

His Presence Church Arizona

Part 3

THE HOLY GHOST IN THE 21ST CENTURY The Utterance Gifts

Key Concepts

1. Define the simple gift of Prophecy.
2. Define the gifts of tongues and interpretation of tongues.
3. What is the difference between the gift of tongues and the use of devotional tongues?
4. Know Bible principles for ordering gifts in a service.

I. Prophecy

A. Prophecy is not:

1. Preaching, although the gift may be manifested in preaching.
2. The office of the prophet. (Acts 2:17,18 Much more widespread than the prophet's office)
There is no "foretelling" involved.

Acts 2:17-18: And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams and on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; and they shall prophesy.

B. Definition: *Supernatural, inspired utterance in a known language.*

1. Hebrew: to flow forth, to bubble forth like a fountain
2. Greek: to speak for another

C. Purposes of the simple gift of prophecy 1 Corinthians 14:3

1 Corinthians 14:3: But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.

1. Edification: building up, adding to or improving, promoting spiritual growth
2. Exhortation: encouraging in some course of conduct, specifically calling to close fellowship with God
3. Comfort: intimate counsel, consolation, speaking encouragement in trial with great tenderness

(Romans 14:19; John 11:19; 1 Thessalonians 5:15)

Romans 14:19 (NKJV) ¹⁹ Therefore let us pursue the things *which make* for peace and the things by which one may edify another.

John 11:19 (NKJV) ¹⁹ And many of the Jews had joined the women around Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother.

1 Thessalonians 5:15 (NKJV) ¹⁵ See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all.

- D. Prophecy is listed in the functional gifts in Romans 12:6. This seems to indicate that there will be those who are consistently able to speak by the inspiration of the Spirit. (This doesn't mean they are operating in the Office of the Prophet)

Romans 12:6: Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith;

II. Tongues and Interpretation of Tongues

A. Not referring to language skills

B. Definitions

1. Tongues: *supernatural, inspired utterance in a language not known to the speaker*
2. Interpretation: *supernatural utterance giving the sense of an utterance in tongues in a language familiar to the hearers (not translation, IE. not word for word)*

C. Tongues + Interpretation = Prophecy 1 Corinthians 14:5

1 Corinthians 14:5: I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you

prophesied; for he who prophesies is greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification.

Speaking in Tongues is for all people or Paul would not have made the comment “you all spoke with tongues.” But, Paul makes the statement that he really wished all prophesied for prophecy is to edify, exhort or to comfort unless one speaks in tongues and then there is interpretation! This identifies and ministers to both the believers and unbelievers!

D. Uses of tongues

1. 1 Corinthians 14:4 Edifying self in preparation for ministry or trial.

1 Corinthians 14:4: He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.

2. 1 Corinthians 14:2,14 Praying mysteries beyond intellectual knowledge (Romans 8:26,27)

1 Corinthians 14:2,14: For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries. (14) For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.

Romans 8:26–27 (NKJV) ²⁶ Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷ Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*.

3. 1 Corinthians 14:5,6,13,22 Tongues for interpretation as a sign for unbelievers.

1 Corinthians 14:5 (NKJV) ⁵ I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies *is* greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification. ⁶ But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you unless I speak to you either by revelation, by knowledge, by prophesying, or by teaching? ¹³ Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret. ²² Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophesying is not for unbelievers but for those who believe.

4. 1 Corinthians 14:15 Worship, either privately or

corporately

1 Corinthians 14:15: What is the result then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.

5. Mark 16:7; Acts 2:1-8 Tongues in the language of the hearer

Mark 16:17: "And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;

Acts 2:1–8 (NLT) On the day of Pentecost* all the believers were meeting together in one place. ² Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. ³ Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. ⁴ And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages,* as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

⁵ At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. ⁶ When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers.

⁷ They were completely amazed. "How can this be?" they exclaimed. "These people are all from Galilee, ⁸ and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages!

III. Administration of Prophecy and Tongues in the church service

A. These gifts are the only ones which we can use personally. We can all speak in English (or a known language) or in tongues anytime. Therefore these are more subject to abuse or misuse in the public sphere.

B. 1 Corinthians 14:26-28 Tongues and interpretation

1 Corinthians 14:26-28: How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification. If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret. But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God.

1. All Christians should come to church prayed up and ready to minister.
2. Messages in tongues must be given by no more than 3 people and each message must be interpreted.

3. Notice it does not say don't pray in tongues. If there is no interpreter, simply speak to yourself and to God.

C. 1 Corinthians 14:29-33

1 Corinthians 14:29–33 (NKJV) ²⁹ Let two or three prophets speak, (prophets) and let the others judge. (Congregation) ³⁰ But if *anything* is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent. ³¹ For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged. (Congregation) ³² And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. ³³ For God is not *the author* of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

1. No more than 2 or 3 persons may prophesy in one service.
2. No one person should monopolize the floor since all can be used.
3. It should be done one at a time to maintain order.
4. See V.32 in Amplified Bible. The speaker is able to control his utterance and give it when he is recognized or hold it if he is not.

1 Corinthians 14:32 (AMP) For the spirits of the prophets (the speakers in tongues) are under the speakers control (and subject to being silenced as maybe be necessary)

5. See V.29. "The others" refers to the rest of the congregation. We must test every utterance and hold fast to what is good. 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21

1 Thessalonians 5:19–21 (NKJV) ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise prophecies. ²¹ Test all things; hold fast what is good.

D. The summation 1 Corinthians 14:37-40

1 Corinthians 14:37–40 (NKJV) ³⁷ If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord. ³⁸ But if anyone is ignorant, let him be ignorant. ³⁹ Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues. ⁴⁰ Let all things be done decently and in order.

1. This chapter is a command.
2. V.38 If anyone ignores this ordering of the gifts of utterance, you must not recognize him. (See AMP)

3. Every believer can and should seek to prophesy.
4. It is unscriptural to forbid to speak in tongues.
5. The goal is only to maintain order. The specific method is left up to the leader of the local body.
6. Exercise: What are some ways you have seen used to order a service?