

Tower of Babel Chiastic Structure

1. Now the **whole [earth]** had *one language* and a *common speech*

2. As men moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and **settled** there

3. they said to each other “**Come, let us make bricks** (*lvn*) and bake them thoroughly.”
They used the brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar.

4. Then they said, “Come, let us build **ourselves** a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may **make a name for ourselves** and *not* be scattered over the face of the whole earth.

5. But the **LORD** *came down* to see the city and the tower that the men were building.

6. The LORD said, “If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them.

7. **Come, let us** go down and **confuse** (*nvl*) their language so they will not understand each other

8. So the LORD **scattered** them from their all over the earth, and they stopped building the city

9. That is why it was called Babel – because the LORD confused the language of the **whole world**. From there the LORD scattered them over the face of the **whole earth**.

Principle: When men lead in speech and action to create in order to “*make a name for ourselves*” (v4) they often end up with confusion and chaos.
When God leads in speech and action, the end result is order

God creates order. Man creates chaos.