

Sunday June 8, 2014

AM Service

Recorded 10/18/2015 Aired 11/1/2015 Genesis #43

"Nimrod the Hunter"

Part 3

Genesis 11:1-9

Introduction: Today we come back to our study of the first 11 chapters of the book of Genesis which is a much needed foundation for all of us. These first 11 chapters are so important because they contain the origins of everything which we know in our lives today.

The origin of:

1. World and universe
2. Animals
3. Man
4. Family
5. Sin
6. Curse
7. Salvation
8. Substitutionary sacrifice
9. Society
10. Judgment
11. Nations
12. Languages

These are some of the origins which we have looked at in these first 11 chapters.

Now last week we started into the events at the Tower of Babel and we looked at 2 questions:

1. What happened at the Tower of Babel?
2. When did the events happen?

I want to quickly review these questions again in order to lay a foundation for where we are going today with our study.

1. **What happened at the Tower of Babel?**

Notice Genesis 11:1-4

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The earth was of one "lip" and one "vocabulary" at this time. They were under a leader by the name of Nimrod.

Notice Genesis 10:8-10

Nimrod was a might warrior which meant he hunted men and he forced them to submit to his authority or they were executed. He is a picture of the anti-christ who will rule and reign in the Great Tribulation period.

Nimrod led the world in rebellion against God. God had given the command to Noah that they were to be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.

Genesis 9:1

And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.

These people under Nimrod were in direct rebellion against that very command.

Notice Genesis 11:4

They did not want to be scattered across the entire earth. Therefore they decided to build 3 things.

1. **A city.**
2. **A tower.**
3. **A name.**

The tower was to be the religious center of their kingdom. This was not something which they believed they could climb to heaven they were too intelligent for that. This was probably a ladder with a temple at the base of it. Now don't forget that Satan was behind this entire event. He knew that from the sons of Noah there would be born a Man who would eventually destroy him. Therefore it was Satan's desire to destroy the promise of Genesis 3:15 or we could say it was his desire to destroy Jesus Christ. He did not know from who the Promise would come so he was doing all he could to lead them all into destruction.

Now the tower and it religious purpose is very interesting. Satan is wise in the sense that he knows if he is going to lead people away from God that there will be a vacuum in their lives and he needs to fill that vacuum with something. That is why we see people walk away

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from church today and basically gives their lives to something which is of the world. It is the enemy's means of "bait and switch".

So this tower is the first false worship system after the flood and the entire event was a major rebellion against God.

2. When did it happen?

Last week I told you that the Tower of Babel happened about 100 years after the flood.

Notice Genesis 10:25

It happened in the days of Peleg and if we took the time to look again at Genesis 11:11-16 we can see clearly that Peleg was born 101 years after the flood. In Genesis 10 we find out that Nimrod was the great grandson of Noah. Ham fathered Cush who would be the grandson of Noah, and Cush fathered Nimrod who was the great grandson of Noah.

Now if Ham fathered Cush a year after the flood and then 25 years later Cush fathered Nimrod then we can assume that Nimrod was possibly born 26-30 years after the flood. I say this because that helps us to see how quickly man walked away from God. It seemed to start with the great grandson of Noah that is quickly after the flood.

All of this brings us to where we are today.

1. How did they go from the flood to the Tower of Babel in such a short time?

Now in order to see how they had drifted this far we need to look elsewhere in God's Word.

Notice Romans 1

Here in Romans 1 starting in verse 18 and going through verse 32 we get a much more detailed picture of what the people at the Tower of Babel were like.

Notice Romans 1:18

They were guilty of suppressing the Truth. What Truth? The Truth they suppressed was the very Truth which Noah would have proclaimed to all whom he spoke to.

2 Peter 2:5

⁵ And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

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Peter reminds us that Noah was a preacher and therefore he would have proclaimed the warnings of God's judgment and the need of repentance and forgiveness. Noah would have told them of the need to sacrifice a lamb for their sins. I believe Noah would have done all he could to convince them to repent and come to God.

But they would not listen but instead they suppressed the Truth which Noah spoke to them.

Notice Romans 1:19-21

The people at the Tower of Babel were able to see the effects of the flood. They were surrounded by evidence of the flood. They knew that God existed and they could see evidence of His judgment all around them.

Notice Romans 1:22-23

They turned from the True God and they became involved in idolatry. The next section we can see the result of their suppression of the Truth.

Notice Romans 1:24-27

When they suppressed the Truth God then lifted the moral restraints and they went deeper and deeper into their sin. But when God lifted the moral restraints they fell into homosexual relationships.

Application:

We have talked about this before but I need to say it again. The homosexuality which we see on the increase in our society is the result of our nation suppressing the Truth of God. God is being pushed aside and the sign of His judgment is the lifting of moral restraints and the increase in homosexuality.

Many times when we think of the judgment of God on a nation we think of some major catastrophe and that can happen. But here we see it is also a lifting of the moral restraints and allowing a nation to destroy itself from the inside.

Let me also say that to fight against the homosexuality today will not fix the problem. The problem is that our nation has pushed God away. The homosexuality is just proof we are under the judgment of God. The only way to fix the problem is for our nation to repent and to turn back to God.

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Back to the point now: this section not only describes our nation but it is also a description of the people at the Tower of Babel. I say that because when any society suppresses God's Truth this will be the end result.

Notice Romans 1:28

Here we see that when the Truth is suppressed God also lifts the restrains from the mind.

Notice Romans 1:29-32

The bottom line is that when people get to this point they lose all sense of logical thinking. This was also the case at the Tower of Babel.

This is why we see kids killing kids today. It is proof we are under the judgment of God. Things were no different at the Tower of Babel.

The question was how did they get from the flood to the Tower of Babel so quickly? They suppressed the Truth.

Now let's go back to *Genesis 11*.

Maybe you are suppressing the Truth of God in your life. You are not saved and you continue to reject the Gospel. Let me remind you that you are headed in the same direction.

But let's consider why you suppress the Truth. You believe you can find something better than what God offers.

You are just like the people at the Tower of Babel.

You desire the same things. You say, "What is it that they desired?"

Notice Genesis 11:4

- A. **A city** - We will let this represent earthly possession.
- B. **A name** - This represents your desire for others to see you as successful.
- C. **A tower** - This was the center of worship for them and therefore we could see this as their desire for contentment. You also are going in the direction you are going because you desire contentment.

Let me just say that apart from God you will not find contentment. You may get it briefly but it will not last.

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But what I really want you to see is that

2. **God gives to His children the very same things which these people were seeking for.**

Let me show you.

- A. **Believers will get a new city.**

Revelation 21:1-3

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

² *And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.*

³ *And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*

In that city we will inherit all things.

Romans 8:16-17

¹⁶ *The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:*

¹⁷ *And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.*

1 Peter 1:3-4

³ *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,*

⁴ *To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,*

- B. **Believers get a new name.**

Revelation 3:12

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¹² *Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: **and I will write upon him my new name.***

C. Believers will possess everlasting contentment.

The absence of contentment is the result of our flesh always wanting something more. But when we get to heaven we will not have the flesh to deal with.

1 Corinthians 15:51-53

⁵¹ *Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,*

⁵² *In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.*

⁵³ *For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.*

Conclusion:

Why would you reject God when He offers a new name, a city, and perfect contentment?