

L113 | I Corinthians | Knowledge Concerning Spiritual Gifts | I Cor. 12:1-3

I. Intro/Review:

- Ungodly labor concerning vain customs
- Ungodly labor concerning their suppers

II. Preview:

- Ungodly labor concerning spiritual gifts and the operations of God
- Outline
 1. I Corinthians 12:1-3 - Reproof
 2. I Corinthians 12:4-13:13 - Correction
 3. I Corinthians 14:1-40 - Instruction in Righteousness
- Ignorance concerning spiritual gifts
 - (:2) - Gentiles and idolatry
 - (:3) - appearance doesn't indicate Spirit
 - (:4) - diversities of gifts, differences of administrations, diversities of operations, but same Spirit, Lord, and God
 - 1) Not all same gift
 - 2) Not all same ministry
 - 3) Not all same operations
 - 4) Purpose of gifts isn't just the manifestation of the gift (ministry of the Lord)
 - 5) Manifestation of the Spirit isn't for self-profit, but to profit all

III. Sermon:

**Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.
{1 Corinthians 12:1}**

- Ungodly labor concerning spiritual gifts and the operations of God.
- "**Now concerning**" - about; about
 - 1 Cor. 7:1 - "marriage"
 - 1 Cor. 8:1 - "idols"
 - 1 Cor. 12:1 - "spiritual gifts"
- "**spiritual gifts**" - adjective
 - Rom. 1:11 - "some spiritual gift" | the faith (establish)
 - Rom. 7:14 - "the law is spiritual" | we are weak through the flesh
 - Rom. 15:27 - "their spiritual things" | Israel's spiritual things (new testament)
 - 1 Cor. 2:13 - "comparing spiritual things with spiritual" | spirit of world & spirit of God
 - 1 Cor. 3:1 - "speak unto you as spiritual but as unto carnal" | maturity
 - 1 Cor. 10:3-4 - "spiritual meat...drink...Rock" | the Lord's table

- "brethren"
 1. 1 Cor. 4:14 - "I write not these things to shame you, but as my beloved sons I warn you."
 2. 1 Cor. 6:11 - "And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God."
- "I would not have you ignorant" - not to know or understand
 - We are to know
 1. 1 Cor. 1:9 - "God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord."
 2. 1 Cor. 2:12 - "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God."
 - Hosea 4:6 - "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."

- **Summary - Questions**

- Why is Paul bringing up spiritual gifts?
 1. May be that they wrote to him with questions or at least some wrote to him about them.
 2. Paul perceives ignorance concerning them.
- These three chapters are to correct or give knowledge for their ignorance that they no longer be ignorant.
 1. 1 Cor. 13:11 - "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things."
 2. 1 Cor. 14:20 - "Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice by ye children, but in understanding be men."

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

- "Ye know that ye were Gentiles"
 - Ignorance #1 - they have forgotten who they were as Gentiles
 - 1 Pet. 4:3-4 - "For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings,

banquetings, and abominable idolatries: wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you:"

- 1 The. 4:5 - "Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God:"
- Eph. 4:17-19 - "This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,"
- **"carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led."**
 - **"dumb idols"** - idolatry
 - Idols dumbness, those that make them, those that trust them - Ps. 115:1-8
 - Speak not
 - See not
 - Hear not
 - Smell not
 - Handle not
 - Walk not
 - Isa. 40:15-23
 - Isa. 44:6-20
 - **"carried away, even as ye were led"** (16x) - to be led away - esp. led off to trial, prison, or punishment
 - Mat. 7:13 - "that **leadeth** to destruction"
 - Mat. 26:57 - "And they that had laid hold on Jesus **led him away**"
 - Acts 12:19 - "Herod...examined the keepers, and commanded that they should be **put to death.**"
 - Acts 24:7 - "But the chief captain Lysias came upon us, and with great violence **took him away**"
 - Rom. 1 - God gave them up, gave them up, gave them over | worthy of death

**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.
{1 Corinthians 12:3}**

- **"Wherefore I give you to understand"** - to address their ignorance
- Ignorance #2 - Do not presume all manifestations are manifestations of the Spirit
 - **"that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed:"**
 - The manifestation of the Spirit wouldn't speak error
 - John 14:26; 15:26 - the Spirit testifies of Jesus Christ
 - Rom. 8:9 - the Spirit of God is identified also as the Spirit of Christ

- 2 Cor. 3:17 - "Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."
- Christ became a curse for us, but isn't accursed (focus on "Jesus")
- Old Testament principle with the prophet
 - Deut. 18:22 - if spoken something and it doesn't come to pass
 - Deut. 13:1-10 - dream or prophecy comes to pass, but says follow after other gods (idolatry)
- The church needs to examine not solely the manifestation, but even when there is manifestation what is their doctrine - especially around the Lord Jesus Christ (He is the image of the invisible God)
 - 1 Cor. 8:6; 2 Cor. 4:4; Col. 1:15; Heb. 1:1-3
- **"and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost."**
 - Isn't simply verbal recognition, but an understanding
 - He is Lord (2 Cor. 5:16)
 - Rom. 1:3, 4:24, 12:11 (serving)
 - Rom. 14:7-12
 - Eph. 4:5, 17, 5:8, 10, 17; Col. 3:20, 24
 - 1 Tim. 6:15
 - 2 Tim. 4:8
 - Col. 1:15-19
- This is what the Holy Ghost testifies to that Jesus Christ is Lord, how He is Lord, the implications of Him being Lord, and the vastness of that which He is Lord over.

IV. Conclusion:

- Paul provides some essential basics for these Corinthians and their ignorance
 1. Don't forget the lack of understanding you had when you followed idols as Gentiles
 2. Manifestations shouldn't simply be received as Spirit and truth, but need to be discerned and tested.
 - The Spirit testifies to Christ and His Lordship by His death, burial, and resurrection
 - Anyone who says they speak by the Spirit of God but calls Jesus accursed speaks not the things of the Spirit, but should at least be dismissed.
- Moreover, Paul is going to deal with another ignorance the Corinthians have and that is the spiritual gifts have purpose and profit, they are not purposeless and vain.