

~GIFTS FROM GOD (1648)

[Greek, *kha'ri-sma*]

- God's Gift Through Jesus Sacrifice
- Holy Spirit
- Wisdom And Knowledge
- Gifts Of Service And Gifts In Men
- Gifts Of The Spirit
- Speech Of Wisdom
- Speech Of Knowledge And Faith
- Healings
- Powerful Works
- Prophecy
- Discernment Of Inspired Utterances
- Tongues
- Interpretation Of Tongues
- Other Operations Of The Spirit
- Control Of The Gifts Of The Spirit

- The gifts God gives to men are an expression of his undeserved kindness. The very word *kha'ri-sma*, literally, **gracious** gift, appearing 17 times in the **Christian Greek Scriptures**, implies a gift involving undeserved kindness **Greek *kha'ris*** on God's part.
- For the wages sin pays is death, but the **gift God gives** is everlasting life by Christ Jesus our Lord. (**Romans 6:23**) Footnote
- Now there are varieties of **gifts**, but there is the same spirit. (**1 Corinthians 12:4**)
- For this very cause I remind you to stir up like a fire the **gift of God** which is in you through the laying of my hands upon you. (**2 Timothy 1:6**)
- In proportion as each one has received a **gift**, use it in ministering to one another as fine stewards of God's undeserved kindness expressed in various ways. (**1 Peter 4:10**)
- It is, therefore, only proper that the **gifts** received from Yehowah be used for the benefit of fellowmen and to the glory of God the giver.
- In proportion as each one has received a **gift**, use it in ministering to one another as fine stewards of God's undeserved

kindness expressed in various ways. (1 Peter 4:10)

- If anyone speaks, let him speak as it were the sacred pronouncements of God, if anyone ministers, let him minister as dependent on the **strength that God supplies**, so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. The glory and the might are his forever and ever. Amen. (1 Peter 4:11)
- These **gifts** are not for the selfish profit of the receiver. Since such a person has received free, he is under obligation to **give free**.
- Cure sick people, raise up dead persons, make lepers clean, expel demons. You **received free, give free**. (Matthew 10:8)
- Every good **gift** and every perfect present is from above, for it comes down from the Father of the celestial lights, and with him there is not a variation of the turning of the shadow. (James 1:17)
- Yehowah is **generous in giving**, allowing both the righteous and the wicked to benefit from the sunshine and the rain. In fact, he gives to all persons life and breath and all things. God's **gifts**, including food and drink and seeing good from ones hard work, are for man's enjoyment. Really every good thing we know or imagine is a gift from God.
- That you may prove yourselves sons of your Father who is in the heavens, since he makes his sun rise upon wicked people and good and makes it rain upon righteous people and unrighteous. (Matthew 5:45)
- The God that made the world and all the things in it, being, as this One is, Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in handmade temples. (Acts of Apostles 17:24)
- Neither is he attended to by human hands as if he needed anything, because he himself gives to all persons life and breath and all things. (Acts of Apostles 17:25)
- I have come to know that there is nothing better for them than to rejoice and to do good during one's life. (Ecclesiastes 3:12)
- And also that every man should eat and indeed drink and see good for all his hard work. It is the **gift of God**. (Ecclesiastes

3:13)

- Also every man to whom the true God has **given** riches and material possessions, he has even empowered him to eat from it and to carry off his portion and to rejoice in his hard work. This is the gift of God. (**Ecclesiastes 5:19**)
- **Give** orders to those who are rich in the present system of things not to be high-minded, and to rest their hope, not on uncertain riches, but on God, **who furnishes us all things richly for our enjoyment.** (**1 Timothy 6:17**)
- Both singleness and marriage are **gifts** from God, to be enjoyed within the limits of his requirements. Since the single person is freer to devote himself to Yehowah's service without distraction, singleness is the better of the **two gifts.**
- Has one found a good wife? One has found a good thing, and one gets goodwill from Yehowah. (**Proverbs 18:22**)
- He said to them; Not all men make room for the saying; but only those who have the **gift.** (**Matthew 19:11**)
- For there are eunuchs that were born such from their mother's womb, and there are eunuchs that were made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs that have made themselves eunuchs on account of the kingdom of the heavens. Let him that can make room for it make room for it. (**Matthew 19:12**)
- But I wish all men were as I myself am. Nevertheless, each one has his own gift from God, one in this way, another in that way. (**1 Corinthians 7:7**)
- Only, as Yehowah has given each one a portion, let each one so walk as God has called him. And thus I ordain in all the congregations. (**1 Corinthians 7:17**)
- Indeed, I want you to be free from anxiety. The unmarried man is anxious for the things of the Lord, how he may gain the Lords approval. (**1 Corinthians 7:32**)
- But the married man is anxious for the things of the world, how he may gain the approval of his wife. (**1 Corinthians 7:33**)

- **And he is divided. Further, the unmarried woman, and the virgin, is anxious for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in her body and in her spirit. However, the married woman is anxious for the things of the world, how she may gain the approval of her husband. (1 Corinthians 7:34)**
- **But this I am saying for your personal advantage, not that I may cast a noose upon you, but to move you to that which is becoming and that which means constant attendance upon the Lord without distraction. (1 Corinthians 7:35)**
- **But if anyone thinks he is behaving improperly toward his virginity, if that is past the bloom of youth, and this is the way it should take place, let him do what he wants, he does not sin. Let them marry. (1 Corinthians 7:36)**
- **But if anyone stands settled in his heart, having no necessity, but has authority over his own will and has made this decision in his own heart, to keep his own virginity, he will do well. (1 Corinthians 7:37)**
- **Consequently he also that gives his virginity in marriage does well, but he that does not give it in marriage will do better. (1 Corinthians 7:38)**
- **Let marriage be honorable among all, and the marriage bed be without defilement, for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. (Hebrews 13:4)**

•• **God's Gift Through Jesus Sacrifice**

- **Yehowah's undeserved kindness in providing his Son as a ransom sacrifice is a **priceless gift**, and those exercising faith in Jesus Christ's sacrifice can thereby gain the **gift of everlasting life**.**
- **For the wages sin pays is death, but the gift God gives is everlasting life by Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)**
- **For God loved the world so much that he gave his only-begotten Son, in order, that everyone exercising faith in him might not be destroyed but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)**

- God's **indescribable free gift** evidently includes all the goodness and loving-kindness that God extends to his people through Jesus Christ.
- Thanks be to God for **his indescribable free gift**. (2 Corinthians 9:15)
- But it is not with the gift as it was with the trespass. For if by one man's trespass many died, the undeserved kindness of God and his **free gift** with the undeserved kindness by the one man Jesus Christ abounded much more to many. (Romans 5:15)
- Also, it is not with the **free gift** as it was with the way things worked through the one man that sinned. For the judgment resulted from one trespass in condemnation, but the gift resulted from many trespasses in a declaration of righteousness. (Romans 5:16)
- For if by the trespass of the one man death ruled as king through that one, much more will those who receive the abundance of the undeserved kindness and of the **free gift** of righteousness rule as kings in life through the one person, Jesus Christ. (Romans 5:17)

•• Holy Spirit

- God imparts his spirit as a **gift** to his people, enabling them to avoid the degrading works of the flesh and to cultivate instead the fruitage of the spirit, namely, love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faith, mildness, and self-control.
- Peter said to them; Repent, and let each one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the free gift of the Holy Spirit. (Acts of Apostles 2:38)
- For the Law of that spirit which gives life in union with Christ Jesus has set you free from the Law of sin and of death. (Romans 8:2)
- For, there being an incapability on the part of the Law, while it was weak through the flesh, God, by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh. (Romans 8:3)
- That the righteous requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us

- who walk, not in accord with the flesh, but in accord with the spirit. (**Romans 8:4**)
- For those who are in accord with the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those in accord with the spirit on the things of the spirit. (**Romans 8:5**)
 - For the minding of the flesh means death, but the minding of the spirit means life and peace. (**Romans 8:6**)
 - Because the minding of the flesh means enmity with God, for it is not under subjection to the Law of God, nor, in fact, can it be. (**Romans 8:7**)
 - So those who are in harmony with the flesh cannot please God. (**Romans 8:8**)
 - However, you are in harmony, not with the flesh, but with the spirit, if God's spirit truly dwells in you. But if anyone does not have Christ's spirit, this one does not belong to him. (**Romans 8:9**)
 - But if Christ is in union with you, the body indeed is dead on account of sin, but the spirit is life on account of righteousness. (**Romans 8:10**)
 - But I say; Keep walking by spirit and you will carry out no fleshly desire at all. (**Galatians 5:16**)
 - For the flesh is against the spirit in its desire, and the spirit against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, so that the very things that you would like to do you do not do. (**Galatians 5:17**)
 - Furthermore, if you are being led by spirit, you are not under Law. (**Galatians 5:18**)
 - Now the works of the flesh are manifest, and they are fornication, uncleanness, loose conduct. (**Galatians 5:19**)
 - Idolatry, practice of spiritism, enmities, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, contentions, divisions, sects. (**Galatians 5:20**)
 - Envy, drunken bouts, revelries, and things like these. As to

- these things I am forewarning you, the same way as I did forewarn you, that those who practice such things will not inherit God's kingdom. (**Galatians 5:21**)
- On the other hand, the fruitage of the spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faith. (**Galatians 5:22**)
 - Mildness, self-control. Against such things there is no law. (**Galatians 5:23**)
 - Moreover, those who belong to Christ Jesus impaled the flesh together with its passions and desires. (**Galatians 5:24**)
 - If we are living by spirit, let us go on walking orderly also by spirit. (**Galatians 5:25**)
 - **Yehowah's spirit is a sure guide and supplies power beyond that which is normal, helping the Christian to fulfill his God-given assignments regardless of the pressures brought against him.**
 - However, when that one arrives, the spirit of the truth, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak of his own impulse, but what things he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things coming. (**John 16:13**)
 - However, we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the power beyond what is normal may be God's and not that out of ourselves. (**2 Corinthians 4:7**)
 - We are pressed in every way, but not cramped beyond movement, we are perplexed, but not absolutely with no way out. (**2 Corinthians 4:8**)
 - We are persecuted, but not left in the lurch, we are thrown down, but not destroyed. (**2 Corinthians 4:9**)
 - Always we endure everywhere in our body the death-dealing treatment given to Jesus, that the life of Jesus may also be made manifest in our body. (**2 Corinthians 4:10**)
 - **Jesus assured his disciples that God's spirit would teach them all things, would bring back to their minds the things he had taught them, and would help them to make a defense even before rulers.**

- But the helper, the Holy Spirit, which the Father will send in my name, that one will teach you all things and bring back to your minds all the things I told you. ([John 14:26](#))
- As for you, look out for yourselves, people will deliver you up to local courts, and you will be beaten in synagogues and be put on the stand before governor's and kings for my sake, for a witness to them. ([Mark 13:9](#))
- Also, in all the nations the Good News has to be preached first. ([Mark 13:10](#))
- But when they are leading you along to deliver you up, do not be anxious beforehand about what to speak, but whatever is given you in that hour, speak this, for you are not the ones speaking, but the Holy Spirit is. ([Mark 13:11](#))

· Wisdom And Knowledge

- **True wisdom and knowledge** are **gifts** from God. Yehowah actually invites his servants to pray for wisdom and knowledge, as Solomon did.
- So, if any one of you is lacking in wisdom, let him keep on asking God, for he **gives generously** to all and without reproaching, and it will be given him. ([James 1:5](#))
- At that Solomon said to God; You are the One that exercised great loving-kindness toward David my father and that have made me king in place of him. ([2 Chronicles 1:8](#))
- Now, O Yehowah God, let your promise with David my father prove faithful, for you yourself have made me king over a people as numerous as the dust particles of the earth. ([2 Chronicles 1:9](#))
- **Give me now wisdom and knowledge** that I may go out before this people and that I may come in, for who could judge this great people of yours? ([2 Chronicles 1:10](#))
- Then God said to Solomon; For the reason that this has proved to be close to your heart and you have not asked for wealth, riches and honor or for the soul of those hating you, neither is it even many days that you have asked for, but you ask for wisdom and knowledge for yourself that you may judge my people over

- whom I have made you king. (2 Chronicles 1:11)
- The wisdom and the knowledge are being given you, also wealth and riches and honor I shall give you such as no kings that were prior to you happened to have, and such as no one after you will come to have. (2 Chronicles 1:12)
 - Nevertheless, to gain knowledge, effort in studying what God has made available by the **gift** of his Word is required.
 - My son, if you will receive my sayings and **treasure up** my own commandments with yourself. (Proverbs 2:1)
 - So as to **pay attention to wisdom with your ear**, that you may incline your heart to discernment. (Proverbs 2:2)
 - If, moreover, you **call out for understanding** itself and you give forth your voice for discernment itself. (Proverbs 2:3)
 - If you keep seeking for it as for silver, and as for hid treasures you keep searching for it. (Proverbs 2:4)
 - In that case you will understand the fear of Yehowah, and you will find the very knowledge of God. (Proverbs 2:5)
 - For Yehowah himself **gives wisdom**, out of his mouth there are **knowledge and discernment**. (Proverbs 2:6)
 - Do your utmost to present yourself approved to God, a workman with nothing to be ashamed of, handling the word of the truth aright. (2 Timothy 2:15)
 - And that from infancy you have known the holy writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through the faith in connection with Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy 3:15)
 - But a study of God's Word in itself does not guarantee receiving the **gifts** of knowledge and wisdom. True knowledge and wisdom are available only through Jesus Christ and with the help of God's spirit.
 - For it is to us God has revealed them through his spirit, for the spirit searches into all things, even the deep things of God. (1 Corinthians 2:10)

- For who among men knows the things of a man except the spirit of man that is in him? So, too, no one has come to know the things of God, except the spirit of God. (**1 Corinthians 2:11**)
- Now we received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is from God, that we might know the things that have been kindly given us by God. (**1 Corinthians 2:12**)
- These things we also speak, not with words taught by human wisdom, but with those taught by the spirit, as we combine spiritual matters with spiritual words. (**1 Corinthians 2:13**)
- But a physical man does not receive the things of the spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot get to know them, because they are examined spiritually. (**1 Corinthians 2:14**)
- However, the spiritual man examines indeed all things, but he himself is not examined by any man. (**1 Corinthians 2:15**)
- For, who has come to know the mind of Yehowah, that he may instruct him? But we do have the mind of Christ. (**1 Corinthians 2:16**)
- Carefully concealed in him are all the treasures of wisdom and of knowledge. (**Colossians 2:3**)
- **Godly wisdom serves as a protection and a guide in the ways of life.**
- For wisdom is for a protection the same as money is for a protection, but the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom itself preserves alive its owners. (**Ecclesiastes 7:12**)
- Acquire wisdom, acquire understanding. Do not forget, and do not turn aside from the sayings of my mouth. (**Proverbs 4:5**)
- Do not leave it, and it will keep you. Love it, and it will safeguard you. (**Proverbs 4:6**)
- Wisdom is the prime thing. Acquire wisdom, and with all that you acquire, acquire understanding. (**Proverbs 4:7**)

- **The wisdom that stems from God is distinctly different from worldly wisdom, which is foolishness from Yehowah's standpoint and also harmful in that it leaves God out of account.**
- **For the speech about the torture stake is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is God's power. (1 Corinthians 1:18)**
- **For it is written: I will make the wisdom of the wise men perish, and the intelligence of the intellectual men I will shove aside. (1 Corinthians 1:19)**
- **Where is the wise man? Where the scribe? Where the debater of this system of things? Did not God make the wisdom of the world foolish? (1 Corinthians 1:20)**
- **For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through its wisdom did not get to know God, God saw good through the foolishness of what is preached to save those believing. (1 Corinthians 1:21)**
- **But the wisdom from above is first of all chaste, then peaceable, reasonable, ready to obey, full of mercy and good fruits, not making partial distinctions, not hypocritical. (James 3:17)**
- **Accurate knowledge of Yehowah's will helps its possessor to make sure of the more important things, to avoid stumbling others, and to walk worthily of Yehowah to the end of fully pleasing him.**
- **And this is what I continue praying, that your love may abound yet more and more with accurate knowledge and full discernment. (Philippians 1:9)**
- **That you may make sure of the more important things, so that you may be flawless and not be stumbling others up to the day of Christ. (Philippians 1:10)**
- **And may be filled with righteous fruit, which is through Jesus Christ, to God's glory and praise. (Philippians 1:11)**
- **That is also why we, from the day we heard of it, have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the accurate knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual comprehension. (Colossians 1:9)**

- In order to walk worthily of Yehowah to the end of fully pleasing him as you go on bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the accurate knowledge of God. (**Colossians 1:10**)
- Furthermore, knowledge is one of the things helping the Christian to be active and productive in his service to God.
- Yes, for this very reason, by your contributing in response all earnest effort, supply to your faith virtue, to your virtue knowledge. (**2 Peter 1:5**)
- To your knowledge self-control, to your self-control endurance, to your endurance godly devotion. (**2 Peter 1:6**)
- To your godly devotion brotherly affection, to your brotherly affection love. (**2 Peter 1:7**)
- For if these things exist in you and overflow, they will prevent you from being either inactive or unfruitful regarding the accurate knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (**2 Peter 1:8**)
- This gift from God involves more than a mere acquaintance with facts. It embraces understanding of those facts and knowing how to use them in giving an answer to each one.
- Let your utterance be always with graciousness, seasoned with salt, so as to know how you ought to give an answer to each one. (**Colossians 4:6**)

· Gifts Of Service And Gifts In Men

- Assignments of service in God's earthly arrangement, or organization, are really **gifts** from Yehowah.
- And you and your sons with you should safeguard your priesthood as regards every concern of the altar and as regards what is inside the curtain, and you men must render service. As a service of **gift** I shall give your priesthood, and the stranger drawing near should be put to death. (**Numbers 18:7**)
- Since, then, we have **gifts** differing according to the undeserved kindness given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the faith proportioned to us. (**Romans 12:6**)

- Or a ministry, let us be at this ministry. Or he that teaches, let him be at his teaching. (**Romans 12:7**)
- Or he that exhorts, let him be at his exhortation. He that distributes, let him do it with liberality. He that presides, let him do it in real earnest. He that shows mercy, let him do it with cheerfulness. (**Romans 12:8**)
- If, really, you have heard about the stewardship of the undeserved kindness of God that was given me with you in view. (**Ephesians 3:2**)
- I became a minister of this according to the free gift of the undeserved kindness of God that was given me according to the way his power operates. (**Ephesians 3:7**)
- Those favored with assignments of service by God's undeserved kindness are also called **gifts in men**, and Jesus Christ, as God's representative and head of the congregation, has given these to the congregation in order, that its members individually might be built up and attain maturity.
- Wherefore he says; When he ascended on high he carried away captives, he gave **gifts** in men. (**Ephesians 4:8**)
- And he gave some as apostles, some as prophets, some as evangelizers, some as shepherds and teachers. (**Ephesians 4:11**)
- With a view to the readjustment of the holy ones, for ministerial work, for the building up of the body of the Christ. (**Ephesians 4:12**)
- In order to discharge his responsibilities faithfully to the blessing of others, the one having the gift must continue to cultivate it, never neglecting it.
- Do not be neglecting the gift in you that was given you through a prediction and when the body of older men laid their hands upon you. (**1 Timothy 4:14**)
- For this very cause I remind you to stir up like a fire the gift of God which is in you through the laying of my hands upon you. (**2 Timothy 1:6**)

- **With the help of Yehowah, anyone, by putting forth determined efforts to make full use of his capabilities and to surmount the obstacles that may present themselves, can cultivate the ability to perform any divinely assigned service.**
- **For all things I have the strength by virtue of him who imparts power to me. (Philippians 4:13)**

•• Gifts Of The Spirit

- **In the First Century C.E. miraculous gifts attended the baptism with Holy Spirit. These served as signs that God was no longer using the Jewish congregation in his service but that his approval rested on the Christian congregation established by his Son.**
- **For if the word spoken through angels proved to be firm, and every transgression and disobedient act received a retribution in harmony with justice. (Hebrews 2:2)**
- **How shall we escape if we have neglected a salvation of such greatness in that it began to be spoken through our Lord and was verified for us by those who heard him. (Hebrews 2:3)**
- **While God joined in bearing witness with signs as well as portents and various powerful works and with distributions of Holy Spirit according to his will? (Hebrews 2:4)**
- **On the day of Pentecost, miraculous gifts accompanied the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and in each case mentioned thereafter in the Scriptures where the miraculous gifts of the spirit were transmitted, at least one of the 12 apostles or Paul, who was directly chosen by Jesus, was present.**
- **Now while the day of the festival of Pentecost was in progress they were all together at the same place. (Acts of Apostles 2:1)**
- **And they all became filled with Holy Spirit and started to speak with different tongues, just as the spirit was granting them to make utterance. (Acts of Apostles 2:4)**
- **But Peter stood up with the eleven and raised his voice and made this utterance to them; Men of Judea and all you inhabitants of Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give ear to my sayings. (Acts of Apostles 2:14)**

- **Now in the city there was a certain man named Simon, who, prior to this, had been practicing magical arts and amazing the nation of Samaria, saying he himself was somebody great. (Acts of Apostles 8:9)**
- **And all of them, from the least to the greatest, would pay attention to him and say; This man is the Power of God, which can be called Great. (Acts of Apostles 8:10)**
- **So they would pay attention to him because of his having amazed them for quite a while by his magical arts. (Acts of Apostles 8:11)**
- **But when they believed Philip, who was declaring the Good News of the kingdom of God and of the name of Jesus Christ, they proceeded to be baptized, both men and women. (Acts of Apostles 8:12)**
- **Simon himself also became a believer, and, after being baptized, he was in constant attendance upon Philip, and he was amazed at beholding signs and great powerful works taking place. (Acts of Apostles 8:13)**
- **When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they dispatched Peter and John to them. (Acts of Apostles 8:14)**
- **And these went down and prayed for them to get Holy Spirit. (Acts of Apostles 8:15)**
- **For it had not yet fallen upon any one of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. (Acts of Apostles 8:16)**
- **Then they went laying their hands upon them, and they began to receive Holy Spirit. (Acts of Apostles 8:17)**
- **Now when Simon saw that through the laying on of the hands of the apostles the spirit was given, he offered them money. (Acts of Apostles 8:18)**
- **Saying; Give me also this authority, that anyone upon whom I lay my hands may receive Holy Spirit. (Acts of Apostles 8:19)**

- But Peter said to him; May your silver perish with you, because you thought through money to get possession of the free gift of God. ([Acts of Apostles 8:20](#))
- While Peter was yet speaking about these matters the Holy Spirit fell upon all those hearing the word. ([Acts of Apostles 10:44](#))
- And the faithful ones that had come with Peter who were of those circumcised were amazed, because the free gift of the Holy Spirit was being poured out also upon people of the nations. ([Acts of Apostles 10:45](#))
- For they heard them speaking with tongues and magnifying God. Then Peter responded. ([Acts of Apostles 10:46](#))
- And when Paul laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying. ([Acts of Apostles 19:6](#))
- Evidently, with the death of the apostles, the transmittal of the **gifts** of the spirit ceased for a time, and the miraculous **gifts** of the spirit ceased as those who had received these **gifts** passed off the earthly scene.
- Performing apparently miraculous works would not in itself prove divine authorization, nor would the inability of God's servants to perform miracles with the help of God's spirit cast doubt on the fact that they were being used by him.
- Not everyone saying to me, Lord, Lord, will enter into the kingdom of the heavens, but the one doing the will of my Father who is in the heavens will. ([Matthew 7:21](#))
- Many will say to me in that day,,; Lord, Lord! Did we not prophesy in your name, and expel demons in your name, and perform many powerful works in your name? ([Matthew 7:22](#))
- And yet then I will confess to them; I never knew you! Get away from me, you workers of lawlessness. ([Matthew 7:23](#))
- Not every **First-Century** Christian could perform powerful works, heal, speak in tongues, and translate. Paul, and doubtless some others, had by God's undeserved kindness been granted a number of these **gifts** of the spirit.

- However, these miraculous gifts marked the infancy of the Christian congregation and were foretold to cease. In fact, even Jesus indicated that his followers would be identified, not by their performance of powerful works, but by their love for one another.
- Not all are apostles, are they? Not all are prophets, are they? Not all are teachers, are they? Not all perform powerful works, do they? (**1 Corinthians 12:29**)
- Not all have **gifts** of healings, do they? Not all speak in tongues, do they? Not all are translators, are they? (**1 Corinthians 12:30**)
- And if I have the **gift** of prophesying and am acquainted with all the sacred secrets and all knowledge, and if I have all the faith so as to transplant mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. (**1 Corinthians 13:2**)
- Love never fails. But whether there are **gifts** of prophesying, they will be done away with, whether there are tongues, they will cease, whether there is knowledge, it will be done away with. (**1 Corinthians 13:8**)
- For we have partial knowledge and we prophesy partially. (**1 Corinthians 13:9**)
- But when that which is complete arrives, that which is partial will be done away with. (**1 Corinthians 13:10**)
- When I was a babe, I used to speak as a babe, to think as a babe, to reason as a babe, but now that I have become a man, I have done away with the traits of a babe. (**1 Corinthians 13:11**)
- For at present we see in hazy outline by means of a metal mirror, but then it will be face to face. At present I know partially, but then I shall know accurately even as I am accurately known. (**1 Corinthians 13:12**)
- Now, however, there remain faith, hope, love, these three, but the greatest of these is love. (**1 Corinthians 13:13**)
- By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love among yourselves. (**John 13:35**)

- Paul enumerates nine different manifestations or operations of the spirit. All these **gifts** of the spirit served a beneficial purpose that not only contributed to the numerical growth of the congregation but also resulted in its spiritual upbuilding.
- But the manifestation of the spirit is given to each one for a beneficial purpose. (**1 Corinthians 12:7**)
- For example, to one there is given through the spirit speech of wisdom, to another speech of knowledge according to the same spirit. (**1 Corinthians 12:8**)
- To another faith by the same spirit, to another **gifts** of healings by that one spirit. (**1 Corinthians 12:9**)
- To yet another operations of powerful works, to another prophesying, to another discernment of inspired utterances, to another different tongues, and to another interpretation of tongues. (**1 Corinthians 12:10**)
- But all these operations the one and the same spirit performs, making a distribution to each one respectively just as it wills. (**1 Corinthians 12:11**)
- But if you are all prophesying and any unbeliever or ordinary person comes in, he is reproved by them all, he is closely examined by all. (**1 Corinthians 14:24**)
- The secrets of his heart become manifest, so that he will fall upon his face and worship God, declaring; God is really among you. (**1 Corinthians 14:25**)
- What is to be done, then, brothers? When you come together, one has a psalm, another has a teaching, another has a revelation, another has a tongue, another has an interpretation. Let all things take place for upbuilding. (**1 Corinthians 14:26**)
- (1) Speech of wisdom, (2) Speech of knowledge, (3) Faith, (4) Gifts of healings, (5) Powerful works, (6) Prophesying, (7) Discernment of inspired utterances, (8) Different tongues, and (9) Interpretation of tongues.

·· **Speech Of Wisdom**

- Although wisdom can be acquired through study, application, and experience, the speech of wisdom here mentioned apparently was a miraculous ability to **apply knowledge in a successful way** to solve problems arising in the congregation.
- For example, to one there is given through the spirit speech of wisdom, to another speech of knowledge according to the same spirit. (**1 Corinthians 12:8**)
- It was according to the wisdom given him that Paul wrote letters that became part of God's inspired Word.
- Furthermore, consider the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul according to the wisdom given him also wrote you. (**2 Peter 3:15**)
- Speaking about these things as he does also in all his letters. In them, however, are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unsteady are twisting, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction. (**2 Peter 3:16**)
- This **gift** also appears to have been manifest in the individual's ability to make a defense that opposers were unable to resist or to dispute.
- But certain men rose up of those from the so-called Synagogue of the Freedmen, and of the Cyrenians and Alexandrians and of those from Cilicia and Asia, to dispute with Stephen. (**Acts of Apostles 6:9**)
- And yet they could not hold their own against the wisdom and the spirit with which he was speaking. (**Acts of Apostles 6:10**)

·· **Speech Of Knowledge And Faith**

- All in the **First-Century** Christian congregation had basic knowledge concerning Yehowah and his Son as well as God's will and his requirements for life. Therefore, speech of knowledge was something above and beyond the knowledge shared by Christians in general, it was miraculous knowledge. Likewise faith as a gift of the spirit was evidently a miraculous faith that helped the individual to overcome mountain-like obstacles that would otherwise hinder service to God.

- For example, to one there is given through the spirit speech of wisdom, to another speech of knowledge according to the same spirit. (**1 Corinthians 12:8**)
- To another faith by the same spirit, to another **gifts** of healings by that one spirit. (**1 Corinthians 12:9**)
- And if I have the gift of prophesying and am acquainted with all the sacred secrets and all knowledge, and if I have all the faith so as to transplant mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. (**1 Corinthians 13:2**)

•• Healings

- The **gift** of healing was manifest in the ability to cure diseases completely, regardless of the nature of the affliction.
- So that they brought the sick out even into the broad ways and laid them there upon little beds and cots, in order, that, as Peter would go by, at least his shadow might fall upon some one of them. (**Acts of Apostles 5:15**)
- Also, the multitude from the cities around Jerusalem kept coming together, bearing sick people and those troubled with unclean spirits, and they would one and all be cured. (**Acts of Apostles 5:16**)
- There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been lying flat on his cot for eight years, as he was paralyzed. (**Acts of Apostles 9:33**)
- And Peter said to him; Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you. Rise and make up your bed. And he rose immediately. (**Acts of Apostles 9:34**)
- But it happened that the father of Publius was lying down distressed with fever and dysentery, and Paul went in to him and prayed, laid his hands upon him and healed him. (**Acts of Apostles 28:8**)
- After this occurred, the rest of the people on the island who had sicknesses also began to come to him and be cured. (**Acts of Apostles 28:9**)

- **Prior to Pentecost, healing had been done by Jesus and his disciples. Whereas some persons healed did manifest obvious faith, the afflicted one was not required to make an expression of faith in order to be cured.**
- **But a certain man was there who had been in his sickness for thirty-eight years. (John 5:5)**
- **Seeing this man lying down, and being aware that he had already been sick a long time, Jesus said to him; Do you want to become sound in health? (John 5:6)**
- **The sick man answered him; Sir, I do not have a man to put me into the pool when the water is disturbed, but while I am coming another steps down ahead of me. (John 5:7)**
- **Jesus said to him; Get up, pick up your cot and walk. (John 5:8)**
- **With that the man immediately became sound in health, and he picked up his cot and began to walk. Now on that day it was a Sabbath. (John 5:9)**
- **But the healed man did not know who he was, for Jesus had turned aside, there being a crowd in the place. (John 5:13)**
- **Jesus, on one occasion, attributed his disciples inability to cure an epileptic, not to the lack of faith of the one seeking a cure for his son, but to the little faith of his disciples.**
- **And when they came toward the crowd, a man approached him, kneeling down to him and saying; (Matthew 17:14)**
- **Lord, have mercy on my son, because he is an epileptic and is ill, for he falls often into the fire and often into the water. (Matthew 17:15)**
- **And I brought him to your disciples, but they could not cure him. (Matthew 17:16)**
- **Then Jesus rebuked it, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured from that hour. (Matthew 17:18)**
- **Thereupon the disciples came up to Jesus privately and said; Why is it we could not expel it? (Matthew 17:19)**

- He said to them; Because of your little faith. For truly I say to you, If you have faith the size of a mustard grain, you will say to this mountain, Transfer from here to there, and it will transfer, and nothing will be impossible for you. ([Matthew 17:20](#))
- Not once do the Scriptures cite an instance where Jesus or his apostles were unable to heal others on account of the lack of faith of those seeking a cure.
- Furthermore, instead of using the gift of healing in curing Timothy of his stomach trouble or attributing his frequent cases of sickness to his lack of faith, the apostle Paul recommended that Timothy use a little wine for the sake of his stomach.
- Do not drink water any longer, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent cases of sickness. ([1 Timothy 5:23](#))

See Also FAITH

See Also HEALING

.. Powerful Works

- Powerful works included raising dead persons, expelling demons, and even striking opposers with blindness.
- To yet another operations of powerful works, to another prophesying, to another discernment of inspired utterances, to another different tongues, and to another interpretation of tongues. ([1 Corinthians 12:10](#))
- The manifestation of such powerful works resulted in adding believers to the congregation.
- But Peter put everybody outside and, bending his knees, he prayed, and, turning to the body, he said; Tabitha, rise! She opened her eyes and, as she caught sight of Peter, she sat up. ([Acts of Apostles 9:40](#))
- This became known throughout all Joppa, and many became believers on the Lord. ([Acts of Apostles 9:42](#))
- But Elymas the sorcerer, that, in fact, is the way his name is

- translated, began opposing them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. (**Acts of Apostles 13:8**)
- Saul, who is also Paul, becoming filled with Holy Spirit, looked at him intently (**Acts of Apostles 13:9**)
 - And said; O man full of every sort of fraud and every sort of villainy, you son of the Devil, you enemy of everything righteous, will you not quit distorting the right ways of Yehowah? (**Acts of Apostles 13:10**)
 - Well, then, look! Yehowah's hand is upon you, and you will be blind, not seeing the sunlight for a period of time. Instantly a thick mist and darkness fell upon him, and he went around seeking men to lead him by the hand. (**Acts of Apostles 13:11**)
 - Then the proconsul, upon seeing what had happened, became a believer, as he was astounded at the teaching of Yehowah. (**Acts of Apostles 13:12**)
 - And God kept performing extraordinary works of power through the hands of Paul. (**Acts of Apostles 19:11**)
 - So that even cloths and aprons were borne from his body to the ailing people, and the diseases left them, and the wicked spirits came out. (**Acts of Apostles 19:12**)
 - Thus in a mighty way the word of Yehowah kept growing and prevailing. (**Acts of Apostles 19:20**)

•• Prophecy

- Prophecy was a greater gift than speaking in tongues, as it built up the congregation. Moreover, unbelievers were helped thereby to recognize that God was really among the Christians.
- However, he that prophesies upbuilds and encourages and consoles men by his speech. (**1 Corinthians 14:3**)
- He that speaks in a tongue upbuilds himself, but he that prophesies upbuilds a congregation. (**1 Corinthians 14:4**)
- Now I would like for all of you to speak in tongues, but I prefer that you prophesy. Indeed, he that prophesies is greater than he

- that speaks in tongues, unless, in fact, he translates, that the congregation may receive upbuilding. ([1 Corinthians 14:5](#))
- But if you are all prophesying and any unbeliever or ordinary person comes in, he is reproved by them all, he is closely examined by all. ([1 Corinthians 14:24](#))
 - The secrets of his heart become manifest, so that he will fall upon his face and worship God, declaring; God is really among you. ([1 Corinthians 14:25](#))
 - **All in the Christian congregation spoke about the fulfillment of the prophecies recorded in God's Word.**
 - And in the last days, God says, I shall pour out some of my spirit upon every sort of flesh, and your sons and your daughters will prophesy and your young men will see visions and your old men will dream dreams. ([Acts of Apostles 2:17](#))
 - And even upon my men slaves and upon my women slaves I will pour out some of my spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. ([Acts of Apostles 2:18](#))
 - **However, the particular ones having the miraculous gift of prophesying were able to foretell future events, as did Agabus.**
 - Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. ([Acts of Apostles 11:27](#))
 - One of them named Agabus rose and proceeded to indicate through the spirit that a great famine was about to come upon the entire inhabited earth, which, for that matter, did take place in the time of Claudius. ([Acts of Apostles 11:28](#))

See Also PROPHECY

See Also PROPHET (Prophets in the Christian Greek Scriptures)

•• Discernment Of Inspired Utterances

- **Discernment of inspired utterances evidently involved the ability to discern whether an inspired expression originated with God or not.**
- **To yet another operations of powerful works, to another prophesying, to another discernment of inspired utterances, to**

another different tongues, and to another interpretation of tongues. (**1 Corinthians 12:10**)

- **This gift would prevent its possessor from being deceived and turned away from the truth and would protect the congregation from false prophets.**
- **Beloved ones, do not believe every inspired expression, but test the inspired expressions to see whether they originate with God, because many false prophets have gone forth into the world. (**1 John 4:1**)**
- **But I am afraid that somehow, as the serpent seduced Eve by its cunning, your minds might be corrupted away from the sincerity and the chastity that are due the Christ. (**2 Corinthians 11:3**)**
- **For, as it is, if someone comes and preaches a Jesus other than the one we preached, or you receive a spirit other than what you received, or Good News other than what you accepted, you easily put up with him. (**2 Corinthians 11:4**)**

· Tongues

- **The miraculous gift of tongues attended the outpouring of God's spirit at Pentecost, **33 C.E.** The approximately 120 disciples assembled in an upper room, possibly near the temple, were thereby enabled to speak about, the magnificent things of God, in the native tongues of the Jews and proselytes who had come to Jerusalem from faraway places for the observance of the festival.**
- **This fulfillment of Joel's prophecy proved that God was using the new Christian congregation and no longer the Jewish congregation. In order to receive the free gift of the Holy Spirit, the Jews and proselytes had to repent and be baptized in Jesus name.**
- **So, when they had entered, they went up into the upper chamber, where they were staying, Peter as well as John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the zealous one, and Judas the son of James. (**Acts of Apostles 1:13**)**
- **With one accord all these were persisting in prayer, together with some women and Mary the mother of Jesus and with his brothers. (**Acts of Apostles 1:14**)**

- **Now during these days Peter rose up in the midst of the brothers and said; the crowd of persons was all together about one hundred and twenty. (Acts of Apostles 1:15)**
- **Now while the day of the festival of Pentecost was in progress they were all together at the same place.**
- **Now while the day of the festival of Pentecost was in progress they were all together at the same place. (Acts of Apostles 2:1)**
- **And suddenly there occurred from heaven a noise just like that of a rushing stiff breeze, and it filled the whole house in which they were sitting.**
- **And suddenly there occurred from heaven a noise just like that of a rushing stiff breeze, and it filled the whole house in which they were sitting. (Acts of Apostles 2:2)**
- **And tongues as if of fire became visible to them and were distributed about, and one sat upon each one of them,**
- **And tongues as if of fire became visible to them and were distributed about, and one sat upon each one of them. (Acts of Apostles 2:3)**
- **And they all became filled with Holy Spirit and started to speak with different tongues, just as the spirit was granting them to make utterance.**
- **And they all became filled with Holy Spirit and started to speak with different tongues, just as the spirit was granting them to make utterance. (Acts of Apostles 2:4)**
- **As it was, there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, reverent men, from every nation of those under heaven.**
- **As it was, there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, reverent men, from every nation of those under heaven. (Acts of Apostles 2:5)**
- **So, when this sound occurred, the multitude came together and were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language.**

- **So, when this sound occurred, the multitude came together and were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. (Acts of Apostles 2:6)**
- **Indeed, they were astonished and began to wonder and say; See here, all these who are speaking are Galileans, are they not? (Acts of Apostles 2:7)**
- **And yet how is it we are hearing, each one of us, his own language in which we were born?**
- **And yet how is it we are hearing, each one of us, his own language in which we were born? (Acts of Apostles 2:8)**
- **Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and the inhabitants of Mesopotamia, and Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and the district of Asia,**
- **Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and the inhabitants of Mesopotamia, and Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and the district of Asia. (Acts of Apostles 2:9)**
- **And Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya, which is toward Cyrene, and sojourners from Rome, both Jews and proselytes. (Acts of Apostles 2:10)**
- **Cretans and Arabians, we hear them speaking in our tongues about the magnificent things of God. (Acts of Apostles 2:11)**
- **Yes, they were all astonished and were in perplexity, saying one to another; What does this thing purport to be? (Acts of Apostles 2:12)**
- **However, different ones mocked at them and began to say; They are full of sweet wine. (Acts of Apostles 2:13)**
- **But Peter stood up with the eleven and raised his voice and made this utterance to them; Men of Judea and all you inhabitants of Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give ear to my sayings. (Acts of Apostles 2:14)**
- **These people are, in fact, not drunk, as you suppose, for it is the third hour of the day. (Acts of Apostles 2:15)**

- **On the contrary, this is what was said through the prophet Joel. (Acts of Apostles 2:16)**
- **And in the last days, God says, I shall pour out some of my spirit upon every sort of flesh, and your sons and your daughters will prophesy and your young men will see visions and your old men will dream dreams. (Acts of Apostles 2:17)**
- **And even upon my men slaves and upon my women slaves I will pour out some of my spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.**
- **And even upon my men slaves and upon my women slaves I will pour out some of my spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. (Acts of Apostles 2:18)**
- **And I will give portents in heaven above and signs on earth below, blood and fire and smoke mist.**
- **And I will give portents in heaven above and signs on earth below, blood and fire and smoke mist. (Acts of Apostles 2:19)**
- **The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and illustrious day of Yehowah arrives.**
- **The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and illustrious day of Yehowah arrives. (Acts of Apostles 2:20)**
- **And everyone who calls on the name of Yehowah will be saved. (Acts of Apostles 2:21)**
- **Men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus the Nazarene, a man publicly shown by God to you through powerful works and portents and signs that God did through him in your midst, just as you yourselves know. (Acts of Apostles 2:22)**
- **This man, as one delivered up by the determined counsel and foreknowledge of God, you fastened to a stake by the hand of lawless men and did away with. (Acts of Apostles 2:23)**
- **But God resurrected him by loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to continue to be held fast by it. (Acts of Apostles 2:24)**

- For David says respecting him; I had Yehowah constantly before my eyes, because he is at my right hand that I may never be shaken. ([Acts of Apostles 2:25](#))
- On this account my heart became cheerful and my tongue rejoiced greatly. Moreover, even my flesh will reside in hope. ([Acts of Apostles 2:26](#))
- Because you will not leave my soul in Hades, neither will you allow your loyal one to see corruption. ([Acts of Apostles 2:27](#))
- You have made life's ways known to me, you will fill me with good cheer with your face. ([Acts of Apostles 2:28](#))
- Men, brothers, it is allowable to speak with freeness of speech to you concerning the family head David, that he both deceased and was buried and his tomb is among us to this day. ([Acts of Apostles 2:29](#))
- Therefore, because he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath that he would seat one from the fruitage of his loins upon his throne. ([Acts of Apostles 2:30](#))
- He saw beforehand and spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that neither was he forsaken in Hades nor did his flesh see corruption. ([Acts of Apostles 2:31](#))
- This Jesus God resurrected, of which fact we are all witnesses. ([Acts of Apostles 2:32](#))
- Therefore because he was exalted to the right hand of God and received the promised Holy Spirit from the Father, he has poured out this which you see and hear. ([Acts of Apostles 2:33](#))
- Actually David did not ascend to the heavens, but he himself says, Yehowah said to my Lord; Sit at my right hand. ([Acts of Apostles 2:34](#))
- Until I place your enemies as a stool for your feet. ([Acts of Apostles 2:35](#))
- Therefore let all the house of Israel know for a certainty that God made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you impaled. ([Acts of Apostles 2:36](#))

- **Now when they heard this they were stabbed to the heart, and they said to Peter and the rest of the apostles; Men, brothers, what shall we do? (Acts of Apostles 2:37)**
- **Peter said to them; Repent, and let each one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the free gift of the Holy Spirit. (Acts of Apostles 2:38)**
- **For the promise is to you and to your children and to all those afar off, just as many as Yehowah our God may call to him. (Acts of Apostles 2:39)**
- **And with many other words he bore thorough witness and kept exhorting them, saying; Get saved from this crooked generation. (Acts of Apostles 2:40)**
- **Therefore those who embraced his word heartily were baptized, and on that day about three thousand souls were added. (Acts of Apostles 2:41)**
- **And they continued devoting themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to sharing with one another, to taking of meals and to prayers. (Acts of Apostles 2:42)**
- **Indeed, fear began to fall upon every soul, and many portents and signs began to occur through the apostles. (Acts of Apostles 2:43)**
- **All those who became believers were together in having all things in common. (Acts of Apostles 2:44)**
- **And they went selling their possessions and properties and distributing the proceeds to all, just as anyone would have the need. (Acts of Apostles 2:45)**
- **And day after day they were in constant attendance at the temple with one accord, and they took their meals in private homes and partook of food with great rejoicing and sincerity of heart. (Acts of Apostles 2:46)**
- **Praising God and finding favor with all the people. At the same time Yehowah continued to join to them daily those being saved. (Acts of Apostles 2:47)**

- **The gift of tongues proved very helpful to **First-Century** Christians in preaching to those who spoke other languages. It was actually a sign to unbelievers.**
- **However, Paul, in writing to the Christian congregation at Corinth, directed that when meeting together, not all should speak in tongues, as strangers and unbelievers entering and not understanding would conclude that they were mad.**
- **He also recommended that the speaking in tongues, be limited to two or three at the most, and in turns. However, if no one could translate, then the person speaking in a tongue was to remain silent in the congregation, speaking to himself and to God.**
- **Consequently tongues are for a sign, not to the believers, but to the unbelievers, whereas prophesying is, not for the unbelievers, but for the believers. (1 Corinthians 14:22)**
- **Therefore, if the whole congregation comes together to one place and they all speak in tongues, but ordinary people or unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are mad? (1 Corinthians 14:23)**
- **But if you are all prophesying and any unbeliever or ordinary person comes in, he is reproved by them all, he is closely examined by all. (1 Corinthians 14:24)**
- **The secrets of his heart become manifest, so that he will fall upon his face and worship God, declaring; God is really among you. (1 Corinthians 14:25)**
- **What is to be done, then, brothers? When you come together, one has a psalm, another has a teaching, another has a revelation, another has a tongue, another has an interpretation. Let all things take place for upbuilding. (1 Corinthians 14:26)**
- **And if someone speaks in a tongue, let it be limited to two or three at the most, and in turns, and let someone translate. (1 Corinthians 14:27)**
- **But if there be no translator, let him keep silent in the congregation and speak to himself and to God. (1 Corinthians 14:28)**

- **Further, let two or three prophets speak, and let the others discern the meaning. (1 Corinthians 14:29)**
- **But if there is a revelation to another one while sitting there, let the first one keep silent. (1 Corinthians 14:30)**
- **For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all be encouraged. (1 Corinthians 14:31)**
- **And **gifts** of the spirit of the prophets are to be controlled by the prophets. (1 Corinthians 14:32)**
- **For God is a God, not of disorder, but of peace. As in all the congregations of the holy ones. (1 Corinthians 14:33)**
- **If no translating took place, his speaking in a tongue would not result in upbuilding others, for no one would listen to his speech because it would be meaningless to those unable to understand it.**
- **For he that speaks in a tongue speaks, not to men, but to God, for no one listens, but he speaks sacred secrets by the spirit. (1 Corinthians 14:2)**
- **He that speaks in a tongue upbuilds himself, but he that prophesies upbuilds a congregation. (1 Corinthians 14:4)**
- **If the person speaking in a tongue was unable to translate, then he did not understand what he himself was saying nor would others who were not familiar with that tongue, or language.**
- **Hence, Paul encouraged those having the gift of tongues to pray that they might also translate and thereby edify all listeners. From the foregoing, it can readily be seen why Paul, under inspiration, ranked speaking in tongues as a lesser gift and pointed out that in a congregation he would rather speak five words with his mind, understanding, than 10,000 words in a tongue.**
- **If, then, I do not understand the force of the speech sound, I shall be a foreigner to the one speaking, and the one speaking will be a foreigner to me. (1 Corinthians 14:11)**
- **Therefore let the one who speaks in a tongue pray that he may translate. (1 Corinthians 14:13)**

- For if I am praying in a tongue, it is my gift of the spirit that is praying, but my mind is unfruitful. (**1 Corinthians 14:14**)
- What is to be done, then? I will pray with the gift of the spirit, but I will also pray with my mind. I will sing praise with the gift of the spirit, but I will also sing praise with my mind. (**1 Corinthians 14:15**)
- Otherwise, if you offer praise with a gift of the spirit, how will the man occupying the seat of the ordinary person say, Amen, to your giving of thanks, since he does not know what you are saying? (**1 Corinthians 14:16**)
- True, you give thanks in a fine way, but the other man is not being built up. (**1 Corinthians 14:17**)
- I thank God, I speak in more tongues than all of you do. (**1 Corinthians 14:18**)
- Nevertheless, in a congregation I would rather speak five words with my mind, that I might also instruct others orally, than ten thousand words in a tongue. (**1 Corinthians 14:19**)

•• Interpretation Of Tongues

- The gift of interpretation of tongues was manifest in a person's being able to translate a language unknown to the one having this **gift**.
- To yet another operations of powerful works, to another prophesying, to another discernment of inspired utterances, to another different tongues, and to another interpretation of tongues. (**1 Corinthians 12:10**)
- This **gift** really enhanced the **gift** of speaking in tongues, since the entire congregation would be built up by hearing the translation.
- Now I would like for all of you to speak in tongues, but I prefer that you prophesy. Indeed, he that prophesies is greater than he that speaks in tongues, unless, in fact, he translates, that the congregation may receive upbuilding. (**1 Corinthians 14:5**)

•• Other Operations Of The Spirit

- **When mentioning some of the operations of the spirit in conjunction with the placement of the individual members of Christ's body, Paul states; God has set the respective ones in the congregation, first, apostles, second, prophets, third, teachers, then powerful works, then **gifts** of healings, helpful services, abilities to direct, different tongues.**

- **Now you are Christ's body, and members individually. (1 Corinthians 12:27)**

- **And God has set the respective ones in the congregation, first, apostles, second, prophets, third, teachers, then powerful works, then **gifts** of healings, helpful services, abilities to direct, different tongues. (1 Corinthians 12:28)**

- **Helpful services, may have included the organized arrangements for aiding needy brothers materially, such as the distributing of food to needy widows, for which seven men full of spirit and wisdom were appointed in the Jerusalem congregation.**

- **Now in these days, when the disciples were increasing, a murmuring arose on the part of the Greek-speaking Jews against the Hebrew-speaking Jews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution. (Acts of Apostles 6:1)**

- **So the twelve called the multitude of the disciples to them and said; It is not pleasing for us to leave the word of God to distribute food to tables. (Acts of Apostles 6:2)**

- **So, brothers, search out for yourselves seven certified men from among you, full of spirit and wisdom, that we may appoint them over this necessary business. (Acts of Apostles 6:3)**

- **But we shall devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word. (Acts of Apostles 6:4)**

- **And the thing spoken was pleasing to the whole multitude, and they selected Stephen, a man full of faith and Holy Spirit, and Philip and Prochorus and Nicanor and Timon and Parmenas and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. (Acts of Apostles 6:5)**

- **And they placed them before the apostles, and, after having prayed, these laid their hands upon them. (Acts of Apostles 6:6)**

- **Abilities to direct, were needed in order to follow through on the commission outlined by Jesus to make disciples.**
- **Go therefore and make disciples of people of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)**
- **Teaching them to observe all the things I have commanded you. And, look! I am with you all the days until the conclusion of the system of things. (Matthew 28:20)**
- **The missionary work as well as the establishing of new congregations and then guiding the activities of these congregations required skillful direction.**
- **In this regard it is noteworthy that Paul, with reference to his part in God's building program, speaks of himself as a wise director of works.**
- **According to the undeserved kindness of God that was given to me, as a wise director of works I laid a foundation, but someone else is building on it. But let each one keep watching how he is building on it. (1 Corinthians 3:10)**

•• **Control Of The Gifts Of The Spirit**

- **Apparently those having the **gifts** of the spirit were in a position to use them only when Yehowah's spirit came to be operative upon them to exercise the gift.**
- **For example, at Caesarea although Paul stayed in the home of Philip, who had four daughters, virgins, that prophesied, it was not one of these daughters but Agabus, a prophet who had come from Judea, who foretold Paul's arrest.**
- **The next day we set out and arrived in Caesarea, and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelizer, who was one of the seven men, and we stayed with him. (Acts of Apostles 21:8)**
- **This man had four daughters, virgins, that prophesied. (Acts of Apostles 21:9)**
- **But while we were remaining quite a number of days, a certain prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. (Acts of Apostles**

21:10)

- **And he came to us and took up the girdle of Paul, bound his own feet and hands and said; Thus says the Holy Spirit; The man to whom this girdle belongs the Jews will bind in this manner in Jerusalem and deliver into the hands of people of the nations. (Acts of Apostles 21:11)**
- **At a meeting of the congregation, a prophet could receive a revelation while another prophet was speaking, but those having the **gifts** of the spirit had control over these when God's spirit enveloped them, that is, they could refrain from speaking until opportunity was afforded.**
- **Therefore, prophesying, speaking in tongues, and translating could be done in an orderly way in the congregation, for the edification of all.**
- **What is to be done, then, brothers? When you come together, one has a psalm, another has a teaching, another has a revelation, another has a tongue, another has an interpretation. Let all things take place for upbuilding. (1 Corinthians 14:26)**
- **And if someone speaks in a tongue, let it be limited to two or three at the most, and in turns, and let someone translate. (1 Corinthians 14:27)**
- **But if there be no translator, let him keep silent in the congregation and speak to himself and to God. (1 Corinthians 14:28)**
- **Further, let two or three prophets speak, and let the others discern the meaning. (1 Corinthians 14:29)**
- **But if there is a revelation to another one while sitting there, let the first one keep silent. (1 Corinthians 14:30)**
- **For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all be encouraged. (1 Corinthians 14:31)**
- **And **gifts** of the spirit of the prophets are to be controlled by the prophets. (1 Corinthians 14:32)**
- **For God is a God, not of disorder, but of peace. As in all the**

congregations of the holy ones. (1 Corinthians 14:33)