

START HERE #16: GENESIS 11:1-9 "TOWER OF SECULARISM"

On August 7th 1961, 26 year old Major Gherman Titov became the second Soviet cosmonaut to successfully orbit the earth and return to safety. Later speaking at World's Fair enjoying his moment of glory he sarcastically let every1 know that on his journey into space he hadn't seen God. On Christmas Eve 1968 three American astronauts were the first to go around the dark side of the moon away from the earth. Having fired their rockets on Apollo 8 they were homeward bound and got a glimpse of the earth from an angle that no one had ever seen before. In the throes of this awe inspiring moment they opened the pages of the Bible to the book of Genesis and read for the world to hear. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

- Reflects fundamental difference between society-based secularism/Judeo Christian Values

Secularization refers to the historical process in which religion loses social and cultural significance.

SECULAR SURGE: *The Atlantic* rapid ballooning of the religiously unaffil – 6% 1991 – 25% today

BEGAN BABEL: is about a secular philosophical mindset not about a physical building.

Huge Und: organization, leadership, talent, effort, BIG DEAL – **LIFE W/O GOD YHWH**

God isn't anti civilization or anti city or human organization (**social constructs**) until they become a replacement for Him – the transcendent God.

GOVERNMENT: Forms of government outside OT THEOCRACY are an experiment

ARGUE: Government based on Judaeo/Christian values are the best4 ppl

- They afford humanity most freedom bc they're based on BP natural rights
- Marxism A LA COMM/SOCIAL – rights come state (as citizen) – **CUBA**

No freedom of press, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly. No natural/God rights – part of state – your rights don't matter advancement of the state matters ur rights only come in best interest state

BABYLON – ULT ANTI-GOD: Genesis, Exile (greatest humiliation), Revelation (seeds)

Three things secular mindset says – PERSONAL (we build towers) - CHURCH

WE DON'T NEED GOD WE HAVE PEOPLE POWER AND MATERIAL RESOURCES

They rejected God's command – he told them to go fruitful-multiply – **unite bld 4Rs**

- Harness org power and technological advancements - CONSOLIDATED
 - o **OURSELVES** – collective power, ingenuity, intellect, technology
 - o USED THEIR RESOURCES TO TURN FROM GOD (**WE DON'T NEED U**)

CYCLE: NEED GOD, TURN TO GOD, BLESSED BY GOD, TURN AWAY FROM GOD, JUDGED

The resources you have are a gift from God to generate gratitude for him not independence from Him. **THANKSGIVING**

WE CAN CREATE OUR OWN WAY TO HEAVEN

Ziggurat/Stepped Pyramid: Stairway to heaven/Man Made Bridge to God

- First attempt at organized religion – create a different way (oral, evid, flood)
- DON'T LIKE HIS WAYS (**responsible creator**) – Devise and create alternative

Every man-made religion is based on human effort and philosophy and not on divine revelation.

- RISE ABOVE HIS JUSTICE: **wayout machine – SERIOUS ISSUES WITH GOD**
 - o 1 MESSAGE HERE – JESUS ALONE SAVES

WE CAN MAKE OUR NAME GREAT INSTEAD OF GOD'S

We can elevate ourselves to the place of God – **PRIDE – SATAN – ORIGINAL LIE**

Isaiah 14:13 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.' ¹⁵Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit.

- **Neb** – after fiery furnace – humbled (**LOOK WHAT MY HANDS**) - **HUMBLE**

GOD'S POINT BY POINT RESPONSE

Come Let's go make – Come let's go down (DIVINE COUNSEL/TRINITY) – don't make me

What is that tiny thing down there – big to them but small to God. (ALL STRESSED)

Psalm 2:1-5 Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing? ²The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, *saying*, ³"Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us." ⁴He who sits in the heavens shall laugh.

MAN: We have ourselves and our resources: confuse your languages and scatter

MAN: We will make our way to heaven – your building will go unfinished

MAN: We will exalt ourselves – your "gate of the gods" turned into "confusion"

- **WHOSE NAME? ABRAHAM:** Man coalesces collective power – God Selects Abraham – Sends His Son (carpenter) – **BUILDS HIS KINGDOM**

- **The Holy Spirit's answer PENTECOST – scattered languages united the true Kingdom of God**

We never needed God more – There's only One way to the father Son – 1 name make great