

Tongues Is Not The Basic Gift

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Please read 1Corinthians 13:1-9, it clearly says that having all the gifts, including speaking in tongues of angels, means nothing if true Love is not dwelling within.

It is true that throughout the book of Acts those who were filled with the Holy Spirit **usually** began speaking in unknown languages, but the New Testament doesn't teach that "speaking in tongues" is the basic gift that all believers are given. The New Testament does not teach that speaking in tongues is the proof that someone has been filled with the Spirit of God. 1Corinthians 12:30 "Do all have gifts of healings? **Do all speak with tongues?** Do all interpret?"

14:1-6 "Pursue **Love**, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy. Whoever speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries. But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to people. He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. I wish you all spoke with tongues, **but even more that you prophesied**, for whoever prophesies is greater than whoever speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification. But now, brethren, if i come to you speaking with tongues, what shall i profit you unless i speak to you either by revelation, by knowledge, by prophesying, or by **teaching?**"

Prophecy is the accurate proclamation of God's Mind. It isn't confined to prediction alone. Prophecy is also **instruction/teaching**. It is the giving of God's Mind on any issue: past, present or future.

Some Pastors say: When one receives the gift of the Holy Spirit, it is accompanied by the initial evidence of speaking a language unlearned previously; this is known as speaking in tongues as the Spirit gives utterance.

But in Acts 9:17-20, Saul (Paul) was filled with the Holy Spirit for the first time but did not speak in tongues: "... and laying his hands on Paul, Ananias said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit. Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once, and he arose and was baptized. So when he had received food, he was strengthened. Then Saul spent some days with the disciples at Damascus. Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God.'" Do you see anything there about Paul speaking in tongues? Yet that was his first time of being filled/baptized with the Spirit of God.

1Corinthians 14:9-40 "... unless you utter by the tongue words easy to understand, how will it be known what is spoken? For you will be speaking into the air. ... Therefore, if i do not know the meaning of the language, i shall be a foreigner to the

person speaking, and the person speaking will be a foreigner to me. Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel. Therefore whoever speaks in a tongue should pray that he may interpret. ... Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will the uninformed say 'Amen' at your giving of thanks, since he does not understand what you say? ... I thank my God i speak with tongues more than you all, yet in the church i would rather speak five words with my understanding, that i may teach others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue. ... If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret. But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God. Let two or three prophets speak, **and let the others judge**. But if anything is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent. For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged. ... If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which i write to you are the commandments of the Lord. ... Let all things be done decently and in order.”

14:34-35 “Let your women keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak, but they are to be submissive, as the law also says. And if they want to learn something, let them ask their own husbands at home, for it is shameful for women to speak in church.”

Concerning spiritual gifts, God doesn't encourage women to be teaching the general assembly. That's the role of Leading Brothers (Overseers). 1Timothy 2:9-14 “in like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety (shame-facedness) and moderation (sobriety), not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works. Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. And i **do Not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence**. For Adam was formed first, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.”

According to the Scriptures, women are allowed to oversee women and children, but not the church in-general: Titus 2:3-4. **However, we need to pay attention to the Spirit of the letter, not just the letters**. Today, i sent the following to someone as part of my respond: Some of these issues can be tricky if we go by the letter instead of the Spirit of the letter. For example, Jesus said: don't call anyone Father or Teacher because you only have one Teacher and Father, yet the Apostles John and Paul called their converts their children. On one hand Scripture says we are all brethren and there's no group (Pastors) above others, yet Scripture also speaks of giving Double Honor to those who labour in Word and Teaching and **oversee** the Church. ... Concerning women and prophecy in general assembly, Leading Brothers should simply read those Scriptures instructing us to only allow male speakers but they should add this: **Nevertheless, as a woman, if you're sure God wants to bring a prophecy through you to the General Assembly, Please you're free to speak in Jesus name who brought the first prophecy to the Church through women concerning His**

resurrection. Every prophecy is subject to scrutiny/verification to see if it's in-line with the Prophets (the Scriptures and its Spirit). Acts 2:17-18, 1Corinthians 11:1-16

Jeremiah 29:8-9 "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let your prophets and your diviners who are in your midst deceive you, nor listen to your dreams which you cause to be dreamed. They prophesy falsely to you in My name; I have not sent them, says YAH." Please don't allow deceitful pastors or your deceitful mind **and imagination** to lead you into more deceit by claiming God spoke to you. 17:9-10 "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked, who can know it? I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every person according to his ways ..." 23:25-27 "I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in My name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' How long will this be in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies? Indeed they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart, who try to make My people forget My name by their dreams which everyone tells his neighbor, as their fathers forgot My name for Baal."

Isaiah 8:20 "To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them."

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