

Key New Testament Passage

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Th 308 Gifts of the Spirit

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Historical Context

The historical context of the office Spiritual Gifts, can be found in Holy Bible. 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 “Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led. Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.

And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

These spiritual gifts were given by God so that we can operate as one whole body. Spiritually we need help as believers, knowing that we can go to the house of the Lord for the help we need is the best news believers can ask for. Above I have just given you the spiritual gifts according to the bible. We will look at how necessary they are in the body of Christ, and the house hold of faith. Remember the gifts of the Spirit do not operate outside of the Holy Spirit. In the Old Testament the Spirit of God was over the ones that God used. In the New Testament the Holy Spirit lives on the inside of the ones God uses.

[CITATION Sum053 \l 1033] States, “The functioning of the Holy Spirit, as demonstrated in the early Christian church, is not new. He had been working with human beings for 4,000 years prior to the Christian era, and He has been working in the church for 2,000 years since. The Holy Spirit has been very busy functioning on behalf of mankind for 6,000 years. He knows our problems; He knows the answers; and we need these answers from Him.”¹ The nine Spiritual Gifts are:

1. Word of Wisdom
2. Word of Knowledge
3. Faith
4. The gift of Healing
5. Working Miracles
6. Prophecy
7. Discerning of Spirits
8. Divers kinds of Tongues
9. Interpretation of Tongues

Let us remember all of the gifts only work under the power from the baptism of the Holy Spirit. [CITATION Bas69 \l 1033] States, “Essentially, the baptism in the Holy Spirit is a doorway leading from a natural realm into a supernatural realm of life and experience. The Average Christian, although truly professing Christ, operates largely on his own power, making his own decisions, living by his own strength, and controlling his own life. But through the baptism in the Holy Spirit, the Christian steps out of this natural realm into a realm where he can begin to experience the supernatural gifts and powers of God’s Holy Spirit.”²

Jesus operating in the Word of Wisdom: “In Matthew 24. He talked about false Christs and false Messiah would come; he said there would be wars and rumors of wars; that there would be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes, he talked about the great tribulation such as the

¹ Lester Sumrall, *The Gifts and Ministries of the Holy Spirit*, New Kensington, Whitaker House, (2005)

² Don Basham, *A Handbook on Holy Spirit Baptism*, New Kensington, Whitaker House, (1969)

world has never seen. Jesus was projecting the future, functioning not as God, but as a Spirit-anointed man through the Gift of the word of Wisdom. Jesus operating in the Word of Knowledge John 45:-50 Jesus knew who Nathanael was and where he was. Supernaturally, the Lord Jesus Christ saw Nathanael sitting under a fig tree. This was the word of God's knowledge to Nathanael, and it made a believer out of him."

The gift of Faith, Matthew 21:19 Jesus cursed a fig tree, the next day the tree had died. He did this with no strength pouring forth from his natural being. It was the force and pungency of a gift called faith. The working of Miracles can be found all through the New Testament by Jesus Christ. Healing the blind, feed thousands with a little boy's lunch, raised the dead. All this was done by the working of Miracles. The Gift of Healing was how Jesus started his ministry. He healed a leper, Peter's mother in-law. During Jesus ministry healing was a top priority Jesus had compassion on the sick, and so should all believers in Christ. Pray for the sick daily that they may be healed. The gift of Prophecy, [CITATION Sum053 \l 1033] states that the Sermon on the Mount was mostly the gift of prophecy. I never thought of the Sermon on the Mount as a prophecy until now. Tongues and Interpretation of Tongues, [CITATION Bas69 \l 1033], states, "The only clear scriptural evidence of the baptism in the Holy Spirit is speaking in tongues. The first Christians to be baptized in the Holy Spirit were the 120 gathered in the upper room at Pentecost. The unique evidence that the 120 received the Holy Spirit was that "they began to speak in other tongues" (Acts 2:4). The book of Acts records five separate occasions when the Holy Spirit was received. On three of these occasions, speaking in tongues is the visible sign accompanying the experience."

[CITATION Sum053 \l 1033] Shares with us "How you can receive the Gifts" In order to receive things from God, you must first have knowledge. God cannot bless ignorance."

Matthew 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their Synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the Kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.” Jesus was first a teacher then a preacher then a healer. The Holy Spirit is a gift, like the Holy Spirit, the gifts of the Spirit are gifts too. God give these gift to help us in our walk with Christ. God does not want us to sit on these gifts, or use for personal gain.

These Spiritual gift when used right can strengthen the body of Christ, and can be used as weapons of warfare. Sumrall, told a story about a Dutch girl who very innocently had gone to this place to preach. After listening to her for a few days a witch doctor asked her to leave. She refused to leave because the people were being healed. The witch doctor challenged her, but she listen to God and was able to defeat the witch doctor, made his come to himself and change his life to. I had an encounter with a young man at work, who was very sure about what he know about the name of God. He asked do you know what God name is. I said yes. I am not sure why but I told him Gods name was “I AM”, he quickly told me know his name is Jehovah, I said Yes that’ one also. He said Jehovah is the only name God has.

I told him Jehovah is one of the Hebrew names for God, however God said his name was I AM. He told me I was trying to confuse him. That was not my intent, I using the gift of wisdom to help him understand you can’t put God in a box, He’s whatever we need Him to be.

The words Key New Testament passage means: Will pass. I’m not sure what this means, however, I don’t believe it means that the New Testament will pass away. It could mean it will come to pass. At this point I’m not sure.

Conclusion, the nine Spiritual Gifts are: Word of Wisdom, Word of Knowledge, Faith,

The gift of Healing, Working Miracle, Prophecy, Discerning of Spirits, Divers kinds of Tongues, Interpretation of Tongues. Essentially, the baptism in the Holy Spirit is a doorway leading from a natural realm into a supernatural realm of life and experience. The Average Christian, although truly professing Christ, operates largely on his own power, making his own decisions, living by his own strength, and controlling his own life. But through the baptism in the Holy Spirit, the Christian steps out of this natural realm into a realm where he can begin to experience the supernatural gifts and powers of God's Holy Spirit.

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References

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Sumrall, Lester. *The Gifts and Ministries of the Holy Spirit*. New Kensington: Whitaker House, 2005.