

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

APRIL 13, 2022

GENESIS 11.1-9

INTRODUCTION:

1. All the languages that exist today originated at the tower of Babel. (Gen. 11.1-9)
 - a) Most scholars agree that the thousands of languages that exist evolved from about 100 “family languages.” This accounts for the commonality of many languages.
 - b) **ACTS 17.26:** *“He has made from one blood every nation of men...and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings.”*
2. The account of Babel can be summarized in three points.
 - a) Everyone spoke the same language. (Gen. 11.1)
 - b) Mankind decided to build a tower for reasons of pride and rebellion. (Gen. 11.4)
 - c) God confused their languages and scattered them. (Gen. 11.9)
3. There are some timeless lessons that can be applied from this account.

I. LESSONS FROM PRIDE

- A. The people wanted to build the tower *“make a name for ourselves.”*
 1. Literally, renown, reputation. They wanted to be lifted up and famous.
 2. The definition of pride.
 - a) Hyperephania: Hyper – “over”; Ephania: “to display.” Literally, to show yourself to be over or better than others. (Mark 7.21; Phil. 2.3; Rom. 12.10)
 - b) Alazonia: Literally, a braggart. To have self-confidence. (James 4.16; 1 John 2.16)
 - c) Tuphoo: To be puffed up. Inflated with exaggerated ideas of self. (1 Tim. 3.6)
- B. Is it wrong to have confidence?
 1. As a Christian, we can be filled with confidence. (Heb. 10.19-22)
 2. Should we have confidence in our spiritual condition? (1 John 5.13)
 3. Confidence because of our righteousness or because of God’s grace?
 - a) Paul had reason to boast, but his confidence was in Christ. (Phil. 3.3-9)
 - b) Confidence in self vs confidence in God. (Luke 18.9-14)
- C. Instead of pride, we are to be humble.
 1. The humble are willing to be taught. (Isa. 25.9; Prov. 9.7,8; 15.12; 21.24)
 2. God is with the humble. (Isa. 57.15; 2 Sam. 12.13; Ps. 51.1,2,17)

II. LESSONS FROM UNITY

- A. The power of unity.
 1. **GENESIS 11.6:** *“Indeed these people are one”* They were united in purpose. (v. 3)
 2. **GENESIS 11.6:** *“and they all have one language”* They were united in language. (v. 1)
 3. **GENESIS 11.6:** *“nothing they propose to do will be withheld from them.”*
- B. The power of unity in the church.
 1. Division will undermine everything that we are trying to do.
 - a) **LUKE 11.17:** *“Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation”* As the kingdom of God, the church will become desolate because of division. (Col. 1.13)
 - b) **LUKE 11.17:** *“and a house divided against a house falls.”* As the house of God, the church will fall because of division. (1 Tim. 3.15)
 2. Do we all have the same purpose? (Eph. 4.11-16)
 3. Are we all speaking the same language?
 - a) **1 CORINTHIANS 1.10:** *“that you all speak the same thing...perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.”*
 - b) We speak the same when we think the same. (Phil. 2.1-5)
 - c) It begins with proper attitude. (Phil. 4.1-6)