

Divine Confusion

Genesis Chapter 11

Gen 11:1 **Babeling Fools** vs 1-7

- Man's Ability to Make Himself Great

Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words.

Gen 11:2 It came about as they journeyed east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there.

Gen 11:3 They said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and burn {them} thoroughly." And they used brick for stone, and they used tar for mortar.

Gen 11:4 They said, "Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top {will reach} into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name, otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."

Gen 11:5 The LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built.

Gen 11:6 The LORD said, "Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them.

Gen 11:7 "Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, so that they will not understand one another's speech."

Gen 11:8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of the whole earth; and they stopped building the city.

Gen 11:9 Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of the whole earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of the whole earth.

- 1 Command and 1 Promise ignored
 1. Fill the earth (Gen 9:1) contrast (Gen 10:10-12) + (Gen 11:4) Metropolis - a gathering
 2. Will not flood the earth Water Proof Bricks (pitch = Ark, Bricks, Moses Basket)
- "Make For Ourselves" - a City, a Tower, a Name Self reliant, Proud, Arrogant
- James 4:6 1 Peter 5:5 + Prov 3:34 "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."
- Vs 5+6 The Lord saw them as they were "they purpose"
 1. Nimrod - A mighty Hunter (of men and violence) ch 10
 2. Rev 14:8 "...Babylon the great, she who has made all the nations drink of the wine of the passion of her immorality"
 3. Rev 17:5 "...Babylon the great, the mother of harlots and the abominations of the earth."
 4. Rev 18:10 "Woe, Woe, the great city of Babylon, the strong city! For in one hour your judgment has come."
- The Lord Scattered them "His will is done"

What happens when God causes Confusion?

1. God is not confused ...Man is (no where in scripture is God ever confused or caught off guard)
 - Ps 44:21 "He knows the secrets of the heart."
 - Acts 15:18 "Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world."
 - 1 Chr. 28:9 "And you, my son Solomon, acknowledge the God of your father, and serve him with wholehearted devotion and with a willing mind, for Yahweh searches every heart and understands every motive behind the thoughts. If you seek him, he will be found by you; but if you forsake him, he will reject you forever."
 - 1 John 3:20 "For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things."
2. God will cause floods, confused speech, leprosy, calamity to change the intent of man's heart

- We have seen these examples in scripture
- Heb 12:9-11 "Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He {disciplines us} for {our} good, so that we may share His holiness. All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness."

3. What should you and I do when Confused?

- Jam 4:7a Submit therefore to God.
- Jam 4:7b Resist the devil and he will flee from you.
- Satanic vs. Flesh
- Pray
- Do what was the last thing God Told you (Repent)
- Be Led by The Spirit ...not Flesh
- Isa 55:12 "For you will go out with joy And be led forth with peace; The mountains and the hills will break forth into shouts of joy before you, And all the trees of the field will clap {their} hands."

Gen 11:10 **Line of the Promised Seed Followed** vs 10-32

These are {the records of} the generations of Shem. Shem was one hundred years old, and became the father of Arpachshad two years after the flood;

Gen 11:11 and Shem lived five hundred years after he became the father of Arpachshad, and he had {other} sons and daughters.

- Shorter Life spans "500 years of Shem vs 950 of Noah"

Gen 11:12 Arpachshad lived thirty-five years, and became the father of Shelah;

Gen 11:13 and Arpachshad lived four hundred and three years after he became the father of Shelah, and he had {other} sons and daughters.

Gen 11:14 Shelah lived thirty years, and became the father of Eber;

Gen 11:15 and Shelah lived four hundred and three years after he became the father of Eber, and he had {other} sons and daughters.

Gen 11:16 Eber lived thirty-four years, and became the father of Peleg;

Gen 11:17 and Eber lived four hundred and thirty years after he became the father of Peleg, and he had {other} sons and daughters.

Gen 11:18 Peleg lived thirty years, and became the father of Reu;

Gen 11:19 and Peleg lived two hundred and nine years after he became the father of Reu, and he had {other} sons and daughters.

Gen 11:20 Reu lived thirty-two years, and became the father of Serug;

Gen 11:21 and Reu lived two hundred and seven years after he became the father of Serug, and he had {other} sons and daughters.

Gen 11:22 Serug lived thirty years, and became the father of Nahor;

- Nahor - Abram's Grandfather

- Gen 11:23 and Serug lived two hundred years after he became the father of Nahor, and he had {other} sons and daughters.
- Gen 11:24 Nahor lived twenty-nine years, and became the father of Terah;
- Gen 11:25 and Nahor lived one hundred and nineteen years after he became the father of Terah, and he had {other} sons and daughters.
- *Terah - Abram's Father*
 - *Terah served other Gods (Joshua 24:2)*
 - *Rabbinic Tradition - Terah was an idol maker*
 - *Acts 7:2 Abram called while in Ur and in his idol worshipping father's home*
- Gen 11:26 Terah lived seventy years, and became the father of Abram, Nahor and Haran.
- Gen 11:27 Now these are {the records of} the generations of Terah. Terah became the father of Abram, Nahor and Haran; and Haran became the father of Lot.
- Gen 11:28 Haran died in the presence of his father Terah in the land of his birth, in Ur of the Chaldeans.
- *Ur was a sophisticated city*
 1. *Medical Facilities / Surgery*
 2. *Steam Baths / Day Spas*
 3. *Theaters / Art*
 4. *Musical Instruments*
- Gen 11:29 Abram and Nahor took wives for themselves. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai; and the name of Nahor's wife was Milcah, the daughter of Haran, the father of Milcah and Iscah.
- *Sarai - Abram's step sister (Gen 20:12)*
 - *Nahor & Milcah had 8 children one named Bethuel had a daughter named Rebecca (Gen 22:20)*
 - *Left behind in Mesopotamia Were Idol worshippers (Rachel stole Laban's Idols - Gen 31:19)*
- Gen 11:30 Sarai was barren; she had no child.
- Gen 11:31 Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife; and they went out together from Ur of the Chaldeans in order to enter the land of Canaan; and they went as far as Haran, and settled there.
- *When Family helps you in the call of God (this happens in young ministers)*
 1. *Terah took (Leadership misplaced)*
 2. *Too many people (Logistics muddied)*
 3. *as far as Haran - settled there (Goal not achieved)*
- Gen 11:32 The days of Terah were two hundred and five years; and Terah died in Haran.
- *Abram lived under a strong patriarchal family system*
 - *Trying to achieve God's will using man's ideas will take you only so far*
 - *Something has to die to enter God's Promise*

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