

¹ Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. ² As people moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there. ³ They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used 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; ...

Genesis 11 : 1-9

otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth." ⁵ But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower the people 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 their language so they will not understand each other." ...

Genesis 11 : 1-9

⁸ So the Lord scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. ⁹ That is why it was called Babel—because there the Lord confused the language of the whole world. From there the Lord scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

Genesis 11 : 1-9

A white ECG line is centered horizontally across the image. The word "GENESIS" is written in a stylized, outlined font in the center of the ECG line. The background is a dark blue gradient.

GENESIS

*How can we as Christian people
influence the future of the world?*

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Simply by influencing our cities

In 1950, only 30% of humanity lived in cities. But in 2014, for the first time, the majority of people on the planet live in cities. In 30 years, that number is projected to be 2/3, with 1 out of 8 people living in a short list of 28 megacities.

New York Times
July 10, 2014

The **Goodness** of the City

The **Brokenness** of the City

The **Healing** of the City



The **Goodness** of the City

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"Whose architect and builder is God"

Hebrews 11 : 10

The Great City

as a place of

safety

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Genesis 11 : 3-4

The Great City

as a place of

safety

innovation

The Great City

as a place of

safety

innovation

justice

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Genesis 11 : 4-7

The **Goodness** of the City

The **Brokenness** of the City

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"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing."

Matthew 23 : 37

"Ever since the early church fathers, commentators have seen the blessing of Pentecost as a deliberate and dramatic reversal of the curse of Babel."

John Scott

*God was bringing healing into the world,
not through one language,
but through one message spoken in all languages.*

*For us to be on mission with God **now**
is to do our mission now in light of
what the city will look like **then.***

Theology that heals

Theology that heals

Thinking that heals

"All they have in common is the Name,
which they stubbornly refuse to deny."

Celsus

Theology that heals

Thinking that heals

Suffering that heals

"You who are in such suffering now, what will you do when you are thrown to the beasts, which you despised when you refused to sacrifice?" And she replied, "Now it is I that suffer what I suffer; but then there will be another in me, who will suffer for me, because I also am about to suffer for him."

The Martyrdom of Saints Perpetua and Felicitas

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