

## Genesis: From Blood to Babel

Lesson Twenty-One • Genesis 11:1-9

### The Pride of Babel

#### Monument to Fame, Monument to Failure

The Tower of Babel is a reminder that man's plans will never STAND IN THE WAY of God's sovereign purpose being fulfilled.

*There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan that can succeed against the Lord.  
Proverbs 21:30 NIV*

*Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand.  
Proverbs 19:21 ESV*

#### The Pride of Babel

### 1. We See the REBELLION of Humanity in the Construction of Babel.

#### The Rebellion of Humanity

- The UNITY of mankind is evident in their common language and common purpose to rebel against God's command.

*Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. 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. Genesis 11:1-2*

- The INGENUITY of mankind is evident in their ability to make bricks to build a city and tower unto themselves.

*Then they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens..." Genesis 11:3-4*

#### The Pride and Fear of Humanity

- Mankind wished to PROMOTE their name (self-exaltation) and PROTECT their security (self-preservation).

*"...let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." Genesis 11:4*

### 2. We See the GRACE of God in the Confusion at Babel.

#### The Response of God

- The Lord comes down to SEE the city and tower mankind built.

*But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. Genesis 11:5*

- The Lord knows the potential DANGER of corporate rebellion.

*And the LORD said, "Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them." Genesis 11:6*

- The Lord CONFUSES mankind's language and scatters them across the earth.

*"Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. Genesis 11:7-8*

#### The Folly of Making a Name for Yourself

- The name you make for yourself will not LAST. We were not created to make a name for ourselves, but to spread the fame of God's name.

*Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth. Genesis 11:9*

#### The Remedy for Humanity

- The Lord CAME DOWN to do for us what we cannot do for ourselves: reconcile us to Himself and give us a lasting name in Jesus Christ.

*"Bring My sons from afar, and My daughters from the ends of the earth—everyone who is called by My name, whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him." Isaiah 43:6-7*

#### The Praise of Christ

The languages and nations of the world are the judgment of God on sin, and at the same time they are designed by God for the GLORY of Jesus Christ.

*"For then I will restore to the peoples a pure language, that they all may call on the name of the Lord, to serve Him with one accord. Zephaniah 3:9*

*And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: "Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!" Revelation 5:13*