The Ministries of The Holy Spirit

Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:4

DR. LESTER SUMRALL
STUDY GUIDE

LESTER SUMRALL TEACHING SERIES

The Ministries of The HOLY SPIRIT

by

DR. LESTER SUMRALL

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South Bend, IN 46614
PLEASE NOTE:
This study guide is designed to be a companion to the audio/video teaching entitled *Ministries of the Holy Spirit*, by Dr. Lester Sumrall.

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INTRODUCTION: WHAT ARE THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

INTRODUCTION:

Although spiritual gifts are discernible through the entire Bible, the Holy Spirit in 1 Corinthians 12, through the Apostle Paul, gives us names and explanations concerning the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the Church of Jesus Christ.

READING:

1 Corinthians 12:1, 4-11, *Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.*

v. 4, *Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.*

v. 5, *And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.*

v. 6, *And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.*

v. 7, *But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.*

v. 8, *For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;*

v. 9, *To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;*

v. 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:*

v. 11, *But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as He will.*
Introduction
Lesson 1

1. THE GIFTS ARE FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT

I was born and reared in the Full Gospel movement when the world impact of it was phenomenal. Not only did I see its impact cover the nation of America, but visited it in over one hundred nations of the world.

The gifts operating in you do not prove your spirituality. In many minds, a generation ago, the baptism of the Holy Spirit and gifts of the Spirit were something like the “frosting on the cake.” It proved to them that Pentecostal people were better than the Baptists, Methodists, or Catholics. They felt that the Holy Spirit baptism made them more holy than the Presbyterians, more sanctified than the Methodists, and--above all--made them God’s favorites.

This is where traditional Pentecostal people missed the true meaning of the baptism in the Holy Ghost and the gifts of the Spirit. They are the weapons of our warfare and not superfluities given to some and not to others.

2. THE GIFTS ARE ALL SUPERNATURAL

They signified a breakthrough of the omnipotence, omnipresence, and omniscience of the Third Person of the Trinity, and they are the same today.

3. THE GIFTS ARE FOR THE TOTAL CHURCH BODY

They flow in the Church as part of the Church. Gifts of the Spirit do not prove spirituality or dedication. People with the gifts are not necessarily better than others.

4. THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT ARE THE WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE

A. If an army went out to battle without training or weapons, it would lose. If soldiers went out to battle without understanding their equipment, they would still lose. Any defeat that the Church suffers is because it either does not have the weapons of its warfare, or it does not understand the equipment which it has to fight its battles.

B. These weapons include:

1) The blood of Jesus
2) The Word of God
3) The name of Jesus
C. Our battle is in the spiritual world.

Ephesians 6:12, For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Immediately, we realize that the more weapons we possess and the better we know how to utilize them, the more successful we become in battle.

D. These weapons have never left the Church.

5. THE CONFIRMATION OF HISTORY

A. If a person studies the great revivals of history and analyzes them, he will discover these tremendous weapons of our warfare were in action at the time of these great victories.

B. Personally, I have seen the entire nation of the Philippines moved toward God. It began and was perpetuated by the gifts of the Spirit, especially the gifts of healing, being in operation.

Therefore, the hope of great revival is the moving and the functioning of these gifts of the Holy Spirit, which beyond doubt are the weapons of our warfare.

6. BE NOT IGNORANT

A. I Corinthians 12:1, Now concerning the spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.

Notice the words are directed to brethren. The gifts of the Spirit are only for believers in Jesus Christ.

When Jesus was talking to His disciples, knowing that He would soon face crucifixion and would later ascend into heaven to be with the Father, He spoke solemn words to them. He promised that He would pray to the Father to give them another Comforter.

John 14:16-17, . . . another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; v. 17, Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.
B. The Holy Spirit commanded the Church not to be ignorant concerning spiritual gifts. Amazingly, when God says do not be ignorant, we proceed to be more ignorant about this subject than any other. To overcome this ignorance we must study all available information and in prayer seek to comprehend the total truth regarding the gifts of the Spirit.

C. The world is dying of ignorance.

1) The medical world is ignorant of how to cure cancer, heart attacks, and AIDS.
2) The Third World may be ignorant of the importance of cleanliness and sanitation.
3) Today, much of the Christian world is ignorant of truth and the need to use their spiritual gifts.
A DEFINITION OF
THE NINE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

INTRODUCTION:

You will notice that nine gifts of the Spirit are listed. This is 3 x 3. Three is the number of divine perfection. When it is multiplied by three, it becomes perfection times perfection. This is a tremendous display of completeness, finality, and unity.

READING:

1 Corinthians 12:8-11,  For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;
v. 9,  To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;
v. 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.
v. 11,  But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

1. THE GIFTS ARE SUPERNATURAL
   A. Each of these gifts is supernatural. Paul shows clearly in verse 11 that these gifts are miraculously bestowed. These gifts cannot be acquired by the human mind or emotions. These gifts cannot be attained either by labor or holiness. We must emphasize the word “gift” and believe that it is bestowed by the wisdom and power of the Holy Spirit.
A Definition of the Nine Gifts
Lesson 2

B. For example, King Solomon did not possess the gift of the word of wisdom. He requested of God an enlarged brain in order to govern a nation, and God gave it to him. He did not use it in a spiritual capacity as the gifts of the Spirit are used, but used it to build up his nation (see II Chronicles 1:10-12).

2. THREE CATEGORIES OF GIFTS

In defining the gifts, we first place them in their proper categories. They naturally and spiritually divide themselves into three primary categories:

A. Gifts of revelation: the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, and the discerning of spirits

B. Gifts of power: faith, the gifts of healing, and the working of miracles

C. Gifts of inspiration: prophecy, speaking in divers kinds of tongues, and the interpretation of tongues

3. A DEFINITION OF CATEGORIES

These groups are distinguished by what God does in each classification of gifts.

A. In the gifts of revelation, God reveals something from heaven to man--something man cannot know any other way.

Matthew 16:17, . . . flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but My Father which is in heaven.

B. In the gifts of power, God does something for man. He imparts His own divine energy and abilities.

C. In the gifts of inspiration, God uses someone to minister to others through edification, exhortation, and comfort (I Corinthians 14:3).

4. DEFINING THE GIFTS

A. The word of wisdom is the revealing of the prophetic future under the anointing of God.

B. The word of knowledge is the revealing of a fact in existence which cannot be seen, heard, or revealed naturally. It is in existence, it is a fact, it is knowledge, and it is supernaturally revealed by God.
A Definition of the Nine Gifts
Lesson 2

C. The discerning of spirits has to do with the comprehension of the human spirit as supernaturally revealed by the Holy Spirit.

D. The gift of faith is when, without any human effort, God brings to pass a supernatural thing. The Bible defines faith for us:

Hebrews 11:1, *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*

E. The gift of the working of miracles is when, through the human instrument of hands, eyes, mouth, or feet, a person supernaturally does something by the divine energy of the Holy Spirit. An Old Testament example would be the incident when Samson killed a lion bare-handed (Judges 14:6). A New Testament example would be when Peter lifted up the lame man (Acts 3).

F. The gifts of healing (the only plural gift) are when God supernaturally heals the sick under the assigned gift ministry.

G. The gift of tongues is the ministry of proclaiming in a public meeting a message from God which is not understood by the person giving it.

H. The gift of interpretation of tongues is when, without any mental facilities operating, the message that has been given in another language is interpreted supernaturally by the Spirit.

I. The gift of prophecy is the anointed speaking forth of words of edification, exhortation, or comfort to the Church--supernaturally given from God without human thinking.

These are brief definitions of the gifts of the Spirit.
INTRODUCTION:

We would expect the total gifts of the Spirit to be manifested in the earthly ministry of Jesus. It is remarkable that the total ministry of Jesus Christ is confined within the framework of the gifts of the Spirit.

While on this earth, Jesus permitted His ministry to function inside the gifts of the Spirit. If Jesus had performed His ministry as God, this would have eliminated us because we are not gods. Since Jesus, as the Son of Man, performed His ministry through the same instruments through which we perform our ministry, then the words He spoke, “greater works than these shall he do,” can be accomplished (John 14:12).

A. Matthew 1:18 says that Jesus was conceived and born of the Holy Spirit. Only in heaven will we come to know the amazing process by which Jesus was conceived of the Holy Spirit.

B. Colossians 2:9 says that in Jesus dwelt the fullness of the Godhead bodily. This fullness is without limitations or boundaries.

C. Matthew 3:16 and John 1:33 tell of the baptism of Jesus at which time the Holy Spirit came down in the form of a dove and rested upon Him.
The Gifts of the Spirit in the Ministry of Jesus Christ
Lesson 3

READING:

John 1:32-33,  And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a
dove, and it abode upon him.
v. 33,  And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me,
Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he
which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.

1. WORD OF WISDOM

Jesus predicted the future and told of things which would come to pass (Matthew 24:1-51).

2. WORD OF KNOWLEDGE

Jesus told Nathanael that He saw him under the fig tree previously. When they were
not near enough to see with the natural eye, Jesus had knowledge of his being there
(John 1:48).

The disciples admitted that Jesus knew all things and need not be taught of any man
(John 16:30).

3. DISCERNING OF SPIRITS

When Philip brought Nathanael to Jesus, He said of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in
whom is no guile! Here Jesus discerned his spirit (John 1:47).

Jesus knew the hearts of all men (John 6:64). This was the discerning of spirits.

4. GIFT OF FAITH

Jesus raised the dead and stilled the tempest (Matthew 8:27; John 11:43). He did all
this without any strength pouring from His natural being. This is the gift of faith.

5. THE WORKING OF MIRACLES

Jesus touched the blind eyes (John 9:6).

Jesus raised up Jairus’ daughter with a touch of His hand (Luke 8:54).

Jesus broke bread, and it multiplied with His hands (Luke 9:16).

These happenings were miracles.
6. GIFTS OF HEALING

Jesus opened His ministry by healing the leper. He continued it by healing Peter’s mother-in-law, and then the entire community brought their sick and were healed. During His ministry, Jesus was either healing someone, going to heal someone, or had just healed someone (Matthew 8:2, 15-16).

7. THE GIFT OF PROPHECY

Refreshing and inspiring words constantly flowed from Jesus until men exclaimed, *No one ever spoke the way this man does, . . .* (John 7:46 NIV).
INTRODUCTION:

Bringing our studies of the gifts of the Spirit up to date, we have seen how the ministry of Jesus was conducted in the framework of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. He did not minister on this earth as God, but as the Son of Man.

A. We will observe how the newborn Church in Jerusalem grew to worldwide proportions. It did not grow by natural means but by the gifts of the Spirit identified in the Acts of the Apostles and in the epistles (Acts 2:8-10).

B. We will also study the life of the Apostle Paul and learn how empires and nations bowed before him through the power of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:19,  Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Jesus.

READING:

Mark 16:17,  And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues.
1. THE LAST WORDS THAT JESUS SPOKE ON THIS EARTH

In His Great Commission to the Church, Jesus challenged His disciples to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

A. Jesus rebuked the Church for two things: unbelief and hardness of heart. These are still the two greatest evils within the Church.

Mark 16:14,  
Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.

B. The challenge is clear. We must preach the Gospel to the entire population of the world.

Mark 16:15,  
And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

C. The effects of accepting or rejecting truth are eternal. Either men will be saved or they will be damned.

Mark 16:16,  
He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

D. The instruments of warfare were promised.

Mark 16:17-18,  
And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;  
v. 18,  
They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

1) The church is to cast out devils. If there were no devils, Jesus would not have told His apostles to do this.
2) We are to speak with new tongues.
3) We will take up serpents--not as acts of pride or tempting God, but as it was in the ministry of Paul. A serpent bit him but he suffered no ill effect. The miracle won many people to Christ (Acts 28:1-9).
4) If we drink any deadly thing unknowingly, we will not be harmed. This miracle has taken place many times in my own life.
5) We are to lay hands on the sick and they will recover.
2. WE SEE SEVERAL GIFTS IN OPERATION IN THE GREAT COMMISSION

A. Casting out devils is the working of miracles.
B. Speaking with tongues is one of the gifts of inspiration.
C. Being healed of a serpent bite is the working of a miracle.
D. Drinking a deadly thing is a gift of the working of miracles.
E. The sick being healed is a gift of healing in operation.

3. THE GREAT COMMISSION HAS NEVER BEEN REPEALED

The gifts of the Spirit are still in force to bring victory to the Church.

4. THE LATTER RAIN--THE FULLNESS OF TIME

The gifts of the Holy Spirit will be in greater operation in these last days of grace than ever before in history.

Acts 2:17,  And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.
INTRODUCTION:

The amazing revelation regarding the gifts of the Spirit was brought to the universal Church through the Apostle Paul. It was he who named them and laid down laws regulating them. Because of this, we would expect to observe the manifestation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in his personal ministry. He was not just a teacher, but a possessor.

READING:

Acts 9:17, And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

1. THE WORD OF WISDOM

A. The Apostle Paul predicted the wreck of the ship on which he traveled.

Acts 27:23-24, For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve,

v. 24, Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.

B. The Apostle Paul gave us the Scriptures in Timothy and Thessalonians regarding end-time signs which are coming to pass (I Timothy 4:1-3; I Thessalonians 4:16-17).
The Apostle Paul Possessed The Gifts of the Holy Spirit
Lesson 5

2. THE GIFT OF THE WORD OF KNOWLEDGE

Paul received direction to minister in Corinth (Acts 18:8-11).

3. THE DISCERNING OF SPIRITS

A. Acts 16:16, *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.*

B. Acts 16:9, *And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.*

C. Acts 13:8, *But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.*

D. Paul discerned the spirit of John Mark (Acts 15:38).

E. Acts 19:13, *Then certain of the vagabound Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth.*

4. THE GIFTS OF HEALING

Paul witnessed mighty healings in his personal ministry.

A. Acts 14:8-10, *And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother’s womb, who never had walked:*
   v. 9, *The same heard Paul speak: who steadfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed,*
   v. 10, *Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.*

B. Acts 28:8, *And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him.*

5. THE GIFT OF FAITH

A viper attached itself to Paul’s hand and he should have fallen dead, but rather he shook it off into the fire (Acts 28:3-5). Paul did not call for a physician. He did not ask for prayer, but continued doing what he was doing. This takes faith.
6. **THE WORKING OF MIRACLES**
   
   A. Paul raised the dead (Acts 20:9-10).
   
   B. Acts 19:11-12, *And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: v. 12, So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.*

7. **THE GIFT OF PROPHECY--GIFTS OF INSPIRATION**
   
   I Corinthians 14:3, *But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.*
   
   A. Edification
   
   B. Exhortation
   
   C. Comfort

8. **THE GIFT OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES**
   
   I Corinthians 14:18, *I thank my God I speak with tongues more than ye all.*

9. **THE GIFT OF THE INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES**

10. **WHAT PAUL SAID OF HIMSELF CONCERNING GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT**
   
   A. II Corinthians 11:5, *For I suppose I was not a whit behind the very chiefest apostles.*
   
   B. Romans 12:6, *Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophecy according to the proportion of faith.*
   
   C. I Corinthians 7:7, *For I would that all men were even as I myself. But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that.*
   
   D. Romans 15:18-21, *For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ hath not wrought by me, to make the Gentiles obedient, by word and deed,*
The Apostle Paul Possessed the Gifts of the Holy Spirit
Lesson 5

v. 19, *Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.*

v. 20, *Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man’s foundation:*

v. 21, *But as it is written, To whom He was not spoken of, they shall see: and they that have not heard shall understand.*
INTRODUCTION:

The book of the Acts of the Apostles records the history of the infant Christian Church and its first thirty-three years, or one generation. Jesus first began with eleven disciples, then on the Day of Pentecost, the Church grew from one hundred twenty to over three thousand, and the greatest spiritual upheaval in history transpired!

There have been great revivals under spiritual leaders like Martin Luther, John Wesley, and John Knox. But by far the greatest spiritual revolution in history began on the day of Pentecost, when the power of fire and wind circumnavigated the known world.

Was a specific pattern followed?

What makes the book of Acts outstanding?

I believe the key to spiritual victory is found in the book of the Acts of the Apostles.

READING:

Acts 1:8, *But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you.*

Matthew 16:16-18, *And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.*

v. 17, *And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed are thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.*

v. 18, *And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*

   A. I have counted over fifty distinct occasions in the book of the Acts where one or more of the gifts of the Spirit were functioning in the infant Church.

   B. The general epistles have further records of the gifts.

2. **HOW OFTEN DID THE GIFTS OPERATE IN THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES?**

   A. The operation of the gifts of the Spirit is recorded in most of the twenty-eight chapters of the book. Unless a sermon is being preached or an exhortation is being given to the Church, gifts functioned in every chapter. Their functioning was a normal operation of spiritual growth and direction in the glorious Church.

   B. Only chapters 7, 15, 17, 24, 25 and 26 record no operation of the gifts.


   A. All nine gifts of the Holy Spirit as listed in I Corinthians 12:8-10 operated.

   1) The three gifts of revelation

      a) Word of wisdom
      b) Word of knowledge
      c) Discerning of spirits

   2) The three gifts of power

      a) Gift of faith
      b) Gift of working of miracles
      c) Gifts of healing

   3) The three gifts of inspiration

      a) Gift of prophecy
      b) Gift of speaking in various tongues
      c) Gift of interpretation of tongues
The Ministry of the Spirit in the Early Church
Lesson 6

4. DID THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT FUNCTION THROUGH DIVINITY, AND/OR ANGELIC PERSONS, OR WERE THEY CONFINED TO HUMAN OPERATION?

The gifts of the Holy Spirit as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles functioned through deity, angels, men, and women.

A. A gift of the Spirit functioned through Jesus Christ in Acts 1:3-4. The promise of the Holy Spirit was poured out in Jerusalem.

B. A gift functioned through angels.

Acts 1:10-11, And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; v. 11, Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven.

C. The gifts functioned through the person of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 10:44, While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word (Acts 16:6; 20:23).

D. A gift functioned through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Acts 23:11, And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of Me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.

5. WERE WOMEN MOVED BY THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT?

A. On the Day of Pentecost, many women, including the Virgin Mary and Mary Magdalene, received the infilling of the Holy Ghost (Acts 1:14).

B. In Acts 21:9, the four unmarried daughters of Philip possessed the gift of prophecy, which is a body ministry with three functions (I Corinthians 14:3).

1) Edification
2) Exhortation
3) Comfort
6. WAS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN APOSTLES, PASTORS, AND LAYMEN?

A. No. Out of the one hundred twenty on the day of Pentecost, only eleven were apostles.

Acts 2:4, And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

B. Stephen was a deacon.

Acts 6:5-8, And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:

v. 6, Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.

v. 7, And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

v. 8, And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

C. Philip was a deacon.

Acts 6:5, And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch.

Acts 8:5, Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.

D. Ananias might have been a layman.

Acts 9:10-17, 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.

v. 11, And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and inquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth,

v. 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.
v. 13, Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:
v. 14, And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.
v. 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:
v. 16, For I will show him how great things he must suffer for my name’s sake.
v. 17, And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

E. The general disciples in Acts 14:19-20 were standing over Paul as he was raised from the dead after being stoned.

7. HOW DID THE HOLY SPIRIT’S POWER MEET THE NEEDS OF HUMAN BEINGS IN THE EARLY CHURCH?

A. The Holy Spirit’s power changed Peter from a backslider to an aggressive witness and minister.

B. The power of the Holy Ghost changed Thomas from a doubter to a man of strong, living faith.

C. It changed James and John from power-hungry office-seekers to humble, anointed men.

D. This power caused Paul to speak so eloquently that the governor Festus declared him mad (Acts 26:24).

E. The power of the Holy Spirit drove the disciples to the ends of the earth to witness for Jesus (Acts 8:1).

F. Paul was given wisdom to answer the infidels of Cæsar’s diplomatic corps (Acts 24).

G. Paul was given wisdom to answer the pantheists of Athens (Acts 17:16-31).

H. The Spirit caused the Virgin Mary not to mourn and be destroyed by grief over the tragic death of her son Jesus.

25
8. THE STRONGEST FORCES FORGED BY THE EVIL OF THE DEVIL AND THE INGENIOUS MINDS OF PERVERTED MEN COULD NOT CONTROL OR DESTROY THE CHURCH

A. Armies could not destroy this amazing church (Acts 8:4).

B. Parliaments could not enforce laws to control it. Legislatures could not pass edicts to stop it (Acts 4:18-21).

9. IS THERE A RECORD IN THE BOOK OF ACTS AS TO ANY LIMITATIONS OF THE GIFTS?

A. Only the gift of speaking in tongues is limited in a given service (I Corinthians 14:27).

B. Christ wants His whole Church to receive the maximum amount of His love and gifts.


A. Yes. Acts 2:39 says that the Holy Spirit and His gifts are, . . . unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

B. Cornelius and his family (Acts 10)

C. The Church at Ephesus (Acts 19)
INTRODUCTION: THE FIRST GENERATION OF THE CHURCH

I have counted over 50 distinct occasions when one or more of the gifts of the Spirit were functioning in the early Church as recorded in the Book of the Acts of the Apostles. Their functioning was a normal operation of the spiritual growth and direction in the glorious Church.

READING:

I Corinthians 12:7-11, But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.
  v. 8, For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;
  v. 9, To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;
  v. 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:
  v. 11, But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.
The Functioning of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit
Lesson 7

1. THE WORD OF WISDOM MANIFESTED THROUGH JESUS--33 A.D.

Acts 1:4-5, And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of Me.
v. 5, For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

2. GIFT OF THE WORD OF WISDOM MANIFESTED THROUGH JESUS

Acts 1:8, But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

3. WORD OF WISDOM MANIFESTED THROUGH ANGELS--33 A.D.

Acts 1:11, Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

4. GIFT OF TONGUES--THE 120 IN THE UPPER ROOM--33 A.D.

Acts 2:4, And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5. WORD OF WISDOM MANIFESTED THROUGH PETER--33 A.D.

Acts 2:39, For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

6. GIFTS OF HEALING--ALL THE APOSTLES--33 A.D.

Acts 2:43, And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

7. WORKING OF MIRACLES--ALL THE APOSTLES--33 A.D.

Acts 2:43, And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.
8. GIFTS OF HEALING--PETER--33 A.D.

Acts 3:6, Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

9. GIFT OF FAITH IN THE CHURCH--33 A.D.

Acts 4:31, And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together: and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

10. DISCERNING OF SPIRITS--PETER--33 A.D.

Acts 5:3, 9, But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?

v. 9, Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out.

11. WORKING OF MIRACLES--ALL THE APOSTLES--33 A.D.

Acts 5:12, And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; and they were all with one accord in Solomon’s porch.

12. GIFTS OF HEALING--PETER--33 A.D.

Acts 5:15, Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them.

13. GIFTS OF HEALING--ALL THE APOSTLES--33 A.D.

Acts 5:16, There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.

14. WORKING OF MIRACLES--AN ANGEL--33 A.D.

Acts 5:19, But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth. . .
15. WORKING OF MIRACLES--STEPHEN--35 A.D.

Acts 6:8, And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

16. GIFTS OF HEALING--PHILIP--36 A.D.

Acts 8:4-8, Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.

v. 5, Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.

v. 6, And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

v. 7, For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsy, and that were lame, were healed.

v. 8, And there was great joy in that city.

17. WORKING OF MIRACLES--PHILIP--36 A.D.

Acts 8:13, Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.

18. WORKING OF MIRACLES--PHILIP--36 A.D.

Acts 8:39, And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

19. WORKING OF MIRACLES--JESUS--37 A.D.

Acts 9:5, 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.

20. WORD OF WISDOM--JESUS--37 A.D.

Acts 9:6, 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.

21. WORKING OF MIRACLES--JESUS--37 A.D.

Acts 9:8, 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.
The Functioning of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit
Lesson 7

22. GIFTS OF HEALING--ANANIAS--37 A.D.

Acts 9:17, And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

23. GIFTS OF HEALING--PETER--37 A.D.

Acts 9:34, And Peter said unto him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately.

24. GIFTS OF HEALING--PETER--37 A.D.

Acts 9:40, But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

25. WORD OF KNOWLEDGE--AN ANGEL--41 A.D.

Acts 10:1-8, There was a certain man in Cæsarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band.

v. 2, A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway.

v. 3, He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.

v. 4, And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.

v. 5, And now send men to Joppa, and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter:

v. 6, He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.

v. 7, And when the angel which spake unto Cornelius was departed, he called two of his household servants, and a devout soldier of them that waited on him continually;

v. 8, And when he had declared all these things unto them, he sent them to Joppa.

26. WORD OF KNOWLEDGE--PETER--41 A.D.

Acts 10:19, While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee.
27. DIVERS KINDS OF TONGUES--CORNELIUS’ HOUSEHOLD--41 A.D.

Acts 10:44-46, While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

v. 45, And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

v. 46, For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God.

28. WORD OF KNOWLEDGE--PETER--41 A.D.

Acts 11:12, And the Spirit bade me go with them, nothing doubting. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered into the man’s house.

29. GIFT OF FAITH--AN ANGEL

Acts 12:6-7, And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison.

v. 7, And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands.

30. GIFT OF PROPHECY--BARNABAS, SIMEON, & MANAEN--45 A.D.

Acts 13:1-3, Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

v. 2, As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

v. 3, And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

31. WORKING OF MIRACLES--PAUL--45 A.D.

Acts 13:11, And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.
The Functioning of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit
Lesson 7

32. WORKING OF MIRACLES--THE DISCIPLES--46 A.D.

Acts 14:3, Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

33. GIFTS OF HEALING--PAUL--46 A.D.

Acts 14:8-10, And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother’s womb, who never had walked:
v. 9, The same heard Paul speak: who steadfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed,
v. 10, Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.

34. WORKING OF MIRACLES--PAUL--46 A.D.

Acts 14:19-20, And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead.
v. 20, Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.

35. DISCERNING OF SPIRITS--PAUL AND SILAS--53 A.D.

Acts 16:6, Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia.

36. WORD OF WISDOM--PAUL--53 A.D.

Acts 16:9, And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

37. WORKING OF MIRACLES--PAUL--53 A.D.

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:
v. 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.
v. 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.
The Functioning of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit
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38. WORKING OF MIRACLES--PAUL--53 A.D.

Acts 16:26, And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one’s bands were loosed.

39. WORD OF KNOWLEDGE--PAUL--54 A.D.

Acts 18:9-11, Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace:
v. 10, For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city.
v. 11, And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

40. VARIOUS TONGUES--DISCIPLES AT EPHESUS--55 A.D.

Acts 19:6, And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

41. WORKING ON MIRACLES--PAUL--55 A.D.

Acts 19:11, And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul.

42. WORKING OF MIRACLES--PAUL--58 A.D.

Acts 20:9-10, And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead.
v. 10, And Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing him said, Trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him.

43. WORD OF WISDOM--HOLY SPIRIT--58 A.D.

Acts 20:22-24, And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there:
v. 23, Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me.
v. 24, But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.
44. WORD OF WISDOM--THE CHURCH--60 A.D.

Acts 21:4-6, *And finding disciples, we tarried there seven days: who said to Paul through the Spirit, that he should not go up to Jerusalem.*

v. 5, *And when we had accomplished those days, we departed and went our way; and they all brought us on our way, with wives and children, till we were out of the city: and we kneeled down on the shore, and prayed.*

v. 6, *And when we had taken our leave one of another, we took ship; and they returned home again.*

45. PROPHECY--FOUR DAUGHTERS OF PHILIP--58 A.D.

Acts 21:9, *And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy.*

46. WORD OF WISDOM--AGABUS--60 A.D.

Acts 21:10-11, *And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judæa a certain prophet, named Agabus.*

v. 11, *And when he was come unto us, he took Paul’s girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.*

47. WORD OF WISDOM--PAUL--60 A.D.

Acts 22:17-18, *And it came to pass, that, when I was come again to Jerusalem, even while I prayed in the temple, I was in a trance; and saw him saying unto me, Make haste, and get thee quickly out of Jerusalem: for they will not receive thy testimony concerning me.*

48. WORD OF WISDOM--PAUL--60 A.D.

Acts 23:11, *And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of Me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.*
49. WORD OF WISDOM--PAUL--62 A.D.

Acts 27:23-26, *For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve,*
v. 24, *Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Cæsar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.*
v. 25, *Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.*
v. 26, *Howbeit we must be cast upon a certain island.*

50. WORKING OF MIRACLES--PAUL--63 A.D.

Acts 28:3-5, *And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid them on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand.*
v. 4, *And when the barbarians saw the venomous beast hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live.*
v. 5, *And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm.*

51. GIFTS OF HEALING--PAUL--63 A.D.

Acts 28:8-9, *And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him.*
v. 9, *So when this was done, others also, which had diseases in the island, came, and were healed.*

52. ALL NINE--THE TOTAL CHURCH

The book of Acts continues. The gifts of the Spirit did not stop at Acts 28. They are still functioning in the Church today.
INTRODUCTION:

As there are nine gifts of the Holy Spirit and nine fruits of the Spirit, so there are nine ministries to the Church of Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit. They are found in I Corinthians 12:28 and Ephesians 4:11.

2. Prophets  5. Teachers  8. Helps

READING:

Ephesians 4:11, *And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers.*

I Corinthians 12:28, *And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.*
1. THESE ARE MEN AND WOMEN GIVEN TO THE CHURCH TO MINISTER

A. The apostle is the key to all the ministries, he has the ability to perform all the ministries. This is the reason he is listed first. Any person who has an apostolic ministry can raise up a church as the founder. He can remain and pastor that church as a shepherd. He can evangelize the lost. He has the ability to teach the people. He is a combination of all the church ministries.

The apostle knows how to set deacons, elders, helps, and governments in the Church body so that the Church functions properly.

B. There are also combinations of ministries.

1) Stephen was chosen to be a deacon and he became a mighty teacher of the Word.


v. 8, *And Stephen full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.*

v. 9, *Then there arose certain of the synagogue, which is called the synagogue of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of them of Cilicia and of Asia, disputing with Stephen.*

v. 10, *And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.*

2) Philip was chosen to be a deacon, and he became a great evangelist who moved an entire city.


v. 6, *Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.*
Acts 8:5-8, \textit{Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.}\n\vspace{0.5em} v. 6, \textit{And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.}\n\vspace{0.5em} v. 7, \textit{For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed.}\n\vspace{0.5em} v. 8, \textit{And there was great joy in that city.}\n
3) There are men who are teachers and yet pastors. Some are evangelists and pastors. They can do both equally well.

2. APOSTLES

A. There are several translations of the Greek word referring to apostles. \textit{Apostolos} means a delegate, one sent with full power of attorney to act for another. It is found 81 times in the New Testament.

1) It is translated “messenger” two times.

\textit{II Corinthians 8:23}, \textit{Whether any do inquire of Titus, he is my partner and fellowhelper concerning you: or our brethren be inquired of, they are the messengers of the churches, and the glory of Christ.}\n
\textit{Philippians 2:25}, \textit{Yet I supposed it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants.}\n
2) It is translated “apostles” seventy-eight times.

3) It is translated “he that is sent” one time.

\textit{John 13:16}, \textit{Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.}\n
B. There are twenty-four apostles in the New Testament.

1) Jesus Christ

\textit{Hebrews 3:1}, \textit{Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus.}
2) Paul

Galatians 1:1, *Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the father, who raised him from the dead;)*

3) Simon Peter

Galatians 2:8, *(For He that wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision, the same was mighty in me toward the Gentiles:)*

4) Andrew

Matthew 10:2, *Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother...*

5) James, son of Zebedee

Matthew 10:2, *Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; . . .James his brother. . . *

6) John

Matthew 10:2, *Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: . . .John his brother. . . *

7) Philip

Matthew 10:2-3, *Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; . . .v. 3, Philip. . . *

8) Bartholomew

Matthew 10:2-3, *Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; . . .v. 3, . . .Bartholomew. . . *

9) James, son of Alphaeus

Matthew 10:2-3, *Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; . . .v. 3, . . .James, son of Alphaeus. . . *

10) Judas, brother of James

11) Matthew

Luke 6:13, 15, *And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;*

v. 15, *Matthew. . .

12) Thomas

Matthew 10:2-3, *Now the names of the twelve apostles are these;*


13) Simon Zelotes

Luke 6:13, 15, *And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles. . .

v. 15, . . . *Simon called Zelotes. . .

14) Judas Iscariot

Matthew 10:2, 4, *Now the names of the twelve apostles are these;*

v. 4, . . . *Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

15) Matthias

Acts 1:26, *And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

16) Barnabas

I Corinthians 9:5-6, *Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, as well as other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas?*

17) Andronicus

Romans 16:7, *Salute Andronicus, and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellowprisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.

18) Junia

Romans 16:7, *Salute . . .Junia. . .who are of note among the apostles. . .
19) Apollos

I Corinthians 4:6-9, *And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and to Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think of men above that which is written, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another.*

v. 7, *For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?*

v. 8, *Now ye are full, now ye are rich, ye have reigned as kings without us: and I would to God ye did reign, that we also might reign with you.*

v. 9, *For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men.*

20) James the Lord’s brother

Galatians 1:19, *But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord’s brother.*

James 1:1, *James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.*

21) Silas

I Thessalonians 1:1, *Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians.*

I Thessalonians 2:6, *Nor of men sought we glory, neither of you, nor yet of others, when we might have been burdensome, as the apostles of Christ.*

22) Timothy

I Thessalonians 1:1, *Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus...*

23) Titus

II Corinthians 8:23, *Whether any do inquire of Titus, he is my partner and fellow helper concerning you: or our brethren be inquired of, they are the messengers of the churches, and the glory of Christ.*

24) Epaphroditus

Philippians 2:25, *Yet I supposed it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants.*

42
C. Apostles today

None of the ministries of the Church have been withdrawn. These delegates or “sent ones” are ministering to the Church body. This position cannot be voted upon by men. It is a calling from God.

Romans 1:1, 5, *Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God,*

v. 5, *By whom we have received grace and apostleship.*
INTRODUCTION:

We saw from our last lesson that nine God-given ministries are to function in the Church. They are ministries, not titles. They are: apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers, elders, deacons, helps, and governments.

READING:

Ephesians 4:11, And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers.

1 Corinthians 12:28, And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

1. THE OFFICE OF APOSTLESHIP IS THE HIGHEST MINISTRY IN THE CHURCH

The office of apostleship was designated to at least twenty-four persons in the New Testament and to thousands of persons during the present Church age.
2. **THE SECOND DIGNITARY OF THE CHURCH MINISTRY IS THE OFFICE OF THE PROPHET**

   A. There is a great difference between a prophet and the simple gift of inspiration or prophecy.

   **I Corinthians 14:3,** *But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.*

   B. In the Old Testament, the position of a prophet was that of a divine guide to lead the people of Israel. The prophet was also called a seer.

   **I Samuel 9:9,** *(Beforetime in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, thus he spake, Come, and let us go to the seer: for he that is now called a Prophet was beforetime called a Seer.)*

   The Hebrew words are *a-ra-ah,* meaning “a seeing, perceiving person,” or *chozeh,* meaning “a beholder of visions.”

3. **THE BIBLE LISTS 78 PROPHETS AND PROPHETESSES**

   Some of these include:

   A. Adam was probably the first prophet.

   **Genesis 2:19,** *And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.

   B. Enoch

   **Genesis 5:21,** *And Enoch lived sixty and five years, and begat Methuselah.*

   Methuselah means “at his death judgment would come.” Methuselah lived 964 years and the flood came.

   **Jude 14-15,** *And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the LORD cometh with ten thousands of his saints, v. 15, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.*
C. Noah

Genesis 6:8-9, *But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.*

v. 9, *These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.*

I Peter 3:20-21, *Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a-preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.*

v. 21, *The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

He prophesied of a flood of waters.

D. Eber

Genesis 10:25, *And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of one was Peleg; for in his days was the earth divided; and his brother’s name was Joktan.*

The naming of Peleg was a prophecy of the dividing of the lands. At his birth Eber predicted the breakup of the earth.

E. Abraham

Genesis 24:6-7, *And Abraham said unto him, Beware thou that thou bring not my son thither again.*

v. 7, *The LORD God of heaven, which took me from my father’s house, and from the land of my kindred, and which spake unto me, and that sware unto me, saying, Unto thy seed will I give this land; he shall send his angel before thee, and thou shalt take a wife unto my son from thence.*

F. Jacob

Genesis 49:1, *And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days.*

G. Joseph

Genesis 41:15-16, 25, *And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it: and I have heard say of thee, that thou canst understand a dream to interpret it.*

v. 16, *And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace.*

v. 25, *The dream of Pharaoh is one: God hath shewed Pharaoh what he is about to do.*
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H. Moses wrote 475 verses of prophecy.

Exodus 11:4-8,  And Moses said, Thus saith the Lord, About midnight will I go out into the midst of Egypt:
v. 5,  And all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sitteth upon his throne, even unto the firstborn of the maidservant that is behind the mill; and all the firstborn of beasts.
v. 6,  And there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there was none like it, nor shall be like it any more.
v. 7,  But against any of the children of Israel shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast: that ye may know how that the LORD doth put a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.
v. 8,  And all these thy servants shall come down unto me, and bow down themselves unto me, saying, Get thee out, and all the people that follow thee: and after that I will go out. And he went out from Pharaoh in a great anger (Fulfilled in Exodus 12:29-51).

I. Elijah

I Kings 18:41,  And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain (Fulfilled in I Kings 18:45).

J. Isaiah

Isaiah 7:14-16,  Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.
v. 15,  Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.
v. 16,  For before the child shall know to refuse the evil, and choose the good, the land that thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her kings (Fulfilled in Matthew 1:18).

K. David wrote 385 verses of prophecy.

Psalm 22:18,  They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture (Fulfilled in Matthew 27:35).

L. Jeremiah wrote 985 verses of prophecy.

Jeremiah 8:11,  For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace (Fulfilled in I Thessalonians 5:3).
4. THERE WERE ALSO GROUPS OF PROPHETS

A. The 70 elders of Israel

Numbers 11:25, *And the LORD came down in a cloud, and spake unto him, and took of the spirit that was upon him, and gave it unto the seventy elders: and it came to pass, that, when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, and did not cease."

B. The schools of the prophets

I Samuel 10:5-10, *After that thou shalt come to the hill of God, where is the garrison of the Philistines: and it shall come to pass, when thou art come thither to the city, that thou shalt meet a company of prophets coming down from the high place with a psaltery, and a tabret, and a pipe, and a harp, before them; and they shall prophesy: v. 6, *And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man. v. 7, *And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee, that thou do as occasion serve thee; for God is with thee. v. 8, *And thou shalt go down before me to Gilgal; and, behold, I will come down unto thee, to offer burnt offerings, and to sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings: seven days shalt thou tarry, till I come to thee, and shew thee what thou shalt do. v. 9, *And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day. v. 10, *And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them."

C. The sons of the prophets

II Kings 2:3, *And the sons of the prophets that were at Beth-el came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head today? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace."

5. THERE WERE SIXTEEN OLD TESTAMENT WRITING PROPHETS

These are found in the Bible from Isaiah to Malachi.
6. THERE WERE FOUR NEW TESTAMENT WRITING PROPHETS

A. Peter

II Peter 3:3-7, Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,
v. 4, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.
v. 5, For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:
v. 6, Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:
v. 7, But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto the fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

B. Paul

Acts 17:31, Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

C. James

James 5:1-8, Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you.
v. 2, Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten.
v. 3, Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days.
v. 4, Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth.
v. 5, Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter.
v. 6, Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you.
v. 7, Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.
v. 8, Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.
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D. John

I John 2:17-18, *And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.*

v. 18, *Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.*

Revelation 1:1, *The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John.*

7. THE NEW TESTAMENT ALSO INCLUDES SEVERAL NON-WRITING PROPHETS

A. John the Baptist was the first New Testament prophet.

Matthew 3:11-12, *I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire.*

v. 12, *Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.*

John 1:29-34, *The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.*

v. 30, *This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me: For he was before me.*

v. 31, *And I knew him not: but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water.*

v. 32, *And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him.*

v. 33, *And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.*

v. 34, *And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.*

B. Zacharias

Luke 1:67-79, *And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying,*

v. 68, *Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people,*
v. 69, And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David;

v. 70, As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began:

v. 71, That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us;

v. 72, To perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant;

v. 73, The oath which he sware to our father Abraham,

v. 74, That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear;

v. 75, In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.

v. 76, And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;

v. 77, To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the re-mission of their sins.

v. 78, Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,

v. 79, To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

C. Simeon

Luke 2:25-35, And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.

v. 26, And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ.

v. 27, And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law.

v. 28, Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

v. 29, Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:

v. 30, For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

v. 31, Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

v. 32, A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

v. 33, And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him.

v. 34, And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary, his mother, Behold this Child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel: and for a sign which shall be spoken against:

v. 35, (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.
D. Agabus

Acts 11:28, *And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar.*

Acts 21:10-11, *And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judea a certain prophet, named Agabus.*

v. 11, *And when he was come unto us, he took Paul’s girdle, and bound His own hands and feet, and said, thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.*

E. Ananias

Acts 9:15-16, *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:*

v. 16, *For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name’s sake.*

F. Barnabas, Simeon, Lucius, and Manaen

Acts 13:1-2, *Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.*

v. 2, *As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.*

8. PROPHETS SPOKE TO DIFFERENT GROUPS

A. Individuals--Peter to Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:3, 9)

B. To a nation--Old Testament prophets to Israel (Hosea 9:1)

C. To the world--Jeremiah 1:5, *Before I formed thee in the belly, I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.*

9. FEMALE PROPHETS OF THE BIBLE

There have been a number of prophetesses in the Scripture. God has used women in the most conventional and unconventional ways.
The Nine Ministries of the Holy Spirit — Part II
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A. Miriam

Exodus 15:20, *And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances.*

B. Deborah

Judges 4:4, *And Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, she judged Israel at that time.*

C. Huldah

II Kings 22:14, *So Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asahiah, went unto Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe; (now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the college;) and they communed with her.*

D. Noadiah

Nehemiah 6:14, *My God, think thou upon Tobiah and Sanballat according to these their works, and on the prophetess Noadiah, and the rest of the prophets, that would have put me in fear.*

E. Isaiah’s wife

Isaiah 8:3, *And I went unto the prophetess; and she conceived, and bare a son. Then said the LORD to me, Call his name Ma-her-shal-al-hash-baz.*

F. Anna

Luke 2:36, *And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity.*

G. Philip’s daughters

Acts 21:8-9, *And the next day we that were of Paul’s company departed, and came unto Cesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him. v. 9, And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy.*
10. MINISTRY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT PROPHET

A. John the Baptist heralded the presence of the Messiah.

B. Jesus prophesied of the coming of the Holy Spirit.

C. Matthew prophesied of end-time conditions.

D. Mark prophesied of the signs that shall follow them that believe.

E. John prophesied that this same Jesus would return in the book of Revelation.

F. Ananias

Acts 9:15, *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.*

G. Agabus

Acts 11:28, *And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Cæsar.*

H. Barnabas and Simeon

Acts 13:1, *Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.*
Lesson 10

THE NINE MINISTRIES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TO THE CHURCH
PART III

INTRODUCTION:

How do leadership ministry gifts benefit the Church? These ministries of the Holy Spirit were given to the Church as resurrection gifts from Jesus for divine direction to the Church.

READING:

Ephesians 4:7-8, 11,  But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. . .
v. 8, Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.
v. 11, And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers.

1. THE NINE-FOLD PURPOSE OF THE MINISTRY

Ephesians 4:12-16,  For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
v. 13,  Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:
v. 14,  That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
v. 15, *But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:*

v. 16, *From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.*

1) Perfecting of the saints
2) Work of the ministry
3) Edifying of the body of Christ
4) Till we all come in the unity of the faith
5) To the knowledge of the Son of God
6) Unto a perfect man
7) Unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ
8) No longer children
9) No longer confused by deceptive doctrine

2. EVANGELISTS

A. Acts 21:8, *And the next day we that were of Paul’s company departed, and came unto Cæsarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven, and abode with him.*

B. II Timothy 4:5, *But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.*

3. PASTORS

A. The Greek word *poimen* is used only once and translated as “pastor” (Ephesians 4:11).

B. The word “shepherd” is used sixteen times in the New Testament.

Matthew 9:36, *But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.*

C. The Hebrew word *raah* means to tend the flock and is translated “pastor” eight times.

Jeremiah 2:8, *The priests said not, Where is the LORD? and they that handle the law knew me not: the pastors also transgressed against me, and the prophets prophesied by Baal, and walked after things that do not profit.*
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Jeremiah 3:15, And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

D. “Shepherd” is used sixty-three times in the Old Testament.

4. TEACHERS

Acts 13:1-2, Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

v. 2, As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

5. ELDERS

A. I Timothy 3:1, This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.

B. I Timothy 5:17-19, Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

v. 18, For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.

v. 19, Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.

C. Acts 20:17, And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church.

D. James 5:14, Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

E. Acts 14:23, And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

F. Titus 1:5-9, For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:

v. 6, If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.

v. 7, For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;
v. 8, *But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;*

v. 9, *Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.*

G. I Peter 5:1-4, *The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:*

v. 2, *Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;*

v. 3, *Neither as being lords over God’s heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.*

v. 4, *And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.*

6. **DEACONS**

A. The first deacons in the Church were in Acts 6:3, *Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.*

B. I Timothy 3:8-13, *Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;*

v. 9, *Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.*

v. 10, *And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.*

v. 11, *Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.*

v. 12, *Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.*

v. 13, *For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.*

7. **HELPS**

A. I Corinthians 12:28, *And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.*

B. The New Testament is full of helps. The word “helps” in Acts 27:17 speaks of a rope-like cable that wrapped around ships to hold them together during a storm.
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C. Phebe who carried the book of Romans to Rome was a help.

Romans 16:1, *I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea.*

D. Lydia who received Paul and gave him supper was a help.

Acts 16:14-15, *And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.*

v. 15, *And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us.*

E. Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, Joses, and Salome

Mark 15:40-41, *There were also women looking on afar off: among whom was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the less and of Joses, and Salome;*  
v. 41, *(Who also, when he was in Galilee, followed him, and ministered unto him;) and many other women which came up with him unto Jerusalem.*

F. Jesus said if you give a drink of water to a prophet, you receive a prophet’s reward. That is a help.

Matthew 10:40-42, *He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.*

v. 41, *He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet’s reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man’s reward.*

v. 42, *And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.*

G. Visitation of the sick is a help.

H. Office work is a help.

I. Television work is a help.

J. Giving of funds to support the work of God is a help.
K. Aaron and Hur who held up the arms of Moses were helps.

Exodus 17:12, *But Moses’ hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.*

8. GOVERNMENTS

A. I Corinthians 12:28, *And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.*

B. The Greek word *kubemesis* means “to steer” or “to guide.”

C. The word has no reference to power and rule. Those who possess knowledge to steer the Church and guide the Church around its problems are governments. This means that mature men and women under God’s anointing are able to bless the Church through spiritual government. These people could be deacons and elders yet they are serving here in a different role. They are functioning in the position of governments.
INTRODUCTION:

Current history is best understood through the perspective of the related past. The gifts of the Spirit, including speaking in tongues, have appeared and reappeared in the Church from its conception. They have been manifested in every branch of Christendom today.

1. THE BIRTH OF CHARISMA

Acts 2:1-4, And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
   v. 2, And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
   v. 3, And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.
   v. 4, And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:37-39, Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?
   v. 38, Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.
   v. 39, For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.
2. PETER IN JOPPA

Acts 10:45-47, *And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.*

v. 46, *For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,*

v. 47, *Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?*

3. TWENTY YEARS AFTER THE BIRTH OF THE CHURCH

Acts 19:6-7, *And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.*

v. 7, *And all the men were about twelve.*

4. IN HISTORY

A. Dr. Philip Schaff, the well-known church historian, in his *History of the Apostolic Church*, Book 1, sec. 55 writes: “The speaking with tongues, however, was not confined to the Day of Pentecost. Together with the other extraordinary spiritual gifts which distinguished this age above the succeeding periods of more quiet and natural development, this gift also, though to be sure in a modified form, perpetuated itself in the apostolic church. We find traces of it still in the second and third centuries.”

B. Irenaeus (115 to 202 A.D.) was a pupil of Polycarp, who was a disciple of the Apostle John. He wrote in his book, *Against Heresies*, Book V: “In like manner do we also hear many brethren in the church who possess prophetic gifts and who through the Spirit speak all kinds of languages, and bring to mysteries of God, whom also the apostles term spiritual.”

C. The Latin church father, Tertullian (160-220 A.D.), writing against Marcion, said: “Let Marcion then exhibit, as gifts of his god, some prophets, such as have predicted things to come, and have made manifest the secrets of the heart; let him produce a psalm, a vision, a prayer--only let it be by the Spirit, in an ecstasy, that is, in a rapture, whenever an interpretation of tongues has occurred to him. . .Now all these signs (or spiritual gifts) are forthcoming from my side without any difficulty, and they agree, too, with the rules, and the dispensations, and the instructions of the Creator. . .” *Smith’s of the Dictionary Bible* Vol. 4, page 3310.
D. St. Pachomius (292-346), the Egyptian founder of the first Christian monastery, is said to have enjoyed the use of the Greek and Latin languages which he sometimes miraculously spoke, having never learned them. This gift was given to him at times after special prayer for the power to meet an immediate need. *Giver of the Saints*, A. Butler, published 1756.

E. The history of the Waldneses in the 12th century reveals not only a devotion to Bible reading and a desire to follow the primitive purity of the New Testament Church, but also that both healing and speaking in unknown languages were experienced from time to time in their midst. Alexandria Mockie, *Gift of Tongues*, page 27.

F. John Calvin (1509-1564), wrote in his commentary of *The Epistles of Paul the Apostle to the Corinthians*: “There are at present great theologians, who declaim against them with furious zeal. As it is certain, that the Holy Spirit has here honored the use of tongues with never-dying praise, we may very readily gather, what is the kind of spirit that actuates those reformers, who level as many reproaches as they can against the pursuit of them.”

This particular comment is in reference to a verse in I Corinthians, chapter 14: *I would that ye all spake with tongues...*

G. Martin Luther is mentioned in Souer’s *History of the Christian Church*, vol. 3, page 206: “Dr. Martin Luther was a prophet, evangelist, speaker in tongues and interpreter, in one person, endowed with all the gifts of the Holy Spirit.”

H. Dwight L. Moody. Here are a few quotations from page 402, *Trials and Triumphs of Faith*, (1875 edition), by the Rev. R. Boyd, D.D. (Baptist), who was a very intimate friend of the famous evangelist: “When I got to the rooms of the Young Men’s Christian Association (Victoria Hall, London), I found the meeting on fire. The young men were speaking with tongues and prophesying. What on earth did it mean? Only that Moody has been addressing them that afternoon! What manner of man is this? I cannot describe Moody’s great meeting: I can only say that the people of Sunderland warmly supported the movement, in spite of their local spiritual advisors.”

I. John Wesley said in his journal that people fell under a strange power and he could not bring them around. They laid them on wagons and took them home and some of them were cackling like geese.
J. At the dawn of the 20th century, the Holy Spirit was poured out in abundance. It centered in the metropolis of Los Angeles and soon spread around the entire earth.

CONCLUSION:

I have been in 110 nations of the world, on all continents, and ministered in all denominations. The gift of charisma is universal.
INTRODUCTION:

Possibly the most amazing spiritual revolution since the Reformation is taking place in the world at this moment.

A new power has manifested itself among Christians worldwide. Unencumbered by religious authority, these millions of people from many backgrounds are marching toward New Testament truth, experience, joy, and power.

The Full Gospel believers are the most misunderstood segment of the modern Christian Church. They have become a powerful spiritual force throughout the world. They are known as members of “the charismatic renewal.” Multitudes of Catholics, Episcopalians, Lutherans, Methodists, Baptists, and other traditional churches have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit as on the Day of Pentecost. They have given evidence of their baptism through speaking with other tongues.

It is amazing that as Catholics began to move into spiritual realities they bypassed the fundamental and orthodox denominations and joined the ranks of Pentecostal churches.

Multitudes in the charismatic renewal meet in college classrooms, private homes, or halls to worship and exercise the gifts of the Spirit. Large new churches have sprung up all over—churches that are outdistancing mainline denominations in membership, educational facilities, and ongoing growth.

READING:

Acts 2:17, And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.
1. THE EXPERIENCE PROPHETICALLY

By and large, the appearance of these Spirit-filled groups of believers is looked upon as a fulfillment of Acts 2:17.

The charismatic community of today appears to agree substantially with these premises:

A. At salvation, the living Christ comes to dwell in the spirit of man by His Holy Spirit.

B. At the infilling or baptism of the Holy Spirit, the indwelling Spirit of Christ rules in the minds and the bodies of individuals. A key part of this experience is the releasing of the means of expression. The very heart and center of our lives, means of expression, thoughts, and words release the power of the indwelling Jesus Christ. This becomes a cornerstone of our faith.

2. THE DANGERS TO SPIRIT-FILLED BELIEVERS

A. Overly exalting an experience or a person

B. Neglecting the house of God for worship and fellowship

C. Refusing to take advice and instruction from God’s appointed leaders

3. THE FRUIT OF CHARISMA

The benefits and blessings of the gifts of the Holy Spirit include:

A. A love for the Word of God not experienced before

B. A stewardship unknown before

C. An ability to face up to sins and to confess them

D. A tremendous growth in compassion for others

E. A new ministry and service to people in the field of counseling

F. A praising and singing congregation

G. Many outstanding experiences in healing, miracles, the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, and the discerning of spirits
The power of God is invincible, and the gifts of the Spirit have been given to the Church as the weapons of our warfare. Through this study of the gifts of the Spirit, you will recognize the true greatness of these spiritual gifts and allow them to become a vital part of your life.

Lesson Titles Include
- A Definition of the Nine Gifts of the Holy Spirit
- The Great Commission and the Gifts of the Spirit
- The Ministry of the Spirit in the Early Church
- Charisma Through the Centuries
- The Gifts of the Spirit in the Ministry of Jesus Christ
- The Apostle Paul Possess the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The voice of Dr. Lester Sumrall remains prominent in the Christian world today. More than 65 years of ministry in over 100 nations made Dr. Sumrall a respected source of wisdom and understanding. He was an author, teacher, missionary, evangelist, and the pastor and founder of Christian Center Cathedral of Praise in South Bend, Indiana. Throughout his lifetime, Dr. Sumrall worked tirelessly to fulfill The Great Commission by carrying the gospel to the ends of the earth. In 1957 he founded LeSEA, a multi-faceted global outreach. Today LeSEA’s outreaches blanket the world through television, satellite, FM and shortwave radio, and LeSEA Global Feed the Hungry®.

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