

Memory Verse

Genesis 11:4

Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth."

GRACELIFE



CHURCH

Thematic Overview of *Genesis 1-12* - Pt 18

Genesis 11 –
The Tower of Babel
and Lineage of Abram

God created all things in **6 days**, including **Adam and Eve**. They broke the **1 rule** He gave, bringing **sin and death** into the world. Society **crumbled** quickly and **God flooded the world** because of mankind's sin. God **started over** with Noah, his family and the animals on the Ark. After they got off the Ark, we saw **where their descendants settled**, but before that was the **Tower of Babel**.

Genesis 11:1-11, 26-32 - Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. 2And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. 3And they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly.” And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. 4Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city and a

tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth."
5And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. 6And the LORD said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they

propose to do will now be impossible for them. 7Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." 8So the LORD dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. 9Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth. And

from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth. 10These are the generations of Shem. When Shem was 100 years old, he fathered Arpachshad two years after the flood. 11And Shem lived after he fathered Arpachshad 500 years and had other sons and daughters...

26When Terah had lived 70 years, he fathered Abram, Nahor, and Haran. 27Now these are the generations of Terah. Terah fathered Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran fathered Lot. 28Haran died in the presence of his father Terah in the land of his kindred, in Ur of the Chaldeans. 29And Abram and Nahor took wives. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of

Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran the father of Milcah and Iscah. 30 Now Sarai was barren; she had no child. 31 Terah took Abram his son and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife, and they went forth together from Ur of the Chaldeans to go into the land of Canaan, but when they came to Haran, they settled there. 32 The days of

Terah were 205 years, and Terah died in Haran.

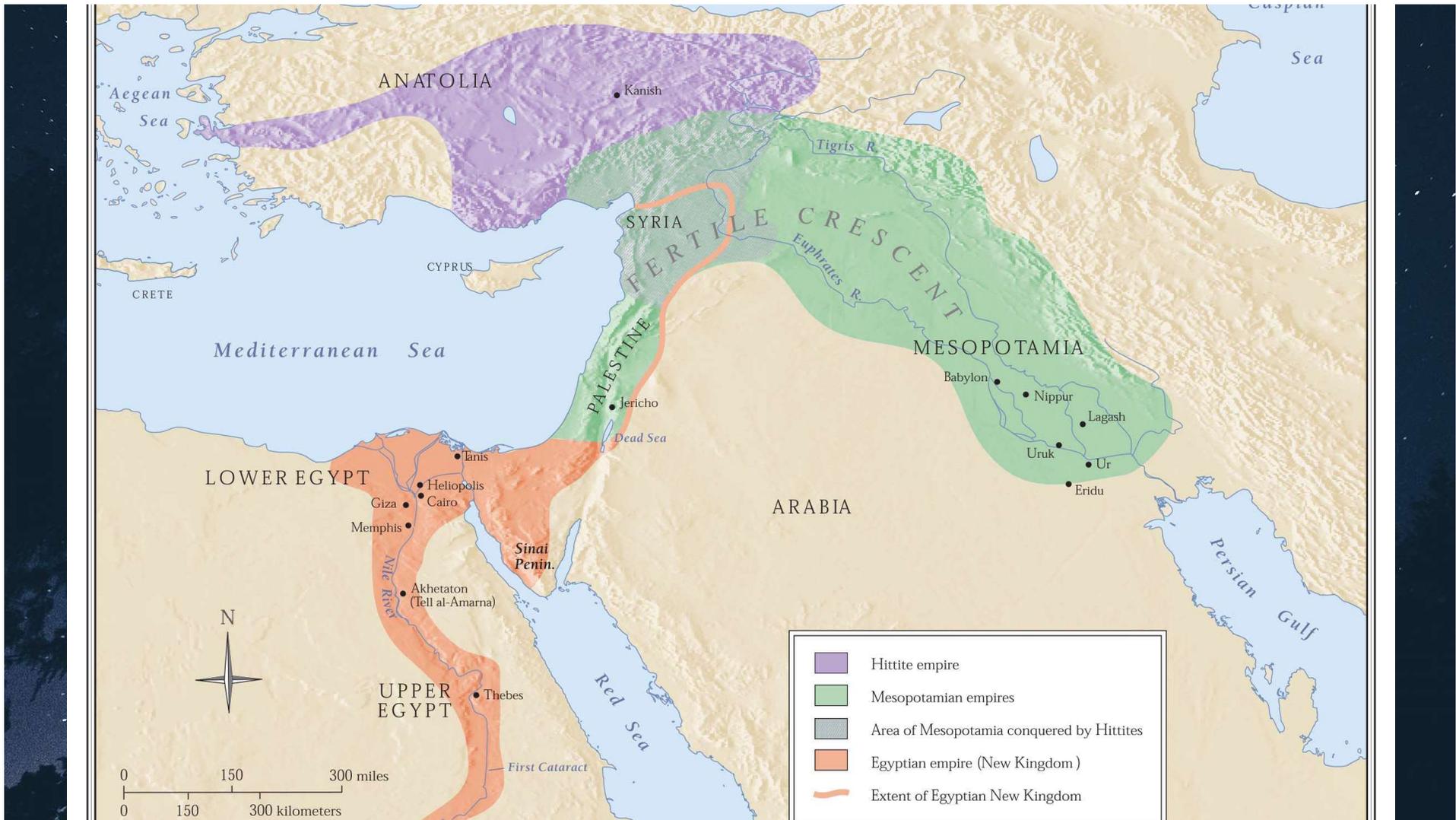


A. 11:1-9 – The Tower of Babel

1. 11:1-2 - Historical Context

First, the context and location. Remember, the Ark landed on the *mountains of Ararat*, in modern day Turkey. From there, people *migrated East and settled in Shinar.*

Where is that?



A. 11:1-9 – The Tower of Babel

1. 11:1-2 - Historical Context

Second, there was *1 language*. People ask - *What language was it?* We don't know...

This event possibly took place about **100 years after the flood**. It was here, with one language that we see...

A. 11:1-9 – The Tower of Babel

2. 11:3-4 - Man's Rebellion

We see the **rejection** of God's clear command to ***spread out and fill the earth***. Please note the **same phrase 3 times** - "*let us*" in these verses. They **elaborated** on this in *verse 4* and said **2 times** - "*for ourselves.*" - **not God.**

A. 11:1-9 – The Tower of Babel

2. 11:3-4 - Man's Rebellion

They said - let's *build a city and a tower that reaches the heavens* or with its *top in the heavens*. This, is rebellion against God in 2 ways. **One**, they did not spread out as God commanded. They were all **unified** in their **rebellion**, pursuing *what their own hearts wanted to do...*

A. 11:1-9 – The Tower of Babel

2. 11:3-4 - Man's Rebellion

Second, this "*tower*" was an ancient building called a *Ziggurat*.

Ziggurat in Ur of the Chaldees, built about 2100BC, during the time of Abraham.



A. 11:1-9 – The Tower of Babel

3. 11:5-6 - God's Observation

Note the phrases... man was *going to build a tower to reach heaven*. This is man **trying to become God**. Yet, the *text says, God came down*... He *knew what was going on*, and this is a **figure of speech**, because God is everywhere or is omni-present.

A. 11:1-9 – The Tower of Babel

3. 11:5-6 - God's Observation

The Lord said - *Behold... pay attention!* The people were **one** - in their **rebellion**; **one** - in their **language**, and **nothing** they decide to do *will be impossible*. It seems the only things that unified them were their **language**, and their **goal** (which was to build a tower and city for themselves)...

A. 11:1-9 – The Tower of Babel

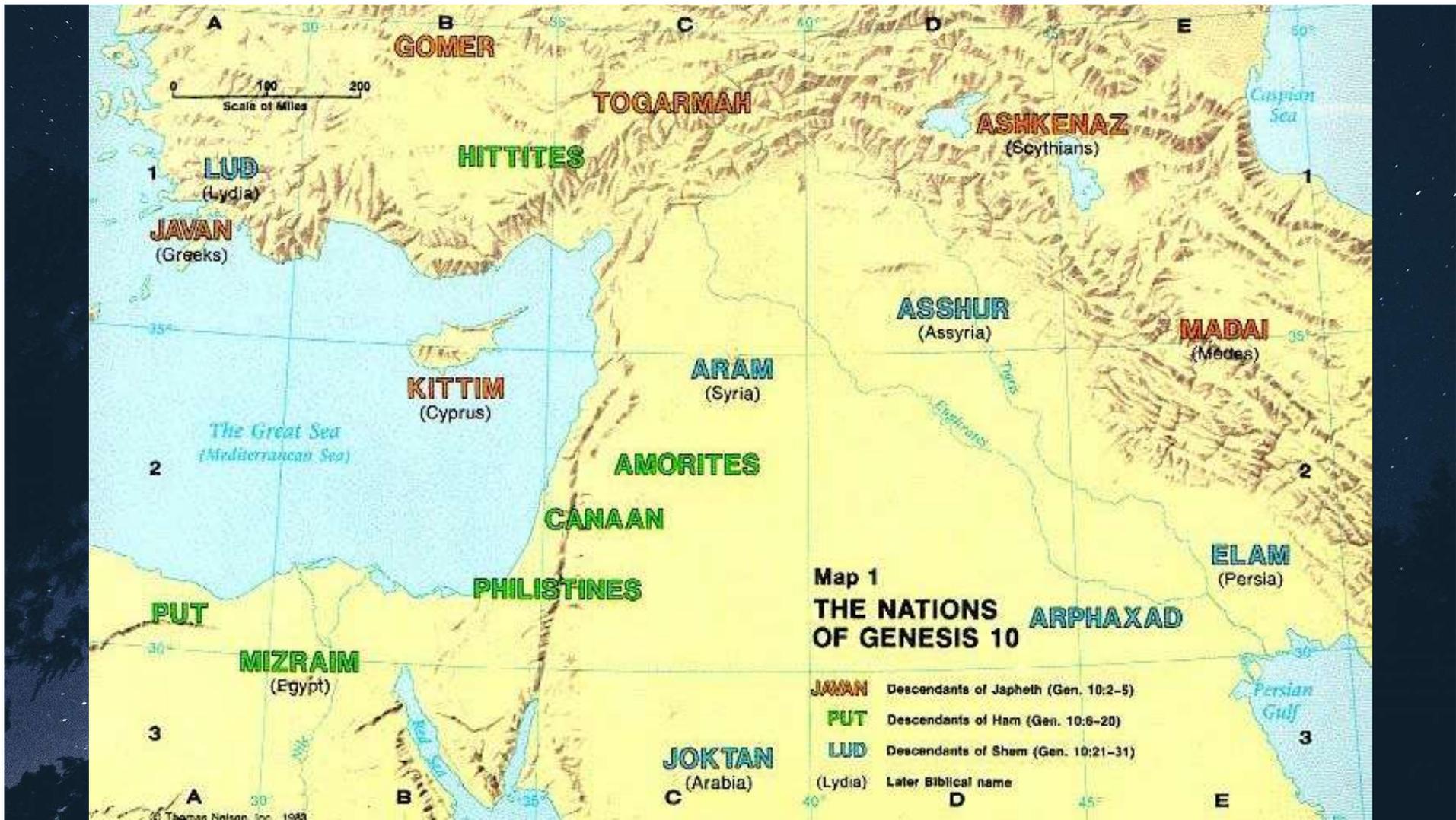
4. 11:7-9 - God's Judgment

God uses the same phrase the *people did* - "Come, let Us..." which is an indication of the Godhead, or *Trinity*. God *confused the language and created new languages*. As a reminder, *Genesis is a book of beginnings - creation, earth, stars, planets, animals, life, humans, sin, death, languages and more...*

A. 11:1-9 – The Tower of Babel

4. 11:7-9 - God's Judgment

God brings *His 3rd universal judgment* on humanity. The **first** was the **Garden** - against Adam and Eve - the *only 2 people* alive. The **second** was the **flood** - 8 people, the land-dwelling animals on the Ark and some sea-dwelling animals *survived*. The **third** is the **confusion of languages...**

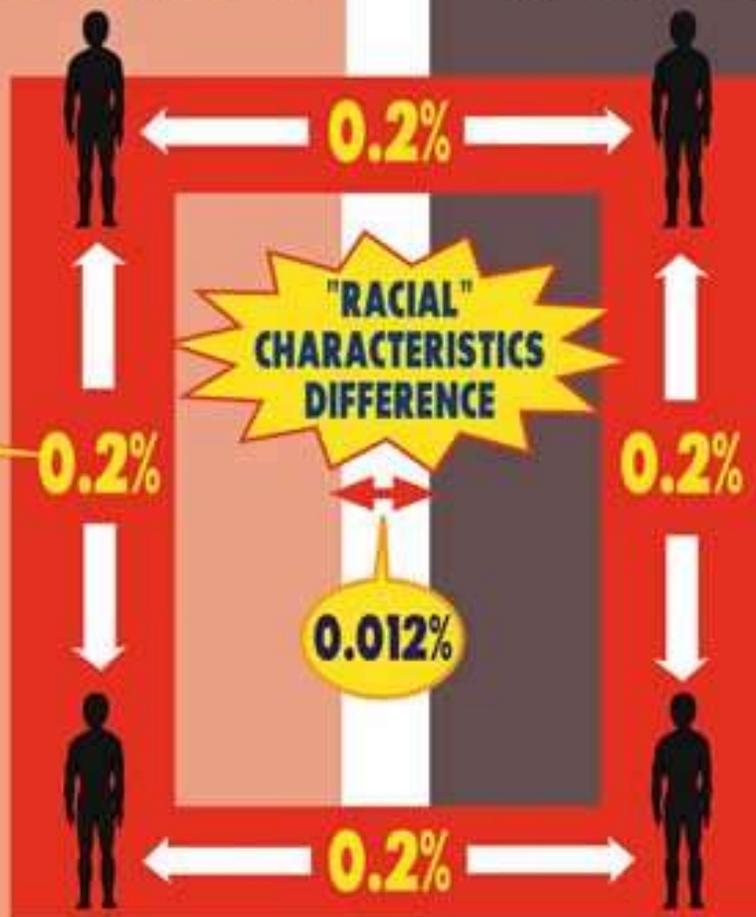


**NO BIG
DIFFERENCE!**

0.2%
DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN **ANY**
TWO PEOPLE

CAUCASOID

NEGROID



A. 11:1-9 – The Tower of Babel

4. 11:7-9 - God's Judgment

When God judged them, people moved to new areas, creating a **limited gene pool**. We don't know how many people there were in each area, but when you *limit the genetics*, *dominant traits arise.... Over time*, based on **location**, *external variations emerge*.

...the amount of melanin (dark pigment in the skin) can be altered by the amount of UV light exposure (the reason people “tan” in the summer). The DNA sequence that determines the proteins involved in melanin production does not change, but the *amount* of those proteins does change. An increase in the amount of protein can lead to an increase in the amount of melanin.

<https://answersingenesis.org/genetics/dna-similarities/the-differences-make-the-difference/>

A. 11:1-9 – The Tower of Babel

4. 11:7-9 - God's Judgment

In God's purpose, there was one event that *corrected* the judgment at Babel: ***Pentecost***. When the *Holy Spirit came upon the Jewish believers at Pentecost*, they spoke in ***languages*** they had never studied, thus opening up communication in a way that only God could do...

B. **11:10-32** – The Lineage of Abram

1. **11:10-25** - Distant Lineage

Moses *focuses on the line of Shem*, the father of the Semites, including the *Israelites through Abraham*. 2 things: **One**, is the *actual lineage*. Moses is detailed. He gives the ages of each individual whom he is *highlighting*, guided by the Holy Spirit. **Second**, we see a decline in the ages of *each person when they died...*

B. **11:10-32** – The Lineage of Abram

2. **11:26-32** - Immediate Lineage

We see Abrams immediate lineage or close relatives. We learn about *Lot, Abram's wife, his half-sister (Genesis 20:12), and Abram's father, Terah*. The family went from **Ur to Canaan**. We find out **why** in chapter 12, but this tells us *Abram and his family travelled to Haran, where Terah, Abram's father, died.*

B. *11:10-32* – The Lineage of Abram

2. *11:26-32* - Immediate Lineage

Why are there so many lineages in the Bible?

For us, it seems dull, boring and useless. **Not so for the Jews!** For the *Israelites*, and others, it gives a *sense of identity*, and in *some cases authority...*