

# THE TOWER OF BABEL

## INTRODUCTION

- Genesis 10-11 are an example of the literary technique of recapitulation where the author first introduces his account with a general description of the event and then follows it up with a more detailed account
- Genesis 1-2 are also an example of this (Gen 1:1-2:3 is a summary outline of all of creation while Gen 2:4-25 expands on day six and focuses on the creation of man and woman)
- Genesis 10 shows how the nations formed from Noah's descendants were already dispersed; however, Genesis 10 doesn't explain why they became dispersed
- So, in Genesis 11, the reason for the dispersal is given
- The Tower of Babel (2242 BC) was a post-Flood rebellion against God by Noah's descendants

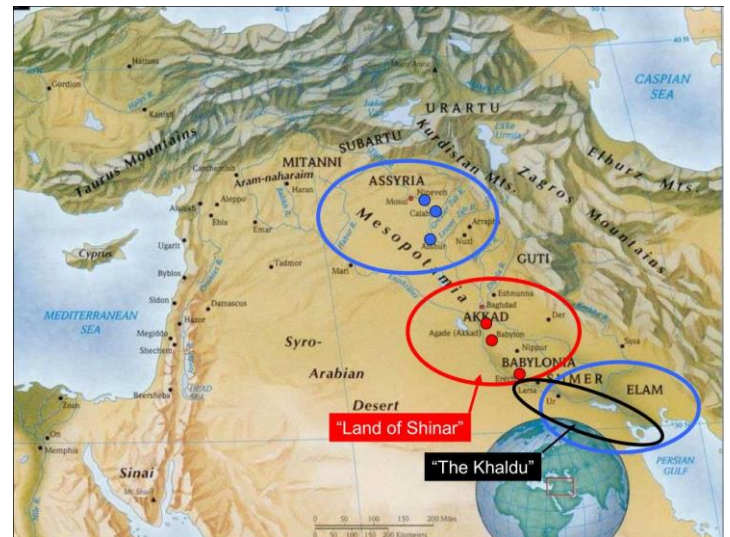
## THE DISPERSION AT BABEL

### The Unity of the Race

**Genesis 11:1-2** ~ Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words. 2 It came about as they journeyed east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there.

- Literally, v. 1 says "Now the whole earth had one lip and one kind of words"
- After the flood, Noah's descendants journeyed east from the ark's landing spot to "a plain in the land of Shinar"
- This was likely the region between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, the fertile land of Mesopotamia
- This was a land that could support many people
- So the first post-flood cities were built there by Nimrod

**Genesis 10:10-12** ~ The beginning of his kingdom was Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. 11 From that land he went forth into Assyria, and built Nineveh and Rehoboth-Ir and Calah, 12 and Resen between Nineveh and Calah; that is the great city.



- This was the same location that the Israelites were exiled to when Nebuchadnezzar carried off the devoted things of the Lord's temple and placed them in a temple to the god he worshipped

**Daniel 1:1-2** ~ In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. 2 The Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the vessels of the house of God; and he brought them to the land of Shinar, to the house of his god, and he brought the vessels into the treasury of his god.

- Significantly, v. 2 indicates that the people "settled there"

- However, God had commanded Noah and all his descendants to fill the earth, not stay in one region

**Genesis 9:1** ~ And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.

**Genesis 9:7** ~ As for you, be fruitful and multiply; Populate the earth abundantly and multiply in it.

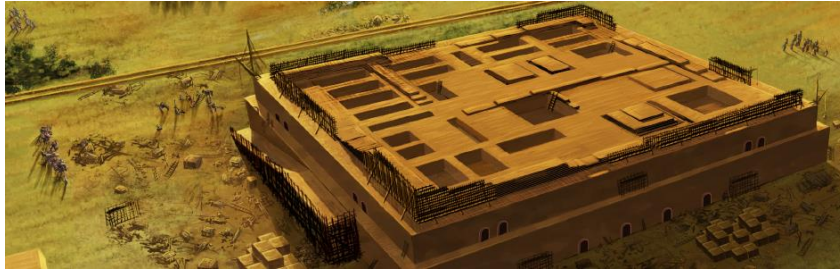
## The Rebellion of the People

**Genesis 11:3-4** ~ They said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks and burn them thoroughly.” And they used brick for stone, and they used tar for mortar. 4 They said, “Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top will reach into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name, otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.”

- Notice the 3-fold “let us” in vv. 3-4...a demonstration of their immense pride
- The reason for the bricks is that region lacks good building materials and few stones, but has plenty of clay
- There is a play on words in v. 3: “let us brick bricks...let us burn to a burning”
- These kiln-dried building blocks would be used for building both “a city and a tower”
- The rebellion centers around the tower, most likely a ziggurat, a massive step pyramid built from bricks and part of a temple complex
- The Hebrew word for “tower” (*migdal*) means “tower” but figuratively refers to a flowerbed of a pyramidal shape, perhaps supporting the notion that it was shaped like a pyramid or ziggurat
- Ziggurats, pyramids, mounds, and similar structures have been found in many parts of the world from Mesopotamia to Egypt to South America
- What exactly did it look like? → we don’t know for sure since the Bible does not tell us...also, God intervened before the construction was completed
- “The people at Babel had a unique opportunity. The incredible engineering skills of all mankind were together in one place. But when [God](#) split them up, each family took their talents with them. So the later founders of Babylon and Egypt lacked the expertise of their forefathers.”<sup>1</sup>
- Some possible configurations of the tower:



<sup>1</sup> <https://answersingenesis.org/tower-of-babel/what-did-the-tower-look-like/>



- The nature of their rebellion:
  1. Perhaps they failed to trust God’s promise to never flood the whole earth again, so they were attempting to build a tall tower for the purpose of escaping another flood
    - However...“It is generally thought what led them to it was to secure them from another flood, they might be in fear of; but this seems not likely, since they had the covenant and oath of God, that the earth should never be destroyed by water any more; and besides, had this been the thing in view, they would not have chosen a plain to build on, a plain that lay between two of the greatest rivers, Tigris, and Euphrates, but rather one of the highest mountains and hills they could have found: nor could a building of brick be a sufficient defense against such a force of water, as the waters of the flood were; and besides, but few at most could be preserved at the top of the tower, to which, in such a case, they would have betook themselves.”<sup>2</sup>
  2. They wanted to make a name for themselves – the tower would be a monument to their reputation; this was nothing short of open rebellion against God and demonstration of their independence from God
    - The tower represents man’s attempt to be equal with God and shows a desire for fame and recognition apart from God
  3. The ultimate act of disobedience is their unwillingness to scatter to fill the earth as they had been instructed; this was the people’s defiance against the command of God
- What was Nimrod’s role? → Although the Bible doesn’t directly say that Nimrod was the leader of the rebellion, he is said to be the father of Babel (Gen 10:10), the site of the rebellion

## **The Judgment from the Lord**

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**Genesis 11:5-9** ~ The LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. 6 The LORD said, “Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them. 7 “Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, so that they will not understand one another’s speech.” 8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of the whole earth; and they stopped building the city. 9 Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of the whole earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of the whole earth.

- As a result of the people’s rebellion, the Lord “came down” to witness their efforts
- Since God is omnipresent and omniscient, He did not need to “come down” to see what was happening
- This is an anthropomorphism, a figure of speech ascribing human actions to God

<sup>2</sup> Note on [Genesis 11:4](#) in: John Gill, D.D., *An Exposition of the Old and New Testament; The Whole Illustrated with Notes, Taken from the Most Ancient Jewish Writings* (London: printed for Mathews and Leigh, 18 Strand, by W. Clowes, Northumberland-Court, 1809). Edited, revised, and updated by Larry Pierce, 1994–1995 for The Word CD-ROM

- “In this case, the account emphasizes the greatness of God and the puniness of man by comparison. Although man vainly tried to build this immensely high tower, God was still described as ‘coming down’ to see this comparatively tiny venture.”<sup>3</sup>
- Almost comically, Moses describes this puny plan attempted by “the sons of men”...i.e. mere earthlings, very small and finite people
- Even if the tower was tall by man’s standards, God still had to “come down”
- The entire Babel account is a chiasm, focusing on God’s coming down

A	The whole earth used the same language (1)
B	there (2)
C	they said to one another (3a)
D	Come let us make bricks (3b)
E	Let us build for ourselves (4a)
F	a city and a tower (4b)
X	The Lord came down (5a)
F	the city and the tower (5b)
E	the sons of men had built (5c)
D	Come let Us go down and there confuse (7a)
C	so that they will not understand one another’s speech (7b)
B	from there (8)
A	confused the language of the whole earth (9)

- Upon coming down, God evaluated the situation (v. 6), noting two observations: 1) They were one people; 2) They had one language
- He also noted in v. 6 that this was just the beginning of what could develop into even worse rebellion
- Being unified by one language, no sin would be impossible for them...they would be able to do whatever they wanted to do
- So, He resolved to deal with the problem before it got any worse
- In v. 7, it is once again stated that God would “come down”
- Notice the use of “Us”...an implicit statement of plurality within the Godhead (cf. Gen 1:26)
- God judged the people by confusing their language “so that they will not understand one another’s speech” (v. 7)
- Literally, it reads “They will not hear a man the language of his friend”
- “confuse” = *balal*
- “The exact form of the word ‘confuse’ in this passage is *nablah*...the pronounced consonants in this word *n-b-l*, are the reverse of the word for brick v. 3, *l-b-n*, which is ‘certainly not coincidental.’ It shows that any human endeavor that contradicts God’s will is an utter exercise in futility.”
- God’s judgment in confusing their language had 3 main results:
  1. They were scattered (v. 8) – they were forced to obey God’s command...what they would not do in obedience (i.e. scatter over the earth) He did for them in judgment...while they wanted to settle, God forced them to scatter...man’s attempt to resist being scattered didn’t thwart God’s instructions
    - This explains the statements in chapter 10

<sup>3</sup> Jonathan Sarfati, *The Genesis Account*, 660.

**Genesis 10:5** ~ From these the coastlands of the nations were separated into their lands, every one according to his language, according to their families, into their nations.

**Genesis 10:20** ~ These are the sons of Ham, according to their families, according to their languages, by their lands, by their nations.

**Genesis 10:31** ~ These are the sons of Shem, according to their families, according to their languages, by their lands, according to their nations.

**Genesis 10:32** ~ These are the families of the sons of Noah, according to their genealogies, by their nations; and out of these the nations were separated on the earth after the flood.

2. They quit building the city (v. 8)
3. The city was derisively named “Babel” (v. 9) – this was another Hebrew play on words...Babel (*babel*) sounds similar to the verb “confused” (*balal*)
  - The Akkadian name was *Babili*, meaning “Gate of God” – the Babylonians referred to the construction of the city of Babylon in heaven by the gods as a celestial city...an expression of their pride
  - They boasted that their city was not only impregnable, but also the heavenly city
  - “The account in Genesis views this city as the predominant force in the world, the epitome of ungodly powers, in a word, the “anti-kingdom.”<sup>4</sup>
  - Babylon is a metaphor for all that is opposed to God
  - Babylon has always been a center of false religion and its name is associated in Scripture with religious error and counterfeit religion
    - Ziggurats built in Babylon had on their tops the sign of the zodiac, which was used by pagan priests to chart the stars...through their observations of the stars, the priests supposedly gained spiritual insights and knowledge of the future
    - Hammurabi furthered Babylon’s false religion by making Marduk god of the city and head of its 1300 deities
    - The queen of heaven in Jeremiah 44:15-19 (whom the Israelites worshipped) is the goddess Ishtar, a Babylonian deity; God promised judgment on those who worshipped her (Jer 44:20-27)
    - Ezekiel also referred to the worship of Ishtar and Tammuz, Babylonian gods, in Ezekiel 8:14
    - The height of Babylon’s glory came under Nebuchadnezzar
    - Babylon and King Nebuchadnezzar figure prominently in the OT, as it was Babylon that invaded Judah, destroyed Jerusalem and the temple, and carried off many Jews to Babylon as exiles
    - Because of the awful destruction caused by the Babylonians, Babylon became a symbol for the stereotypical enemies of God and His people
    - “Babylon” in Revelation 17-18 is both a city (either Rome or Babylon on the Euphrates – see 18:10, 16, 18, 19, 21) and a system (Antichrist’s final world empire)
    - “Babylon is both a city and a system, and that seems to be the way it is used in these chapters. This is much the same way Americans speak of Wall Street or Madison Avenue. They are actual streets, but they also stand for the financial or advertising enterprises. Babylon is used in a

<sup>4</sup> Ross, A. P. (1985). [Genesis](#). In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 1, p. 45). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

similar sense in these chapters, standing for a religious and political system in chapter 17 and a commercial empire in chapter 18.”<sup>5</sup>

- In other words, it will be Antichrist’s capital city but its influence will be felt around the world
  - Whereas Revelation 17 prophesied the downfall of religious Babylon, Revelation 18 announces the downfall of commercial and economic Babylon
  - This is evident from the numerous references in the chapter to Babylon’s commerce and industry (vv. 3, 11-13, 15, 17, 19, 22)
  - Antichrist will build the greatest commercial empire the world has ever known, but it will come to a cataclysmic end with the return of Christ
  - One significant difference between Revelation 17 and 18 exists: in chapter 17, it was the beast who destroyed Babylon’s religious system; whereas, in chapter 18, it is God who destroys Babylon’s commercial enterprises
- Thus, Babylon became a symbol for the enemy of God and His people

### Some Observations

- The setting of this event in Genesis 1-11: “This narrative provides a fitting conclusion for the primeval events. It describes the families of the earth hopelessly scattered throughout the then-known world. There was then no record of a mark for the fugitive (cf. 4:15), no rainbow in the clouds (9:13), no ray of hope or token of grace. This leaves the reader looking for a solution. After a connecting genealogy (11:10–26), that solution is provided: out of the scattered nations God formed one nation which became His channel of blessing. So God was not done with the human race. This chapter simply prepares the reader for His work.”<sup>6</sup>
- The dangers of pride: “The theme of pride here, then, is important. God puts down those who exalt themselves in pride. Scattering (with its wars and conflicts) is better than unified apostasy. God’s plan will be accomplished, if not with man’s obedience, then in spite of man’s disobedience.”<sup>7</sup>

### IMPLICATIONS OF BABEL ON LANGUAGE

- The Tower of Babel explains why everyone doesn’t speak the same language today
- “A common definition of a different language is *mutual unintelligibility*: speakers of only one language cannot understand someone speaking a different language. They are speaking different *dialects* if they *are* mutually intelligible. E.g. native speakers of Swiss German and ‘standard’ German can mostly understand each other, so they are dialects of the same language, German. But neither can understand Spanish unless they learn it; so Spanish is a different language.”<sup>8</sup>
- There are over 6,900 spoken languages in the world today
- Yet the number of languages emerging from Babel at the time of the dispersion would have been much less than this
- “So where did all these languages come from? Linguists recognize that most languages have similarities to other languages. Related languages belong to what are called *language families*. These original language

<sup>5</sup> Charles Ryrie, *Revelation*, 138.

<sup>6</sup> Ross, “Genesis,” In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary*, 45.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Sarfati, *Genesis Account*, 664.

families (probably less than 100) resulted from God’s confusion of the language at Babel. Since that time, the original language families have grown and changed into the abundant number of languages today.”<sup>9</sup>

- Likely 14 language families came from Japheth (Gen 10:2-5)...possibly 39 from Ham (Gen 10:6-20)...and 25 from Shem (Gen 10:22-31)...for a total of 78 original language families
- “Both *Vistawide World Languages and Cultures* and *Ethnologue*, companies that provide statistics on language, agree that only 94 languages families have been so far ascertained. With further study in years to come, this may change, but this figure is well within the range of families that dispersed from Babel (*Genesis 10*).”<sup>10</sup>
- Is it feasible for nearly 7,000 languages to have developed from less than 100 original language families in 4,000 years?
- English has changed significantly over the past 1,000 years; therefore, it becomes easy to see how the original languages at Babel could have rapidly changed in the 4,000 years since that time, whether spoken or written
- This would have occurred when the original language families borrowed from other languages, developing new terms and phrases, and losing previous words and phrases
- How English has changed over the years:

Beginning of Matthew 6-9	Date
Our Father who art in heaven and/or Our Father who is in heaven	Late Modern English (1700s)
Our father which art in heauen	Early Modern English (1500–1700) (KJV 1611)
Oure fader that art in heuenis	Middle English (1100–1500)
Fæder ure þu þe eart on heofonum	Old English (c. A.D. 1000)

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- In a similar way, it is not difficult to imagine how languages developed from the original families
- The thousands of different languages fall into a relatively small number of language families:
  - Romance languages: French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Romanian (all derived from Latin, the language of the Roman Empire, hence the name “Romance” languages)
  - Germanic languages: German, Dutch, Scandinavian languages, English (all derived from a Proto-Germanic language)
  - Slavonic languages: Russian, Polish, Czech, and Serbo-Croat
  - Indo-European languages: Sanskrit, Indian (derived from a Proto-Indo-European – PIE – ancestor language)
  - Uralic languages: Hungarian, Estonian, Finnish
- “By comparing existing languages with the help of written records, we know that French and Spanish (also, Italian, Portuguese, and Romanian) come from Latin. Based on similarities as simple as the numbers *un–uno*, *deux–dos*, and *trois–tres*, we can see evidence of a common source language. But Chinese numbers do not resemble French, Spanish, or English much. The first three numbers in Chinese are *yī*, *èr*, *sān*. From

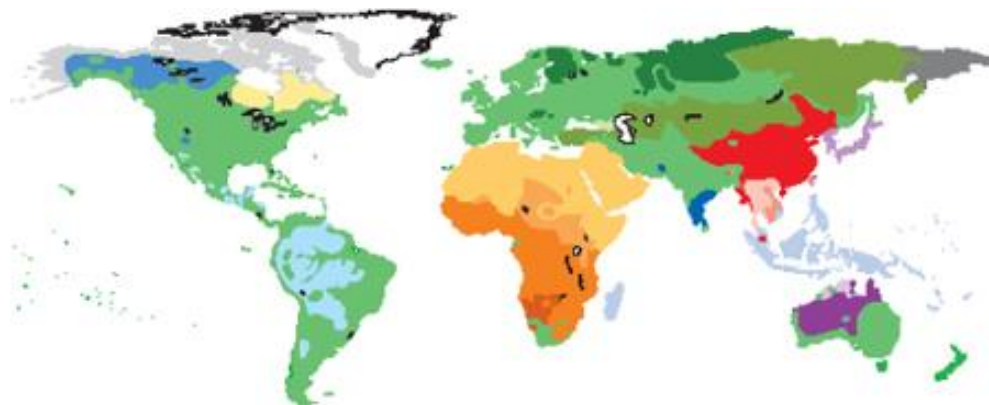
<sup>9</sup> <https://answersingenesis.org/tower-of-babel/was-the-dispersion-at-babel-a-real-event/>

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

evidences like this, linguists can infer family relations between languages, and can partially reconstruct ‘protolanguages’ and whole family trees. Because languages naturally do change over time, linguists generally suppose that all of today’s languages were produced by changes that we see going on around us now. However, that explanation hits the wall, and fails, at the Tower of Babel.”<sup>12</sup>

- “The problem is best illustrated by the most widely studied languages of the world, the roughly 449 distinct languages that fall into the Indo-European language family. Approximately 45 percent of the people in the world today speak one of the languages in this group. It includes English, Spanish, Russian, and 446 other languages. All those languages are known to have come from a single source commonly known as Proto-Indo-European (PIE). Based on the scant historical evidence, secular linguists believe PIE was spoken in Europe sometime between the third and seventh millennium BC, give or take a couple thousand years.”<sup>13</sup>
- “The next most widely spoken language family is the Sino-Tibetan group, which includes Chinese. It is estimated to have about 403 distinct languages and accounts for about 22 percent of the world’s population. That language family, too, is believed to have come from a common source, but different from PIE. Neither of these distinct source languages, however, can reasonably be dated earlier than the miracle at Babel.”<sup>14</sup>
- “Besides these two families, 92 other distinct language families are supposed to exist. There are two possible secular theories: (1) all these language groups (and their derived languages) came from a single original language, or (2) the language capacity must have evolved and expressed itself multiple times. Both ideas have been advocated by secular linguists, but current knowledge refutes both possibilities. The theory that any language could arise by chance has been refuted logically and mathematically. The idea that the language capacity could come about by chance more than once is even less likely than its evolving accidentally just once. No one has shown how language families as different as Proto-Indo-European and Proto-Sino-Tibetan could derive from a common source. The same holds for the other 92 families insofar as they have been studied.”<sup>15</sup>
- In other words, secular theories fail to explain the many distinct language families throughout the world.
- The biblical account of Babel is the only explanation that provides the key to unlocking the origin of language families



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- The following chart demonstrates the inter-relatedness of all of the languages in the columns (except Hungarian) which are all of the PIE language family
- This points to the fact that all the languages in each group arose from one of the “stem” languages of Babel

<sup>12</sup> <https://answersingenesis.org/tower-of-babel/more-than-pie/>

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.



English	German	Danish	Latin	Spanish	French	Greek (modern)	Russian	Hungarian
One	Eins	En	Unus	Uno	Un	Ena	Odyin	Eggy
Two	Zwei	To	Duo	Das	Deux	Dhyo	Dva	Kettő
Three	Drei	Tre	Tres	Tres	Trois	Tria	Tri	Három
Four	Vier	Fire	Quattuor	Cuatro	Quatre	Tessera	Chetirye	Négy
Five	Fünf	Fem	Quinque	Cinco	Cinq	Pente	Pyat'	Öt
Mother	Mutter	Mor	Mater	Madre	Mère	Metera	Mat'	Anya
Father	Vater	Far	Pater	Padre	Père	Pateras	Otyetz	Apa
I	Ich	Jeg	Ego	Yo	Je	Ego	Ya	Én
You	Du	Du	Tu	Tu	Tu	Esy	Ti	Ön
House	Haus	Hus	Domus	Casa	Maison	Spiti	Dom	Ház
Dog	Hund	Hund	Canis	Perro	Chien	Skylos	Sobaka	Kutya
Cat	Katze	Kat	Feles	Gato	Chat	Gata	Koshka	Macska
Lion	Löwe	Løve	Leo	León	Lion	Leontari	Lyev	Oroszlán
Monkey	Affe	Abe	Simius	Mono	Singe	Maimouda	Obiez'yana	Majom
Bear	Bär	Bjørn	Ursus	Oso	Ours	Arkoudha	Myedvyed'	Medve
Snake	Schlange	Slange	Serpens	Serpiente	Serpent	Ophis	Zmyeya	Kigyó
Horse	Pferd	Hest	Equus	Caballo	Cheval	Alogo	Loshad'	Ló
Cow	Kuh	Ko	Vacca	Vaca	Vache	Vodi	Korova	Tehén

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## IMPLICATIONS OF BABEL ON RACE

- Not only did the dispersion at Babel produce the major language families, it also resulted in the isolation of small people groups who could not easily mix
- Each of these people groups contained only a fraction of the total human gene pool
- This resulted in fixing certain physical characteristics within people groups and producing the different ethnicities that we see today
- As these groups spread out and became isolated, certain features (e.g., skin shade, eye shape) became dominant in certain groups
- “They became genetically isolated, meaning that they married and had offspring primarily within their particular group. As the years passed, each group developed its own culture and ways of doing things. Genetically isolated, certain physical traits became more prominent in each group. These ethnic characteristics are wrongly considered racial characteristics; but there really is only one race, the human race. All of these people were simply people.”<sup>18</sup>
- This is perhaps best illustrated in skin color
- In reality, there is only one pigment in human skin...melanin...which is dark brown, almost black
- The supposed different skin “colors” are really only different shades of the same color that result from different amounts of melanin in the skin
- The “differences between ‘black’ people and ‘white’ people are not different pigments, but different *amounts* of the *same* pigment. So the different ‘colors’ are controlled by genes regulating the amount of melanin produced. (Actually, it would be more precise to say that the genes code for a certain *potential* amount of melanin. Exposure to UV can stimulate more melanin production – ‘tanning.’ But a ‘white’ European will never become as dark as an equatorial African no matter how long he tans.)...[thus] humans have the same pigment – melanin – just different *amounts* of it. So ‘black’ and ‘white’ people are really ‘dark brown’ and ‘light brown’ people.”<sup>19</sup>

<sup>17</sup> Sarfati, *Genesis Account*, 666.

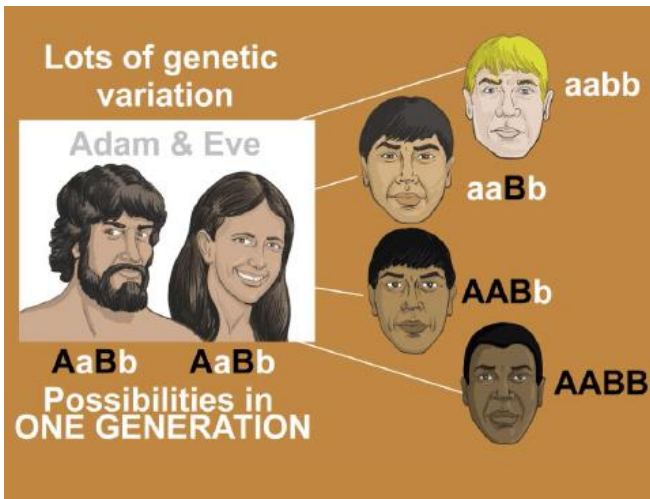
<sup>18</sup> <https://answersingenesis.org/tower-of-babel/how-many-races-did-god-create/>

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*, 669.

- All of the skin shades present today were present within the genetic potential of Adam and Eve, from whom we have all descended

**Acts 17:26** ~ and He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation,

- In fact, most likely Adam and Eve were olive-skinned and therefore capable of producing offspring with a variety of skin tones from light-skinned to dark-skinned and every shade in between



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	AB	Ab	aB	ab
AB	AA BB	AA Bb	Aa BB	Aa Bb
Ab	AA Bb	AA bb	Aa Bb	Aa bb
aB	Aa BB	Aa Bb	aa BB	aa Bb
ab	Aa Bb	Aa bb	aa Bb	aa bb

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- In order for such different skin tones to result, there must be a separation of small groups into various people groups...otherwise, most people would regress to the mean – olive complexioned
- This is just what the Babel dispersion resulted in...people could disperse to three continents: Europe, Asia, and Africa
- Those who migrated to Africa have lots of melanin (AABB) and would be better protected from UV rays (because melanin acts as a sunscreen)
- Those who migrated to Europe have less melanin (aabb) and need lighter skin to produce Vit D due to less intense sunlight
- Those who migrated to Asia have medium amounts of melanin (AABb or some similar combination) and explain the medium-complexioned people of Asia, Native Americans, and South Americans
- Children born to medium-colored skin parents (i.e. mixed-race couples), can produce offspring with a wide variety of skin shades (just like the children of Adam and Eve)
- For example, a set of 'black' and 'white' twin girls (Remeë and Kian) were born to mother Kylee Hodgson and father Remi Horder who both had 'white' British mothers and 'black' Jamaican fathers



<sup>20</sup> <https://answersingenesis.org/tower-of-babel/how-many-races-did-god-create/>

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.mathetis.org/topic/the-origin-of-races/>

- Thus, although we tend to group people according to the physical traits they have in common, there is only one race of people, the human race
- This has profound implications:
  1. There are different people groups who do have ethnic and cultural heritages that can be honored and celebrated. But we are all one blood...even in the midst of our difference we are the same.
  2. Christ died for the human race, not a particular people group

**Revelation 5:9** ~ And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

3. Racism is a sin
  - “So it’s not just “black” and “white.” Bottom line: a person’s skin shade (what is on the outside) should in no way invoke any sort of prejudice or racist comments. What a difference we would see in our world if people reacted in accord with biblical principles, understanding all humans are equal before God, and all are sinners in need of salvation. All of us need to build our thinking on the absolute authority of the Word of God, judging all beliefs and attitudes against the clear teaching of what our Creator God teaches us.”<sup>22</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> <https://answersingenesis.org/racism/its-not-just-black-and-white/>