



## THE DAY THAT TANGES GOT TUNGLED

### Introduction: (“spoonerisms”)

#### Literary Structure of Genesis 11:1-9

- A “the whole world had one language” (vs. 1)
- B “there” (vs. 2)
- C “each other” (vs. 3)
- D “Come, let’s make bricks” (vs. 3)
- E “Come, let us build ourselves” (vs. 4)
- F “a city with a tower” (vs. 4)
- “the Lord came down...” (vs. 5)
- F<sup>1</sup> “the city and the tower” (vs. 5)
- E<sup>1</sup> “that the men were building” (vs. 5)
- D<sup>1</sup> “Come, let us...confuse” (vs. 7)
- C<sup>1</sup> “each other” (vs. 7)
- B<sup>1</sup> “from there” (vs. 8)
- A<sup>1</sup> “the language of the whole world” (vs. 9)

#### A. Migration (vs. 1-2)

“the whole earth used the same language and the same words”

“it came about as they journeyed east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there”

#### B. Materials (vs. 3)

“Come, let us...”

“make bricks and burn them thoroughly”

“they used brick for stone, and they used tar for mortar”

#### C. Motivation (vs. 4)

“Come, let us build for ourselves a city...” = commercial Babylon (Revelation 17)

“a tower whose top will reach into heaven” = religious Babylon (Revelation 18)

“let us make for ourselves a name”

“otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth”

## II. HEAVEN'S ANSWER (vs. 5-9)

### A. God Saw Them (vs. 5-6)

“The LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built.”

“The LORD said, ‘Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language.’ ”

“now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them”

### B. God Sentenced Them (vs. 7)

“Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language”

“so that they will not understand one another’s speech”

### C. God Scattered Them (vs. 8-9)

“so the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of the whole earth and they stopped building the city”

• “therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of the whole earth”

• “from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of the whole earth”

“The primeval history reaches its fruitless climax as man, conscious of new abilities, prepares to glorify and fortify himself by collective effort. The elements of the story are timelessly characteristic of the spirit of the world. The project is typically grandiose; men describe it excitedly to one another as if it were the ultimate achievement.... At the same time they betray their insecurity as they crowd together to preserve their identity and control their fortunes.”  
– Derek Kidner

## Conclusion:

- 1) When proud men set themselves against God, God always wins.
- 2) When an arrogant man thinks he can solve all problems in his own strength, God must intervene.
- 3) When you do not humble yourself before God’s mighty hand, you will soon feel God’s hand of judgment.
- 4) Yet, God’s sovereign purpose will always prevail.