

1. Noah's Mistake and Prediction About His Descendants

- a) Genesis 9:18-25 What is the message of this strange story and why is it included in the Scriptures?
- b) What similarities and differences do you see between this story and the narrative in Genesis 3?
- c) What sin, reflected in this story, is amplified in the descendants of Canaan? Genesis 19:5-7,31-36
- d) What prediction does Noah make about his other two sons and their descendants? Genesis 9:26-27

2. The Genesis Family Tree

- a) Review Genesis 10:1-32. Why are family trees (genealogies) recorded in the Bible?
- b) What major differences do you see between this family tree of Noah and the family tree in Genesis 5?
- c) What additional insights are included in the family tree of Jesus? Matthew 1:1-17 Why?

3. Rebellion on the Plain in the Land of Shinar

- a) Genesis 11:1-4 Where do you see signs of a rebellious attitude in this story?
- b) What else would be erected on the plain of Dura in the land of Shinar many generations later as an act of rebellion against God? Daniel 3:1
- c) How does this behavior reflect the character of the rebellious angel Satan? Isaiah 14:12-14
- d) How can we avoid the trap of self-exaltation, trying to make a name for ourselves, rather than seeking to exalt the name of the LORD?

4. The LORD's Response to this Rebellion

- a) Genesis 11:5-7 What important lessons can we learn from the LORD's response to this act of rebellion?
- b) Is God's decision to "go down" an act of judgment or an act of mercy? (see also Luke 1:26-33)
- c) How does the inspired song of the Psalmist David remind us of the greatness of God and our constant need to depend wholly upon Him? Psalm 139:1-14

5. Scattering the Nations

- a) Genesis 11:8-9 How was the scattering of the people from the land of Shinar a fulfillment of God's original plan? (see Genesis 1:28, 9:1)
- b) Share a time when you drifted away from God's plan for your life and God had to intervene to bring you back into harmony with His plan.

6. Discussion questions

- a) Where do you see the immeasurable, unfailing love of God revealed in this story?
- b) What lessons from this story are particularly relevant for these last days of earth's history?
- c) What is the most important lesson you have learned from our study today?