

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Class #34 – Tuesday PM August 21, 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. . .

1 Corinthians 12:1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware.

➤ **πνευματικός - PNEUMATIKOS** – “*Spiritual things*”

Things pertaining to the intrinsic work of God the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer

1 Corinthians 12 –

1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware [*ignorant*].

The Holy Spirit’s work in regard to our spiritual gifts is essential and vital.

3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus is accursed;” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.

ἐν + πνεῦμα – EN plus PNEUMA – “*By means of the Spirit*”

POD: God the Holy Spirit is the means by which the believer communicates accurate doctrine.

- The Holy Spirit enables the believer to speak.
- That is why the believer must function dependently on God the Holy Spirit as his mentor.
- Independence and autonomy is arrogance in the heart of the child of God.

7 But to each one is being given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

δίδωμι – DIDOMI – “*Give*” – believers, therefore, receive something.

Points of Doctrine -

1) Jesus Christ is in charge of giving the “manifestation of the Spirit” to the believer.

2) The “manifestation of the Spirit” is a reference to the functioning of your spiritual gift – the operation of it.

3) When a spiritual gift is operational, God the Holy Spirit is doing work in the believer and using the believer as a vessel in harmony [*perfect agreement*] with Christ to provide a particular service to fellow believers.

POD: The execution of our spiritual gifts is designed to confer a benefit to the body of Christ.

POD: The execution of spiritual gifts is dependent upon God the Holy Spirit.

POD: Therefore, the believer must cooperate with God the Holy Spirit to add value to the body of Christ.

Gal. 5:25 *If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.*

Although **1 Cor. 12: 8-10** deals with the operation of temporary spiritual gifts which died out by 96 AD, the spiritual protocol does apply to the operation of the permanent gifts.

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 For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit;

ὧ - relative pronoun of ὅς - "To one"

- Emphasizing an individual believer
- One believer is being given.

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, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues.

Spiritual gifts are individual and specific.

⁷ But to each one is being given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

ἐκάστῳ - [ἑκάστος] - To "every" believer

POD: The manifestation of the Spirit is given to every believer, but the manifestation is specific for each believer.

διὰ τοῦ πνεύματος - DIA plus PNEUMA - "Through the intermediate agency of the Spirit"

The Ultimate Agent uses the Intermediate Agent to accomplish something.

Points of Doctrine -

1. Spiritual gifts are given by Christ as the Ultimate Agent of His body through the Intermediate Agency of God the Holy Spirit.

2. The spiritual body of Christ is the universal Church of which we are part (1 Cor. 12:12-13, 18, 27; Col. 1:18).

3. Jesus Christ is the Head of the Body; therefore, He directs the functioning of His body through His Spirit (Col. 1:18; 1 Cor. 12:11).

This is why we must “*keep on being filled by the Spirit,*” to effectively function and add value to the body of Christ.

- > Grieve not the indwelling Spirit!
- > Walk by the Spirit!
- > Quench not the Spirit!

4. Jesus Christ as the Head requires every member to function in their spiritual gift for the benefit of His body (1 Cor. 12:21b).

⁸ Corrected translation - For **to one** [individual believer] **is being given** the word of wisdom through the [Intermediate Agency of the] Spirit, and to another [individual believer] the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit.

κατὰ + πνεῦμα – KATA plus PNEUMA – “in accordance with or corresponding to”

⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit.

POD: The work of God the Holy Spirit is indispensable to the proper functioning of the body of Christ.

✚ That is why you cannot function autonomously as a born-again believer.

- > We are not spiritually self-sustaining!
- > We are sustained by the Spirit of God who indwells us!
- > We are sustained as we depend upon Him!

✚ He provides the unlimited power to live this life for the sake of Christ and the glory of God.

This is the same power that resurrected Jesus Christ from the dead.

Consider this!

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be made to drink of the Spirit ONE TIME.

From your innermost being will flow an inexhaustible supply of living water.

You were designed to function in your gift.

You were designed to add value to the body of Christ!

In order to fulfill that function of your gift - to add value to the body of Christ - you must learn to draw on the resources that only God has provided.

That learning is a process.

You learn to walk by the Spirit as a child of God; you learn to be led by the Spirit *from within*; you learn to be taught by Him.

What makes the *body of Christ* function properly?

¹⁰ and to another [by the one Spirit] the effecting of miracles, and to another [by the one Spirit] prophecy, and to another [by the one Spirit] the distinguishing of spirits, to another [by the one Spirit] various kinds of tongues, and to another [by the one Spirit] the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

POD: No spiritual gift can function apart from God the Holy Spirit enabling the gift to function.

Your dependence upon the Spirit is essential for your spiritual gift to be manifested by the Spirit.

You must be in fellowship to walk by the Spirit - - to depend upon the Spirit - - to be taught by the Spirit.

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