

L30: 1 Corinthians 12:1-3: Spiritual Gifts

Sermon Review: Review/Summarize

- Charity (1 Cor. 8:1)
 - 1 Corinthians 7 - introducing the principle of charity
 - Weaker brother
 - Unbeliever
 - Neighbor
 - Members of Body
- The Lord's Table
 - Christ's charity toward man, much more toward believers
 - The spiritual things of the new testament that we may be like Him

Sermon Preview:

- Walking worthy - examine, discern, judge
 - Guilty, damnation, weak, sickly, sleep, judged, chastened, condemnation
- Spiritual gifts and Israel's dumb idols

Sermon:

(1 Corinthians 12:1) Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.

- "Now concerning spiritual gifts"
 - 1 Corinthians 7:1 - *"Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me"*
 - "spiritual gifts" -
 - "the word of wisdom"
 - "the word of knowledge"
 - "faith"
 - "the gifts of healing"
 - "the working of miracles"
 - "prophecy"
 - "discerning of spirits"
 - "divers kinds of tongues"
 - "the interpretation of tongues"
 - "worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit"
 - What works the Spirit today? - the word of God
 - Spirit's work in making Christ known (spiritual things of the New Testament and the mystery of Christ)
 - Romans 8

- Colossians 1:25
- John 14:16-17, 26; 16:12-15

- Romans 1:11 - "...that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established"

- "the mutual faith"

- **What are Spiritual Gifts for?**

- **Origin**

- Exodus 34:10 - "do marvels in the sight of the people"
 - Judges 6:13 - "miracles"
 - Ps. 74:9 - "seeth not our signs"
 - 1 Cor. 1:22 - "Jews require a sign"

- **Purpose When in Operation/Background**

- Hebrews 6:5 - "powers of the world to come"
 - Isaiah 35:4, 6 - lame man and dumb (healings)
 - Zech. 13:1-2 - idols and prophets (cast out devils/spirits)
- Matthew 10:8; 16:1-4 - "signs of the kingdom"
- Mark 16:17, 20 - "signs", "new tongues"
 - Isaiah 34:1-2
 - Zech. 8:20-23

- **"I would not have you ignorant"**

- **"ignorant"** - Destitute of knowledge; uninstructed or uninformed; untaught; unenlightened.
 - If you are destitute of knowledge you don't know about something as you ought.
 - The subject of spiritual gifts often confused - no surprise in regards to what Paul says here.
- I would hope that you would have a balance - not that they are in operation today and we will explain this later, but that in eventually understanding they are not in operation any longer, what they worked.
- The Corinthians were ignorant regarding what the spiritual gifts were to administer and operate as many are today.
 - Cessationism and continuationism is the fancy term to identify you as one that believes the spiritual gifts continue today (beyond the apostolic age), or that they ceased (after the apostolic age).
- At TCGF we understand these scriptures that the spiritual gifts ceased.

- We understand this from 1 Corinthians 13, chapters 12-14 more generally, and even more generally the testimony of Paul's epistles as the fulfiller of God's Word.
- I would like to teach these chapters in their historical context as much as I can making reference to their cessation.
- There isn't one spiritual gift that the word of God does not touch and thus it becomes the replacement, the way that the Spirit works.
- When dealing with the spiritual gifts based upon what many of them are we must remember that the canon or scripture is open when we read this information.

(1 Corinthians 12:2) Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led.

- **"Ye know that ye were Gentiles"**
 - **"were"** - past tense
 - In Christ we are neither Jew or Gentile
- **"carried away"** - too much zeal, out of control, death
 - "leadeth", "led him away", "bring", "took him away"
- **"these dumb idols"** - Mute; silent; not speaking. Destitute of the power of speech; unable to utter articulate sounds.
 - "these" - those around at Corinth
 - Idol that which isn't God speaking, ought not be listened to.
 - Psalm 115:1-8 - "do not speak with their throats"
 - Zech. 10:1-2 - "spoken vanity"
 - Revelation 13:14-15 - "image to speak"
 - If God spoke to you something that truly isn't from God, this is idolatry, this is worshipping a false God.
 - How do you evaluate whether it is of God or now? The Word of God!!!
- **"even as ye were led."**

(1 Corinthians 12:3) Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the

Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.

- "Wherefore I give you to understand"
 - No longer be ignorant
- "that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed"
 - John 16:12-15
 - He was made a curse for us (Galatians 3)
 - Just because a man has so called spiritual gifts, yet says Jesus is accursed is also dumb and it is also idolatry.
 - Whether they listen to a dumb idol, or a dumb man both can be idolatry.
- "and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost."
 - Jesus is preeminent in all things, to be submitted to in all things.
 - Everyone will confess Jesus is Lord, but will not be saved.
- Paul's point is they need to learn another lesson, just because there are utterances in these spiritual gifts they must not be "carried away" by the gifts and yield to any man that teaches blasphemous doctrine, but like they were "carried away" and "led away" unto "dumb idols".
 - Animation and life are two different things.

(1 Corinthians 12:4) Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

- "diversities, differences, diversities" - Difference; dissimilitude; unlikeness. Variety
 - "gifts" - any thing, the property of which is voluntarily transferred by one person to another without compensation
- "but the same Spirit" - the Spirit gifted the believers with a diversity of gifts.

(1 Corinthians 12:5) And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.

- "**of administrations**" - (serving, ministry, office) To act as minister or chief agent, in managing public affairs, under laws or a constitution of government, as a king, president, or other supreme officer. To afford, give or furnish; as, to administer relief, that is, to act as the agent.
- "**but the same Lord.**" - the Lord is over all, but has different administrations under Him.

- The diversity of gifts work to function in the Lord's administrations, by administering something.

(1 Corinthians 12:6) And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

- **"diversities of operations"** - (working) an effect, The act or process of operating; agency; the exertion of power, physical, mechanical or moral. Action; effect, movement
 - Ezekiel 36:26-27
 - Jeremiah 31:31ff
 - Philippians 2:12-13; Romans 8
 - John 3:8 - "wind bloweth where it listeth"
 - Isa. 40:5-8
 - Physical wind - cooling, blows, blow an object to break, to get sand in your eye, on water and cause waves, make a storm, produce energy (is an energy)
- **"but it is the same God"**
- The spiritual gifts were given by the Spirit of God to work for and toward the administrations of the Lord and thus effect the work of God in all of His workings.

Sermon Conclusion: Review/Summarize

- So many believers (continuationists) get "carried away" with the spiritual gifts and have no clue what they were to administer and operate. In turn they, like the Corinthians, abused the spiritual gifts for themselves.
 - Many believers (continuationists) who have a better understanding of the spiritual gifts are limited in the power of God's Word, although they will uphold in their speech the Word of God, in the doctrine of spiritual gifts they do not, because it is the one area in which the word of God does not touch.
 - The word of knowledge isn't that I know someone in this church is suffering from this that or another, for we all suffer one thing or another. Suffering that can be interpreted that God is speaking about me.
 - The Spirit is often equated to a strong feeling, a strong impression. A strong feeling or impression, ought not be equated with the Spirit.
 - I am not saying that the Spirit doesn't effect a strong feeling, a strong impression, but He does so by the Word of God.
 - I don't know if the Spirit is telling me to share the gospel with this

person or not - of course He is telling you to share the gospel, because He teaches it in His Word - and it ought to work in us, strike us to the core that we be not ashamed to hold our tongue, but to speak.

- The effectual working of God's Word in those that believe can work that which the spiritual gifts worked and operated based upon God's Word.