



The Tower of Babel

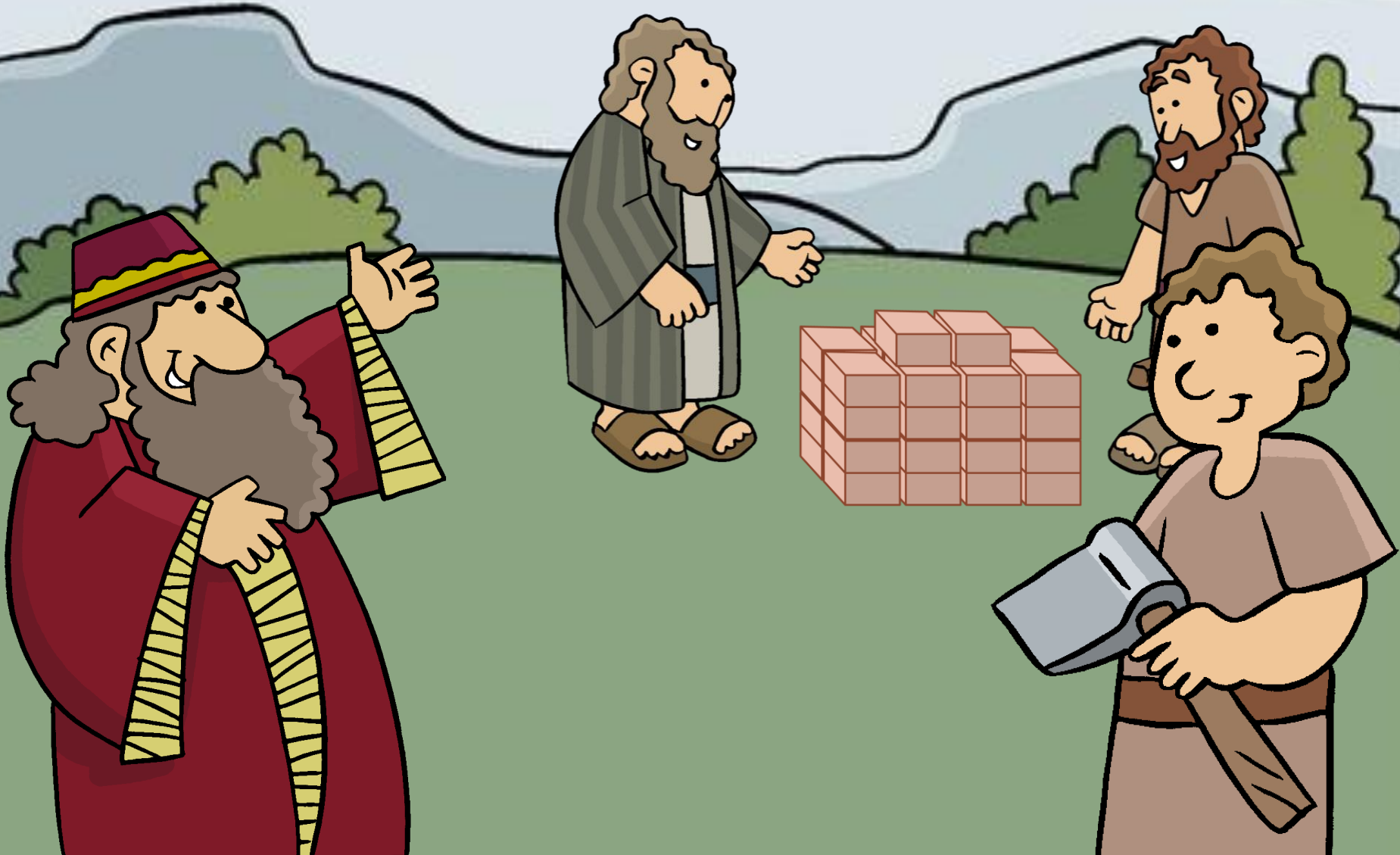
At one time all the people of the world spoke the same language and used the same words. As the people migrated to the east, they found a plain in the land of Babylonia and settled there.

巴别塔

天下人都用同一种语言，讲同一种话。人们向东迁移时，在示拿地区找到一处平原，定居下来。

They began saying to each other, "Let's make bricks and harden them with fire." (In this region bricks were used instead of stone, and tar was used for mortar.)

他们彼此商量说：“来呀，我们烧些砖吧。”他们用砖作石块，用柏油作水泥来造塔。





Then they said, "Come, let's build a great city for ourselves with a tower that reaches into the sky. This will make us famous and keep us from being scattered all over the world."

然后他们说：“来吧，让我们造一座城和一座高耸入云的塔，这样我们可以扬名天下，不致分散在地上。”



But the Lord came down to look at the city and the tower the people were building. "Look!" he said. "The people are united, and they all speak the same language. After this, nothing they set out to do will be impossible for them! Come, let's go down and confuse the people with different languages. Then they won't be able to understand each other."

上帝从天上下来，要察看人建造的城和塔。上帝说：“看啊，他们同属一个民族，都用同一种语言，现在就做这样的事，如果继续下去，他们会为所欲为。让我们下去变乱他们的语言，使他们彼此言语不通。”

In that way, the Lord scattered them all over the world, and they stopped building the city. That is why the city was called Babel, because that is where the Lord confused the people with different languages.

于是，耶和华把他们从那里分散到世界各地，他们便不再建造那城了。因此，人称那城为巴别，因为耶和华在那里变乱了人类的语言。



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Text from the Bible, Genesis 11