

Genesis 11:1-9 The Tower of Babel

I. All together vv. 1-2

- A. Whole Earth v.1 [Gen 11:10-26 \(Shem's genealogy – See Chart of the Patriarchs\)](#)
- B. One language (lit. *lip*) v.1
- C. One speech (lit. *words*) v.1
- D. Dwelt, In the land of Shinar v.2 [Gen 10:10, 14:1, 9, Isa 11:11, Dan 1:1-2, Zech 5:11](#)

II. The Committee meeting vv. 3-4

- A. The materials: brick (baked, man made), and mortar v. 3
- B. Build a city, any guarded/encamped dwelling place v.4
- C. And a tower: useful for guarding the camp/city. v.4
- D. Tower: top is in (or with) the heavens: Tall Tower v.4 [Deu 4:15-20](#)
- E. To make a name (*shem*) fame, reputation, *to prevent being scattered* v.4 [Gen 9:1](#)

III. The Lord notices vv. 5-8

- A. Lord came down, to see the TALL tower v.5
- B. People One, One language, and THIS (rebel) is what they do v.6
- C. Future: Men will do whatever they want (never a good thing). v.6
- D. Lord confuses their language. The origin of the different languages v.7
- E. Lord scatters them abroad despite their efforts v.8 [Deu 32:8-9, Gen 46:27](#)
- F. City abandoned v.8

IV. The Results v.9

- A. Babel, (from *balal*, confusion)
- B. Lord took action necessary to carry out His will (He always does)
- C. People scattered over the face of *all* the Earth (Six *major* centers)
- D. Contrast to Pentecost [Acts 2:1-12](#)

Genesis 11:1–9 (NKJV) *The Tower of Babel*

11 Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. ²And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. ³Then they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks and bake *them* thoroughly.” They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. ⁴And they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top *is* in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.”

⁵But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. ⁶And the LORD said, “Indeed the people *are* one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. ⁷Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech.” ⁸So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. ⁹Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

Daniel 1:1–2 (NKJV) *Daniel and His Friends Obey God*

In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. ² And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the articles of the house of God, which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the articles into the treasure house of his god.

Deuteronomy 4:15–20 (NKJV) *Beware of Idolatry*

¹⁵ “Take careful heed to yourselves, for you saw no form when the LORD spoke to you at Horeb out of the midst of the fire, ¹⁶ lest you act corruptly and make for yourselves a carved image in the form of any figure: the likeness of male or female, ¹⁷ the likeness of any animal that *is* on the earth or the likeness of any winged bird that flies in the air, ¹⁸ the likeness of anything that creeps on the ground or the likeness of any fish that *is* in the water beneath the earth. ¹⁹ And *take heed*, lest you lift your eyes to heaven, and *when you see the sun, the moon, and the stars, all the host of heaven, you feel driven to worship them and serve them*, which the LORD your God has given to all the peoples under the whole heaven as a heritage. ²⁰ But the LORD has taken you and brought you out of the iron furnace, out of Egypt, to be His people, an inheritance, as you are this day.

Genesis 9:1 (NKJV) So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.

Deuteronomy 32:8–9 (NKJV)

- ⁸ When the Most High divided their inheritance to the nations,
When He separated the sons of Adam,
He set the boundaries of the peoples
According to the number of the children of Israel.
- ⁹ For the LORD’s portion *is* His people;
Jacob *is* the place of His inheritance.

Genesis 46:27 (NKJV)

²⁷ And the sons of Joseph who were born to him in Egypt were two persons. All the persons of the house of Jacob who went to Egypt were seventy.

Acts 2:1–12 (NKJV) *Coming of the Holy Spirit*

² When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and *one* sat upon each of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

The Crowd's Response

⁵ And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. ⁶ And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. ⁷ Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? ⁸ And how *is it that* we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? ⁹ Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God." ¹² So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?"