

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Class #29 – Sunday AM1 August 12, 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. . .

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Points of Doctrine

(In review)

POD #1 - The highest ranking spiritual gift in the body of Christ was apostle (1 Cor. 12:28 - *πρῶτος*).

POD #2 - To be an apostle one must have witnessed the resurrected Christ and been appointed an apostle by Christ (Lk. 6:13; Acts 1:21-22; Rom. 1:1; 1 Cor 9:1-2).

POD #3 - The following spiritual gifts were inherent in being an apostle:

- A. Prophecy (Acts 27:21-25)
- B. Miracles (Acts 13:8-11)
- C. Healing (Acts 5:12-16)
- D. Tongues (Acts 2:4)

POD #4 - The last apostle to have lived was John who died in 96-98 AD after completing the book of Revelation.

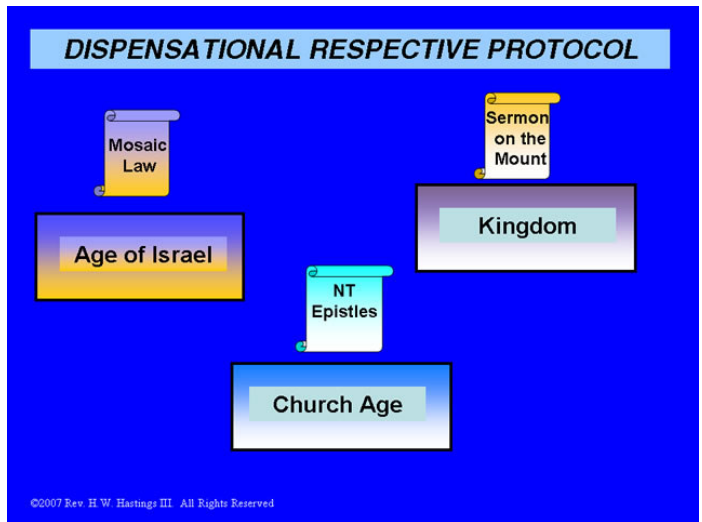
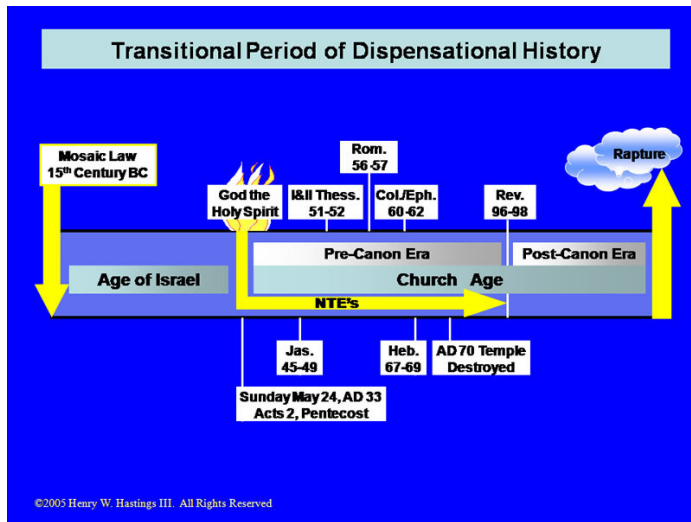
POD #5 – With God's revelation to man complete in the Bible and the Church established, the scope of apostle ceased (Matt. 16:18; Acts 16:5; 1 Cor. 13:8-10; Rev. 22:18-21).

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.* ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part; ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away.

Revelation 22:18-21 I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book; ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book. ²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. ²¹ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

POD #6 - The second highest ranking spiritual gift in the body of Christ was prophet (1 Cor. 12:28 - *δευτερος*).

POD #7 - The Prophet was responsible to communicate unrevealed truth that he received directly from God to the Church (1 Cor. 14:22b; 1 Tim. 1:8; 2 Pet. 1:20-21).



POD #8 – With God’s revelation complete, the extent of the gift of prophecy ceased.

Ephesians 2:19-20 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, ²⁰ having been **built** on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone,

➤ **ἐποικοδομῶ – EPOIKODOMEO** – “Having been built upon”

- > Cornerstone (Jesus Christ)
- > Foundation (Apostles and Prophets)
- > Structure (Pastor-Teachers)

POD #9 - The third highest ranking spiritual gift in the body of Christ was teaching (**1 Cor. 12:28 – τρίτος**).

POD #10 - By way of default, teaching is now the highest ranking spiritual gift.

POD #11 – A comparison of **1 Cor. 12:28** with **Eph. 4:11**, in light of ranking, indicates the word *teachers* in **1 Cor. 12:28** refers to the gift of pastor-teacher (“*pastors and teachers*”).

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

POD #12 - Definition of the spiritual gift of **προϊστῆμι – 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.

11 English Words Representing Permanent Spiritual Gifts and/or Activities			
	56-57 AD Rom. 12:7-8	56 AD 1 Cor. 12:28	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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POD #13 - 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).

The following spiritual gifts best function on the board of a local church.

- Service
- Leadership
- Administration
- Helmsman-leader
- Pastor-Teacher

For more information on the gift of pastor-teacher, refer to the following classes:

1 Thessalonians #55-61 and 131-133
Corpus Christi Bible Conference - 2004

Written by Henry Hastings, III on the closing night of the Atlanta Bible Conference 2007 –

“The local church is not a business; therefore, it should not function as businesses do in the world. It must function the way God accomplishes our salvation, by grace through faith.

In grace God does all the work.

- He provides in grace.
- He opens doors of opportunity in grace.
- He reveals His will in grace.

Through faith communicates the believer’s responsibility, he must trust God to do the work just as He did at salvation.

We trust in Christ and God does all the work required to save us; hence we believe [*faith*] and God saves us – the work is done in grace.

This is how the church must function.

Spiritual reasoning is a prerequisite for those in leadership positions within the church, NOT human intellectual business sense and acumen or business success.

If plans are derived in the hearts of men on the board, those plans must be rolled out before the Lord in prayer. Then the men must wait upon the Lord until God blesses and directs.”

Psalms 37:5

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