

Charismatic Gifts

(Continuation on the Nine Gifts of the Holy Spirit)

7. Discerning of spirits: This is the ability to distinguish true and/or false spirits. God wants us to walk on a straight path. We need to pray to discern the source of anything we're getting in the spirit. Is it of God? Is it of the devil? Is it of man? If what we're getting lines up with the word of God, and uplifting Jesus, then we would say, it is genuine. The body of Christ will be protected and shielded from spirits of deception when this gift of discernment is in operation.

We would know also whether the teacher of the word is indeed a man of God or an impostor. God gives this supernatural gift so we can avoid believing in a false mentor.

8. Speaking in Tongues:

"And these signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues;
(Mark 16:17)

"Therefore, my brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak in tongues."
(1 Cor. 14:39)

These scriptures on speaking in tongues should dispel the unbelief of some Christians. Jesus Himself proclaimed this as well as Paul for he based his teaching upon what God has said. This gift is bestowed by the Holy Spirit to build faith in His church. The person speaking does not make it up. By the unction of the Holy Spirit, the tongue loosens up and a different language comes forth. *And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were bewildered, because they were each one hearing them speak in his own language.* Acts 2:6 *"And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were*

born? Acts 2:8 Because God is the same yesterday, today, and forever, His word remains the same. *"And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you shall receive."* (Matt. 21:22) Some preachers teach that speaking in tongues is not for us today. They are wrong. Just base your belief and faith in the scriptures I just used here, and with God's grace you will believe the way God wants you to believe. Moreover, when we pray or speak in tongues, our faith is built up. *"But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,"* (Jude 1:20). *"For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth..."* (1 Cor. 14:14)

When I first got this gift, I spoke two syllables only. As I continued on, those two syllables became a phrase, then a sentence, then it went on like a paragraph until it became part of my daily communication with the Lord. I did not understand it but I know it is from God because I have peace within me. *"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."* (Jer. 29:11)

Caution: *Anyone must wait for the Holy Spirit's anointing before sharing something by tongues lest it would appear foolishness. Deep inside the individual, he/she will know that it is God directing the unction to speak in tongues to the group because He has something for the body.*

9. Interpretation of Tongues:

How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying. (1 Cor. 14:26) *Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret.* (1 Cor. 14:13)

Yes, the foregoing scriptures indicate that whenever one gets the unction to speak in tongues in a gathering of saints, an interpretation is necessary so everyone can understand what God is saying. If there is no interpretation, the body will not be edified. From my observation, I usually notice two things happening t when someone speaks in tongues. Either the person speaking it or another person in the meeting is given the interpretation. In either case, the other people get to understand what has been spoken by God through this individual. God's anointing is also needed to give the interpretation. A word or a phrase may come into someone's mind that the Holy Spirit is giving as an unction. By faith, this person gets anointed and gives out the interpretation. Everything must be done in orderly fashion. No confusion, no doubt, if the tongue and interpretation are from God.

Let me pray for those of you who have not yet experienced this gift of speaking in tongues so that you can be used by our God Almighty in edifying, exhorting, and building up His body, the church. (1 Cor. 14:4-5)

"Lord Father God, I lift to you everyone reading this little teaching on Your gift of speaking in tongues that You would fill them with Your Holy Spirit and loosen their tongues that they may be able to speak the language of Yourself. Give them the faith and the anointing so they can be of service to Your church. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

Now, concentrate on the Holy Spirit and offer up praises to Him with your lips, with your tongue, and whatever syllables come to your mind, just speak it out, over and over and such will turn into phrases, then a sentence, then a whole paragraph that only God knows what they are. Stop for a moment and ask God to give you an interpretation. Whatever comes to your mind, believe that that is what God is telling you what you said in your tongues.