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The Holy Spirit #9 - The Utterance Gifts

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The following is an exhortation given to encourage and lift up the body of believers present today.

2 Tim 1:7 "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." KJV

Fear doesn't come from God, anxiety doesn't come from God, worry doesn't come from God; and God gives a spirit of love, a sound mind and power. Fear doesn't come from God and those who are facing challenging circumstances from time to time need to know that fear is like a "cow path", meanders around, very seldom goes straight, to change from fear you have to do something drastic. Fear creates a path, filters everything in our mind through that and fear always brings torment and intimidation, but the spirit of love and power is for you today. God is our security and confidence. Begin to rise up and flow in what God has for you.

These are the foundation scriptures being used for our current teaching on the Holy Spirit.

1 Cor 12:1 "Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant." KJV

1 Cor 12:4-11 "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

The gifts of the spirit are always intended to edify the church or the people and to be a help to all. The nine gifts are divided into three categories 1) revelation 2) power and 3) utterance. The revelation gifts include; the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, discerning of spirits. The power gifts include; faith, working of miracles and gifts of healing and always do something. The utterance gifts include;

prophecy, divers kinds tongues, and interpretation of divers kinds of tongues.

The revelation gifts and power gifts have instruction, but the utterance gifts have specific instructions about them and their use. The entire 14th chapter of Corinthians gives these instructions and how they are to be used.

1 Cor 14:1-6 "Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy.

Prophecy is a supernatural utterance in a known tongue. It is not natural knowledge but is given by God for us to speak out. Prophecy is usually thought of as something for the future and given from the office of a prophet. New Testament prophecy is about the future; it edifies, exhorts and comforts. In the New Testament we are not to be lead by prophecy, but by the spirit of God. Prophecy will confirm something. A word that is sometimes given to you and tears you down is not from God. A Word from God always builds up, encourages and comforts.

Charity the God kind of Love The gifts are meaningless unless rooted in the God kind of love. Make love your aim, your quest and pursue it, and then desire spiritual gifts. Prophecy builds up and comforts.

1 Cor 14:31 For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted. For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted.

God's plan for each of us is to desire spiritual gifts and corporately that the church would desire spiritual gifts. Our part is taking the step of faith and telling the Lord of our willingness with His grace and help.

2 For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.

When we are praying in tongues we are speaking to God; with the gift of tongues, it is God speaking to us, encouragement or instruction, but the message is from God to us. It is to be used in public, in a church setting but not if the church where we are at does not believe in tongues.

3 But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.

4 He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.

5 I would that ye all spake with tongues but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.

6 Now, brethren, if I come unto you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you, except I shall speak to you either by revelation, or by knowledge, or by prophesying, or by doctrine?" KJV

Paul is telling us that "tongues plus interpretation equals prophecy." It is out of order to speak in tongues during a service unless it is interpreted. Tongues will begin to flow into prophecy when the gifts are present. This happens many times at meetings where large groups are in attendance, the expectation is usually on a higher level.

1 Cor 14:12-15 "12 Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church.

13 Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret.

14 For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful.

15 What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also." KJV

Paul is saying that those hearing do not understand what is being said, unless you interpret.

1 Cor 14:18-21 " I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all: 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. 20 Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men." KJV

Paul is giving direction on the utterance gifts and how they are to be delivered to the people hearing them spoken.

1 Cor 14:22 " 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. 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? 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." KJV

Paul is talking to people coming to church prepared. Many times these gifts will be seen in operation at large meetings, but all must be done in order with two or three speaking. If there is no interpreter, then silence must be observed. People attending churches where it is not custom for the gifts to be in evidence, then they should keep quiet and not speak anything. Messages and prophecies should be judged by the believers

1 Cor 14:26-33 "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. 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. 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. 32 And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. 33 For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints." KJV

The Holy Spirit is a gentleman, He doesn't force or drive you, He leads.

1 Cor 14:37-40 "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. 39 Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues. 40 Let all things be done decently and in order." KJV

Paul is telling us to follow the gifts and the instruction that is needed for us to be able to operate in them. Don't be ignorant of spiritual gifts, not informed and don't want to learn, but have understanding what the Holy Spirit wants to do for us and what is available. Be ready to receive what the Holy Spirit has for you. The Holy Spirit is a Giver of Gifts and has gifts for us. They are to edify the church and build us up. Desire to prophecy, it will build people up and comfort them.

The Father has so much more for us. Lord, fill our hearts to overflowing. Let us learn to be lead by the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Margaret Mendenhall shared a Word:

I so very much desire to speak to My people, there are so many voices that are clamoring in your ears, that many have never heard My voice, but there is coming a time saith the Lord that you must hear My voice, for the world is tramping toward destruction and charging toward destruction in a mighty way and in order not to follow that path you must find My way, for there is a way that the world does not know of and it is a way that is free from destruction, there is a way that is filled with prosperity and a way that is filled with peace, if you hear My voice I will lead you in that way, but if you close your ears to what I have to say, there is nothing else to follow, but what the human voice would say.

Now is the time to bathe ourselves in the 91st Psalm. There is protection there.