

## Understanding the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

---

### (1) The Teaching Gifts

## Role of Holy Spirit in Church Age

---

- ❑ God the Holy Spirit Is a Full Person
  - ❑ He Plays the Role of Wife and Mother in the Household of God
  - ❑ The Father Chose the Future Bride of the Son, and the Son Redeemed Her
  - ❑ The Holy Spirit Is Making the Future Bride of the Son Clean & Beautiful
  - ❑ The Holy Spirit Decorates the Church with Spiritual Gifts
- 

## Purpose of Spiritual Gifts

---

- ❑ **Power Source:** (1 Cor 12:4-6) : 4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. 6 There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all *persons*.
  - ❑ **Purpose:** (v.7) But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
  - ❑ **Prerogative:** (v.12) But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.
- 

## Lists of the Spiritual Gifts

---

- ❑ (1 Cor 12:8-10) Groups of **Cooperating Gifts**
  - ❑ **Teaching Gifts:** 8 For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit;
  - ❑ **Serving Gifts:** 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 and to another the effecting of miracles,
  - ❑ **Preaching Gifts:** and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits,
  - ❑ **Sign Gifts:** to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues.
- 

## Lists of the Spiritual Gifts

---

- ❑ (1 Cor 12:28-31)
  - ❑ **Graded List:** 28 And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues.
  - ❑ **No Uniformity:** 29 All are not apostles, are they? All are not prophets, are they? All are not teachers, are they? All are not *workers of miracles*, are they? 30 All do not have gifts of healings, do they? All do not speak with tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they?
  - ❑ **Seek for the Higher:** 31 But earnestly desire the greater gifts.
  - ❑ **The Greatest Is Love:** The And I show you a still more excellent way.
- 

## Lists of the Spiritual Gifts

---

- ❑ (1 Cor 13:1-3)
  - ❑ **Sign Gifts < Love:** 1 If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.
  - ❑ **Preaching Gifts < Love:** 2 If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.
  - ❑ **Serving Gifts < Love:** 3 And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing.
-

## Lists of the Spiritual Gifts

---

### □ (1 Cor 14:6) **Tongues Is the Least**

- But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking in tongues, what will I profit you unless I speak to you either by way of revelation or of knowledge or of prophecy or of teaching?
- 

## Lists of the Spiritual Gifts

---

- **Purpose** (1 Cor 14: 26) What is *the outcome* then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done **for edification**.
  - **Order** (1 Cor 14:27-28) If anyone speaks in a tongue, *it should be* by two or at the most three, and **each in turn**, and one must interpret: 28 but if there is no interpreter, he must keep silent in the church; and let him speak to himself and to God.
  - **Self-Control** (1 Cor 14:29-32) 29 Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment. 30 But if a revelation is made to another who is seated, the first one must keep silent: 31 For you can all prophecy one by one, so that all may learn and all may be exhorted; 32 and **the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets**;
- 

## Lists of the Spiritual Gifts

---

### □ **Unity in Diversity** (Rom 12:6-8)

- 6 Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, *each of us is to exercise them accordingly*: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; 7 if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; 8 or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.
  - 9 Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.
- 

## Lists of the Spiritual Gifts

---

### □ **Function of Elders** (Acts 20:17, 28)

- 17 From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the elders of the church.
  - 28 "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood."
- 

## Lists of the Spiritual Gifts

---

### □ **Purpose of Having Gifted Persons in Church** (Eph 4:11-12)

- 11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers,
  - 12 for the **equipping of the saints** for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ
- 

## Lists of the Spiritual Gifts

---

### □ **Consolidation of Gifts** (1 Pet 4:11)

- Whoever speaks, *is to do so* as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves *is to do so* as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.
-

## Lists of the Spiritual Gifts

### □ **Consolidation of Offices** (1 Tim 3)

- Overseer (Bishop)/Pastor/**Elder**
  - 2 An overseer, then, must be above reproach ...
- **Deacon/Deaconess**
  - 8 Deacons likewise *must be* men of dignity ...
  - 11 Women (Deaconesses? Wives of the Deacons?) *must* likewise *be* dignified ...

## The Speaking Gifts & Offices

- The Office of **Apostles**: They are "sent out" by God
  - **Apostles of Christ**: Those in the first century who followed Christ and/or saw the resurrected Christ (12, 70, 500, Paul)
    - They were given the gifts of prophecy to receive and speak the revelations of God
    - They were given special serving gifts like the gift of healing (Peter, Acts 3:2-6; Paul, Acts 14:8-10) to prove their apostleship
    - Their words and works were part of NT Bible; They do not exist after the first century AD

## The Speaking Gifts & Offices

- The Office of **Apostles**: They are "sent out" by God
  - **Apostles of the Church**: Missionaries
    - They usually have the gifts of prophecy in telling forth the truth of God
    - They usually have the gift of faith and show great perseverance in pioneering
    - Deficiency: They love to open new territories, but get bored in establishments

## The Speaking Gifts & Offices

- The Office of **Evangelists**: They are "missionaries" to individuals
  - They have a sense of being sent out by God to save souls
  - They usually have the gifts of prophecy in telling forth the truth of God
  - Deficiency: They love actively reaching out to new people, but get bored in status quo
- Apostles and Evangelists may Be Said to Have the Gift of Pioneering

## The Speaking Gifts & Offices

- The Gift of **Prophecy**:
  - **Foretelling** (Prediction) the Future Is Only a Minor Part of Biblical Prophets
  - **Forth-telling** (Exposition) of the Truth of God Is the Major Part of Biblical Prophets
  - Typical: "**Repent**, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Matt 3:2)
  - Examples: W. A. Criswell; John MacArthur Jr.; Billy Graham
  - Prophets Care about the Hearers **Doing** the Right Things; They Can Be Good Counselors
  - Deficiency: Can be Judgmental and Harsh

## The Speaking Gifts & Offices

- The Gift of **Revelation**:
  - The Souls of the Revealers Are Open Channels to God; They Are Sensitive in Perceiving the **Mysteries** in the Word
  - They Are Good Devotional Writers
  - Example: Oswald Chambers; Mrs. Cowman; Thomas a Kempis
  - Deficiency: They Can Be Subjective and Reach beyond the Original Meaning of the Word

## The Speaking Gifts & Offices

- The Gift of **Distinguishing of Spirits**
  - In NT Times, **NT Prophets** Were Inspired to Preach the NT Messages before the Formation of NT Scripture
  - Those with the Gift of Distinguishing Spirits Were Given by God to **Pass Judgments** on the Source of the Inspiration
  - Today the Same Gift Exists among the Frontline Fighters on **Spiritual Warfare**; e.g. Cult Specialists; Polemicists
  - Deficiency: Who Is to Judge Their Judgment? The Word, Their Lives and Our Experience

## The Speaking Gifts & Offices

- The Gift of **Psalms**:
  - The Souls of "Psalmsists" Are Sensitive to the Spiritual Mood of the Day
  - They Write Poetry and Lyrics, Songs and Other Music, to Express Their Perception and Emotional Response
  - They Can Be Good Church Musicians, Music Leaders, Performing Artists
  - Deficiency: Great Hymns Are Usually Written by Those after Great Sufferings
- Prophecy, Revelation, Distinguishing of Spirits, and Psalms Are One Kind, the "Receiving Gifts"

## The Speaking Gifts & Offices

- The Gift of **Teaching**
  - Teachers Love to Instruct; They Explain Thing Clearly
  - While Prophets Do Not Have Library, Teachers Do; They Cross Reference, and Prove Things beyond Doubt Expositionally
  - They Care about What People **Know** and **Understand**
  - Deficiency: They May Forget That God Wants More Than Knowledge, but Obedience
  - The Gift of Teaching Is a Necessity for the Office of Pastor (Teaching Elder)

## The Speaking Gifts & Offices

- The Gift of **Exhortation**
  - Exhorters are Comforters and Counselors
  - They Care about What People **Feel**
  - They Are People Persons; Love to Help
  - They Use Their Own Life Experience
  - Examples:
    - Chuck Swindoll: "I feel your pain"
    - Charles Stanley: "I struggled what you did"
    - Howard Hendricks: "How I defeated flesh"
  - Deficiency: Discouraged When People Do Not Respond

## The Speaking Gifts & Offices

- The Gift of the "**Word of Wisdom**"
  - They Have Life Experience, Know History and the Time, and Understand Human Nature
  - They Have the "Know-how" of Life
  - They Tell the Many Ways to Live Wisely
  - Examples:
    - Charles Stanley: "Ten Ways to Pray Well"
    - Bill Gothard: "Five Ways to Disciple Your Children"
  - Deficiency: They Can Leave the Text and Replace with Live Experience

## The Speaking Gifts & Offices

- The Gift of the "**Word of Knowledge**"
  - They Accumulate and Systemize Facts
  - They Write Great Reference Books
  - They Are Not Good Communicators
  - Example: Jerry Bromley; Keil Delitzsch
  - Deficiency: They Can Be Boring, Totally Divorced from Real Life, and Empty the Church When Speaking