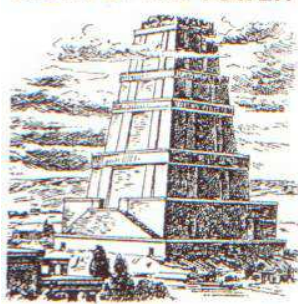


## BIBLE STUDY on GENESIS (NIV) Part 8



### THE TOWER OF BABEL

#### Genesis 11 : 1 - 9

“1 Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. 2 As men moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar (Babylonia) and settled there.

3 They said to each other, “Come, let’s make bricks and bake them thoroughly.” They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. 4 Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth.”

5 But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower that the men were building. 6 The LORD said, “If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. 7 Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other.”

8 So the LORD scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. 9 That is why it was called Babel - because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. From there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth.”

### God Puts Down Man’s Pride

The great-grandson of Noah, Nimrod, became a mighty man in the earth. He was against the LORD, and part of his kingdom centered around Babel, later known as Babylon. (See *Genesis 10 : 8 - 10*) In this story the people of Babel wanted to make a name for themselves. They wanted to make a tower to be used in the worship of the heavens. They did not want to be scattered abroad as God had commanded. In their pride, they started their false Satanic religion apart from God. They spoke boastfully about what they would accomplish. God would not allow them to be united against Himself, so He caused them to speak in many languages. The resulting confusion stopped the project.

Jesus said, “ ... **apart from Me you can do nothing.**” (*John 15 : 5b*) “... **All of you clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time.**” (*1 Peter 5 : 5b - 6*). >>

God wants *His* people to be united. On the day of Pentecost—a feast day fifty days after the Passover, when Jesus was crucified—while disciples of Jesus were gathered together “*with one accord,*” the Holy Spirit came upon them. That day the people were amazed because “... **each one heard them speaking in his own language.**”

(*Acts 2 : 6*).

True followers of Christ will feel an unity of spirit with other believers, even if they are of different nationalities or speak (sign) different languages. We are one in Christ.

All of man’s attempts to have unity apart from God will eventually come to nothing. Let us beware of trying to make a name of ourselves or of being part of any group that exalts man or practices witchcraft. “**Then I heard another voice from heaven say: “Come out of her, my people, so that you will not share in her sins, so that you will not receive any other plagues.”** (*Revelations 18 : 4*)

Part 9 in the next Issue ...