

THE MIGHTY HUNTER

Title: *The REAL Big Bang*, Pt 12

Series: Gaming

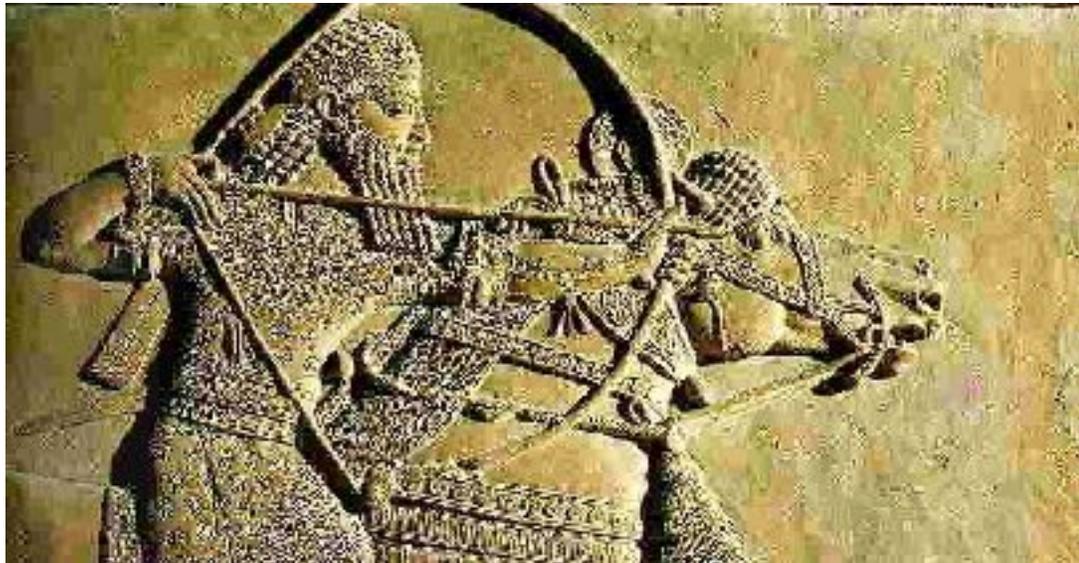
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I. POINT OF INTRIGUE

A. Since tonight/today we're looking at a mighty hunter, possibly the greatest archer who ever lived, I thought we'd begin with a few light moments about archery. [\(show photo\)](#)



1. **Q:** What did the archer make out of his bow?

A: A bow tie.

2. **Q:** Did you hear about the blonde who shot an arrow into the air?

A: She missed.

(Show “Whoa!” Slide.)

3. **Q:** What did the love-struck maiden say to the handsome archer?

A: "You make me quiver."

B. One more: True or false? Do you believe we can cover 4 chapters in the book of Genesis tonight/today? (Just watch! Miracles never cease to exist.)

C. Let's pray!

II. OUR TEXT

Genesis 7:5

And Noah did all that the **LORD** commanded him.

A. This is quite fascinating. Stay with me! Before God gave the Law to Moses distinguishing the clean from the unclean, God revealed to Noah what was clean and unclean. How do we know that? He was to take seven of every clean animal and two of every unclean animal. Verse 5 of this text tells us that is what Noah did. He obeyed God.



YOU SAY: What's the big deal? Right! But if it were me (maybe even you) I would have been tempted to take seven of all the 'cool' animals, most of which were

unclean.



1) Seven Golden Eagles (**show photo**)

2) Seven Tigers

3) Seven Arabian Horses (**show photo**)

4) Seven Blue Whale

5) Seven Chow Chows

6) Seven Humming Birds (**show photo**)

NOTE!

a r e
t h a t

7)



Two sheep and two goats enough. Dumb creatures they are.

Seven Tarantula Spider (**show photo of Spiderman**)



In an age where men took whomever and however many they wanted to wed

(*Chpt 6*), Noah had one wife.

B. Seriously, think about this for a moment! How many times does God tell us to do something and we

fudge, hem and haw, do it partially, or maybe not at all.

ILLUSTRATION: Recall the movie “The End,” where a man, Sonny (played by Burt Reynolds) is drowning. **(show video clip 90 seconds)** Sonny promises God he’ll be a better father, honest in his dealing with others, give God 50% - “no one gives 50%.” But the closer he gets to shore the more he keeps changing the terms. How many times have we:

- 1) Said words we shouldn’t say, you know, curse words,
- 2) Watch things we shouldn’t watch,
- 3) Listen to things we shouldn’t listen to,
- 4) Exhibit behavior not becoming to a Christian,
- 5) Make deals that aren’t above board,
- 6) Gossip about others,
- 7) Harbor thoughts about people that are envious and hateful,
- 8) ... you get the point...

and God speaks to us. We then promise Him we’ll not do them anymore, and for a while we do well, but then we get sloppy and undisciplined.

Or maybe God speaks to us about something we’re not doing and He wants us to do it...but we don’t. The Scriptures say, “Noah did all that God commanded him.” Could it be that is why God chose Noah out of all the others living on the earth at that time?

III.OUR TEXT: *Genesis 8*

13 Noah was now 601 years old. ... **14** By the twenty-seventh day of the second month, the earth was completely dry.

15 God said to Noah, **16** “You, your wife, your sons, and your daughters-in-law may now leave the boat. **17** ... **18** After Noah and his family had left the boat, **19** the living creatures left in groups of their own kind.

NOTE! Noah was on the boat for 364 days. In answer to John K’s question last week, maybe Noah got drunk because he missed being seasick. *Smile!* **(BTOT)**

The LORD's Promise for the Earth

20 Noah built an altar where he could offer sacrifices to the LORD. ... **21** The smell of the burning offering pleased the LORD, and He said:

Never again will I punish the earth for the sinful things its people do. ...

A. Let’s fast forward to when Jesus is asked what would be the signs of His coming?

Luke 17:26-30

26 “Just as it was in the days of Noah, so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man. **27** People were eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage up to the day Noah entered the ark. Then the flood came and destroyed them all.

28 “It was the same in the days of Lot. People were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building. **29** But the day Lot left Sodom, fire and sulfur rained down from heaven and destroyed them all.

30 “It will be just like this on the day the Son of Man is revealed.

NOTE! Here Jesus is making a clear distinction between the destruction of the earth with water at the time of Noah, and the transformation of the earth with fire, introduced at His return.

1. How does God destroy the earth the first time? With water.
2. How is God going to purge sin from planet earth the second time? With fire.

2 Peter 1:3-13

3 Above all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. **4** They will say, “Where is this ‘coming’ He promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.” **5** But they deliberately forget that long ago by God’s word the heavens came into being ... **6** By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. **7** By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the Day of Judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

10 But the day of the LORD will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

11 Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives **12** as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. **13** But in keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a *new heaven* and a *new earth*, where *righteousness* dwells.

***emphasis mine**

B. In keeping with Noah finding favor with God because he did all that God commanded him to do, let us find favor with God by living holy and godly lives, which according to St Peter, will speed up His return. Let us not forget, it's the follower of Christ, it's "The Church," which He has bought with a price and presents without spot or wrinkle—no sin, no shame and no stain. And the Church said, "Hallelujah!"

Now, what do you say? Let's do our best to live up to what He has done for us.

ILLUSTRATION: There are times I don't sin because of grace. (I wish it were all the time, but it's not.) I'm embarrassed to cheapen the gift of forgiveness. Granted, I'll never earn it. I'll never be worthy of it. **But I can do my best to live in it.** Right! It's like getting a brand new car. You don't want anyone messing it up. Like, "*Man, don't put your dirty shoes on my new leather seats.*" **(show photo)** That's how we need to think of grace: Like, "*Man, don't pollute what God has made holy.*" I'm saying "no" for Him. Or I'm saying "yes for Him. Whatever it is that honors Him—that's the choice I'm making."



IV. OUR TEXT—THE MIGHTY HUNTER

Genesis 10

The Table of Nations

1 This is the account of Shem, Ham and Japheth, Noah's sons, who themselves had sons after the flood.

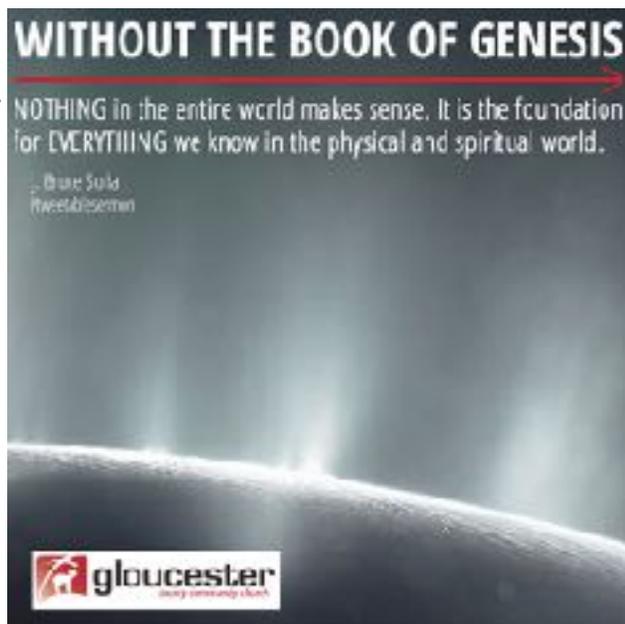
The Japhethites – **verse 5** tells us these were maritime people, that is, people connected to the sea spreading across the earth each with their own language.

NOTE: The Japhethites, Hamites and Shemites are scattered at the Tower of Babel (**Genesis 11**), each with numerous languages, each language settling as clans, tribes and nations. **(show slide)**

PONDER THIS! How does evolution account for 6,500 languages in the world today? The Bible tells us how we got languages, clans, tribes and nations.

The Hamites – **verse 8** introduces us to Cush the father of Nimrod, a very interesting character. He is interesting because although wicked, there was a certain quality in him that God acknowledges, if not likes. His name means “impious rebel.” Let's read about him.

8 Cush was the father of *Nimrod*, who became a mighty warrior on the earth. **9** He was a mighty hunter before the LORD; that is why it is said, “Like Nimrod, a mighty hunter before the LORD.”



10 The first centers of *his* kingdom were Babylon, Uruk, Akkad and Kalneh, in Shinar. **11** From that land he went to Assyria, where he built Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir, Calah **12** and Resen, which is between Nineveh and Calah—which is the great city. *emphasis mine

20 These are the sons of Ham by their clans and languages, in their territories and nations.

Nimrod's qualities:

He is a protector of the people. H. H. Haley writes, “His fame as a ‘mighty hunter’ meant that he was a protector of the people at a time when wild animals were a continual menace.”



That’s why early Babylonian seals picture him in combat with a lion. **(show photo)** His leadership skills had no equal in his day. But...and that’s a huge “but,” he was a wayward priest. **[R]** He is credited with being the father of “modern civilization.” As king of the largest kingdom on earth, he gave his people all the conveniences and luxuries available to man at the time. But like today’s society, when we get spoiled with the luxuries of life, we too often take credit, and fail to acknowledge from Whom (capital W) every good and perfect gift comes.

B. Think about this! From **Genesis 10** through the book of **Revelation**, Babylon is a symbol of the world.



Nimrod, like every person of his day had a choice—God was not absent. In fact, in **Chapter 11** He comes down and visits the city of Shinar and the magnificent Tower of Babel. **(show photo)**

God gives to us, like He did Nimrod a choice: We can choose to live for the temporal and build a magnificent man-made structure only to miss the target, or live for the eternal and build a mansion in Heaven and hit the target.

V. SPEAKING FROM MY HEART

A. I'm not in any way poo-poo-ing the earthly blessing God bestows on us. My wife and I live in a lovely but modest home. We worship in a lovely Church structure—dated but lovely. (There's not a person who comes to the campus who doesn't rave about the facility.) But ...

if that's my entire world—I'm a hunter who has missed the mark.

if I'm a business owner and that's my world—I'm a hunter who has missed the mark.

if I'm a politician and that's my entire world—I'm a public servant who has missed the mark.

There was not a king in Israel's history greater than King David. He was like Nimrod giving Israel every temporal blessing imaginable. Scripture says, "He shepherded Israel with integrity of heart and skillful hands." *Psalm 78:72* Yet he never lost sight of the real target: living to please God and laying up treasures—deeds and devotions—in Heaven.

B. So, let's wrap it up!

1. Let's be like Noah and stay faithful to what God has asked us to do.
2. Let's live as saints understanding the gift of grace.
3. Let's balance a glamorous temporal world calling us to live for the now with a not so glamorous spiritual world calling us to live for the eternal.

V. INVITATION

How and where do I begin to live a life for God? Start here:

Admit— your sins have separated you from God. (*Psa 14:1-3; Rom 3: 23*); **Believe** – that God did something about your sins through Jesus Christ. (The final Pascal Lamb/Messiah.) (*Lev 17:10; Heb 9: 19-22*); **Commit** – yourself to His righteous by confessing Jesus as Lord and Savior. (*Isa 53:5; Col 1:22*); **Do it today!** (*Isa 49:8; 2 Cor 6:2*).

Father in Heaven, I'm sorry for the things I've done that are wrong: I am a sinner; forgive me. Thank You for loving me and sending your Son, Jesus, to pay the

penalty for my sin. Holy Spirit, come into my heart;
Jesus be my Lord and Savior. I give You my life.
Amen!

ser3736, ***The Mighty Hunter*** (*The REAL Big Bang, Pt12—Gaming, Pt3*) Words
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