

Deuteronomy 7

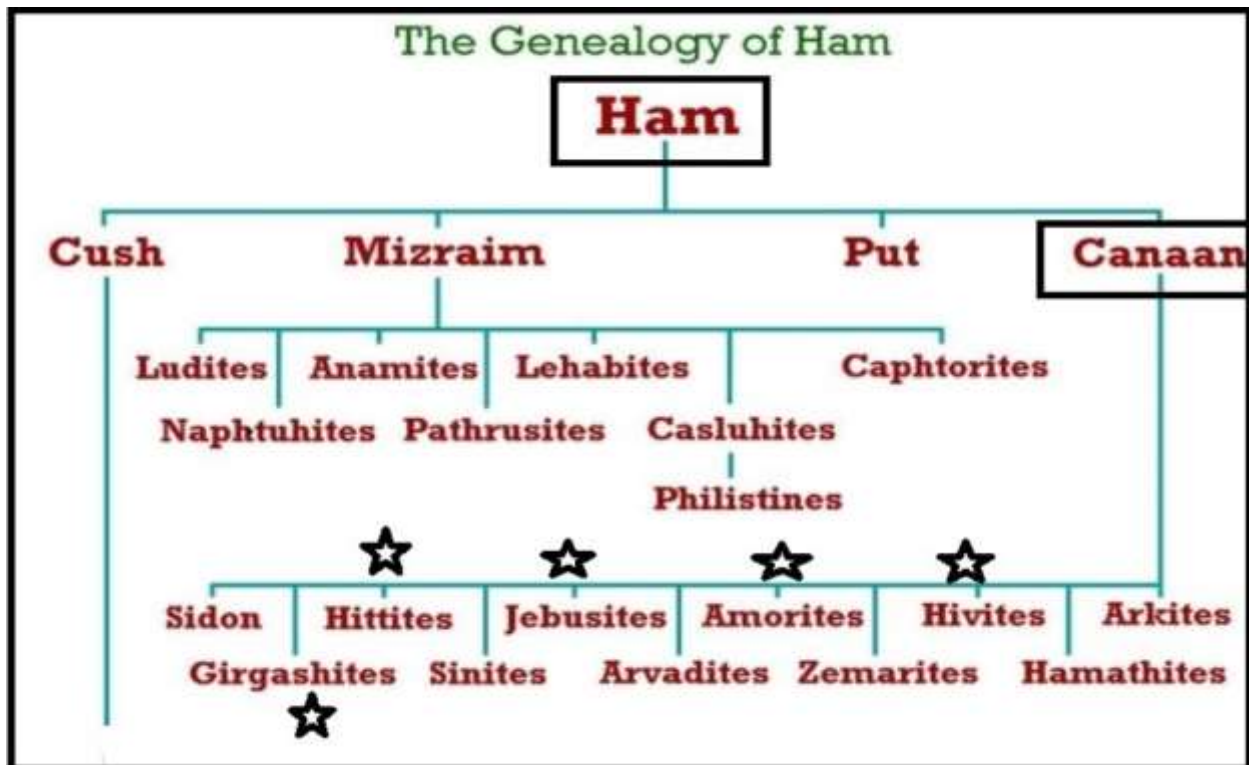
Verses 1 - 4

“When the Lord your God brings you into the land where you are entering to take possession of it, and He drives away many nations from before you, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than you, ² and when the Lord your God turns them over to you and you defeat them, you shall utterly destroy them. You shall not make a covenant with them nor be gracious to them. ³ Furthermore, you shall not intermarry with them: you shall not give your daughters to their sons, nor shall you take their daughters for your sons. ⁴ For they will turn your sons away from following Me, and they will serve other gods; then the anger of the Lord will be kindled against you and He will quickly destroy you.

When the Lord your God drives away, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than you,

The Canaanites were descended from Ham

See pic 705



Their homeland was from Sidon in the north to Sodom and Gomorrah in the south.

See map 710



When the Lord your God turns them over to you and you defeat them, you shall utterly destroy them

Judgment day had come for the sons of Canaan and God was using Israel as an instrument of divine justice.

You shall not make a covenant with them nor be gracious to them.

You shall not intermarry with them

For they will turn your sons away from following me; then the anger of the Lord will be kindled against you and He will quickly destroy you.

For Israel it was a question of destroying them or being destroyed by them

Verses 5 – 11

⁵ But this is what you shall do to them: you shall tear down their altars, smash their memorial stones, cut their Asherim to pieces, and burn their carved images in the fire. ⁶ For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His personal possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷ “The Lord did not make you His beloved nor choose you because you were greater in number than any of the peoples, since you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸ but because the Lord loved you and kept the oath which He swore to your forefathers, the Lord brought you out by a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹ Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His faithfulness to a thousand generations for those who love Him and keep His commandments; ¹⁰ but He repays those who hate Him to their faces, to eliminate them; He will not hesitate toward him who hates Him, He will repay him to his face. ¹¹ Therefore, you shall keep the commandment, the statutes, and the judgments which I am commanding you today, to do them.

You shall tear down their altars

Smash their memorial stones

Cut their Asherim to pieces

And burn their carved images in the fire

Canaan was a grandson of Noah that was cursed by Noah for his sin of sodomy.

Canaan was notorious for their sex gods, and the immoral worship services

God didn't want any reminder of their false gods and immoral religious services to remain.

⁷ “The Lord did not make you His beloved nor choose you because you were greater in number than any of the peoples, since you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸ but because the Lord loved you and kept the oath which He swore to your forefathers

At this time the people of Israel numbered around 2.5 million people but they were the least in comparison to other nations.

Many of the other nations had their start after the global flood in 3098 BC.

God did not chose Abraham until he was 75 in the year 1921 BC

The pagan nations had a 1,000 year head start in some cases.

See chart 715

Ch	Person	Event	Age	Year
5	Noah	Birth		3698
6	Noah	first son is born	500	3198
6	Noah	Shem is born	502	3196
7	Noah	Global flood	600	3098
8		Dry ground		3097
10	Arphaxad	Birth		3096
10	Shelah	Birth		2961
10	Eber	Birth		2831
10	70 Nations appear after the flood			From 3097
11	and before the Tower of Babel			to 2697
11	Peleg	Birth (see 10:25)		2697
11	Reu	Birth		2567
11	Serug	Birth		2435
11	Nahor	Birth		2305
11	Terah	Birth		2126
11	Terah	first child	70	2056
11	Terah	Abraham is born	130	1996
12	Abraham	Leaves for Harran	75	1921

Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His faithfulness to a thousand generations for those who love Him and keep His commandments

Let's take a look at just a few ways God has been faithful to His people.

When there was famine, God sent Israel to Egypt where they were given the best land.

Then he performed great miracles to rescue them from Egypt.

He crushed the Egyptian army at the red Sea while Israel walked across on dry ground.

The God nourished and guided Israel in the wilderness.

This is how God showed his faithfulness

There has been about 153 generations from Adam & Eve until this present day. Since God is faithful to 1,000 generations He has us covered for the next 26,000 years. 😊

But He repays those who hate Him to their faces, to eliminate them

Egypt was a good example of this principle, and the 7 nations of Canaan will soon face the God of Heaven.

Verses 12 – 16

¹² “Then it shall come about, because you listen to these judgments and keep and do them, that the Lord your God will keep His covenant with you and His faithfulness which He swore to your forefathers. ¹³ And He will love you, bless you, and make you numerous; He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain, your new wine, and your oil, the newborn of your cattle and the offspring of your flock, in the land which He swore to your forefathers to give you. ¹⁴ You shall be blessed above all peoples; there will be no sterile male or infertile female among you or among your cattle. ¹⁵ And the Lord will remove from you all sickness; and He will not inflict upon you any of the harmful diseases of Egypt which you have known, but He will give them to all who hate you. ¹⁶ You shall consume all the peoples whom the Lord your God will turn over to you; your eye shall not pity them, nor shall you serve their gods, for that *would be* a snare to you.

Then it shall come about, because you listen to these judgments and keep and do them, that the Lord your God will keep His covenant with you

All of the blessings promised here were contingent on Israel keeping the covenant.

¹³ And He will love you, bless you, and make you numerous; He will also bless your grain, your new wine, and your oil, the newborn of your cattle and the offspring of your flock. The Lord will remove from you all sickness.

The material and physical blessings were a significant part of their reward for obeying.

Unfortunately, this caused some Israelites to believe that if someone was wealthy it meant they were close to God. And even worse than that, they saw the poor as not being right with God. This wasn't God's fault of course. It was the result of some foolish thinking on the part of the general public and a way for the aristocracy to attack the poor. See John 9:34

You shall consume all the peoples whom the Lord your God will turn over to you; your eye shall not pity them, nor shall you serve their gods, for that *would be a snare to you.*

This was another warning to Israel concerning the nations of Canaan. They must kill them or they will suffer the consequences.

Verse 17 – 23

¹⁷ “If you say in your heart, ‘These nations are greater than I; how can I dispossess them?’ ¹⁸ you are not to be afraid of them; you shall remember well what the Lord your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt: ¹⁹ the great trials which your eyes saw and the signs and the wonders, and the mighty hand and the outstretched arm by which the Lord your God brought you out. The Lord your God will do the same to all the peoples of whom you are afraid. ²⁰ Indeed, the Lord your God will send the hornet against them, until those who are left and hide themselves from you perish. ²¹ You are not to be terrified of them, because the Lord your God is in your midst, a great and awesome God. ²² And the Lord your God will drive away these nations from you little by little; you will not be able to put an end to them quickly, otherwise the wild animals would become too numerous for you. ²³ But the Lord your God will turn them over to you, and will throw them into great confusion until they are destroyed.

If you say in your heart, ‘These nations are greater than I; how can I dispossess them?’¹⁸ you are not to be afraid of them; you shall remember well what the Lord your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt

Moses is trying to encourage the people by reminding them that the job of disposing these 7 nations is not based on their ability.

The defeat of Egypt came by the hand of God. Since God destroyed the nation of Egypt, He can do the same to those in Canaan.

Israel had to war against these nations, but God did the heavy lifting.

The Lord your God will do the same to all the peoples of whom you are afraid. Indeed, the Lord your God will send the hornet against them

Some people think the hornet is used as a metaphor. That God will use some type of opposition but He is not revealing what it will be at this point in time.

Others take this to be literal.

What did God use to cripple Egypt?

He used Frogs, Gnats, Flies, locusts, the killing of livestock, Boils, Hail; things common to the natural world.

So why is it hard for people to believe that God would use the hornet?

And the Lord your God will drive away these nations from you little by little; you will not be able to put an end to them quickly, otherwise the wild animals would become too numerous for you.²³ But the Lord your God will turn them over to you, and will throw them into great confusion until they are destroyed.

And the Lord your God will drive away these nations from you little by little

The wars in Canaan covered a span of 7 years

See chart 720

7 years of war See Joshua 14:7-10

Numbers	Event	Year 2 - 1445	Place
12:16	Arrive at Kadesh-barnea	3-2-02	At Kadesh
13	Explore Canaan	40 days	Caleb is 40
14	The people rebel	4th month	At Kadesh
14:44-45	Defeated by Amorites	4th month	Hill country

Joshua	Event	Year	Other
3	Crossing the Jordan	1-10-1406	Joshua 4:19
6	Fall of Jericho	1-22-1406	Joshua 6:14
7	Israel defeated at Ai	1406 - 1400	
8	Ai destroyed	1406 - 1400	
10	Sothern cities conquered	1406 - 1400	
11	Northern Kings defeated	1406 - 1400	
12	List of Kings defeated	1400	7 years of war
14	Hebron given to Caleb	1400	Caleb is 85
14 - 19	Land allotted in Canaan	1400 - 1393	Took 7 years

Caleb was 85 at the end of the wars in Canaan.

See Joshua 14:15

But what year is that?

Well, Caleb was 40 years old when he explored Canaan in 1445 BC.

45 years later at the age of 85 it was 1400 BC (When the war in Canaan ended).

See Joshua 14:7-10

The war started in 1406 BC and ended in 1400 BC.

That covers a period of 7 years

But even when the 7 years of war were over there was still a lot of land that needed to be taken from the Canaanites.

See Joshua 13:1

But that would not happen until after the death of Joshua in 1375 BC

See Judges 1:1

Verses 24 – 26

²⁴ And He will hand over their kings to you, so that you will eliminate their name from under heaven; no one will be able to stand against you until you have destroyed them. ²⁵ The carved images of their gods you are to burn with fire; you shall not covet the silver or the gold that is on them, nor take it for yourselves, or you will be trapped by it; for it is an abomination to the Lord your God. ²⁶ And you shall not bring an abomination into your house and become designated for destruction, like it; you are to utterly detest it, and you are to utterly loathe it, for it is something designated for destruction.

No one will be able to stand against you until you have destroyed them

As we have mentioned before this was a slow process.

The initial war with Canaan was a great success but after Joshua died there was still a lot of land to be won.

The Israelites won some more land after the death of Joshua but not all that had been promised to them.

This was due to a lack of faith on the part of Israel. The period of the Judges can be summarized by one verse.

See Judges 17:6

The Israelites did not fully conquer the land that was promised to them until the time of King David and his son Solomon.

This was about 450 years after they crossed the Jordan River to destroy Jericho.

The carved images of their gods you are to burn with fire; you shall not covet the silver or the gold that is on them, nor take it for yourselves, or you will be trapped by it; for it is an abomination to the Lord your God

If this had not been commanded the people would have argued that they kept the idols just to harvest the precious metals.