

Inspector Rex's History Snippet #15

Seth

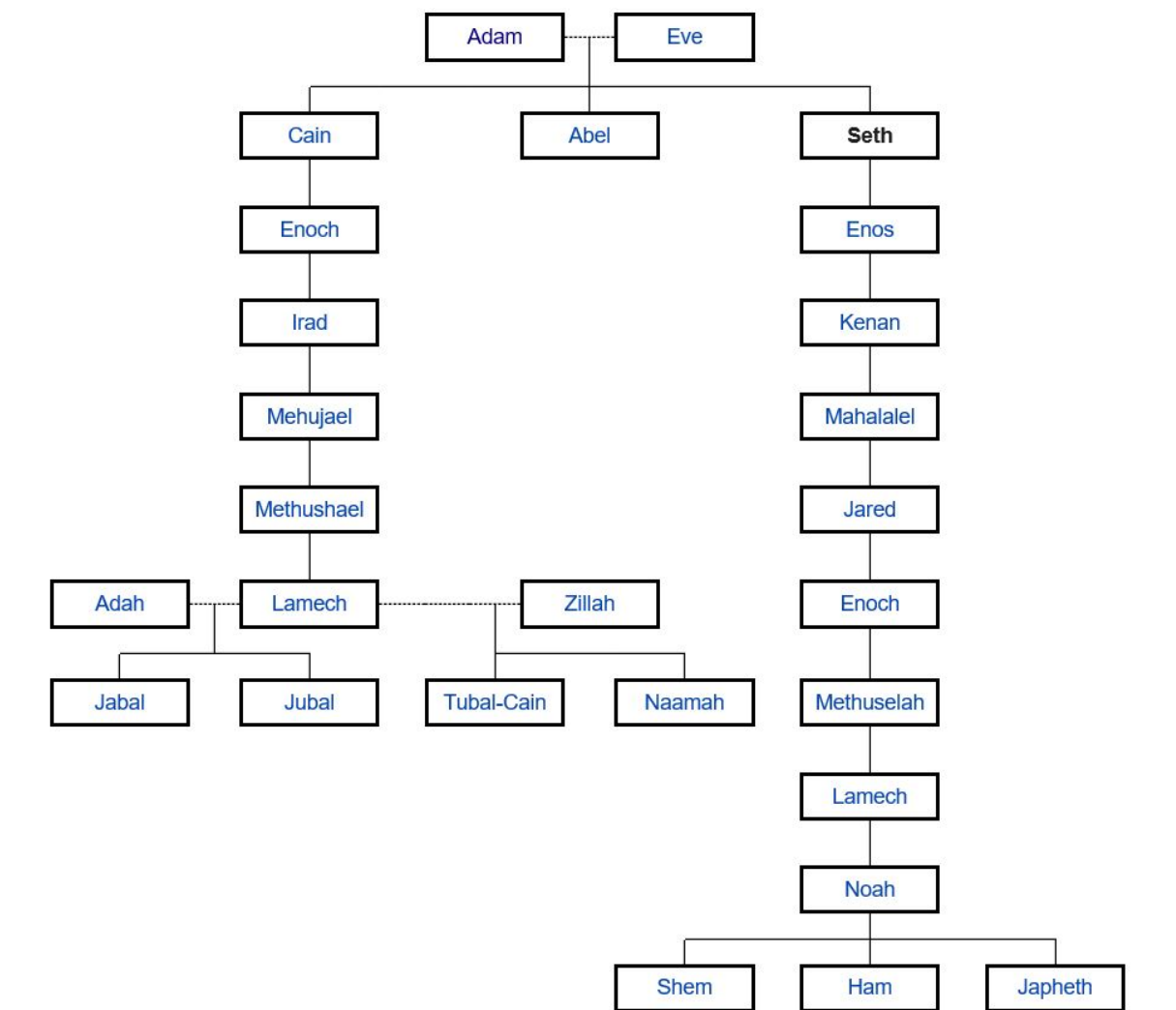
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seth>

Seth in [Judaism](#), [Christianity](#), [Mandaeism](#), [Sethianism](#), and [Islam](#), was the third son of [Adam and Eve](#) and brother of [Cain and Abel](#), their only other children mentioned by name in the [Hebrew Bible](#). According to [Genesis 4:25](#), Seth was born after Abel's murder, and Eve believed [God](#) had appointed him as a replacement for Abel.

Genesis

According to the [Book of Genesis](#), Seth was born when Adam was 130 years old (according to the [Masoretic Text](#)), or 230 years old (according to the [Septuagint](#)), "a son in his likeness and image". The genealogy is repeated at [1 Chronicles 1:1–3](#). [Genesis 5:4–5](#) states that Adam fathered "sons and daughters" before his death, aged 930 years. According to Genesis, Seth lived to the age of 912.

Family Tree



Jewish tradition

Seth figures in the [pseudepigraphical](#) texts of the *Life of Adam and Eve* (the *Apocalypse of Moses*). It recounts the lives of Adam and Eve from after their expulsion from the [Garden of Eden](#) to their deaths. While the surviving versions were composed from the early 3rd to the 5th century, the literary units in the work are considered to be older and predominantly of [Jewish](#) origin. There is wide agreement that the original was composed in a [Semitic language](#) in the 1st century AD/CE. In the Greek versions, Seth and Eve travel to the doors of the Garden to beg for some oil of the Tree of Mercy (i.e. the [Tree of Life](#)). On the way, Seth is attacked and bitten by a wild beast, which goes away when ordered by Seth. [Michael](#) refuses to give them the oil at that time, but promises to give it at the [end of time](#), **when all flesh will be raised up, the delights of paradise will be given to the holy people and God will be in their midst. (see Comments at end)**. On their return, Adam says to Eve: "What hast thou done? Thou hast brought upon us great wrath which is death." (chapters 5–14) Later, only Seth can witness the taking-up of Adam at his funeral in a divine chariot, which deposits him in the Garden of Eden.

[Rashi](#) (Rabbi Shlomo Yitzhaqi) refers to Seth as the ancestor of [Noah](#) and hence the father of all mankind, all other humans having perished in the [Great Flood](#).

Seth is seen by Eve as a replacement given by God for Abel, whom Cain had slain. It is said that late in life, Adam gave Seth secret teachings that would become the [Kabbalah](#). The [Zohar](#) refers to Seth as "ancestor of all the generations of the tzaddikim" (Hebrew: [righteous ones](#)).

Christianity

Seth is commemorated as one of the Holy Forefathers in the [Calendar of Saints](#) of the [Armenian Apostolic Church](#), along with Adam, Abel, and others, with a [feast day](#) on July 26. He is also included in the [Genealogy of Jesus](#), according to Luke 3:23–38.

Many Armenian names have Seth as a forename or surname (Inspector Rex).

The [Sethians](#) were a Christian [Gnostic](#) sect who may date their existence to before Christianity. Their influence spread throughout the Mediterranean into the later systems of the [Basilideans](#) and the [Valentinians](#).

Islam

Shayth's name in [Arabic calligraphy](#).

Although the [Quran](#) makes no mention of Seth, he is revered within [Islamic tradition](#) as the third and righteous son of [Adam](#) and [Eve](#) and seen as the gift bestowed on Adam after the death of [Abel](#).

The [Islamic literature](#) holds that Seth was born when Adam was past 100 and that Adam appointed Seth as guide to his people.

Comments by Inspector Rex

1. The reference to Michael (under the Jewish tradition above) would be the Guardian Angel Michael in Christianity.
2. **Shem** was one of the [sons of Noah](#) in the [Hebrew Bible](#) as well as in [Islamic literature](#).

The children of Shem were [Elam](#), [Ashur](#), [Arphaxad](#), [Lud](#) and [Aram](#), in addition to daughters. [Abraham](#), the patriarch of the Hebrews and Arabs, was one of the descendants of Arphaxad.

Islamic literature describes Shem as one of the believing sons of [Noah](#). Some sources even identify Shem as a prophet in his own right and that he was the next prophet after his father.

According to [Luke 3:36](#) [Jesus](#) is a descendant of Shem.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shem>

3. The mention under the Jewish tradition:

when all flesh will be raised up, the delights of paradise will be given to the holy people and God will be in their midst

reminded me of one day when I was at the Belgian Gardens cemetery looking at a grave when a car drove up and stopped behind mine. A woman got out, rushed over to me handed me a piece of paper and said that they were having a conference and that it was free and I was welcome to attend.

She then went on to say that the Day of Judgment was coming soon when all the graves would be opened and all the bodies rise up and there would be a New World – a Paradise.

Well, I was dumbfounded – what does one say to this?

Eventually I said, “Well tell me the day and I’ll try to be here!”

(She was a Jehovah’s witness)

Much more can be found in the reference at the top.