

The Tower of Babel

Genesis 10:1-11:9

After the flood, the three sons of Noah – Shem, Ham, and Japheth – raised large families of sons and daughters. Thus the descendants of Shem, Ham, and Japheth formed the various peoples and nations that we read about in later Bible history.

In the early period of new beginnings after the flood, the whole earth had but one language. And it came to pass, as men came from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, or Babylonia, and settled there. After a time they said to one another, “Come let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly.” And they made great quantities of bricks to use for stone, and learned how they could use mud to make mortar.

Then these dwellers in Shinar said, “Let us come together and build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top will reach to heaven, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.” So all the people began to build. The people thought this tower would be a great monument to their industry and ingenuity.

But their selfish pride in this vast undertaking displeased the God of Heaven. And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the children of men had built.

And the Lord said, “Behold, they are all one people and they all speak one language; and this is only the beginning of what they intend to do; now nothing which they imagine will be impossible for them to carry out. Come, we will go down, and there confound their language, so that they may not be able to understand one another’s speech.”

So the Lord of Heaven and Earth confounded their language by causing them to speak with different tongues, so that they could not understand one another. And the Lord, scattered them abroad from the plain of Shinar over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. And the tall tower remained unfinished.

Therefore the name of the tower was called Babel, which means “the place of God’s judgment.”

Bible Verse to Learn

“Therefore is the name of it called Babel;” (Genesis 11:9).