**The Tower of Babel: Gate of the God or Pinnacle of Pride? Genesis 11:1-9**

**I. Historical Context**

A. God’s command to Adam and Eve. (Genesis 1:22-28

B. God’s command to Noah and his family. (Genesis 9:1, 7)

C. Descendants of Noah, including Nimrod. (Genesis 10z0

D. This story (Gen 11) happens about 100 years after the Ark.

**II. Structure**

A. 11:1 They shared one language.

B. 11:2 They settled in the Plain of Shinar.

C. 11:3 They said, ”let us build with bricks, not stone.”

D. 11:4 They said “Let us make a name for ourselves with a grand city and tower.”

**E .11:5 BUT the LORD came down to see**

D. 11:6 The LORD said, “Nothing is impossible for them.

C. 11:7 The LORD said, “Let us confuse their language.”

B. 11:8 Thy were scattered from the Plain of Shinar.

A. 11:9 the Lord confused the language of the world.

**III. Why did they do it?**

1. Prideful children of Ham, jealous of Shem’s blessings
2. Followed the evil leadership of Nimrod
3. They wanted to make a name for themselves
4. Self-centered motivations
5. To create a sacred space; a means for God to come down from Heaven o earth.

**IV. What did God do?**

1. He came down to see what they were doing.
2. He doesn’t approve.
3. He makes the people speak many languages

**V. Why did He do it?**

1. Not a punishment
2. To prevent the people from continuing their work.
3. To put the people back in line with His goal of scattering them.

**VI. The Big Picture**

1. God begins to set the stage to provide sacred space for His people
   1. He creates a covenant with Abraham

He creates a chosen nation

* 1. He will come to live in their midst.
     1. In the cloud and fire
     2. In the Tabernacle
     3. In the Temple
     4. In Jesus
     5. In the Holy Spirit
     6. When Heaven comes down to Earth