

Genesis (Part 1b)

Genesis 10:8-12

- 1) Nimrod and the founding of Babylon**
- 2) The founding of the cities of Assyria.**
- 3) The Libraries of Nineveh**

Genealogy

The Flood - Abram

	Date BC		Shem	
Date of the Flood	2348	1656		100 Genesis 11:10
Arphaxad born	2346	1658		102 Genesis 11:10
Shem died	1846	2158		500 Genesis 11:11
			Arphaxad	
Salah born	2311	1693		35 Genesis 11:12
Arphaxad died	1998	2006		403 Genesis 11:13
			Salah	
Eber born	2281	1723		30 Genesis 11:14
Salah died	1878	2126		403 Genesis 11:15
			Eber	
Peleg born	2247	1757		34 Genesis 11:16
Eber died	1817	2187		430 Genesis 11:17
			Peleg	
Reu born	2217	1787		30 Genesis 11:18
Peleg died	2008	1996		209 Genesis 11:19
			Reu	
Serug born	2185	1819		32 Genesis 11:20
Reu died	1978	2026		207 Genesis 11:21
			Serug	
Nahor born	2155	1849		30 Genesis 11:22
Serug died	1955	2049		200 Genesis 11:23
			Nahor	
Terah born	2126	1878		29 Genesis 11:24
Nahor died	2007	1997		119 Genesis 11:25
			Terah	
Abram, Nahor, Haran	2056	1948		70 Genesis 11:26
Alternative date	1996	2008		130
Sarai born	2046	1958		
Alternative date	1986	2018		
Terah died in Haran	1921	2083		205 Genesis 11:32

1) Nimrod and the founding of Babylon

Genesis 10:8-9

'And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.'

Nimrod's kingdom – King over the people.

Idolatry was central to the building of his kingdom.

Proverb 'Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD'.

'...before the LORD' Hebrew: פָּנִים 'paniyim'

Means in this context 'in opposition to the Lord'

His kingdom was established in rebellion against the LORD.

He introduced an idolatrous counterfeit. cf. Rev 17:5.

Nimrod

Genesis 10:8-10 ‘And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD. And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.’

Babel - Babylon

Erech - Uruk (Warka)

Accad - Akkad

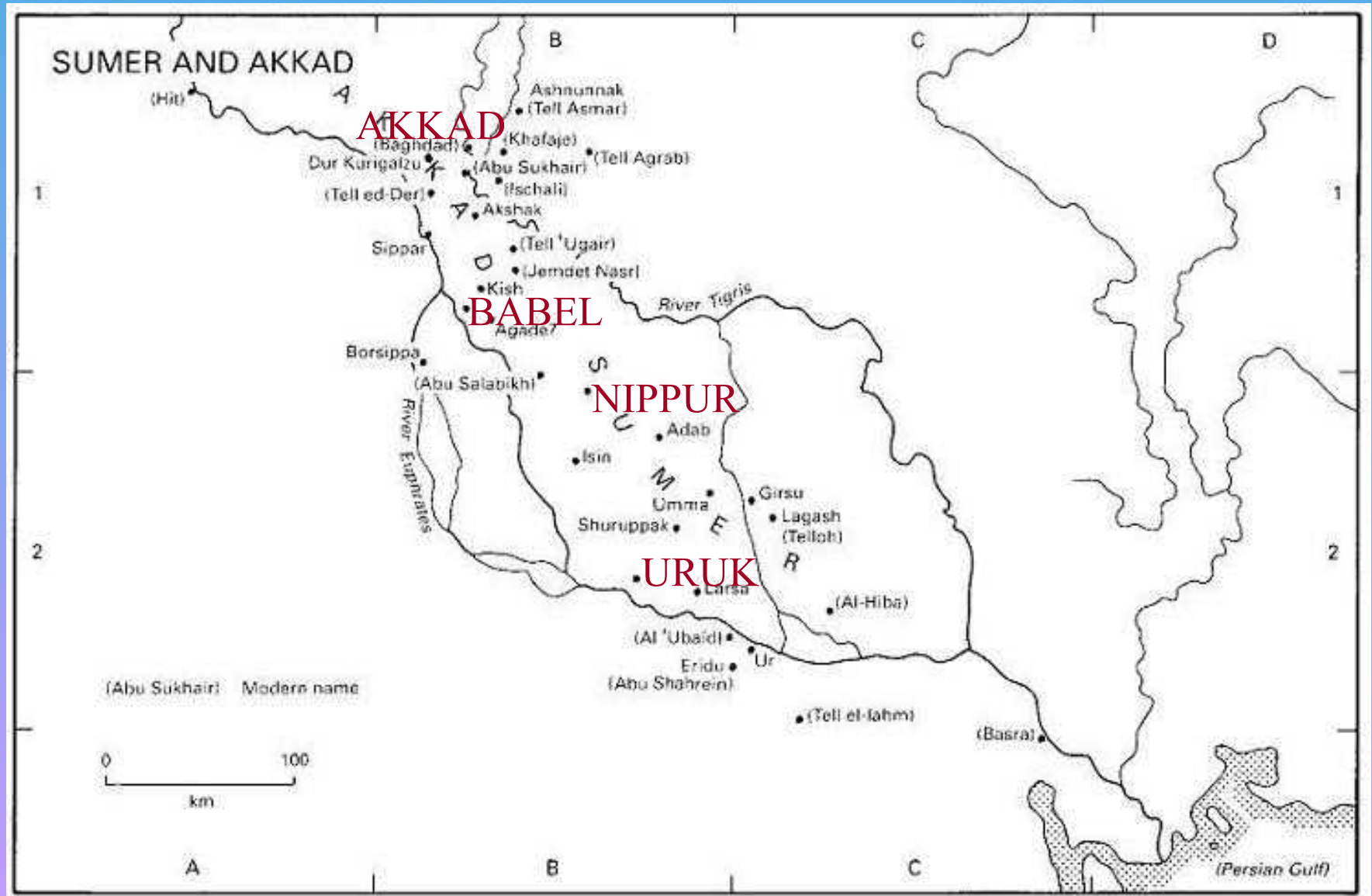
Calneh – possibly Nippur

Cities dedicated to particular deity.

Uruk dedicated to Inanna (Mother goddess).

Nippur dedicated to Enlil

The rise of Babylon and the kingdom of Nimrod



Found at Warka – Uruk (Erech Gen 10:10)

Dedicated to Ishtar (Inanna)

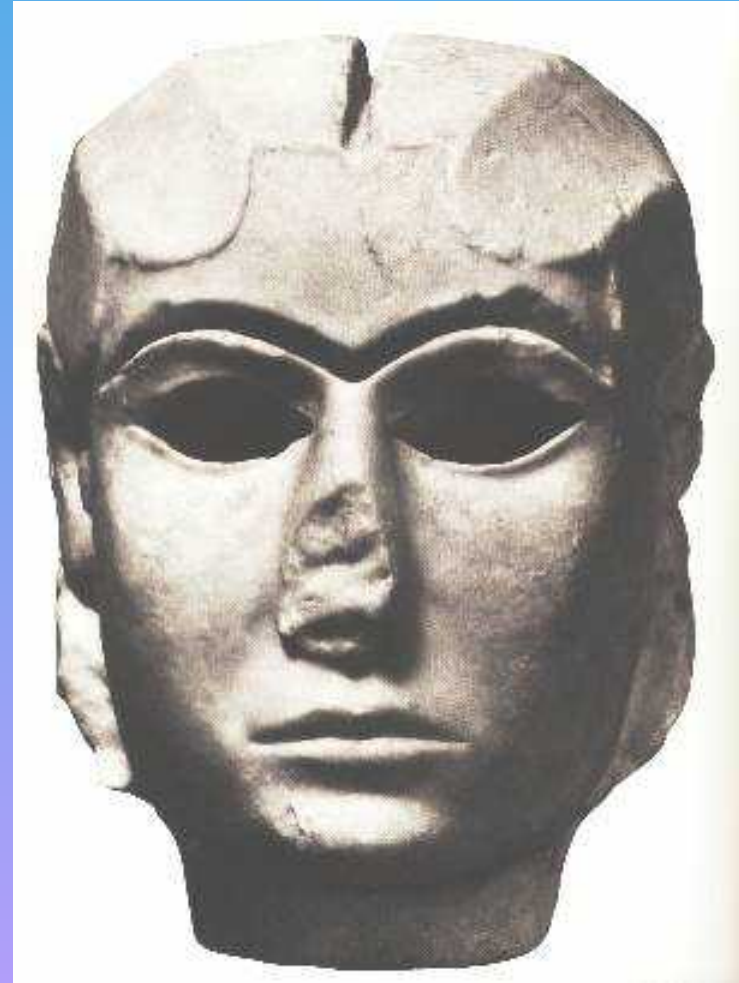
Kingdom of Nimrod.

1. Face of a woman from Uruk

Made of Marble.

Size 20.3cm

Date c. 3000 BC



Found at Warka – Uruk (Erech Gen 10:10)

2. Religious Votive Cone '(freewill offering cone made on behalf of the King)

Made by priests.

Pilgrims bought the cones to place them in the wall of the temple to the goddess Ishtar (Inanna). It was an offering for the welfare of the King.

'For Sin-ga-shid, the mighty hero, King of Erech, King of Amanu, in the temple of the goddess Ishtar which he built in the royal residence of his kingdom.'

Date: 2100 BC



Accad (Akkad)

Flourished under **Sargon** c.2334 BC.

Who established an Akkadian Empire.

Daughter of Sargon made priestess of moon god in Ur

She took the name Enheduanna – wrote hymns to the gods of Babylon

She was succeeded by Enmenanna, a daughter of **Naram-Sin**.



Sargon

Accad (Akkad)

Naram-Sin the grandson of Sargon

Stele of Naram-Sin King of Akkad showing his victory over King Satuni of the Lullubi tribe from Zagros c.2230 BC.

The Akkadian King leads his troops under the protection of the gods. His horned helmet denotes his deity, and he tramples his enemies under his feet.

Kept in the Louvre, Paris.



Akkadian language

The Akkadian language became the language of diplomacy in the Ancient Near East.

Cunieform tablets have been found at Ugarit (Ras Shamra) in the languages of Sumerian, Hurrian, Akkadian, and another language known as Ugaritic.

Calneh (location unknown possibly Nippur)

Nippur was dedicated to Enlil



The ziggurat of the temple
of Enlil in Nippur.

2) The founding of the cities of Assyria.

Genesis 10

11 Out of that land he went forth into Assyria, and builded Nineveh, and Rehoboth-Ir, and Calah,

12 and Resen between Nineveh and Calah (the same is the great city).

Nineveh - Kuyunjik

Rehoboth-Ir (Not known)

Calah - Nimrud

Resen (Not known)

Nineveh dedicated to Inanna

Nineveh - Kuyunjik

Founded by Ninus (Nimrod)

Situated by the Tigris

Known for worship to the goddess Ishtar
(also known as Inanna)



Image of Inanna from c. 2254-2193 BC

Calah - Nimrud

30km South East of Mosul

Assyrian palace found here
by Austen Henry Layard
(1817-1894).

The Black Obelisk (Jehu)
was found here in 1845



3) The Libraries of Nineveh

Kuyunjik (Nineveh).

Two libraries of cuniefom clay tablets were discovered in Nineveh.

- In the Palace of Sennacherib, and
- In the Palace of Ashurbanipal. Ashurbanipal reigned Assyria between 669-633 BC.

Over 20,000 clay tablets were found in the ruins.

They are all damaged so they probably form about 10,000 texts.

The Epic of Gilgamesh

It was in the library of Ashurbanipal that the Epic of Gilgamesh was found.

The tablets are now in the British Museum.

The author of the epic was a person called Shin-eqi-unninni.

Gilgamesh is thought to have reigned over Uruk in Babylonia c.2500.

The Epic consists of 12 stone tablets written in the Akkadian language

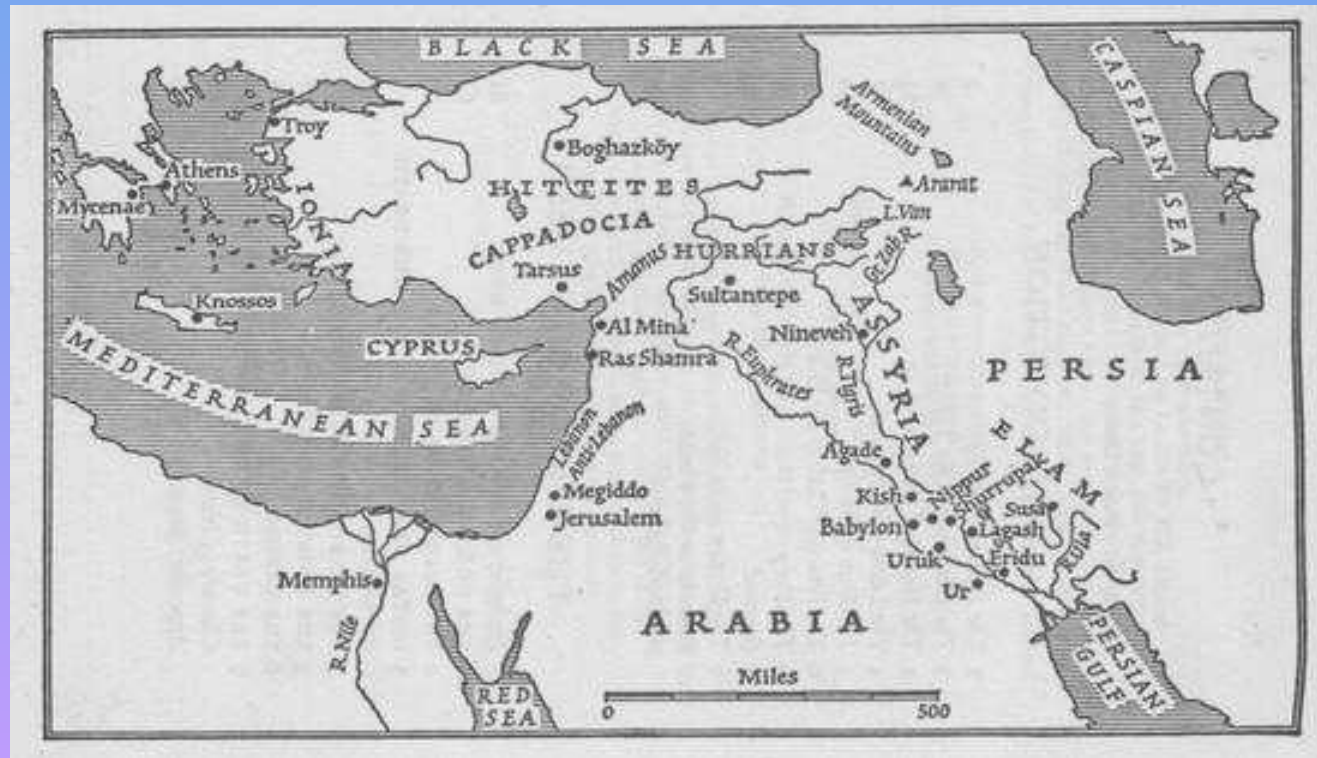
Tablet XI contains the Babylonian record of the flood.

Epic of Gilgamesh - King of Uruk (c.2700 BC)

Poem telling the story of Gilgamesh's journey to find the spring of youth.

The futile search for immortality.

The Babylonian record of the flood is contained within the epic of Gilgamesh.



Babylonian record of the flood



Tablet XI

Gilgamesh Epic

The flood to destroy the world. Utnapishtim built an ark to preserve living things. When the flood ended birds were sent out to see if they found dry land.

British Museum