



Genesis 10:1-11:32 (Ray Bell)

“These are the generations...” – again!

A genealogy out of order?

It would seem the events of Genesis 11 takes place before, or at least in the middle, of Genesis 10.

These family lists are a wonderful demonstration and reminder of God’s abundant mercy and blessing. The world is being ‘re-populated’ after the flood.

BUT... it is now being filled with sinful humanity.

The Passions of the City

Idolatry - Religion

The ‘tower’ of Babel is most likely a ‘temple’ tower – something similar to a ziggurat.

The aim of this building project is to ‘reach the heavens.’

Literally – with its ‘top in the sky’

Notoriety - Reputation

The people wanted to make a name for themselves. Pride. Status.

Reputation.

Is it any different today? – this is not just an ancient world problem.

Is the name of the Lord not enough for us?

Security - Refuge

Safety in number - there was great fear of ‘being dispersed’ (the very mandate humanity had been given).

This was in fact an act of unbelief (Cf. Genesis 9:5).

Luther once defined sin as ‘*homo incurvatus in se*’ – man turned in upon himself.

Pitiful but Dangerous

The Lord had to ‘come down’ from heaven just to see this ‘great’ tower.

And yet, the Lord concluded, “Nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them.”

The Promise and Hope

Shem’s family line is repeated and developed further after Babel, leading all the