

correcting carnality

1 CORINTHIANS

Sermon Series Notes



"Gifts of the Holy Spirit" (I Corinthians 12)

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Intro: The gifts of the Holy Spirit. Some say they are no longer available today (see I Cor.13:8-13). There are gifts that say something (vocal), do something (power), and reveal something (revelation). Peter places the gifts in two broad categories - speaking and serving (I Peter 4:10-11).

I. THE TEXT

v.1 Paul has two reasons for addressing this subject:

1. The Corinthians' misplaced emphasis on spiritual gifts rather than spiritual virtues.

* I Cor.1: 7 Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed.

* Though all the gifts were evident in this church, they were yet carnal. What they needed most was the fruit of the Spirit. Gal.5: 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control.

2. Their overvaluation of certain gifts and neglect or ignorance of others.

* They placed tongues above more important gifts (such as prophesying).

vv.2-3 In pagan religions, people were sometimes swept away in ecstasy and would utter some kind of inspired speech. The Greek god Apollo was especially identified as a source of ecstatic, sometimes frenzied, utterances.

* Evidently, some in this church were uttering downright false utterances they claimed were inspired by the Holy Spirit.

* Note; To say "Jesus is Lord" in this day could get you in big trouble, because Rome declared Caesar to be Lord.

* The point of vv.2-3 is this: Divine utterances must be evaluated.

v.4 gifts = 5486. charisma, khar'-is-mah; from G5483; a (divine) gratuity, i.e. deliverance (from danger or passion); (spec.) a (spiritual) endowment, i.e. (subj.) religious qualification, or (obj.) miraculous faculty:--(free) gift.

v.5 service = 1248. diakonia, dee-ak-on-ee'-ah; from G1249; attendance (as a servant, etc.); fig. (eleemosynary) aid, (official) service (espec. of the Chr. teacher, or techn. of the diaconate):--(ad-) minister (-ing, -tration, -try), office, relief, service (-ing).

v.6 working = 1755. energema, en-erg'-ay-mah; from G1754; an effect:--operation, working.

vv.12-26 If my right arm is the one used to throw a touchdown pass, my left arm does not complain, but rejoices with the whole body. My ears never get to say anything, but they do not complain when my mouth speaks a word that brings edification or even salvation to someone's life

* Once again, in the church at Corinth, some parts of the body were being neglected, while other parts were being unduly exalted.

* I am the most visible part of this body, but I am not the most important part of this body. The one ministering in the nursery should rejoice when people's lives are changed in this meeting, because they had a part in making it possible. Some people would not be here in this meeting if we did not have child care. And if we allowed babies in this meeting, they would certainly compete with me for your attention!

vv.27-31 See I Cor.14:1; Speaking forth the mind of God in an intelligible language so that people are strengthened, encouraged, and comforted (I Cor.14:3).

II. MANIFESTATION GIFTS (vv.7-11)

* 5321. phanerosis, fan-er'-o-sis; from G5319; exhibition, i.e. (fig.) expression, (by extens.) a bestowment:--manifestation.

A. The Gifts One At A Time

1. Word of wisdom

- Not a reservoir of wisdom, but a word given at a specific time supernaturally!
- Matt. 10:16-20; Acts 6:8-10; John 8:7; Mark 12:34; I Kings 3:16-28.

2. Word of knowledge

- Not knowledge from study or based on one's IQ, but supernatural knowledge that could never have been gained by human intellect.
- Acts 5 (Ananias and Sapphira); Acts 27:10-25; John 4:17-18.

3. Faith

- This is faith to believe the impossible; This kind of faith and the gifts of healing and miracles are many time linked together. This faith is not worked up, but rather received from the Spirit. Even though it is a gift, it must nevertheless be exercised.
- Matt. 14:27-31; Heb. 11:24-26, 35-39

4. Healing

- Not through medicine or by a doctor's hand, but supernatural.
- Acts 3:1-8; 5:15-16; 9:32-35; 14:8-11; 19:11-12; 28:7-10

5. Miracles

- Events & happenings that defy the laws of nature.
- Acts 9:36-42; 20:7-12; Feeding of four and five thousand, raising Lazarus and others from the dead, water to wine, Paul's snakebite on Malta
- See Corson, p.1071; " these wonderful, miraculous operations and expressions were all in connection with the Great Commission (Mark 16:15). Therefore, I believe one of the best ways to see the miraculous happen to a greater degree is to be involved in radical evangelism. The miracles of Mark 16 are not intended for us to huddle together in the sanctuary so we can see a miracle. No, its as we're going into the jungles, into the inner city, throughout the community sharing the Lord that He will confirm our message with miracles. As you study the book of Acts, you see the operation of miracles most closely associated with evangelism because the operation of miracles is primarily for the unbeliever "

6. Prophecy

- Supernaturally speaking forth the mind of God through the Holy Spirit.

- Acts 11:27-30; 21:8-9
- See I Cor.14:1; This is gift everyone should desire.

7. Discerning of spirits

- Supernaturally discerning what is of God and what is not.
- Judas; Acts 13:6-12; 16:16-18

8. Tongues

9. Interpretation of tongues

B. Receiving A Gift Of The Spirit

1. Desire (I Cor.14:1)

2. Divine Power

- * Luke 3:21-22; Luke 24:29; Acts 1:4-8; 2:1-4

- * The Baptism of the Holy Spirit

3. Different Ways

- * Acts 2 - They had to wait
- * Acts 8 - They waited for the apostles to lay hands on them (Why couldn't Philip do this?).
- * Acts 10 - The HS fell upon them as Peter preached
- * Acts 19 - Paul laid his hands on them
- * See D.L. Moody, Oswald Chambers, etc.

4. By faith

* Gal.3: 5 Does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you because you observe the law, or because you believe what you heard?

* Luke 4: 25 I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land.

26 Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon.

27 And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed--only Naaman the Syrian."

CONCLUSION

* II Tim.1: 6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.