

- I) V1-3 INTRO: Now concerning spiritual gifts brethren I do not want you to be I mentioned that Paul answers a number of questions the church has asked
- II) In ch 7 and 8 he had introduced a formula for answering their questions
1 Co 7:1 **Now concerning the things** of which you wrote to me (marriage)
1 Co 8:1 **Now concerning things** offered to idols
- III) He once again uses this formula as he begins to their answer questions
He is about to answer their question concerning the **gifts of the Spirit**
- IV) V1 Now concerning **spiritual gifts** brethren I do not want you to be ignorant
Spiritual gifts (Pneumatikon) Literally, **spirituals**
These are the supernatural gifts bestowed on the church by the Spirit of God
WE NEED TO REMEMBER
- V) The church is not a **humanly powered** organization
It is, in fact, a supernaturally empowered **organism**
- VI) The supernatural power that energizes the church **comes from God Himself**
IN THIS CHAPTER
- VII) Paul will introduce a variety of spiritual gifts
We will see how the Spirit gifts the church and look at a short list of the gifts
- VIII) This is important for us because I think that this is a **critical issue**
Many Christians live defeated Spiritual lives
- IX) This makes it more important for pastor/teachers to give insight into the gifts
We need to instruct and encourage our people to seek the Lord and His power
OVER THE CENTURIES
- X) It seems the church has taken one of **two avenues** in regards to the Spirit
Either the Church has **quenched** the Spirit, or the Church has **grieved** the Spirit
- XI) Paul issued warnings concerning both of these sins against the Spirit
1 Th 5:19 **Quench not** the Spirit (Do not put out the fire of the Spirit)
Eph 4:30 **Grieve not** the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption
- XII) It seems that the church is often doing one or the other

- I) We quench the Spirit when we try to do **spiritual** things using **fleshly methods**
We **quench** the Spirit, by developing doctrines that eliminate His work in our day
We **quench** the Spirit by trusting in our own experience (seminary, seminars)
We **quench** Him by using techniques to get people into the Church
We **quench** Him by failing to actually **teach** the whole counsel of God
SOMETIMES
- II) We design church services to make Jesus **acceptable to the sinner**
We want to attract the world, so we encourage **comfort** instead of **conviction**
- III) **Oswald Chambers**: We must never confuse our desire **for people to accept the gospel** with creating **a gospel that is acceptable to people!**
- IV) We must not focus on **making goats** more comfortable!
Church services never were designed for a congregation of unsaved people
They have always been a school intended to develop biblically literate believers
- V) If we are not busy **quenching**, then often we are busy **grieving** the Spirit
This occurs through the excesses that are attributed to the work of the Spirit
- VI) **Experience** become the way we gauge if the Spirit is moving
Rolling on the carpet, running, screaming, dancing, jumping are flesh
A MODERN EXAMPLE
- VII) Not too long ago a movement was becoming popular: being drunk in the Spirit
Anything that is not supported and explained by scripture is to be avoided
Ac 2:14-16 Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said to them, You men of Judaea, and all you who dwell at Jerusalem, be this known to you, and hearken to my words: For these are not drunken, as you suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. But **this is that** which was spoken **by the prophet Joel**
- VIII) These two extremes often are enough to keep people from seeking their gifts
It causes **some** to be turned off and **others** become enamored with gifts
- IX) When enamored with gifts, the result is seeking **the gifts** rather than the **Giver**
This is what happened in Samaria with Simon the Sorcerer
- X) In Ac 8, Simon saw Philip perform miracles and cast out demons
He also saw Peter and John lay hands on people, and they received the Spirit

- I) Simon approached Simon Peter and offered money to get such power
Simon Peter told him no, may your money perish with you
You thought the gift of God could be purchased with money!

- II) We are not to be enamored with Spiritual gifts, but with God Himself
Jas 1:17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down **from the Father of** the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

- III) I remember a woman asking me, after a service, when does the Spirit move here?

- IV) The Corinthians had questions concerning spiritual gifts and Paul now answers
Ch 12-14 speak specifically concerning **spiritual gifts** in the Church

- V) The gifts are listed in ch 12-14, as well as Ro 12:6-8, 1 Pe 4:10-11, Eph 4:7-8
How many gifts? Some have said that there are between 16-20
They can be divided into speaking gifts, and even serving gifts
AS WE BEGIN, HE REVEALS HIS DESIRE
- VI) V1 **His desire**: That we not be ignorant (**without knowledge**)
Paul desired believers to be well instructed in all things
This is because he desired them to be **fully mature** in their understanding
HE SAYS
- VII) V2 You know that your **were Gentiles carried away** to these dumb idols
As Gentiles, you were lost and spiritually ignorant
Eph. 2:11-13 Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called **uncircumcised** by those who call themselves **the circumcision** (that done in the body by the hands of men)-- remember that at that time you were **separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship** in Israel and **foreigners** to the covenants of the promise, **without hope** and **without God** in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

- VIII) They were separate Christ, without citizenship; foreigners, hope, and without God
This is because God had a special relationship with the nation of Israel
Amos 3:2 You only have I known of all the families of the earth
Ro 9:4-5 (Speaks of those) Who are Israelites; to whom pertains the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

- I) Gentiles were without God, so they created gods for themselves (idols)
- II) V2 You were Gentiles **carried away** to these **dumb idols** however you were led Carried (**led**) away: Those who are led off to trial, prison, or punishment
- III) Often these false gods **represented by idols** had priests who claimed to speak under the influence of **the spirit of the god** and then led people astray
HIS POINT
- IV) Before Jesus you were **pathetic prisoners**, taken captive by **non living idols**
This would accentuate what he had already said about idolatry (ch 8, 10)
Ps 135:15-18 The idols of the nations are silver and gold, made by the hands of men. They have mouths, but cannot speak, eyes, but they cannot see; they have ears, but cannot hear, nor is there breath in their mouths. Those who make them will be like them, and so will all who trust in them.
- V) V3 Therefore I make know to you that no one **speaking by the Spirit of God** calls No pagan prophet, who can't speak, see, hear or breathe points you to Jesus Also, no Spirit filled person would ever call Jesus a worthless impostor
- VI) He isn't moved **by the Spirit of God**, but by a lying spirit
1 Jn 4:1-3 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh **is not of God**. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.
- VII) This reveals the Spirit led person is known by **what they say** about Jesus
The Spirit does not deny Jesus, but instead **testifies of Him**
Jn 15:26-27 But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, **He will testify of Me**. And you also will bear witness because you have been with Me from the beginning.
Jn 16:14 (**The Spirit**) will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you
IN THIS CONTEXT
- VIII) It would speak of how a genuine believer speaks of Jesus
A genuine Christian, moved by the Spirit, does not call Jesus accursed
Not in a teaching, prophecy, or a word of wisdom or word of knowledge

- I) **Accursed:** (Anathema) devoted to God without hope of being redeemed
It has been given to God and is as good as destroyed: it is no longer yours
IN THIS CONTEXT
- II) **The Spirit** wouldn't call Jesus worthless, doomed to destruction, or rejected
You serve the living God, and you do not consider Him worthless
God's Holy Spirit never leads anyone to say that Jesus is without value
NOTICE
- III) No one can say that Jesus is Lord **except by the Holy Spirit**
The words Jesus is Lord can only have meaning by the Spirit's influence
- IV) You cannot be saved without the Spirit
Jn 16:8-11 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and you see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.
Jn 6:44 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.
CONTINUING
- V) V4 Now there are **diversities** of gifts but the same Spirit
Diversities: Different gifts are necessary for the Body to function (he gives 9)
- VI) V5 There are **differences** of ministries: There is a variety of **applications** of gifts
There may be times when two or more gifts are operating at the same time
Preaching (evangelism) and teaching often occurs in the same message
- VII) V6 And there are diversities of **activities** (the effect of the operation of the gifts)
All of the effects are produced by God's power, and can be different
God sovereignly controls what occurs: He works differently in each of us
- VIII) People may have the same gift, but it operates differently in each person
God uses our personalities as we exercise the gifts of the Spirit
APPLICATION
- IX) You may observe somebody teach, and think you should teach like they do
God works differently in each one, so don't try to become someone else
THE PURPOSE OF GIFTS
- X) V7 But the manifestation (exposure) of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit
The exercising of the gifts are for the benefit of others, not us alone

- I) There are absolutely no superstars in the Body of Christ
- II) The gifts are intended to build up the Body, not elevate people
They are **not intended** to draw attention the one exercising the gifts, **but to Jesus**
Jn 15:26 But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he shall testify of Me
HE NOW GIVES A LIST OF THE GIFTS
- III) V8-10 Contains a partial list of spiritual gifts
These gifts reveal the diversity of the body of Christ, being gifted by God
Often the gifts are in what is called a **gift mix**
- IV) We are not all the same, and each has something unique to contribute
We will look at the **Word of Wisdom** and the **Word of Knowledge**
FIRST
- V) The Word of Wisdom: this isn't making practical application to life situation
PRACTICAL WISDOM
- VI) There's a black animal with a white stripe: **Knowledge** defines, wisdom **reacts**
FIRST, WHAT IT ISN'T
- VII) As a spiritual gift, **it is not a natural ability**, resulting through ordinary means
It is not gained over time, experience, teaching, or personal study
OBVIOUSLY
- VIII) The pursuit of **wisdom** is something that all believers should practice
Pr 16:16 How much better **to get** wisdom than gold! **To get** understanding is to be chosen rather than silver
THE GIFT IS DIFFERENT
- IX) The gift of the word of wisdom is an insight that comes directly from God
Jesus displayed this supernatural wisdom often
Mt 21:23-27 When He came into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people confronted Him as He was teaching, and said, "By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority?" But Jesus answered and said to them, "I also will ask you one thing, which if you tell Me, I likewise will tell you by what authority I do these things: The baptism of John—where was it from? From heaven or from men?" And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'From men,' we fear the multitude, for all count John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus and said, "We do not know." And He said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

- I) Mt 22:15-22 The Pharisees tried to trap Him in His word
They asked if they should pay taxes to Caesar, or not
Jesus **perceived their wickedness** and asked for the coin: give to Caesar
- II) Ac 23:1-10 Before the Sanhedrin, Paul **perceived** half of them to be Pharisees
Paul's statement was wise, resulting in him being removed from the situation
- III) The **word of wisdom** gives us insightful answers and directions quickly
It is not from only outside circumstances, but originates within
THE SECOND GIFT
- IV) The Word of Knowledge
This is not the ability to study and be educated: It is not ordinary knowledge
ALSO
- V) This is not the ability to study the Bible and understand it
Every believer has that ability
Jn 14:26 But the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.
- VI) Word of knowledge is knowledge that is beyond our normal way of finding out
There are various examples of this in scripture
Jn 4:16-18 (Samaritan woman) He told her, Go, call your husband and come back. I have no husband, she replied. Jesus said to her, You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true
Mt 16:13-17 You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God
Ac 5:1-11 Annanias/Sapphira: Why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the HS
- VII) Young woman at our home who was secretly a lesbian
ONE LAST THING
- VIII) Gifts of the Spirit are always to be exercised with humility and by faith
Ro 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God has dealt to every man the measure of faith.
- IX) Be open to what God will do through you this week