

**SERIES:** The Basics of God's Word – A Study in Genesis 1-11

**TITLE:** The Basics of Pride

**TEXT:** Genesis 11:1-9

## I. Man's Pride Begins with Apathy towards God's Commands (11:1-2)

- Here we find, that the descents of Noah's sons were one people group...
  - V1 – everyone has the same language, same place, lots of materials and natural resources at our disposal...
  - They found the best place they could and set up camp.
  - They “settled” – laid down roots...
    - **Here is the problem with this...**
    - **Gen 9:1 - And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish [fill] the earth.**
    - Now you might say – maybe they misinterpreted that...
    - V4 – they are concerned about **“being scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth...”**
      - God said – spread out, fill, subdue the earth...
      - They said – nah, we'll just stay altogether here.

### **Apathy towards God and His commands leads to personal pride.**

- **Do you know that pride in OUR HEARTS begins in exactly the same way?**
  - “I don't need God” – pride.
  - “I don't want to listen to God” – arrogance.
  - “I don't care to do what God's word says” – foolishness.
- The moment that pride begins to take root in our hearts is when we write off God's word and decide that we know better...
  - **Ps 10:4**
  - **Prov 21:24**

## II. Man's Pride Builds upon Self-Focused Ambition (11:3-4)

- The entire group of people here is already of one language and one speech...
  - And now they are saying to “one another”
  - You see their communal resolve – “Let us...” make brick...
  - And not just build ourselves homes...
    - But lets build a city and a tower
- Notice, the self-focused ambition here...
  - “let us” x3
  - There is no mention of God...
    - God's command for them to spread out is already disregarded...

- What are your ambitions?
  - What are you building with your life?
  - Are you building in line with God’s commands, or are you building a protective kingdom that helps you avoid God?
  - Are you using your skills and God given abilities to building your own tower, or are your using your gifts for the Lord?
  - **1 John 2:16**

### III. Man’s Pride Boasts from Self-Centered Arrogance (11:4)

**Genesis 11:4c:...and let us make us a name... (let us make a name for ourselves – ESV)**

The problem here, was not the project – but their pride.

God is not against skyscrapers and elevated buildings, but He hates when mankind elevates himself to the place of God.

- **Prov 6:16-19**
- God hates pride.
- **Phil 2:3-11**
  - **Whose name are you exalting today?**
  - **Prov 18:10**
  - **Daniel 4:34-37**
- God will deal with pride, because pride is the sin of living yourself up to the place of God.
  - **1 Sam 2:2-3**

### IV. Man’s Pride Breaks when God Selflessly Intervenes (11:5-9)

- He was concerned that their pride would perpetuate itself towards destructive living.
- That man would think he no longer needed God.
- That man’s pride would eventually lead
- The Trinity got involved
  - We know that God the Father has a sovereign will that restricts man’s evil ways...
  - We know that Jesus the Son is the solution to mankind’s sin and pride problem...
  - We know that the Holy Spirit is the Restrainer of Evil upon the earth...
- **God wants mankind to do as they live together with one another in community...**
  - The church is made up of people from every tribe and tongue and nation (people from all of the lineages we see in Gen 10-11)
  - And they are ONE - together worshiping ONE NAME...
  - **Acts 2:1-11**

- God confounded language at Babel to restrain evil...
- But at Pentecost, the people are confounded because they hear the truth of the GOSPEL in their own languages...
- And God's intention on the day of Pentecost is that all those who got saved would go out back to their own nations and take the truth of the Gospel with them as they spread back out after the feast.
  - **ONE BODY**
  - **ONE FELLOWSHIP**
  - **ONE PEOPLE**
  - **With ONE PURPOSE to obey and worship and exalt God**
  - **TO Make HIS NAME GREAT amongst the nations...**