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Final Paper Proposal

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Becoming filled with the Holy Spirit is an empowering experience that qualifies many of its inhabitants with spiritual gifts such as prophecy, leadership, healing, tongues and miracles. These spiritual gifts can be found in biblical text in Romans, 1 Corinthians and 1 Peter (King James Version, 2013). A leading question that is continually up for debate is whether or not the spiritual gifts identified in the New Testament were a thing of the past or currently used today. Stitzinger (2003) identifies four different views held on this topic which include (1) Cessationism (2) Neo-Pentecostalism (Charismatic Movement) (3) Classic Pentecostalism (4) Third Wave Theology (p. 145). The latter three movements all support the idea that these miraculous and spiritual gifts are used for today (Gaffin Jr., Saucy, Storms & Oss, 2011, pg. 11). The gift of healing is a powerful and miraculous gift that is identified a number of times throughout the New Testament such as when John and Peter healed a lame beggar (King James Version, 2013, Acts 3) and when Jesus heals a blind man (King James Version, 2013, John 9). Just like the other spiritual gifts previously mentioned, healing is a valued and miraculous gift that is indeed for today. This is evident in the Pentecostalism, Charismatic and Third Wave view as well as common experiences shared among Christians who possess the gift and those who have benefited from it.

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