Destroying America From Within (Part One)

John W. Ritenbaugh Given 31-Aug-19; Sermon #1504c

I'm going to begin by reading the first nine verses of Genesis 11:

Genesis 11:1-9 Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. Then they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. And the Lord said, "Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

God's solution to this budding problem was quite simple. His solution was simply to make the people causing the budding problem, unable to understand each other. Those people, therefore, could not accomplish the vast project that they were planning because their communication was destroyed. And with that circumstance, cooperation was impossible.

Consider this for a moment. Marriage is, without a doubt, the closest of all relationships we humans are permitted by God to involve ourselves in with another human. Would you make a marriage in which there was no hope that any productive communication would ever take place? Productivity is absolutely dependent upon clear communication. The emphasis is on the word "clear." Without communication, such a circumstance will produce exactly the same result as it did when God did what He did. It stopped the budding despots right in their tracks without anybody being killed in any type of earthly warfare.

With this understanding alone, we can grasp in a broad generality why life is so chaotic at this time. We need to be thankful to some degree because God has at least controlled the confusion (here in America) enough so that things are indeed still confused, but super-violent warfare that is now possible with the powerful weapons we are capable of producing, has not yet been unleashed upon each other.

Nonetheless, we need to grasp that the reason the present level of confusion exists is because all Americans are not speaking the same things, even though we all speak essentially the same language. Conclusion: The same language is clearly not the only issue in good communication. What is also needful for truly good communication is that the words be delivered *and received* in the right attitude, with both the sender and receiver not only speaking the same language, but both sender and receiver understanding the individual words and the message as closely as possible, with each word understood in the same way. It's no wonder the Babylonians gave up almost immediately.

Communication was impossible because nobody was on the same page when it came to building the city and the tower any further.

From this simple illustration, we can begin to grasp why God's creative purposes in man and for man can take so long to be truly developed within an individual. Are we speaking the same language as God? That's the question here. Are we, with our driving awareness of self-centeredness, which is enmity against God, speaking on the same communication level He is on? Hardly, brethren. How long does it take Him to get through to us?

It was Revelation 14:3 that stirred my interest in this subject. I am unsure whether I am interpreting it absolutely correctly, but I am sure that I am on the right track. That verse states that only the 144,000 could learn the words to that song that they sang. Only they were in tune with God. I mean, that's what it's saying. But one thing I am absolutely certain of is that these 144,000 are on the same page as God in terms of communication, and that is the major reason why they are in the Kingdom. They *hear* what God is saying and carry out His ways in their lives.

Now, back to modern America once again and the present controversies. Consider the arguments underway regarding immigration. A wall, or no wall. Republican or Democrat. Climate control and carbon levels. We're all speaking English, but we are not all understanding each other, are we? We're not all on the same page. Americans are absolutely not on the same page with each other. It is as though we are speaking different languages.

Take a gander at the vocabulary picture the so-called "Christian" religion sends out through its spokesmen, and include ours with it. There must be over 1000 different religious groups, all of them calling themselves "Christian," and yet they have differing doctrinal packages and standards. They will never get together the way things are until they are all listening to the same language. It takes God to truly sort out and pass along His sortings to those who are truly His children, that is, so that they can understand the doctrinal basis of the true religion. The ones who truly hear His teachings *do* them, because they make sense to them, because God's voice is being heard by them.

A great deal of the verbal noise can be disregarded because the vast unconverted majority, even though they hear the noise of the words, will not follow Jesus Christ in even keeping the Sabbath and the festivals, even as obvious as it was that He *did* do those things. They still will not keep them, and still they call themselves "Christian."

So, why? The reason is actually quite simple. They aren't tuned in to what God is saying. Those words, even though they are the truth, are a foreign language to them.

There can be no agreement between Republicans and Democrats, and most especially within the ranks of the socialistic, radical left, which seems to be growing more and more effective in their communication, even though history very conclusively shows socialism absolutely never works, except for a very short period of time. Yet people hear the message of socialism and think it's their salvation. They're not on the same wavelength as God. He doesn't promote socialism at all.

What is the solution? Mankind always eventually turns to the same one. If we cannot flee the confusion, we resort to warfare, whether within a family (divorce takes place), on the streets of the community, or between states and nations. And that, brethren, is the direction that we are drifting ultimately, because we can't hear each other. We're making a lot of noise, but we aren't hearing.

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