

“The Tower of Babel - Division and Reclamation”
Bible Stories, Pt. 6: Genesis 11:1-9

I. Mankind’s Tower-Building Motivation (11:4)

- A. Faithless concern for security led mankind to disobey God’s command to fill the earth.
- B. Desire to bring glory to themselves instead of God also led them to begin building.

II. The Lord’s Evaluation and Reaction (11:6-8)

- A. The Lord had to come “down” to even see mankind’s great tower.
- B. The Lord declared that if rebellious humanity continued to be unified in their apostasy, no evil would be left undone.
- C. The Lord divided their languages and forced them to scatter.
- D. The Lord also gave mankind over to the control of evil spiritual rulers:

Deuteronomy 32:7–9 - ⁷ Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations; ask your father, and he will show you, your elders, and they will tell you. ⁸ When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God. ⁹ But the Lord’s portion is his people, Jacob his allotted heritage. (ESV)

Deuteronomy 4:19–20 - ¹⁹ And beware lest you raise your eyes to heaven, and when you see the sun and the moon and the stars, all the host of heaven, you be drawn away and bow down to them and serve them, things that the Lord your God has allotted to all the peoples under the whole heaven.

III. Mankind’s Reclamation

- A. From the line of Abraham, God raised up the Messiah:
 - 1. God the Son in Human Flesh, Jesus of Nazareth.
 - 2. Raised from the dead and exalted over *all* beings everywhere.

Ephesians 1:20–21 - ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

Matthew 28:18 - And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”

B. At Pentecost, the confusion of Babel began to be reversed.

1. “Far off” Jews heard the gospel of Christ in their own languages.

Acts 2:38–39 - ³⁸ And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.”

2. Soon after, far-off Gentiles from all nations began hearing the Gospel and were reclaimed by the Lord.

Ephesians 2:12–13 - ¹² remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.