

Day 5

Genesis 11:7 (ESV)

“Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another’s speech.”

At first glance, and without much thought, we find this verse and those that tell the story of the Tower of Babel very confusing and maybe even a little awkward. Many things come to mind like: “Well, the world had a chance to live in one accord,” or “well that was just mean.” Maybe you have some other thoughts but remember that all of this happened after the flood. God was not at fault here. In fact, God is never at fault; His hand is often forced to move in the human heart to bring order and perspective back in line with His perfect and Holy will. While God has given mankind free will and tremendous ability to accomplish great and grand things, what He desires is for His creation to accomplish His great and glorious will. Sadly, the people living after the flood decided to take matters into their own hands, glorify their own lives, and attempt to become god-like. They wanted to be in charge, not dependent on or at the mercy of God.

God does not inhibit our creative ideas and skills. As a matter of fact, He endowed His children with amazing talents and abilities. He continues to encourage us to become all He created us to be. The problems arise when we use our skills and talents to glorify ourselves and not Him. God was forced to intervene at the Tower of Babel for many reasons. The people were creative and, most likely, had the beginning of a mighty structure in place. The problem was not building a tower; it was the reasoning that led them to set their minds on building the tower – to reach God. No tower has ever been needed to do that. He has always been as close as a whispered prayer. Surely, they knew the story of God walking with Adam and Eve in the garden and the grace and forgiveness they received. Yes, the flood terrified them, but the grace and mercy demonstrated to Noah and his descendants was theirs to celebrate. But arrogance ruled their hearts and minds, and in their sin, they decided that God needed to be conquered--not worshipped.

Focused Prayer:

This morning, examine your own life. Are there areas that you are refusing to surrender to the Father? Are there areas of your life that you are not trusting God to control? Maybe you are using your gifts and talents, but are you using them to glorify the Father? Be honest. Is there a tower that you need to stop building? Ask the Father to show you any area of your life that you have not totally surrendered to Him? Listen and write those areas down.

As you pray, confess and ask Him to make you wholly and fully dependent on Him. Are there any areas where the Spirit is guiding you to focus for today?

Today's Focus:

- In the story of the Tower of Babel, God went to great lengths to stop the people from making a huge mistake. Can you identify any ways in your life that God is working to redirect you?
- What do you need to do to get back on God's path for your life?

P.M. Meditation:

As you look back over your day, did you see any blocks crumble from the towers you realized you were building? That is a great victory. Maybe the walls did not completely fall, but did God make you aware of the problem areas? That in itself is a victory. You and the Father are on the same page. He is speaking, and you are listening. Has He suggested anything you need to do as you start your day tomorrow?

Tonight praise Him for His tender mercies. Thank Him for caring so deeply about your relationship with Him. Whisper a prayer and ask Him to keep you humble and dependent on Him. It is a prayer He will answer, and you will be thrilled with the results.