

Genesis 11

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SERMON NOTES

Genesis

In the beginning...

Genesis 11

Who do we think we are?

Genesis 11

The hinge between pre-history and the patriarchs

5 Technological Advances

- The wheel
- The printing press
- Indoor plumbing
- Electricity
- The smartphone

5 Modern Towers of Babel

- The Empire State Building
- The World Trade Center
- The Willis Tower in Chicago
- The Shanghai Tower
- The Khalifa Tower in Dubai

5 Technological Advances of 2021

- Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
- Robotic Process Automation, or RPA
- Edge and Quantum Computing
- Virtual Reality
- Internet of Things

“If our identity is in our work, rather than Christ, success will go to our heads, and failure will go to our hearts.”

- Timothy Keller

Genesis 11

1. The Human Condition is Obsessed with Autonomy
2. God's Correction is Founded in Righteousness and Mercy
3. God's Commitment to Redemption is Sovereign and Steadfast

"Our human sin is that we fail to recognize that God is God, and we try, both individually and corporately, to take God's place."

- David Atkinson

"In an ego-centered culture, wants become needs (maybe even duties), the self replaces the soul, and human life degenerates into the clamor of competing autobiographies. People get fascinated with how they feel, and with how they feel about how they feel."

- Cornelius Plantinga, *Not the Way It's Supposed to Be*

"We all want progress, but if you're on the wrong road, progress means doing an about-turn and walking back to the right road; in that case, the man who turns back soonest is the most progressive."

- C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

"Unity and peace are not ultimate goods; better division than collective apostasy."

- Derek Kidner, *Genesis*

"What humanity cannot achieve by means of its 'proud towers,' Jesus Christ has achieved by dying on a humiliating cross."

- Warren Wiersbe

"You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in You."

- Augustine of Hippo, *Confessions*

"Thus says the Lord: 'Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight,' declares the Lord."

- *Jeremiah 9:23-24*

Who do we think we are?

"You are mine."

- God

"Sin is the desire for the autonomy of man; therefore, in the last resort, it is the denial of God and self-deification; it is getting rid of the Lord God, and the proclamation of self-sovereignty."

- Emil Brunner, Swiss Theologian

“We reject mimesis (finding excellence by imitating something greater than yourself) for poiesis (finding authenticity by inventing yourself on your own terms).”

- Rosaria Butterfield, Author

“Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.”

- *Isaiah 43:1b*