came back with them (apparently by their own free will), and then continued serving in the Temple! (Nehemiah 7:46-56)

There was a band of **Jebusites** (descendants of Jebus or 'Yebus') who honored YAHVEH.

Ornan (Araunah) the Jebusite sold King David his threshing floor where the Temple was later built.

(1 Chronicles 21 & 2 Samuel 24:16)

Uriah the Hittite chose to fight YAHVEH'S battles. What David did to him goes beyond murder and adultery. Uriah sought refuge in the LORD, and David betrayed that trust as a representative of God.

Then there was the **Widow of Zarephath in Sidon** who fed Elijah. (1 Kings 17:8-24)

Another was the **Canaanite woman** to whom Jesus said, "Oh woman, great is your faith!"

(Matthew 15:28)

Amazingly, **The Seven Churches** mentioned in the Book of Revelation were descendants of the old Hittite Kingdom, who were descendants of Canaan through his son Heth! (They were part of the band that spread out, or went aboard after the original band established itself in Israel, **Genesis 10:18**.) In **Revelation 1:1** Jesus calls them His bondservants. (The LORD sent Paul to that area during both his first and second missionary journeys. **God could have picked anywhere to send Paul and Barnabas, but He chose the descendants of Canaan because now they were set free from the curse!** Then they decided to become The LORD'S bondservants. A bondservant is a person who willingly gives up his own rights to become somebody else's servant.) The actions of all these people still serve us today as examples of God's mercy and grace. They are still serving Cham's other sons, and Shem and Yafet!...All the way from the book of Acts to the end of the third chapter of the book of Revelation!

The other descendants of Canaan, who choose to follow the serpent, pioneered the land of Israel, and then because of their evil lifestyles, the LORD wiped them out. They received the heat of His wrath. Then He gave that land to the Israelites who in turn brought the whole world salvation through the Messiah. Those Canaanites became a picture of everything we are before God gets a hold of us. We are wretched and vile before a holy God, like the cloth dressing that covers a sore that has been caused from a deadly viral infection...something that has to be disposed of by throwing it into a fire. That's what we are before we are redeemed. Vile and cursed! Putrid in the eyes of YAHVEH! Despised in the eyes of God! Abhorred in the eyes of God! Yet the Holy One took our place and became a humble servant who was despised and rejected and The One who bore our sins so that He could redeem us! Through Him God's grace has been extended to us.

Canaan, servant to his brothers: There's a thought that Noah cursed Ham(Ch'an) through Canaan, because in ancient days if you cursed or blessed somebody, then those blessings or curses extended to the father of that person. Because of this, it has been said that all of Ham's descendants were cursed. That notion is a fallacy. Such a notion promotes racial superiority, when the truth of the matter is that there is no such thing as a 'race'.

See **Answers In Genesis's** video or booklet titled **'Where Did The 'Races' Come From?**
for online video

<http://www.answersingenesis.org/media/video/ondemand/awkh/where-races-come-from>

for online written material in English (other languages can be found on line)

<http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/nab/are-there-different-races>

Almost all countries have suffered the effects of slavery at one time or another, and not just people from Africa. For example, it is well known that Saint Patrick was taken to Ireland as a slave along with thousands of his countrymen. The Vikings took people as slaves. The Romans had slaves from everywhere. Native Americans took each other as slaves. It is also well known that some Moslems, some Asians, and some Latin Americans have been known to steel young women and children, and make them slaves in brothels. The list goes on and on.

The scriptures say in **Genesis 9:25** that Canaan was to be a servant of servants to his brothers. That's the first thing on Noah's list! **His brothers were Cush, Mizraim, and Put.** Let's take a look at who these guys

were. First of all, Cush's sons Havilah, Sabtah and Raamah, and Raamah's sons Sheba and Dedan inhabited the coastlands of Saudi Arabia...They became Arabs, not Africans. (Nowadays, many Arabs are among the richest people in the world! Are they cursed? Not anymore than anybody else!) Mizraim is the original name for Egypt. History will verify that they were the head and not the tail for hundreds of years! Put or Phut is the ancient name for Libya. All these people have had their ups and downs just like anyone else in the world. The whole notion about Cham being cursed because of Canaan is a bunch of nonsense! What about Africa you may ask? Right now there are probably more Christians in Africa than in America! Is your heart right with God?

The scriptures say in [Genesis 9:25](#) "that Canaan was to be a servant of servants to his brothers." Where else in scripture do we find a servant of servants to his brothers? Isn't Yeshua/Jesus such a one? Was He not cursed? ([Isaiah 52:13 to 53:12](#)) Was he not such a servant to the whole world? ([Isaiah 49:5-6](#)) If you search the scriptures, you will see that this is so! This whole thing about Noah cursing Canaan has to do with putting us all in the picture. We are all cursed as slaves of sin because of Adam's sin. Just like the Canaanites, we were all doomed! Then God sent His own Son to become a suffering servant in order to bear the consequences of that curse upon Himself so that He could set us free from that curse. Yeshua/Jesus became cursed in our place. (For more insight on this, see also the section on **Noah's character** in '**Noah**' in '**your Grandfathers**' section of this web site.)

Shelah's wife, Canaan's daughter? Although most Biblical scholars think that it is a copyist's error, it is possible that the discrepancy in [Luke 3:36](#) could be resolved this way: The list given in Luke is Mary's genealogy, not Joseph's. Luke is listing the genealogy of Joseph's Father-in-law; because of this, it wouldn't be out of character to list both Shelah's Father-in-law and Father. We know from the other genealogies that Arphaxad was Shelah's actual Father, so I would assume that he married one of Canaan's daughters. Luke would have had access to those records at the time that he copied this genealogy. Based on the fact that he doesn't differentiate between 'father-in-law' and 'father' in the case of Joseph and Mary, the same thing may apply at the other end of the genealogy. Arphaxad was thirty-five years old when his son Shelah was born ([See Genesis 11:12](#)). Keep in mind that Luke accompanied Paul on part of his missionary journeys which included descendants of the Hittites, the descendants of Canaan ([see Acts 20:5,13-15.](#)) & that information would have been something that they would have been very interested in. [He probably got a lot of his information from Paul himself, because it would have been required of Paul's training as a Pharisee that he would have had the entire first five books of the Bible memorized by the time he was twenty years of age! Paul had access to all kinds of information that he may have committed to memory before he ever became a Believer. Keep in mind that he was a Hebrew of Hebrews, and as to the law, a Pharisee before he became a Believer. Luke was Paul's constant companion during his imprisonment, which would have been a good time for Paul to pass the information on to Luke ([See Philipians 3:4-7](#) [2 Timothy 4:11](#), [Col 4:14](#), [Philemon 24.](#)). (& by the way, Luke was not a gentile. He was a Jew, & probably from the tribe of Levite. See http://www.lamblion.com/files/publications/magazines/Lamplighter_SepOct07_Anti-Semitism.pdf pages12 & 13)]

Ch'naan & the Hebrew language

(This is an on-going research project & will be updated as more information comes to light.)

The Jews & the Canaanites spoke the same language. In the Old Testament you never see a language barrier between the Israelites & the Canaanites, where as you do see a language barrier between the Egyptians & Jacob's kids. You also see a language barrier between the Israelites & other people groups outside the Canaanite people groups. Why is this so? Here's a possible answer:

In Genesis 11 when people began to migrate from the vicinity of Ararat, & the majority of them first settled in Babel, Ch'naan, decided not to go with them because he didn't want to be his brothers servant! He stayed back in Ararat!! Later, when God confused the language in the city of Babel, those who were still in the vicinity of Ararat continued to speak the original tongue which was Ancient Hebrew. [Only the people in Babel had their language confused.] Later, Ch'naan's kids began to migrate towards the area now known as Israel & Lebanon. They didn't go down to Africa with the rest of Cham's kids because they didn't want to be their servants!

Apparently, either Abram learned the language when he lived in Haran with his father Terah, or, his family's mother-tongue was Hebrew all the way back to Shem, & they also spoke whatever language was spoken in Ur of the Chaldeans. Jacob is called a wondering Armanean Deut 26:5. (It's 'Armanean' in the Hebrew & not 'Syrian' as some English translations read.)

Ancient Hebrew letters & and Ancient North Semitic Alphabets give weight to this theory.