

August 18, 2013

The Holy Spirit #6 - The Gifts Of The Holy Spirit

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We must build a foundation in relationship to the Word of God, letting it be like an IV which is plugged into us as we go about our daily lives. The Word of God feeding us with everything we need; the God kind of life, driving out sickness and disease, anxiety and fear, feeding us with confidence and protection and peace. This is what the Word of God will do for us. So stayed plugged in and hooked up.

The Holy Spirit is the bringer of gifts to the believer. The gifts are for us individually and for the church corporately. To many times we look at the gifts as for the church only, but this is incorrect. The gifts are for the individual as well as the church, they are given to be a profit, an asset or benefit to us. Most people in the church today do not have the knowledge regarding the gifts of the spirit.

Chapters 12, 13 and 14 of Corinthians were written by Paul in order to get questions answered regarding the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

1 Cor 12:1-11 "Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. 2 Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led. 3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. 4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. 8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; 9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; 10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: 11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will." KJV

Paul is trying to answer questions that the people had been asking regarding

different things being taught in the church. He is not saying that the people were ignorant, they were just unfamiliar with the gifts, but that he was wanting them to have knowledge and understanding about the gifts of the spirit.

There are 9 gifts of the Holy Spirit. The gifts of the spirit can be broken down into 3 different categories.

1) Revelation or Discerning gifts; they reveal something in the future or in the present or open up the past. They are the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge and the discerning of spirits.

2) Power gifts, dynamic, outward demonstration of God's power; faith, the working of miracles and the gifts of healing

3) Utterance gifts, or the gifts that say something; prophecy, divers kinds of tongues or the interpretation of divers tongues.

There are many gifts, but it is the same Spirit that gives these gifts.

Administrations would mean the office that someone stands in. Example would be an evangelist whose gifts would be more of the power gifts, with signs and wonders following that gift. This is a type of an administration

Eph 4:11 "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;" KJV

Diversities of operations; working out as an outward manifestation.

Manifestation or the way it is expressed. Some of the gifts will be expressed by way of our personalities. They are given to every man to be a profit or asset. The will of God is that every man will be involved. It is our choice what we will do with the nine gifts. They are all given by the Holy Spirit. God decides which office a person stands in or which gift or gifts a person will receive and flow in.

It is incorrect for a person to think that only those flowing in the five fold gifts can operate in the gifts of the spirit. It is will of God that each of us would receive His plan and purpose to operate and flow in a gift of the Holy Spirit or one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The best gift is the one that we are needing at a particular time in our life.

The word of wisdom or revelation gift is given in the following scriptures. The word of wisdom is a revelation of the mind and purpose of God or a divine answer or solution for any particular event. God doesn't have problems, He has answers or solutions.

The word of wisdom is not a book or chapter, but is a word that is given concerning something that we are in need of regarding things happening in our lives. Tapping into God's wisdom becomes a solution for us.

The leaders were trying to entrap the man who had been healed by Jesus. The man had his eyes, physical and spiritual, opened and proclaimed that Jesus was the Son of God, that he could see the plan and purpose of God regarding Jesus.

John 9:29-33 "We know that God spake unto Moses: as for this fellow, we know not from whence he is. 30 The man answered and said unto them, Why herein is a marvellous thing, that ye know not from whence he is, and yet he hath opened mine eyes. 31 Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth. 32 Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind. 33 If this man were not of God, he could do nothing." KJV

Many times as we read the Word, we can see that the different gifts flow together especially the gift of tongues, interpretation of tongues and the gift of prophecy. Prophecy equals tongues and interpretation of tongues, they are different, but they are the same.

The following scriptures tell of the history of Saul, his life before his conversion and the experience that he had after he was converted. Ananias had an important part in what happened to Saul and the Lord explained what He had planned for Saul's future. The gift of wisdom, a revelation of the plan and purpose was in operation as the Lord explained to Ananias what was happening. The Spirit of God revealed to Ananias in a vision, where Saul was and what was required of him.

God speaks to His people in visions and dreams, dreams and visions are different, when receiving a dream or vision we need to try to discern what God has said, pay attention to them. Dreams are usually during sleeping and visions are usually during waking hours.

In addition to what had been said to Ananias, Saul was also receiving from the Lord, what was about to happen in the future.

Acts 9:1-16 "And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, 2 And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem. 3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: 4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? 5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. 6 And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do. 7 And the men which journeyed with

him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man. 8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus. 9 And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink. 10 And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord. 11 And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth, 12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight. 13 Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem: 14 And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name. 15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: 16 For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake." KJV

This scripture tells us about the storm in Paul's life, but how he received a word of wisdom from the Lord, giving him and those with him, hope that all would be fine. Paul shared with them, encouraging them as to what God's plan was. The storm looked hopeless to them, the storm was not the will of God, but the will or plan of God was that Paul continue his journey. Paul believed because he had received a word from God.

Acts 27:20-25 "And when neither sun nor stars in many days appeared, and no small tempest lay on us, all hope that we should be saved was then taken away. 21 But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss. 22 And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship. 23 For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, 24 Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee. 25 Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me." KJV

The remainder of chapter 27 of the book of Acts finishes the complete story of what happened to the ship and Paul. But regardless of the situation, Paul continued to believe God's word.

In earlier verses of the 16th chapter of Acts, Paul had had a vision in which he saw a man inviting them to come over to Macedonia, being a word of wisdom for the future,

Acts 16:16-18 "And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: 17 The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. 18 And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour." KJV

A word of wisdom was given through this woman. Paul discerned the spirit that was operating in her life.

The discerning of spirits, which are inside the spirit world, are not only demonic but angelic. Discerning of spirits usually takes place when dealing with someone who is actually being harassed by a demonic spirit. Our spiritual eyes are opened to be able to see what is behind the harassment enabling us to take authority over the spirit and break the power there.

The discerning of spirits is not the gift of discernment.

What good does it do if we don't believe what has been told to us? Something will always try to stop God's plan and purpose for us. In the midst of our storms, we must believe God and keep our faith turned on. It is not God's will that we should have sickness in our lives; it is His will or plan for us that we be healed.

The Holy Spirit is given to be a profit, to help us; He wants to give us gifts for our benefit, for our aid and support.