

1 Corinthians 14 Part 2

Prepared by: Pastor Blaine G. Smith

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Introduction

This is a continuation of lesson one on speaking in tongues and church order.

18 I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all:

- ✠ "I thank God that I speak in [strange] tongues (languages) more than any of you or all of you put together;" (AMP)
- ✠ This Corinthian church was known for talking in tongues a lot and Paul said he spoke in tongues more than any of them or all of them put together. He must have spoke in tongues constantly. But where did he speak in tongues? Paul did most of his speaking in tongues outside of the church in his everyday life and ministry. Paul must have prayed in tongues every waking minute that he wasn't ministering to others.

19 Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue.

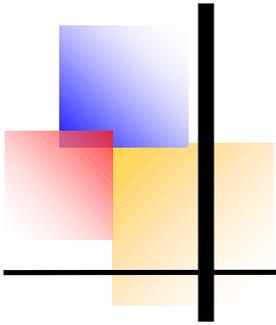
- ✠ Paul was a tongue talker yet when he came to the church to address the body he said he would rather speak five words in a known tongue so that the entire church would be edified.

20 Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men. 21 In the law it is written, With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord.

- ✠ Isaiah 28:11-12 "For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear." (KJV)
- ✠ We are edified or brought into rest as we pray in the Spirit [tongues].

22 Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying serveth not for them that believe not, but for them which believe. 23 If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad?

- ✠ Tongues are for a sign to the unbeliever. Prophecy is for a sign to the believer. The unbeliever and the unlearned will not understand why we speak in unknown tongues. God intended for tongues to be a sign for these two groups of people, so don't be too concerned about what they think about tongues. Don't let the fear of man stop you from yielding to the Spirit of God. What man thinks means very little. It is what God thinks that is important.



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24 But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all: 25 And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth.

- ✠ The unbeliever and the unlearned will have the hidden secrets of their hearts exposed which will bring repentance and an acknowledgment that God is in their midst. We can see an example of this in Acts chapter 5. Even though Ananias and Sapphira had a negative experience after the secrets of their hearts were revealed, most of the time God will expose the secrets of someone's heart to bring them back into fellowship with Him.

26 How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying.

- ✠ As each member comes with something to offer the rest of the body it must be done orderly. We share what God has given us for the purpose of edifying the body.

27 If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret. 28 But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God.

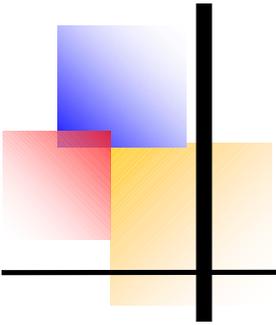
- ✠ Up to three could give an utterance in tongues before the interpretation comes but only one should interpret. This doesn't mean there is only one interpreter in the church or that only one can interpret during any given service. There could be an utterance in tongues and interpretation. Then another utterance in tongues could come and at this time someone else could interpret. If we use common sense when it comes to order and allow the Spirit of God to lead us there will be divine order in our services.

29 Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge. 30 If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. 31 For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted.

- ✠ Prophets are to judge the spiritual temperature of the services and the direction of the moving of God. There are times you must discipline yourself to hold your revelation to yourself waiting for the proper time to share it. Paul said it was acceptable for everyone in the church to prophesy one at a time. If this was a normal practice for them I can see why it took all night for them to have church.

32 And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.

- ✠ "For the spirits of the prophets (the speakers in tongues) are under the speaker's control [and subject to being silenced as may be necessary]," (AMP)



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33 For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

- ✠ Many times when a gift is in operation there will be others that have that same gift. Because of this many will hear the same thing at the same time. There will be times you will have to hold your peace while someone else is yielding to the gift. Just because you receive something doesn't mean you have the liberty to share what you receive. If you have to force your way in order to get to share something then you are out of order. When this happens it is either a work of the flesh or a wrong spirit.

34 Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. 35 And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church. 36 What? came the word of God out from you? or came it unto you only?

- ✠ We are to compare scripture to scripture. It is not the purpose of this lesson to delve into this subject. Suffice it to say that there is neither male nor female for we are all one in Christ. Don't judge by the letter of the Law but by the Spirit of the Law. I have heard it said that there were some customs involved in this setting and that the women were being very disorderly. God does call and anoint women to minister in the church.

37 If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord. 38 But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant.

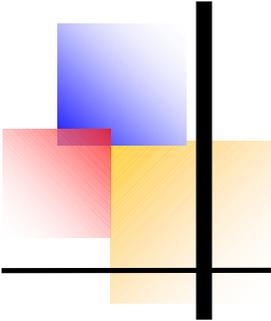
- ✠ Anyone who just wants to debate over scripture and issues just let them stay in their ignorance. This does nothing but gender strife, confusion and every evil work, thereby giving place to the devil and allowing him to take us captive at his will.

39 Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues.

- ✠ "So [to conclude], my brethren, earnestly desire and set your hearts on prophesying (on being inspired to preach and teach and to interpret God's will and purpose), and do not forbid or hinder speaking in [unknown] tongues." (AMP)

40 Let all things be done decently and in order.

- ✠ "But all things should be done with regard to decency and propriety and in an orderly fashion." (AMP)

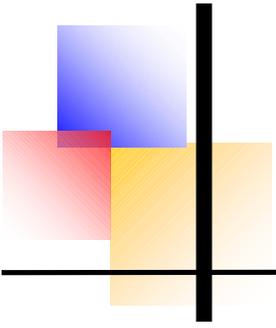


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- † There are times when things do get out of order. The usual reasons are either self promotion, which is a work of the flesh, or a wrong spirit trying to disrupt the flow of God's Spirit. When this happens it is the pastor's responsibility to restore the order. The prophet's job is to assist in judging if what is being said and done is a true manifestation of the Spirit of God. If the Pastor finds it necessary to correct you don't be offended. The wisdom that is from God accepts loving Godly correction gladly. It takes a mature person to submit to Godly correction. Proverbs says that a wise person will love the one that brings them correction. It is a fool that despises reproof.
- † Always remember there is more than one application of tongues. There is an application of tongues which is one of the nine gifts of the Spirit as listed in 1 Corinthians Chapter 12. This usage of tongues is for group gatherings such as church meeting, it is as the Spirit wills and not all have this gift. There is also the evidence of speaking in tongues as one is filled with the Holy Ghost according to Acts 2:4. When one is baptized in the Spirit it is at this time one receives tongues as a prayer language to be used in speaking unto God. When you pray in tongues it is your spirit praying mysteries to God. Personal edification is the result of praying in tongues along with being able to pray the perfect prayer of intercession. It is our spirit and our tongue that does the praying, it is the Holy Spirit that gives us the words to speak. The Holy Spirit knows the perfect will of God, He will give us the perfect words to pray. Let us avail ourselves of this divine privilege.



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Study Questions

1. T or F. Paul said as an act of my will, I will pray and sing in the spirit [tongues].
2. T or F. According to verse 15 it is ok to sing in tongues.
3. During a church gathering what has the most benefit to the edifying of the body, tongues or prophecy?
4. In your prayer closet what has more benefit to you, tongues or prophecy?
5. According to verses 27 and 28 what is the proper order for tongues and interpretation?
6. T or F. Verse 31 says it is acceptable for everyone in the church to prophesy one at a time.
7. Expound on verse 39.
8. What did God reveal to you as you studied?