

# Modern Towers Of Babel

Gen. 11:1-9

## Introduction:

- A. Builders of tower too prestige conscious: "Let us make a name for ourselves"
- B. Church often suffers from prestige conscious members - big thinkers.
- C. *Goal* of church in not to be envy of sin infested world.
  - 1. Recognition for doing good is good. (Mt. 5:16; 1 Tim. 3:7).
  - 2. Prestige consciousness too often results in compromise of principle. (Gal. 2:11-13; Jas. 3:1-4).
- D. Prestige conscious element in church busy building modern towers of Babel.

## Discussion:

### II. The Tower of Centralization.

- A. New Testament churches independent units. (Acts 14:23; Acts 20:25-30; Phil 1:1; 1 Pet. 5:2)
  - 1. No large organization and institutions to combine churches.
  - 2. It worked. (Col. 1:23).
- B. There is considerable pride and worldly prestige in larger organizations.

### III. The Tower Of Human Wisdom.

- A. Human wisdom cannot save souls. (1 Cor. 1:18-25).
  - 1. Paul's fleshly accomplishments of little value to his work. (Phil. 3:4-8).
  - 2. Peter and John were untrained and uneducated by human standards. (Acts 4:13).
- B. Modern bid for prestige is way we measure greatness and success.
  - 1. Preachers advertized as: Dr., educator, business executive, etc.
  - 2. Church are "good" is made up of such elite.

### IV. The Tower of Positivism.

- A. Brethren accept idea that "accentuating the positive and eliminating the negative".
  - 1. People must not be told they are wrong, but that we a more right.
  - 2. Preach to make people feel good about themselves - not pointing out sins. (cf. Pentecost).
- B. Bible both positive and negative. (2 Tim. 4:2; Tit. 2:11,12; 2 John 9).

### V. The Tower of Numerical Strength.

- A. Mere numbers not the goal of God's people. (Matt. 20:16; 7:14; 1 Pet. 3:20 cf. Gideon).
- B. When numbers become goal:
  - 1. Conversion minimized.
  - 2. Discipline neglected.
  - 3. Preaching toned down.
  - 4. Emotionalism abounds.

### VI. The Tower Of The "Social Gospel".

- A. Church is spiritual institution with spiritual mission. (Eph. 3:10; 1 Tim. 3:10).
- B. Social gospel may win prestige, but not souls. (Rom. 1:16; Gal. 1:8,9).
- C. Church should not and cannot compete in social realm.

## Conclusion

- A. Have be become to prestige conscious?
- B. Let us be more interested in going to heaven than making a name.
- C. Obey the simple gospel today!

**Modern Tower of Babel****Gen. 11:1-9**

Prestige conscience: "Let us ..." ☹ Church suffers from - big thinkers ☹ Goal not envy of sin infested world ☹ Recognition OK (Mt. 5:16; 1 Tim 3:7) ☹ Often compromise (Gal 2:11-13; Jas. 3:1-4) ☹ Busy building towers..

**Centralization**

*NT churches independant* (Acts 14:23; Acts 20:25-30; Phil. 1:1; 1 Pet. 5:2) ☹ No large combines ☹ It worked (Col. 1:23) ☹ *Pride and wordly prestige in larger organizations.*

**Human Wisdom**

*Cannot save* (1 Cor 1:18-21) ☹ Paul's fleshly accomplishments (Phil 3:4-8) ☹ Untrained men (Acts 4:13) ☹ *Modern bid for prestidige* ☹ DR, educator, etc. ☹ "Good" churc made up of such?

**Positivism**

*Accent. Possitive* ☹ Not wrong, more right ☹ Good about selves (pentecost) ☹ **Bible pos. & neg.** (2 Tim. 4:2; Tit. 2:11, 12; 2 Jn 9).

**Numerical Strength**

*Mere num. Not goal* (Mt. 20:16; 7:14; 1 Pet 3:20, cf. Gideon) ☹ *When becomes:* Conversion minimized, Discipline neglecte, Preached toned down, Emotionalism abounds.

**"Social Gospel"**

Church sp. inst. - spiritual mission (Eph 3:10; 1 Tim. 2:15)  
☹ Socail gospel - prestidige not souls (Rom 1:16; Gal

1:8,9) ☹ Cannot/should not compete in social realm.