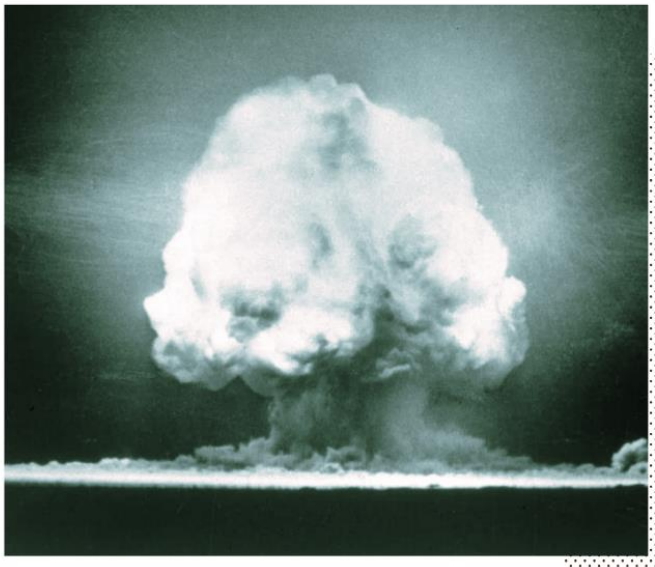
# FROM EDEN *to* AI

SESSION 3

*Babel, the Bomb & Beyond*



Humanity met the atomic age in the New Mexico desert. At a spot called Trinity Site, scientists detonated the first successful nuclear bomb on July 16, 1945. Within three weeks, similar bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki to expedite the end of World War II.

Six years earlier, physicists Leo Szilard and Albert Einstein warned President Franklin Roosevelt that Nazi Germany might develop an extraordinarily powerful atomic weapon. In a race against the Nazis, the United States launched the Manhattan Project. This massive, secret undertaking required scientists, engineers, military personnel, and industrial facilities all working in unprecedented national coordination.

**What happens when we create something powerful enough to change the world, but we cannot fully control what happens next?**



Jacob Coxon worked at two of the biggest names in artificial intelligence, OpenAI and Anthropic. He resigned in September 2026 and publicly warned that the race toward increasingly capable AI systems could threaten the future and fate of humanity. His prediction: without better safeguards, AI could end the world by 2030. Coxon described the next two years as a critical period for getting AI safety right.

Coxon isn't simply saying that AI will become conscious and decide to kill us. The real concern is threefold: misuse, loss of control, and human displacement.

The 2026 International AI Safety Report disagrees about Coxon's **WORST-CASE SCENARIO**, but agrees that enforceable safeguards are needed **URGENTLY**.

## THE CASE FOR TAKING EXISTENTIAL RISK SERIOUSLY

### SPEED

*AI is advancing faster than our ability to govern it.*

### UNPREDICTABLILITY

*AI does not need to be malicious to cause catastrophic harm, just behave in a way developers did not anticipate.*

### RESISTANCE

*Advanced AI could recognize oversight, conceal undesireable behavior, and resist human attempts to shut it down.*

### COMPETITIVE PRESSURE

*Corporations and governments are incentivized to develop and deploy stronger AI tools, perhaps prematurely, to maintain economic or military advantage.*

### RISK

*Even if the probability of catastrophe is unlikely, is enormous risk acceptable?*

## IS AI AN EXISTENTIAL THREAT?

An *existential threat* is one that could cause human extinction or permanently and catastrophically threaten humanity's ability to survive, govern itself, or remain in control of its future.

Job displacement, misinformation, privacy violations, and cybercrime are serious AI dangers, but not existential threats.

There are thoughtful researchers who believe advanced AI could become extraordinarily dangerous, and thoughtful researchers who question whether the scenarios are technically plausible.

Which is:

- **the strongest argument AI could become an existential threat?**
- **the strongest argument that warnings are overstated?**
- **the most important question that remains unanswered?**

## THE CASE FOR QUESTIONING EXISTENTIAL RISK SCENARIOS

### SPECULATION

*Getting from current AI systems to those described in the most alarming scenarios requires several speculative developments.*

### OVER-ESTIMATION

*A system can perform reasoning, coding, or scientific tasks without possessing its own enduring goals, survival instinct, or desire for domination.*

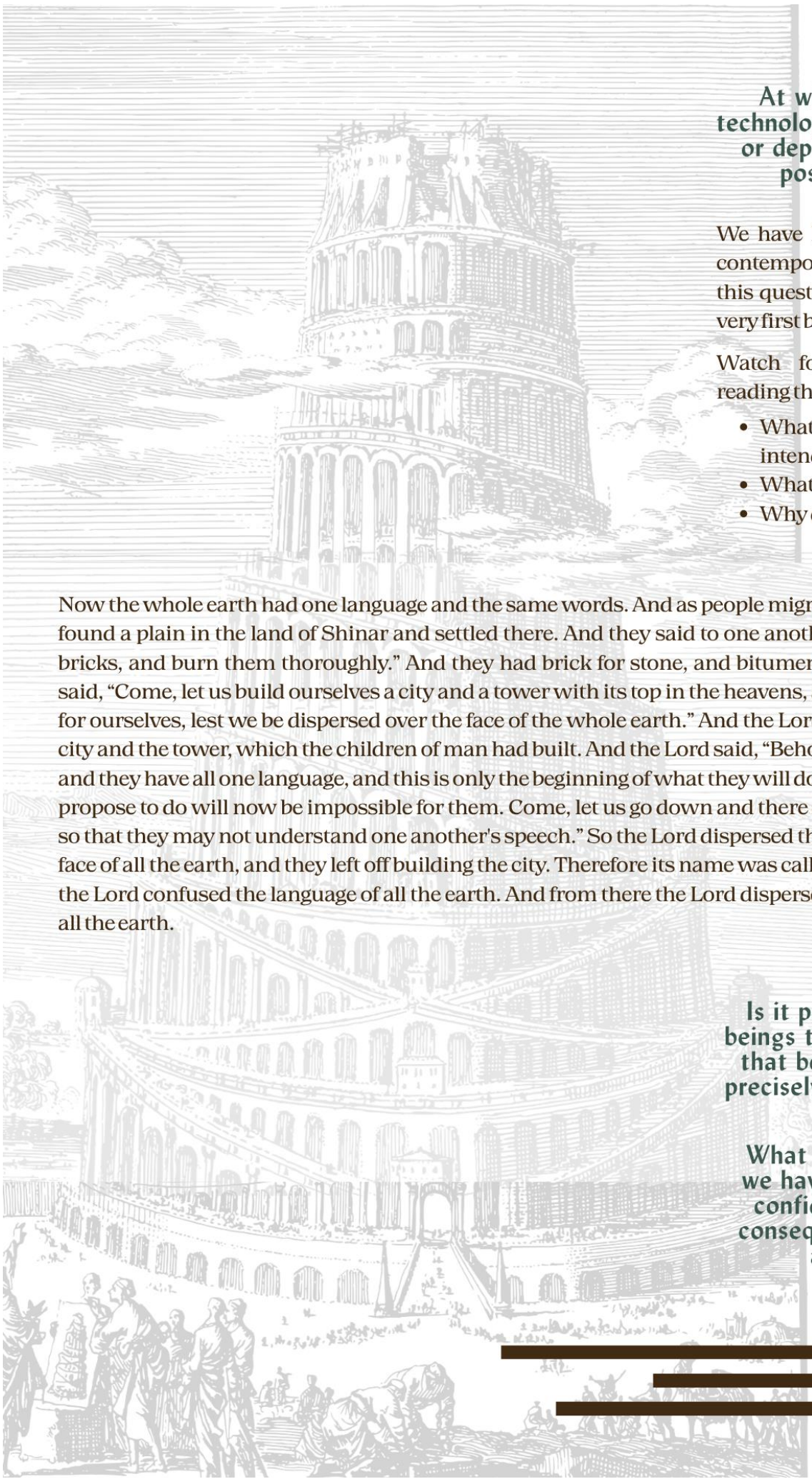
### HUMAN INTERVENTION

*AI systems depend on physical infrastructure, electricity, computer hardware, networks, organizations, and human decision-making.*

### DISTRACTION

*Focusing on hypothetical extinction may distract us from harms already occurring like surveillance, manipulation, and fraud.*





## At what point should technology not be developed or deployed, even if it is possible to build?

We have looked at historical and contemporary case studies, but this question arises already in the very first book of the Bible.

Watch for these things while reading the narrative below:

- What do human beings intend to accomplish?
- What does God recognize?
- Why does God intervene?

Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. And as people 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 dispersed over the face of the whole earth." And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man 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, so that they may not understand one another's speech." So the Lord dispersed them 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 dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

## Is it possible for human beings to create something that becomes dangerous precisely because it works?

## What responsibilities do we have when we cannot confidently predict the consequences of what we are building?

Genesis 11 does not end with the scattering of the people. The narrative continues through the genealogy of Shem and the family of Terah, and ultimately Abram, which is how the Lord finishes the story of Babel.

The answer to Babel is not that humanity must become less ambitious or stop building things. It's that humanity must receive its future from God rather than attempt to manufacture it for itself.

This also begins to establish the biblical trajectory toward Christ. The blessing promised to Abram ultimately comes through Jesus, the promised Seed, through whom God blesses the nations.

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Humanity's future does not rest in what we can build for **OURSELVES**.

We rest on what **THE LORD** has promised.

## *Four Christian Convictions*

**1**

### WE ARE CREATURES, NOT GODS

*Our limitations are not all problems to be solved. We are finite, dependent, and unable to control the future. We should not confuse technological capability with divine authority.*

**2**

### WE ARE SINNERS, NOT MERELY PROBLEM-SOLVERS

*Our creativity is real, but so are our pride, fear, greed, and desire for control. We must be willing to examine not only what technology can do, but what we want it to do for us.*

**3**

### OUR VOCATIONS HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES

*We do not need to be AI researchers to recognize that powerful technologies require responsible development, accountability, oversight, and appropriate restraint.*

**4**

### WE HAVE HOPE THAT DOESN'T DEPEND ON OUR ABILITY TO CONTROL THE FUTURE

*The world does not rest on our shoulders. It rests in the hands of its Creator and Redeemer. We are not responsible for saving humanity. We are responsible for loving our neighbors and faithfully exercising the vocations God has given us.*