

Lesson 10: THE TOWER OF BABEL

Genesis 11:1-9

Did you ever wonder why there are so many different languages in the world? Wouldn't it be a lot easier if everyone in the world spoke the same language? Just imagine what wonderful things could be accomplished if we didn't always have to translate every discovery into other languages. Scientists could make much faster progress, and certainly people could get along with each other much better. Maybe if everyone spoke to the same language wars would end. Let's go to the Bible, Genesis 11, and find the answer to our questions.

Not long after the Flood, the world again began to be filled with people. All the people lived in one place, even though the Lord had told them to spread over the whole earth. All the people also spoke the same language. No one knows what that language was, but everyone could understand each other. No one had to learn another language so that they could talk to someone. Everyone talked alike.

One day when they were traveling along, they came to a plain in the land of Shinar. They decided to stop there and make it their permanent home. They said to each other, "Let's make brick and bake it thoroughly, so that it will be strong." Then they took slime for mortar, and the brick that they had made and they began to build.

Although these people knew the story of the great Flood, and that God had sent it to judge the world because of the wickedness of the people, they did not care. They were filled with pride, they thought more of themselves than of God's command to worship only him. They decided to build a tower to reach into the heavens, so that they could better worship the stars the sun, and the moon. Instead of worshipping the God who created all these things, they worshipped the creation. They said, "Let us make a name for ourselves, so that we won't be scattered over the earth."

How foolish these people were, for God knew all their thoughts and plans. He knew the they were building the tower in order to worship false gods, rather than him. How sad it must have made him feel to see how they rejected him again.

The Lord looked at them and said, "Look, the people are all one, because they speak the same language. And this is what they do, build a tower to worship the heavens. Now, whatever wickedness they imagine to do, they will be able to do. So, let us go down, and confuse their language, then they will not be able to understand what each other says."

So that day the Lord confused their language. Since they would not understand what others were saying, they could not continue to build their power or their city. Without understanding each others speech, they could not get along, so they separated from each other. Each one would find others that spoke the same language, they grouped together and moved off to a new place to live.

The people were scattered across the earth, just as the Lord had commanded in the first place. Man may disobey God's will for a while, but when God's patience is at an end, his will will be done. God is Sovereign, that means he will be obeyed. He may be patient with man's

wickedness for what we think is a long time, but that doesn't mean that he won't judge. It just shows us how loving and patient he is with us. He gives man very opportunity to repent from his sin and turn back to God.

The people called the unfinished tower the Tower of Babel. Babel means "noise" or "confusion." When God changed the language of the people, there truly was babel or confusion of languages. When you hear people struggling to learn another language so that they can talk to people from different countries, remember that many languages was not God's original plan. God confused the languages as judgement, because the people used the blessing of same language to work together to perform wickedness. It seems that many blessings and gifts that God has given to man are used to do that which is evil, instead of that with is good. But God knows exactly what is happening and when the time is right he will put an end to it.

Aren't you glad that we don't have to continue in rebellion against God. He sent his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to pay for our sin, so that we can get a new heart and mind. He has changed us, who believe in him, so that our imaginations will not be continually wicked. He has given us a desire instead to please him and worship him. And he has promised that one day all will obey him, because he will destroy all rebellion. What a wonderful day that will be. The the curse will be lifted, and we will all be able to sing and speak the same language, as we praise the Lord for his wonderful works to the children of men.

Learn:

"Therefore if any man be in Christ,
he is a new creature
old things are past away,
behold all things are become new."
2 Corinthians 5:17

Questions

1. What is the only way to escape from our desire to do evil and rebel against God?
2. When will all the people of the earth again speak the same language?
3. Why did people call the tower that they had been building the Tower of Babel?

Lesson 10: THE TOWER OF BABEL

Supplies Needed:

- 1 Sheet of Constuction Paper
- Crayons or markers
- Scissors
- Paste
- Pattern

Instructions

1. Use sheet of constuction paper for background backing.
2. Cut out pattern man backing bricks, buidlers, and tower babel.
4. Paste paste pieces on white piece of paper.
5. Color pattern pieces and color background.
6. Write memory verse on the bottom.



Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature old things are past away, behold all things are become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17



Handwritten text in a cursive script, possibly a form or document, with some illegible characters and a signature-like scribble at the bottom.

