

# L34: 1 Corinthians 14:6-40: Tongues & Prophesying

## Sermon Intro: Review/Summarize

- A spiritual gift was given to each member of the body of Christ to profit withal.
- The more excellent way is godly charity brought by the perfect knowledge as in a glass, in which all could access.
- The perfect was promised to come and expected through Paul's ministry, then that which is "in part" would be done away.

## Sermon Preview:

- Child to man
- Seeing through a glass, darkly ("in part")
- Faith, hope, charity
- Decently & in order

## Sermon:

- 1 Corinthians 14:1-40
  - Takes all the reproof and correction and provides instruction in righteousness
    - :40 - "Let all things be done decently and in order."
    - :20 - Understanding is the mark of manhood
  - During the wait for the fulfillment of the word of God, or until the perfect is come they needed to utilize the spiritual gifts as stipulated by the will of the One who divided and set them to each member of the body of Christ.
  - Focus is the edifying of the body of Christ, of the church
    - :3 - "unto men to edification"
    - :4 - "edifieth the church"
    - :5 - "that the church may receive edifying"
    - :12 - "seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church"
    - :26 - "Let all things be done unto edifying."
- The root cause of indecency and chaos is a desire for the less gifts, primarily, tongues.

- Tongues vs. Prophecy
- Tongues if no man understands only speaks to God (unknown tongue) and mysteries, prophecy speaks unto men to edification, exhortation, and comfort.
- Unknown tongue edifies himself , but prophecy edifieth the church
- :5 - greatness comes not by the signs or miracles you can do, but by your ability to build the church by God's Word.
  - Test
    - By placing the emphasis on edifying the church which takes place by "understanding", tongues set forth in its proper place without the church, and if within the church is limited based upon a tongue interpreter we begin to see a clear picture of tongues.
- :7 - Instrument analogy
  - unknown tongues are without life giving sound
  - Tongues give distinction in the sounds
    - Distinction in the sounds provides for it to be known
  - Unknown tongues give an uncertain sound which cannot lead to any action.
    - Tongues that no one understands does not lead to "charity".
- :9 - Instrument Analogy Application
  - utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, which is based upon the tongue known
  - Words are profitable when they are received in the mind of another that are suitable to the mind - producing understanding.
    - Without suitableness to the receiver the words are played in the air and are not profited from
    - Example - when you talk to someone who does not know language (we call this confusion)
      - Tower of Babel (confounded the language)
  - Unknown Tongue

- ☐ Speaketh not unto men - no man understands
  - ☐ Edifieth himself
  - ☐ Lesser than he that prophesieth
  - ☐ No profit
  - ☐ Non-life giving
  - ☐ Uncertain sound that doesn't lead to action
  - ☐ Impossible to understand
  - ☐ Does not have meaning
  - ☐ Barbarous outlook from others if they don't understand
  - ☐ Does not seek others
  - ☐ One cannot give thanks
  - ☐ The church isn't primary place of function (:24)
  - ☐ Childish and provides child behavior
  - ☐ Sign to unbelievers (does not serve believers)
  - ☐ Will make you look "mad"
  - ☐ Does not convince, does not judge, does not manifest secrets of unbelievers heart
  - ☐ Without interpreter keep silence
- :10 - the voices in the world all have significance
  - The gift of tongues is a significant kind of voice, a real language.
    - ☐ Paul isn't arguing that other languages are not important to the Corinthians, but the profitable use of the spiritual gift at this time.
- :11 - don't know the meaning
  - Profit comes from the receiver knowing the meaning of the voice otherwise there is a great divide.
- :12 - reminder to excel to the edifying of the church
  - The complete word of God that can produce in each member in unity - charity.
  - Forasmuch as they were and supposed to be zealous of spiritual gifts they were to seek to excel to the edifying of the church.
    - ☐ With spiritual gifts being done away we are not to be zealous of them, and realize the perfect provision for us to excel to the edifying of the church.
- :13 - excelling to edify the church would involve then to interpret
  - :14 - The necessity for interpretation is because when you pray in a language you don't know you pray, but you don't understand it.

- Acts 2 - the receivers of the tongues were amazed because they understood, but no acknowledgement that the little flock understood what they were saying, besides the testimony the unbelievers gave them.
- :15 - what are they supposed to do? Pray with spirit and with understanding, as well as, sing that way.
- :16 - use of "with the spirit" indicates the unknown tongue not understood by individual and the hearer.
- :17-18 - giving thanks well, but other is not edified
- :19 - "in the church"
  - 5 words with understanding to teach others is better than 10,000 words in an unknown tongue.
- :20 - exhortation to be men in understanding
  - By being zealous of tongues, especially without interpreter, they were zealous of functioning as children.
- :21-22 - tongues given for a sign, to them that believe not
- :23 - damage of all (1 Cor. 12) speaking in tongues
  - Establishing madness, lack of charity, not able to believe because the word of God not heard.
  - :24 - prophesy in all (unity of the faith)
    - Shift in view to diversities of gifts, to all prophesy
    - Fruit of all prophesy convinced, judged, and secrets of his heart manifest
    - (Romans 2)
    - Positive response to the gospel
- :26 - Let all things be done unto edifying
- :27-28 - Tongues done unto edifying
  - Only 2 to 3 by course (Rom. 12:8ff - "wait")
  - Then after each, let one interpret
  - Interpreter must be present before one speaks in tongues in the church.
  - If no interpreter keep silent

- :29-31 - Prophecy done unto edifying
  - Prophets speak two or three
  - The other judge it sound or not, or of God or not
  - Revealed to another that sitteth by, the first is to hold his peace (revelation)
    - God would give revelation during their gatherings
  - Prophets first, then all one by one may prophesy
    - Provide learning and be comforted
  - :32 - Prophets in control of what they are doing, not out of control
- :33 - God authors structure and peace, not confusion in all churches
- :34-35 - Women's Role in the Assembly unto edifying
  - Keep silence - not permitted unto them to speak
  - Even if they have questions - ask husbands at home
    - What if they don't have husband?
    - What if they don't have believing husband?
      - Then the church elders provide headship
  - Shame to speak in the church - to speak in unknown tongue not necessarily teaching or preaching
- :36 - Heart of the matter, they think they are special
- :37 - God's word unwritten would validate God's word written
- :38 - ignorance on this matter
- :39 - covet to prophesy - publicly proclaim the word of God
- :40 - done decently and in order per the instruction in chapter 14

**Sermon Conclusion: Review/Summarize**

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