

THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - PART XI
THE GIFT OF SPEAKING IN OTHER TONGUES - Part 2

Text: I Corinthians 12:10d2

Key Word: Tongues

Key Thought: The Seventh Gift of the Holy Spirit Is the Gift of Speaking in Other Tongues

We will continue to look at the **3 Gifts of Utterance** (Speaking in Tongues; Interpretation of Tongues and Prophecy). Our tongues are one of the most unique organs of our body. Jesus warned the Pharisees that they were in danger of committing the unpardonable sin when making the charge that what He was doing was a work of the devil (Matthew 12:24, 31).

I also realize that we do have some who foolishly act in the flesh and try to give God the “credit.” God does not need our help in exercising His gifts. He knows whom He wants to give them to and when they should be used.

With all the questions and concerns about speaking another tongues, we need to also ask a question. The question is,

Why should every Christian receive the Holy Spirit and speak in other tongues?

1. Because if Christ and His Apostles Needed the Holy Spirit, So Do We (John 1:33, 34; Acts 1:13–14; 2:1– 4)!

Before Jesus began His public ministry, a significant event took place. He travelled to the Jordan River where His cousin, John the Baptist was preaching and baptizing in water. God pointed out to John that the Messiah was going to come to take away the sin of the world. The sign of His coming was very clear.

*“The man on whom you see the Spirit come down
and remain is he who will baptize with the Holy
Spirit.*

*34. I have seen and I testify that this is the Son of
God.”*

John 1: 33:34

Within three years, Jesus ascended into heaven and began to fulfill that Word completely. The 12 apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:13–14 ; 2:1–4) along with the other women and the mother of Jesus.

It was never to be an isolated act.

“The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off – for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

Acts 2:39

2. Because the Holy Spirit gives us Power to Witness (Acts 1:8)

One of the amazing facts which is often overlooked is that this group of lowly disciples, who according to the religious leaders were *“unlearned (unschooled) and ignorant men” (Acts 4:13)*, were able to withstand a very severe opposition.

At the turn of the 1800's this truth was once again brought to the front and centre of the modern church. Pentecost was again being preached in tents, storefronts and actually in almost any place they could use. Out of this **insignificant beginning**, it has grown to be the most influential Christian movement of this world.

The greatest act of the Infilling of the Holy Spirit is that He changes us to make us become a more powerful witness of whom God is and what He is doing.

3. Because the Holy Spirit gives us Power to Live a Holy Life (Romans 8:1,2,13)

How many people have you met who try to live a holy life by their own wisdom and strength ? There comes a time in all of their lives that our abilities are challenged. We need to realize that we can never become self-righteous.

Even “Spirit – filled” believers must be careful in this area. Some foolishly think that since they are filled with the Holy Spirit that they are protected from ungodliness. Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, we have now become targets that the enemy tries to destroy because he realizes the potential in us to destroy his kingdom.

The Holy Spirit gives us the **POTENTIAL** to live a holy life by His **POWER**. We are the ones who choose either to avail ourselves of His power or to walk in our own strength.

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.”

1 John 1:7

4. Because We All Need a Constant Comforter (John 14:16)

The comfort that the Holy Spirit gives us is that He stands as our advocate against the insulting accusations of the devil.

*** A number of years ago we were bombarded with the details of a legal trial in the case of O. J. Simpson. Evidence was constantly being brought forth in order to convince the jury that the defendant should be convicted of heinous, first degree homicide.

Every day even the smallest possible links were blended into the story in order to gain ground. ***

The devil has been doing this kind of thing since the beginning of time. He has perfected his skills when accusing those within the body of Christ. None of us are capable of withstanding the devil's assaults against our name and reputation WITHOUT the Holy Spirit.

5. Because We All Need Times of Refreshing (Acts 3:19)

The early church faced most of its opposition from those who were trapped in religious legalism. When God's hand began to be extended through spiritual gifts, the average person was astonished.

Our world should've received the message by now that we are not refreshed by fulfilling all of our ungodly desires. Look at those who have committed suicide after proclaiming a lifestyle of sin (Marilyn Monroe, Jimmy Hendrix , Kurt Cobain). Doctors like Jack Kevorkian will someday understand the great mistake he made in promoting assisted suicides.

I remember when we were living in Alberta in 1980 – 1981 that the 24-hour distress line received a 30% increase (44,598 calls) in one year. This increase was a result of the downturn of the economy. It was during this time that interest rates rose over 21%. People from all walks of life began to be greatly depressed because they had put their trust in what they owned and especially in the amount of debt they had accumulated.

The Holy Spirit is able to offer us something that will quench our thirst forever.

“If anyone is thirsty, let them come to me and drink.

38. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.

39. By this he meant the Spirit whom those who believed in him were later to receive.”

John 7:37, 38

6. Because He Will Quicken Our Mortal Bodies (Romans 8:11)

“And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life (quicken) to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.”

Romans 8:11

*** Dr. A. B. Simpson (founder of the Christian Missionary Alliance) in his younger years was plagued with a frail body. It would usually take him until the middle of the week to recover his strength after the Sunday Services.

Most people had pity on him which complicated the problem and brought him almost to the point of despair. During this time God illuminated his heart and mind to the truth contained in the Bible.

Not only was he healed, but God also brought him daily health (III John 6). Within three years he preached over 1000 sermons. God restored life to his feeble body through the infilling of the Holy Spirit. ***

7. Because He Will Lead Us into All Truth (John 16:12,13)

I have watched with great concern at the denominations that have despised the teaching of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit and His Gifts for the believer. Since they couldn't accept the truth they have endorsed a lie. They don't believe the entire Bible to be God's infallible Word. They deny miracles. They mock those who try to live a godly life in Christ. They work diligently at making loopholes in the teachings of Jesus and His disciples. They have and will reap what they've sown. In fact, they have sown the wind but will reap a whirlwind.

I am so thankful that Jesus said,

“but when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth.”

John 16:13

I have watched new Christians dropping off the old lifestyle of smoking, drinking, cussing, patronizing worldly amusements without anyone telling them that they had to. Some have told me that they don't think they should participate in Halloween, the Easter Bunny and Santa Claus any more.

Even after the times of the apostles, we have historical writings declaring that the Holy Spirit was still being poured out upon the people. All we have to do is read such men as Irenaeus (Against all Heresies); Justin Martyr (Ante-Nicene Fathers, Volume 1); Origen (Ante-Nicene Fathers, Volume 1V); Augustine (Ante-Nicene Fathers, Volume 1V).

The testimonies of great men and women keep coming. One of the greatest preachers that our world has known was Charles G. Finney. His memoirs leave us with a great desire to receive all that God has for us.

*** *“As I turned and was about to take a seat by the fire, I received the mighty baptism of the Holy Ghost. Without any expectation of it, without ever having the thought in my mind that there was any such for me, without recollection that I had ever heard the thing mentioned by any person in the world, the Holy Spirit descended on me in a manner that seemed to go through me, body and soul.*

*I could feel the impression like a wave of electricity, going through and through me. Indeed it seemed to come in waves and waves of **liquid love**, for I could not express it in any other way. It seemed like the very breath of God. I can recollect distinctly it seemed to fan me like immense wings.*

No words can express the wonderful love that was in my heart. I wept aloud with love and joy; and I do not know but I should say that I literally bellowed out unutterable gushing of my heart.

These waves came over me, and over me, and over me, one after another, until I recollect I cried out, “ Lord, I cannot bear anymore,” yet I had no fear of death. How long I continued in this state, with this baptism continuing to roll over me and go through me, I do not know.”

Gordon Lindsay
“Gifts of the Holy Spirit” pp. 55 – 56

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Date: Sept 6/20 (Beginning 29th yr)

Place: FCA

Time: 10:30 Am

Song: Holy Spirit Rain Down - F

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