

# Tower of Babel

## Monument to Human Pride

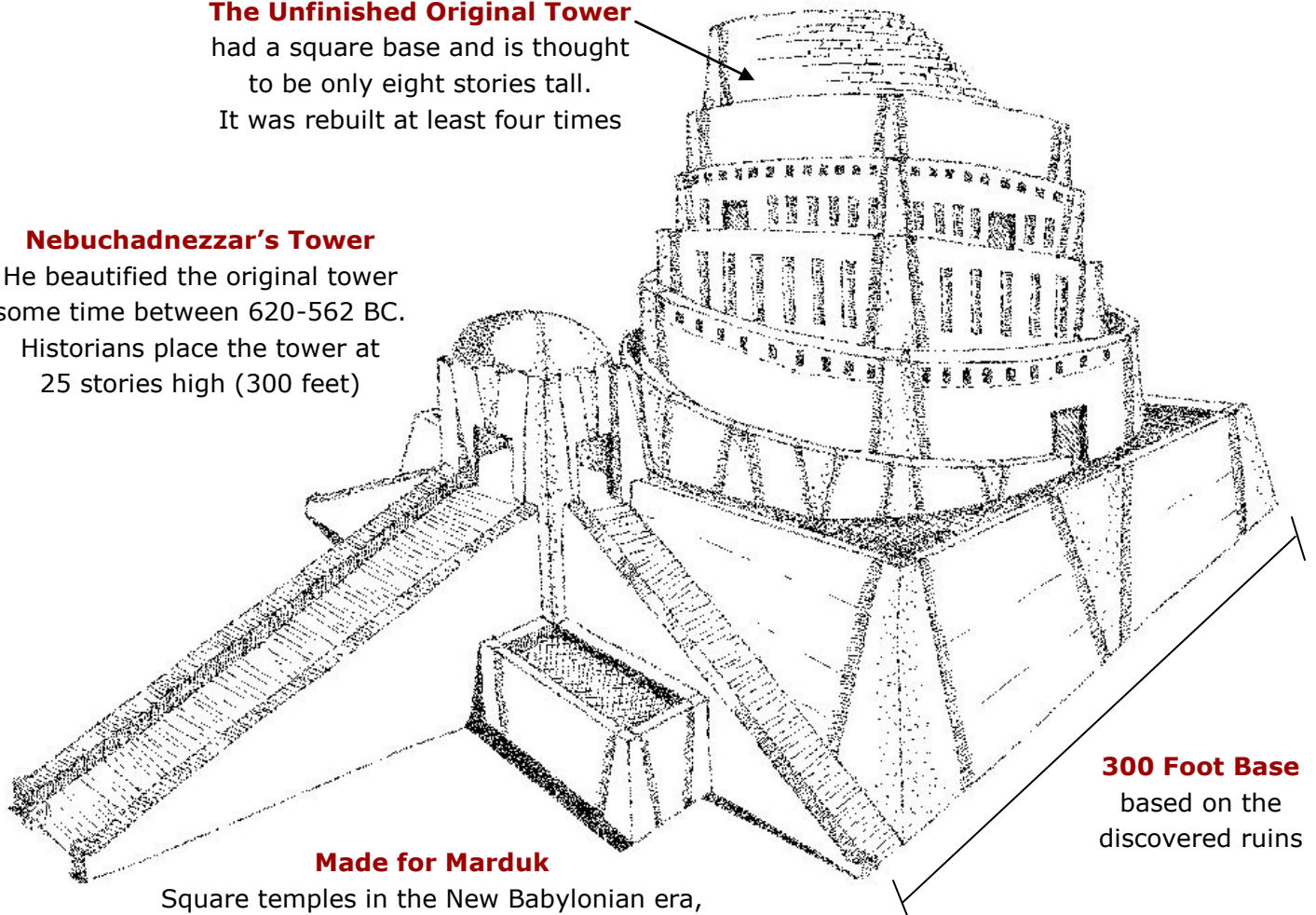
After the flood, God blessed men and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth." At that time, the whole world spoke a single language and used the same words. As the people migrated eastward, they found a plain in the land of Babylonia and settled there. They began to talk about construction projects. "Come," they said, "let's build a great city with a tower that reaches to the skies — a monument to our greatness! This will bring us together and keep us from scattering all over the world.

But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. "Look," He said. "If they can accomplish this, just think what they will do later. Nothing will be impossible for them! Let us go down and give them different languages. Then, they won't be able to understand each other."

In that way, the Lord scattered the people over the earth, and that ended the building of the city. This is why the city was called Babel, because it was there that the Lord confused their languages. *Genesis 11:1-9*

**The Unfinished Original Tower** had a square base and is thought to be only eight stories tall. It was rebuilt at least four times

**Nebuchadnezzar's Tower**  
He beautified the original tower some time between 620-562 BC. Historians place the tower at 25 stories high (300 feet)



**Made for Marduk**  
Square temples in the New Babylonian era, such as the one dedicated to the false god Marduk, were called ziggurats

**300 Foot Base**  
based on the discovered ruins

Illustration by Leslie Glenn