Genesis 10:1-32 – Table of Nations, the genealogies of Noah’s sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth as they repopulate the earth.

The Table of Nations

God commands Noah and his three sons with their wives to repopulate the earth.
Genesis 9:1; Genesis 10:1-32

Shem (Sem) means “Name” or “Honor”
Ham (Kham) means “Hot” or “Passionate”
Japheth (Yaphet) means “Beautify” or “Open”

All the direct descendants of Noah listed in Genesis 10 add up to 70.

All nations and tribes can be traced back to one, two or all three of these patriarchs even though names and pronunciations may have changed through the centuries.
Ancestral roots can be traced by historical records, cultures, languages, folklore, religious beliefs, legends, physical characteristics and, within the last ten years, DNA testing.

Other References
- Josephus 1.6.4:146
- The Book of Jashar 7:19 and 10:1-2
- The Book of Jubilees 8:8-30
- http://www.soundchristian.com/man/
The Sons of Japheth
(21 descendants)

Most people of Europe, Turkey, Russia, mixed with Iran and Northern India

Gen 10: 2-5
2) The sons of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras.
4) The sons of Javan: Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim.
5) From these the coastland peoples spread. [These are the sons of Japheth] in their lands, each with his own language, by their families within their nations.
The Sons of Ham
(29 descendants)
Most people of Africa, South Arabia, East Asia, the Pacific Islands and the Americas

Gen 10: 6-7; 13-20
6) The sons of Ham,
Cush, Egypt [Mizraim], Put, and Canaan.
7) The sons of Cush:
Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah, and Sabteca; and the sons of Raamah: Sheba and Dedan...

13) And Egypt [Mizraim] became the father of Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim,
    14) Pathrusim, Casluhim (from whom came the Philistines), and Caphtorim.
15) Canaan became the father of Sidon his firstborn, Heth [the Hittites],
    16) The Jebusites, the Amorites, the Girgashites,
    17) The Hivites, the Arkites, the Sinites,
    18) The Arvadites, the Zemarites and the Hamathites. Afterward the families of the Canaanites spread abroad
19) And the territory of the Canaanites extended from Sidon as one goes to Gerar as far as Gaza, and as one goes to [a]Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim, as far as Lasha.
20) These are the sons of Ham by their families, their languages, their lands, and their nations.

(Psalms 105:23,27; 106:22)
The Sons of Shem
(20 descendants)
Most people of the Near and Middle East and mixed with Northern India

Gen 10:21-32
21) To Shem also, the younger brother of Japheth and the ancestor of all the children of Eber [including the Hebrews], children were born.
   24) Arpachshad became the father of Shelah; and Shelah became the father of Eber.
   25) To Eber were born two sons: the name of one was Peleg [division], because [the inhabitants of] the earth were divided up in his days; and his brother's name was Joktan.
   26) Joktan became the father of Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah,
   27) Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah,  28) Obal, Abimael, Sheba,
   29) Ophir, Havilah, and Jobab; all these were the sons of Joktan.
   30) The territory in which they lived extended from Mesha as one goes toward Sephar to the hill country of the east.
   31) These are Shem's descendants by their families, their languages, their lands, and their nations.
   32) These are the families of the sons of Noah, according to their generations, within their nations; and from these the nations spread abroad on the earth after the flood. (A)

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Where did the name “Africa” come from?

According to historian Josephus, “Africa” was named after one of Abraham’s grandsons with his second wife Keturah, named Apher (Ophren), son of Midian. He also quotes a prophet called Cleodemus who wrote that Abraham’s grandsons Apher and Japhran fought with Greek hero Hercules against Libya and Antaeus and name the land “Africa” after themselves.

Note: Other possible origins for the word Africa –

- the Latin word *aprica*, meaning "sunny";
- the Greek word *aphrike*, meaning "without cold." This was proposed by historian Leo Africanus (1488–1554),

Gen 25: 1-4
Josephus 15
Wikipedia.com, Search Africa
Who did the Chinese descend from?

Historical evidence point to Sin and Heth, the sons of Canaan may be the main ancestors of the Chinese and some other far eastern peoples. *(Gen 10: 15-18).*

- Notice in the Bible Canaan had about ten sons, seven of them were specifically mentioned to settle in and near the land of Canaan, and it says *“and afterwards were the families of the Canaanites spread abroad”*. *(Gen 10: 15-18).*
- The root word for the word *Chin* is *Sin*, even in history there was the “Sino-Japanese war” and the study of Chinese language and literature is called “Sinology”.
- **Heth** was the father of the Hittites who settled in east Turkey. Another name for Hittites was Khitai/Cathay which was another name for the Far East. Their physical features, style of clothes and shoes closely resembled the Mongolians and Chinese.
- In ancient Chinese legends and history they say their ancestors traveled from the west, also with knowledge of the flood of Noah (*Fuhi*) and belief of one Heavenly Emperor called “*Shang-Ti*”

References

http://www.soundchristian.com/man/
Cosmic Codes, by Chuck Missler
www.geocities.com/normlaw/page8.html
The Curse of Noah on Canaan

Gen 9: 25-29
In this controversial account in the Bible Ham saw his father drunk and naked in his tent and ridicules him. Shem and Japheth cover their father. Noah awakes and does not curse his son Ham but his grandson Canaan.
Some people in history have tried to use this verse to excuse the slavery of Black Africans. This is incorrect interpretation.

- Canaan was the ancestor of the tribes that lived in the land of Canaan where God promised the land to Abraham and the Israelites. Not their darker relatives that live in Africa where most of the slaves were taken from between the 15th and 19th centuries.
- The curse was not from God but from Noah. In Genesis 9:1 it say “And God blessed Noah and his sons,...” (Although a curse from a man of God could be God speaking through him).
- The curse was already accomplished during the Old Testament when the Canaanites were driven from the land and the ones that remained did become servants.
- Many of the other descendants of Ham were leaders, builders, kings and priests in Egypt, Kush (Nubia and Ethiopia), and in West Africa, sometimes even ruling over descendants of Shem and Japheth. Not all Africans were primitive or servants and slaves.
- The Canaanites were only under the curse because they were living in sin, practicing idolatry, child sacrifices and the perversions of Sodom and Gomorrah. Remember Rahab was a Canaanite in Jericho and she repented and was saved.
- Jesus came to save all people and nations, including Canaanites, if they accept him. Today some people of Lebanon consider themselves to be descended from ancient Canaanites, who were also called Phoenicians. Many of the Lebanese are Christians.

http://www.crystalinks.com/canaan.html
sarabe3.tripod.com/israeliteimages.html
Hebrews and Jews

The Hebrews got their name from their ancestor Eber, a descendant of Shem. (Gen 11:15-17). God chose the line of Shem through Eber and to Abraham to be in his plan to save mankind by the “seed of the woman” who has prevailed over the “seed of the serpent or the devil”. This was fulfilled in Jesus Christ, a descendant of Shem and Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, but the Son of God is ultimately related to all mankind of all races.

The main descendant of the Hebrews will include the Jews (Israelites), most Arabs (Ishmaelites, Midianites) and Moabites, Ammonites and Edomites.

The Israelites officially started there Jewish religion with Moses when they left Egypt and entered the promise land.

After the Jews were scattered to all nations of the earth on several occasions, some have intermarried with other races. Today DNA testing has confirmed Hebrews/Jews of many ethnic groups from all over the world. Some of these scattered Jews (or lost tribes) even have traditions that link them to one or several of Jacob’s/Israel’s 12 sons. (See study on the 12 Tribes of Israel)

sarabe3.tripod.com/israeliteimages.html
Who are the Arabs?
Traditionally, Ishmael is thought to be the father of the Arabs (Gen 16: 1-16.) Ishmael was the son of Abraham with Hagar, Sarah’s Egyptian maid. Later Ishmael had 12 sons of his own, each starting 12 tribes but they were not as strictly organized like the 12 tribes of their cousins the Israelites. (Gen 25: 13-18).

According to Josephus the Ishmaelites intermarried with the descendants of Abraham and Keturah and also the descendants of Esau, Jacob’s twin brother. The Arabs are actually a mixture of different tribes, in fact the root word for “arab” means mixed.

According to Arab tradition and ancient Hebrew accounts (Jashar 21) Arabian tribes already existed before Ishmael and his mother Hagar were sent into “the wilderness” of Arabia. Ishmael spoke Hebrew, the language of his father Abraham, and learnt Arabic from an Arabian tribe that took care of him and Hagar as their own. Apparently, as generations progressed, the lineage of Ishmael and his 12 sons became predominant in that area. (Wikipedia: Muhammad)

Note that around 330 AD an Arabian tribe called the Nabataeans* were among the first nations to accept Christianity (with the Ethiopians around the same time) and to build churches, some carved out of mountain sides in Judea and Jordan. Before their conversion to Christianity the Nabataeans practiced a sun worshiping cult while some other Arabian tribes worshiped many idols before Muhammad started Islam in early 600s AD.

*The Lost Civiliztion of Petra, page 57-58 by Udi Levy

Note: All Muslims in the Middle East are not ethnically Arabs, although Arabic may be the official language and Arabs may live among or intermingle with the original inhabitants.
Examples of non-Arab Muslim nations (or mixed Arab and their local ethnic groups): Egypt, Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Libya, Morocco, Sudan.

http://www.khouse.org/6640/KICDSSPHI-1/

References:
Genesis 16: 1-16; 25:13-18
Josephus 1.12.2
The Book of Jashar 21
Wikipedia.com Search Muhammad and Adnan tribe
Image from www.ldophin.org
The Hebrew Table of Nations
(From Genesis 10 and Related Sources)

- Japheth or Indo-European Peoples: Red
- Ham, or African Peoples: Blue
- Shem, or Semitic Peoples: Orange
- Allotted to both Ham and Shem: Black

Image from cs.anu.edu.au/~bdm/dilugim/Nations/main_gir.html
Defending the Faith

Shem (2nd)

Spiritual: great religions

Blessed be the LORD God of Shem, and Canaan shall be his servant.

Ham (3rd)

Physical: great artisans and builders

Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren.

Japheth (1st born)

Intellectual: scientific, philosophical

God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem, and Canaan shall be his servant.

Elam
Asshur (Assyria)
Arphaxad
Salah
Eber (Hebrews)
Peleg
Reu
Serug
Nahor
Terah
Abraham (2300 BC)
Nahor
Haran
Lot
Joktan

Lad (Lydia)
Arum
Uz (Job? perhaps 2800 BC)
Hui
Gether
Mash

Tehrmael (Arabes)
Esau (Edom)

Messiah

Chart from www.ldolphin.org/shj

Notes:
Noah lived 350 years after the Flood and Shem: 500 years. Date for the flood is ~3600 BC.
The confusion of tongues at the tower of Babel occurred not long after the Flood, (~250 yrs). The world population at that time may only have been only 2000-10,000 persons (Henry Morris, Genesis).
The nations then scattered from Babylon, Canaan separated in the time of Peleg, about 330 yrs after the Flood. sea age followed continental division.
*See A. C. Custance, Noah's Three Sons, Doorway Papers, Zondervan, 1975