

Chapter 5

The Tower of Babel

- *Please read Genesis 9 – 11 for a fuller understanding of this chapter.*

For us to begin to understand all of the ramifications that occurred at Babel it will be imperative that we go all the way back to Adam to explain an important point. Adam and Eve's children had no recourse but to marry their brothers and sisters. Today, the idea of that is repulsive, as it should be, and potentially dangerous for the child of such union. The reason for this is that a brother and sister or even first cousins often have extremely similar gene structures. The DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) which is the building blocks for all living things carries the genetic code or traits of every individual cell in our bodies. When the DNA of two people is too similar it could result in a gene mutation and ultimately a deformed child from such a union.

With Adam and his wife, it must have been different. It makes sense to say that we all came from Adam – we did. But in order for that to happen it must be that Adam and Eve had within them the gene pool for every combination of people who are living today and who have ever lived. I am a white Anglo-Saxon as is my wife. Our children will not look Chinese or African. Our traits have been strained to the point where that can't be allowed...our dominate features are Anglo-Saxonish (to make up a word). With Adam and Eve it was different. His children could have been any color, race, size or shape! They had the possibilities for them all, no one trait was dominant! His children of course were only slightly less so as they too had a vast amount of genetic possibilities – just not quite as much as their parents. This pattern would continue until a particular trait in marriages would become dominate and would then dominate features that are passed on from generation to generation.

We know this is true because Ham's son, Cush, (Gen 10:6) which means 'black' or 'ethiopia', had black skin! Another son of Ham's was Mizraim (Gen 10:6) and his name literally means 'Egypt'. So the genetic pool was still diverse enough in their day to allow children to be vastly different from their brothers and sisters. Time would cause certain traits to dominate as people with similar traits married. Eventually if it became too strained or too similar it could cause problems. So if you take every person alive today, every trait and feature and combine them into two people, it would have been Adam and Eve. After all, we come from them, do we not? The children of Adam and Eve had no choice but to marry their own brothers and sisters. They could safely do so at the time, eventually it would become a problem, and it isn't until the Children of Israel had left Egypt that God said something about it (Deu 27:22, Lev 18:9).

When God jumbled up the language at the Tower of Babel, all those who could understand each other wandered off in groups. The dominant traits in that group of people would eventually become prevalent as they only married within that same group of people. Eventually these groups would form certain distinctive traits that would classify them as a race of people. So today you can look at a person and say, he's Asian, he's Spanish or she's German.

I have not dwelt much on this angle, a further study of DNA and RNA would explain this much further.



Noah's children were Shem, Ham and Japheth. An interesting event took place after the flood that does much to explain the future of many of the races that we know on earth today. In Genesis 9:20-29 we learn that Noah gets drunk one day and was lying naked in his tent when one of his sons, Ham, *saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without*. Shem and Japheth covered their father up without looking upon him. Then in Genesis 9:24 the Bible says something very interesting: *And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son **had done unto him***. That last phrase has led many to believe that Ham committed a homosexual act with his father. The Bible only hints at that, and true or not, Noah's reaction was swift and severe. He cursed Ham's youngest son, Canaan, condemning him to servitude to his brethren (Gen 9:25), and specifically a servant to Shem and Japheth (Gen 9:26). It was more than a curse on Canaan. It was a curse on Canaan's descendants who would one day serve the Israelites – who were descendants of Shem (Joshua 1-24).

Noah then proceeds to bless his other two children (Gen 9:26-27). *Blessed be the Lord God of Shem and God shall enlarge Japheth and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem*. Noah's blessings and curse is fulfilled without a doubt. History and the Bible bare it out. It is interesting how God honors the blessings and curses bestowed on the children by the father. God honors Isaac and Jacob's blessings on their children in an incredible way. Makes one think twice about crossing his parents.

We know for sure that Shem's descendants were the Israelites (Gen 11:10-32). Abraham is a descendant of Shem and, of course, from Abraham you get the Children of Israel. There are many other races that descend from Shem but the most important, as far as the Bible is concerned, are the Israelites. It seems that Shem had made God his God and God blessed that by making his descendants His people (Gen 10:26).

Japheth's children settled what we call Europe. The Bible says of Japheth's children in Genesis 10:5 that *by these were the isles of the Gentiles divided in their lands*. It was true then and it is true now. Look at every continent (which is an island by itself) in the world and you'll see the hand of Europe upon it. It's all been divided up and divvied out – America, Australia, Europe, Asia and Africa, all pretty much by the Europeans. When Noah said of Japheth that God would enlarge him (Gen 9:27) that is exactly what has happened. It has been the European races that have explored the most, conquered the most and invented the most. Most all of our technical advances are a direct result of European influence. This statement in Genesis 10:5 chronologically follows the tower of Babel. For Gen 11:1 says *the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech*. But in Genesis 10:5 it says, *after his tongue*. The genealogy given here in Genesis 10:1-32 here spans the event known as the Tower of Babel.

A large part of Ham's descendants settled in Africa. We have already looked at several of his children, Cush and Mizraim and what their names mean. Psalms 78:51 directly informs us that the Egyptians were descendents of Ham. Canaan, of course, settled in the Middle East and was eventually all but wiped out by the Israelites in the book of Joshua. The Land of Canaan and the Promise Land are one and the same.

We have then the origins of the races that we know today. All of course came from Noah and his children. So now the seed of these nations are born, but it'll take something more before they are scattered to become the nations that we know today.

That brings us to the cataclysmic event at the Tower of Babel.



Genesis 11:1-9 gives us the account of the Tower of Babel. It's a very short account, but it's a very important event in the history of the human race. *The whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there.* They then decided to build a tower *whose top may reach unto heaven.* It is difficult to pinpoint the exact timing of the Tower of Babel. The Bible only gives several hints but it is possible that it was 101 years after the flood that it took place.¹

This tower wasn't an effort to worship God. In fact it was actually a false religion, and the Tower similar to a ziggurat, a temple tower that was used in the worship of the stars. In the Bible, the worship of the heavens was dominated by a false goddess known as Ashtaroth (Judges 2:6, 10:13). Her name means 'star'. She is also known as 'the queen of heaven' (Jer 7:18, 44:17). And it is with this ideology in mind that these people built the tower of Babel. They believed that if they could build a temple of such magnificence that it would become a rallying point of their society and religion. They wanted to retain the structure of their society and prevent it from falling apart – an effort to squelch people from going somewhere else. A type of dictatorship really. There is power in the fact that there were no other races to war against and no other nation to contend with. Those in leadership at the time wanted to keep everyone under their control (Gen 11:4).

What we are seeing here is a one-world government and a one-world religion. The tragedy of this is that it was the wrong religion. It was idolatry. This is the problem with having a one-world government and a one-world religion, it tends to breed falsehood, and the ones in charge can manipulate it to their gain. God came down and didn't like what he saw at all (Gen 11:6) *and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.* He saw society reverting back to the way it was in the days before the flood, when *every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually* (Gen 6:5; 8:21). To head it off, God confounded their language and destroyed the one-world government and religion.

It is interesting to note that this may be the reason why there is no such thing as a Church denomination in the Bible. It is too close to what happened at Babel, and when the head goes bad, so does the rest of the body. To preserve truth God caused division and separation. Churches ought to be local and independent, not a type of Babel one-world religion.

There is coming another time when the world will unite under the Babel type banner. Revelation 13:1-8 tells us of another time when the world unites under a one-world religion. Only then they will be worshipping the Beast. It will not be possible for the human race to unite as one under the banner of God. The reason being, that as long as the Devil is around he will entice large groups of people to stray. When God locks the Devil up for a thousand years (Rev 20:1-9) there is peace under God. But when Satan gets free, he gathers up a multitude of people to war against God (Rev 20:7-9)!

There is, however, the possibility of uniting in a one-world government and religion but only under a false religion. A religion that up holds self, instead of God, that upholds wickedness, instead of Jesus. In Revelation 13:16-18, we find that in such a system everyone will be required to wear a mark, on the hand or forehead, and only those with that mark will be able to buy or sell. It is a forced religion, and God never forces someone's will! *Ye are saved by grace* (God's grace) *through faith* (your faith), Ephesians 2:8 tells us. That's the entire purpose of the Tower. It was equivalent to the mark of the Beast. Notice Genesis 11:4 *And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.* They planned to use the tower as a

focal point, much like King Nebuchadnezzar did in Daniel 3:1-18. Old Nebby tried to force everyone to come to the image and worship there. It was a form of control.

God's reaction to this one-world government and religion is swift. Genesis 11:6-8 tells us that God does exactly what they didn't want to happen. He confounds their language so that they wouldn't understand each other. Suddenly the two men laying brick side by side make a startling discovery.

“Hey, Joe, pass me that trowel will ya?” says the first guy.

“Humggle, shil ni keylo?” answers Joe.

“Joe, what's the matter with you?!”

“Lombi, ki solsti restilmiko!!”

The first guy and Joe are then forced to wander off and find people they understand. They gather together in bands and move off to settle their own cities and start their own societies. God scatters them throughout the entire earth (Gen 11:9). So if you've been wondering when it was that the Indians came over to America it was sometime after that event.

The importance of that event is immense. From then on, societies would develop their own unique cultures, languages, boundaries, racial habits and other things that would make China so much different than Spain.



