

BIBLE 101 –CLASS 2 –Bible Tech

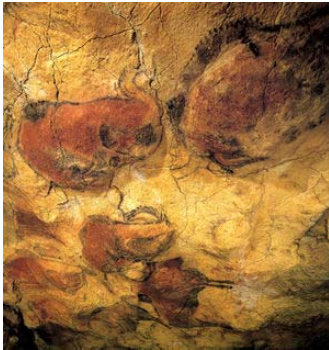


-Bible Technology

Genesis 4:15

“And the LORD said to him, “Therefore, whoever kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold.” And the LORD set a mark on Cain, lest anyone finding him should kill him.”

CAVE DRAWINGS



While most in academics have bought into the idea that man was simple and stupid and “evolved” into smart and sophisticated the actual Biblical history tells a very different story.

There are three originating covenants that God Himself initiated.

Pre-sin covenants

- 1- **God's Presence Covenant** - Bring God's presence to the earth – Gen. 1:28
- 2- **God's Protection Covenant** – Do not eat of the tree of evil – Gen. 2:17
- 3- **Marriage Covenant** – First marriage – Gen. 2:18-24

Post sin Covenants

- 1- **Messiah Covenant** – Gen. 3:14-15
- 2- **Blood Sacrifices Covenant** – Gen. 3:21
- 3- **Sin Record Covenant** – Gen. 4:15

Sin record covenant is the origin of writing. The first written word was a WARNING FROM GOD not to punish Cain for his sin.

Job 19:23-26

²³ "Oh, that my words were written! Oh, that they were ***inscribed in a book!*** ²⁴ That they were ***engraved on a rock,*** with an ***iron pen and lead,*** forever! ²⁵ For I know *that* my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth; And after my skin is destroyed this I know that in my flesh I shall see God..."



FAMILY RECORDS

Recording in ancient times became the most important science in humanity. When humans realized they were going to live beyond the judgment of the flood for 10 generations they began to keep records. Tradition reports that Noah had these records.

Gen. 5:1

¹ This is the book of the genealogy of Adam. In the day that God created man, He made him in the likeness of God.

The first part of the Bible is a family record of humanity and how the so-called races developed around the globe.

Gen. 10:1

¹ Now this is the genealogy of the sons of Noah: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And sons were born to them after the flood.

The question is how were the records recorded? Inscribed on rocks? Etched in metal? Perhaps written on animal skin? The following are specific writing mediums that have been used throughout the generations.

PAPYRUS – from the Greek word papyrus. This is the root word for paper. The way this paper is made is fascinating. First reeds of papyrus plant were laid at right angles and hammered flat then polished to make a very sturdy kind of cardboard type of paper. Large shipments of papyrus were shipped from Egypt through the famous Syrian port Byblos. This is where we get the name BIBLE and also BOOKS. Papyrus preserves well in hot dry climates. The oldest Papyrus fragment known to exist today is 4,400 years old! Writing instruments were dipped in dye and used to “mark” the papyrus with words.



AN ANCIENT SCRIBES PEN
To be a scribe in the ancient times was the highest profession. It was the most noble profession. In a battle the scribes were rarely killed and always taken prisoner since they were valuable for record keeping and propaganda.

PARCHMENT – Prepared animal skins on which scribes would write. This is most likely the way the family records of Genesis were kept since God Himself killed animals to make skins for Adam and Eve. Interestingly SHEEP SKINS were the more popular choice for writing on. The skins were shaved and scraped to make the material ready to receive ink. The word Parchment comes from the name of the city of Pergamum in Asia Minor. It was here the manufacturing of animal skins for writing developed.

VELLUM – Specific CALF SKIN prepared and dyed purple for writing to show up better. The writing on these skins called VELLUM was often GOLD or SILVER dye ink. These are also called LEATHER SCROLLS. The oldest VELLUM known today is dated to 1500 BC or 3500 years old.

OSTRACA – pottery use for writing. This was UNGLAZED pottery that was used by the common people. Often times business transactions and contracts or receipts were written on OSTRACA.



MONUMENTS – were large stone man made or natural structures carved and engraved often to mark off a military victory or to establish a property line between tribes. In some cases they were used, especially by the Egyptians, as KEYS to languages. One of the most famous MONUMENTS is the ROSETTA STONE. On this monument is both GREEK writing deciphering EGYPTIAN HIEROGLYPHICS. The Rosetta Stone was a remarkable discovery in archaeology

marking the deciphering of the ancient Egyptian languages. Below is a picture of the Rosetta Stone in the British Museum.



FORMS OF ANCIENT BOOKS – in much of ancient history writing was a skill not accessible to the common man. Only the privileged were taught basics and scribes were considered to be the elite. In most cases portable documents were scrolls. These scrolls could sometimes be as long as 144 feet although the average scroll was about 22 feet long. Sometimes a double-sided scroll was created. These were called "OPISTHOGRAPHS". What made these scrolls so important is that they were able to make public records more portable than regular scrolls. They seemed to carry more information farther and faster.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES:

- 1-Ezra 6:1-2
- 2-Psalm 40:7-8
- 3-Isaiah 8:1-2
- 4-Isaiah 30:8
- 5-Jeremiah 36:1-4
- 6-Ezekiel 2:9 – NOTE the OPISTHOGRAPH
- 7-Rev. 5:1-2 – NOTE the SEALS

PSALM 12:6-7

⁶ The words of the LORD are pure words, Like silver tried in a furnace of earth, Purified seven times.
⁷ You shall keep them, O LORD, You shall preserve them from this generation forever.

Reading and meditation assignment – 2 Timothy 4