

# BABEL: REBELLION AND JUDGMENT – GENESIS 11:1-9

## 1 THE ACTION OF MAN – 11:1-4

### REBELLION

<sup>1</sup>Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. <sup>2</sup>And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. <sup>3</sup>Then 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. <sup>4</sup>And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." (Ge.11:1-4)

AGENDA

- A CITY:** This is their social goal
- B TOWER:** This is their religious goal
- C NAME:** This is their psychological goal



ZIGGURAT IN MESOPOTAMIA

- It is about 100 years after the Flood and they have chosen not to “fill the earth” in rebellion of God’s command (Ge.9:1).
- In a world filled with sinful men, a one world unity is a curse.
- Their fear of “lest we be scattered abroad” is their admission of rejecting God's command.

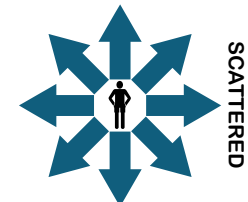
## 2 THE ACTION OF GOD – 11:5-8

### JUDGMENT / PROTECTION

<sup>5</sup>But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. <sup>6</sup>And the LORD said, "Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. <sup>7</sup>Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." <sup>8</sup>So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. (Ge.11:5-8)

PLAN

- A CONFUSED** their Language
- B SCATTERED** them Abroad



- It is God’s common grace that confused and scattered them.
- This is both an act of judgment as well as an act of protection. They were headed for self-destruction.

## 3 THE SUMMARY STATEMENT – 11:9

### RESULT

Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth. (Ge.11:9)

- Remember Moses is reading Genesis to the Jews long after these events, when they were getting ready to go into the land of Canaan.