Malkitsedeq, King of Shalem

Genesis 10:32-14:24

Reading Questions

1. What one language did the whole world share in Genesis 11:1?
2. How old was Terach when Avram was born?
3. What is the relationship between Avram and Sarai?
4. What is the relationship between Avram and Kedorla'omer (Chedorlaomer)?

Reading Answers

1. My belief is that the whole world shared the language of Hebrew and that Hebrew is the original language of all humans. I have also read somewhere online there is a Jewish traditional belief that Ever (Eber) did not follow those in taking part in the building of the tower of Bavel and so when the others had their language confused, the Hebrew language was retained by Ever. There is prophesy in Zephaniah 3:9 that may be pointing to all of us, one day, once again sharing the same language – a pure language – which I believe will be Hebrew again.

2. Although Genesis 11:26 says Terach was 70, this is actually like Genesis 5:32 which is generalizing about Noach being 500 when Shem was born, when in actuality he was 502. We know that Noach was actually 502 years old when Shem was born because the flood came when Noach was 600 years old (Genesis 7:6), and Shem was 100 years old 2 years after the flood (Genesis 11:10). Similar to that, where Shem may have been listed first due to genealogy and not due to age, Avram is listed first in Genesis 11:26 but probably was not the one actually born when Terach was 70. Since Terach died at the age of 205 before Avram left Charan (Genesis 11:32), and Avram left when he was 75 (Genesis 12:4), Terach was probably actually 130 when Avram was born and 70 when Avram’s oldest brother was born. I am speculating Avram was not the first born. Shem and Avram are probably listed first because they are in the genealogy leading up to King Dawiyd and therefore also יהושע.

3. She was Avram’s wife but also his sister, the daughter of his father but not of his mother (Genesis 20:12). This was done before it was prohibited to do so. At some point, such was probably the norm since the population on earth had to increase somehow. However, eventually this was outlawed later on in Leviticus 18:9.

4. Kedorla'omer was the king of Eylam (Genesis 14:1). Eylam was probably a city named after Eylam the son of Shem (Genesis 10:22). This would make them close relatives and both Semites.
Reading Notes

- The issue of tithing comes up in this reading and is a very controversial issue that is disagreed upon among believers. You can click here to read a little about tithing if you want to hear our perspective on this.

- In Genesis 14:18 we learn that Malkitsedeq is king of Shalem. Later on in Psalms 76:1-2 we get confirmation that Shalem is the same as Yerushalayim when it states that Shalem is where the booth/tabernacle of Elohiym is. This is very interesting to say the least.

Related Verses

Clean Lip Prophecy: Zephaniah 3:9  
Avraham Chosen: Nehemiah 9:7-8  
All Nations Blessed In Avram & In His Seed: Genesis 18:18, 22:18, 26:4, 28:14, Acts 3:25-26, Galatians 3:8  
Shalem: Psalms 76:1-2  