

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

GENESIS 11:1-10

APRIL 6, 2022

### INTRODUCTION:

1. **GENESIS 11.1:** *“Now the whole earth **had** one language and one speech.”*
  - a) Earlier, the descendants divided *“according to their languages”* (Gen. 10.20,31)
  - b) The book of Genesis was written by Moses who reflected back on events that had already transpired. (John 5.46,47; Gen. 36.31; 2 Tim. 3.16)
2. **GENESIS 11.2:** *“And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there.”*
  - a) To the east was an area around Mount Ararat known today as Armenia.
  - b) Shinar is the land where the city of Babel was built. (Gen. 10.10).
  - c) Later, the city of Babel evolved into the Babylonian empire. (Dan. 1.1,2)
3. Genesis 11 briefly records an amazing event of divine intervention which would change the world forever.

### I. THE PROBLEM OF BABEL

#### A. The sin of pride.

1. **GENESIS 11.3:** *“Then they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly.” Bake – “to burn.” Bricks were made in a kiln. Bricks and asphalt for mats.*
2. **GENESIS 11.4:** *“And they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens”* Literally, into the sky. They were ambitious. (Deut. 9.1)
3. **GENESIS 11.4:** *“let us make a name for ourselves”*

#### B. The sin of rebellion.

1. **GENESIS 11.4:** *“lest we be scattered abroad over the ace of the whole earth.”*
2. God commanded to *“be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth”* (Gen. 9.1)
3. Instead, they rebelled against the command and wanted to stay together in one place.

### II. THE PUNISHMENT OF GOD

#### A. God confused their language.

1. **GENESIS 11.5,6:** *“now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them.”*
2. **GENESIS 11.7:** *“Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech.”* (with v. 9)
  - a) Who was God talking to? (John 1.1,2,14; 17.5)
  - b) What did God do? “Confused” (balal): “to mix, mingle.”
  - c) Why did God do it? “that they may not understand one another’s speech”

#### B. God scattered them across the earth.

1. **GENESIS 11.8:** *“So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city.”*
2. This was God’s intention all along. (Gen. 8.15-19)

### II. THE PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF TODAY

#### A. Pride will bring destruction.

1. Pride is one of three major categories of sin. (1 John 2.16)
2. What will pride do to you? (Gen. 3.4,5; John 12.42,43; 1 John 1.8-10; 1 Tim. 3.6)
3. Why do you do what you do? What is your motivation?
  - a) The glory and praise of men? (Ezek. 28.2; Dan. 4.28-30; John 5.44)
  - b) The glory of God and from God? (Acts 12.20-24; 2 Cor. 4.15; 10.17,18)

#### B. There is power in working together.

1. Notice the unity of the people. (Gen. 11.1,3,6)
2. The church is to work together as one. (1 Cor. 12.12,13,20,26)
3. To grow, we must have a plan and work that plan together. (Gen. 11.4; Acts 1.8)