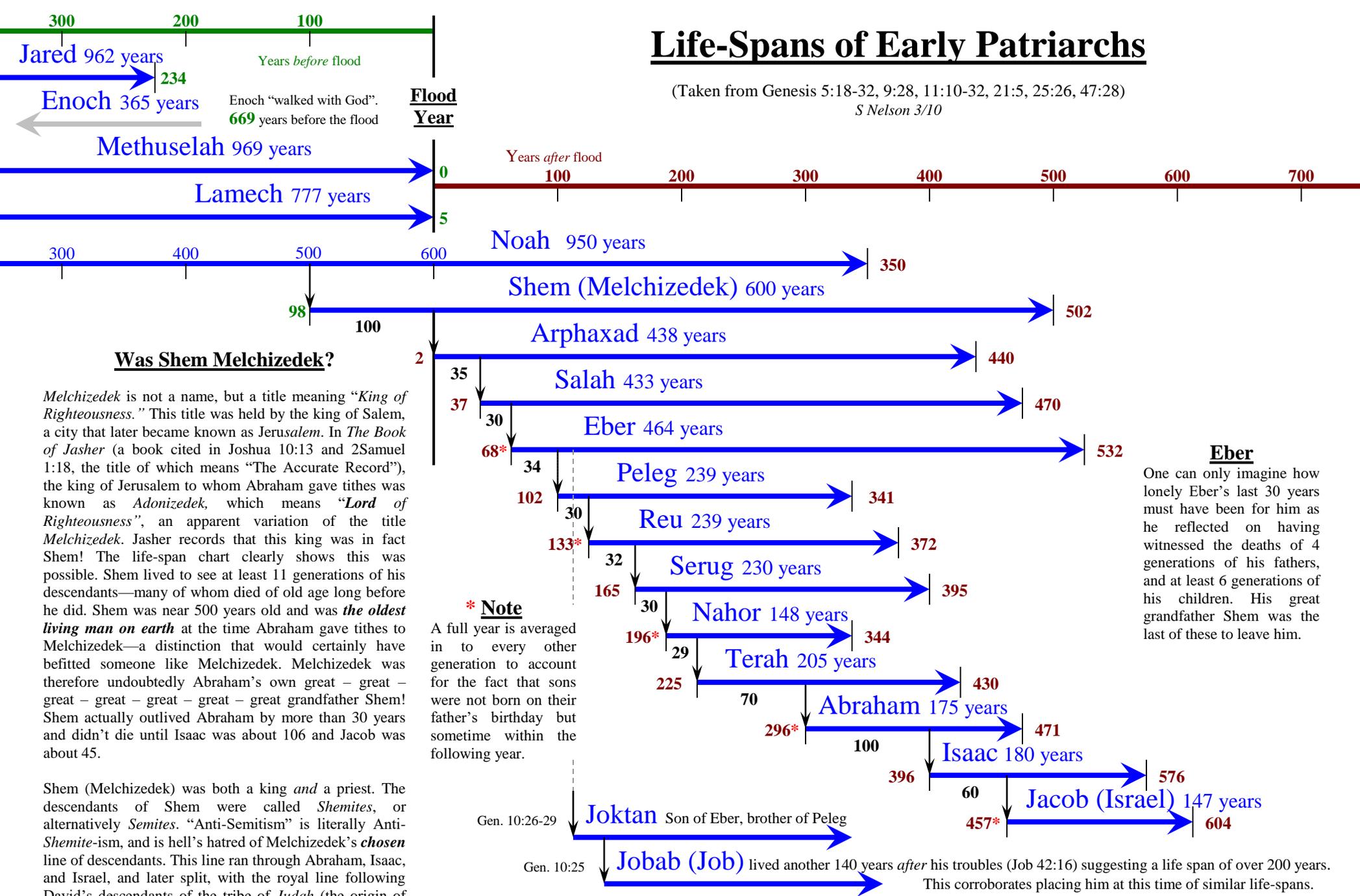


Life-Spans of Early Patriarchs

(Taken from Genesis 5:18-32, 9:28, 11:10-32, 21:5, 25:26, 47:28)

S Nelson 3/10



Was Shem Melchizedek?

Melchizedek is not a name, but a title meaning “King of Righteousness.” This title was held by the king of Salem, a city that later became known as Jerusalem. In *The Book of Jasher* (a book cited in Joshua 10:13 and 2Samuel 1:18, the title of which means “The Accurate Record”), the king of Jerusalem to whom Abraham gave tithes was known as *Adonizedek*, which means “Lord of Righteousness”, an apparent variation of the title *Melchizedek*. Jasher records that this king was in fact Shem! The life-span chart clearly shows this was possible. Shem lived to see at least 11 generations of his descendants—many of whom died of old age long before he did. Shem was near 500 years old and was **the oldest living man on earth** at the time Abraham gave tithes to Melchizedek—a distinction that would certainly have befitted someone like Melchizedek. Melchizedek was therefore undoubtedly Abraham’s own great – great – great – great – great grandfather Shem! Shem actually outlived Abraham by more than 30 years and didn’t die until Isaac was about 106 and Jacob was about 45.

Shem (Melchizedek) was both a king *and* a priest. The descendants of Shem were called *Shemites*, or alternatively *Semites*. “Anti-Semitism” is literally Anti-*Shemite*-ism, and is hell’s hatred of Melchizedek’s *chosen* line of descendants. This line ran through Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, and later split, with the royal line following David’s descendants of the tribe of *Judah* (the origin of the term “Jew”), and the priestly line following the descendants Levi through Aaron. The royal line and the priestly line were brought back together again “according to the order of Melchizedek” in Yeshua, as was prophesied in Psalm 110:1-4.

* Note

A full year is averaged in to every other generation to account for the fact that sons were not born on their father’s birthday but sometime within the following year.

Eliphaz to Job

“Both the gray-haired and the aged are **among us, much older** than your father.” Job 15:10

Bildad to Job

“For inquire, please, of **the former age** [those who lived in the age before the flood (Shem and Noah)], and consider the things discovered by **their fathers** [Lamech, Methuselah, Enoch...]; for we are but of yesterday, and know nothing, because our days on earth are a shadow [compared to them]. **Will they** [Shem and Noah] **not teach you and tell you, and utter words from their heart?**” Job 8:8-10

Eber

One can only imagine how lonely Eber’s last 30 years must have been for him as he reflected on having witnessed the deaths of 4 generations of his fathers, and at least 6 generations of his children. His great grandfather Shem was the last of these to leave him.