

## The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

In part one, we talked about who the Holy Spirit was, and I tapped into what He does, but here we are going to identify in-depth the gifts of the Holy Spirit. It is imperative that every believer is filled with the Holy Spirit and empowered for the work of the ministry of Jesus Christ.

The Holy Spirit is the working power of the gifts and ministry of Christ Jesus. With regards to the Holy Spirit, Apostle Paul wrote, <sup>1</sup> *Now concerning spiritual [gifts], brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: ...* <sup>4</sup> *There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.* <sup>5</sup> *There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord.* <sup>6</sup> *And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.* <sup>7</sup> *But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each **one for the profit [of all]:*** <sup>8</sup> *for to one is given the **word of wisdom** through the Spirit, to another the **word of knowledge** through the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup> to another **faith** by the same Spirit, to another **gifts of healings** by the same Spirit, <sup>10</sup> to another **the working of miracles**, to another **prophecy**, to another **discerning of spirits**, to another **[different] kinds of tongues**, to another the **interpretation of tongues**. <sup>11</sup> *But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills. - 1Co 12:1, 4-11**

The Prophet Isaiah wrote, *There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.* <sup>2</sup> *The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The **Spirit of wisdom** and **understanding**, The Spirit of **counsel** and **might**, The Spirit of **knowledge** and of the fear of the LORD. Isa 11:1-2*

It was prophesied that Jesus would come, and He would have the Spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, and knowledge as well as the Spirit of the fear of the LORD. These things are imparted into every person who receives the baptism in the Holy Spirit. They are often manifested with power after the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

*"But **you shall receive power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*  
- Act 1:8 4

Evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit is seen in Acts 2; *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. - Act 2:4*

To be baptized in the Holy Spirit means to be fully immersed in all that God has ordained spiritually according to His gifts. Part of our spiritual inheritance is God's power in us. <sup>19</sup> *and what [is] the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power* <sup>20</sup> *which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated [Him] at His right hand in the heavenly [places], - Eph 1:19-20*

This kind of miraculous power is in us and is released through the Holy Spirit as one of His gifts. Some people operate in this kind of power regularly, while others are endowed with it for a purpose according to God's desire.

The Apostle Paul laid hands on twelve people, and they all received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. <sup>1</sup> *And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples* <sup>2</sup> *he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."* <sup>3</sup> *And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" So they said, "Into John's baptism."* <sup>4</sup> *Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus."* <sup>5</sup> *When they heard [this], they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.* <sup>6</sup> ***And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.*** <sup>7</sup> *Now the men were about twelve in all.* <sup>8</sup> *And he went into the synagogue and **spoke boldly** for three months, reasoning and persuading concerning the things of the kingdom of God.* - Act 19:1-8

Further evidence of the power of the Holy Spirit and how He manifests can be seen in these scriptures. They were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus, and then they received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, two different baptisms here.

Jesus told the disciples to wait for the power to come upon them because He knew they were going to need it to fulfill the great commission. When the first disciples received the Holy Spirit, it was a partial fulfillment of Joel 2:28-32 when he said, *"I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy."* The rest of the prophecy has not come to pass as of yet because this will happen again *"before the great and terrible day of the LORD comes."* (Vs. 32)

Jesus demonstrated the need for the power of the Spirit when He was led and empowered by the Spirit into the wilderness for forty days. There He encountered Satan while His flesh was weak. In His weakness, God gave Him grace and perfected His power in Him (2 Cor 12:9). He does the same for us.

There are three areas covered as gifts; they are the gifts of God in Romans 12, the gifts given by Jesus Christ in Ephesians 4, and the gifts given by the Holy Spirit in 1 Corinthians 12.

Everyone that is in Christ Jesus has been gifted. *As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.* <sup>11</sup> *If anyone speaks, [let him speak] as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, [let him do it] as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.* - 1Pe 4:10-11

All of the gifts of the Holy Spirit are distributed as He wills. All the gifts should be motivated by love and released according to God's grace. A person can have more than one of these gifts, and a person can operate dominantly in one or more of them.

*Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy.* <sup>2</sup> For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit.<sup>3</sup> But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort. <sup>4</sup> Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church. <sup>5</sup> I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues,<sup>[c]</sup> unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified. 1 Cor 14:1-5 NIV

We are only going to focus on the gifts of the Holy Spirit in this class. There are three varieties of the manifestation of the gifts.

#### **Gifts of Power**

- Faith
- Miracles
- Healings

#### **Gifts of Revelation**

- Word of Wisdom
- Word of Knowledge
- Discerning of Spirits

#### **Vocal Gifts**

- Tongues
- Interpretations
- Prophecy

These gifts and the workings of them are to be done in love. Paul said <sup>1</sup> *Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.* <sup>2</sup> *And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.* - 1Co 13:1-2

It takes a large amount of faith to work in healings and miracles, one must believe that Jesus Christ gave us the authority to cast out demons and heal diseases. It is easier to believe when you take the burden off of yourself and place it on God.

“All these gifts are supernatural. They are not the product of natural ability or special education. An illiterate person may receive a word of wisdom or knowledge. Similarly, the gift of “faith” goes beyond the faith that we all need for salvation. It is also distinct from the fruit of faith, which comes by the process of natural growth. It is a supernatural faith that goes beyond our natural ability and produces supernatural results. It is often suggested that these gifts were withdrawn at the close of the apostolic age and are not available today. However, Paul thanked God for the Christians at Corinth because “you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed.”<sup>1</sup> Obviously, therefore, Christians are expected to continue to exercise spiritual gifts until the return of Christ. The first two gifts that Paul lists – a word of wisdom and

a word of knowledge – are related in a practical way. A word of knowledge gives us the facts about a situation. Then a word of wisdom shows us how God wants us to deal with that situation." Derick Prince – Gifts of the Holy Spirit

**Speaking (vocal) gifts** - These gifts **say** something: 1 Corinthians 12:10 - *"He gives one person the power to perform miracles, and another the ability to prophesy. He gives someone else the ability to discern whether a message is from the Spirit of God or from another spirit. **Still another person is given the ability to speak in unknown languages, while another is given the ability to interpret what is being said.**" NLT*

**Prophecy** - This is the "forth-telling" of the inspired Word of God primarily to the church, to confirm the written Word and build up the entire body. The message is usually one of **edification, exhortation or consolation**, although it can declare God's will in a particular circumstance, and in some cases, predict future events. Prophecy can be used for warnings, to guidance, to kind words in tough times- *"If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith."* - Romans 12:5 NIV

*"Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said. And if a revelation comes to someone who is sitting down, the first speaker should stop. 31 For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged. The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets. For God is not a God of disorder but of peace – as in all the congregations of the Lord's people." - 1 Corinthians 14:29-33 NIV*

**Speaking in Tongues** - - This is a twofold operational gift in that it can be a personal prayer language between the person and God. It edifies the person praying and builds our holy faith (Jude). It can be an unknown language spoken to edify the body of Christ if it is interpreted.

*1 Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy. 2 **For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.** 3 But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men. 4 **He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself,** but he who prophesies edifies the church. 5 **I wish you all spoke with tongues,** but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies is greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification. {1Co 14:1-5 NKJV}*

When the Holy Spirit was first poured out onto the disciples, we see they were of one accord, were filled and began to speak

*1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. {Act 2:1-4 NKJV}*

**Interpretation of Tongues** - This is a supernatural interpretation of a message in tongues, translated into the known language so that the hearers (the entire body) will be edified.

- This is a supernatural utterance in an unlearned language which can also be interpreted so that the entire body will be edified.

Three ways the use of tongues benefits us:

- Tongues as a supernatural outpouring and sign to unbelievers (Acts 2:11).
- Tongues for the strengthening of the church - requires an interpretation (1 Corinthians 14:27).
- Tongues as a private prayer language (Romans 8:26).
- The following verses in the Bible reference "speaking in tongues" - Mark 16:17; Acts 2:4; Acts 2:11; Acts 10:46; Acts 19:6; 1 Corinthians 12:10; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 1 Corinthians 12:30; 1 Corinthians 13:1; 1 Corinthians 13:8; 1 Corinthians 14:5-29.

**Power Gifts** - These gifts **do** something:

- **Faith** - This is not the faith that is measured to every believer, nor is it "saving faith." This is special, supernatural faith given by the Spirit to receive miracles or to believe God for miracles.
- **Healing** - This is supernatural healing, beyond natural means, given by the Spirit.
- **Miracles** - This is the supernatural suspension of the natural laws or an intervention by the Holy Spirit into the laws of nature. In other words, this cannot be explained scientifically. The immaculate conception was a miracle. Lazarus being raised from the dead, a miracle. Elisha and Elijah also operated in miracles.

**Revelation** - These gifts **reveal** something:

- **Word of Wisdom** - This is supernatural knowledge applied godly or correctly. - *"To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit."* - 1 Corinthians 12:8 NIV
  - *Wisdom is a shelter as money is a shelter, but the advantage of knowledge is this: Wisdom preserves those who have it.* - Ecc 7:12 NIV
- **Word of Knowledge** - This is supernatural knowledge of facts and information that can only be revealed by God to apply doctrinal truth. Also, God loves and cares for us, and His Spirit resides in us, so if we seek Him in all things, He can reveal to us mysteries. He says in Jeremiah, *'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'* - Jer 33:3 I had numerous occasions when I just knew something, I did not have a natural knowledge of. When I follow those promptings, it usually keeps me out of trouble by keeping me

from making a wrong decision or gives me information on ways to fix or improve something.

- **Discerning of Spirits** - This is the supernatural ability to distinguish between spirits such as good and evil, truthful or deceiving, prophetic versus satanic.

The Greek word for discerning is *diákrisis*, [dee-ak'-ree-sis], and it means to distinguish, discerning, or judge. The word *spiritual* refers to the Holy Spirit, man's spirit or a demonic spirit. The word spirit is translated from the Greek word *pneûma*. This word is also used to describe the efficient source of any power, affection, emotion, desire, etc. There is a spirit behind the activity of everything. The Holy Spirit, the human spirit, or a demonic spirit is in operation at all times. Determining which spirit operating will help us to determine an individual's motive, whenever necessary.

To give you an example of the need to discern what spirit is operating would be when receiving a prophetic word. The Bible tells us to test the spirits, we do that best when we understand their character. If you receive a prophetic word that does not line up with God and your own spirit does not receive it as truth, then it is not likely to have been spoken through the Holy Spirit. Before you agree and receive the word, you should make a distinction between the spirits in operation. Demonic spirits can prophesy their will into you through another person or a person can promote their own will into you. You must know what you are agreeing with.

When working in a prayer ministry of any kind, the ability to discern the spirits operating is really necessary. Some of the ways we can discern if a spirit is of God or not is by what it produces in a person's life. If an individual confesses to being a follower of Jesus yet continues to live in sin, then they are deceived or not really born again. This can happen for those who have been raised in a specific type of doctrine that is not fully gospel.

One example of how people can manifest a deceiving spirit is through the tattoo culture. Some people believe that they can get Christian tattoo's and that God approves of such things. Some even believe that Jesus will return with a tattoo down his thigh. *And He has on [His] robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. - Rev 19:16*

While much of the world will be worshipping the antichrist and the beast, Jesus will return in such a way that even those who do not know His name will recognize Him.

Because so many already worship the beast in the form of the world systems, it is not surprising that they are deceived. Revelation 19:16 has been taken out of context to say that Jesus will have a tattoo of His name on His thigh. Jesus is known as Faithful and True in verse 11 and the Word of God in verse 13; these names are just as important, and they are not "engraved" on His body.

*And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. Rev 19:16 KJV* The word *vesture* is translated from a word that means clothing, a garment of any kind. The robe or cloak that Jesus is wearing in this imagery consists of either a sash as part of His garment or a sword. Some explain, on the garment, where it covers the thigh to which the sword is bound. *Gird thy sword upon thy thigh, O most mighty, With thy glory and thy majesty. Ps 45:3 KJV*

Both of these items would have a continuation of King of Kings and Lord of Lords that is written and begins on His garment and carries down His thigh. His thigh represents strength and humanity. His name is written represents the Sovereignty of God; there is none other and none above this King and LORD, Jesus Christ.

Another verse that describes how Jesus returns states could describe Jesus having a tattoo on His head if it were taken out of context. *His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. Rev 19:12 KJV*

When people do not have a fear of the Lord nor an understanding of God's character, they can make scripture fit their sinful desire. Jesus was a Jew, He would not have sinned against God's command and laws which were to not cut, mark, or tattoo yourself. Not only is this important, but even more so is that the body is no longer yours after you are born again.

Here are a couple of verses that may break the mindset of rebellion and lawlessness that goes with the tattoo culture.

*I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me. Gal 2:20* When we die to our flesh, we stop doing things that the flesh craves. There is not one mention of Jesus or his disciples getting or approving of tattoos. There is not a specific mention in the NT to not getting them either, and I believe that is because it was a Pagan practice, and we are told not to do as the Pagan's do, be holy for God is holy. To those who have died to self, this is an easy task, but to those still in bondage to the flesh, it is warfare.

<sup>19</sup> *Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit [who is] in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?* <sup>20</sup> *For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. - 1Co 6:19-20*

When Paul urged the Church to understand the new condition of their bodies in context, he was talking about sexual immorality. Understood. However, scripture can be applied to many areas of our lives. Paul also said, *All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. - 1Co 6:12*

There are several diseases and infections because of tattoos. Some become addicted to getting tattoos because they were cutters or because they have addicted behaviors already. Either way, this is an open door to the enemy. Cutting the skin to mark it with words or pictures allows the blood to spill, and anytime blood is spilled, the demonic spirits are there to sniff it out and see how they can use it!

Other ways we see deception within the body of Christ today is through homosexuality, Christian witches, and cohabitating without the covenant of marriage. All of these are sin yet are becoming more and more accepted by the Church.

*<sup>12</sup> For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need [someone] to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. <sup>13</sup> For everyone who partakes [only] of milk [is] unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. <sup>14</sup> But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, [that is], those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. - Heb 5:12-14*

According to these scriptures, we should be mature enough to distinguish, discern, or judge by evidence whether something is of evil or of God. Too many people are unable to do this because they have not moved from the elementary principles of doctrine and onto the more spiritual things of God. This immaturity becomes a snare that the enemy can use to entrap us into unintentional sin. I say unintentional because, when people are not able to discern evil from good, right from wrong, or truth from error, they fall into something that leads to sin. An example would be that man can overrule God's sovereign laws and change His creation of man and woman, marriage, life and death. These are a few things that some churches have given way to. Some churches have started flying rainbow flags in support of homosexuality, others have fully embraced transgenderism and many of these so-called pastors use the Scriptures to support their hidden agenda which is simply to embrace secular humanism and sensuality both of which are simply feel good fleshly desires.

The key to discerning the difference between the three dimensions of spiritual workings, human, demonic, and Holy are found all throughout the word of God. Some of the best scriptures to help us determine if something is of the worldly nature, the devil, or God can be found in 1 John 4:1-8.

- If the "spirit" confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh, it is of God.
- If the "spirit" does not confess Jesus Christ has come in the flesh, such it is of the Antichrist.
- These "spirits" speak as the world does because they are of the world.
- The world hears them.
- Those who know God hear those who are of God, those who are not of God do not hear those of God.



- There is a spirit of truth and error and each one knows those of like-mindedness.
- Love is the distinction between those of God and those of the world.
- Those of God have overcome the world because God is in them and is greater.
- There is no fear in love (which is God)
- Perfect love casts out fear.
- Fear is torment.

The things of the Spirit can only be discerned by the Spirit of God because <sup>14</sup> *But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know [them], because they are spiritually discerned.* <sup>15</sup> *But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is [rightly] judged by no one.* - 1Co 2:14-15

But those who <sup>16</sup> *Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.* <sup>17</sup> *For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.* - Gal 5:16-17

### **The Holy Spirit**

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Longsuffering
- Kindness
- Goodness
- Faithfulness
- Gentleness
- Self-control (Gal 5:22-23)
- Righteousness
- Peace
- Joy (Rom 14:17)
- Power (1 Cor 4:20)
- Goodness
- Righteousness
- Truth (Eph 5:9)

### **Another Spirit (man or Satan)**

- Fornicators
- Idolaters
- Adulterers
- Homosexuals, sodomites (1 Cor 6:9)
- Thieves
- Covetous
- Drunkards
- Revilers
- Extortionist (1 Cor 6:10)
- Uncleaness
- Lewdness (Gal 5:19)
- Sorcery
- Hatred
- Contentions
- Jealousies
- Outbursts of Wrath
- Selfish Ambitions
- Dissensions
- Heresies (Gal 5:20)
- Envy
- Murders
- Drunkenness & Revelries (Gal 5:21)