

**“LIVING GODLY LIVES IN AN
UNGODLY WORLD”**

JUNE 24, 2020

**DURING THE GREAT TIME OUT
“REVOLUTION OR TRANSFORMATION?”**

**PART 2: WHY GOD DIVIDED THE
NATIONS AND THE ROOT OF THE
PROBLEM**

GENESIS 4, 5, 6, 10, 11

I. ADDITIONAL TERMS FOR THIS STUDY

Colonization - can be defined as some form of invasion, dispossession and subjugation of a people. The invasion need not be military; it can begin—or continue—as geographical intrusion in the form of agricultural, urban or industrial encroachments. The result of such incursion is the dispossession of vast amounts of lands from the original inhabitants. This is often legalized after the fact.

Decolonization may be defined as the active resistance against colonial powers, and a shifting of power towards political, economic, educational, cultural, psychic independence and power that originate from a colonized nations’ own indigenous culture. This process occurs politically and also applies to personal and societal psychic, cultural, political, agricultural, and educational deconstruction of colonial oppression.

The Critical Race Theory movement considers many of the same issues that conventional civil rights and ethnic studies take up, but places them in a broader perspective that includes economics, history, and even feelings and the unconscious. Unlike traditional civil rights, which embraces incrementalism and step by step progress, critical race theory questions the very foundations of the

liberal order, including equality theory, legal reasoning, Enlightenment rationalism and principles of constitutional law. This theory divides people into oppressors and the oppressed. It is easily seen why Marxists adopt this idea as an explanation of history.

Cultural Marxism Marxists see the world divided into two groups: the bourgeoisie (the upper class, the oppressors) and the proletariat (the workers, the oppressed). By putting people into groups every member of that group is guilty of whatever is found to be the offense cited by the oppressed whether the individuals of that “guilty group” offended anyone or not. It is their status as members of the group that accords them guilt by the oppressed ones. But the oppressors have been guilty of the same thing, attaching prejudicial unworthiness to the party being oppressed.

“Intersectionality is simply a prism to see the interactive effects of various forms of discrimination and disempowerment. It looks at the way that racism, many times, interacts with patriarchy, heterosexism, classism, xenophobia — seeing that the overlapping vulnerabilities created by these systems actually create specific kinds of challenges.” Per Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw

II. EVENTS LEADING UP TO BUILDING THE TOWER OF BABEL

- A. The nature of the people before the flood*
 - 1. Wilderness dwellers but with knowledge of animal husbandry and gardening*
 - 2. Two approaches to worship*
 - a. One by faith with humility using a life for life substitute*
 - b. The other using his food without a life for life substitute*
 - 3. Acceptance by God - Abel’s offering is accepted and the Cain’s is not. We are not given the reason*

here but it is seen in Hebrews 11 that it had to do with the faith of Abel and in Hebrews 12, the blood offering Abel sacrificed.

- 4. Anger at the brother's "privileged" status*
 - a. It was grace given by God that was available for the erring brother as well*
 - b. God offers Cain the opportunity to do right that would have completely changed his status*
 - c. This is the first record of the cry for equity and equality of outcome not opportunity; he wanted the same results or outcome as his brother without the same input or action: selfish ambition, jealousy and envy*
- 5. His anger led him to capitulate to sin that was waiting to rule him and acted out his anger with God on his brother: outbursts of wrath, violence, hatred, contention, and murder*
- 6. Cain's murderous actions, we are told in 1 John 3:11,12, originated in the influence of the wicked one, the tempter, the satan. This should place in us the fear of the LORD, for we see how easily the satan can influence*
- 7. Cain's complaint was that God was being unfair with him and done more to him than a murder deserved. He is unrepentant and it is going to affect his behavior from this time forward. His action had alienated him from everyone else on earth; even the ground would not cooperate with him*
- 8. Cain's fear was that retribution would be coming to him and, in his estimation, unfairly so. We already see in this a well-developed sense of justice, vengeance, and retribution (life for life) thought to be atonement.*
- 9. Starting with Genesis 4:16 and following, we see the development of civilization: The development of urban dwelling; the development of nomadic livestock herding; the development of music and musical instruments; the development of*

metallurgy; and the reinstatement of the worship of YHWH.

CONCLUSION: Shortly after the fall, the devastating effects of its twist away from God are clearly seen. There is already a well-developed sense of jealousy, envy, coveting, murder, hatred, contention, justice, vengeance, domination, retribution, sacrifice, worship, etc. Wickedness is already in the heart of man.

- B. Spiritual interruption and the development of gross wickedness*
- 1. The sons of God interlope the race of man creating a whole new species of part human, part "god". Powerful individuals that were bringing genetic modifications to the human race (remember the Bible sees only one race)*
 - 2. Additionally, God's estimation of man is that "his wickedness was great" and "that the intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." It was corrupt before God, filled with violence with all flesh being in this condition.*
 - 3. Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord and it appears his generations had not suffered the interloping effects of the intermarriage of angelic beings and human beings. This does not mean that Noah's family (three sons and their wives) were unscathed from the internal twistedness of the effects of sin. The term, "Noah walked with God" tells us that the sinner, Noah, believed and worshipped the one true God when all others had abandoned this "antiquated" faith for the wicked, self-centered behavior going on around him. Noah retained his integrity in a horrible time on earth. We can know from after the flood that Noah had the internal capacity to sin as did his sons after him.*

III. BUILDING THE TOWER OF BABEL - UNGODLY UNITY

- A. *Finding a new home and making a choice to disobey*
1. *The command was to fill the earth not stay in one place*
 2. *They all had one language, one dialect and a shared syntax. It is this shared language that is the power of their unity. In one language they had conspired against God. In one language they had planned and carried out the construction of the city and tower. In one language they would create for themselves a pseudo - philosophy/theology that would blind them forever against the knowledge of God. With one language they would create a marketing/wealth system that would remove from them their relationship with God. With one language uniting their thinking and planning they would create both wonderful and horrible inventions for life and death. With one language they could control one another. Language is a binder. If their hearts had been pure and without the wicked tendencies of those who came before them, this could have been a positive.*
 3. *They made a clear decision to make the Name for themselves*
 4. *They wanted to have a tower in the heavens that would be the new temple, without God or the intervention of the angelic beings that had given them trouble before the flood. They themselves would be the new god of the earth. From this tower they would rule the earth. They would create utopia. But with impure hearts that had jealousy, envy, power to control, vengeance, violence, greed, murder, contentions in them such control would be wicked quickly, especially with everyone living in the same place.*

5. *Unity is a beautiful thing when that unity includes the God who created us. Their unity excluded God. Listen to this view of the power of unity coming from the LORD Himself: “this building project is where they have started, nothing will stop them from doing anything they propose to do.” This speaks of their technological/philosophical/administrative advances of the future that could create anything it could dream and think of.*
 6. *When such unity does not include the wisdom of the Word of God huge mistakes can be made that are disastrous to the whole of humanity. We are not omniscient and we cannot see the outcome of the things we plan and attempt to accomplish. We cannot understand the devastation our philosophies or our government policies have within a short period of time.*
- B. God determined to bring that devastating unity to a close.*
1. *By confusing their languages He would put off for a while the deadly error of our way. They would not be able to understand each other and the planning would end for a while.*
 - a. *Imagine if you will going from one day having a great conversation with your neighbor to being totally unable to understand a word he says the next. How frustrating would that be? Would you think he was playing games with you? Would you begin to get angry?*
 - b. *Imagine being on a serious work project and unable to understand a word the supervisor of the project was saying. You make a request from him for more building supplies and he becomes frustrated with you because he cannot understand you.*

2. *By Himself scattering them over the face of the earth. God moved them apart from each other. The text does not imply that they started migrating for what would be centuries of travel. It may not have taken as long as proposed by evolutionary science if God was moving each of the ethnic/linguistic groups Himself to the location in which He was going to assign them space and a time.*
3. *This move will be concurrent with the ice age that was taking place in some parts of the earth. Some of the people are going to be moved to areas where the glaciers are making their move over the face of the earth. They will become hunter/gatherers of the beasts fleeing the devastation of the volcanoes that were a part of the creation of those glaciers and from the glaciers themselves.*
4. *New methods were going to have to be developed for living in new environments of differing ecologies. Who would teach them how to live in these new regions?*
5. *As God scattered each of these linguistic groups they are soon going to become ethnic groups as they marry those with whom they have legitimate understanding. This is going to create a new genetic narrowing and their children are going to begin to express unique genetic expressions of a common DNA i.e. hair color and texture, eye color, facial bones, skin color etc.. They will create their own cultures unique to their language, geography and customs.*
6. *Instead of being unified for collaboration, they are now divided for competition. In their desire for food, land, riches, resources, power, labor and security, they will begin to fight and conquer one another. As they battle and find the need for*

vengeance and reprisal, despising one another will be at the forefront of their thinking. They will learn to hate anyone of that ethnic group. They will learn to be suspicious of anyone not of their group. Cultural pride, patriotic pride, and ethnic pride will lead them into competitions to determine mastery and dominion over all others.

- 7. As God scattered them out because of their rebellion against Him, He disowned them. But He wanted their return to Him. He assigned to each linguistic group a principality over them and over the region He would assign them. (Deu 32:7-8) They were to teach them the ways of the ecology to which they were assigned, care for the disadvantaged, justice to the afflicted and needy, delivery from the conditions of the poor and needy and freedom from the hand of the wicked (Psalm 82:3-4). They were to teach them how to come back to God (Acts 17:26-27). But instead they taught them immorality, idolatry, war, weaponry, spiritual power (shamanism), the occult, human sacrifice, mythologies, counter creation epic.*

CONCLUSION: Even before the nations were divided, there was a very evident wickedness in the heart of man. It expressed itself so vociferously that God destroyed that generation of people in a world-wide devastating flood. This twist away from God was still in the hearts of the 8 souls saved in the flood. This is evidenced by the way their offspring turned so quickly away from God to disobey His command to scatter out across the world. Instead using their one language the united themselves excluding God from their union. They were building a city for themselves as well as a name for themselves. They would attempt to create a utopia without God. They would be the

new gods of the earth. God confused their languages creating a division in them. Now, instead of being united for collaboration, they were divided for competition with each other. Their competition for dominance of land, food, labor, wealth, political power, spiritual power and domination sent them in deadly wars, violence, reprisals, retribution, vengeance with one another that led to hatred for each other especially those who had done you much damage or were very different from them. This is the root of what we call racism. But it should be understood there were no innocents in them for all had sinned and came short of the glory of God. They all stood under the judgment of God and this should be kept in mind with each attempt at blaming others for acts of injustice.