

THE GIVER AND HIS GIFTS

The Giver and His Gifts

Part 11

May 15, 2022

The Gospel of Saint Mark 7:1-13, “Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem,² they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed.³ (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly,⁴ holding to the tradition of the elders,⁴ and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the

washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.)⁵ And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?”⁶ And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, “This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; ⁷in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’⁸ You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”⁹ And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! ¹⁰For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’¹¹ But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, “Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban”’ (that is, given to God)—¹² then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother,¹³ thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.” May the Lord add His Blessing to the Reading and the Hearing of His Word; Amen!

Over the past several weeks, we have been working our way through 1 Corinthians 14 verse by verse to dissect the text to discover what the Apostle Paul prescribed and outlined for the protocol of spiritual gifts being manifested within the local church setting. Church family, Biblical Order is Biblical and if we claim to believe what the Book says then we must practice what the Book says. Often times, we forfeit biblical truth or doctrinal fortitude for the sake of tradition but Tradition doesn't save the soul, heal the wounded, cast out devils, or propagate power within the Church. The Holy Spirit does that; not tradition.

1. If we are not careful, our traditions will void the Word of God in our lives.

Jesus spoke to this very issue in the Gospel of Saint Mark 7:1-13. Allow me to draw your attention to two specific statements declared by Christ Himself. Verses 9-10 records, “⁸You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”⁹ And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition!” He then goes on to state emphatically in verse 13, “¹³thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

Church family, tradition builds golden calves that need be sacrificed if we truly intend to fully embrace what the Scripture teaches regarding the Gifts of the Spirit and the Fruit of the Spirit.

2. Our gifts are to be submitted to the Authority of His Word because the Move of the Spirit will never contradict the Word of God.

The Holy Spirit and the Move of the Spirit in our lives, and all of that which it entails, is clearly defined in the Scriptures. And it is with this in mind, let's continue in this vein of 1 Corinthians 14...

1 Corinthians 14:26-40, ²⁶What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up. ²⁷If any speak in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn, and let someone interpret. ²⁸But if there is no one to interpret, let each of them keep silent in church and speak to himself and to God. ²⁹Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said. ³⁰If a revelation is made to another sitting there, let the first be silent. ³¹For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged, ³²and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets. For God is not a God of confusion but of peace. As in all the churches of the saints, ³⁴the

women should keep silent in the churches. For they are not permitted to speak, but should be in submission, as the Law also says.³⁵ If there is anything they desire to learn, let them ask their husbands at home. For it is shameful for a woman to speak in church.³⁶ Or was it from you that the word of God came? Or are you the only ones it has reached?³⁷ If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a command of the Lord.³⁸ If anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized.³⁹ So, my brothers, earnestly desire to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues.⁴⁰ But all things should be done decently and in order.”

The Move of the Spirit in the life of the Christian and in the flow of a Service will never contradict what the Word of God has prescribed and defined per the Scriptures on the Gifts and the demonstration of said Gifts. If a proclaimed “move of the Spirit” is contrary to the Word of God then we must assume that it is not of God. As I have taught before, God honors His Word above His Name; thus if He honors His Word above His Name then His Spirit will never contradict the Word which is honored above His Very Name.

3. The Gifts of the Spirit are Meant to be Manifested in Submission to the Word of God and to the Authority of the House; the Pastor.

- a. It is the responsibility of the Pastor to be the enforcement of the Apostolic teaching and to ensure the order and flow of the service. That is not a power play; that is Bible.
- b. This is all the more enforced in the Book of the Revelation due to the fact that 7 letters to the 7 Churches spanning Chapters 1 - 3 are addressed to the Pastor because Christ expects the Pastors to tend to the Order of His House in matters of gifts, fruit, faith and conduct.

The Scripture is clear when it comes to dealing with Order:

- Verse 26 - What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.
- Verse 31 - For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged, ³² and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets.
- Verse 33 - For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.

- Verse 39 - So, my brothers, earnestly desire to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. ⁴⁰ But all things should be done decently and in order.

4. It is the responsibility of the Pastor to provide oversight to the Move of the Spirit and the Flow of the Service in so that the Gifts are used properly for the edification of the Body.

- Gifts and Flow in our Services / Proper Order:
- Come to Pastor Beck or myself or one of the pastoral staff and submit your prophetic word to one of us. Or if you have a Word in Tongues.
- We will then choose when and where in the service it will fit in the flow.
- Principle of the Flow of a Service (Conductor of Orchestra / Sheet Music)
- Flow is about finding the right place to set the notes in place for the proper keys to be hit.

- IF the wrong instrument plays at the wrong time, no matter the note that is played, it is still out of order; no matter the instrument or the note that is played by said instrument. It's not about the instrument but submitting to the cords outlined on the sheet music written by the composer.
- Thus if all things are to be done decently and in order then the manifestation of Spiritual Gifts will not be out of order with the flow of the service and the move of the Spirit.
- If I choose to not allow you to present your gift then do not get offended; if you get mad and offended then it tells me that your “gift” is you and not the Holy Spirit.
- And if you manifest a gift out of order and I or one of my Pastors correct you then do not get offended
- ³⁹ So, my brothers, earnestly desire to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. ⁴⁰ But all things should be done decently and in order.

Brethren:

- If we are not careful, our traditions will void the Word of God in our lives.
- Our gifts are to be submitted to the Authority of His Word because the Move of the Spirit will never contradict the Word of God.
- The Gifts of the Spirit are Meant to be Manifested in Submission to the Word of God and to the Authority of the House; the Pastor.
- It is the responsibility of the Pastor to provide oversight to the Move of the Spirit and the Flow of the Service in so that the Gifts are used properly for the edification of the Body.