

The Tower of Babel

Genesis 11:1-26

"The curse was the confusion of the languages, but God brings blessing from the curse. He gives us understanding in spite of the language barrier and even promises (Pentecost is an earnest of the fulfillment) that the nations will worship together, presumably in one voice and with full understanding of each other. The Babylonians wanted a city. The city could not stand. But God provides his people with a city with foundations that will endure forever. Nimrod's people wanted a name. But to those who stand with God and who overcome, God promises: 'Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will he leave it. I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on him my new name. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches' (Rev. 3:12-13)." Boice

- I. The **evil world system** that is in place today began in Babylon through Noah's great grandson Nimrod. Satan used him to put in place a moral, economic, and religious system that in guise, was really the worship of Satan himself. It was and is a system of rebellion against the one and only true God and His holiness. Those who love and embrace Satan's system of belief are seen by God as hating Him. Like Satan, He sees them as enemies who want nothing to do with His love and the truth of the gospel. The ultimate fulfillment of this will be seen during the Great Tribulation when the Antichrist forces everyone, great and small, to receive his mark as a sign of complete heart devotion to Satan and that great prostitute Babylon (Rev.13:16). The only one who can rescue anyone from this present evil age of Satan's deception is Jesus, who gave himself for our sins (Gal. 1:4).

Gen. 11:1-4

Rom. 5:12-18a

Gen. 6:5-6

Gen. 8:21

Gen. 10;8-12

1 Jn. 2:15-18

2 Thess. 2:8

2 Thess. 2:4

Rom. 1:21

Lev. 19:31

Nimrod = "rebellion"

James 4:4 *You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.*

- II. God frustrated Satan's attempt to form a unified resistance against him by taking away man's ability to communicate with one another through a common language. His purpose was to not only keep mankind from giving full allegiance to Satan, but to also fulfill His will in having man repopulate the earth. Satan cannot and will not thwart God's sovereign will. He is not His equal in any way. As hard as he may try to win man's allegiance, he will never keep God from pulling thousands out of his system of evil every day. Satan may say come let us defy God, but God is also speaking and says, *The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let the one who hears say, "Come!" Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life (Rev. 22:17)..*

Gen. 11:5-9

Isa. 1:18

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls" (Matt. 11:28-29).

- III. We can assume that Noah's son Shem, being the godly man that he was, had nothing to do with Satan's ploy to deceive mankind into worshipping him. That is why God chose him and his offspring to carry the line of Christ. Shem's genealogy is emphasized again to show us the power of God's sovereign will to intervene in the seemingly godless destiny of mankind. The genealogy shows that Shem outlived Abram, which means that he told Abram all about the flood and the reason for it. His testimony, no doubt, moved Abram to become the man of faith that he was. *How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher. And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!*

Gen. 11:10-26

Rom. 10:14-15

