

NOTES ON GENESIS 11:1-9

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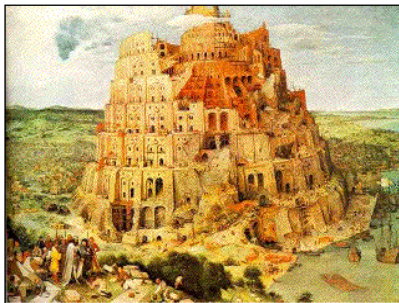
1. Although the account of the Tower of Babel event (Gen11:1-9) is structured as a chiasm, that does not mean this passage should be categorized as *poetic* in genre. Verses 1-6 all begin with a "waw consecutive" (i.e., the Hebrew letter/conjunction ׀ prefixed to the main verb), which is the syntax for sequential, historical narrative in Hebrew grammar.
2. Genesis 10-11 is in the classic Hebrew form for a grand historical presentation. Namely, the all-encompassing overview is presented first (Gen10), which is the division of all of humanity descended from Noah's three sons into 70 nations that speak different languages (Gen10:5,20,31), followed by an elaboration of the most important detail contained within the grand overview: the Tower of Babel event that was the cause of the division of humanity into nations (Gen11:1-9). This Hebrew form, characteristic of historical narrative, is used in the Creation account (Gen1-2) and many other places in the O.T.
3. The distinction between "Babel" and "Babylon" exists only in English translations. In the Hebrew text, "Babel" in Genesis 10-11 = **Babylon** everywhere else in the O.T. The founder of Babylon was Nimrod (Gen10:8-10; Cp., Mic5:6), the "ultimate rebel" of the new world after the Flood.
4. In the Bible, nations are defined as peoples who share a common land, language, and ethnicity (cf. Gen10:5,20,31).
5. The record of the Tower of Babel is a foundational historical event necessary for correctly understanding **human civilization**. All of humanity (without exception) is descended from Noah and his three sons, who all experienced the Flood, and who brought with them personal knowledge of the pre-flood world. After the dispersion and confusion of languages at Babel, not all nations had access to the continuing revelation of God (i.e., Hebrew prophets and the Scripture they recorded), but all had societal remembrances of the events of Genesis 1-11. This is the explanation for why all societies and pagan people groups (without exception) have legends about how the world was created, how evil was introduced into the world, how "gods" descended upon the earth and inter-bred with humanity to produce the heroes of antiquity, and a catastrophic world-wide flood. Unbelieving sociologists presume that the Hebrews merely had their own version of these "legends", but are unable to explain why all cultures have such remarkably similar traditions. Genesis 1-11 is the divinely revealed explanation for this phenomenon, and the Tower of Babel event is an indispensable component of it; it explains the origin/existence of all the other traditions.
6. All pagan religions trace their origin back to Babel (and are often referred to as Babylonian mystery religions). The Tower of Babel was not merely a building project. The Tower was a temple built to centralize the idolatrous worship of the "heavens" (Gen11:4). When the people of Babel were dispersed into all the world, they took with them not only their knowledge of the pre-flood world, to be preserved

(albeit in a variety of corrupted forms) in their myths and legends, but they also took with them the pagan religious system instituted at Babel. This explains why all pagan religions have in common essentially the same pantheon of "gods", and these "gods" are always associated with astronomical objects (i.e., the sun, moon, planets, and stars). It also explains why virtually all ancient societies built "towers" (i.e., ziggurats, pyramids, mounds, etc.) as part of their religious practice; even if they did not build a tower per se, their religious ceremonies were performed at "high places". The basic idea seems to be that worship of the heavenly host should be practiced in close proximity to the heavens. In contrast, Israel was forbidden to worship "the host of heaven" (Deut4:19) or even worship Jehovah on "high places" (cf. Lev26:30; Num33:22; Ps78:58).

Furthermore, the religion at Babel included the worship of Nimrod's wife **Semiramis** (referred to as the Queen of Heaven; cf. Jer7:18; 44:17-19,25; Rev18:7) and their male child **Tammuz** (cf. Ezek8:14). For this reason, all pagan religions have a mother-child cult associated with them (e.g., Isis-Osiris in the Egyptian pantheon, Aphrodite-Eros in the Greek pantheon, Venus-Cupid in the Roman pantheon, and Mary-Jesus in Roman Catholicism¹).

- World-wide cooperation/global governance always has a spiritual dimension (Gen11:4). Because of the fallen nature of humanity, it maximizes the potential for evil (Gen11:6), not good. It is condemned by God. The modern spirit of the age, which increasingly trends toward global cooperation/governance as something to be desired, is anti-biblical; it will set the stage for the Antichrist to exercise control over the whole world (cf. Rev13:16-17).

Given the symbols and icons it has chosen to use for itself, there can be little doubt that the European Union is attempting to roll back the Tower of Babel and its effects.



"Tower of Babel"
by Pieter Brueghel (1563)



EU Parliament Construction Poster (1992)



EU Parliament Building
in Strasbourg (today)

¹ Roman Catholicism is not a form of Biblical Christianity; it is not Christianity at all, but rank paganism. Roman Catholicism emerged following Emperor Constantine's Edict of Milan (also known as the Edict of Toleration) in 313 AD. Far from representing a conversion of the Roman Empire to Christianity, as is portrayed by secular historians, it was nothing more than a re-branding of Roman (i.e., Babylonian) paganism with Biblical terminology.