

arise out of the fact of his being the type of the Messiah; and the time was to come when this person, after the flood should have passed away, would be the *only* antediluvian survivor; on which account, all mankind must, of necessity, by natural and mutual consent, look up to this man with extraordinary veneration.

By examining the chronological account of the Jewish records, we find the man Shem lived five hundred years *after* the flood, and that he over lived Abraham about forty years. So that he was not only the oldest man on the earth at that time, but also the only surviving antediluvian, as well as the great typical progenitor of the adorable Messiah.

Here was a foundation for *renown*, of sufficient solidity to justify the prophetic spirit in moving Noah to call him *Shem*, a name full of import, full of meaning, pointing its signification in a blaze of light, to Him whose birth and works of righteousness, were to be of consequences the *highest* in degree, to the whole race of Adam, in the atonement.

But at the birth of HAM, it was different; when this child was born, we may suppose the house or *tent* to have been in an uproar, on the account of his *strange* complexion; the news of which, we may suppose, soon reached the ear of the father, who on beholding it, at once, in the form of exclamation, cried out, HAM! that is, it is *black*, and *this* word became his name.

It is believed that in the first ages of the world, things were named from their supposed qualities; and their supposed qualities arose from *first* appearances. In this way, it is imagined, Adam named all the animals at first sight; as the Lord God caused them to pass before him, a *sudden* impulse arising in his mind, from the appearance of each creature; so that a suitable name was given.

This was natural; but not more so than it was for Noah to call his second son *Ham*, because he was *black*; being struck by this uncommon, unheard of, complexion of his own child, which impelled him at once to name him as he looked.

We suppose the same influence governed at the birth of JAPHETH; and that at the birth of this child, greater surprise still must have pervaded the household of Noah, as *white* was a cast of complexion still more wonderful than either *red* or *black*, as these two last named complexions bear a stronger affinity to each other, than to that of *white*.