

Genesis

Moses

Discussion 4

Genesis Chapters 9-11- Origin of the Nations- Descendants from Noah's Sons and the Tower of Babel

Name: "Genesis" is a Greek word meaning "beginning." The book tells of the beginning of everything except God who is without beginning or end.

Author: Moses

Date: 1500 BC Moses lived about as far on the other side of Christ as Columbus, who discovered America, lived on this side of Christ.

Outline:

- A. History of the human race (Gen. 1-11)
 - a. Creation
 - b. Fall
 - c. Flood
 - d. Tower of Babel (Nations)
- B. History of the chosen race, the Jews (Gen. 12-50)
 - a. Abraham
 - b. Isaac
 - c. Jacob
 - d. Joseph

	Human Race	Abraham to the Chosen Race
Genesis	Chapter 1 to Chapter 11 (2000 years?)	315 years

Opening Prayer:

Loving Heavenly Father, thank You for Your many precious promises. When the storm-clouds of life are thundering in on all sides, help me to trust Your Word and to remember the promises You have made to all Your children. May the sight of a beautiful rainbow remind me that Your Word cannot be broken and that all Your promises are true. Hallelujah! In Jesus' name I pray, AMEN.

"I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth."

(Genesis 9:13)

ORIGINS OF NATIONS—GENESIS 10-11

Genesis 10- Descendant's of Noah's Sons

Shem's descendants settled chiefly in Central Asia

Ham's descendants settled chiefly in Africa

Japheth's descendants settled chiefly in Europe

Genesis 11- Tower of Babel

1. Why did the people want to build the Tower of Babel? (11:4) _____ They wanted to make a name for themselves. They wanted to build it to the heavens, because they wanted God to come down. _____

2. How did the Lord stop the building of the tower? _____ He scattered the people, and gave them all different languages, or frustrated the languages. _____

HISTORY OF THE CHOSEN RACE—GENESIS 12-50

The Plan of Redemption

As the events of the Old Testament start to unfold there is the continuous development of God's plan to bring into the world the Redeemer, through the chosen race, Israel, in the chosen land, Palestine. Notice how the lives of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are all connected with this plan of redemption.

The Purpose of Having One Chosen Race was:

- To keep alive the worship of the one true God.
- to illustrate to other nations, the blessedness of serving the true God.
- To receive and preserve God's Word, the Bible.
- To give Birth to the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

The Father of the Chosen Race—Abraham

Date: Abraham lived about 2000 B.C.

Adam	Abraham	Christ	Today
4000 B.C.	2000 B.C.		2000 A.D.

Hammurabi was living at the same time as Abraham. Who was Hammurabi?

Hammurabi (born, Babylon [now in Iraq]—died c. 1750 BCE) sixth and best-known ruler of the 1st (Amorite) dynasty of Babylon (reigning c. 1792-1750 BCE), noted for his surviving set of laws, once considered the oldest promulgation of laws in human history.

Honor: Abraham is today honored by:

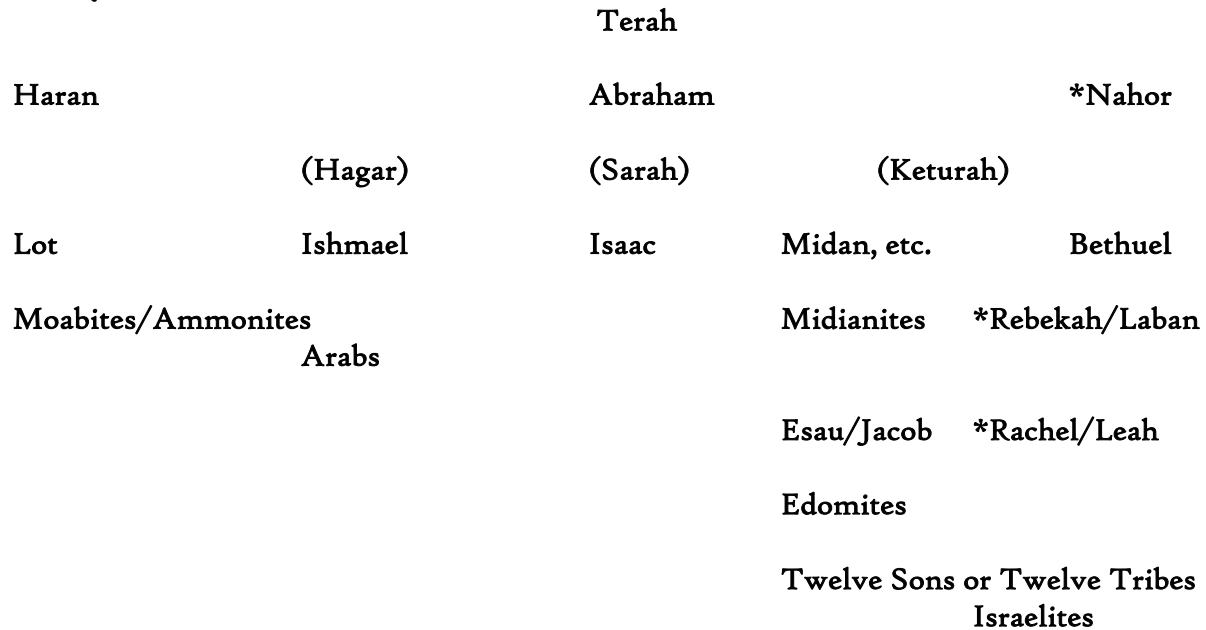
JEWS as the father and the founder of the Hebrew race.

CHRISTIANS as the father of all who believe God. (Galatians 3;6-9, 23)

MUSLIMS as the father of Ishmael.

Abraham is called God's friend. (James 2;23)

Family Tree:



***These lived in Haran in Mesopotamia or Pandanaram.**

Questions on Abraham and Isaac—Genesis 12-25

1. Where was Abraham's home: (11:28,31) Ur
2. From which of Noah's sons did Abram descend? (11:10) Shem
3. When Abram was on his way from Ur to Canaan where did he stop? (11:31)
Harran
4. From what place to what place did Abram go at 75 years of age? Harran to Canaan

Closing Prayer:

Prayers of the People:

We pray for DONNA BAKER, DORIS ANN, MARTHA AND HER FAMILY, ALEXIS, EMELIA, JULIE, ARIANNA, ANDREW, ERICKA, SHARON AND JOHN SCHESTLER, DARLENE B FOR SAFE SURGERY AND RECOVERY, those who are struggling with addiction, alcoholism, depression, anxiety, any medical conditions.

We pray for those in positions of power, any one in positions of power that they may lead with dignity, thoughtfulness, and reason. We pray for those who work to ensure our safety as citizens of our country. We pray that you guide our countries leaders, that they may lead our country with common sense, reason, a level head, and appropriate situational awareness, and that they may be a collaborative government that works with other countries that work towards world peace, rather than continuously creating enemies.

We also pray that in this season of Epiphany that you Enlighten our hearts, guide us in your way, and help us to be more worldly in our actions as we live our lives according to your will.

In Jesus name we pray,

Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be they name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,

On earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive those,

Who trespass against us.

Lead Us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the Kingdom,

The power and the glory,

Forever and ever. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace,

the Lord is with you.

Blessed are you among women,

and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,

pray for us sinners,

now and at the hour of our death.

Amen.

GLORY BE to the Father, and to the Son,

and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the

beginning is now, and ever shall be, world

without end. Amen.

O MY JESUS, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of Hell; lead all souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of Thy mercy. Amen.

Heavenly Father, teach me all there is to learn from the foolish decisions made by the post diluvian people and the rebellious attitudes they fostered in their hearts. Help me to make the right choices in life and to refuse to adopt the sinful ways of the world who want to do things their own way, independent from You. May I look to Jesus, day by day, resting my hope and future in Him. This I ask in Jesus' name, AMEN.

*“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.”
(Genesis 11:4)*

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Genesis 10- Descendant's of Noah's Sons
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Discussion Notes:

THE SONS OF NOAH

Genesis 9:18-29

THE CONTEXT

We have been examining Noah in several studies, but we should remember that he was not alone on the ark: he was accompanied by several others, seven others to be exact. From this point we will pick up after the Flood, when Noah and his family are settling themselves into the “*new world*.” They are the only human beings left on the planet, which may have been extremely stressful for them. They went into the ark for an entire year or a little longer, and now all their neighbors, friends, and extended family—whom they had watched gather and mock them, in laughter—were now gone, perished with the Flood. Any sense of vindication probably evaporated quickly as they realized that there was no one else left on earth. They were the only ones.

We will see that the only thing they were not able to get rid of was their sinful nature.

KEYS TO THE TEXT

MY THREE SONS: Noah had three sons named Shem Ham, and Japheth, who fathered the three major “people groups” found in the world today.

9:18 SHEM, HAM, AND JAPHETH: Genesis 10:21 tells us that Japheth was the oldest of the three brothers, then Shem, then Ham. Regardless, every human life today descends from Noah, and these three sons. Together they fathered the three major “people groups” in the world.

HAM WAS THE FATHER OF CANAAN: The Canaanites would be one of Israel's greatest enemies in later years. This will become evident fairly soon.

19. FROM THESE THE WHOLE EARTH WAS POPULATED: Modern anthropology has determined that all races on earth are derived from three “people groups.” It's always a pleasure when Modern Science confirms what the Bible says. God's Word tells us that all people are descended from the sons of Noah.

20. NOAH BEGAN TO BE A FARMER: It's interesting that the two farmers mentioned in Genesis are Cain and Noah. Noah's vineyard is going to get him into trouble just as Cain's did.

HE PLANTED A VINEYARD: This seems rather frivolous sort of farming compared to planting more substantial food sources such as vegetables and grain. We are not told where Noah settled; it is quite possible that the terrain was unsuitable for anything else.

NOAH'S LAPSE: This is the one recorded failure in the life of Noah, a great man walked with God. Yet even this one sin has dramatic consequences.

21. HE DRANK OF THE WINE AND WAS DRUNK: Noah's lapse from obedience reminds us that even the most faithful men of God are still sinners and that we are never free from danger of falling into trouble. The greatest temptations sometimes come after significant victories, this is a similar situation that we see Noah in at this point.

BECAME UNCOVERED IN HIS TENT: Evidently Noah drank himself into a stupor, fell asleep in his tent. He may have undressed because of the heat or was involuntarily exposed due to drunkenness.

HAM'S SIN: Noah's youngest son, Ham, is delighted to see his father act "like a normal human being" and gloats at his father's state.

22. HAM, THE FATHER OF CANAAN: Moses repeated this phrase several times which demonstrates its importance, telling us that all Canaanites were descended from Ham. Moses was probably writing this book during the forty years of wandering the desert, so he may have been preparing the people of Israel for the day when they would enter the Promised Land—and be confronted with a host of Pagan Canaanites.

SAW THE NAKEDNESS OF HIS FATHER: This passage is quite often misinterpreted and seems odd to Westerners. The passage suggests that he stood there gazing at his drunken father, whether it was to mock him, or maybe he was finally pleased to view his father as a "normal" human who finally committed a sin. We are not quite certain as it is not stated, but there is one thing that Ham failed to do, and that was to cover his father and then depart from his tent.

TOLD HIS TWO BROTHERS OUTSIDE: After seeing his father, Ham rushed out of the tent, and was very eager to tell his two brothers what he had seen. The implication seems to be that he was expecting his brothers to come back into the tent with him to join him in mocking their father. Ham's sin was not in seeing his father in this shameful state—that part was fault for becoming drunk. His sin was that he did not honor his father by covering him up and keeping silent. Instead, he went out looking for other to join in the mockery.

HAM'S BROTHERS ARE FAITHFUL: Shem and Japheth, unlike their younger brother, Ham, are honorable and take great pains to cover their father's disgrace.

23. BUT SHEM AND JAPHETH TOOK A GARMENT: Ham's brothers response to the situation in a better way than he: they covered their father's shame. Remember that this was

God's response to the nakedness and shame of Adam Eve—He made coverings for them from animal skins (Genesis 3:21).

WENT BACKWARD: Shem and Japheth show a genuine integrity in their actions. They could have easily looked at their father and reacted similarly to Ham, but they made sure that they covered their father and left, they did not mock him, or make a scene of his state. Scripture states that “He who covers a transgression seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates friends” (Proverbs 17:9).

COVERED THE NAKEDNESS OF THEIR FATHER: The basic idea here is illustrated through the assistance of others to cover their shame. It's a much easier choice to gossip about a person who has fallen into hardship, and it can even make us feel better about our situation. God wants us, his people, to cover each other's shame, not to expose it. “Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted” (Galatians 6:1).

NOAH'S BLESSINGS AND CURSE: Noah pronounces two great blessings one great curse on his sons. The results of these pronouncements can still be seen today.

24. **KNEW WHAT HIS YOUNGER SON HAD DONE TO HIM:** We should remember that when a Christian falls into shame and disgrace, that shame will not last forever—the blood of Christ has already covered the transgression. This should encourage us when we fall into trouble ourselves and serve as a sober reminder when we are tempted to gossip. “And above all things have fervent love for one another, for “Love will cover a multitude of sins” (1 Peter 4:8).

25. **CURSE TO CANAAN:** This at first seems like a harsh response. However, after all, Noah was cursing Ham's descendants, not just Ham himself. This underscores Ham's sin and reminds us of the tragic fact that one man's sin will affect others. Remember that Adam's sin was extremely minor by modern standards, yet his curse has carried down to every one of his descendants—that is, every human who has ever lived (except for Christ, who through the Virgin Birth was not a son of Adam).

A SERVANT OF SERVANTS: This does not mean that all Ham's descendants would become slaves either (since the curse only refers to the descendants of Canaan). But it does mean that the descendants of Shem—the Israelites—were destined to conquer the Canaanites. This was a needed reminder to the people of Israel as they prepared to enter the Promised Land.

26. **BLESSED BE THE LORD, THE GOD OF SHEM:** It is interesting that Noah blessed Japheth personally but not Shem—rather, he blessed Shem's God. This is our first clue that Shem's line would be the chosen seen for the Messiah, for it is through Shem's descendants that God would be blessed by showing forth His plan of salvation for all mankind. The people of Israel were chosen not for *their* blessing of God. It was through Israel that God chose to display His character to the world. Similarly, as Christian we are chosen not for our

won blessing but for the blessing of God, and we demonstrate to the world around us that the Creator is still working to redeem mankind.

27. MAY GOD ENLARGE JAPHETH: Noah was saying may Japheth’s descendants grow to fill an populate the earth. This blessing has come true, as most of the world’s people today are descendants from Japheth.

MAY WE DWELL IN THE TENTS OF SHEM: Despite the great population of Japheth’s descendants, the greatest blessing will still be found in the descendants of Shem. Again, this is undeniably the case, as Jesus Himself came through the line of Shem.

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HERITAGE AND FAMILY
GENESIS 10:1-32

THE CONTEXT

We are still with Noah and the ark. Noah and his family are now the only humans alive on earth, and they have been charged with the blessing of repopulating the earth. This is the same blessing that he gave Adam and Eve at the beginning in the Garden of Eden: be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it.

Modern science has confirmed that all the nations and races today had their origins in three distinct “people groups”—descendants of the sons of Noah. Anthropologists and linguists have even suggested that there was originally one common ancestor. Even evolutionists acknowledge that nations and large people groups appeared over a short period of time rather than proposed billions of years.

In this section we will be diving into what Scripture has to say about the beginnings of the modern human race: where various races and nations came from, how the earth was first populated, and what it means to us today. The account in Genesis 11 of the Tower of Babel (which we will examine later) is zoomed- in detail of the larger matter contains here in this chapter: the dispersion of mankind.

KEYS TO THE TEXT

THE DESCENDANTS OF JAPHETH: Japheth’s descendants headed north and west. (Refer to the map in the Introduction for the entire dispersion of the nations.)

10:2. JAPHETH: The Greeks called themselves lapetos, which likely derived from the name Japheth. His descendants settled to the north and the west of the Middle East, in what we would call Asia and Europe.

GOMER: There is a theory that Gomer’s descendants moved westward into what we now call Europe. Many still bear a form of this name— the Gauls (French) and the Cymru (Welsh) are probably derivations of the name Gomer.

MAGOG: He was possibly the father Scythian peoples the father. Gog and Magog are used in Scripture to represent the power of the world—and therefore the enemy of God’s people (see Ezekiel 38:2; Revelation 20:8).

MADAI: Father of the people know as the Medes, who are prominent in the book of Daniel.

JAVAN: Father of the Greeks. In Daniel 8:21, the name Javan is rendered “Greece” in modern translations. The Greeks were also known as Ionians—a name that is derived directly from Javan.

MESHECH: It is possible that people of Russia—specifically the Muscovites, who are connected with Moscow—are descended from Meshech.

TIRAS: Possibly the father of the Thracians.

3. TOGAROMAH: Possibly the father of the Turks.

4. TARSHISH: The city of Tarsus was named after Tarshish and is best remembered as the birthplace of Paul.

5. GENTILES: This term may originally have referred specifically to the descendants of Japheth. The Bible uses the word generically to refer to any nation other than Israel and metaphorically to refer to the world as opposed to the church.

THE DESCENDANTS OF HAM: Ham’s sons headed south, settling in Egypt and Africa.

6. CUSH: probably the father of Arabia, although Cush is also the ancient name of Ethiopia.

MIZRAIM: Father of Egypt.

PUT: Father of Libya.

CANAAN: Father of the Canaanites. The Canaanites are extremely significant in the Israelites’ early history; they were the people who occupied the Promised Land when Joshua led the Israelites in. Noah had pronounced a curse on them in Genesis 9:25, and they were destined to become Israel’s greatest enemy during the occupation of the Promised Land.

8. NIMROD: in Hebrew means “rebel.” He was a powerful leader, a real “man’s man.” He probably was the one who organized the building of Babel and its tower. He is a picture of the pride of man—a man who glories in his own strength and capabilities, see what he wants and takes it, and feel he has no need for God. The kingdoms that Nimrod founded include several that proved to be deadly enemies of God’s people.

10. BABEL: Babel is probably the original city of Babylon, which looms large in Scripture as the archetype of man’s prideful folly (See Revelation 17-18).

ERECH: Possibly the modern nation of Iraq, where the ancient city of Babylon still exists. Iraq has not been a friend to Israel in modern times.

LAND OF SHINAR: Possibly Mesopotamia. It appears that the four kingdoms of Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh were united together under one strong leader. If so, this is the first appearance of a “United Nations” on earth, and Nimrod figures as a precursor to the Antichrist.

11. ASSYRIA: This was Israel’s primary enemy from the east. This powerful nation plagued Israel for many generations.

NINEVEH: This is the city to which Jonah would one day travel—reluctantly.

14. PHILISTINES: These people would plague Israel for hundreds of years until finally put down by King David.

16-18. THE JEBUSITE... HAMATHITE: Moses switched here from naming specific people and the cities that they founded to naming nations. Many of these nations, such as the Jebusites and Amorites, would become the enemies of Israel as the Jews moved into the Promised Land.

19. BORDERS OF THE CANAANITES: This territory includes most of the Promised Land. A region known as the Gaza Strip still exists today—it is infamous as the site even now of bloody struggle against the Jews. Sodom and Gomorrah would one day become prominent in the life of Abraham, and Sodom is notorious for adding a word to the English language: “sodomy.”

THE DESCENDANTS OF SHEM: Shem’s descendants settled in what we now call the Middle East. Shem is the ancestor of Abraham as well as of Jesus.

21. SHEM: Shem is the father of all races that are named after him, which are called the Semitic people. This includes Israel as well as many others.

THE BROTHER OF JAPHETH THE ELDER: Remember that the actual birth order of Noah’s three sons is disputed, and different Bible translations transcribe this verse in different ways. Shem is the son through whom Jesus would enter the world—the highest honor and “birthright” that could ever be given to a person. A birthright was ordinarily given to the firstborn, which argues that Shem was oldest. However, in Genesis almost all the birthrights in the Messiah’s line were given to someone other than the oldest, which suggests that Shem might have been the middle son.

EBER: Eber is the ancestor to Abraham. His name led to the word “Hebrew,” which was first used to describe Abraham.

30. MESHHA: the ancient name for Mecca. Modern day Arabs are also descended from Shem. The enemies of Israel came as much through Shem as through his brothers.

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THE TOWER OF BABEL

GENESIS 11:1-8

THE CONTEXT

We have fast forwarded several years, Noah and his family have all settled into their home the “new earth” after the Flood. They begin to repopulate the planet as they were instructed. Over time, the descendants of Noah begin to build towns and villages and cities.

At this point in history, all humankind speaks one language—which is probably the language that Adam with God in the Garden of Eden. Having one common language made it possible for mankind/humankind to unite in carrying out great projects. In this chapter in Genesis, we will see how they would use that gift: to build a great city that would bring glory to themselves.

God looks down and sees that mankind/humankind has not changed since the Flood. Man is still intent on becoming a god unto himself, excluding the lordship of his Creator. This time, however, the Lord does not send a great flood to destroy mankind/humankind from the face of the earth. Instead, He confuses man’s language, making it difficult for humanity to join together in an effort to become “-like God.” This confusion of languages will also lead to the dispersion of mankind/humankind throughout the planet—which is what God had commanded man to do anyway.

KEYS TO THE TEXT

ONE LIP: the entire human race shares one language, which enables men to unite for great projects.

11:1. WHOLE EARTH: This most likely means roughly the area that we would now refer to as the Middle East. At this point, the entire human race should have spread throughout the entire world, however this was not the case. “God commanded Noah, be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth” (Genesis 9:1), but his descendants had apparently disregarded this injunction. Filling the earth would have required that men separate and strike out their own—this involved risks. It was far easier to band together and build cities, enabling men to rely on themselves and one another than stepping out with faith in God.

ONE LANGUAGE AND ONE SPEECH: “one lip and one word.” This phrase emphasizes with its repetition that all human beings spoke the same language and had the same vocabulary—they used the same words and phrases. Modern Americans, for example, speak the same language as modern British people, yet the two cultures differ in vocabulary

and turns of phrase. Such differences exist within cultures; one can find distinct dialect as one travels throughout the United States. These types of differences did not exist so much in man's early history. This unity of speech made communication easy and enabled mankind to unite and work together cooperatively. It is important to remember that man alone had the gift of speech—a gift that God had given to Adam specifically so that he could communicate with Him and other people. In this chapter we will discover that mankind has always corrupted God's gifts for his own pleasures.

2. AS THEY JOURNEYED FROM THE EAST: Many of the different translations use these words "as they journeyed east." If the Mount Ararat where the Ark landed is the same Ararat that we know of in modern Turkey, then it seems likely that Noah's descendants moved *toward* the east—this then suggests that the Tower of Babel was built in Babylon, which is located in modern day Iraq. Obviously, we cannot be entirely certain of the exact locations of these cities.

THE GREAT PROJECT: we will now watch and see what mankind will do with his gift of unity and communication. God, as it turns out is also watching.

3. THEY SAID TO ONE ANOTHER: This is the first subtle hint that men were turning to themselves rather than to God. There is nothing wrong with people uniting together to create things—this is part of being created in God's image. It quickly becomes apparent, however, that man was still trying to become his own god rather than turning to the one being that gave him life.

LET US MAKE BRICKS: in this section we see mankind acting in the image of God, creating things that didn't exist before (although man is limited to creating from existing materials, while God can create something out of nothing.) This is an early representation of the coming together to create new technologies.

THEY HAD BRICK FOR STONE: Mankind works together here to overcome environmental obstacles. There apparently was not any stone in the region that was suitable for construction, but this shortage did not stop man from accomplishing his goals.

GLORY TO MAN: the true nature of man's heart is now revealed; he is seeking his own glory. Man is trying once again to worship himself rather than his creator.

4. LET US BUILD OURSELVES: here a problem presents itself; mankind's focus was on itself, not on God. This statement reveals the true motivation of their building schemes.

A CITY: Archeologists believe that this city was the early foundation for what would become Babylon. Babylon is an important city all throughout scripture, and represents that worldly enemy of the people of God.

A TOWER: The tower may have been a ziggurat, which is a large structure composed of concentric squares rising to a great height. Such structures were fairly common in the Babylonian regions and were generally used as temples to pagan gods.

LET US MAKE A NAME FOR OURSELVES: man's underlying goal is again revealed: bringing glory to himself and his achievements. There is not mention of God—whether seeking His will, bringing glory to His name, or even obeying His commands.

LEST WE BE SCATTERED ABROAD: This was one reference to God's commands—there was a determination in this statement, to defy, break, or maybe even bend the rules. Man did not want to spread abroad as God commanded, so God took action to force them to move and spread over all the earth. It is worth noting that man appeared to be *afraid* of spreading out over the earth. However, this brings about an interesting paradox: mankind's motives were a combination of pride, hoping to bring glory to itself, and fear—fear of being “scattered abroad.” To be “scattered” is to be forced to move aboard, whereas God had commanded them to “fill the earth”—something that would have been done voluntarily. Man simply could not accept the concept of God telling him what to do. He wants to be his own god. However, when freewill was imposed upon us, upon being thrown out of the garden, it is possible that this is where the trouble all began.

GOD INVESTIGATES: the Lord Himself descends to the earth—not to bring judgement, but to seek for a way of extending grace.

5. THE LORD CAME DOWN TO SEE: God generally came down to earth in physical form to bring judgement. His motivation in such “reconnaissance missions” was always to find opportunities to extend grace. At this point we find Him coming to the earth to investigate the great city and tower that mankind was building, and it is likely that he was doing this to see if He would be able to defer His judgement.

6. THE PEOPLE ARE ONE: An interesting insight is discovered here, this goes directly against the universal thinking of modern mankind: it is not good for fallen humanity to be united as one. God declared that it was dangerous for sinful mankind to be united. When he frustrated man's language, it was an act of divine mercy, thus scattering them abroad.

NOTHING THAT THEY PROPOSE TO DO WILL BE WITHHELD FROM THEM: The implication here is that if God were to withhold His hand, man would go from bad to worse. He observed that “this is what they begin to do,” which states that they human race was heading back toward the level of depravity they had reaching during the days of Noah when God was forced to eliminate all the living on earth. If God did not intervene quickly, the entire human race would slip back into the deepest levels of wickedness.

GOD'S MERCIFUL JUDGEMENT: The Lord pronounces His judgement and scatters mankind abroad for its own protection.

7. LET US: God again speaking to Himself, the three in one, just as he did when He decided to create mankind in the beginning. (Genesis 1:26)

CONFUSE THE LANGUAGE (SO THAT THEY WILL NOT UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER): God is being merciful at this point, because the united civilization was heading

rapidly toward major disaster. This made it difficult to communicate together, God effectively forced men to divide themselves into independent cities and nations. It is interesting how hard we have strived to overcome this barrier today. We are currently in an age of increased world-wide communication. The internet, satellite communication, smartphones, and other technology are coming together to close the language gap. On the surface this seems like a good thing, but it is said in the book of Revelation, which reveals that global reunification of mankind will ultimately end in disaster.

8. THE LORD SCATTERED THEM ABROAD: Man's worst fears were realized. Ironically, this scattering did not bring destruction to mankind; it did the opposite, it led to man's dominion over the entire planet. Although man/humans may refuse to obey God, they will ultimately be forced into compliance. God's will shall be done, whether man wills it or not. In the end "every knee shall bow... every tongue shall confess" (Romans 14:11)—voluntarily or otherwise—That Jesus Christ is Lord.

9. BABEL: A play on a Hebrew word meaning "confusion." Again, the location is uncertain, but it is probably the ancient city of Babylon, located in modern-day Iraq.

Closing Prayer:

Prayers of the People:

We pray for safe travels for DENNIS AND PAULETTE, DONNA BAKER, DORIS ANN, MARTHA AND HER FAMILY, ALEXIS, EMELIA, JOHN B, ARIANNA, ALEX, OLIVIA, STEVE, MEGAN AND FAMILY, ANDREW, ERICKA, SHARON AND JOHN SCHESTLER, ALLEN AND CANDY SCHNEIDER, all those who are still without power after the storms, those who are struggling with addiction, alcoholism, depression, anxiety, any medical conditions.

We pray for those in positions of power, any one in positions of power that they may lead with dignity, thoughtfulness, and reason. We pray for those who work to ensure our safety as citizens of our country. We pray that you guide our countries leaders, that they may lead our country with common sense, reason, a level head, and appropriate situational awareness, and that they may be a collaborative government that works with other countries that work towards world peace, rather than continuously creating enemies.

We also pray that in this season of Epiphany that you Enlighten our hearts, guide us in your way, and help us to be more worldly in our actions as we live our lives according to your will.

In Jesus name we pray,

Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be they name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,

On earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive those,

Who trespass against us.

Lead Us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

*For Thine is the Kingdom,
The power and the glory,
Forever and ever. Amen.*

*Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.*

*GLORY BE to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the
beginning is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen.*

*O MY JESUS, forgive us our sins, save us
from the fires of Hell; lead all souls to
Heaven, especially those in most need of
Thy mercy. Amen.*

Heavenly Father, teach me all there is to learn from the foolish decisions made by the post diluvian people and the rebellious attitudes they fostered in their hearts. Help me to make the right choices in life and to refuse to adopt the sinful ways of the world who want to do things their own way, independent from You. May I look to Jesus, day by day, resting my hope and future in Him. This I ask in Jesus' name, AMEN.

*“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.”
(Genesis 11:4)*