



Go for God!

The Book of GENESIS

Chapter 11:1-9

“The Tower of Babel!”

> READ GENESIS 11:1-9

- According to Genesis 10:8-12 Nimrod was the builder and leader of this place called Babel. The name as given by Nimrod (Gen 10:10), the founder, **means (Bab-il), "the gate of the god Il," or simply "of God."**

- **Nimrod is declaring his is the way, his tower of worship is the truth, and his city is the life, thus it will be with the coming Antichrist in 2 Thessalonians 2; Revelation 13.**

- **Nimrod's name is from the verb "let us revolt."**

- **Ray Stedman** writes, “Nimrod is said to be a *mighty hunter* (*gibbor tsayidh*) in the sight of the Lord, but the language has a dark meaning. He becomes a tyrant or despot leading an organized rebellion against the rule of Yahweh. He hunts not animals, but rather the souls of men . . . The Jewish Talmud helps us here, for it says that he was *"a hunter of the souls of men."* By the founding of Babylon and Nineveh we have a hint given of the nature of this man . . . In the Babylonian religion, Nimrod (or Marduk) held a unique place. His wife was Semiramis. Marduk and Semiramis were the ancient god and goddess of Babylon. They had a son whom Semiramis claimed was virgin-born, and they founded the mother and child cult. This was the central character of the religion of ancient Babylon, the worship of a mother and child, supposedly virgin-born. You can see in this a clever attempt on the part of Satan to anticipate the genuine virgin birth and thus to cast disrepute upon the story when the Lord Jesus would later be born into history. This ancient Babylonian cult of the mother and child spread to other parts of the earth.

- **In the Egyptian religion as *Isis and Osiris*.**

- **In Greece it is *Venus and Adonis*.**

- **In the Hindu religion it is *Ushas and Vishnu*.**

- The same cult prevails in various other localities. It appears in the Old Testament in Jeremiah where the Israelites are warned against offering sacrifices to *"the Queen of Heaven."* This *Queen of Heaven is Semiramis, the wife of Nimrod*, the original mother of the Mother and Child cult.

- **The cult has also crept into Christianity and forms the basis for the Mariolatry that has prevailed in the Roman Catholic Church, where the Mother and Child are worshiped as joint redeemers.**

- **James McCarthy** in his book *The Gospel According to Rome: Comparing Catholic Tradition and The Word of God* writes, “Within *Catholicism*, there is a drive to define a new *Marian dogma* in which Catholics, as a matter of faith, would be obliged to accept these three doctrines:

- (1) **Mary participates in redemption with Jesus Christ,**
- (2) **grace is granted by Jesus only through the intercession of Mary, and**
- (3) **all prayers from the faithful must flow through Mary, who brings them to the attention of her Son. This movement would, in practice, redefine the Trinity as a kind of Quartet.**

> The belief in **Mary as a co-redemptrix** would be **in addition to current Catholic teaching on Mary**, which states that:

- **Mary was a virgin perpetually**,
- **Mary never had intercourse with her husband, Joseph**;
- **Mary never had children other than Jesus**;
- **Mary was sinless and ascended into heaven**.

> **These teachings are more than unscriptural; Scripture directly refutes them!** The idea that **Mary is a co-redemptrix or mediatrix** contradicts **1 Timothy 2:5**, which says, ***“For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus.”***

- **Jesus is the Mediator.** There is no mediator between man and Jesus. **Jesus Himself dwells in believers; thus, none is required**, ***“To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”*** (Colossians 1:27).

- **Jesus is the perfect and sole Mediator between man and God because He is the sinless Son of God. Mary was not sinless.** There is no Scripture whatsoever to back the claim of Mary’s sinlessness or of her assumption into heaven. This dogma was accepted as a result of **papal proclamation**. . . In her **Magnificat (Luke 1:46–55)**, Mary says, ***“My spirit rejoices in God my Savior”*** (verse 47). The clear implication of Mary’s calling God her **“Savior”** is that she **recognized her need of salvation**. Just like the rest of us, **Mary needed a Savior, a Redeemer**.

- **Jesus Himself indicated that Mary holds no special place relative to redemption or mediation.** In **Matthew 12:47–50**, Mary and her other sons were trying to see Jesus while He was teaching. ***“Someone told him, ‘Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you.’ He replied to him, ‘Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?’*** Pointing to his disciples, he said, ***‘Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.’***”

- **Alexander Hislop, an authoritative writer in this field, has written a book called “The Two Babylons,”** which should be of great interest if you desire to pursue these topics further. This idolatrous religion culminates at last in the Bible in the book of Revelation. There, a “great harlot” appears, whose name is ***“Mystery Babylon the Great,”*** the originator of all the harlotries and false religions of earth. The essence of Babylonianism, as we understand from Scripture, is the attempt to gain earthly honor by means of religious authority. **That is Babylonianism, and it has pervaded Christian churches, Hindu temples, Buddhist shrines, and Mohammedan mosques.** Everywhere it is the element that marks falseness in religion, the attempt to gain earthly power and prestige by means of religious authority. That is what Nimrod began and what God will ultimately destroy, as we read in the book of Revelation.”

(v1-4) The Sin Man’s Ambition!

> **Observe the four sins of man’s selfish ambition found in verse 4:**

#1 - Self-Will! – ***“Come let us build ourselves a city”*** - Henry Morris also writes, “Nimrod and his followers willfully leaving the knowledge and worship of the true God and Creator, they began instead to worship the creation. **This soon led to pantheism and polytheism and idolatry.** How much of this new system of religion came by direct communication with Satan himself we do not know, but there is abundant evidence that all forms of paganism have come originally from the ancient Babylonian religion.

- The essential identity of the various gods and goddesses of **Rome, Greece, India, Egypt** and other nations with the original pantheon of the Babylonians is well established. Nimrod himself was apparently **later deified as the chief god** (“Merodach,” or “Marduk”) of Babylon. These pagan deities were also identified **with the stars and planets—the “host of heaven”—with sun-worshiping occupying a central place.** This system was formalized in the zodiac, with its numerous constellations—a most remarkable construction which seems to have been the common possession of all the nations of antiquity.”

- **History repeats itself in the last days;** Babylon becomes the fountainhead of false religion in the Post-Flood world. **"Mystery Babylon"** is found in Bible prophecy. **Revelation 17-18** depicts God's final judgment of world religion plus world commerce and trade since these man-made systems have sprung from the source rebellion of Nimrod and Babel.

2 - Self-Worship! – **“Come let us build ourselves a tower whose top is in the heavens”** - A number of years ago, digging in the plains of Shinar, archaeologists discovered the remains of certain great towers that these early Babylonians had built. Some archaeologists have felt that they may even have found the foundation of this original tower of Babel. That is very hard to determine. But they did find that the Babylonians built great towers called **ziggurats**, which were built in a circular fashion with an ascending staircase that terminates in a shrine at the top, around which are written the signs of the zodiac. (Turn to **Romans 1:18-32**)





EU PARLIAMENT BUILDING, STRASBOURG, FRANCE



Inside tower building



Capitoline Hill, Rome, October 29, 2004 - Signing the new EU constitution in the Appartamento dei Conservatori, Sala degli Orazi e Curiazi, before the bronze statue of Pope Innocent X by Alessandro Algari



#3 - Self-Glory! “Come let us make a name for ourselves” – Mankind can talk about every name and god or goddess freely without reproach except the **one true God and Savior the Lord Jesus Christ!** (Beware of the coming Antichrist - 2 Thessalonians ch. 2)

- Peter declares in Acts 4:12 – “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Romans 10:9-11 - *that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

Philippians 2:9-11 - *Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

John 14:14 - *If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.*

#4 - Self-Determination! – “lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.” –

After the judgment of global flood God had told Noah and his sons to **“Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth”** (Gen. 9:1). These post flood folks decided to defy this commandment of the LORD and determined their own destiny by dwelling in the land of Shinar. Why? Because of sin, rebellion, fear, materialism, religion, and unbelief. (**“Last days” rebellion and tyranny – Revelation ch. 13**)

Jesus said, Mark 8:35-38 - *For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."*

In Revelation 21:7-8 - *He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."*

(v5-9) The Salvation God’s Division!

- This **division of languages** and people resulted from the love of God for humanity. This form of judgment was provision for salvation, for all were falling under **the seduction of Nimrod and this false worship.**

- This **division of people** groups through language corresponds with each of the generations of **Noah’s sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth** producing their ethnic migrations to various parts of the earth. This event was likely during the lifetime of **Peleg “for in his days the earth was divided” (Gen. 9:25).**

Conclusion: God’s Provision is the solution to our rebellion! - Unlike Nimrod’s call **“Come to corruption!”** Jesus said – **“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”** (Matt 11:28-30)

- Let’s finish with **Acts ch. 2** for on the **day of Pentecost** God miraculously unites the language and sin divided people of this world through His Son **Jesus Christ** by the power of the **Holy Spirit.**

- **Let’s fulfill the “Great commission!”** - **Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,**

teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. (Mt. 28:19-20)