

## ANATI: PRE-FLOOD ARCHAEOLOGY (II)

Previously I commented on pages 112-113 of the characteristics of this Upper Paleolithic Culture as being typical of everything later known as the American Indian civilization.

### Upper Paleolithic to Mesolithic

Now we will skip all the way to page 124: "The following stage" of culture, wherever it might be found in sequence—and, remember, you may well have in some areas a skipping of any one of these cultures depending on whether you are more in the center of development or on the periphery. Sooner or later, if the center of development progresses so rapidly, the periphery will skip some phases and be directly influenced by some later cultural development. For example, Japan essentially by-passed the Bronze Age and went directly from the use of stone to iron. In other words, when Japan was way off on the periphery the people were strictly limited to the native implements; when culture spread there, it was already an iron culture in terms of metal usage that came from China and East Asia to the Japanese Islands. And the in-between cultural phases never transpired in out-of-the-way Japan. (Note statements on this on page 4 of Langer.)

Page 124 now: "The following stage, the Kebarian, begins to show transitional patterns, and some Mesolithic features begin to appear in quantity amid the Upper Paleolithic tradition." Now this merely means an advancement and new ideas in techniques. Without going into detail, normally Mesolithic involves heavy usage of Microlithic instruments—that is, "little stone." This indicates often, perhaps, the pursuit of birds; certainly with an emphasis on fishing; and the development of particular kinds of scrapers used for the working of skins.

Next paragraph: "This period...immediately precedes the flourishing of the Mesolithic 'Natufian' culture...." Now we're not interested in remembering the name Kebarian. But you must remember, if you want to understand anything in Palestinian 'prehistory'—as it is called—you must remember the word Natufian. Natufian and Mesolithic are, in that sense, nearly synonymous.

"Sites which probably were roughly contemporary with one another and are located only a few miles away from one another have their own distinctive traits." In other words, the Mesolithic had various traits of character all essentially heavily using microlithic material. "Most of these sites are concentrated along the Mediterranean coast of Israel"—and then six place-names are given. We would conclude that we are heavily dealing with a concentration in the development of the art of fishing while, clearly, Upper Paleolithic cultures represent more or less the use of agriculture inland.

### Cultures and Areas

Now this will clearly indicate why, in some cases, there is evidence that the agricultural tent culture of cattle breeding of the family of Jabal and Jubal—that type of characteristic we find described in Genesis 4:20—may well continue all the way to the Flood whereas, in other areas where you can have a development of trade or a development of fishing, you will have different techniques.

The American Indian was using Neolithic stone tools when the Europeans came, but also had an essentially Upper Paleolithic characteristic in many of his implements in terms of cultural traits. The Eskimo would normally be considered Mesolithic in his cultural traits because his is almost exclusively a fishing society. And the implements there are characteristically Mesolithic as of ancient times.

So you see, we are not dealing specifically with time, but we are often dealing with culture and area.

There is, however, the fact that the art of stock breeding (or the misuse of it) and the art of fishing as it finally developed is not something that man would have known immediately. I don't think the average person who has ever fished would conceive of all the possible ways of fishing that many nations who are still in it use, even if they are primitive people. So there is strong evidence, you see, of the need of time, at least in some areas, for the development of each of these traits. And that is why they are in many places, but not all, in sequence.

I wanted to give that important concept for you so you do understand what we are dealing with in general.

Now there is no way of dating all of these sites, nor is there a need to--because sometimes they may well be contemporary with others less advanced, just based on the fact that we're dealing with a different cultural area, a different means of livelihood.

Page 125: "At all these various sites Paleolithic tradition was mixed with the new tradition of the Middle Stone Age, from which the Natufian culture was subsequently to emerge." It starts out in many of these sites along the coast, where the Kebarian and a number of others are mentioned, with a development that is a continuation of the old with the new added.

#### Cain's Impact

Page 125, bottom: There was a "slow process of cultural differentiation" and at the end of the Upper Paleolithic there are "cultural patterns...largely localized." The implication is that now fewer and fewer people are migrating, more and more remain steadily occupied in certain regions and livelihoods, because the population is increasing to the point where migration of families cannot take place because others live somewhere else already--and now you travel through the territory of others.

Josephus, remember, says that Cain was the man who first conceived of the idea of marking off plots of land as belonging to the individual as distinct from freely moving about in a nomadic culture. This would go hand-in-hand with the localization of culture which is also a means of control.

There is a modern example of this type of control: We discover, for instance, that the Russians did something very interesting to the peoples of Central Asia. They slaughtered almost all of their camels! The camel was a source of wealth so killing them got rid of private property; and second, that's how you could high-tail it out across the desert! Now you can only walk. So by getting rid of most of the camels, they cut off the means of transportation that was native and not Soviet. Now it was no longer possible for the people to move about to any extent. They became limited to a sphere that Soviet society created.

Pages 125-6: "The enormous Eurasian area, where cultures had been so homogeneous before, could not be identified any longer. Further localization of cultures cut up into progressively smaller areas the four major regions that could be distinguished at the beginning of the Upper Paleolithic: (1) western Europe, (2) eastern Europe, (3) the Near East, and (4) central Asia."

So notice that by the beginning of the Upper Paleolithic we have these features developing in the world.

There are numerous cultural subdivisions of the Upper Paleolithic and the Lower Mesolithic.

### Evolutionary Dating

The assumed evolution-based dating is summarized on page 126 in the second paragraph: The Lower Paleolithic is thought to have lasted "hundreds of thousands of years, the Middle Paleolithic about 40,000 years, the Upper Paleolithic 25,000 to 20,000 years." Then, crossing over, the earliest Mesolithic (Ahmarian) may have lasted 12,000 to 14,000 years, the succeeding phase (Atilitian) about 3,000 or 4,000; and then the Kebarian is thought to have been 2,000 or 3,000 years!

This is the way it is pictured because the idea is that the more man progresses, the less time it takes to progress. If man started out as an ape-like creature he would require much more time, like a child, to take the first step than would be required later.

Now I grant there is a probability that it might take longer to conceive of some initial ideas. But these dates have no valid basis. They are only educated guesses. There is no way of verifying them except that the theory of evolution would seem to require it if you try to make an ape-like creature go through the same process. That's the basis of the thinking!

### Mesolithic Declines in Europe

Now normally, during this period, there is a cultural decline in the Mesolithic in Europe. However, in the Middle East this is not the case. I feel that wherever the Mesolithic is pre-Flood, it is degenerate and impoverished in Europe merely because the Mesolithic in Europe is much later and represents the last phases before the Flood—in many places it does. And certainly it is a degenerate culture that Anati calls a "beat" culture on the top of page 143. It is certainly true that there are many characteristics of the last phases of the Mesolithic in Europe that are typically "beat" culture as we now sense it today. The words "degenerate and impoverished" are used in the last paragraph on page 126.

In Palestine, however, this was not the case. This would indicate clearly that the Mesolithic in Palestine occurred at a time when culture had not reached that low ebb before the Flood. Therefore the Palestinian Mesolithic must have been earlier because this was indeed the center of most development.

### Caves vs. Cities

Now we will move along. He next discusses deposits in caves. One archaeologist was "able to differentiate twenty-five levels of habitation in one of the shelters. The thinnest levels were one or two feet thick, and this depth is unlikely to indicate a period of settlement of less than several years" (bottom of page 128).

Of course, in a cave you have no way of judging time as you do in the case of a city site because it depends on how much refuse you bring in the cave as to how fast it will fill up. But in a city, if you have building floors laid down one on the other, the nature of the building will often be a guide as to the length of time between one and another assuming no war. And if you do have a war, it usually reflects itself in the form of an ash layer.

But we do have rather extensive cave deposits for this particular period—the Upper Paleolithic and into the Mesolithic.

Seafaring in the Mesolithic

Next we must move to page 139: Here we have a discussion of the emphasis on seafaring in the Mesolithic. I have already mentioned this because we dealing with equipment that reminds one of fishing cultures.

Second paragraph: "At the beginning of the Mesolithic, men were able to reach some offshore islands, an indication that some sort of primitive boats were being made and that seafaring had begun. Islands off the Atlantic coast of France, off Sicily, in Scandinavia, and elsewhere were reached by men for the first time. New human groups came to the British isles from the Continent"—but that doesn't there were not already settlers there. The evidence is, as Churchill said in his book, that Britain was once attached to Europe. But we're talking about separate islands. There is strong evidence for the first time of man being able to travel extensively by boat (at least coastwise travel or shipping). Continuing on top of page 140: "Major sea barriers, such as the Straits of Gibraltar, which separate Africa from Europe, and the Red Sea, which separates the Arabian Peninsula from East Africa, no longer put serious limitations on human movements."

We have the indication of the development of "strong and reliable ropes" and the presence of "nets and traps." Some of these might be found not in the Palestinian area as much as areas further north where there is a possibility of preservation in some kind of peat material.

Basketry

Continuing page 140, third paragraph: "In the Near East, the earliest evidence of basketry is the imprints of baskets left on earth floors at Jericho shortly after the end of the Mesolithic"—but these are so sophisticated and well advanced that it is quite clear that basketry developed not later than during the Mesolithic.

And if you look at the Mexican Indian method of making baskets you will realize that basketry is not the simplest art to develop. It's an art in itself which you will find represented in some of the finest stores in Pasadena. To assume that some of the earliest techniques in art are necessarily primitive because they are early is like saying butter making is primitive because it's probably as early as baking. You can go down town to some of Pasadena's finest stores and you will discover baskets that represent a certain culture that you would like to introduce into your home.

So this is not talking of the cultural stagnation or primitive level of people but strictly the technique then available—before plastics were known, in other words (which are about as degenerate as you can get, anyway!).

Cain's Curse Alleviated

Going to page 142: In the Mesolithic there was an "easing of life, the possibility of settling down in one place and ending the continual and tiring pursuit of game...." This indicates clearly that the punishment on Cain that came on him and his family was, in a sense, passing because Cain devised (according to Josephus) various methods to try to get around it toward the end of his life by getting control of trade and trying to organize the world in such a way that he could make a living off other people! This is the clear indication.

There is a passage in the Book of Job about pre-Flood men which points up that there came a time that God "filled their houses with good things"—as distinct from what Cain and his family had to endure to start with as a punishment—and still they did not give God thanks! (Job 22:15-18.)

### Mesolithic Culture in Europe

Drop to the bottom of page 142: "In Europe, Mesolithic cultures evolved in regional patterns"—notice carefully, this is in Europe and not Palestine. Here "men usually produced rather degenerate flint artifacts and led for long millennia a less dynamic life than their Palestinian fellows." But I think we are dealing with a much earlier time in Palestine.

Continuing in the same paragraph: "The intellectual grandeur attained in Europe by Upper Paleolithic"—which corresponds with the Mesolithic and early Neolithic in the Middle East in terms of cultural grandeur—"by Upper Paleolithic men is attested to by their marvelous naturalistic art" and ideology. And in the Mesolithic in Europe this intellectual grandeur of the Upper Paleolithic "was replaced by a 'beat' abstract and schematic art" (top of 143). I repeat: A "beat" abstract and schematic art! That, I think, is very interesting to take note of.

### Mesolithic in Palestine

Middle of page 144: In the Middle East, "The transition between the Paleolithic and Mesolithic...seems to have come about earlier than anywhere else."

We'll just keep moving along with the theme here picking up the important items—middle of page 145 next: "In Palestine the Jordan Valley began getting drier...."

Next paragraph: "The environment in which Mesolithic cultures evolved, both in the Near East and in Europe, was damp, and Mesolithic sites are usually found in the vicinity of rivers, lakes, and marshes. The land was partly covered with tall trees, and good wood was abundantly available for tools and weapons, for fire, and for buildings of various sorts."

He discusses the Natufian Culture next (page 146): "In all southwestern Asia, western Palestine is the place where the greatest concentration of Mesolithic sites has been found. They seem to represent various types of microlithic industries; the one yielding the most abundant finds, and the best studied, is the Natufian culture."

Middle of page 147: "The uniqueness of the Natufians lies in their rapid strides toward food producing and toward the establishment of permanent settlements at a very early date...."

Top of page 148: Normally the "Natufians inhabited caves and open-air sites, and both kinds of habitat seem to have been continuously occupied." Then page 149: There is evidence to "show that the Natufians had already gone very far along the path from gathering wild grain toward planned agriculture," and the "domestication of animals" was certainly begun during this period. Remember, this is the Mesolithic—the Mesolithic.

### Life and Death in the Natufian Culture

And now we will learn something else—page 150: "As we shall see, in each of these Mesolithic settlements a large number of graves have been discovered." Over "three hundred Natufian skeletons" have been found thus far.

What does this mean? We must be nearing a point in history either of the death of individuals due to old age—which I think at this point is premature for the world as a whole because of age alone—or we are at the place in time where disease or crime (in other words, murder!) is taking a heavier and heavier toll.

We know to what extent it is possible in the world today for people in many cultures to have life expectancies of approximately 70 years. But it is possible to merely cross over a national boundary from Russia (where the life expectancy is 64 for men and 70 for women) into Afghanistan or Pakistan or Persia and discover that there it is below 40—just on the other side of the mountains! This clearly indicates problems in terms of what people are eating.

Certainly we have every evidence that all kinds of unclean foods were being eaten during the Mesolithic—all kinds of wild animals were being killed, clean and unclean fish eaten. Huge middens—refuse heaps marking the site of a primitive habitation—made up of sea shells have been found, clearly showing that individuals were doing what we normally see in most markets today, eating oysters. That's what was especially prominent in these middens.

So, if this is the case, there is every evidence that human beings would not themselves have lived as long as they should have. Thus we have the first presence of significant graves in the Mesolithic!

On page 151 Anati describes the skeletal characteristics of the Natufians.

We will not spend time with the section from 159 to 169 entitled "The Art of the Natufians."

The section with the subhead "The Natufian Burials" is very interesting and well worth your time to read (pages 170-178). The description of the twelve skeletons in the cave of El-Wad (pp. 177-8) with their evidence of mutilation is quite an insight into the pre-Flood society! Note the reference to Agatha Christie on page 178.

The next long chapter, "The Artists of the Desert," is not worth our time (pp. 180-214). We want to get on with the story. Part Four of the book, "The Age of Early Farming," begins on page 215. In the way he has arranged the material, this is Anati's discussion of the full development of farming in the Neolithic.

#### Josephus' Contribution

But what we want to emphasize here is a topic presented on page 221: "Another activity that evolved in the Neolithic was trade."

Now recall that trade is attributed by Josephus to Cain—Cain is the beginner of trade.

We would conclude, if we were to put together the Biblical record with Josephus who represents—now listen: Josephus represents the Levitical tradition. In other words, if we were to ask the High Priest, the Levite in Jesus' day and a generation or two afterward, "What would be your understanding of Genesis 1 through 6?"—Josephus' account actually represents the highest form of any knowledge anywhere available (that might not have been in God's Church directly, and probably would even represent material that the Church would have had to acquire).

Josephus was a Levite of the line of Aaron. So he was not merely Levitical, he was also priestly. He was very proud of the fact that he was the most important of the most important lineage of, in his estimation, the most important tribe! But then, that's the way he viewed it! His vanity, however, does not preclude the value of the information he preserved for us in his account!

### Cain and the Neolithic

If we put the Biblical record together with Josephus and the archaeology, we would conclude the following premise on which to base a study: If Seth were begotten 130 years after Adam was created (Gen. 5:3), and this was after Cain had sinned—which would presume that Cain couldn't have been born later than 100 A.M., and it was probably earlier because he was already a mature man when he slew Abel, and after that Seth was born—we have the latest possible time that Cain could have been born. Now, on the assumption that Adam's life represents certainly a relative maximum standard—930 years—if we say that Cain were born, see, roughly 30 years before the birth of Seth; and that perhaps he lived almost as long as Adam—you know, I want to have some simple rounded figure of 1000—there is every evidence from this point of view that Cain could not have lived beyond 1000 A.M. (After Man). There is every evidence—since the picture is that he was in fact slain by one of his descendents as a final penalty.

You remember Ahab—I'll cite this story though it's way out of setting: God said to Ahab, you know, "Because you did this or you did that, it won't happen to you like I said it would since you're treading softly." And yet the fact was that he did die by violence—it was an honorable death in war, but death nevertheless. And many things that were prophesied to happen to Ahab actually did but in an entirely different setting. Instead of revolution and murder, it was an accidental death at the end of a campaign.

On this basis one would have to draw the conclusion if we work with the Biblical record, with the archaeological sequence, and with Josephus (who provides a kind of commentary), we would conclude that man had already reached the Neolithic before 1000 A.M. Man must have reached the state of the Neolithic before 3000 B.C.! This is what it amounts to. You get the picture here on the basis of the maximum length of life that Cain may well have lived, and how much earlier than Seth he might have been born; and we run up to a point certainly about a thousand years after man where we have the development of the Neolithic and trade—I mean, where there is a significant trade as distinct merely from exchanging your catch if you're a fisherman.

### Beginning of Pottery

Pottery makes its appearance also in what is known as the Neolithic. It is discussed on page 224: "Pottery came into use in the course of the Neolithic, although in some parts of the world it appeared in Mesolithic and the Upper Paleolithic." We know from finds specifically that pottery occurs in the Upper Paleolithic in Europe. This does not mean, however, that pottery developed in Europe first. It merely means that the cultural state was Upper Paleolithic when pottery was introduced whereas in Palestine it was already Neolithic! There is every evidence to indicate that the relative culture in Europe was much less advanced than in the Middle East.

Archaeology is bringing more and more things to light, and we see everywhere in the pre-Flood world that man was advancing in terms of technique—because the Mesolithic in Europe was an advanced technique over anything before in terms of anything they had been doing in the Paleolithic. But it was a degeneration in the form of art and culture—also certainly the unpreserved aspect of art which would be music; it was a degeneration in the attitude toward workmanship—not a lack of knowledge. But perhaps in Europe the people had no need to develop as significantly as other places; they were further removed from the center of civilization.

So we have the picture which is very important, presented on page 224, of the presence of pottery in the various cultural phases—of Neolithic in the Middle East, or the Mesolithic in the Middle East and in the peripheries, the Upper Paleolithic elsewhere further

removed. Continuing page 224: Pottery "was a discovery of great importance, as it afforded an easy way of cooking food and a cheap means of transporting and preserving liquids."

Obviously, then, many of these things must have developed prior to 1000 After Man. In other words we could say that, if Adam lived 930, the probability is that all of these major inventions from the Lower to the Middle to the Upper Paleolithic, the Mesolithic, the Pre-pottery and Pottery Neolithic all occurred during the lifetime of Adam!

I'm taking up Palestine first because there is no doubt that we have a much better guide here than in Europe. We can take up the European parallels later.

Anati says on page 225 that "archaeologists have divided the Neolithic into two major phases: Pre-pottery Neolithic and Full Neolithic, or Neolithic-with-pottery." Thus "Full Neolithic" is normally pottery Neolithic—there are different terms for this. Continuing: "Contrary to what was believed only two or three years ago, Pre-pottery Neolithic and Full Neolithic appear to have partially coexisted in Palestine...." And then he says that the further north one was the more likely it was Pottery Neolithic, the further south in Palestine it remained Pre-pottery Neolithic.

You might be surprised to discover that when the Maoris of Oceania in the Pacific were first found by explorers, these Maoris and many other related tribes had no pottery! They had no knowledge of how to make a clay vessel through heating it that many other peoples had. For whatever reason, these people after the Flood never acquired the art in all of the 4000 years of their culture before they were rediscovered by Europeans. The Indians had pottery, but those people did not. So it is possible also to have just such cases before the Flood of people who either took little interest or, for whatever reason culturally, had no desire to pursue the art of making pottery.

### Population Explosion

Now pages 230-231: "There is evidence of a parallel but somewhat different development on the northwestern edge of Mount Carmel, at the southwestern end of the Esdraelon Valley . . . . Several Neolithic sites were found along the strip of land at the foot of the hills, near the entrances of the wadies.

"The pattern of these settlements is extremely interesting. Most of them were composed of a single house, ranging in size from 65 by 25 feet to 30 by 15 feet. These obviously are sites of single households; these settlements cover the whole cultivable area between the rocky hills and the marshy plain. Unlike the sites in the side wadies of the Jordan Valley, these sites can be seen from very far away, and even seem to mark the line of a main highway along the Esdraelon Valley"—just as there is one today—"from west to east, from the Mediterranean to the Jordan Valley. Also unlike the incipient /or, beginning/ settlements of the side wadies, this strip of land was very thickly inhabited in Neolithic times, and the density of population must have been then one of the greatest in Palestine. Frequently the distance from one settled spot to another is no more than a thousand feet." /Note that Dr. Hoeh uses the underlined part of this quote from Anati in the last chapter of vol. two of the Compendium./

The distance from home to home or household to household was no more than a thousand feet. You get a feeling here of an explosion in the population—an explosion in the population.

Now the next topic is the story of the city of Jericho itself beginning on page 241. This will be an interesting picture because it will tell the story in terms of a city and approximately how much time must have elapsed during the Neolithic. And then we will be able to see how readily all the previous phases developed. The archaeological levels of pre-Flood Jericho provide a good chronological guide for our study.