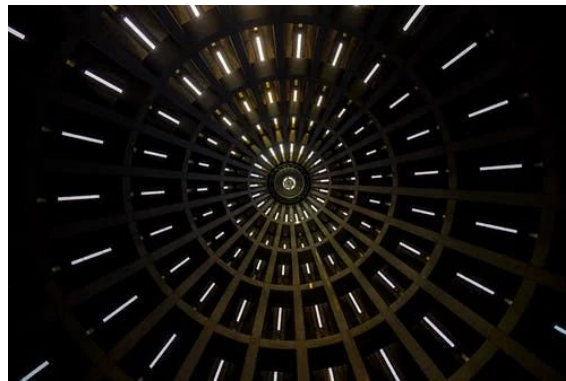




## THE TECH TOWER



At the dawn of history someone came up with a great idea.

“Let’s build a tower that reaches heaven. It will guarantee our unity and cover us with glory.”

Soon a city emerged out there on the plain in the land of Shinar. And right in the middle of this city a tower began to rise toward heaven. All people took pride in this amazing project.

*Now the whole earth had one language and few words.  
And as men migrated from the east,  
they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there.  
And they said to one another,  
"Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly."  
And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar.  
Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city,  
and a tower with its top in the heavens,  
and let us make a name for ourselves,  
lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth."*

Genesis 11

Why not? We're smart. We are in charge of the earth. This tower will prove to the universe that we can do anything we set our minds to do.

*And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower,  
which the sons of men had built. And the LORD said,  
"Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language;  
and this is only the beginning of what they will do;  
and nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for 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 left off building the city.  
Therefore its name was 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.*

#### Genesis 11

Over the eons the human race has repeated this tower-building exercise countless times.

Kingdom after kingdom, empire after empire has taken its turn building their version of the Tower of Babel...

---something permanent, glorious,  
a sign of human ingenuity and prowess.

And each new tower met the same fate.

Today we are looking at the last and greatest tower of all time,

... the Tech Tower.

This Tower is international. Men and women from every nation are adding to its height. The speed of its growth is accelerating hourly. This tower is so vast and complex that the builders themselves have no idea of what will emerge as it continues its climb toward infinity.

Artificial intelligence, cloning, re-programmed DNA, genetically altered seed, self-driving cars, listening devices that can penetrate any barrier, space probes

that reach ever deeper into the yawning darkness beyond our tiny planet.

The prophets and apostles called it Babylon. Every new system that captured the minds of nations; that drew the world's wealth into its orbit, became a new expression of Babylon.

And behind Babylon is a mind, a spiritual force that inspires a kind of devotion which can only be called worship.

The prophets and apostles understood that the ancient Tower of Babel would find its final expression...

... as a Babylon, a Tower that would enslave the world.

This Tower stands before us now,  
as it continues its ascent toward infinity.

But this Tower, like all the others, will fail.

In fact, it is even now under the judgment of the God it seeks to replace.

The days of this Tower are numbered.

***After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven,  
having great authority; and the earth was made bright with his splendor.  
And he called out with a mighty voice,  
"Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great!  
It has become a dwelling place of demons,  
a haunt of every foul spirit, a haunt of every foul and hateful bird;  
for all nations have drunk the wine of her impure passion,  
and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her,  
and the merchants of the earth have grown rich  
with the wealth of her wantonness."***

**Revelation 18**

All of us are living in the shadow of the Tech Tower. We reap its benefits every time we send a text to a friend or check on the weather. We buy and sell by means of its digital wonders.

But if we belong to the Kingdom of God, we need to make sure that we are not enslaved by this monster.

*Then I heard another voice from heaven saying,  
"Come out of her, my people,  
lest you take part in her sins,  
lest you share in her plagues;  
for her sins are heaped high as heaven,  
and God has remembered her iniquities.  
Render to her as she herself has rendered,  
and repay her double for her deeds;  
mix a double draught for her in the cup she mixed.  
As she glorified herself and played the wanton,  
so give her a like measure of torment and mourning.  
Since in her heart she says,*

*A queen I sit,  
I am no widow, mourning I shall never see,'*

*so shall her plagues come in a single day,  
pestilence and mourning and famine,  
and she shall be burned with fire;  
for mighty is the Lord God who judges her.*

#### **Revelation 18**

“Come out of her, my people!” How do we do that?

Do we retreat to the desert? Do we hide in the hills?

**No.**

We simply take our hearts out of the Tower...  
and fix them in the Kingdom of God.

We focus on “the one thing needful”:  
doing the will of God.

Listening to the Father’s voice ...

as the Messiah speaks his life-giving words.

Those words will still be ringing across the universe...  
when the Tech Tower is long gone.

Those words come alive in us, as we obey them.

While this final Tower rises with its glitter and flash,

God is building his final Temple on earth out of living souls.

The Spirit of God is gathering people out of every nation  
and filling this Temple with the glory of the world to come.

***Come to him, to that living stone, rejected by men but in God's sight chosen  
and precious; and like living stones be yourselves built into a spiritual  
house, to be a holy priesthood,  
to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.  
I Peter 2***

God's Final Temple is vast and growing,  
even as the Tech Tower rises toward infinity.

This Temple has no structure but the power of the cross.

It has no hierarchy, no head  
but the Crucified and Risen Lord.

It has no walls, no doors, no windows.

This Temple is simply people  
who carry the mark of the Crucified Lord in their hearts,  
who shine with his light.

When we enter this Temple,

we find ourselves breathing the air of the world to come.

Our eyes are opened to glory of God.

Our hearts begin to yield to the will of God.

We receive strength to serve God in the very shadow of the Tech Tower.

The Tech Tower will soon crumble to dust, like all the towers before it.

But God's Temple

---those who walk in God's light

---will continue forever.

Of course, we cannot dwell in the Temple and the Tech Tower at the same time.

Moment by moment we decide where we choose to live---today, tomorrow, and forever.

### *Prayer*

Oh Jesus, give us hearts of flesh, hearts that seek You, our Living God. May we be enthralled by who You are...You who hold the mystery of existence and life. You the all knowing creator, the Alpha and the Omega. May our hearts and minds be devoted to You, our source of Life. Rescue us from being devoted to, captured and enslaved by this sense of superiority and security we get from man's ingenuity. May we listen to your life giving words, may we shine with your light, may we carry your mark. May we choose to dwell in your temple and come out of and reject Babylon and keep it's ugly mark from our hearts.

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