



Magnolia Bible Church Men's Group - Creation Series

Lesson #9 (Genesis 11 – The Tower of Babel) | Thursday, April 13, 2017

The principal aim of this series is to explore what the Bible has to say about Creation and the early history of mankind up to the Tower of Babel. The first eleven chapters of Genesis define for us what God's Word has to say about the early days of man. For many people this portion of the Bible is nothing more than fables, while for others it is the inspired Word of God that clearly establishes the origin of man, civilization, and the universe. As Christians, it is important to know what we believe and be able to clearly communicate to others the basis of our beliefs. The world needs well-read, articulate Christians who are confident in their beliefs built on a strong, Biblical foundation.

Listed below is the basic outline for our Creation Series, along with the schedule for each lesson.

Topic	Location in Genesis	Planned Date
Introduction	N/A	February 2
Six days of Creation	Genesis 1 – 2	February 9
The Fall	Genesis 3	February 16
Cain and Abel	Genesis 4	February 23
Genealogy (Adam to Noah)	Genesis 5	March 2
Wickedness of Man	Genesis 6:1-8	March 9
Noah and the Flood	Genesis 6 – 8	March 23 (*)
God's Covenant with Noah / Sons of Noah	Genesis 9	March 30
Table of Nations	Genesis 10	April 6
Tower of Babel	Genesis 11:1-9	April 13

* Spring Break is scheduled for March 13-17; there will not be a lesson on Thursday, March 16.

This lesson is the last in our *Creation Bible Series*. It is amazing to consider how a single series could cover the first 11 chapters of Genesis and address topics including God's Creation, the complete destruction of the earth, and man's attempt to "be like God" in the building of the Tower of Babel that resulted in the various nations, people groups, and languages that now populate the earth.

The account of Babel in Genesis 11 actually precedes the formation of the nations listed in Genesis 10 (i.e. the events in Genesis 10 detail events prior, during, and after those described in Genesis 11 in terms of the increase of man upon the earth). Genesis 11 can be grouped into the following verses:

- The Tower of Babel Verses 1 – 9
- Genealogy of Shem Verses 10 – 26
- The Account of Abram Verses 27 – 32



What is ironic in studying not only Genesis, but the entire Bible and the history of mankind, is that man continues to try and do things his own way. Our lives would be so much better if we were to remember Solomon's sage advice recorded in Ecclesiastes 12:13-14. *May we seek God and learn from the mistakes of the past!*

Questions & Deep Thoughts

1. This is the last lesson in our series. In our study we have covered the first 11 chapters of Genesis. As you think back over our many discussions, what has amazed you most about God with regards to His early work through Creation and setting the foundations of humanity?
2. Look at the bottom map on Page 3. As mankind moved east from Ararat (Turkey), what modern-day countries would they have moved through and inhabited? Read Genesis 11:1-9; what events transpired that led to God to confuse the language of mankind at the Tower of Babel?

3. What modern-day events parallel the activities at Babel with regards to organizations and technology? Consider comments provided below from the *Club of Rome* and the diagram to the right addressing the following areas of interest: (1) Environment and Resources, (2) Globalization, (3) World Development, (4) Social Transformation, and (5) Peace and Security.

It is clear that the present path of world development is not sustainable in the longer term, even if we recognise the enormous potentials of the market and of technological innovation. New ideas and strategies will be needed to ensure that improved living conditions and opportunities for a growing population across the world can be reconciled with the conservation of a viable climate and of the fragile ecosystems on which all life depends. A new vision and path for world development must be conceived and adopted if humanity is to surmount the challenges ahead... The Programme will focus on five "clusters" of related issues within the overall conceptual framework of A New Path for World Development.¹



4. Starting in Genesis 11:10 the text focuses on the line of Shem. Why is Shem the focus of future generations, and what does this presentation tell us about God's Sovereignty and His plan for mankind?
5. Provided on the following page is a map showing the route of Abraham and his family from Ur. What role does Abraham play in Biblical and world histories?

¹ http://www.clubofrome.org/eng/new_path

