

## ~BABEL (70)

(Ba'bel) [Hebrew, *ba-lal'*, Confusion]

- One of the first cities to be built after the Flood. Here God confused the language of all the earth.
- That is why its name was called **Babel**, because there Yehowah had confused the language of all the earth, and Yehowah had scattered them from there over all the surface of the earth. (Genesis 11:9)
- The name is derived from the Hebrew verb *ba-lal'*, meaning **confuse**. Local citizens, thinking of their city as God's seat of government, claimed that the name was compounded from *Bab*, **Gate** and *il*, **God**, signifying **Gate of God**.
- The beginning of the kingdom of wicked Nimrod, the mighty hunter in opposition to Yehowah, was here at **Babel**, in the land of Shinar, on the alluvial plain built up by silt from the flooding Euphrates and Tigris rivers.
- He displayed himself a mighty hunter in opposition to Yehowah. That is why there is a saying; Just like Nimrod a mighty hunter in opposition to Yehowah. (Genesis 10:9)
- And the beginning of his kingdom came to be **Babel** and Erech and Accad and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. (Genesis 10:10)
- Stones were not available for construction, so the builders made use of the great deposits of clay. Let us make bricks and bake them with a burning process, they said. Because of an absence of lime, the mortar consisted of bitumen.
- And they began to say each one to the other; Come on! Let us make bricks and bake them with a burning process. So brick served as stone for them, but bitumen served as mortar for them. (Genesis 11:3)
- **Babel's** God-defying program centered around construction of a religious tower with its top in the heavens. It was **not built for the worship and praise of Yehowah, but was dedicated to false man-made religion, with a motive of making a celebrated name for the builders.**

- They now said; Come on! Let us build ourselves a city and also a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a **celebrated name for ourselves**, for fear we may be scattered over all the surface of the earth. (**Genesis 11:4**)
- The approximate time of such building may be drawn from the following information: Peleg lived from **2269 to 2030 B.C.E.** His name meant **Division**, for in his days the earth that is, earth's population was divided, Yehowah scattered them from there over all the surface of the earth.
- And to Eber there were two sons born. The name of the one was Peleg, because in his days the **earth was divided**, and the name of his brother was Joktan. (**Genesis 10:25**)
- That is why its name was called **Babel**, because there Yehowah had confused the language of all the earth, and Yehowah had scattered them from there over all the surface of the earth. (**Genesis 11:9**)
- A text of Skarkalisharri, king of Agade or Accad, in patriarchal times, mentions his **restoring** a temple-tower at Babylon, implying that such a structure existed prior to his reign.