

# Message Notes

The Tower of Babel and distortion of God

# Scripture Passages

**Introduction** – *The Chmielewski Fun Time*

**Today's Message**  
**The Tower of Babel**  
**and Distortion of God**  
*Genesis 11:1-9*

A quick recap of Genesis 1-10

**The whole plot thing v. 1-3**

**Sudden twist! v. 4-5**

**Dramatic Pause**

**Climax! v. 6-7**

**Resolution v. 8-9**

**WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?!?!**

Genesis 11:4

About God and Creation

Acts 17:24-25

Psalms 50:12

Genesis 11:6

**The Distortion of God**

**An accordion and God's people**

1 Corinthians 10:1-6

*Judges 21:25*

*1 Corinthians 14:26-33*

**Repping God**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

**Gospel Application** – *Are you distorting God?*

**Genesis 11:1-9**

1 Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. 2 And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. 3 And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. 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." 5 And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. 6 And 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. 7 Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." 8 So the Lord dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. 9 Therefore 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.



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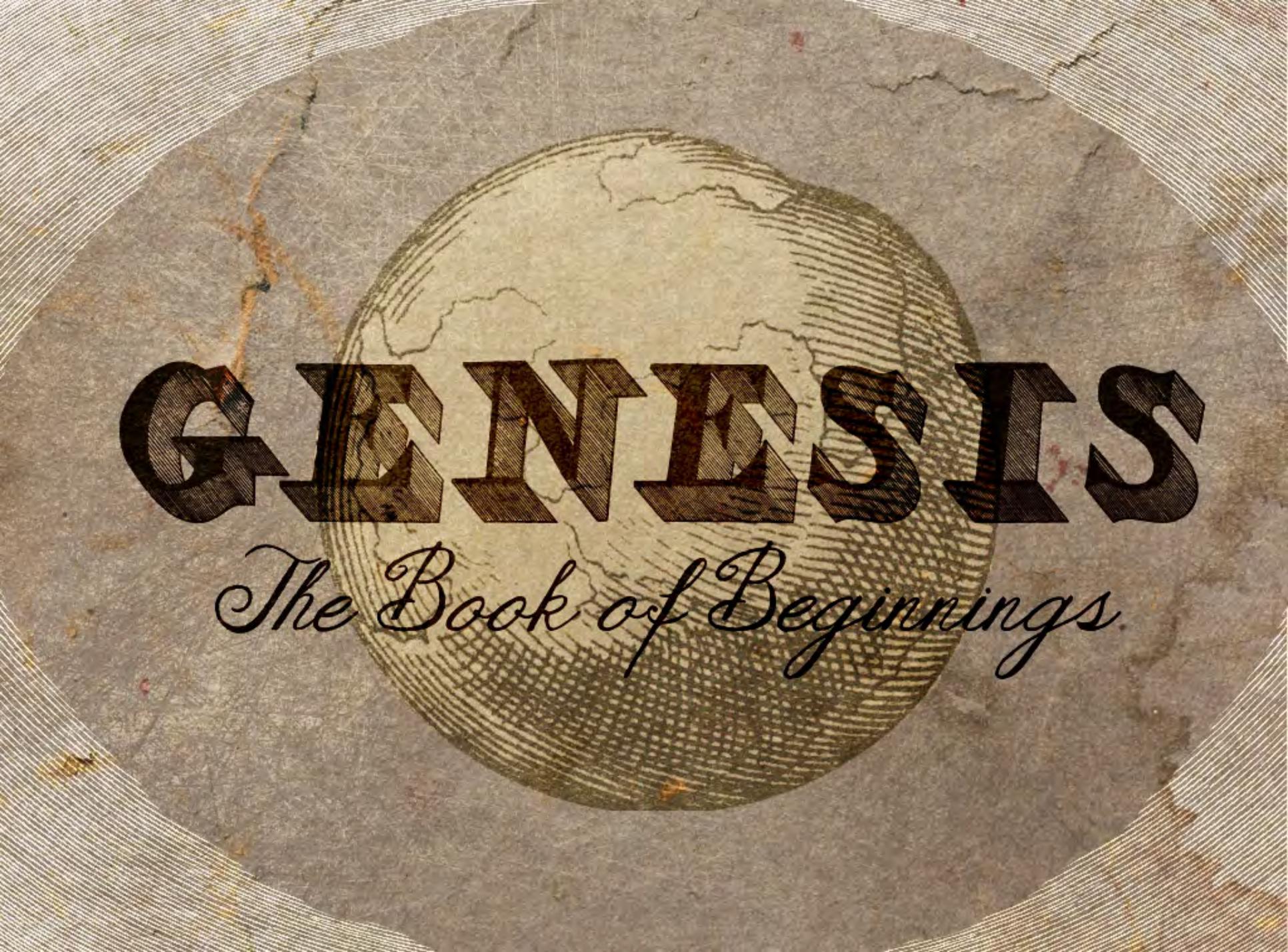
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# GENESIS

*The Book of Beginnings*

# A Biblical Theology of Themes in Genesis



# A Biblical Theology of Themes in Genesis



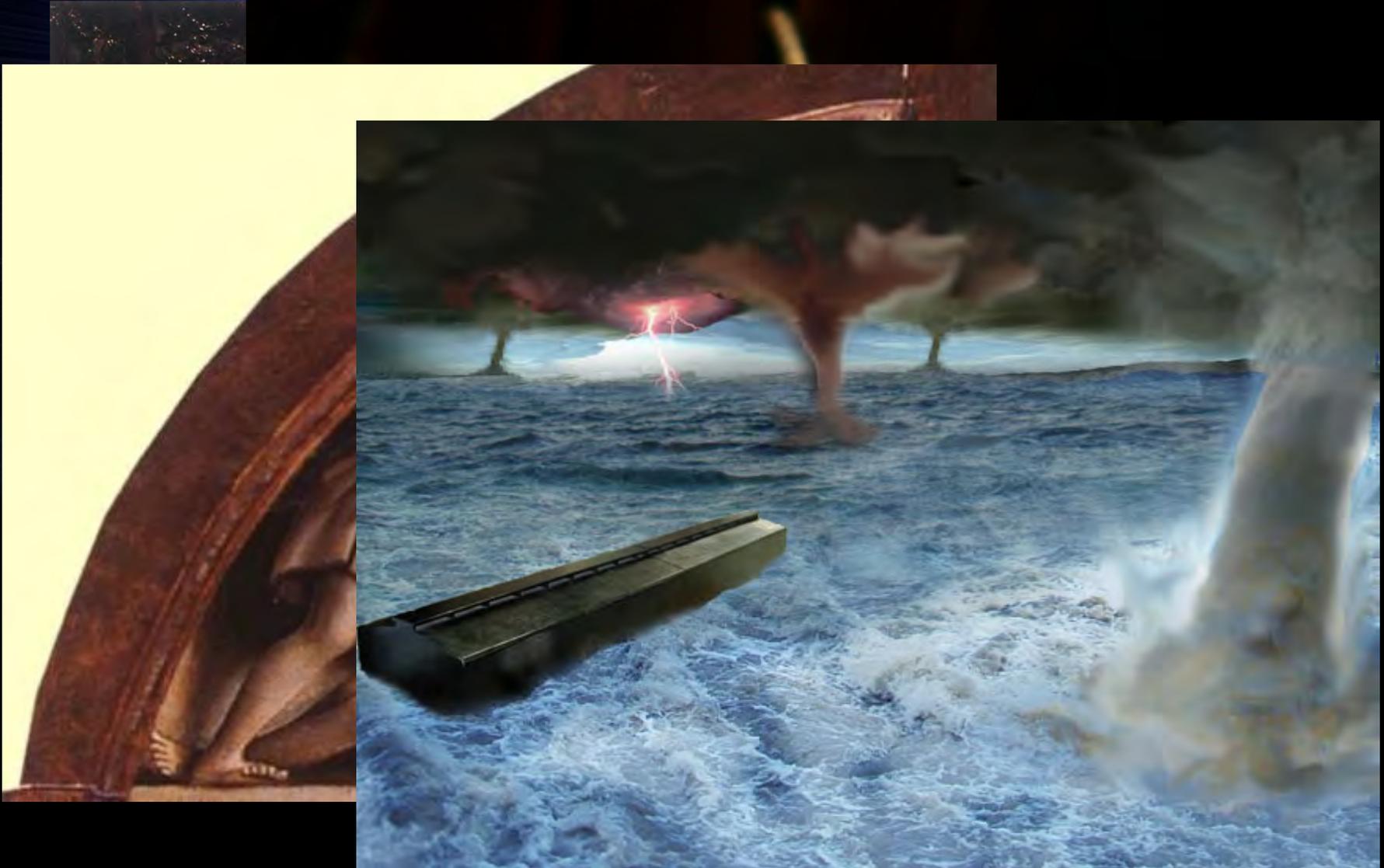
# A Biblical Theology of Themes in Genesis



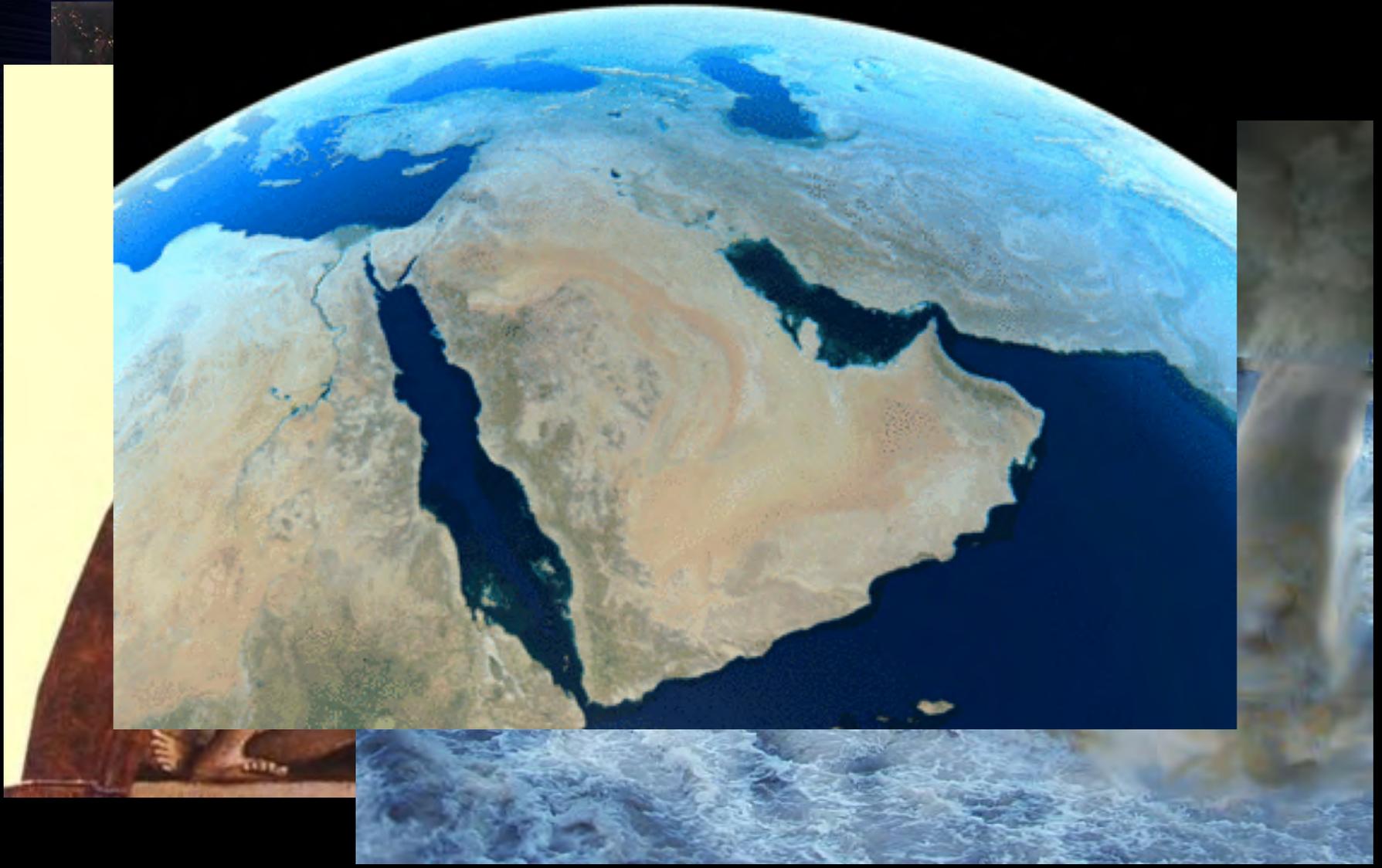
# A Biblical Theology of Themes in Genesis



# A Biblical Theology of Themes in Genesis



# A Biblical Theology of Themes in Genesis



## Matthew 28:18-20

<sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

## Revelation 7:9-10

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands.

<sup>10</sup>And they cried out in a loud voice:

“Salvation belongs to our God,  
who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.”

# The Tower of Babel



## Genesis 11:1-9

1 Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. 2 And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. 3 And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar.

## Genesis 11:1-9

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." 5 And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built.

## Genesis 11:1-9

6 And 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. 7 Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech."

## Genesis 11:1-9

8 So the Lord dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city.

9 Therefore 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.

# The whole plot thing

## Genesis 11:1-9

1 Now the whole earth had one language and the same words.  
2 And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. 3 And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar.



# Sudden twist!

## Genesis 11:1-9

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." 5 And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the people had built.



(Dramatic Pause)

# Climax!



## Genesis 11:1-9

6 And 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. 7 Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech."

# Resolution



## Genesis 11:1-9

8 So the Lord dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. 9 Therefore 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.

**What's the big deal?**

## Genesis 11:4

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” ...

# **About God:**

*He is the author, sustainer, blesser, and cause of his creation, although he is completely distinct from creation.*

# **About Creation:**

*The universe is dependent, open, caused, planned and ordered.*

# About God:

*He is the author, sustainer, blesser, and cause of his creation, although he is completely distinct from creation.*

# About Creation:

*The universe is dependent, open, caused, planned and ordered.*

## Acts 17:24-25

**24** The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by human hands, **25** nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to everyone life and breath and everything.

## Psalm 50:12

If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it.

## **Genesis 11:4**

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” ...

## **Genesis 11:6**

6 And 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.

# What's the big deal?



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# What's the big deal?



# A Biblical Theology of Themes in Genesis



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# A Biblical Theology of Themes in Genesis

## 1 Corinthians 10:1-6

1 For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea.

2 They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. 3 They all ate the same spiritual food 4 and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ.

# A Biblical Theology of Themes in Genesis

## 1 Corinthians 10:1-6

5 Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

6 Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did.

# A Biblical Theology of Themes in Genesis

## Judges 21:25

In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in their own eyes.

# A Biblical Theology of Themes in Genesis

## 1 Corinthians 14:26-33

26 What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.

27 If any speak in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn, and let someone interpret.

28 But if there is no one to interpret, let each of them keep silent in church and speak to himself and to God.

# A Biblical Theology of Themes in Genesis

## 1 Corinthians 14:26-33

29 Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said. 30 If a revelation is made to another sitting there, let the first be silent. 31 For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged, 32 and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets.

33 For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.

How do we guard  
ourselves from  
distorting God?

# When Repping God - LOOK ON CHRIST

## Hebrews 1:1-3

1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. 3 He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

# When Repping God - LOOK IN WORD

## 2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

# When Repping God – WALK IN SPIRIT

## Galatians 3:16-23

16 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

# When Repping God – WALK IN SPIRIT

## Galatians 3:16-23

19 The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

# When Repping God – WALK IN SPIRIT

## Galatians 3:16-23

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

# When Repping God – AND IN COMMUNITY

## Hebrews 10:23-25

23 Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, 25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.







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# Gospel Applications

*Are you distorting God?*

# Gospel Applications

Are you distorting God?

Are you dependent on God  
through Christ, his Word, his Spirit,  
and his Church?