



What's in a Name?

Empowering Lessons from the Tower of Babel

INTERACTIVE OUTLINE

Sunday Morning: 10:30 a.m.

Scripture Reading: Genesis 11

Sunday, September 7, 2014

Speaker: Brent Hunter

INTRO

- A. Genesis 11 is the last episode in the continued **d**_____ of humanity.
- B. If we limit the text to the plains of Shinar, instead of recognizing its theological implications and its huge impact on the earth, we are naïve.

I. WHAT ARE YOU BUILDING?

- A. Having a common **l**_____ is not the problem, but the common languishing in sin is the problem (Gen 11:1).
- B. Moving **e**_____ is more than a directional term; it is a *theological* one, also.
- C. Settling in Shinar (Gen 11:2) provided the people with fertile plains where they could stay together. This was an act of willful defiance.
- D. Fire-hardened bricks (11:3) were a technological breakthrough that enabled building projects to be more sophisticated & reach new **h**_____.
- E. The idea of “a tower reaching the heavens” is not about the height of the tower, but the **p**_____ heart of the tower builders (Gen 11:4).
- F. It is not whether you are building, but what you are building, that matters. “Unless the Lord builds the house, the builder’s labor in vain” (Ps 127:1).

II. WHY ARE YOU BUILDING?

- A. These people were focused on **a**_____ trying to reach “the heavens” (Gen 11:4). Bab = gate, el = god. This was a gateway to god!
- B. They wanted **s**_____, “so that they might make a name for themselves” (Gen 11: 4). Name in Hebrew = Shem.
- C. They were **f**_____ and sought to build security. They did not want to be “scattered over the face of the earth” (Gen 11:4).

III. WHOSE NAME IS ON THE BUILDING? Your name or God's name?

CON: “The name of the Lord is a fortified tower; the righteous run to it and are safe” (Prov 18:10).

Notes

ANSWERS:

prideful heights
fearful achievement
significance
east
language
decline