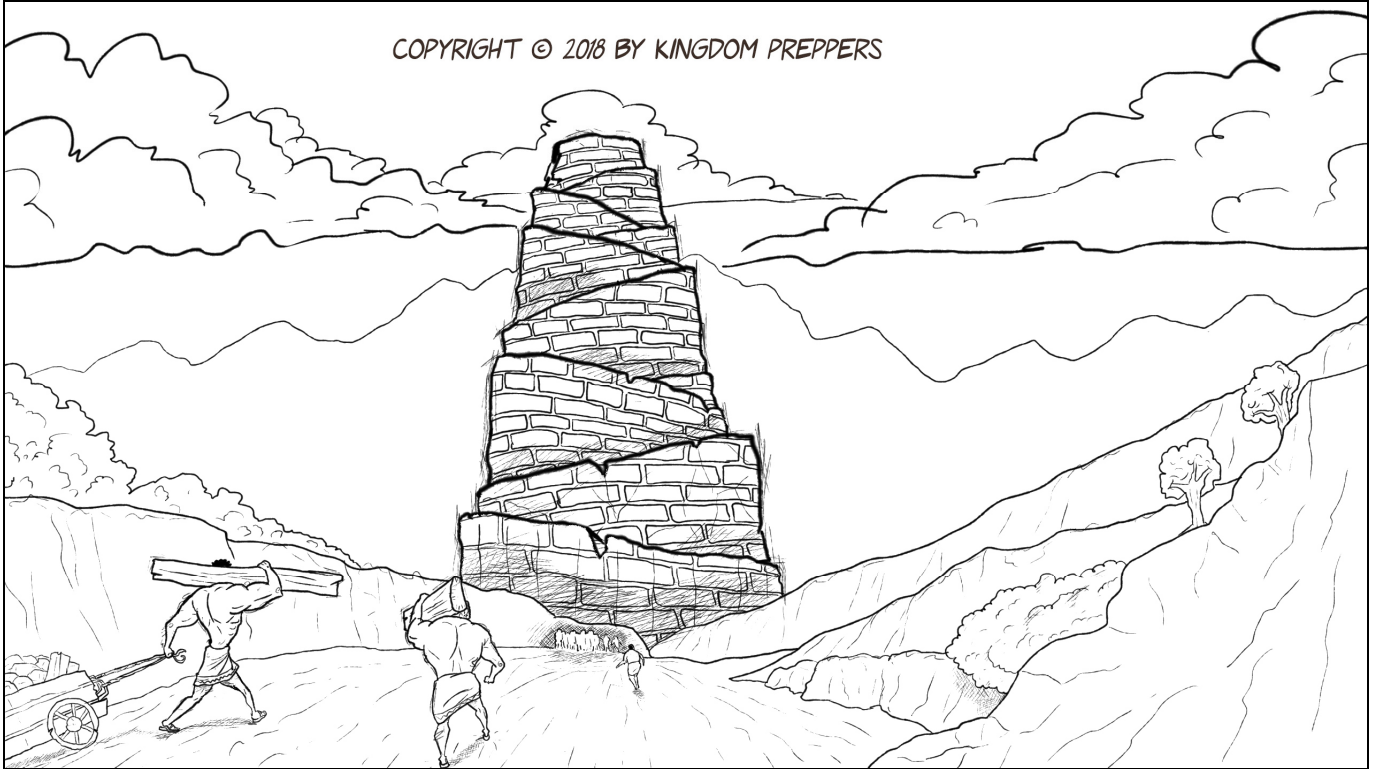


Study Sheetz

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Scripture Reading

The Tower of Babel

GENESIS 11

¹ At one time all the people of the world spoke the same language and used the same words. ² As the people migrated to the east, they found a plain in the land of Babylonia and settled there.

³ They began saying to each other, “Let’s make bricks and harden them with fire.” (In this region bricks were used instead of stone, and tar was used for mortar.) ⁴ Then they said, “Come, let’s build a great city for ourselves with a tower that reaches into the sky. This will make us famous and keep us from being scattered all over the world.”

⁵ But YAH came down to look at the city and the tower the people were building.

⁶ “Look!” he said. “The people are united, and they all speak the same language. After this, nothing they set out to do will be impossible for them! ⁷ Come, let’s go down and confuse the people with different languages. Then they won’t be able to understand each other.”

⁸ In that way, YAH scattered them all over the world, and they stopped building the city. ⁹ That is why the city was called Babel, because that is where YAH confused the people with different languages. In this way he scattered them all over the world.

Study Prayer

Yah, kindly grant us understanding and discernment as we study your Word. Fill us with your Spirit and guide us to truth and light so that we may know your will for us. And cause us to fulfill your will in this world. In Yahushua's most precious and wonderful name we pray, HalleluYah!

In the scripture reading, we see a series of key events that have great significance for our own time. Let's explore these events together. Review and discuss the questions below, then fill in the answers based on your understanding of the scripture reading:

1.

Notice that the people spoke one language when they migrated to the east. That single language allowed people of every nation to completely understand one another. Would this help to make them one in heart and mind or would one language cause people to be divided like they are today? Explain why you feel this way:

2.

We are told that bricks were used instead of stone in the east in those days, which would make life much easier when it comes to building huge structures. This would be considered advanced technology. Speaking one language causes technology to increase. How have we gotten past the roadblock of many languages spoken today? How has man been able to speak one language in a sense in order to advance technology in our day?

3.

Building a great city leads to fame. Many architects and city planners are well known and praised for their planning and design skills, and fame is what the builders of the tower of Babel hoped to gain as well, by building the first "great city." The city they built attracted many people from all over the world, just like cities today, but all of those people intended on rebelling against Yah. What else does that ancient city have in common with the cities of today?



Interesting Facts

Did you know that some cities are structured in a way that makes them so powerful they are actually city-states? A city-state is a city that is also an independent country. Many city-states existed in the ancient world. The Greeks had them, such as Athens and Sparta, among others. Then there was Ur in Sumer, Tyre and Sidon in Phoenicia, and Memphis and Thebes in Egypt. On the following line, name at least three other ancient city-states (*feel free to look them up*): _____.

City-states of today include Vatican City, Monaco, and Singapore. But the city that was built by the ancient people in today's scripture reading also became a famous ancient city-state. Which city was it? _____.

...

Below are several key words from today's scripture reading. Use a physical or online dictionary, encyclopedia, lexicon, or other resource to define these words.

KEY WORDS:
great city, famous, united, scattered

Word	Definition
<i>city:</i>	
<i>migrate:</i>	
<i>fame:</i>	
<i>unite:</i>	
<i>scatter:</i>	
<i>mortar:</i>	



Hands-on Activity

(Optional)

Things you will need:

- 7 different types of dry beans in a bag
- 7 small Ziploc bags

Instructions:

Open the bag of beans and give your child(ren) what they can hold in one hand. Then you may take a handful. Demonstrate carefully placing each bean on the floor with purpose. Then ask the child(ren) to do the same.

Discussion points:

After reading the definition of scattering, determine whether this activity was scattering? Give child(ren) a chance to explain and emphasize what scattering is.

Scatter the remaining beans on the floor. Then ask the child(ren) to do the same.

Discussion points:

Ask your child(ren) if the beans are different types, or if they are the same.

Discuss how Yah scattered the people just like the beans, and how different nations are all over the earth like different types of beans.

Bonus activity:

Have your child(ren) gather all the beans while separating them in Ziploc bags to show how Yah will gather Israel and all the nations and bring them back to their own lands. Then place the bags in the middle of the floor.



Final Thoughts

Great cities have come and gone, but can you think of any city mentioned in Scripture that was not known for evil? How about any city in the ancient or modern world? Cities today still attract people from all over, mainly for work, which is exactly what happened with the ancient city we read about. Many people labored to build it. And there is plenty of work in every city that exists today, but with all those people gathered together in one place, very few of them are interested in serving Yah. Together, most of them unite in doing evil, which is what we saw in verse six of the scripture reading.

When people are of one mind and heart, and can fully understand one another, they can do pretty much anything. Yah saw that this was happening, so he put a stop to it by causing the people to be scattered. Evil actions, words, and thoughts forced the people to be scattered, and the very same things caused Israel to be scattered among the nations as well. In Ezekiel 22:15 Yah says this about the people of Israel: "I will scatter you among the nations and purge you of your wickedness." So, Yah scatters people to stop evil from spreading throughout the land. But the same people of Israel he scattered, he also promises to bring together again. In Ezekiel 39:27 Yah tells us, "When I bring them home from the lands of their enemies, I will display my purity among them for all the nations to see."

In Jeremiah 31:34, we are told: "And they will not need to teach their neighbors, nor will they need to teach their relatives, saying, 'You should know Yah.' For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will know me already," says Yah. "And I will forgive their wickedness, and I will never again remember their sins."

Yah says everyone shall know him, meaning we will all be of one heart and one mind again, but that heart and mind will only know good, unlike the evil heart and mind of the ancient people who wanted to build a tower in the sky. And as for the one language thing, Yah will bring that back as well. Zephaniah 3:9 tells us: "For at that time I will change the speech of the peoples to a pure speech, that all of them may call upon the name of Yah and serve him with one accord." This pure speech, or language, will be the only speech everyone will have, and we will speak it with one heart and one mind as we serve Yah, and nothing will be impossible for us to accomplish.

What are **Your** Final Thoughts?



