

Genesis Chapter 11: Judgment-Multiculturalism and Diversity

Lift Up Jesus

Genesis Chapter 10 Review: All Nations

- Funnel of humanity to the line of Shem
- Shem: Father of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David, Jesus
- Beginning of Babylonian Religion; Substitute of Truth exemplified in Chapter 11 with a made-made tower to heaven...

Genesis Chapter 11

1Now the whole earth used the **same language and the same words**. 2It came about as **they journeyed east**, that they found a plain in the land of **Shinar** and settled there.

- **Whole Earth**: Same language and words (Dialect)
- They i.e. the **whole earth journeyed east**...away from future Jerusalem
- Beatles: Hare Krishna, Yoga, Meditation, etc
- Plain of **Shinar**: Iraq; Possible sight of Garden of Eden?

Genesis 10:10 The beginning of [Nimrod's] kingdom was Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh, in the land of **Shinar**. [Also Assyria]

- **Nimrod**: Leader of the world; Pre-Cursor to the Anti -Christ
- **Note**: Actual Anti-Christ may ultimately reject the god of Islam

Daniel 11:37 "He [anti-Christ] will show **no regard for the gods of his fathers or for the desire of women** [NIV: ...the one desired by women i.e. Tammuz the moon god, another name for Nimrod], nor will he show regard for any other god; for he will magnify himself above them all. 38"But instead he will honor a god of fortresses...

- Nebuchadnezzar, future king of Babylon, would exile [deport]the Israelites to Iraq [Shinar]...including Daniel:

Daniel 1:2 ... and he brought them to the land of **Shinar**, to the house of his god, and he brought the vessels into the treasury of his god. [Later to be desecrated by Belshazzar; cf. Dan: 5]

3They 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**.

- Burn them thoroughly i.e., make this "happen" without God: Evil?

James 4:13 (Read) Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit." 14Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away. 15Instead, you ought to say, "**If**

the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that." 16 But as it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil.

- **Mud** for brick and **Tar** for mortar ; Tar relatively abundant in Mid-East
- Kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fall into like **tar pits** while retreating:

Genesis 14:10 Now the valley of Siddim [near Salt Sea] was **full of tar pits**; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and they fell into them...

4They 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."

- First make bricks, now build a City and a Tower...for ourselves
- **Us, our, we**, ourselves: **Egotistical and Proud**
- **Ziggurat**: Square base w/ sloping stepped sides: Observatory
- **Other Prideful Mesopotamian Ziggurats**:
 1. House of the *link between heaven and earth*
 2. House of the *foundation-platform of heaven and earth*
 3. House of the *seven guides of heaven and earth*
 4. House of the *mountain of the universe*
- **Reason for building**: "Otherwise we will be scattered"
- One nation... under "man" ; **Humanism**
- **Make a Name** means "**Renown**", as Genesis 6; "**men of renown**"

Genesis 6:4 The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, **men of renown**.

- Judgment of Pride would come again, no flood, but scattering for future **redemption**
- After Jesus ascension, God would work through the 2nd person of the Godhead, the **Holy Spirit to prepare a scattered world for the preaching** of the gospel:

John 16:7 (Read) "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. 8"And He, when He comes, will **convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment**...

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

- "**LORD came down**...": Speaks of omniscience and special revelation: all knowing/all-embracing knowledge accompanied by personal action on the part of the LORD [to see and act]
- To Sodom and Gomorrah for **Judgment**:

Genesis 18:21 "I will **go down** now, and see if they have done entirely according to its outcry, which has come to Me; and if not, **I will know.**"

- To Moses at the Burning Bush for **Deliverance:**

Exodus 3:8 "So I have **come down to deliver** them from the power of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanite and the Hittite and the Amorite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite.

- To Moses for the **Instruction [The Ten Commandments]:**

Exodus 19:11 ...and let them be ready for the third day, for on the third day the LORD will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people...Exodus 19:18 Now Mount Sinai was all in smoke because the LORD descended upon it in fire; and its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked violently...Exodus 19:20 The LORD came down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain; and the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and **Moses went up.**

6The 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.** 7"Come, **let Us go down and there confuse their language,** so that they will not understand one another's speech."

- **Let Us:** Elohim [cf. Genesis 1]
- Necessary because of the Sin of arrogance and rebellion
- **Nothing...will be impossible** for them? **Demonic**

Exodus 7:11 Then Pharaoh also called for the wise men and the sorcerers, and they also, the magicians of Egypt, *did the same with their secret arts.* **Exodus 8:18** The magicians tried with their secret arts to bring forth gnats, *but they could not;* so there were gnats on man and beast.

Acts 8:11 And they were giving [Simon] attention because he had for a long time *astonished them with his magic arts.*

Matthew 24:24 "For false Christ's and false prophets will arise and will show great **signs and wonders, so as to mislead,** if possible, even the elect.

Thessalonians 2:9 ...that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders,

Revelation 13:11 (Read) Then I saw another beast [false-prophet] coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb and he spoke as a dragon. 12 He exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed.

13He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men. 14And he deceives those who dwell on the earth

because of the **signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast**, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who had the wound of the sword and has come to life. 15And it was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast would even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

- Need for interpreter or to learn language; harder to conspire
- Easier to know who your enemies are; harder to understand [Iraq]
- **Consequence** [one of] for disobedience:

Deuteronomy 28:49"The LORD will bring a nation against you from afar, from the end of the earth, as the eagle swoops down, a nation whose language you shall not understand...

8So the LORD **scattered them abroad** from there over the face of the whole earth [table of nations cf. Genesis10]; and they **stopped building the city**.

- **Scattered: Stopped building** the tower/city; **stopped the conspiracy**
- **3rd great Judgment** so far: Eden, Flood, Dispersion

Psalms 92:9 For, behold, Your enemies, O LORD, For, behold, Your enemies will perish; All who do iniquity will be scattered.

Luke 1:51 "He has done mighty deeds with His arm; He has scattered those who were proud in the thoughts of their heart.

Matthew 12:30 "He who is not with Me is against Me; and he who does not gather with Me scatters."

9Therefore 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.

- City of **Babel**: Synonymous for activities against God
- **Babel**: Akkadian meaning "gateway to god" but just a substitute
- Jacobs ladder: "gate of Heaven" **real deal**

John 1:49 (Read) Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God; You are the King of Israel." 50Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you that I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You will see greater things than these." And [Jesus] said to [Nathanael], "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see the heavens opened and the **angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man**."

Genesis 28:10 (Read) Then Jacob departed from Beersheba and went toward Haran. 11He came to a certain place and spent the night there, because the sun had set; and he took one of the stones of the place and put it under his head, and lay down in that place. 12 He had a dream, and behold, a ladder was set on the earth with its top reaching to heaven; and **behold, the angels of God were ascending**

and descending on it. 13And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie, I will give it to you and to your descendants.

1 Timothy 2:5 For there is **one God, and one mediator** also **between God and men**, the man Christ Jesus...

- **"Confused"** :Hebrew balal; sounds like Babel
- Genealogy now focusing on only major figures

10 These are the records of the **generations of Shem** [Godly line; Noah's son]. Shem was one hundred years old, and became the father of Arpachshad two years after the flood; 11and Shem lived five hundred years after he became the father of Arpachshad, and he had other sons and daughters. 12Arpachshad lived thirty-five years, and became the father of Shelah; 13and Arpachshad lived four hundred and three years after he became the father of Shelah, and he had other sons and daughters. 14Shelah lived thirty years, and became the father of Eber [Hebrew]; 15and Shelah lived four hundred and three years after he became the father of Eber, and he had other sons and daughters. 16Eber lived thirty-four years, and became the father of Peleg [divide]; 17and Eber lived four hundred and thirty years after he became the father of Peleg, and he had other sons and daughters. 18Peleg lived thirty years, and became the father of Reu; 19and Peleg lived two hundred and nine years after he became the father of Reu, and he had other sons and daughters. 20Reu lived thirty-two years, and became the father of Serug; 21and Reu lived two hundred and seven years after he became the father of Serug, and he had other sons and daughters. 22Serug lived thirty years, and became the father of **Nahor**; 23and Serug lived two hundred years after he became the father of Nahor, and he had other sons and daughters. 24 **Nahor** lived twenty-nine years, and became the father of Terah;

- 10 name genealogy as Seth but **w/out ages of death**, etc

25 and Nahor lived one hundred and nineteen years after he became the father of Terah, and he had other sons and daughters. 26Terah lived seventy years, and became the father of **Abram**, Nahor and Haran. 27Now 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**.

- **Terah's sons: Abram, Nahor and Haran**
- Note: Nahor is both Abram's grandfather's and brother's name
- Shift from universal **focus to one man, Abram**
- **Abrams life:** A picture of both Israel and the Believer's relation to God

- Abram's brother Haran's son: **Lot**

Genesis 14:12 They also took **Lot, Abram's nephew**, and his possessions and departed, for he was living in Sodom.

28 **Haran died** in the presence of his father Terah in the land of his birth, in Ur of the Chaldeans. 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.

- Haran dies "**in the presence of his father**" : Child before parent:

Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.

John 4:49 (Read) The royal official said to Him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." 50 Jesus said to him, " Go; your son lives." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started off. 51 As he was now going down, his slaves met him, saying that his son was living. 52 So he inquired of them the hour when he began to get better. Then they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." 53 So the father knew that it was at that hour in which Jesus said to him, "**Your son lives**"; and he himself believed and his whole household.

- **Haran** leaves Lot w/ Abram
- Other two brothers Abram and Nahor marry
- **Sarai**: Abram's wife and half sister; **Princess** Abraham's half sister ; Abraham would use this half truth when convenient and to get himself out of trouble; his son Isaac would later follow suit

Genesis 20:12 "Besides, she **actually is my sister**, the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife...

11:29b ...and the name of Nahor's wife was Milcah, the daughter of Haran, the father of **Milcah** and Iscah.

- **Milcah**: Nahor's wife and niece; **Queen** [Brother Haran's Daughter; Lot's sister]

Genesis 22:20 Now it came about after these things, that it was told Abraham, saying, "Behold, Milcah also has borne children to your brother Nahor: ... **23 Bethuel became the father of Rebekah**; these eight Milcah bore to Nahor, Abraham's brother. **Genesis 24:15** Before he had finished speaking, behold, **Rebekah who was born to Bethuel the son of Milcah**, the wife of Abraham's brother Nahor, came out with her jar on her shoulder.

- Thus Rebekah and Abraham's son Isaac ...will be cousins?

30 **Sarai** was barren; she had no child.

Genesis 16:1 Now **Sarai**, Abram's wife had borne him **no children**, and she had an Egyptian maid whose name was Hagar.

- **Hagar:** Picture of the **flesh**; Sarai: Picture of the **Spirit and Promise**
- Gods people would **not be of natural birth**

John 3:5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of **water and the Spirit** he **cannot enter into the kingdom of God**. 6" That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7"Do not be amazed that I said to you, '**You must be born again.**'"

- **Water:** Natural Birth; **Spirit:** Spiritual Birth

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.

- **Terah, not Abram,** begins the famous journey to Canaan but dies in Haran
- Terah [Abram's father]: **Idolater in Ur and Haran**

Joshua 24:2 Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'From ancient times your fathers lived beyond the River, namely, **Terah, the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, and they served other gods.**'"

- **Haran worshipped the Moon god** both in Ur and Haran; a Flourishing caravan city in 19th century BC; ruled by Amorites in the 18th century BC
- **Ur of the Chaldeans:** Southern Iraq ; relatively advanced civilization
- King Ur-Nammu: Possible Abraham contemporary, known for his code of law
- Abraham would be known for being '**brought out**' of and "**leaving**" a life of **idolatry and paganism**

Genesis 15:7 And He said to [Abram], "I am the LORD who **brought you out** of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess it."

Nehemiah 9:7 "You are the LORD God, Who **chose Abram And brought him out** from Ur of the Chaldees, And gave him the name Abraham.

Acts 7:4 "[Abram] **left the land** of the Chaldeans and settled in Haran From there, after his father died, God had him move to this country in which you are now living.

- **Call and Response**

Hebrews 11:8 By faith Abraham, **when he was called, obeyed** by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going.

- **God's Irruption** into Abrams life (Breaking into from without) as ours:

1 Thessalonians 1:9 ...they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned **to God from idols to serve a living and true God...**

32The days of Terah were two hundred and five years; and Terah died in Haran.

SUMMARY: Multiculturalism and Diversity

- God is *not* anti-communication; **God's Word is about communication** from beginning to end
- From "**let there be light**" to the **demise of Satan** by God's Word

Revelation 19:20 And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone. 21And the **rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse...** [cf. Eph. 6 i.e. "sword of the Spirit"]

- Jesus is **God's Word made flesh**:

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the **Word was God**...14And the Word **became flesh, and dwelt among us**, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

- He **speaks to us** in these **last days** by His **Son**:

Hebrews 1:1 God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, 2 in these **last days has spoken to us in His Son**, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

- **ALL of God's Word is about Jesus** [His-Story]

Luke 24:27 ...Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in **all the Scriptures**.

- God is *not* anti-community; but seeks a **Godly unity**...

John 17:20 "I do not ask on behalf of these [apostles] alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; 21that **they may all be one**; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.

- ...and **Godly communication with each other**

Malachi 3:16 Then **those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, and the LORD gave attention and heard it, and a book of remembrance** was written before Him for those who fear the LORD and who esteem His name.

- After the millennium and Satan is unbound, God will put down a final attempt at ungodly unification by the world as they **deliberately, purposefully and**

intentionally wage war against God

Psalm 2:1 Why are the nations in an uproar And the peoples devising a vain thing?
2The **kings of the earth take their stand And the rulers take counsel together Against the LORD and against His Anointed [Messiah]**, saying, 3"Let us tear their fetters apart And cast away their cords from us!" 4He who sits in the heavens **laughs...**

Believers will all speak, sing and praise with the same language:

Revelation 5:8 (Read) When He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. 9And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. 10"You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth." 11Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands, 12 saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing." 13And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, "To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever." 14And the four living creatures kept saying, "Amen" And the elders fell down and worshiped.