



GENESIS: THE FOUNDATION FOR EVERYTHING

ON SPIRITUAL SPANKINGS AND SCATTERINGS

GENESIS 11:1-9

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Genesis 10 informed us how God divided and dispersed the people:

He assigned them different languages.

In Genesis 11, God shows us why the language barrier and the scattering were both necessary expressions of God's judgment and His mercy. By turning from God and to themselves, society was showing signs of false worship under the tyrant, Nimrod.

I. Corrupting God's Blessing of Communication

"...the whole earth used the same language and the same words."

I. Corrupting God's Blessing of Communication

“It is Ham's descendants that shall begin the defilement of religion in the world. It shall start at Babel. Ham shall father the progeny of all false religions.” *(Henry Morris)*

I. Corrupting God's Blessing of Communication

“Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.... Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence. God looked on the earth [the people], and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth.” (Gen. 6:5, 11-12)

I. Corrupting God's Blessing of Communication

If left to us, and without God's gracious initiative, mankind would descend into a darkness of life that we would not survive. Left to ourselves, our own hearts would destroy us.

*"...the hearts of the sons of men among them are given fully to do evil....
Furthermore, the hearts of the sons of men are full of evil and insanity is in their hearts throughout their lives." (Eccles. 8:11; 9:3)*

II. Corrupting God's Blessing of Community

"They said..."

II. Corrupting God's Blessing of Community

“They said let us build for ourselves... let us make for ourselves.”

1. Their mouths are revealing the plans of their hearts.
2. Their plans are being shown in their actions.
3. Their actions are revealing what they most desire.

Literally: *“let us brick bricks”* and *“let us burn to a burning”*

III. Corrupting God's Blessing of Communion

“They said let us build for ourselves...” “... and let us make for ourselves...”

This focus on self is joined with the desire for a great city and a great tower
“whose top will reach into heaven.”

‘We will worship on our own terms.’

ZIGGURAT



THE FOUNDATIONAL REMAINS OF THE CIRCA 1250 BC ELAMITE ZIGGURAT AT CHOGHA ZANBIL (A SITE NORTHEAST OF ERIDU)

SOURCE: ARMSTRONGINSTITUTE.ORG



RECONSTRUCTED ZIGGURAT AT UR

SOURCE: BRITTANICA.COM



ELAMITE ZIGGURAT IN IRAN



MAYAN ZIGGURAT IN BELIZE



MAYAN ZIGGURAT IN GUATEMALA



MESOAMERICAN ZIGGURAT IN MEXICO

III. Corrupting God's Blessing of Communion

God told them to obey
three avenues of blessing:

1. Be fruitful
2. Multiply
3. Populate (swarm in)
the earth abundantly

but...

They rebelled and sought their
own avenues of blessing:

1. Build a city to settle in
2. Build a tower to worship in
3. Build a name to rejoice in

*"...otherwise, we will be scattered
abroad over the face of the whole
earth."*

IV. The Lord Comes Down...

“to see” – an anthropomorphism = a human characteristic attributed to God for our understanding.

He sees a people united by their wicked hearts and sinful deeds. They have reasoned in their hearts, spoken with their mouths, and acted with their bodies against God’s wisdom and will for their good.

IV. The Lord Comes Down...

“to confuse” – *Babel* is another Hebrew play on words.

In Akkadian, Babel is Babili = Gate of God. They were building their own way to the gods they invented.

From the Hebrew word Balal = confusion. Babel is a derisive, mocking term describing what God did in judgment.

Literally, “They will not hear a man the language of his friend.”

The pronounced consonants of the Hebrew word confuse are *n-b-l*, which is the reverse of the pronounced consonants for the word brick, *l-b-n*.

They wanted to ascend to the heavens by their own will, but the heavens came down and God fulfilled His will despite them. The Hebrews would have picked up on the irony of that.

IV. The Lord Comes Down...

2 Corinthians 4:3-10

A person stands on a dark rock in the foreground, looking up at a vast night sky filled with stars and the Milky Way galaxy. The text "GRACE CHURCH" is written in large, white, serif capital letters, and "WILLIAMSBURG" is written in smaller, white, serif capital letters below it.

GRACE CHURCH

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