

The Tower Of Rebellion

Genesis 11:1-32

Introduction

I The Post-Flood Conditions

- A. The whole world had:
 - 1. One **language**
 - 2. A common speech - Zeph 3:9
- B. The people of the world were **spreading** out
 - 1. Some were moving eastward
 - a. They found a plain in Shinar - Gen 10:10
 - b. They **settled** there - Acts 1:8; 8:1

II The Plan Of Men

- A. To build a **city** for themselves - Ps 127:1; Heb 11:10
 - 1. Out of baked brick and tar
- B. To make a tower that reaches to the heavens - Is 14:12-14
- C. To make a **name** for themselves - Eccl 2:4-11; Matt 23:12
- D. To not be scattered over the face of the earth - Gen 1:22, 28; 9:1

III The Intervention Of God

- A. The Lord **came down** to see: - Gen 18:20-21
 - 1. The city they were building
 - 2. The tower they were building
- B. The **assessment** of God - Ps 2:1-5
 - 1. If they have unity as a people ...
 - 2. If they have unity of language ...
 - 3. Then **nothing** they plan will be impossible
- C. The directive of God
 - 1. Let us go down and **confuse** their language - Gen 1:26; 3:22
- D. The result of God's actions
 - 1. They were **scattered** over the face of the earth - Lk 1:51
 - 2. They stopped building the city - Job 5:12
 - 3. They were obligated to **return** to God's plan - Ps 33:10-11

IV The Genealogy Of Abram

- A. The account of Shem to Terah, Abram's father

B. The account of Terah in Ur of the Chaldeans

- 1. Abram, Nahor and Haran - Acts 7:2-4; Heb 11:8-10

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. What things have you done in the past to “make a name for yourself?” What impact did it have on your relationships with others? On your relationship with God?
2. What was it about the unity of the people and their desire to build a city and tower that proved to be displeasing to God? How is unity in the church (which Jesus prayed for in John 17) different from the unity that mankind evidenced in the building of Babel? How can you personally apply what you have discovered?
3. How did confusing the language of the people promote the fulfillment of God's first Great Commission? [See Gen 1:28; 9:1] What did God use in Acts 8:1 to redirect the early church to His divine plan found in Acts 1:8? Is there an area of confusion in your own life that God may have allowed to realign your activities and plans with His? What steps will you take to respond [Hint: See James 1:2-4; 2 Cor 1: 8-9; Rom 5:1-5]?
4. Read Matthew 20:26; Luke 9:24; Mark 9:35 and James 4:4. What do these passages teach you about true greatness? What practical steps will you take this week to apply what you have learned?
5. Take a moment to examine your heart: Is there something you are doing in your life that is designed to protect yourself and/or make a name for yourself? Was this project or activity initiated by God? If not, confess your independent attitude to God and ask the Holy Spirit to realign your attitudes, activities, plans, and goals with those of your heavenly Father.

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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