

GENESIS IN THE BEGINNING...

5/19/24
Text:
Genesis 11:1-9

“Babel's Blueprint for Humanism”

I. Introduction.

A. Definitions.

1. Nimrod: "rebel; let us revolt."
2. Babel: "confusion."
3. Humanism: "The belief that humanity is the highest of all beings, and truth and knowledge rest in science and human reason." David Noebel

B. Context.

Genesis 9:1 - *So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth."*

Genesis 11:1-3 - *Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. ²And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. ³Then they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar.*

II. Humanism in Babel (Genesis 11:4).

- A. Self-glorification: *And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city..."*
- B. Self-salvation: *... a tower whose top is in the heavens...*
- C. Self-definition: *... let us make a name for ourselves...*
- D. Self-delusion: *... lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."*

III. God responds to the rebellion of Babel (Genesis 11:5-9).

- A. God comes down to evaluate (Genesis 11:5-6)
- B. God comes down to confuse and scatter the people (Genesis 11:7-9)

IV. Application.

- A. Reject humanistic tendencies in our lives.
- B. Recognize the power and glory of God.
- C. Recognize the authority of God to save.

Next Sunday's sermon: Genesis 11:10 - 12:3

If you were to share a key insight from today's sermon with a friend, what would you say in a sentence or two?

Discussion Questions: Where do we see humanism in our culture today? How was building the Tower of Babel an attempt at self-glorification? Why is God's grace so offensive to the humanist? Why do humanists desire the authority to be able to define themselves? What did God do to the rebellious builders of Babel? Why? In what ways can humanistic tendencies show themselves in our lives? How can we be consciously aware of God's presence, power, and glory in our lives on a regular basis?

Text your questions, comments, prayer requests:
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