

### Nimrod: A Biblical and Historical Profile

Use with the full teaching and a Bible. Read or watch first, complete the questions, then discuss and apply. For family study, an adult can select suitable portions and accept spoken answers.

Test the teaching's explanations against the cited passages. Keep the answer key and facilitator notes separate when distributing learner pages.

[Open the full teaching](#)

#### Teaching summary

Nimrod appears in Genesis 10 as a son of Cush, a mighty man, and a mighty hunter before YHWH. His kingdom began with Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh in the land of Shinar.

The teaching starts by distinguishing the brief biblical account from later stories about Nimrod. Genesis names his family, describes his strength and hunting, and lists cities associated with the growth of his kingdom. It does not give a detailed biography.

The word translated mighty is used elsewhere for rulers, warriors, and even YHWH. The teaching suggests that Nimrod's hunting may also picture taking people into his power. That figurative reading is an interpretation rather than an explicit statement in Genesis.

Much of the teaching develops an argument from proposed meanings of the city names. It connects these meanings with religious mixing, control, and the god Anu. We should distinguish that reconstruction from the details Genesis actually records. The teaching itself acknowledges uncertainty about Nineveh's name and about identifying Nimrod with Ninus.

The practical warning is to examine how we worship YHWH. Deuteronomy 12:30-31 forbids adopting the nations' ways of worshiping their gods. The teaching also applies the call to come out of Babylon in Revelation 18:4 to separation from religious confusion.

As we study, we can identify what the passage states, what the teaching infers, and what requires further historical or linguistic evidence. Genesis 11 describes Babel's city and tower, but does not name Nimrod as its builder or leader.

#### Summary points

- Genesis 10 identifies Nimrod as a son of Cush.
- Nimrod is described as mighty and as a hunter before YHWH.
- The beginning of his kingdom was in Shinar.
- Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh are named in Genesis 10:10.
- Genesis 10:11-12 also lists cities in Assyria.
- The proposed connection between hunting and controlling people is interpretive.
- The teaching's chain of city-name meanings requires evidence beyond the Genesis narrative.
- The teaching acknowledges uncertainty about Nineveh and Ninus.
- Genesis 11 does not explicitly identify Nimrod as the tower's builder.
- Deuteronomy 12 warns us against adopting idolatrous worship practices.

## Fill in the blank

Use the teaching and the cited Bible passages. Equivalent wording is welcome when it expresses the same meaning.

### Basic

1. Genesis 10:8 names Nimrod's father as \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Nimrod is described as a \_\_\_\_\_ man.
3. Genesis 10:9 describes Nimrod as a mighty \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The beginning of his kingdom was in the land of \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The first city listed in Genesis 10:10 is \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Genesis 10:11 names the Assyrian city of \_\_\_\_\_.

### Challenging

1. The suggestion that hunting pictures control over people is an \_\_\_\_\_ of the passage.
2. The teaching says the original meaning of Nineveh's name is \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The proposed identification of Nimrod with Ninus is \_\_\_\_\_, according to the teaching.
4. The person Nimrod is not named in the tower account in Genesis chapter \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Deuteronomy 12:30-31 warns us not to adopt the nations' ways of \_\_\_\_\_ their gods.
6. The teaching applies Revelation 18:4's call to come out of \_\_\_\_\_.

## Group discussion

Discuss respectfully and support answers from the passages. Use these lines for brief notes or a notebook for longer responses.

1. What can we say about Nimrod directly from Genesis 10:8-12, and what does the passage leave unanswered?

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2. Why should we distinguish the literal description mighty hunter from the teaching's proposed figurative reading?

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3. How should we evaluate the teaching's argument based on city-name meanings?

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4. How does comparing Genesis 10 with Genesis 11 help us avoid adding details to the story?

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5. What does Deuteronomy 12:30-31 actually forbid, and how does the teaching apply it?

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6. What is one careful way we can test a claim about biblical history or worship?

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## Answer key

For the leader or parent. Answers follow the teaching and the passages. Accept equivalent wording that expresses the same meaning.

### Basic

**1. Cush**

Genesis 10:8

**2. mighty**

Genesis 10:8

**3. hunter**

Genesis 10:9

**4. Shinar**

Genesis 10:10

**5. Babel**

Genesis 10:10

**6. Nineveh**

Genesis 10:11

### Challenging

**1. interpretation**

Teaching opening discussion of mighty hunter

**2. unclear**

Teaching section The Building of Nimrod's Kingdom

**3. uncertain**

Teaching section The Building of Nimrod's Kingdom

**4. 11**

Genesis 11:1-9; compare Genesis 10:8-12

**5. worshiping**

Deuteronomy 12:30-31

**6. Babylon**

Revelation 18:2-4; teaching conclusion

## Facilitator notes

These responses give direction for discussion. They are not a test of identical wording. Invite participants to explain the passages and consider a faithful practical response.

1. We can name his father, his description as mighty and a hunter, his kingdom's first cities, and the places listed in the passage. We cannot turn this short account into a complete biography or treat later stories as biblical statements.

Genesis 10:8-12

2. The text describes a hunter; the teaching suggests that hunting also pictures control over people. Keeping the inference visible lets us test it instead of treating it as the verse's explicit wording.

Genesis 10:9; teaching opening discussion

3. Read the city list first, then ask for evidence for each proposed meaning and historical connection. A meaningful illustration does not by itself establish that Nimrod invented a religious system or intended the whole sequence of meanings.

Genesis 10:10-12; The Building of Nimrod's Kingdom

4. Babel connects the accounts, but Genesis 11 never names Nimrod. We can discuss thematic connections while acknowledging that his personal role in building the tower is not specified.

Genesis 10:8-12; 11:1-9

5. It forbids adopting the nations' worship practices for YHWH. The teaching applies this to examining our worship. Specific claims about a custom's origin still need evidence rather than assumption.

Deuteronomy 12:30-31; teaching conclusion

6. Separate the passage from the proposed explanation, examine the evidence, and state our level of confidence honestly. We can obey clear biblical instructions while continuing to investigate uncertain historical claims.

Genesis 10:8-12; Deuteronomy 12:30-31

## Put it into practice

Choose one response to the passages. What will we do, and when will we revisit it? Share only what you are comfortable sharing.