

Study Hints for Thinking Further

International Bible Lessons

Genesis 11:1-9

Sunday, September 29, 2013

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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Five Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be the answers to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class.

Five Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. What are some of the benefits when everyone speaks the same language in a group or nation?

Decisions and actions can be made more quickly and with less confusion and misunderstanding when people use the same words with the same meanings in the same context.

2. What had God wanted the people to do that they refused to do when they built their city?

God wanted people to fill the whole earth, but they did not want to be scattered. See Genesis 9:1, 7 and Genesis 11:4.

3. What did they do that indicated their cultural development? Was their cultural development wrong?

Instead of building with stone, they began building with brick and mortar. Perhaps they had always built with stone before and not bricks. Perhaps this was their first time to find and use mortar so they could build larger cities and taller towers. Building with a new technology was not wrong. Using their inventions and technology in disobedience to God and with the intention to disobey God was wrong.

4. What did the people say that indicates they were no longer a God-centered people?

See Genesis 11:4. They wanted to make a great name for themselves. Except in their disobedience of God, God was not included in their building plans.

5. What did God say that revealed something about the way God made people?

See Genesis 11:6. “Nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them.”

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