

THE HOLY SPIRIT - III

"The Gifts of the Spirit"

I Cor. 12:1-11

I. I WOULD NOT HAVE YOU TO BE IGNORANT

- A. A gift is a manifestation of the mercy of God
 - 1. We don't earn it; not payment for debt
 - 2. Dividing severally as He will
- B. Gifts are divine enablements of God
 - 1. Supernatural; beyond man's ability
 - 2. Tongues - not learned languages
 - 3. Healing - not medical science
 - 4. Knowledge - not learned from textbooks
 - 5. Wisdom - not ordinary wisdom (proper application of knowledge)
 - 6. Faith - not the measure given to every man

II. THE VOCAL GIFTS

- A. Tongues
 - 1. Initial evidence of Holy Spirit baptism
 - 2. Prayer language (supernaturally speaks to God)
 - 3. With tongues, magnify God ("They heard them speak with tongues and magnify God" - Acts 10:46)
 - 4. Tongues edify oneself
 - a. *"He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself..."*
 - b. *"...building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost." (Jude)*
 - 5. Source of intercessory prayer - *"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought; but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." (Ro. 8:26)*
 - 6. Should be coupled with interpretation when spoken publicly
 - 7. Not to be forbidden - *"Covet to prophecy, and forbid not to speak in tongues."*
- B. Interpretation of tongues
- C. Prophecy
 - 1. For teaching and edification of the church
 - 2. Not office of prophet, nor directive prophecy
 - 3. Edification, exhortation, comfort (not for correction)

III. THE POWER GIFTS

- A. The gift of faith
 - 1. Supernatural faith; God's faith

2. Gift of faith is functioning of God through you; God does all for you

3. What this gift is not - not the measure of faith given to every

man

B. Gifts of healing (as compared to faith healing).

C. Gift of working of miracles

1. Difference between healings and miracles.

2. Comparison of being healed of leprosy and being made whole

(miracle).

3. Miracle is creative; defies natural laws.

a. Does God suspend natural laws?

b. He goes to a higher law that supercedes.

IV. REVELATION GIFTS

A. Word of wisdom

1. Supernatural revelation of divine purposes of God - futuristic; directive.

2. What it is not - not just proper application of knowledge.

3. *"Be of good cheer, Paul; for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome."* (Acts

23:11)

4. Similar to prophecy; but more person-oriented, not events.

B. Word of knowledge

1. What it is not - Not intellectual knowledge of natural mind.

2. Deals with a fact; that which exists either in past or present

3. "You've had five husbands already, and the fellow you are living with now isn't your husband."

4. Supernatural knowledge of facts not known to the natural mind.

5. Money in fish's mouth.

6. Samuel tells location of Saul's lost donkeys.

7. Revelation of Saul's conversion to Ananias.

C. Discerning of spirits

1. The divine ability to see the presence and activity of a spirit that motivates a human being, whether good or bad

2. Gives insight into spirit world

3. Produces a spirit of security against false doctrine and lies

4. Enables church to choose proper men and women to fulfill

ministries

5. Enables one to appraise motives

a. Helps to see one's heart.

b. You know not what spirit you're of.

6. Can help to bring spirit of holiness to church

7. Reveals evil and deception

a. Want to be careful to not be paranoid and suspicious.

b. At times, worth taking a chance to establish trust.

V. OTHER GIFTS

- A. Ministry or ascension gifts of apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher (gifted men to the church).
- B. Motivational gifts of prophecy, ministry, teaching, exhortation, ruling, giving, and mercy (a special, unique gift that motivates an individual to service).

VI. MISUSE OF THE GIFTS

- A. More interested in power than the nature.
- B. Can be used as manipulation.
- C. Can be used to deceive people.
- D. Have been abused for exchange of money.

VII. HOW TO RECEIVE THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

- A. Ask and you shall receive
- B. Covet
 - 1. Covet earnestly the best gifts
 - 2. Covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues
- C. Forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel
- D. By laying on of hands
 - 1. Rom. 1:11 - *"For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift to the end ye may be comforted."*
 - 2. I Tim. 4:14 - *"Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of hands of the presbytery."*
 - 3. II Tim. 1:6 - *"Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands."*