

## **The Tower of Babel**

Genesis 9:18 - 11:9

by Don Falkos

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After the great flood Noah planted a vineyard, made wine, and became inebriated. He stripped off all his clothes and passed out in his tent.

One of Noah's son's, Ham, saw what happened but didn't do anything to help. Noah's other two sons, Shem and Japheth, took a robe and draped it over their shoulders. They walked slowly backwards into Noah's tent, allowing the robe to fall over him to cover him up.

When Noah woke up he blessed Shem and Japheth, saying that their descendants would be very prosperous. He also cursed Ham and his son Canaan, saying that Canaan's descendants would serve as slaves in the households of Shem and Japheth.

Years later, there was a group of people, descendants of Noah's three sons, who decided to build a tower that would reach all the way up to Heaven. "We'll be famous!" they said.

So in their arrogance, they started building. But God said, "Up to now all the people of the Earth have been united by a single language, but no more." God made it so that the people couldn't understand each other.

They gathered into groups based on the languages they found themselves speaking, and from there God scattered them all over the Earth. Because of what happened there, that place became known as Babel and later as Babylon. The tower was never completed.