



For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another **gifts of healing** by the one Spirit, to another the **working of miracles**, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another **various kinds of tongues**, to another the **interpretation of tongues**.

1 Corinthians 12:8-10

“The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with utmost patience, with signs and wonders and mighty works.”

2 Corinthians 12:12

8 Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease as for knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.

1 Corinthians 13:8-10

Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

1 Corinthians 12:30-3

I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified.

1 Corinthians 14:5

...Now eagerly desire the greater gifts...

1 Corinthians 12:30-3

**...I would like every one of you to speak in
tongues, but I would rather have you
prophecy...**

1 Corinthians 14:5

Ephesians 3:14-21

Philippians 3:10-11

“I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with **power through his Spirit...”**

“...And I pray that you...may have **power...”**

“...that you may be filled to the measure of all the **fullness of God.”**

“...according to his **power that is at work within us...”**

“I want to know Christ—yes, to know the **power of his resurrection”**

Outline:

I. Define the sign gifts

II. Have these gifts ceased?

III. Do these gifts continue today?

MIRACLES

HEALING

**“Surely he took up our
infirmities and carried our
sorrows...by his wounds we are
healed.”**

Isaiah 53:4-5

SPEAKING IN TONGUES

**“Prayer or praise spoken in
syllables not understood by the
speaker.”**

— Wayne Grudem

Acts 2

1 Corinthians 14

Romans 8:26-27?

Acts 2

One-time instance at Pentecost

1 Corinthians 14

Tongues in corporate worship

Romans 8:26-27?

Groaning/interceding of the H.S.

“If any speak in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn, and let someone interpret. But if there is no one to interpret, let each of them keep silent in church and speak to himself and to God.”

1 Corinthians 14:27-28

**For one who speaks in a tongue
speaks not to men but to God;
for no one understands him, but
he utters mysteries in the Spirit.**

1 Corinthians 14:2

- **Speaking in a language not known by humans.**
- **Purpose = praise directed to God.**
- **Guided by self-control, discipline, order.**
- **Motive of love and edification.**
- **Public or private.**
- **If public, must be accompanied with interpretation**

INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES

**“Reporting to the church the
general meaning of something
spoken in tongues.”**

— Wayne Grudem

"Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God."

Romans 8:26-27

SO NOW WHAT?

1 Corinthians 12:8-10

For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another **gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the **working of miracles**, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another **various kinds of tongues**, to another the **interpretation of tongues**.**

1 Corinthians 12:8-10

1 Corinthians 13:8-10

Ephesians 4:11-13

Ephesians 2:19-21

Defining Some Terms:

Pentecostal Christian

Charismatic Christian

“Third Wave” Christian

III. The Case for the Cessation of these Gifts Today

3 Main Purposes of “Sign” Gifts:

- 1. Authenticate apostles**
- 2. Help lay the church’s foundation**
- 3. Necessary until the completion of the canon**

**...It was declared at first by the Lord,
and it was attested to us by those who
heard, while God also bore witness by
signs and wonders and various
miracles and by gifts of the Holy
Spirit distributed according to his will.**

Hebrews 2:2-4

“...members of the household of God, **built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.”**

Ephesians 2:18-22

Love never ends. As for **prophecies,**
they will pass away; as for **tongues,**
they will cease as for knowledge, it will
pass away. For we know in part and we
prophecy in part, but **when the perfect**
comes, the partial will pass away.

1 Corinthians 13:8-10

Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but **when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.**

1 Corinthians 13:8-10

III. The Case for the Continuation of these Gifts Today

The Case for Continuation of Sign Gifts

- 1. No distinction of gifts made by Paul**
- 2. Gifts are necessary until Christ's return**
- 3. Commanded to strive for, be eager, desire**

Love never ends. As for **prophecies**,
they will pass away; as for **tongues**,
they will cease as for **knowledge**, **it will**
pass away. For we know in part and we
prophecy in part, but when the perfect
comes, the partial will pass away.

1 Corinthians 13:8-10

I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. For in him you have been **enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge**— God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. Therefore **you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed.** He will also keep you firm **to the end**, so that you will be blameless on **the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

1 Corinthians 1:4-8

Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.

1 Corinthians 13:8-10

**“And he gave the apostles, the prophets,
the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to
equip the saints for the work of ministry,
for building up the body of Christ, **until we all
attain to the unity of the faith** and of the
knowledge of the Son of God, to mature
manhood, to the measure of the stature of the
fullness of Christ”**

Ephesians 4:11-13

GIFTS WILL CONTINUE UNTIL JESUS RETURNS:

1 Peter 4:7,10

1 John 2:27-28

Ephesians 1:13-14

Ephesians 4:30

Jude 20-21

“...be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues.”

1 Corinthians 14:39

“Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies.”

1 Thessalonians 5:19-22

“Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.”

1 Corinthians 12:30-3

**“I would like every one of you to
speak in tongues”**

1 Corinthians 14:5

Ephesians 4:11-13

Ephesians 2:19-21

4) He equips the Church for ministry by giving spiritual gifts to each believer.

Spiritual gifts are special endowments or abilities given by the Holy Spirit to each believer, enabling the believer to participate actively in the church's ministry.

Properly exercised, every gift brings honor to Jesus Christ, produces unity, develops spiritual maturity within the body, and helps to complete the mission of the Church.

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various form. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 4:10-11

Also see: Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12-14; Ephesians 4:11-16

Also see Part II, Article V, E

F. The gifts for the Church

We believe that the baptism of the Holy Spirit is the universal spiritual experience of all true Christians, not a post-conversion experience that is evidenced by what some refer to as sign gifts. At the moment of conversion, the Holy Spirit places the new believer into the universal church. The believer now has the capacity to be under the Spirit's empowerment for character transformation and ministry.

Spiritual gifts are special endowments or abilities given by the Holy Spirit to each believer, as He determines, enabling the believer to participate effectively in the church's ministry. Properly exercised and received by the body, every gift brings honor to Jesus Christ, produces unity, develops spiritual maturity within the body, and helps to complete the mission of the Church.

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

(1 Peter 4:10)

We believe the gifts of the Holy Spirit spoken of in the New Testament were distributed to all believers for the common good (I Corinthians 12:7). Concerning the “sign gifts” (e.g., tongues, interpretation of tongues, revelatory prophecy, gifts of healing) we discourage any inference that these gifts indicate special spiritual attainment and/or superiority. We believe the practice of spiritual gifts is to “be done in a fitting and orderly way.” (I Corinthians 14:40)

We believe the “sign gifts” accounts as recorded in Acts are descriptive of the events that occurred at the birth of the Christian Church. We do not regard the practice of “sign gifts” in any of our ministry gatherings (such as public worship or small groups) as necessary for the local church or the individual believer. Nor do we believe that the public exercise of these gifts must occur for the spiritual growth of the individual or the numerical growth of the church.

Also see: Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12-14; Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Peter 4:11.