

The Chinese Language and Christian Evidences

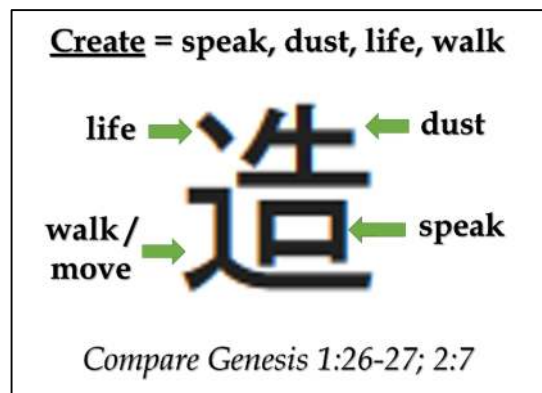
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Note: The representation of Chinese symbols used in this article has been verified to be accurate by reputable, knowledgeable people who know the Chinese language.

When one considers ancient cultures of the world that are still intact today, the Chinese culture comes to mind. Until more modern methods of transportation became available, China had been a very difficult place to reach, being surrounded by desert, ocean, and the tallest mountains in the world. Therefore, the culture remained intact, untainted by the influence of the rest of the world for thousands of years. Adventurers like Marco Polo stand out in history for braving the obstacles and reaching the exotic land of China. The Chinese still hold traditions and practice customs that go back thousands of years. One piece of their culture that has remained intact for millennia is their written language.

An interesting aspect of the ancient Chinese language is that it is in the form of pictographs, which means the words are comprised of symbols that often illustrate the meaning of the word. Even more interesting is that the Chinese symbols reveal that the originators of the Chinese language knew the truth about how people were first created, the Garden of Eden, the great flood of Noah's day, and the Tower of Babel! Since the language's origins were not far removed from the time of the flood and the tower of Babel, it makes sense that remnants of such tremendous historical events would be preserved within the culture. However, that does not lessen the great impact of discovering such details within their ancient language. Please notice how the following Chinese words contain pieces of the past, very similar to what is recorded in the Bible:

- The Chinese word for “**create**” is comprised of symbols for the words “**speak, dust, life, and walk.**” Compare Genesis 1:26-27 and 2:7, in which God spoke man to life from the dust of the ground and man walked upon the earth.



- The Chinese word for “**happiness**” is comprised of symbols for the words “**God, one, man, and garden.**” Compare Genesis 1:26-31, in which man existed happily in fellowship with God in the garden before sin.

Happiness =
God, one, man, garden

Compare Genesis 1:26-31

- The Chinese word for “**restrain**” is comprised of symbols for the words “**mouth and tree.**” Compare Genesis 2:16-17, 3:3, and 3:11, in which God told man not to eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Restrain = mouth, tree

Compare Genesis 2:16-17; 3:3,11

- The Chinese word for “**devil**” is comprised of symbols for the words “**secret, garden, man, and life.**” Compare Genesis 3:1-5, and 3:22-24, in which Satan’s secret (subtlety, deception) in the garden caused man to lose his life.

Devil = secret, garden, man, life

Compare Genesis 3:1-5,22-24

- The Chinese word for “**tempter**” is comprised of symbols for the words “**devil, cover, and trees.**” Compare Genesis 3:1-5, which records Satan covering the truth about the trees of the garden and who he really was.

Tempter = devil, cover, trees

Compare Genesis 3:1-5

- The Chinese word for “**covet or desire**” is comprised of symbols for the words “**woman and two trees.**” Compare Genesis 3:6, which records Eve coveting the fruit of the forbidden tree, as opposed to the tree of life.

Covet, Desire = woman, two trees

woman — [要] — two trees

Compare Genesis 3:6

- The Chinese word for “**difficulty**” is comprised of symbols for the words “**tree and border.**” Compare Genesis 2:16-17 and 3:3, in which God had placed a verbal “border” around the forbidden tree, and man faced great difficulty after crossing that borderline into sin.

Difficulty = tree, border

tree — [困] — border

Compare Genesis 2:16-17; 3:3

- The Chinese word for “**put to death**” is comprised of symbols for the words “**words, tree, life, and dust.**” Compare Genesis 2:17 and 3:19,22-24, in which God had given words to man that if he ate of the forbidden tree, he would return to dust (he would die; cf. Ecclesiastes 12:7).

Put to death = words, tree, life, dust

words — [誅] — tree

life dust

Compare Genesis 2:17; 3:19,22-24

- The Chinese word for “**large ship**” is comprised of symbols for the words “**vessel, eight, and people.**” Compare Genesis 7:7, 13, in which eight people were saved on a ship in the global flood!

Large ship = eight, people, boat

boat / vessel — [船] — eight

people

Compare Genesis 7:7, 13; 1 Pet. 3:20

- The Chinese word for “**flood**” (or “**total water**”) is comprised of symbols for the words “**eight, united, earth, and water.**” Compare Genesis 7:7, 13-20, in which eight people were united when the earth was totally covered with water.

Flood (“total water”)=
eight, united, earth, water

water [洪] united
[] earth
[] eight

Compare Genesis 7:7, 13-20

- The Chinese word for “**tower**” is comprised of symbols for the words “**grass, clay, one, mouth, and mankind.**” Compare Genesis 11:1-8, in which a tower was built by the people when all mankind were of “one mouth,” or spoke the same language. The Tower of Babel was very likely made with bricks of “grass and clay” (cf. Exodus 5:7).

Tower =
grass, clay, one, mouth, mankind

clay [塔] grass
[] mankind
one [] mouth

Compare Genesis 11:1-8

- The Chinese word for “**migrate**” is comprised of symbols for the words “**west, great, division, and walk.**” Compare Genesis 11:8-9, in which there was a great division to the west of China, from which the people walked to their new home.

Migrate =
west, great, division, walk

walk [遷] west
[] great
[] division

Compare Genesis 11:8-9

- The Chinese word for “**righteousness**” is comprised of symbols for the words “**lamb, me, hand, and blade.**” Compare Genesis 4:4; 8:20; 22:7-8 and Job 1:5, in which animal sacrifices were offered in ancient times by righteous people to God. Of course, these were pointing to the future, when Jesus, the Lamb of God, would be offered for all men (John 1:29; Hebrews 2:9, etc.).

Righteousness =
lamb, me, hand, blade

me, hand [義] lamb
[] blade

Compare Genesis 4:4; 8:20; 22:7-8

How did the ancient Chinese know about these events that are recorded in the book of Genesis? Had they read Genesis? They had not read Genesis, because the Jews of Moses' day (c. 1400 B.C.) did not interact with the Chinese. Also, the Chinese language actually preceded the writing of Genesis, perhaps by hundreds of years!

It is not known when Chinese writing originated, but it apparently began to develop in the early 2nd millennium bc. The earliest known inscriptions...date from the Shang (or Yin) dynasty (18th–12th century bc), but, by then it was already a highly developed system, essentially similar to its present form (Olson).

The first prehistoric dynasty is said to be Xia, from about the twenty-first to the sixteenth century B.C. The beginning of this period corresponds with the time that God called Abraham and made a covenant with him. This is also the same period when China first developed its own form of writing (Wong).

In the Shu Ching (book of history), Confucius recorded that Emperor Shun made sacrifice to ShangTi [*one of their words for God, literally "The Heavenly Emperor," JPH*]. Among the recitals spoken [*by Emperor Shun, JPH*] was:

Of old in the beginning, there was the great chaos, without form and dark... Thou, O spiritual Sovereign camest forth in Thy presidency... Thou madest heaven; Thou madest earth; Thou madest man...

Note the similarity with what Moses wrote in the first chapter of Genesis:

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep... Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness... (Genesis 1:1-2, 26)

Emperor Shun was making this recital in 2230 BC, in the 23rd century BC. Moses didn't write Genesis until sometime in the 15th century BC! These two cultures (Chinese & Hebrew) had no connection to one another. Moses did not learn the Chinese language and turn it into a story about creation. Neither did Shun possess a copy of the Genesis record, for it hadn't been written yet...there is a certain link between the pre-Babel record of Genesis and the same information as seen in the etymology of the Chinese language (Stewart).

If the Chinese did not copy from Moses, and the inspired Moses certainly did not copy from the Chinese, how can all these obvious similarities be explained? After the

flood (c. 2350 B.C.), the righteous sons of Noah and their families repopulated the earth. Asians are likely descendants of Shem, based on what the Bible reveals in passages like Genesis 10, which has been called the “Table of Nations.” After the dispersion at the Tower of Babel, it seems that Japheth and his descendants went west and north, Ham and his family went south and southwest, and Shem and his family generally went east (see below).



SHEM'S DESCENDANTS	HAM'S DESCENDANTS	JAPHETH'S DESCENDANTS
Hebrews	Canaanites	Greeks
Chaldeans	Egyptians	Thracians
Assyrians	Philistines	Scythians
Persians	Hittites	Medes
Syrians	Amorites	Spaniards
Likely Asians	Jebusites	Various Europeans
	Girgashites	
	Hivites	
	Ethiopians	
	Various Africans	



The people of the world became divided, and spoke different languages (Genesis 11:1-9). It seems that some descendants of Shem eventually migrated all the way to what we call China, and they created a written form of language involving symbols that could inherently preserve historical facts, keeping them in the minds of the people perpetually. Of all facts to be remembered from such a period, one would expect to find evidence of a global flood and the Tower of Babel. What other events would have had a greater impact on those people and their ancestors?

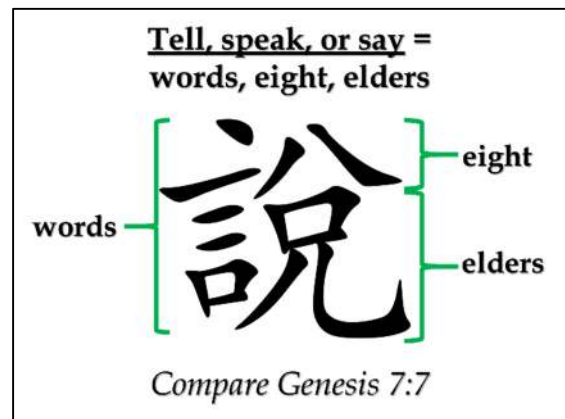
In the land of China, there are many legends about a great flood. One of those comes from a group of people known as the Nosu. According to their legend, God sent a personal messenger to Earth to warn three sons that a flood was coming. Only the youngest son...heeded the messenger. He constructed a wooden boat to prepare for the coming flood. When the

waters arrived, he entered his boat, and was saved. After the waters began to recede, the boat landed on the mountains of Tibet, where he had three sons who repopulated the Earth (Butt and Lyons).

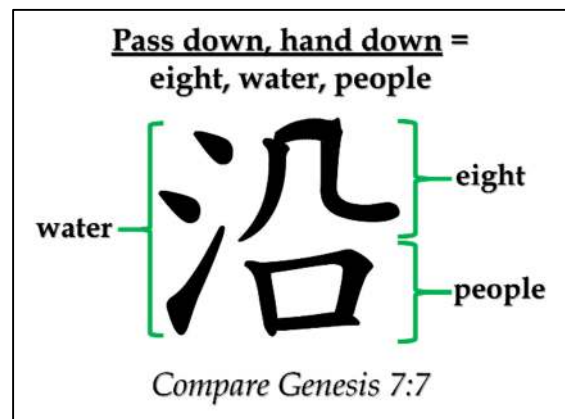
Traditions similar to *[the Genesis record, JPH]* are found among nearly all the nations and tribes of the human race. And this is as one would expect it to be. If that awful world catastrophe, as described in the Bible, actually happened, the existence of the Flood traditions among the widely separated and primitive people is just what is to be expected. It is only natural that the memory of such an event was rehearsed in the ears of the children of the survivors again and again, and possibly made the basis of some religious observances (Rehwinkel).

The facts in legends like the Chinese legend above are not always accurate in every way when compared with Genesis, but it is understandable that details in the verbal accounts probably became distorted over time through oral transmission. Nevertheless, there are too many similarities in such accounts and in the Chinese language itself to be coincidental. There are also other clues within the Chinese language that shed light on how this knowledge came to be preserved:

- The Chinese word for “**tell, speak, or say**” is comprised of symbols for the words “**words, eight, and elders.**” Could it be that the eight oldest people (elders) on earth after the flood (Noah and his family) told these words to their descendants and instructed them to tell future generations?



- The Chinese word for “**hand down, or pass down**” is comprised of symbols for the words “**eight, water, and people.**” Whom could the “eight water people” be who “handed down” these words, if not Noah and his family? (1 Peter 3:20).



It is clear that the Chinese language has helped to preserve truths about critical historical and spiritual facts for thousands of years. Many who know the Chinese language have reportedly been converted to Christianity after becoming aware of this information (Stewart). That is because all of this is more undeniable evidence that the amazing events recorded in the Bible actually happened!

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Last modified June 3, 2016