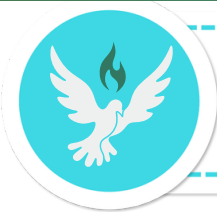


UNDERSTANDING THE HOLY GHOST



Gifts of the Spirit

- As we have learned over the last several weeks, it is so important for us to Understand the Holy Ghost.
 - We have learned WHO HE IS, WHAT HE DOES, and HOW HE FILLS BELIEVERS.
 - Most recently, we have started discovering the GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT, and how these gifts work *in* and *through* the Church.
- According to the Scripture, there are 9 Spiritual Gifts.
 - Paul identifies these gifts in 1 Corinthians 12:7-11
- The Revelation Gifts
 - The Word of Wisdom
 - The Word of Knowledge
 - Discerning of the Spirits
- The Power Gifts
 - The Gift of Faith
 - The Gifts of Healing
 - The Working of Miracles
- The Vocal Gifts
 - The Gift of Diverse Kinds of Tongues
 - The Gift of Interpretation of Tongues
 - The Gift of Prophecy



THE VOCAL GIFTS

- These gifts are different from other Spiritual Gifts, because God is using a Human Voice to communicate HIS DIVINE WILL.
 - God is still speaking to HIS CHURCH today
 - He still wants to speak through HIS PEOPLE to accomplish HIS PURPOSE

*“...to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:-
-1 Corinthians 12:10*

1. DIVERSE KINDS OF TONGUES

- Diverse simply means: various, different, many kinds of tongues.
 - A supernatural utterance given by the Holy Ghost through a believer in a language unknown to the speaker for the PURPOSE OF DELIVERING A SPECIFIC MESSAGE.
- There is a difference between the INITIAL EVIDENCE OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES, and the GIFT OF DIVERSE KINDS OF TONGUES that Paul is describing here in 1 Corinthians 12.
 - We find the Speaking in Tongues as the Initial Evidence in:
 - Acts 2... at Pentecost
 - Acts 10... at Cornelius' House
 - Acts 19... in Ephesus
- THE GIFT OF DIVERSE KINDS OF TONGUES IS DIFFERENT!
 - One is the Initial Evidence
 - The other is a Supernatural Gift used by the Spirit in the ministry of the Church.
- How It Operates
 - When the Holy Ghost uses this manifestation, The believer SPEAKS OUT A MESSAGE IN TONGUES.
 - They are not speaking from natural ability
 - This is not a learned language.
 - It is not something they memorized... or manufactured... IT IS A SPIRITUAL GIFT!
 - 1 Corinthians 14:2
 - *For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.*
- Biblical Example
 - The most definitive, demonstration of THE GIFT OF DIVERSE TONGUES took place on the DAY OF PENTECOST.
 - Luke explains in Acts 2:4-11, after the initial outpouring of the Spirit in the Upper Room, the GIFT OF DIVERSE KINDS OF TONGUES was on full display.
- This is DIVERSE TONGUES in public ministry is the purest form of this gift because each foreigner understood their known language without the need for an interpreter...

THE VOCAL GIFTS CONTINUED...

- When Paul asks... *"do all speak with tongues", in 1 Corinthians 12:30...* he was talking about the GIFT OF DIVERSE KINDS OF TONGUES.
 - It is important to note the difference between *PRAYING IN TONGUES*, which is the INITIAL EVIDENCE.
 - And *THE GIFT OF DIVERSE TONGUES*, which is this PUBLIC MINISTRY.
- ***In the Church Today***
 - When this gift is operating, The UNCTION OF THE SPIRIT will URGE an individual to GIVE OUT A MESSAGE IN TONGUES.
 - This happens as the SPIRIT LEADS.
 - This is NOT PLANNED or COERCED.

Supernatural Gifts require Spiritual Discipline to operate effectively in the Church!

- Paul said in, *1 Corinthians 14:32-33*
 - *And the spirits of the prophets are SUBJECT TO THE PROPHETS. For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints!*
- THESE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT are not controlled by the INDIVIDUAL, but they work in CONGRUENCE with the MIND, ABILITIES, and WILL OF THE INDIVIDUAL.

2.INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES

- This Gift is directly connected to the GIFT OF DIVERSE KINDS OF TONGUES.
 - A supernatural enablement by the Holy Ghost to communicate the MEANING or MESSAGE of an utterance given in tongues so that it may be understood.
 - This is not a TRANSLATION...
 - This is an INTERPRETATION...
- ***How It Operates***
 - When someone in the congregation gives a message in tongues the Spirit will move upon another believer to communicate the meaning of that utterance.
 - Paul said in, *1 Corinthians 14:13*
 - *Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret*

- The Purposes of these Gifts are to Edify the Church and should work together.
- These gifts are to be USED... NOT ABUSED...
 - In *1 Corinthians 14:23-28* Paul gives the Church the outline for orderly Pentecostal Worship.
 - The Guidelines become Guardrails to ensure our worship edifies and not create confusion.

3.THE GIFT OF PROPHECY

- A supernatural utterance inspired by the Holy Ghost in a known language that communicates God's message to His people.
 - Paul said in, *1 Corinthians 14:3*
 - *But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.*
- ***How It Operates***
 - The speaker may feel compelled by the Spirit to share a word with an individual or the entire congregation.
 - But that word must be tested!
 - *1 Corinthians 14:29*
 - *Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge.*
 - A prophetic gift MUST ALWAYS SUBMIT to the WORD OF GOD.
- ***Biblical Example***
 - In Acts 11, Agabus gave a prophetic word to the Church about a coming famine, and the Church responded.
- ***In the Church Today***
 - God still speaks through the Prophetic.
 - And this word is sent to Encourage, Strengthen, Confirm, Convict and Point People to Jesus!

