

1 Corinthians 12:1 Now concerning spiritual *gifts*, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: **2** You know that[a] you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb[b] idols, however you were led. **3** Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus [c]accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. **4** There are [d]diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. **5** There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. **6** And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works [e]all in all. **7** But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of *all*: **8** for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, **9** to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by [f]the same Spirit, **10** to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another *different* kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. **11** But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

I would like to begin by saying the word “BALANCE”.

Now concerning spiritual *gifts*, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant

Pneuma: spirit, spirit of God, Holy Spirit, wind

pneumatikos

1. relating to the human spirit, or rational soul, as part of the man which is akin to God and serves as his instrument
 1. that which possesses the nature of the rational soul
2. belonging to a spirit, or a being higher than man but inferior to God
3. belonging to the Divine Spirit
 1. of God the Holy Spirit
 2. one who is filled with and governed by the Spirit of God

Gifts are Italicized: that means in the NKJV that it is not in the original Greek and was added by the translators because of the context.

Brethren, I don't want you to be ignorant

- Every time Paul uses this phrase it seems that's exactly what's happening in the church, they are ignorant about the topic
- Paul uses the exact phrase about other topics in other letters.

Cessationism: to cease, to stop. Beliefs that spiritual gifts have stopped in the church that they were for a particular period

- **1 Corinthians 13:8** Love never fails. But whether *there are* prophecies, they will fail; whether *there are* tongues, they will cease; whether *there is* knowledge, it will vanish away. **9** For we know in part and we prophesy in part. **10** But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.
- They interpret this passage as the gifts being for a period of time until something more perfect would come, and that would be the “full canon of scripture”
- The gifts were needed in that time of transition until the full canon of scripture of the New Testament. That was “that which is perfect”
- The argument by scholars is “that which is perfect can only refer to the second coming of Christ
- Scholars also argue that the use of the gifts of the spirit should be intact until the coming of the Lord. **Acts 2:38** Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **39** For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”

- Many believe that the gifts of the Holy Spirit were only for the early church

Sensationalism. These are on the opposite side of cessationism who say there must be this noticeable movement at its maximum all the time. Loud, chaotic, sensations. These believe that if there has to be tongues, prophesy, word of knowledge, deed interpretation, all of it or were not spiritual enough.

- The sensationalist isn't happy until everyone goes crazy and is baptized in the Holy Spirit and speaks in tongues and fall out and be slayed in the spirit.
- Sensationalists are happy with just a few of the gifts, usually speaking in tongues, prophesy and interpretation,
- We believe that all the gifts of the Holy Spirit have not stopped, they are for the church the early church, and the later church.

2 You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led.

3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit

- Paul's referring to pagan temples in Asia Minor and Corinth
- In these pagan temples, part of the worship experience was that the spirit of the idol itself would inhabit the worshipper, and the evidence of that would be static out of control speech
- That used to be you, you were led this way
- But now you are led by the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit has gifts to be used for the edification of the church
- Anything you do led by the Holy Spirit will glorify God, it's going to be all about Jesus

The New Testament talks about 3 different stages of how the Holy Spirit works in a person's life

- **John 14:17** the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.
- **Acts 1:8** But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be [c]witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

1. **With you:** when does this happen? Before we are saved, the Holy Spirit is with you comes alongside you, and convicts you of sin and righteousness. He's been with you
2. **In you:** inside, inhabit, in-dwelling when? When you're saved, if you're a believer the Holy Spirit is in you. To anoint you to seal you for the day of redemption
 - This is when the fruit of the spirit comes not to be confused with the gifts of the Spirit
3. **Upon you:** the empowering, baptism of the Holy Spirit so they could be witnesses
 - this is where spiritual gifts come, because they are for the profit of the church.
 - Divine enablement

The gifts of the Spirit can be divided into

1. Speaking gifts
2. Serving gifts
3. Signs gift

4 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. **5** There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. **6** And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. **7** But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit *of all*:

- There are 3 lists 1 Corinthians 12; Romans 12; and Ephesians 4.

1 Corinthians 12: 8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, **9** to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by [f]the same Spirit, **10** to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another *different* kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

Romans 12:5 So we, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. **6** Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, *let us use them*: if prophecy, *let us prophesy* in proportion to our faith; **7** or ministry, *let us use it in our* ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; **8** he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

Ephesians 4: 11 And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, **12** for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, some may argue that these are ministry offices

1. Gifts are varied, there is Diversity of gifts,
 - Different but God working in all for the Profit of all
2. Gifts are given not earned (**7** But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit *of all*:)
 - **1 Corinthians 12:31** But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.
 - **What is the best gift? Whatever gift the Lord has given you is the best gift for You.**
3. Gifts are not the Goal.
 - Blessing the church, profiting the church, and edifying the church is the goal
 - Not for you to be fulfilled by the gift
4. Gifts are not natural talents.

Word of Wisdom 8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit,

- There's a level of wisdom that is offered to all believers **James 1:5** If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.
- There's the most notable example of Solomon
- The gift of the Word of wisdom is different: a supernatural enablement for a specific time when wisdom is required

Matthew 10:18 You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. **19** But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; **20** for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.

We see this in the New Testament with Steven **Acts 6:10** And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke. And then we see in chapter 7 his testimony before the Sanhedrin.

- The gift is given to give testimony to an unbelieving world

Acts 15:12 Then all the multitude kept silent and listened to Barnabas and Paul declaring how many miracles and wonders God had worked through them among the Gentiles. **13** And after they had [c]ecome silent, James answered, saying, “Men *and* brethren, listen to me:

- James gives what I believe is a word of wisdom for that particular time to solve a problem

In **Acts 23: 6** But when Paul perceived that one part were Sadducees and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, “Men *and* brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee; concerning the hope and resurrection of the dead I am being judged!” **7** And when he had said this, a dissension arose between the Pharisees and the Sadducees; and the assembly was divided.

- Gift of a word of wisdom to help Paul in a very difficult moment that could get him killed before the Sanhedrin

God has called us to be a light in the darkness

We have the light of the Word of God and at the right time God can give us this word of wisdom to edify, to save, to guide, to solve, to help, and to Glorify God