

Lesson 12: The Third Rebellion - The Judgement at Babel

Lesson 12 Summary:

This lesson explores the third rebellion of humanity at the Tower of Babel and God's ultimate plan to redeem all nations through Jesus Christ. The teaching traces God's response to humanity's continued rebellion—from exile in Eden, through the flood, to the dispersion at Babel where God disinherited the nations and placed them under angelic rulers. Rather than abandoning humanity, God initiated a rescue plan by calling Abraham to create a nation through which all peoples would be blessed. This plan culminated in Jesus Christ, who through His death and resurrection defeated Satan's authority and reclaimed the nations. The sermon concludes by showing how Pentecost in Acts 2 represents the reversal of Babel, as the Holy Spirit empowers believers to advance God's kingdom by reclaiming people from every nation, tribe, and tongue until Christ's ultimate victory is complete.

Key Points:

- The Tower of Babel represents humanity's third major rebellion against God, characterized by defiance and spiritual mutiny in the land of Shinar
- The tower was not a staircase to heaven but a ziggurat—a temple structure designed to manipulate divine beings and call gods down to earth
- God's response was an act of mercy, not anger—He confused languages and dispersed humanity to prevent them from unified rebellion that would lead to total destruction
- At Babel, God disinherited the 70 nations and placed them under the authority of lesser spiritual beings (the sons of God/angels), as described in Deuteronomy 32:8-9 and Psalm 82
- God chose Abraham and created Israel as His strategic beachhead to reclaim all nations and bless the families of the earth
- Jesus Christ's death and resurrection was the legal defeat of Satan, who had illegally killed the sinless Son of God, resulting in Satan losing his heavenly authority
- Pentecost in Acts 2 represents the reversal of Babel—God pouring out His Spirit to reclaim the scattered nations through the Church
- Believers are engaged in cosmic warfare, not against flesh and blood, but against spiritual forces that rule the disinherited nations

- The Church's mission is to advance God's kingdom by reclaiming people from every nation until Christ's ultimate victory

Scripture Reference:

- Genesis 11:1-9 (Tower of Babel)
- Genesis 10 (Table of Nations)
- Genesis 12:1-3 (Call of Abraham)
- Deuteronomy 32:8-9 (Divine inheritance of nations)
- Psalm 82 (God's judgment on the divine council)
- Genesis 3:15 (Promise of the serpent's defeat)
- Luke 10:17-19 (The 70 disciples and Satan's fall)
- Acts 2:1-11 (Day of Pentecost)
- Ephesians 6:12 (Spiritual warfare)
- Colossians 2:15 (Christ's victory over rulers and authorities)
- Revelation 12:7-9 (War in heaven)
- 1 Corinthians 10:20 (Pagans sacrifice to demons)
- Mark 5:10 (Demons and territorial boundaries)
- Revelation 7:9 (Multitude from every nation)

Stories:

- Pastor David's personal experience learning Hebrew in seminary, feeling lost in the fog during first semester but eventually coming out of it in the second semester, while his father admitted he never came out of the fog with Hebrew
- Pastor David's conversation with a struggling pastor from another state who was experiencing spiritual attacks despite church growth, illustrating that spiritual warfare intensifies when believers advance God's kingdom

- The account of the Gadarene demoniac in Mark 5, where demons begged Jesus not to send them out of their territory, demonstrating the fixed borders given to spiritual beings at Babel
- The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness (Luke 4:5-8), where Satan offered Jesus all the kingdoms of the world because they had been delivered to him at the dispersion of Genesis 11
- The biblical narrative of God's redemptive plan from Abraham through Isaac, Jacob, Judah, David, and ultimately to Jesus Christ as the fulfillment of Genesis 3:15