

# GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT - IV

"The Power Gifts"

I Cor. 12

## I. GIFTS OF POWER

- A. Faith
- B. Miracles
- C. Healings

## II. FAITH (Four types of faith)

- A. Natural faith.
  - 1. Farmer planting seed.
  - 2. Faith in insurance plans; retirement; banks.
- B. Saving faith (before salvation); the measure of faith dealt to every man.
  - 1. Thief on the cross.
  - 2. Philippian jailer - what must I do?
  - 3. Eph. 2:8 - *"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God."*
- C. Faith as a fruit of the Spirit (after salvation).
  - 1. For developing character.
  - 2. Fruit grows.
- D. Gift of Faith (after baptism of the Holy Spirit).
  - 1. Arises in time of need, or when we step out on a limb; doesn't have to be worked up; just there.
    - a. Believe God in such a way that He honors our word as His own.
    - b. Supernatural manifestation of special faith.
    - c. Employs faith that expects a miracle as a sustained or continuous miracle.
    - d. Make step of faith, use your own faith--come to the end of that faith; then God's faith goes into operation for the supernatural.
      - (1) "Have faith in God" - Mk. 11:22.
      - (2) "Have the faith of God" (To move mountains!).
  - 2. Purpose for gift of faith.
    - a. In time of need.
      - (1) Personal protection - Daniel.
      - (2) Time of famine - Elijah.
    - b. For extraordinary feats.
      - (1) When what you are believing for appears to be beyond human comprehension.
      - (2) To overcome insurmountable odds; when everyone says it can't be done; no encouragement from your friends; then is when you need God's faith.
    - c. Raise the dead (No ordinary task, to say the least!).

- d. Cast out evil spirits (especiall hard cases).
- e. Laying on of hands ministry.

### III. GIFT OF MIRACLES

A. A supernatural intervention in the ordinary course of nature; a temporary suspension of the accustomed order, an interruption of the system of nature as we know it operated by the force of the spirit.

B. Miracles seem to be more prevalent in OT than NT.

1. Deliverance from Egypt.
  - a. Aaron's rod that budded.
  - b. Plagues of Egypt.
  - c. Parting of Red Sea.
  - d. Provisions in wilderness.
2. Other OT miracles
  - a. Sun and moon stand still for a day.
  - b. Widow's cruse of oil that never failed.
  - c. Ax head swims
  - d. Fire from heaven to consume sacrifice of Elijah.
3. Was an effective way for God to demonstrate His power.

C. New Testament

1. Jesus
  - a. Water into wine
  - b. Feeding 5000
  - c. Calming the storm
    - (1) O, ye of little faith!
    - (2) How long will I be with you? (The implication that the disciples should have stilled the storm themselves).
  - d. Walking on water
2. Paul
  - a. Viper - slung into fire.
  - b. Man who falls out window and dies.

### IV. GIFTS OF HEALINGS

A. Plural - many gifts

B. Supernatural healings of disease and infirm people without natural means of any source - not medical science

C. To deliver the sick and to destroy works of devil in the human body

1. Acts 10:38 - *"How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed by the devil; for God was with him."*

2. I John 3:8 - *"...For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil."*

3. *"Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb*

*both spake and saw." ...Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand:..." - (Mt. 12:22,25).*

D. Comparison of gifts of healings and gift of miracles

1. Any healing from God is a miracle, but think of miraculous healing as being instantaneous healing.

2. The ten lepers

a. All ten lepers were healed, but only one was declared to be made whole because he returned to glorify Jesus.

b. Healing guaranteed that there was no more leprosy, but the gift of miracles restored that which was missing or

destroyed by leprosy.

E. Healings more prominent in NT

F. Gifts a special way to receive healing - a channel, compared to other means

G. Healing motivated out of heart of love and compassion

1. Jesus - "Looked out upon multitudes; had compassion on the, and healed them.

2. Early church

3. Paul

4. Believers today

H. Represents the very nature of God

1. Satan can reproduce miracles.

2. Healing would be against Satan's nature.