

# WEEKLY WORSHIP GUIDE



Genesis 11:1-9; Acts 2:1-13--June 16th, 2024

---

## **Sermon Recap:**

### **Confusion**

#### **I. Babbling Babel**

Context: One people with one language have congregated in one area after the Flood.

##### **a. Distinct Disobedience**

- Building a city and tower is not a sin.
- The sin at Babel was:
  - Seeking to make a name for themselves. God's will is that we would seek to praise him, not be praised.
  - Building the city in order to avoid being dispersed. They were disobeying God's command to "be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth."
- They were seeking autonomy, independence from God. They were essentially forming a new religion where they were god.

##### **b. Purposeful Punishment**

- God responds by "coming down" to confuse their language and disperse them across the face of the earth.
- The curse was not the multitude of language, but in removing the ability to understand one another. Thus, removing the ability to oppose Him in unity.

What is happening here?

- Individually: people who are arrogantly choosing themselves over God, attempting to live and obtain power apart from God are cursed and doomed to fail.
- Nationally: God creates languages, nations, and cultures.
- Redemptively: God allows this sin in order to create languages and nations and spread his name and glory across the globe through his image bearers.

#### **II. Un-babbling Babel**

##### **a. Diverse Devotion**

- Context: The Apostles and other followers (of multiple languages and nations) are in Jerusalem awaiting in obedience for the fulfillment of Jesus' final promise.

##### **b. Grace with a Goal**

- A mighty, overwhelming wind (*pneuma*) fills the room as the Spirit (*pneuma*) comes down upon them.
- V.4- The followers begin speaking in tongues (multiple languages being able to understand one another).

Contrasting Picture: At Babel you had one people speaking one language and defiantly staying in one place. So God comes down and punishes them by confusing their language and sending them across the globe for his purpose. At Pentecost you have multiple people with multiple languages obediently coming to one place and God comes down and blesses them by bringing understanding and order in the gospel before sending them across the globe for his purpose.

**At Pentecost, God un-babbles Babel. Christ reverses the curse, bringing order to chaos and understanding to confusion.**

## **Discussion Questions:**

- What was the sin at Babel?
- What was the curse at Babel?
- What can we learn about God from the Tower of Babel account?
- What can we learn individually from the Tower of Babel account?
- What can we learn nationally from the Tower of Babel account?
- What can we learn redemptively from the Tower of Babel account?
- How does the gathering at Babel contrast the gathering in Jerusalem on Pentecost?
- What did God do at Pentecost?
- How is Pentecost a foreshadowing of heaven?

## **Application:**

- Do you ever find yourself seeking autonomy; living independently from God?
- What is the motivation behind that?
- As a believer, the Holy Spirit fills, seals, and equips us for a purpose. What is that purpose? How do you fulfill it?
- When presented with the gospel or reading Scripture, do you lean more into confusion or understanding? Why is that?
- Is your life marked more by chaos or order? Why is that?

