

MAKING SENSE OF THE SPOKEN GIFTS

Biblical Directives To Honor, Order, Edify

October 18,2023



MAKING SENSE OF THE SPOKEN GIFTS

- ***READ: 1 Corinthians 12:1, 4-11.***
- ***1 Corinthians 12:31- 13:2.***
- ***1 Corinthians 14: 1-6, 11-13, 26-40.***

MAKING SENSE OF THE SPOKEN GIFTS

3 CATEGORIES OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS:

1. GIFTS OF REVELATION = Reveal God's Mind
Wisdom, Knowledge, Discernment
2. GIFTS OF POWER = Reveal God's Power
Faith, Healing, Miracles
3. GIFTS OF SPEAKING = Reveal God's Heart
Prophecy, Tongues, Interpretation

MAKING SENSE OF THE SPOKEN GIFTS

- The Purpose Of Spiritual Gifts: **Equipping The Church Today**
- These Are Given **For The Life & Growth Of The Church**
- They Are **The Empowering Presence Of God, Among Us!**

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- **PROPHECY**— A special temporary ability to bring a word, warning, exhortation, or revelation from God, under the direction and impulse of the Holy Spirit
- **DISCERNMENT (DISTINGUISHING) OF SPIRITS**-- The special ability to judge whether prophecies and utterances are from God

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- **Speaking In Different Kinds Of Tongues**—Expressing ourselves under the influence of the Holy Spirit in a language of tongue that we have never learned
- **Interpretation Of Tongues**--The Spirit given ability to understand and communicate the meaning of a message spoken in tongues. A means of edifying the congregation

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Prophecy Is A Gift We Are To Value, A Most Important Gift

- **1 Corinthians 14:5 (NIV)** (5) I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. He who prophesies is greater than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may be edified.
- ***The Spoken Gifts Provide A Message Of Fresh Insight From The Spirit.***
- ***The Spoken Gifts Do His Work Of Building The Church***

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- **1 Thessalonians 5:19** Do not put out the Spirit's fire;
- **1 Thessalonians 5:20** Do not treat prophecies with contempt.
- **1 Thessalonians 5:21** Test everything. Hold on to the good

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What Do We Look For In Judging A Spoken Word?

- ***Does The Message Line Up With Scripture?***
- *Is It Edifying, Encouraging, Comforting, And Strengthening?*
- *Does It Follow The Orderly Directive Of Scripture ?*
- *Is It Given In Love?*
- *Is Jesus Glorified?*
- *Is It Relevant?*
- *If It Is Predictive In Nature, Does It Come To Pass?*

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Areas To Avoid In Prophecy: Cautions

- **Avoid Using Prophecy To Establish Doctrine**
- **Be Cautious About Excessive Dependence On Prophetic Words For Making Routine, Daily Decisions In Life**
- **Avoid Drawing Attention To Self**

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What To Say To Those Who Want To Function In This Gift?

- *Ask The Lord To Use You To Edify His Body With This Gift*
- *Check Your Motives*
- *Get Known In The Church*
- *An Idea, Thought, Impression, Or Word Will Be Revealed To Your Mind*
- *You Must Begin To Speak It Forth By Faith*
- *Judge The Gift And Be Willing For Others To Evaluate It Also*
- *Be Prayed Up Before Coming To Church Services And Bible Studies If You Want To Be Effective*

MAKING SENSE OF THE SPOKEN GIFTS

- **The Spoken Gifts Are Gifts To Be Greatly Desired**
- They Are So Important For The Body To Be Built Up Through The Gift Of The Holy Spirit's Voice
- The Spoken Gifts Must Always Be Used For The Glory Of God Not For The Glory Of An Individual

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Paul Placed Three Restrictions On The Gift In Public Worship:

- 1. The Number Of Messages Should Not Exceed Three In A Single Worship Service .*
- 2. The Inspired Utterances Must Be Given One After The Other, Avoiding Two Or More Speaking At The Same Time.*
- 3. Tongues In Public Worship Must Be Interpreted So People Can Understand What Is Being Said By The Spirit.*

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- The Purpose Of The Gift Of Tongues In The Church Is To Build Up The Church. That Will Happen If There Is An Interpretation Along With The Gift
- If Unbelievers Are Present, They Will Not Understand The Manifestation Of The Gift Of Tongues Unless There Is An Interpretation

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- *“Those who have the gift of tongues for public manifestation should pray for the accompanying gift of interpretation of tongues. If the tongues speaker does not know whether an interpreter is present, he must be ready to interpret his own utterance (1 Cor. 14:13, 28)”*
- *Duffield, G. P., & Van Cleave, N. M. (1983). Foundations of Pentecostal theology*

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- Interpretations Should Be Judged Just As Prophecies Are Judged -- We Are Exhorted To “Test The Spirits”
- We Are Instructed To Prove All Things -- Hold On To That Which Is Good & Throw Out The Rest

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- All those who exercise vocal gifts should pray for wisdom in the recognition of those moments in the service when an utterance is edifying.
- Only in very rare occasions should one who is ministering be interrupted by an utterance
- *Duffield, G. P., & Van Cleave, N. M. (1983). Foundations of Pentecostal theology*

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3 Part Test Regarding Discerning Vocal Spiritual Gifts

- 1. Does It Honor Christ?
- 2. Does It Build Up The Believers?
- 3. Does It Speak To The Lost And Unbelievers?
 - *Dr. George O. Wood*

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The Vocal Gifts Are Designed By The Spirit To Work In Every Community And In Every Church

- The Holy Spirit Will Never Sponsor Any Vocal Gift That Will Drive People Away From Christ
- The Spoken Gifts In Our Services Will Bring Spiritual Growth And Will Build The Church

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3 Guiding Principles For Pastors & Leaders

- 1. There Should Be Teaching On The Spoken Gifts*
- 2. There Should Be Correction As Needed*
- 3. There Should Be A Guarding Of The Flock*

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3 Guiding Principles For Congregations

- 1. Edification --Does It Build Up The Church?***
- 2. Intelligibility – It Must Be Understood***
- 3. Order -- God Is Not A God Of Disorder But Of Peace***