

## SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Class #26 – Sunday AM1 August 5, 2007

***It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.***

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

**Hebrews 4:12** For the Word of God is alive and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword. . .

## PERMANENT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

### Points of Doctrine on Giving *(In review)*

1. The protocol for giving is the same for all believers with or without the gift (**Phil 2:13 cf. 2 Cor 9:7; 1 Cor 12:7**).
2. The difference is the spiritual gift of giving functions in the superlative.

**All Christians are to:**

1. Serve one another (Gal 5:13; 1 Pet. 4:10sg). **service** **helps**
2. Encourage one another (1 Thess. 5:11; Heb. 3:13). **exhorting**  
**encouraging**
3. Give as they purpose in their heart (2 Cor. 9:7) **giving**
4. Exude mercy (Jude 22-23). **mercy**
5. Evangelize (2 Cor. 5:18-21; 1 Pet. 3:15). **evangelist**

**Should be able to:**

6. Teach (Heb. 5:12; Jas. 3:1) **teaching**

**administrations** **leading** **shepherd-teacher**  
**caring**

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***Superlative: 1:*** of, relating to, or constituting the degree of grammatical comparison that denotes an extreme or unsurpassed level or extent **2 a:** surpassing all others: SUPREME **b:** of very high quality: EXCELLENT **3:** EXCESSIVE, EXAGGERATED <sup>1</sup>

3. There is no guarantee of personal material blessing for the one who gives other than God multiplying the means to keep on giving.

**James 4:3** You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.

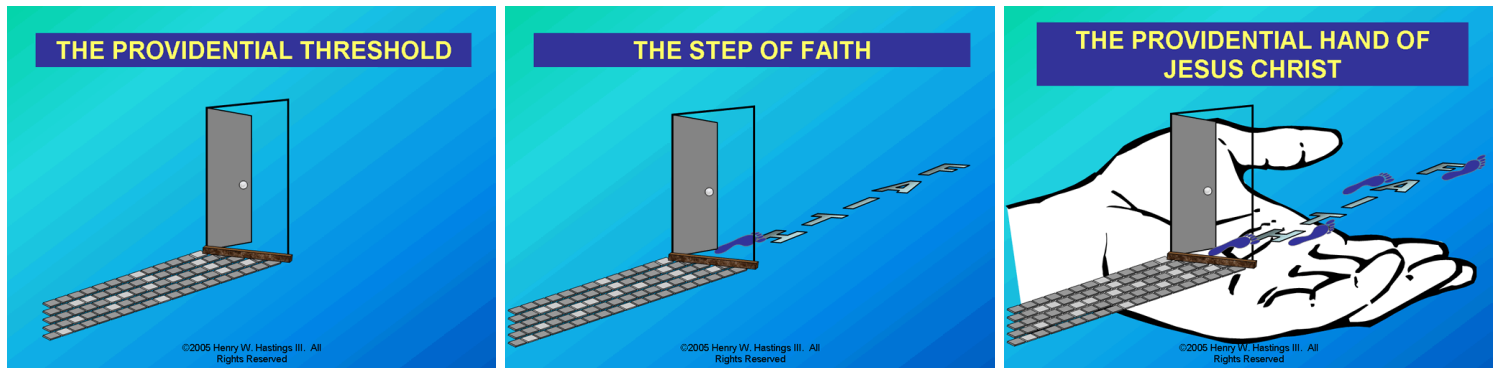
Giving to accumulate material wealth is the carnal believer's motivation, NOT the grace oriented spiritual believer's motivation.

4. The purpose in God multiplying the believer's seed is for the believer to have an abundance to sow (**2 Cor 9:8-11**).

<sup>1</sup>Merriam-Webster, I. (1996, c1993). *Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary*. Includes index. (10th ed.). Springfield, Mass., U.S.A.: Merriam-Webster.

5. Giving should be preceded with prayer and the Spirit's leading.

6. Giving should function apart from solicitation, advertising, and "Madison Avenue" gimmicks (**2 Cor 8:3; 9:7**).



*The willing soul is led by the Spirit to give; therefore, he does not need to be solicited.*

7. Giving is always from one's abundance, not the lack thereof (**2 Cor. 8:12; 1 Tim 5:8**).

**2 Cor 8:12** For if the readiness is present, it is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have.

**1 Timothy 5:8** But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

8. Giving requires faith in God to re-supply the means to give in the future as God prospers (**2 Cor. 9:10-11; Phil 4:19**).

**Phil 4:18-19** But I have received everything in full and have an abundance; I am amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God. <sup>19</sup> And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

9. Grace oriented giving is a well-pleasing sacrifice to God that reaps a bountiful spiritual harvest (**Phil 4:18 cf. 2 Cor. 9:10-11**).

**2 Cor 9:10-11** ". . . increase the harvest of your righteousness; <sup>11</sup> you will be enriched in everything for all liberality, which through us is producing thanksgiving to God."

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**Romans 12:6-7** *Corrected translation* - Since we keep on having 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;

➤ The spiritual gift of prophecy ceased in 96 AD when the book of Revelation was completed on the island of Patmos by the Apostle John.

7if **service**, in his serving;

➤ The supernatural ability *and motivation* to serve in an official or non-official capacity within a local church or ministry.

*There are many different niches within a ministry in which one can serve.*

*If a niche does not exist, God will create one for you.*

or he who **teaches**, in his teaching;

- The supernatural ability *and motivation* to break down biblical truth, apply and communicate it in a relevant manner to believers.

<sup>8</sup>or he who **exhorts**, in his exhortation;

- The supernatural ability *and motivation* to encourage fellow believers to take action in realizing God's will.

he who **gives**, with liberality;

- The supernatural ability *and motivation* to effortlessly give liberally in grace with faith from one's abundance.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT AS BELIEVERS WE ARE VESSELS OF GOD.

✚ We have been given a spiritual gift or gift set – those gifts reside **in** us.

✚ The Holy Spirit has taken up permanent residence in us; He indwells us [**1 Cor. 3:16**].

When our spiritual gifts are functioning, it is the Holy Spirit doing a particular service through us and using us to do it!!

**Philippians 2:13** for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His* good pleasure.

**1 Corinthians 12:7** But to each one is **given** the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

- **δίδωμι – DIDOMI** – “To give”

*Corrected translation - But to each [believer] the manifestation of the Spirit **is being given** for the **purpose of conferring a benefit.***

- **συμφέρων – SUMPHERO** – “To confer a benefit”

An excerpt from Manfred Kober's article, *The Case for the Singularity of Pastors* (Baptist Bulletin/JUNE 1982:

The New Testament neither teaches that one man ministers to all the needs of a congregation nor suggests a plurality of men to minister to these needs.

The Holy Spirit assigns to each member of the church a specific place to minister in an area for which he is uniquely gifted and prepared (**1 Cor. 12:12-28**).

The pastor is God's gift to the church to prepare the saints so they can carry on “the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ” (**Eph. 4:12**).

No one person or group of persons is capable of supplying all the spiritual help a congregation needs. It is the “whole body fitly joined together” (**Eph. 4:16**) that brings nourishment, increase and edification under the Lordship of Christ and the pastor as undershepherd providing spiritual food and special oversight.

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*All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.*