

=FAVORITE BIBLE CHAPTERS=

Lesson 44

Genesis 10, 11

INTRODUCTION: Nimrod was a Cushite. He was a ruler. He was a descendant of Cush, who was a descendant of Ham, one of the three sons of Noah. Nimrod warrants our discussion and our study. Let us notice many things about him.

- I. HE WAS A MIGHTY ONE IN THE EARTH. Genesis 10:8. He was a powerful monarch.
- II. HE WAS A MIGHTY HUNTER. Genesis 10:9.
- III. HE PUT HIMSELF BEFORE THE LORD. Genesis 10:9a. Notice the words, “He was a mighty hunter before the LORD.” In fact, it became a saying, according to Genesis 10:9b, “Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.” He put himself before God and exalted himself in the place of God.
- IV. HE WAS ADDRESSED IN PRAYER. It became legend for people to address Nimrod in prayer occasionally. This was natural since he was so powerful and put himself before the Lord. (Teacher, explain to the pupils the importance of putting nothing before God. He should come before everything, before every person, before every habit, before every work, before everything. He should be first. Matthew 6:33 and other verses teach us this blessed truth.)
- V. HE BUILT A KINGDOM KNOWN AS BABEL. Genesis 10:10. The word “Babel” means “confusion.” Nimrod built a kingdom that is to end in Revelation 17 and 18 under the Antichrist. Nimrod was a type of the Antichrist, the awful man of sin who is going to come and rule the world during the Tribulation Period. The kingdom of Babel which he built was a very interesting kingdom. It was walled; it had houses, a river, palaces, bridges, and tunnels; it was very advanced. Nimrod was a person of tremendous influence and power.
- VI. HE BUILT A TOWER CALLED “THE TOWER OF BABEL.” Genesis 11:4. The tower of Babel was begun shortly after the flood. Those who planned it hoped to establish a center and prevent the danger of their being scattered over the face of the earth. Since there was no building stone or lime in the land, bricks were used in the place of stone in the building of this tower. There were several reasons for its building.
 1. They were building a religious headquarters. In Genesis 11:4 notice the words, “whose top may reach unto heaven.” They were trying to unite the religions of this world under a false canopy—a man-made religion.

(Teacher, two vital things should be taught here. First, stress should be given against building our way to Heaven or working our way to Heaven. Discuss the plan of salvation and show the pupils that baptism, the Lord’s Supper, good works, joining the church, or any other of man’s methods cannot earn him eternal life. We should also stress the importance of our not being aligned with false religions. A false religion is one that does not believe the Bible is the Word of God and Jesus is the Son of God. We should have no contact or fellowship with them. This is one of the errors of the tower of Babel.)

2. Nimrod was building a “one-world government.” Notice the words in Genesis 11:4, “...let us build us a city.” In other words, they were building a government, a centralized one which could rule the whole world. This again is wrong. God never intends for nations to go together and have a one-world government. There is a security in God’s plan of nations being independent of each other. We can have cooperation, yes, but union, never! One-world government is not of God. Centralized power politically is not of God.

These two centralized units, religion and government, form the political Babylon and ecclesiastical Babylon which shall be destroyed in the end time and which shall be headed up by the Antichrist and the False Prophet, respectively.

3. They wanted to unite the races of the world. You will notice in Genesis 11:5-9 that God wanted all the people scattered, but the people wanted to come together. God was not for the races intermarrying, but Nimrod was for building a one-world race. This does not mean that one race was better than the other or any race was worse than the other. It means that God is a God of many nations, many governments, many local churches, and many races.

VII. NIMROD WAS MARRIED. Historians tell us that his wife had a baby and that she claimed the baby was virgin born! It was customary for her to be called the “Queen of Heaven” and to have a Madonna-like picture made with the baby. The people would carry such a picture with them. Here is the instigation of a religion that is still alive today.

CONCLUSION: At first thought, the teacher of children may think this to be a hard lesson, but this is not true at all. There are so many truths that can be taught to children in this lesson—the truth of putting nothing before God, the truth of being faithful to the right kind of church, the truth of salvation, the danger of works, the importance of marrying properly, the importance of not worshipping a man, etc. All of these lessons are appropriate and applicable to children as well as to adults.