

Did You Know?

***Babylon, Babel and Nimrod are
Not What You Think***

Did You Know?

- Babel in the OT is based on the Hebrew meaning 'confusion'.
- Babel actually comes from *bāb ilu* (Akkadian) which means 'gate of god' or 'gate of the gods'.
- The tower of Babel was an artificial mountain (Ziggurat) designed to force man's way back into the divine council.
- God's judgement was not about pride in their achievement, but for not knowing their place in the spiritual realm.
- Babel was not in Babylon.

Did You Know?

- Babylon didn't exist when the tower was built.
- Babylon was a small village that didn't become a city until 2,300BC, about 700 years after Nimrod.
- Nimrod built the cities of Babel, Erech, Accad and Calneh in the land of Shinar (Sumer).
- Erech is the city Uruk which was so important the surrounding land took on its name (Iraq today).
- It became the important city of the old Babylonian empire in the 2nd millennium BC.

Did You Know?

- Babylon didn't always refer to a city – it was interchangeable with other city names, including Eridu.
- Nimrod is the Hebrew for Enmerkar, the 2nd king of Uruk after the flood.
- Enmerkar means 'Enmer the hunter'.
- In Hebrew Enmer is *n-m-r*, where Nimrod comes from – “Nimrod a mighty hunter before the Lord” (Genesis 10:9)
- The epic poem 'Enmerkar and the Land of Aratta' contains details of the tower of Babel incident.

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