<div align="center">

"Gate of God"
Genesis 11:1-9

</div>

Q.   Per our study of chapter 10, when is the "now" taking place?

A.   Cp. 10:1-8

v. 1 Q.   What is the descriptive?

A.   "Now the whole world had one _____ and a common

      _____."   (Gen. 11:1 NIV)

Note: The terms "language" and "speech" are not synonymous.

"Language" = "A system of _____, signs, _____, or
gestures that communicates a commonly held meaning or
understanding.

"Speech" = "The _____, signs, _____, or gestures
themselves.

Q.   What language was it?

A.

Q.   How do you reconcile chapter 10, verses 5, 20, and 31 with the
      timing?

A.   If the division is equated with _____ (10:25), it is hard to
      reconcile. From 10:5, the language division had already taken
      place.

Option: *lingua franca* (Frankish Tongue)= A type of communication was already established among differing languages, e.g. ethnic/tribal speech, but there was still one _____ or _____ language.

Note: A modern day example of this would be _____ as the universal business language.

v. 2   Q.   Notice the directionality - _____. Cf. 2:8; 3:24; 4:16; 10:30.

        Q.   Where do they travel?

        A.

Known first as - _____, then Sumer and Akkad, then eventually known as _____.

v. 3   Q.   What did they say to each other?

        A.

        Q.   What is the significance of the materials used?

        A.
              It is the first time we see man build bricks by _____ them instead of letting them be sun baked, e.g. in Egypt.

              Anthropologists have discovered writings describing this brick process and stacking, and they said that it was difficult getting them to _____ with the tar/pitch being used.

v. 4   Q.   What was the building project?

        A.

              1.

2.

Q. What was the reason for it?

A.

1.

2.

Q. What was wrong with the motives?

A.

1.

2.

3.   Cf. 1:28

Note: One Aramaic version of the Bible preserves this traditional reading of verse 4 and it has some merit.

"And they said, 'Come let us build ourselves a city and a tower, with its top reaching to the heights of the sky and let us make ourselves an _____ on top of it, and let us place a _____ in its hand and let it make battle array against him (God) before we are scattered upon the face of the earth.'" (Targum Neof. Gen. 11:4)

v. 5   Q. What is interesting about this verse?

A.

1.   The LORD _____ to them. They could never ascend to Him, even at the height of their arrogance.

2.   It suggests both _____ and _____ interest.

v. 6   Q. What was the LORD's observation?

A. [Rashi] "They possess all the _____ of being one people, having one language in common, and this is what they _____ to do? [What will be next?]"

Q. What is meant by this? Cp. 3:22.

A. Man has been made in our image with great _____. With sin entering humanity, he has both the potential for doing _____ things but also extremely _____ things.

v. 7 Q. Notice the plural language. What was the LORD's response to this action?

A.
  1. "They" came _____.

     Note: [Rashi] "He took counsel with his Judicial Court because of His exceeding _____ (Sanhedrin 38b)." Monotheistic response.

     As followers of Jesus, we would recognize this as another example of the _____.

  2. _____ their language so they will not understand each other.

v. 8 Q. What was the result?

A.
  1. The LORD _____ them over all the earth. [10:25 Peleg?]

  2. They stopped _____ the city.

      a.   Because they could not _____each other.

      b.   Because of the _____/_____ disruption.

      c.   Because of the lack of _____.

v. 9   Q.   What does the Bible say the word "Babel" means?

      A.   "to _____."

      Note: It can also mean, "to _____" or "to confound."

      Others? _____ of God (bab-ili(m))

      Q.   What significance does this have to Acts 2:1-12? If any…

      A.

      Comparisons?

      Differences?

      Note the list of language families: 13

      Note how Wikipedia describes the account in Genesis 11.

Q.   What do you observe?

"The Tower of Babel narrative in Genesis 11:1–9 is an origin myth and parable meant to explain why the world's peoples speak different languages."

A.

Q.	What does this account say about humankind, in general?

A.

Q.	What does this account tell us about God?

A.

Q.	What do you think heaven will be like when it comes to language? (speculative) Cp. Revelation 7:9-10

A.

Q.	How is God still using "confusion" to accomplish his decretive will?

A.