

**SPIRITUAL GIFTS**  
Class #28 – Tuesday PM August 7, 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**

**11 Greek Words Representing Permanent Spiritual Gifts and/or Activities**

	56-57 AD Rom. 12:7-8	56 AD 1 Cor. 12:28	60-62 AD Eph. 4:11	64 AD 1 Pt. 4:11
1.	διακονία			διακονέω
2.	διδάσκω	διδάσκαλος		
3.	παρακαλέω			
4.	μεταδίδομι			
5.	προΐστημι			
6.	ἐλεάω			
7.		ἀντίληψις		
8.		κυβέρνησις		
9.			εὐαγγελιστής	
10.			ποιμὴν-διδάσκαλος	
11.				λαλέω

Note: Gifts and Activities can overlap

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**11 English Words Representing Permanent Spiritual Gifts and/or Activities**

	56-57 AD Rom. 12:7-8	56 AD 1 Cor. 12:28	60-62 AD Eph. 4:11	64 AD 1 Pt. 4:11
1.	service			servicing
2.	teaching	teachers		
3.	exhorting encouraging			
4.	giving			
5.	leading - caring -			
6.	mercy			
7.		helps		
8.		administrations		
9.			evangelist	
10.			shepherd-teacher	
11.				speaking

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**Gifts & Activities Overlapped**

	56-57 AD Rom. 12:7-8	56 AD 1 Cor. 12:28	60-62 AD Eph. 4:11	64 AD 1 Pt. 4:11
1.	service			servicing
2.	teaching	teachers		speaking
3.	exhorting encouraging			speaking
4.	giving			servicing
5.	leading - caring -			servicing
6.	mercy			servicing
7.		helps		servicing
8.		administrations		servicing
9.			evangelist	speaking
10.			shepherd-teacher	speaking

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**11 Spiritual Gifts (shades)**

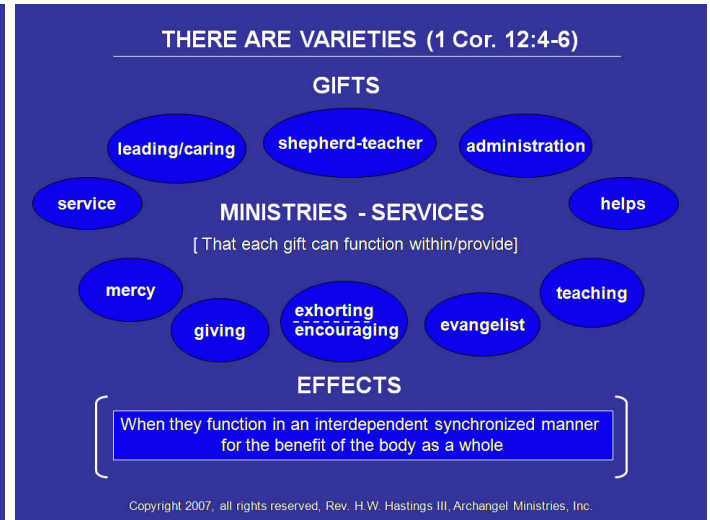
	56-57 AD Rom. 12:7-8	56 AD 1 Cor. 12:28	60-62 AD Eph. 4:11
1.	service		
2.	teaching		
3.	exhorting encouraging		
4.	giving		
5.	leading - caring -		
6.	mercy		
7.		helps	
8.		administrations	
9.			evangelist
10.			shepherd-teacher

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**8 Spiritual Gifts (overlapped)**

1.	service	helps
2.	teaching	
3.	exhorting encouraging	
4.	giving	
5.	leading caring	administrations
6.	mercy	
7.		evangelist
8.	leading caring	shepherd-teacher

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**Romans 12:8** (review) or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who **leads**, with diligence;

➤ **leads** - ὁ προϊστάμενος – **HO PROHISTAMENOS** – “The one who leads”

In the Lexicon under - **προϊστημι** – **PROHISTEMI** with two ranges of meanings:

1. “To stand at the head of; to rule, to manage, to direct, to conduct or to lead”
2. “To be concerned about, to care for, or to give aid”

These two ranges of meaning are not divorced in the Spiritual Gift –

*The one who leads cares for those whom he leads - those he stands at the head of or directs.*

**Pastor-teacher** – cares for those he stands at the head of or leads; **Deacons** (an office) – concerned about the things they stand at the head of or the things they direct.

This gift of leadership is inherent in the Shepherd half of the gift of Pastor-Teacher.

**Ephesians 4:11 - ποιμήν – διδάσκαλος – POIMEN-DIDASKALOS**

Shepherd [*leader*] - Teacher

The shepherd is one who leads, feeds, and protects the flock from evil by consistently communicating the infallible Word of God.

The gift is oftentimes tantamount to the gift of administration found in **1 Corinthians 12:28**.

**1 Corinthians 12:28** 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.

➤ **Church** - ἐκκλησία - **EKKLESIA**

- > Reference to the universal church - the body of Christ
- > This in NOT a reference to a local church.

Context drives the meaning of words!

**1 Cor. 12:12-13** For even as the body is one and *yet* has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body [a physical, human body], so also is Christ [a spiritual body]. <sup>13</sup> For by one Spirit we were all **baptized** into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. <sup>14</sup> For the body [of Christ] is not one member, but many.

➤ **Baptized** – βαπτίζω – *Baptized* into the body of Christ – at the moment of salvation.

**1 Corinthians 12:28** (cont) And God has appointed in the church [body of Christ], first apostles, second prophets, third teachers,

πρῶτον ἀποστόλους, δεῦτερον προφήτας, τρίτον διδασκάλους

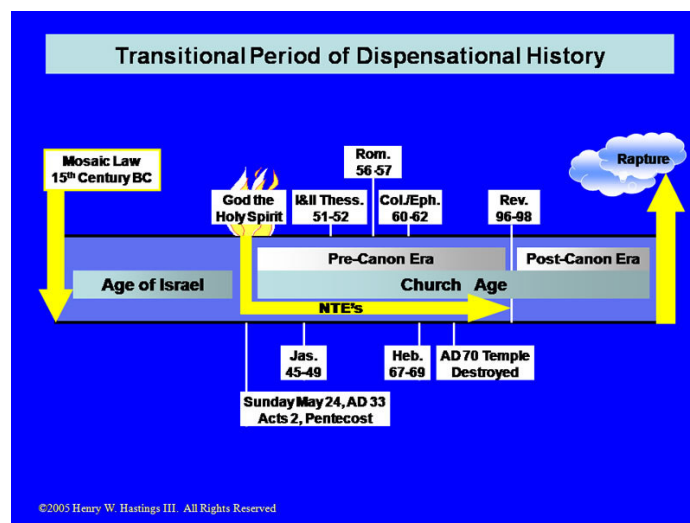
Paul is establishing rank and precedence in the body of Christ!

**POD: The highest ranking spiritual gift in the body of Christ was apostle.**

The second was *prophets* and the third was *teachers*.

### APOSTLES -

1. To be an apostle, one must have seen the resurrected Christ (**Acts 1:21-22; 1 Cor 9:1-2**).
2. You had to be appointed an apostle by Jesus Christ (**Rom. 1:1; Lk. 6:13**).
3. The following spiritual gifts were inherent in being an apostle:
  - A. Prophecy (**Acts 27:25**)
  - B. Miracles (**Acts 13:8-11**)
  - C. Healing (**Acts 5:12-16**)
  - D. Tongues (**Acts 2:4**)
4. The last apostle was John; he died in 96-98 AD; the last book that he wrote was the book of Revelation.
5. The Lord has not been in the business of handing out the spiritual gift of apostle since Paul received his.

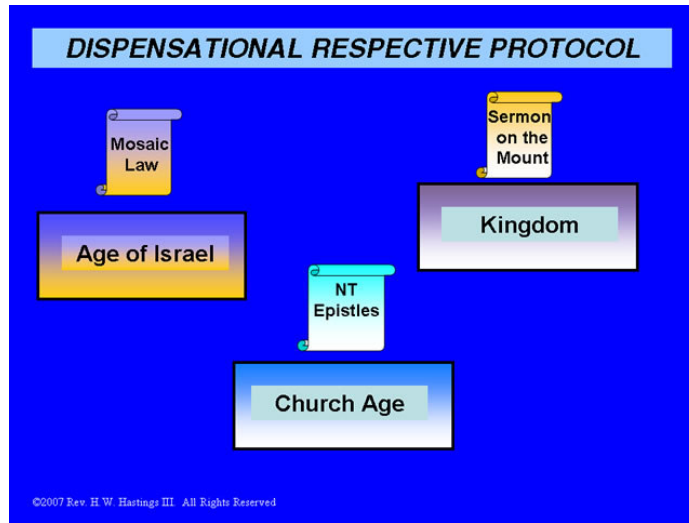


*It has been approximately 1,950 years since the gift of Apostleship has functioned.*

POD: The second highest ranking spiritual gift in the body of Christ was prophet.

**PROPHETS -**

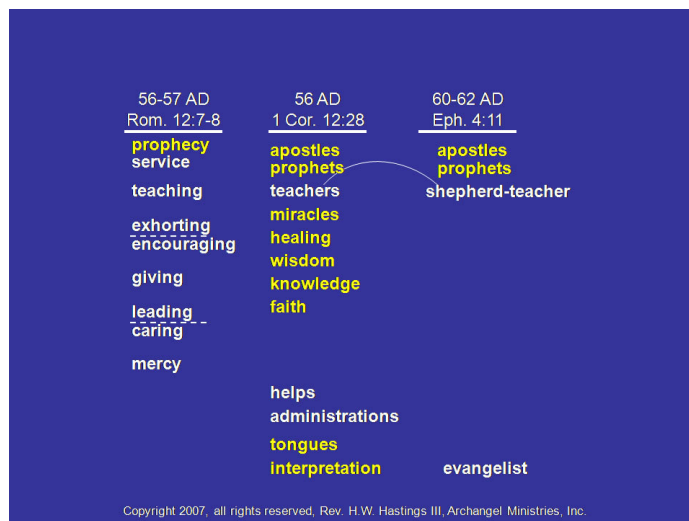
1. A Prophet received new revelation from God. “New revelation” being truth that had not previously been revealed.



2. The Prophet was responsible to communicate unrevealed truth to the early church – the new protocol designed for the Church Age.
3. The gift of Prophet has not functioned since 96 AD when the Holy Spirit finished the canon of Scripture with the book of Revelation.

POD: The third highest ranking spiritual gift in the body of Christ was teaching.

POD: By way of default, teaching is now the highest ranking spiritual gift.



**Ephesians 4:11** And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers,

- When we compare **Eph. 4:11** with **1 Cor. 12:28**, I believe the teachers in this passage is a reference to the pastor-teachers.

POD: The gift of Pastor-Teacher is the highest ranking spiritual gift in the post-canon era of the Church Age.

**1 Corinthians 12:28** (cont) 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.

➤ From **1 Cor. 13:8-10** we know that only **helps** and **administrations** exist today.

**1 Corinthians 13:8-10** Love never fails; but if *there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away. <sup>9</sup> For we know in part and we prophesy in part; <sup>10</sup> but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away.*

➤ **Administrations** - κυβερνήσις – KUBERNESIS - This gift is oftentimes paired up with leadership.

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**Theological Dictionary of the New Testament** states, "κυβέρνησις is the noun of κυβερνάω. This means "to steer a ship." The κυβερνήτης is thus the "helmsman," as the context makes perfectly clear, e.g., in **Acts 27:11** and **Rev. 18:17**. The clarity of the image of the work of the helmsman made it obviously suitable for fig. use for the statesman. . . . In **Plat.Resp.**, . . . it is used for "steering" or the "art of the helmsman."

**Acts 27:11** But the centurion was more persuaded by the pilot [**κυβερνήτης**] and the captain [**ναύκληρος**] of the ship than by what was being said by Paul.

The captain is analogous to the Pastor-Teacher - - highest ranking gift on the ship.

- > Note that there is only ONE captain per ship, NOT two!
- > The pilot [**κυβερνήτης**] is analogous to the gift of administration.

"The literal meaning and the attested usage make it clear what Paul has in view when in **1 Cor. 12:28**, among the gifts of grace which God gives individuals in the Church, he mentions κυβερνήσεις along with → δυνάμεις, → χαρίσματα ἰαμάτων, → ἀντιλήμψεις and γένη → γλωσσῶν. The reference can only be to the specific gifts which qualify a Christian to be a helmsman to his congregation, i.e., a true director of its order and therewith of its life.<sup>2</sup> What was the scope of this directive activity in the time of Paul we do not know. This was a period of fluid development. The importance of the helmsman increases in a time of storm. The office of directing the congregation may well have developed especially in emergencies both within and without. The proclamation of the Word was not originally one of its tasks. The apostles, prophets, and teachers saw to this. But these can hardly be possessors of the χάρισμα κυβερνήσεως in the specific sense, which comes only later in the list. The combination of ἀντιλήμψεις and κυβερνήσεις makes it certain that the ἐπίσκοποι (→ II, 615 ff.) and διάκονοι (→ II, 88 ff.), who are first mentioned in **Phil. 1:1**, are to be regarded as the bearers of this gift, or the → προϊστάμενοι of **Rom. 12:8**. No society can exist without some order and direction. It is the grace of God to give gifts which equip for government. A striking point is that when in **v. 29** Paul asks whether all are apostles, whether all are prophets, or whether all have gifts of healing, there are no

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**Plat.** Plato, of Athens (428/7–348/7 B.C.), ed. J. Burnet, 1905.

**Resp.** *Respublica*.

<sup>2</sup>"The plur., like δυνάμεις, refers to specific expressions . . . of κυβερνήσις, of government and rule," Joh. W. 1 K., 308. It is also found in secular Gk. (→ *supra*). Hesych., s.v. explains κυβερνήσεις as προνοητικαὶ ἐπιστήμαι καὶ φρονήσεις.

v. verse.

corresponding questions in respect of ἀντιλήμψεις and κυβερνήσεις. There is a natural reason for this. If necessary, any member of the congregation may step in to serve as deacon or ruler.<sup>3</sup> Hence these offices, as distinct from those mentioned in v. 29, may be elective. But this does not alter the fact that for their proper discharge the *charisma* of God is indispensable.<sup>41</sup>

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**POD: Definition of the spiritual gift of προΐστημι – κυβέρνησις [PROHISTEMI-KUBERNESIS] “leader-helmsman” or “Helmsman-leader.” The supernatural ability, motivation, and insight to arrange, direct, and administrate the resources in the church for the greatest impact.**

Remember 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.

Robert Thomas in his book **Understanding Spiritual Gifts**, states, “*The gift guarantees a Spirit-given insight into how the Lord’s work can be administered most efficiently.*”

*“In fact, much that goes into a spiritual administration is thankless because it is completely unnoticed. It is thus a labor of love just as the gift of helps. . . To continue functioning as an organizer when no regular word of appreciation comes for excellence of service requires a high degree of unselfish devotion to the Lord and other members of the body. . . It means carrying on at times when hard feelings arise because of leadership decisions. To continue in the face of adverse circumstances requires a quality closely akin to, if not identical with, love.”* (Thomas, Robert, *Understanding Spiritual Gifts: An Exegetical Study of 1 Corinthians 12-14*, p. 85-86.

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<sup>3</sup> H. Lietzmann, *ZwTh*, 55 (1914), 108 f.

<sup>4</sup> On the development of offices of rule in the churches → II, 615 ff.

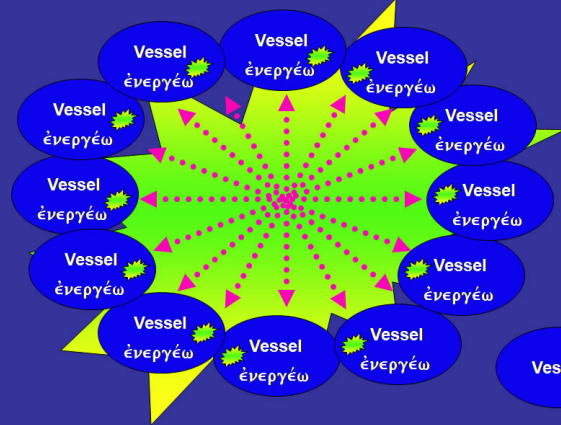
<sup>1</sup> *Theological dictionary of the New Testament*. 1964-c1976. Vols. 5-9 edited by Gerhard Friedrich. Vol. 10 compiled by Ronald Pitkin. (G. Kittel, G. W. Bromiley & G. Friedrich, Ed.) (electronic ed.) (3:1036). Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans.

An abundance of spiritual supply is exchanged when God is working in and through believers who are in contact (Eph. 4:16; Phil. 2:13).



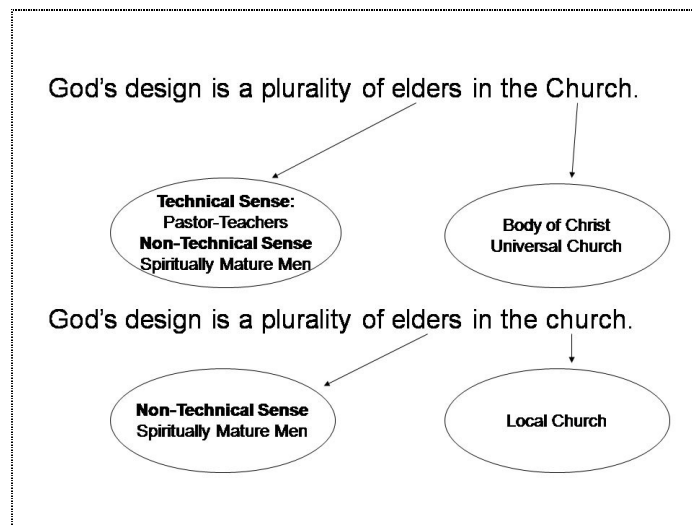
Spiritual Activity within believers in contact increases opportunities to maximize walking in the works God prepared beforehand (Eph. 2:10).

God is always willing to work to provide a particular service through spiritual gifts for the strengthening of the body.



**POD:** The gifts of pastor-teacher, evangelism, and others related to leadership are distributed to male believers only (1 Cor 14:34-35; 1 Tim 2:11-14; Eph 4:11-13).

**QUESTION:** Is God's design a plurality of **elders** in the **church**?



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