

# GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

## Part IV - "The Inspirational or Vocal Gifts"

### I. INSPIRATIONAL GIFTS

- A. Prophecy
  - 1. Supernatural utterance in a known tongue
- B. Divers kinds of tongues - a supernatural utterance in unknown tongue
- C. Interpretation of tongues - supernatural showing forth by the Spirit the meaning of an utterance in other tongues

### II. PROPHECY

- A. To flow forth; to speak for another; speaking forth the mind and counsel of God
- B. Not preaching
- C. Should not be confused with office of prophet
  - 1. Simple gift has no revelation
  - 2. Should not confuse forthtelling with foretelling
  - 3. Purpose of prophecy
    - a. Edification - to build up
    - b. Exhortation - to encourage to continue on; calling nearer to God
    - c. Comfort
  - 4. Different levels of authority
    - a. Gift
    - b. Office
    - c. Presbytery
  - 5. Gift of prophecy not directive, but confirmation
- D. Rules for edification
  - 1. Does it edify?
  - 2. How will it effect the church?
  - 3. How can the gift operate for the greatest benefit of the body?
- E. Orderly
  - 1. Manner in which done
    - a. Not abusive, exhibitionist, emotionally extravagant
    - b. Not screaming, jerking, flowing with negativism
  - 2. Timing
    - a. Spirit of prophet subject to prophet
    - b. Preferring one another
    - c. Two or three not monopolizing
    - d. Best time after strong worship
  - 3. Unity of message or theme
- F. To be judged
  - 1. Why judged?
    - a. Know in part, prophesy in part
      - (1) Still mixture

- (2) Spirit, man, devil
  - b. Despise not prophesyings, prove all things, hold fast that which is good
  - c. Let the prophets speak two or three, let others judge
  - d. Try the spirits, whether they are of God
- 2. Who is to judge?
  - a. Believers
  - b. Elders
  - c. Gift of discernment
  - d. Prophets
- 3. How to judge?
  - a. By the word
  - b. Fruit borne
  - c. Witness of spirit

### III. DIVERS KINDS OF TONGUES

- A. Differentiation of tongues
  - 1. Initial evidence of Holy Spirit
  - 2. Prayer language
    - a. Pray to God
    - b. Edify self
  - 3. Supernatural utterance in assembly (to be interpreted)
- B. Do all speak with tongues? (gift of tongues)
- C. Place of tongues in assembly
  - 1. Sign to unbeliever
    - a. Evidence of supernatural
    - b. Witness of hearing foreign language
  - 2. Equivalent to prophecy
  - 3. Lift congregation into praise or prayer

### IV. INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES

- A. Supernatural showing forth by the Spirit the meaning of an utterance in other tongues
- B. Not a translation
- C. Reason for longer or shorter interpretation
  - 1. Confusion of tongues and praise
  - 2. Extends into prophecy
- D. Speaker should seek to interpret

### V. PRACTICAL POINTS OF WISDOM TO GOVERN PROPHECYING IN THE ASSEMBLY

- A. Refrain from scolding, lecturing, or whipping people through prophecy-- also applies to extremely negative, harsh or judgmental prophesying
- B. Avoid prophesying pet doctrines and favorite emphases
- C. Avoid correcting the leadership through prophecy

- D. Avoid introducing brand new direction into the service through prophecy
- E. Stay in tune with the meeting. Do not go cross-current
- F. Refrain from yelling, screaming, whining or other extremes in voice or manner
- G. Refrain from injecting self and personal problems into your prophecy: moods, pressures or circumstances, anger, irritation, opinions
- H. Stick to the word (especially as beginners)