



FAITHFUL LIGHT CHURCH

Pastors: Dennis & Diane Gordon

Lesson #8 The Tower of Confusion (Babel)

Genesis 9:15-11:9



GOD'S PURPOSE FOR ME

EXALTING OURSELVES BUILDS A CONFUSING MESS
ONLY BUILDING FOR JESUS BRINGS TRUE HAPPINESS

GROUP SCRIPTURE READING:

2 Corinthians 10:5 *“Casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.”*

INTRODUCTION: Last week we left Noah and his family as they came out of the ark where God had kept them safe. Everyone else died in the flood because they did not believe God. The first thing Noah did when he came off the ark was to worship God, offering a lamb, shedding his blood for sins as substitute for the Messiah, our Lord Jesus, who would shed His own blood on the cross once for all. God gave the beautiful rainbow as a sign of His promise, and blessed Noah's family, giving them instructions: to **fill the earth with people**, that they were now given **clean animals to eat for food**, they were to **rule over the animals** and be accountable for each one, God commanded them **not to kill people** because life is precious, and God **promised to never again destroy the earth by a flood**.

ORDER OF SERVICE:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Light Candles & Pray | 4. Dismiss Kids to Noah's Ark with 'Animals Go Marching Song' | |
| 2. Children's Songs/Story | 5. Adult Fellowship Break | 7. Bible Lesson & Group Prayer |
| 3. Intro Gospel Craft/Coloring | 6. Worship Song Set | 8. Blessing Songs & Benediction |

OBJECTS TO BRING: Flashlight & Crystal Prism, 6-7 Cardboard Boxes nested inside a big box.

2. LIFE PARABLE: A LIFE OF OBEDIENCE

There is a lot of confusion in our world today, but why is that? Many people today no longer believe in absolutes so they have no anchor. The descendants of Noah became proud like people today, loving themselves more than they love God, and all their boasting only got them into a big confusing mess! Confusion is caused from lack of commitment to God and His truth, but in all generations man has lived, there have been men like Noah, who faithfully trust God and follow His way even in danger. A little girl named Corrie who lived more than 100 years ago, saved hundreds of lives because she lived her life to please God, and obeyed Him no matter what the cost.

Corrie ten Boom (on far right) born in Harlem, Holland 1892, was the daughter of a devout Christian clock maker, Casper tenBoom. The tenBoom family was loved by everyone in their community.



Even Jewish neighbors came to Casper's daily Bible studies. When the Nazi occupation began, Jewish people were taken to prison camps; those who remained went into hiding. At the risk of their own lives, Corrie's family hid them in a secret hiding place they built in the wall of an upper bedroom. One day in 1944 the tenBoom's were betrayed by a friend and taken to prison where cruel guards forced them to work while beaten and starved. Corrie's father and sister Betsy died in the prison camp, but Corrie held firm to her faith in the Lord Jesus, always believing in His love for them, teaching others, "There is no pit so deep that Jesus' love is not deeper still."



After the war, when Corrie went back to Germany and Holland, she stood in line with a suitcase full of Bibles. If the Bibles were found, she would face prison or death! When Corrie was commanded to declare what was in her suitcase she would not lie and disobey God, so she looked up at the armed guard and boldly declared, "**Bibles!**" The guard looked at her in disbelief, and waved her on through! Corrie tenBoom was never confused by what was right or wrong, because she made a commitment to always be true to God no matter what the cost, and God protected Corrie.

3. WHEN TEMPTED BY EVOLUTIONISTS TWISTED THINKING, LOOK AT REAL SCIENCE, THAT SHOWS LAYERS OF EARTH CALLED STRATA WERE FORMED RAPIDLY AS THE WATERS OF THE FLOOD RECEDED.

30 Years Later, Lessons from Mount St. Helens by Brian Thomas, M.S.



“On May 18, 1980, a tremendous landslide on the northern side of Mount St. Helens in Washington State



uncapped a violent volcanic eruption, completely altering the surrounding landscape. The Institute for Creation Research has studied the volcano over the past three decades, conducting research that has provided a suite of informative lessons with broad-ranging implications.¹ For example, the rapid outflow from the volcano caused massive amounts of sediment to fill in the entire valley adjacent to the mountain. A 1982 dam breach of the snow-melt lake that had formed in the mountain's crater caused a catastrophic flood that tore a gash through those fresh deposits from two years earlier. To this day, the resulting steep-sided canyon walls can be seen,² showing that horizontal sediment layers hundreds of feet thick were formed within hours during the eruption....what other layered sedimentary rocks in earth's crust were formed rapidly? The mountain also provides clear reason to distrust the reliability of radiometric dating. A new rock cap atop the mountain that formed after the 1980 eruption should have shown it to be on the order of tens of years. Standard analysis gave the totally incorrect date of 350,000 years.³ What other rocks have been dated incorrectly by following standard dating protocols? Experts at the time of the 1980 eruption predicted that the area would take hundreds of years to rebound. Yet after only 20 years, biologists noted the speedy recovery of plants and animals on what had been a vast moonscape.⁴....Because of the Mount St. Helens eruption, scientists know that sedimentary rock layers can form in only hours, rather than requiring millions of years...” References:

1. Austin, SA 2010 [Supervolcanoes & Mount St. Helens Eruption](#). *A&F* 39 (5): 4-5.
2. Austin, S. A. 2009. [Christian Geologists Influential at GSA Meeting](#). *Acts & Facts*. 38 (12): 8-9.
3. Austin, S. A. 1996. [Lava Dome at Mount St. Helens](#). *Creation Ex Nihilo Tech Journal*. 10 (3): 335-343.
- Swenson, K, D. Catchpoole. 2000. [After devastation...the recovery](#). *Creation ex nihilo*. 22 (2): 33-37.

4. IN HIS RAINBOW, GOD SHOWS THE BEAUTY OF HIS HOLINESS AND HIS PROMISES FOR ME.

After the flood, there were only 8 people alive in the whole world: Noah, his wife, their sons Shem, Ham, Japeth and their wives, only 8 people, the animals, and that's all! What would it be like to be part of the only family left in the whole world?

***Genesis 9:15-17** “And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶ And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the **everlasting covenant between God and every living creature** of all flesh that is upon the earth. ¹⁷ And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth.”*

The everlasting covenant that God made with every living creature upon the earth is that He will not destroy His creation by another flood, but He will keep all who enter into covenant with Him safe until His coming, so they will be saved for His glory!

OBJECT LESSON: Flashlight & Crystal Prism or Clear Glass of Water

- *(Shine a flashlight through a crystal onto a plain wall) “When light shines through water droplets of rain, like this crystal, it is split into the beautiful colors of the rainbow!”*
- *When all the colors are mixed together we have a pure white light, like Jesus, the light of the world; Jesus is the rainbow of the new covenant!*
- *When God sees the sin in our lives that deserve His judgment, instead He sees Jesus and remembers His promise!*



God first made a promise called a covenant with Abraham, then with Noah, and with us!

***Galatians 3:29** “And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.”*

***2 Corinthians 1:20** “For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.”*

5. GOD WANTS US TO HONOR EACH OTHER'S PRIVACY.

Genesis 9:18-22 “And the sons of Noah, that went forth of the ark, were Shem, and Ham, and Japheth: and Ham is the father of Canaan.¹⁹ These are the three sons of Noah: and of them was the whole earth overspread.²⁰ And Noah began to be an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard:²¹ And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent.²² And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without.”



After Noah came out of the ark, among the crops he would have planted for the feeding of his family, was a vineyard, and wine was made from the grapes. The wine that Noah drank is from the Hebrew word, ‘*yayin*’, meaning that the wine was fermented, but there is no indication that Noah was aware of the intoxicating effect of the wine, nor any other hint at any weakness in Noah’s character. Noah was certainly not roaring drunk because he was a righteous Godly man. Most likely Noah was simply exhausted after a long hard day of work, undressed for bed, had “well drunk” of the wine and fallen asleep. Noah had not knowingly exposed himself, but was in the privacy of his tent, when his son Ham showed bad character to look in at Noah. Jesus wants us to be modest and honor each other.

Leviticus 18:6 “None of you shall approach to any that is near of kin to him, to uncover their nakedness: I am the LORD.”

It was Ham who sinned by looking in to view his father’s nakedness, stopping to stare and laugh! Ham’s sin was making the innocent act of his exhausted father sleeping on his own bed uncovered, into a shameful show, laughing and mocking him before his brothers.

6. GOD WANTS US TO COVER THE SINS OF OTHERS.

***Genesis 9:23** “And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were backward, and they saw not their father's nakedness.”*

Ham's brothers gave their Godly father the respect he deserved by backing in with a blanket to cover him. It was not Noah who had sinned, but Ham who sinned by intruding while his father was lying asleep undressed. Ham further



added insult by bringing others to laugh and shame his father. Running swiftly to mischief, are one of the things that God says He hates. **Don't be in such a hurry to tell on someone's mistake or laugh at them, have mercy and cover them!**

***Proverbs 6:16-19** “These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, an heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, a false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.”*

When we see someone in an embarrassing situation or having a weak moment we should not show poor character to think the worst of them, but we should quickly show compassion to lovingly and honorably cover them silently, so that no one will see. God teaches us to cover one another as though we didn't notice, and not talk about it.

***Proverbs 10:12** “Hatred stirreth up strifes: but **love covereth all sins.**”*

***Proverbs 12:16** “A fool's wrath is presently known: but **a prudent man covereth shame.**”*

7. WINE OF BIBLE TIMES WAS NOT LIKE WINE TODAY.

What kind of wine did Noah drink? Was it like the wines being produced today? Many presume that alcoholic wine is made and drunk in European countries as a beverage during meals the same today as it was in Bible times, however that is probably not true.

The ANCIENT ROMAN STATESMAN, CATO, said, “If you wish to have must [grape juice] all year, put grape juice in an amphora and seal the cork with pitch; sink it in a fishpond. After thirty days take it out. It will be grape juice for a whole year” (De Agri Cultura CXX).

All the wine [of Bible times] was light wine, i.e., not fortified with extra alcohol... the twenty per cent fortified wines were unknown in Bible times. ... To avoid the sin of drunkenness, mingling of wine with water was practiced. This dilution was specified by the Rabbis in NT times for the wine customary at Passover. Harris, R. Laird. 1980 p.376. Theological Wordbook of Old Testament. Vol. 1. Chicago, IL: Moody.

This verse in Timothy has long been a source of controversy, and as the alcoholic’s ‘golden text’, is abused:

1 Timothy 5:23 “Be no longer a drinker of water, but use a little wine for your stomach’s sake and your frequent infirmities.”

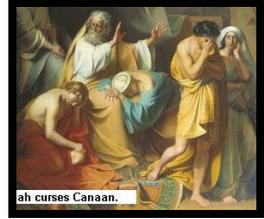


(1) Timothy was afflicted with a stomach ailment...The apostle obviously suspects bad “water” as the source of the young man’s problem. Since the days of Hippocrates it was recognized that contaminated water could produce illnesses. Moreover, Ephesus was an ancient and decaying city. Its harbor was silting up which, in turn, created sewage problems that poisoned some of the underground water supplies. Such might well have been the cause of Timothy’s medical ailment (Williams, David (1999), Paul’s Metaphors - Their Context and Character (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson p. 101).

(3) The use of wine was a widely recognized remedy for some illnesses among both Jews and Greeks, as reflected in the Hebrew Talmud, the writings of Hippocrates, Plutarch, and Pliny (Fee, p. 135). “Wine was often helpful in settling stomachs and preventing dysentery (wine disinfected water)” (Keener, p. 619). (Keener, Craig (1993),

8. WE CAN CHOOSE A LIFE OF BLESSING, OR CURSING.

Genesis 9:24-27 “And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him. ²⁵ And he said, Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren. ²⁶ And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant. ²⁷ God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.”



When Ham laughed at his father, and when Shem and Japheth quietly covered him, **they were showing what was in their hearts.** When Noah woke up he knew that his youngest son, the father of Canaan, had dishonored him and announced a curse upon Canaan who was very likely had the same character as his father Ham. But **Noah blessed Shem and Japheth because they had honored their father.** Noah’s words **seem to be less like a curse and more of a prophetic statement upon future generations based on the behavior of their fathers who would pass down a bad character.**

Exodus 20:5-6 “Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; ⁶ And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.”

It is very well known in our prison systems that children raised in a hostile criminal environment will most likely follow the same route. **Children inherit the character they are taught whether for evil or for good until the 3rd and 4th generation.** There are always exceptions to the normal pattern, but **the same is true for Godly and educated people, their children generally follow the footsteps modeled for them.** The choices we make each day are urgently important because our choices not only affect those around us, but will impact future generations who will follow our example!

If you have broken away from wickedness in your generation to obey the commandments of God, then you will be the one to change the course to blessings for the generations who come after you!

9. NOAH LIVED HIS LAST 350 YEARS NEAR ARARAT.

Genesis 9:28-29 “*And Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years. ²⁹And **all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years: and he died.**”*

Noah's sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth had many sons, daughters, and grandchildren, and before Ham's great grandson Nimrod built the tower of Babel, many people filled the land where they lived.

Genesis 10:1-32 “*Now these are the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth: and unto them were sons born after the flood... ⁶And the sons of Ham; Cush....⁸ And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. ⁹He was a mighty hunter before the LORD.... ¹⁰**And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel....** in the land of Shinar. ¹¹Out of that land went forth Asshur, **and builded Nineveh....** And the border of the Canaanites was from Sidon, as thou comest to Gerar, unto Gaza; **as thou goest, unto Sodom, and Gomorrah....**²¹ Unto Shem also, the father of all the children of Eber, the brother of Japheth the elder, even to him were children born...³² **These are the families of the sons of Noah, after their generations, in their nations: and by these were the nations divided in the earth after the flood.**”*

There is evidence that to this day, some of Noah's descendants are still living in a valley about 70-90 miles in length along the Araxes (Aras) River, high in the mountains a few miles north of Mt. Ararat, near where the Ark is believed to have come to rest.



Perhaps this was Noah's home where he lived out the next 350 years of his life. There is a vast complex of extremely ancient stone fences radiating outward from this ancient stone house. South of this home is a **village in the eastern part of the valley called Cemanum** (Kazakh or

Kazan), which interpreted means “eight,” possibly named after the eight persons who came out of the ark, thought to have built the town there. The Ron Wyatt team discovered two tombstones which seem to indicate that they were marking the graves of Noah and his wife.

10. NOAH'S FAMILY GREW AND HAD ONE LANGUAGE.

North of this complex is a very ancient stone altar upon a ridge between two hills, where Noah likely continued sacrifices to God.

A large number of anchor stones (from the ark?) can still be seen today, some with eight crosses carved on them, possibly



representing the eight people that left the ark. **Ron Wyatt stands next to the most impressive anchor stone in the village of eight.**

Byzantine and Crusader style crosses have been carved on these giant anchor stones, as the early Christians in this area recognized them as objects from a biblical story and associated them with the ark and the eight survivors of the Flood. Some of the stones have exactly eight crosses on them.



At left is the underwater view of an ark-like boat carrying the large anchor stones. Courtesy Mark Johnson All of Noah's descendents spoke one language and would have established communities around the where the Ark had landed. The Tower of Babel can be seen etched on the lower edge of the stone below.

Genesis 11:1-4 *“And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. ² 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. ³ And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar. ⁴ And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.”*



How like Babel people are today, supposing that the bigger their churches are and the bigger their name, the more important they are.

11. THE HUMAN RACE AGAIN FELL INTO SIN



Noah's sons were so proud that they had become a great nation! They decided they would build a tower reaching all the way into heaven so they would be famous, exalting themselves as high as even God, so they would not be scattered. Can we ever make ourselves as high as God?

ACTIVITY: Come help me see how high we can build a tower! Can we make it reach up to Heaven?
(Build a tower from 6-7 different sizes of cardboard boxes.)

What we built is going to last just about as long as Nimrod's tower in Babel! God had told them to scatter over the earth, but they disobeyed God on purpose! Did you ever disobey God on purpose? How about stretching the truth to justify our own way and call it God's way? That is how Lucifer tricked Adam! We need to stop justifying our pride and get back on that straight path with God.



Noah's sons and their families journeyed from the east, to build a big city between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers and built a grand tower befitting the great people they had become. The fullness of our God in His pre-incarnate form as Spirit not yet begotten in flesh, went down to see the tower, and He fixed the problem of them becoming one great people - He confused their language!

*Genesis 11:5-7 "And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. ⁶And the LORD said, **Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained** from them, which they have imagined to do. ⁷Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.*

When we choose our own way we step out of God's order and bring confusion to our lives. So if your life is feeling out of order, where should you start to fix it? God's way is never complicated or confusing, go back to walking with God, and order will come!

12. GOD CONFUSED THE LANGUAGE TO FORCE THE PEOPLE TO SCATTER AS HE HAD COMMANDED THEM.

Genesis 11:8-9 “ So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city. ⁹ Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.”



Psalms 37:23 " The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way."

With the known patterns of genetics, people were likely already showing distinct traits such as some families with darker skin or lighter skin and tendency toward blue or green eyes, or brown eyes. Then all of a sudden building crews could no longer understand what the other was saying, because everyone was speaking a different language! What if when you opened your mouth to say, “Please bring the hammer,” you heard yourself say, “Booba wumba,” instead? It would have been noisy, confusing and frustrating as each one tried to make the other understand! After that day, the city was called “Babel”, a word that means confusion, and the families of the earth separated and spread through all the earth. **What had those people done to get themselves into such a mess? Disobedience.** Like Noah, the people then, the same as the people of today, had a choice: they could listen to each other's grandiose ideas and be fools, or they could be wise choosing to believe and obey God!

Romans 1:21-22 "Although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. **Professing to be wise, they became fools.**"

Psalms 14:1 “**The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God...**”

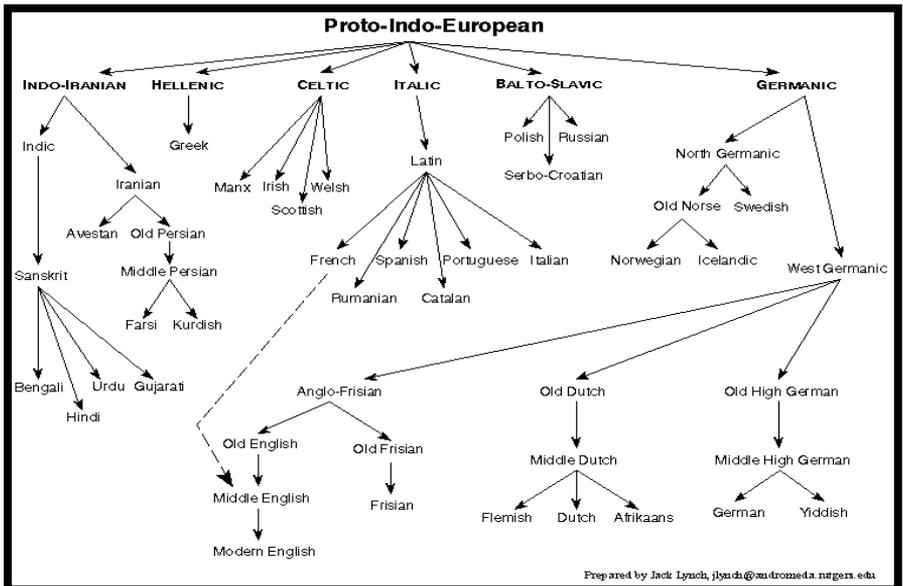
13. ORIGIN OF LANGUAGES IS ROOTED IN TURKEY.

Evolutionary ideas give farmers credit for Indo-European tongues.

by John Whitfield/ Gray, R. D./Atkinson, Q. D *Nature*, 426, 435 - 439, doi:10.1038/nature02029

A family tree of Indo-European languages suggests they began to spread and split about 9,000 years ago....Russell Gray and Quentin Atkinson, of the University of Auckland in New Zealand use the rate at which words change to gauge the age of the tree's roots - just as biologists estimate a species' age from the rate of gene mutations. The differences between words, or DNA sequences, are a measure of how closely languages, or species, are related. Gray and Atkinson analysed 87 languages from Irish to Afghan. Rather than compare entire dictionaries, they used a list of 200 words that are found in all cultures, such as 'hunt' and 'sky'. Words are better understood than grammar as a guide to language history; the same sentence structure can arise independently in different tongues.

The resulting tree matches many existing ideas about language development. Spanish and Portuguese come out as sisters, for example - both are cousins to German, and Hindi is a more distant relation to all three. All other Indo-European languages split off from Hittite, the oldest recorded member of the group, between 8,000 and 10,000 years ago....The conclusion will be controversial, as there is no consensus on where Indo-European languages came from. Some linguists believe that Kurgan horsemen carried them out of central Asia 6,000 years ago.



15. GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOU AND ME

1. Jesus promises the full beauty of Himself in me and He always keeps His promises!
2. Jesus wants us to be kind and cover the mistakes of others.
3. Jesus brings order to my life when I listen to His voice and obey.
4. Jesus made every person from one blood and wants us to love everyone as He does.



Today we are faced with even ‘Christian’ evolutionists telling us we are foolish for believing every word of God exactly as it is written. We must never be discouraged but stand on the Holy Bible, and also study those scientific discoveries that prove God’s word is true!

2 Corinthians 10:5 “Casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.”

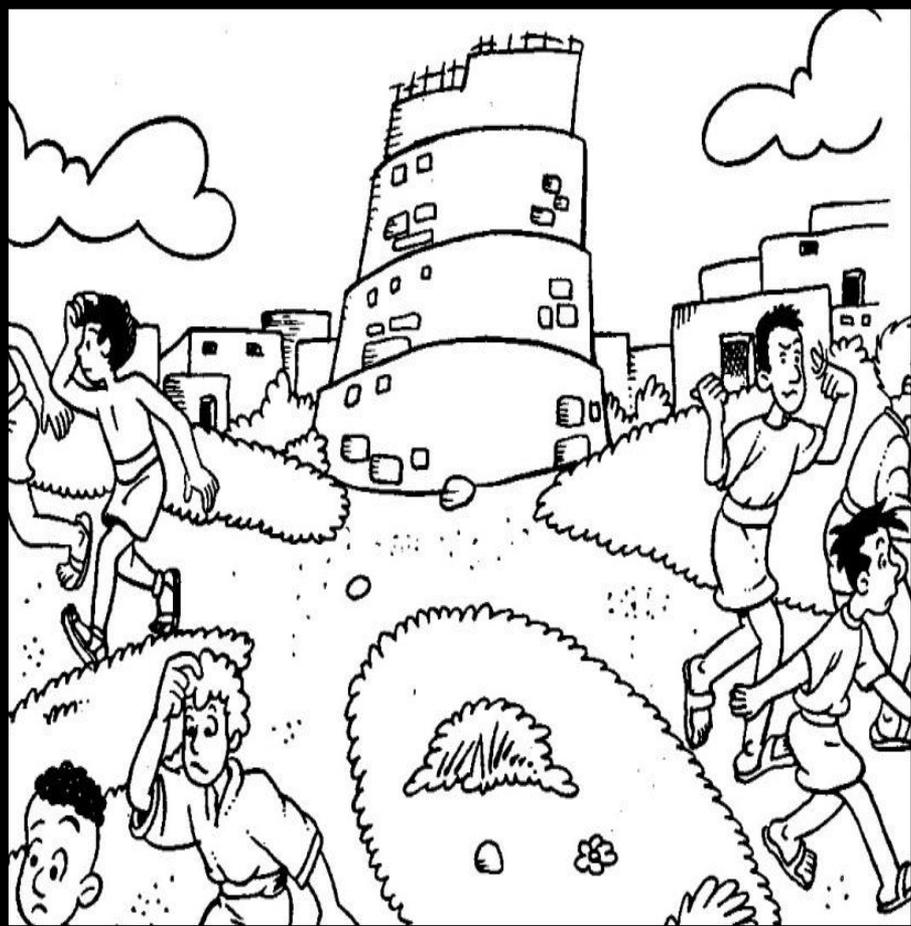
God gives us the same choice that He gave to Noah. When we believe God He works mightily on our behalf, but if we choose to believe the lies of Satan instead, He lets us go our own way and even gives us more of what we choose until we suffer the consequences.

2 Thessalonians 2:8-12 “And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: ⁹ Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, ¹⁰ And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹ And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: ¹² That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”

We have a choice to listen to others telling us the Bible is just a story and sin is no big deal, or we can be obedient like Noah and Corrie, and follow Jesus. **When the light of Jesus shines through your life, He brings out the beautiful life of promise that He created in You, and you will be ready at His coming when He calls!**

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR ME

EXALTING OURSELVES BUILDS A CONFUSING MESS
ONLY BUILDING FOR JESUS BRINGS TRUE HAPPINESS



According to the Bible and historian Josephus in his book, Antiquities, Noah's great grandson Nimrod, built the city of Babylon, and the Tower of Babel in **2234 BC**.

2 Corinthians 10:5 *"Casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."*