

New Year, New Identity
Genesis 11:1-9

(vs. 1-2) Text Introduction

Genesis 11:1-2

11 Now the whole earth had one language and the same words.

2 And as people migrated from the east,
they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there.

(vs. 3-4) The People's Rebellion

Genesis 11:3-4

³ And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. ⁴ Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth."

John Piper says: "God is the one being in the universe for whom self-exaltation is the most loving act. Anyone else who exalts himself [or herself] distracts us from what we need, namely, God."

Divine Response (vs. 5 - 9)

Genesis 11:5

⁵ And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built.

Genesis 11:6 || The Uniqueness of Humanity

⁶ And the Lord said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them.

Genesis 11:7-8 || Disciplinary Scattering

⁷ Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." ⁸ So the Lord dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city.

Genesis 11:9 || They Received a Name

⁹ Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth. And from there the Lord dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

Genesis 12:1-3 || Redemptive/Missional Scattering

¹ Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your

name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

1 Corinthians 6:9b-11

Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality ¹⁰nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹ And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.