

The Ten Commandments - Part 14: Praying in Tongues (2/5/2023)

The following text is a message from Corner Fringe Ministries that was presented by Daniel Joseph. The original presentation can be viewed at <https://www.cornerfringe.com/media/njfx6dj/ten-commandments-pt-14>

***Portions of this document have been edited from the video message to better present a comprehensive, written document. Special attention was given to preserving the original context, but this document is not verbatim. Scripture verses are in the red text with other quotes in blue. Therefore, it is recommended that this document is printed in color. The Hebrew words are generally accompanied by the transliterated, English word. In most cases, the Hebrew is to be read from right to left.**

This sermon started with several different television evangelist speaking about tongues:

First speaker: But tongues is the primary way you acknowledge the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit and begin drawing on his ministry. It is your prayer language that comes with the baptism of the Holy Spirit. I've heard many people say, "I'm baptized in the Holy Spirit. I just have never gotten my tongues, my prayer language, or my heavenly language."

No, you just haven't let it flow. It's not a matter of God withholding anything from you. It's a matter of you taking the step of faith.

Second speaker: Speaking out in tongues is your prayer language where you talk to God, and you speak mysteries to God. Somebody said, "Yeah, but I don't understand what I'm praying." He doesn't want you to understand what you're praying...

Same speaker on a different day: so, when the power of God comes on you, you'll feel that right down in your spirit. It would be like a spring bubbling up on the inside of you. Then you begin to just speak out in that heavenly language, not in the language you speak here in the natural.

I don't want to hear any human language. I want you to open your mouth and just speak out and then heavenly language.

Third speaker: I pray for you right now, in the mighty name of Jesus, that you would receive the Holy Spirit. I pray for the fire and the power of God over you right now. I say, "Be filled with the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' name. Lord, I just pray that you would release their tongue right now, in Jesus' name." Now, I don't want you to overthink it. Don't speak in English. Don't think in English. Just as you feel it bubbling up, begin to speak. God is giving it to you. God is releasing it on you.

We pray right now, "Be filled with the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of speaking in tongues. [Speaking in tongues]."

Fourth speaker: We receive our prayer language. Amen."

Now, if you believe you receive it, just keep your eyes closed, and put your eyes onto God. Then open up your mouth, open up your tongue. [Speaking in tongues]. It's going to sound very weird. It's going to sound like mutters. When I first started out praying tongues, it was very small syllables. Then, as I prayed more often every single day, it got deeper, and it got more developed. Wherever you are, by faith, if you believe you have it, just open up your mouth and say, "God, what do I say?"

Let God do that. Just open up your mouth. Open up your syllables. Don't be afraid of what comes out. [Speaking in tongues]. And again, don't think, 'Is this me, or is this God?' No, just go.

Fifth speaker: I asked the fire of the Holy Ghost, the same fire that fell on the day of Pentecost, to come upon everyone now. "Be filled right now, in Jesus' name." [Speaking in tongues]. Just open your mouth and begin to speak it out. [Speaking in tongues]. That's right, that's right! Just speak it out.

Sixth speaker: [Speaking in tongues].

Seventh speaker: In the name of Jesus, let every idol order, and every false order that has been erected come down. Let them be burned by the fire of God right now! In the name of Jesus, let every [switches to tongues].

Eighth speaker: February 14th, 1965 was a great day in my life. I became a Christian. Two weeks later, the minister called me to his office and said, "Ben, now you're a Christian. There is a second blessing for you, and that second blessing is to speak in tongues. This is in the book of Acts, chapter 2, verse 38. This is when you know that you do have the Holy Spirit in your life. The evidence is through the speaking in tongues." He then sat me down with several other people there. He said, "Now I'm going to say a few words in tongues, and you repeat them.", and so he said a few words. [Speaking in tongues]. He said, "Good." "Now I want you to speak anything except English." I said, "Anything except English?", and he said, "Yes." So, I said, "Well, you mean [Speaking in tongues]? He said, "Yes, that's it." So, I started going [Speaking in tongues], and he said, "That's good." I went on and on, and everybody seemed happy. Now they told me I had the gift of speaking in tongues.

[Daniel starts speaking]

Shabbat shalom,

I don't think there's any mystery about what I'm going to be talking about today. I'm fairly confident that you have deduced that already. We are going to be talking about the gift of tongues. And before we get going, I want to give you a little background to where I'm coming from and my upbringing. I grew up in this culture. I mean this is my backyard. This was my home church that I grew up in. It was commonplace for me to come into church and see the expression of worship and prayer to be through the gift of tongues. I went to a Spirit-filled Charismatic Pentecostal church, and this is what you do in it.

I remember the pastor approaching the pulpit week after week. I mean, I can still remember it. As he approached, he would start speaking in tongues. There would be times where he would

just take the time to stop and just pray in tongues. You would go into services during prayer time. I would see little groups with people laying hands on others, and I would hear them praying in tongues over these people. There were times that the entire congregation would lift up their voices and erupt in tongues.

I want you to appreciate this subject. It is very close to home for me, very personal, because of my upbringing. I'm going to tell you this right off the bat: some of my best memories in life were in my church. Some of the people were amazing, and some of the best people you could have ever met in your life are found in these arenas.

So, here's what we're going to do. We're going to dig into this. I have a disclaimer before we go forward; today's message is not intended to cover A to Z. There might be some things that you perhaps hoped I would cover. Please understand that is not an oversight. In my message today, I am being very focused. I'm going to be very intentional about what I'm covering, and there is a reason for it. By the time we get to the end of today, you will see that reason.

I really structured today's message from seven specific points. We will get through six points quite quickly, perhaps just a few minutes. The seventh point is where we begin to crescendo, and that's where we're going to spend a lot of our time. I'm going to tell you this message is important for today! I know you will feel it as well when we get to the end. With that said, I want to go to point number one, and here it is.

Point 1: It is undeniable that tongues is a legitimate gift of the Holy. I emphasize that it is undeniable. If you've ever read the Word of God and believe the Word of God, Old Testament into the New Testament, you cannot deny this. It is an authentic, real power of God which He unleashed upon humanity. You can read the book of Isaiah. You can read Acts chapter 2, Acts 10, and Acts chapter 19. You can read I Corinthians 12 and I Corinthians 14 and guess what? There is no debate. You can go across all the different spectrums of Christendom today, and there's no debate on this point. Everyone's in agreement that this is true, biblical tongues. The biblical tongues that we look at is truly an authentic power of God. It's real! The place where the problem and debate comes is in the second point I'm going to make.

Point 2: The gift of tongues IS STILL AVAILABLE TODAY. There are some Christians that do not believe this. They're called secessionists, and a secessionist basically believes that it is no longer available. There are high bred forms of this, which I'm not going to get into. A secessionist believes that the gifts of the Spirit, as you would find in 1 Corinthians 12 pertaining to the power of the Holy Spirit, was only for a particular time during the Apostolic era. They say this is because the apostles were sent forth to establish the gospel. That's the time where it was really needed, but after that it was not. The problem with that interpretation, idea and understanding, is the following: not a whisper or breath can support secessionism in scripture, period! It's NOT there.

I will tell you, as you go to investigate passages like Acts 2, which we'll be looking at a bit today, that in Acts chapter 2 you see this miraculous move of the living God, the Holy Spirit, coming down on his servants with tongues of fire. Then they erupt in new tongues. And it is amazing how Peter goes forward and recognizes that this is what the prophet said would come. He starts

out his discourse when the Lord quoted Joel 2:28—**In the latter days I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. Your sons and your daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions. Your old men will dream dreams. On my man servants and on my maid servants I will pour all my Spirit.**

Let me ask you a question. This is all you need to know. Are we in the latter days? We are. Absolutely! If that was the case, then power should still be moving.

In Mark 16—**These signs will follow those who believe in Me. They will cast out demons in the name of Yeshua. They will speak in new tongues.** Yeshua said this—**These signs would follow those who believe in Him.**

Let me ask you: has the gospel ceased? To be a secessionist you would have to believe the gospel ceased. Then of course, you could go to first Corinthians 12 and look at all the gifts of the Spirit. He talks about the gift of tongues. He talks about the gift of prophecy. He talks about the gift of healing and the gift of miracles, but that's not the only gifts He discusses. He also discusses the gifts of faith, knowledge, discernment, and wisdom.

Are we supposed to believe that they ceased and were only for a particular generation? I could we just go on and on; however, that was the thought. Forgive me, but that thought is absurd. The thought that God's Holy Spirit power, the power in what the New Covenant really entails, is somehow compartmentalized just to one generation is absurd. There's no scriptural support whatsoever.

I can tell you I've not only witnessed people being healed, I, myself, am a recipient of the Lord's healing, His supernatural power, coming down on me. I know this beyond a shadow of a doubt. It's not just my experience by which I create my understanding. It is the Word! When my experiences line up with the Word, this is a no-brainer. Amen!

These two points that we've made right off the bat must serve as the foundation for the next five points. These are foundational to this message.

Point 3: Not EVERYONE has the gift of tongues. This is not Daniel's understanding or interpretation. We get this from I Corinthians 12:29—**Are all apostles, prophets, teachers and workers of miracles having the gifts of healings? Do they all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?** (Emphasis added). What he's saying here is a rhetorical question. The answer is 'no'. Not all are going to be prophets, not all are going to be teachers, not all are going to do miracles and healings, and they're not all going to speak in tongues.

You have serious problems when you jump into those arenas of the word of faith movement and hyper Spirit-filled, charismatic Pentecostal movements. You go in there and have an experience, and there are a lot of people who tell you a lot of different experiences. This is what I grew up in, and I can speak from being an eyewitness to these things which I have seen people come into. When they get saved and are in that culture, one of the first things they will be hit with is the question, "Do you have the gift of the Spirit?"

This is what's fascinating to me. I learned this at a young age. The definition of, 'Do you have the Spirit of God?', when asked in hyper-charismatic churches which are in the word of faith, means,

'Do you have the gift of tongues?' It was interesting that it wasn't the gift of prophecy or whether you have confessed your sins and repented. It was, "Do you speak in tongues?"

The new convert suddenly realizes there's a massive emphasis on tongues, even when they go to a meeting without tongues being talked about or hearing it constantly being manifested. These new converts come in and are being pressured from the get-go to speak in tongues. In the things that I have seen, and what people have confessed to me in these circles, it's interesting that they'd sometimes be told that they need to pray for the gift.

Okay, fair enough. I'll pray for the gift, but when they pray for the gift and keep praying for the gift. They don't have the gift, yet they go back next Sunday. Again, they still don't have a gift. Week after week they're looking at all these people that God is moving through, and they've got nothing. They don't know how to do this, and in extreme cases it gets to the point that people are being shamed because they can't speak in tongues. They're then being pressured even further.

Do you know that these people feel totally disconnected from God? They feel left out and say, "Why, what is wrong with me?" I mean, I've seen people struggle in the faith due to it. There are witnesses that have said, "I walked away from the faith because I couldn't do this. I was so disturbed, and there was so much pressure put on my gift of tongues."

Understand that in these circles their definition of having the 'gift of the Spirit' means to 'speak in tongues'. You can then appreciate why there's so much emphasis on tongues. They'll even push it to the degree of saying, "If you know you need help, we'll teach you the gift. Just open up your mouth! Let the little syllables come out," as in the one video you just saw. They'll be telling you, "You know that everyone has the gift. It's inside you. You're just not using it properly."

It's a scary thing to me when I see that this is not being understood biblically. It's scary to me when I see the church literally define the gift of the Spirit explicitly as the manifestation of the gift of tongues.

Do you know why it's important there would be so much emphasis on the gift of tongues? It's because you're defining it as the gift of the Spirit. We're told in scripture that the gift of the Spirit is proof of your salvation. If the gift of the Spirit is proof of my salvation, and the proof of the Spirit is tongues, you better believe all emphasis is going on this gift. It will be to this point where we're going to start teaching these people.

Understand something. You cannot teach the gift of tongues. Not everyone has the gift.

Point 4: Tongues is an ACTUAL language. Tongues is not a cacophony of gibbering nonsense or some phonetic incoherent speech. It is a legitimate form of communication where real language is actually being spoken. Let me be clear, this is not Daniel's interpretation! Go to scripture. In Acts chapter 10 you will see this is true. They heard the language. Go to Acts chapter 2. What do you read? They heard the language. The tongues of fire fall down on these men and they literally lift up their voices. We're told they're speaking the wonderful words of God. The people had come up for Pentecost, for Shavuot, which is a pilgrimage feast for men from all over the

world. Their response, when tongues happened, was for each one to hear it in the language in which he was born. How is that possible? They're blown away that it's a language. This leads us to the next point.

Point 5: When the AUTHENTIC gift of tongues is manifested, it bears righteous fruit, and God is glorified. In other words, literally, tongues serves as a witness for God. It's a testimony. This is where the kingdom of God advances things. Actually, it happens that there's a purpose. Just go back to Acts 2. Look at what happened. We're told that these men from all over the world had witnessed a miraculous sign.

Paul says this in I Corinthians 14:29—**tongues are for a sign, not to believers but to unbelievers.** Paul actually says that tongues are as sign to unbelievers. Here you have these men from all over the world who don't know Yeshua, haven't confessed their sins, and haven't been baptized. All of them see tongues of fire fall down on His servants. All these men hear these words and are blown out of the water. What happened next was the door for Peter to preach the gospel. It was opened that day. Three thousand men were saved, which is an epic that is absolutely profound. You see Godly, righteous manifestation following.

Point 6: Tongues cannot be TAUGHT BY MAN. I noted this earlier. You can't teach this gift, and you don't get to go to school for this gift. Your mom and dad can't teach you, your friends, family and, guess what else, even your pastor can't teach you.

Want to know why? It's because tongues is not a product of man. It's not a product of the flesh. It is 100% a product of the Holy Spirit, and an actual move of the Spirit.

Look at what it says in Acts 2:4—**And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.** (Emphasis added). You know that Peter didn't jump around and say, "Hey guys, I have an idea. Okay, everybody get in your places. When I tell you, 'On your mark' just open your mouth and start speaking in tongues. Let's do this all together." There was no premeditation. God didn't ask permission; He just went. That's the power of the Holy Spirit when He comes upon his servants. It is an awesome and frightening thing all at the same time. So, you cannot teach this gift.

Zechariah 4:6, says—**Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit.** It's not by our might, not by human effort, and not by my will. This is so significant for today. It is not my will that is going to produce the Holy Spirit coming upon me; it is the Holy Spirit coming upon me to perform and move the Word of the Lord.

II Peter 1:20-21 says—**Knowing this first, that no prophecy of scripture is of any private interpretation, ²¹for prophecy never came by the will of men, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.** (Emphasis added).

Prophets don't get to go to prophet school. You know, an act of a prophet doesn't teach another man: "This is how you're going to prophesy," "This is how you should say it," or "This is how you should do it." These gifts of the Spirit are manifested according to the will of the Spirit when and how the Spirit wants to go.

Point 7: This is where we begin to make our ascent to the summit. This is where we're going to spend our time reading this closely. There absolutely are manifestations of the gift of tongues happening today that are NOT authentic. You may not like this statement. You may not want to believe it. I'm with you. I think we all don't want to believe this is a reality, yet this stuff is happening.

How do you know this is true? Listen to me carefully. Step back and look at the landscape of some of these hyper-charismatic, word of faith movements. I challenge you to look at how the gift of tongues operates in the context of the church, how it is being taught, and how it is being used. Then go and put it up against the Word of God. What you will see is it's not some insignificant or small discrepancies. I'm talking about horrific, horrifying inconsistencies with the Word, such as when you have men going out trying to teach other men to loose their tongues. I'm telling you, from the ground up, it's over when you have pastors going to the forefront and telling everyone, all at the same time, "Lift up your voices in tongues" while leading them. You then have a problem. Christians today are falling into a deception. They're being preyed upon and hunted. It is something that has to come to the forefront.

I want you to feel my heartbeat in this message. My heartbeat is not about casting judgment or stones on what I would call my fellow man. I grew up with these people. They're precious to me and are beautiful Christians. In all of these arenas, many beautiful people come in with the love and passion of Jesus. But can we, just for a moment, get our heads wrapped around this concept? The devil is coming for Christians! He is coming to steal the truth and to kill and destroy you. Why is it so hard for us as believers to not say, "Oh, you know I don't have to worry about the devil. I got nothing to worry about." However, you are the target!

I'm not surprised to see this happening to our good brothers and sisters who we love. They matter to us. That's why this message is happening. We need to care. If you are one of those who know the truth, and were told that the truth sets you free, you're supposed to bring truth. We're supposed to have discussions. We should be able to have these discussions as long as our speech is with grace and seasoned with salt, right?

You will see it when you are at the end of Galatians, the end of James, the end of Jude, and all over the Bible. When we see a brother that is being literally laid waste by deception, we are to pull this brother out of the fire. Now is the time to do it!

So, I'm going to spend some time and take you back in history. I'll show you that this is not the devil's first rodeo. What we see happening in Christendom today in these certain arenas is not his first rodeo. I want to open up with a little commentary from *The Anchor Yale Bible Dictionary* on the god Apollo. I should emphasize the false Greek god Apollo! Listen to this: [The Greek instinct for moderation found in Apollo the balance to Dionysus, who was especially associated with ecstatic worship and had found an early welcome at Delphi.](#) (Emphasis added). Do you know what ecstatic worship is? It's totally and completely utter gibberish. It is incoherent speech, unintelligible speech, and ecstatic worship.

Here's what happens. There's a lot you need to understand about this statement. The oracle at Delphi was a priestess. When I say this, I'm not talking about Greek mythology. I talk about an

actual person that existed and served in the temple of Apollo. The oracle, identified as this priestess, was to show evidence and manifest the indwelling presence of the living gods, who were plural, and then false gods would erupt in ecstatic worship. This is what she was doing; it was ecstatic worship.

You've got to understand Satan. This is how and what he created. He formed a structure of how he wanted his priests and priestesses to worship and pay homage to him. This is his creation and his mindset. Now let me ask you: is it possible, even conceivable, that the enemy, and the construct of how he wants to be worshipped, would attempt to bring that into Christendom? Could it be an attempt to get them to follow his structure of worship at the expense of God?

You know, maybe it's not possible. I mean, Christianity would never put up with serving a Pegasus goddess of fertility with Easter eggs or incorporating that into their function. They'd never mix the holy and the profane! They certainly wouldn't take on serving and celebrating the god Mithra on his birth on December 25th! Christians would never do that!

Do you see the problem of this mindset that we've fall into the belief that Christianity would never fall into that lie and would recognize it right away? No. All sorts of things have happened to Christianity that we have to admit. Many of us have seen them and said, "I want nothing to do with them." There's an awakening in knowing this is how paganism actually celebrated and manifested their gods.

There is a point that needs to be made. Let me build on this. I want to take you back to Eusebius' work in *Church History*. If you're looking to study early church history, and you want to know what happened, Eusebius put it in chronological order for you. According to the Roman emperors, they were amazing and one of the best resources you have. Eusebius records a story that hits close to home. He says this—**A recent convert, Montanus by name...** (Emphasis added). Notice how he starts here by telling us this man is a convert. He is a Christian. To be a convert, you must confess Jesus is Lord, and you must be baptized into His death and His resurrection. You must confess He is the way, the truth, and the life, and that the only way to have our sins forgiven is through Him. Montanus was a Christian.

Continuing: **through his unquenchable desire for leadership, he gave the adversary opportunity against him.** It's interesting that he had a thirst for power. You know it when you read the Pastoral Epistles. In I Timothy 3:6, we are told—**He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil.** This is where Paul warns us not to put a new convert into a position of authority. This is because the enemy will chew him up, and he will become puffed up and taken out. You can see that when people have a lust for that power, things don't go well.

Moving on—**And he became beside himself, and being suddenly in a sort of frenzy and ecstasy, he raved, and began to babble...** (Emphasis added). He was overcome and went into ecstatic worship and unintelligible speech. This is church history.

It goes on—**and uttered strange things, prophesying in a manner contrary to the constant custom of the church handed down by tradition from the beginning.** (Emphasis added). This new Christian has come in, and in his head believed he had received a total anointing from the

Lord to go out speaking in tongues that are not understood but are babbling and prophesying. But this is what he's doing.

Look at the response that the early church had for this. *Some of those who heard his spurious utterances at that time were indignant, and they rebuked him as one that was possessed, and that was the control of a demon, and was led by a deceitful spirit, and was distracting the multitude.* (Emphasis added). One of the huge things that you need to recognize is, when you see a pseudo false manifestation of tongues, it will take you off your course and rails that you're supposed to be on. It will offer a distraction. It will feel good though and almost give you a euphoric emotion.

He moves on and says—and they forbade him to talk, remembering the distinction drawn by the Lord, and his warning to guard watchfully against the coming of false prophets. So, they stopped him from talking and told him there was to be no more of this. Why did they do that? Why did they intercede? It was because they remember the words of Yeshua. He said, “Many false prophets will come.” Of course, the apostles carried that message. It was a warning.

Now, here's the thing. Unfortunately, this isn't the end of the story. I wish it was. Now you get to see the payoff of the devil and how this works. *But others imagining themselves possessed of the Holy Spirit* [In other words, they stated that they had the Spirit of God] *and a prophetic gift, were elated and not a little puffed up; and forgetting the distinction from the Lord....* (Emphasis added). This was the impact of a pseudo expression of the Spirit's actual gifts of tongues and prophecy. There were some within the church that absolutely considered themselves to be people who were born again Christians. They too were elated at what he did. You've got to understand there is a seductive spirit that is equated and involved with this manifestation. It is a real, deceptive spirit.

Let me take you back to the earlier Irenaeus' writing, *Against Heresies*. He lays waste to the Gnostics and Marcionism. He offers another story that is equally disturbing. He says—*It appears probable enough that this man (Marcus) [who is identified as Marcus the magician] possesses a demon as his familiar spirit, by means of whom he seems able to prophesy....* (Emphasis added). Here they're looking at this guy who looks to actually wield some serious power. He's a prophet moving in the spirit. What spirit needs to be determined! I know Irenaeus is clear that this is not the Spirit of God. Yet—he seemed able to prophesy, and also enabled as many as he counts worthy to be partakers of his Charis themselves to prophesy.

Something that you need to appreciate here is this term, *Charis*. In the Greek it means grace. It is a term that Gnostics gave special attention to and would be presented as an emanation. Basically, how he's going to be using this is how we understand the Holy Spirit. All right, so they're going—to be partakers of his *Charis* themselves to prophesy. (Emphasis added). He is basically telling the people, “I'm going to impart to you this gift.”

Continuing—*He especially devotes himself to women, and those such are well bred, elegantly attired, and of great wealth....* (Emphasis added). It is an amazing thing that this was his target audience. It was the well-educated, the well-to-do and wealthy, and the sophisticated individuals of society. It's amazing to me when you look at some of these mega churches'

construct and the people that are attracted to them. It's a little unnerving when you see what is being described here and who he's going after.

He then says—**whom he frequently seeks to draw after him....** Do you remember what Paul said in Acts 20:29 and quoting Matthew 18:10? Paul says—**Savage wolves will come in and they will not spare the flock and they will seek to draw away disciples after themselves.** This is the point.

Continuing— **by addressing them in such seductive words as these: “I am eager to make thee a partaker of my Charis since the Father of all doth continually behold thy angel before His face.”** (Emphasis added). He is literally quoting Matthew 18 and what Yeshua said regarding the little children—**Their angels always see the face of my father in heaven.** He's using scripture and tantalizing seductive words.

He then goes on and says—**Receive from me a spouse, and become receptive of him, while thou art received by him. Behold, Charis has descended upon thee;** [One could say, “Holy Spirit grace has descended upon me.”] **open thy mouth and prophesy.** (Emphasis added). Just open your mouth; open your mouth and prophesy.

It is amazing as it goes on—**on the woman replying, “I have never at any time prophesied, nor do I know how to prophesy.”** (Emphasis added). Irenaeus would call this one of Marcus' deluded victims. He's promising this amazing, credible gift and this power to be able to exude power, and she tells him that she has never done this.

I wish I had a nickel for every time I saw somebody in that very position. They'd be literally witnessing as someone would come to them, typically church leaders and or pastors, and would say, “You need to speak in tongues.” The response of this individual is, “I don't know how to speak in tongues. I've never spoken in tongues.” It's uncanny that there's nothing new.

Continuing—**then engaging, for the second time, in certain invocations, so as to astound his deluded victim, he says to her, [listen to this] “Open thy mouth, speak whatsoever occurs to thee, and thou shalt prophesy.”** (Emphasis added). This is mind-blowing!! Just open your mouth, and whatever comes out is prophecy.

If that doesn't scare you, I don't know what will! Look at these words: **“Whatever occurs to thee.”** That's not how you prophesy! It doesn't come from you, and it is not a work of you. It's not a work of flesh. It only comes from the Living God. When prophets become false prophets, as we talked about last week, this is what happens. It comes from that emotion and feeling that is so strong and overwhelming that we just can't contain it. This is unbelievable!

This is what we've done. This very statement is exactly what we hear in some of the hyper-charismatic movement. This is exactly what they're doing to these poor unfortunate souls that do not know better. They're baby Christians and don't know better. They're getting gobbled up. I mean that one of those kids in that intro video couldn't be 18 years old. Oh, it hurts when I see that because he was taught it. He's only regurgitating what he's taught. You can tell this young kid has a passion for the Living God. These are the people that need to be pulled out of this fire.

Here's the response—**She then vainly puffed up and elated by these words, and greatly excited in soul by the expectation that it is herself who is to prophesy.** This blew her mind! She thought,

“I have the power.” Think about that opening statement that we watched in that video. He said, “You all have the gift. It’s inside you. You’re just not using it.” He is telling everyone, “You have the gift. Just use it. Just open your mouth.” I mean, this is not the devil’s first rodeo.

Continuing—**her heart while beating violently [from emotion], reaches the requisite pitch of audacity, and idly as well as impudently utters some nonsense as it happens to occur to her, such as might be expected from one heated by an empty spirit.** (Emphasis added). The hook was set, and this woman was taken right off the cliff.

What did we discover last week? When you say, “Thus says the Lord”, and thus the Lord hasn’t spoken, you’re a dead man. Do you understand how real the war is? Do you understand the goal of the enemy is to come and steal, kill, and destroy? This was a setup. Marcus the magician is being used as a tool by the devil to take believers out.

Continuing—**Henceforth she reckons herself a prophetess...** Well, why wouldn’t you when she’s being told that all she needs to do is open her mouth, and whatever comes out is prophecy? On the other side, if I’m told that whatever unintelligible words or syllables I am speaking in tongues, that’s empowering, but it’s not empowering in the right way. It’s interesting how the devil will leverage against you the power of God and the perception of the power of God. He will leverage the Word against you. This is a perfect example of it because the power of God is real.

I hope there’s not a person in this room that doesn’t believe the power of God is authentic. The power of God is truly real. It’s the only reason I’m here. I believe in it, but we have an adversary.

Now continuing—**but already some of the most faithful women, [Listen to this. These are awesome women within the church. They are defenders of the faith] possessed of the fear of God, and not being deceived (whom nevertheless he did his best to seduce like the rest by bidding them [to] prophesy), [He was trying to seduce them by telling them, “You can do it too.] abhorring and execrating him have withdrawn from such a vile company of revelers.** (Emphasis added).

What a blessing to see that there were righteous, God-fearing women that held the line. They were defenders of the faith who would protect the community.

Then we read this—**This they have done, as being well aware that the gift of prophecy is not conferred on men by Marcus, the magician.** (Emphasis added). Those God-fearing women knew how to receive the gift of prophecy. It can’t be from anyone here on earth. It can only be through the name of Yeshua and confessing His name that they can have that gift, but not everyone is going to be given the gift.

Continuing—**but that only those to whom God sends his grace from above possess the divinely-bestowed power of prophesying, and then they speak where and when God pleases, and not when Marcus orders them to do so.** (Emphasis added).

Here’s the thing. You can’t have somebody walking up and start giving out orders like, “Hey everyone, just lift up and start speaking in tongues.” You’re not God. You’re not the Holy Spirit. That is reserved for the Lord alone.

That said, we're going to jump into I Corinthians. We're going to get to the point of why we're even talking about this. We're just going to read the first couple verses in I Corinthians 14. Follow me on this—**Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts....** Now, this is not part of my point, but we are called to desire spiritual gifts. Go read I Corinthians 12. We, as believers in Yeshua should desire them. It is an especially righteous thing. Continuing—**but that you may prophesy.** (Emphasis added).

Okay, so he brings the gift of prophecy to the table in I Corinthians 14. Then the very next thing he says is—**He who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mystery.** (Emphasis added).

Do you see what Paul just did? He just brought two gifts of the Spirit, prophecy and tongue, together side by side. He continues to do that in 1 Corinthians 14:4—**He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.** (Emphasis added). Look at what he does again. He grabs the gift of prophecy and lays it right down next to the gift of tongues.

Continuing in 1 Corinthians 14:5—**I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesy; for he who prophesies is greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification.** (Emphasis added). The point being that here again tongues and prophecy is the entire discourse. In I Corinthians 14, this is what Paul does. You will find none of the other gifts mentioned; only these two. Why? The answer is the following. Prophecy, as we discovered last week, declares the Word of the Lord. Make no mistake about it. What does tongues do? It declares the Word of the Lord. It is literally the Word. It's not man's mouth, man's mind, or man's heart when they open and speak. These are the two gifts that go forth and speak the Word of the Lord.

Exodus 20:7—**You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain....** (Emphasis added). This is where we crescendo! Think about that for a second. When we consider the third commandment, it says that when a prophet goes forward and He says, "Thus says the Lord" and "Thus the Lord has not said", he is a liar and a false prophet. And this death threat—**for the Lord will not hold him guiltless...** the Lord will make good on.

When someone says, 'Hey, I'm going to speak in tongues,' they are saying, "Thus says the Lord." Every time they open their mouth to speak in tongues, that is what they are saying.

So, here's a warning. If you're going to say, "Thus says the Lord," I pray that He has thus said." Do you understand me? This is why this issue is so important today.

Many Christians have not even considered that this is what is being expressed. That's exactly what is being expressed. Go read the examples we have in places such as Acts 2. They heard the wonderful works of God. It was the Holy Spirit declaring the Lord God Almighty. In Acts chapter 10, the men heard them glorify God. If God is not moving you, if this is not a product of the Holy Spirit, then you must refrain and step back.

Here's the good news. It is found in Psalm 32:5—I acknowledge my sin to You and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah. (Emphasis added).

I've taught on tongues many years ago, and throughout the time, I cannot tell you how many people have come back to me and confessed, "Daniel, I was trying to fake it until I make it. I was taught how to do this. I was never really comfortable with it, but I just continued to do it." When they realized what was actually at stake, that was it. It was over. They're not going to let pride get in the way, but they let the Word of God do the work inside of them. It is an amazing thing.

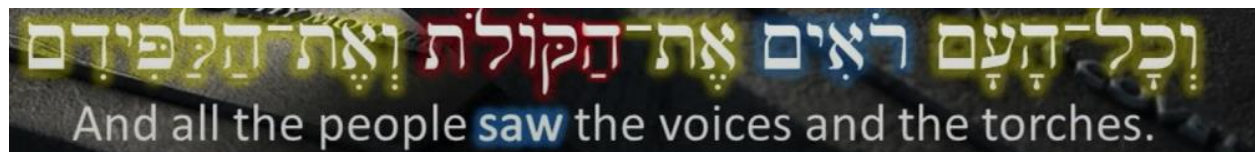
The Ten Commandments are about promoting revival in the hearts of mankind and bringing us to a place of listening to that message of John the Baptist in Matthew 3:2—Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. This is where we need to be, and we need to just yield to the Word.

Again, I'm going to tell you, and I can't say this enough, the gift of tongues is real. It is for today. There are people that have been given the gift in an awesome way. There is the gift of prophecy. There's no question about that. I will go through all the gifts. There are gifts of healing and gifts of miracles. I believe in them all. But the way and context in which I believe in them is not a work of man. It is exclusively the work of the Holy Spirit. End of discussion.

I want to close on maybe a more comfortable note. I want to show you some Jewish tradition in a Jewish commentary. The rabbis comment on Exodus 20:18. What is Exodus 20? It's the Mount Sinai event. They're literally commenting on God speaking the Ten Commandments to the people. It relates to our message today and to the series as a whole, and it's a good way to close. Check this out.

From Shemot Rabbah 5:9—The Torah says, "And all the people saw the voices." (Emphasis added). Notice that it does not say, "the voice" but "the voices." Now think about that for a second. This is such a profound insight that the rabbis picked up on. Typically, if you're at Mount Sinai, you would think, "I heard the voice of God. It was real. I heard it with my ears." But they actually say they saw it. What do you mean they saw the voices?

Well, let me put up Exodus 20:18:



In Exodus 20:18, the term saw is *rohim*, which means they literally saw. They saw voices, הַקּוֹלֹת, *haq-qō-w-lōt*, and הַלְפִידִם, *hal-lap-pî-dim*, torches. I put it in the English below the Hebrew so you can see it. They saw the voices and torches.

Now, this is what's interesting in Jewish history when you go back to the first century. In Acts 2:3, we are told tongues of fire dropped down. Tongues of fire was not a foreign concept to the Jewish people. You can go to the Dead Sea scrolls and find fragments called tongues of fire. I think they were found in caves one and four. Here's where I'm going with this. The tongue of fire

is equated with the Word of the Lord, not the word of man. Do you understand it's His voice; it is not man's? It is His voice. It was the authentic move of the Holy Spirit.

It's fascinating. Here at Mount Sinai, they're literally seeing the torches with the voices. I mean, that's like tongues of fire coming down, and the fires representing the Word. It's amazing! When we see that elsewhere, like when Tractate Shabbat talks specifically about recalling the Mount Sinai experience, it likens God speaking to a hammer shooting sparks out of it as it hits. When the rabbis teach, they liken it to the sparks shooting out. It's amazing when you dig into this.

Continuing in Shemot Rabbah 5:9—**Wherefore Rabbi Yochanan said that God's voice, as it was uttered, split up into seventy voices, in seventy languages, so that all the nations should understand.** (Emphasis added). How amazing is that?

Then you come to Yerushalayim in the first century, and that's exactly what ended up happening. God ended up reversing the curse at tower of Babel where he had divided the languages so that they couldn't understand one another. But when His gospel of His Son, the name of Yeshua, goes out, it crosses all the language barriers, and they break down.

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