

## THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - PART IV

### GIFTS OF HEALINGS (Part 1)

Text: I Corinthians 12:9b

**Key Word:** Healings

**Key Thought:** Understanding the Gifts of Healings

This message moves us into the "**Gifts of Power.**" There is probably more mentioned in Scripture about this gift than any other. Yet people seem to have great difficulty accepting its use today. There is an increasing demand for it within the body of Christ and the world as a whole.

The late Harold Horton wrote,

"These gifts ... are the miraculous manifestation of the Spirit for the **banishment** of all human ills whether organic, functional or nervous; acute or chronic."

Harold Horton  
*"The Gifts of the Spirit"*  
p. 106

In the 3 references to the gift (I Corinthians 12:9,20,28), the Greek language shows in the original wording that **both terms are plural.** We are speaking therefore, about the **GIFTS OF HEALINGS** not the **Gift of Healings** or the **Gifts of Healing.** Those who have received this manifestation of the Spirit have been given **an assortment of individual healing portions** for those in need. It is a multiple gift.

"Every healing is a special gift. There are no healers."

Eldin R. Corsie  
*"The Ministry Gifts"*  
p. 110

"The whole procedure is an instance of divine charismata, and therefore neither the personal merit of the one ministering the gift, nor that of the one receiving the healing portion, is the basis of bestowment. **At both levels, it is, as it were, divine charity rather than human merit or even human faith.**"

L. Thomas Holdcroft  
*"The Holy Spirit"*  
p. 154

Another very important point to make is that these gifts are also entirely supernatural in character.

". . . we must emphasize the entirely supernatural character of the Gift. For these Gifts of Healings are commonly confused with a high degree of medical or surgical or manipulative or scientific ability... Healings through these Gifts are wrought by the power of Christ through the Spirit, by ignorant believers with no knowledge of physiology, disease, symptoms, drugs or surgery."

Harold Horton  
"ibid"  
p. 95

Medical science can be thanked for its contributions to helping the sick and needy, but those of the medical profession are NOT exercising these gifts. God does not require drugs or scalpels to perform His healings. We are no more healthy today than in the days of our grandparents even with the advancement of the medical profession. The recent spiral of congestive and immune system illnesses alone clearly prove my point.

God is raising up a generation of believers who are being endued with these gifts. The outcome is bringing phenomenal results that cannot be understood outside of the acknowledgment that God is at work healing the sick through His people.

### **What Is the Purpose of These Gifts of Healings?**

#### **I. TO DELIVER THE SICK AND DESTROY THE WORKS OF THE DEVIL IN THE HUMAN BODY**

We have many in our generation who are suffering from incurable diseases. It does not matter whether they have been self-inflicted or not. Whoever wishes to acknowledge Jesus Christ can receive their healing. He even graciously uses this gift to bring those suffering to Him.

*"A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.  
3. Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man.  
'I am willing,' he said, 'Be clean!' Immediately he was cured of his leprosy."*

*Matthew 8:2,3*

The LORD has declared through His words and actions that He wishes to heal. We need to come to Him through a childlike faith to receive.

## I. TO DELIVER THE SICK AND DESTROY THE WORKS OF THE DEVIL IN THE HUMAN BODY (Contd.)

\*\*\* A number of years ago, the late Gordon Lindsay, founder of Christ for the Nations was conducting a series of meetings in Lima, Peru. A man was in the service who had lost his sight 25 years previous.

Bro. Lindsay never made it a point to pray for those who were totally blind the first time they attended. He recognized that they were engulfed in darkness and lacked hope let alone any faith.

He had been blinded by an evil spirit just like the man who was brought to Jesus in Matthew 12:22ff. His optic nerves had been oppressed by a spirit.

After being prayed for he was asked if he could see. He opened his eyes with great anticipation and eagerness. It was apparent that he could still not see. Yet the man would not admit that he was still blind.

He stood just smiling as Bro. Lindsay began praying for others who had come forward. All at once a tremendous shouting was heard. The man was counting the lights, "*Una, dos, tres, cuatro, cinco etc!*" The whole congregation rose to its feet and began shouting and worshipping God.

A look of bewilderment came over the healed man's face and he began to shake his head. The interpreter was asked to find out what the problem was. After an exchange in Spanish the interpreter told what the man was saying,

*"I can see, but all the lights are great long tubes."* At the time he became blind, fluorescent lights had not been invented.

\*\*\*

Gordon Lindsay  
*"Gifts of the Spirit"*  
p. 125-126

## II. TO ESTABLISH THE CLAIMS OF JESUS

One thing about divine healing is that it gets people's attention. People find it harder to doubt after they see someone who has been sick with an incurable, visible sickness being healed.

*"Do not believe me unless I do what my Father does.*

*38. But if I do it, even though you do not believe me, believe the miracles, that you may understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father."*

*John 10:37,38*

When Jesus entered Capernaum some town folk brought a man who was a paralytic (sick of the palsies). Jesus recognized that faith had stirred in this man's friends. Jesus used this healing to establish that He had authority given by God the Father.

*"When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, 'Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven.'"*

*5. Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk?'*

*6. But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins. . . Then he said to the paralytic, 'Get up, take your mat and go home.'*

*7. And the man got up and went home."*

*Matthew 9:2,5-7*

## III. TO AUTHORIZE THE MESSAGE OF GOD'S SERVANTS

Anyone who preaches the Word of God today can expect opportunities to abound for God and to manifest His power. Spiritual gifts offer an avenue for God's Word to be practised.

When Philip travelled into Samaria, God back manifested His Word through the Gifts of Healings.

*"Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Christ there.*

*6. When the crowds heard Philip and saw the miraculous signs he did, they all paid close attention to what he said.*

*7. With shrieks, evil spirits came out of many, and many paralytics and cripples were healed.*

*8. So there was great joy in that city."*

*Acts 8:5-8*

#### IV. TO LEAD PEOPLE TO GOD

Spiritual gifts are not to be flaunted in ANY type of showmanship. The main purpose of God's hand being extended is to lead people to salvation in Christ.

*"As Peter travelled about the country, he went to visit the saints at Lydda.*

*33. There he found a man named Aeneas, a paralytic who had been bedridden for eight years.*

*34. 'Aeneas,' Peter said to him, 'Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and take care of your mat.' Immediately Aeneas got up.*

*35. All those who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord."*

*Acts 9:32-35*

#### V. TO INSPIRE FAITH AND COURAGE IN GOD'S PEOPLE

In the early Church the disciples needed constant assurance that God was in their midst. They were commissioned to carry a message to an non-receiving people.

*"Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness.*

*30. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."*

*31. After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly."*

*Acts 4:29-31*

Every Pentecostal assembly in the world will provide a multitude of illustrations of those healed of incurable diseases and infirmities. Some take place in "normal" services while others are a result of visiting ministries.

**\*\*\*** I watched with anticipation one evening as we had a visiting speaker by the name of Gratin Gilles in Fort McMurray around 1980. One man had entered the service with a painful injury that had caused his back vertebra to be misaligned. His one leg was over 3 inches shorter as a result. His name was Randy Pinksen.

(Contd.)

## V. TO INSPIRE FAITH AND COURAGE IN GOD'S PEOPLE (Contd.)

\*\*\* Randy stood during the testimony service and proclaimed that he knew in that service that he would be healed. I don't remember much about what Pastor Gilles said that night. I know that he instilled faith to arise in all of us.

When it came time to pray for the sick, Randy slowly made his way to the platform. Pastor Gilles had him sit upon a chair. He lifted his legs and it was clear that one was at least 3 inches shorter than the other. Anyone who wanted to see God work was asked to come forward.

I was keenly concerned about this. As the preacher finished a short prayer, there was an immediate 3 snaps. With each snap I watched the leg grow out about an inch each time.

We all began to praise God for His wonderful works among us. Other people with shortened limbs were healed that night. A gift of healing for shortened limbs was active in that service. \*\*\*

The gifts of healings are definitely needed in our services. God gives gifts to those whom He chooses. We need to be open to receive what He is about to do.

C:\Documents\WPWin(X9)\Sermons.2020\Gifts of the Holy Spirit\I Corinthians 12:9b.1.wpd

Date: July 12/20

Place: FCA

Time: 10:30 Am

Song: I am the God that Healeth Thee - D

## THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - PART IV

### GIFTS OF HEALINGS (Part 1)

Text: I Corinthians 12:9b

**Key Word:** Healings

**Key Thought:** Understanding the Gifts of Healings

#### What Is the Purpose of These Gifts of Healings?

**I. TO DELIVER THE SICK AND DESTROY THE WORKS OF THE DEVIL IN THE HUMAN BODY** - *Matthew 8:2,3*

**II. TO ESTABLISH THE CLAIMS OF JESUS** - *John 10:37,38; Matthew 9:2,5-7*

**III. TO AUTHORIZE THE MESSAGE OF GOD'S SERVANTS** - *Acts 8:5-8*

**IV. TO LEAD PEOPLE TO GOD** - *Acts 9:32-35*

**V. TO INSPIRE FAITH AND COURAGE IN GOD'S PEOPLE** - *Acts 4:29-31*