[November 13th, 2016; Prophecy Class 2]

Paul Did Not Want Us Ingorant

- 1Cor.12: 1) Now concerning spirituals [spiritual qifts], brethren, I would not have you *ignorant.
 - *[G50]; not to know; because you do not have the information, or you ignore it.
- 2) You know that you were Gentiles, led away to voiceless {mute} idols*, as you might be led.
- *an anti-christ; instead of Christ. The things of or from God can become idols, our attention focused on the good things from Him instead of Jesus personally.
- 3) Therefore I give you to know, that no one in [the] Spirit of God speaking says Jesus [is] accursed {ie. abominable, detestable}: and that no man can say Lord Jesus, except in [the] Holy Spirit.

This verse is speaking of <u>truthful</u> confession.

- 4) Now there are varieties of *gifts {unmerited, not earned favor}, but the same Spirit.
- *Gifts are <u>unmerited</u> favor, not earned. God has provided a multitude of options (gifts) to work with.
- 5) And there are varieties of administrations {ministry servants or officials}, but the same Lord.
- Apostles, <u>prophets</u>, evangelists, pastors, and teachers... These are the administrating officials that Jesus had decided on. Many churches have eliminated, substituted, or divided-up what He designed.
- 6) And there are varieties of operations {an effect; what is wrought}, but it is the same God who operates all in all.

The gifts of the Spirit show-up in many ways.

7) But to each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for *profit.

*[G4851]; to <u>bear together</u>, <u>contribute</u>, to <u>collect</u>, <u>advantage</u>; <u>Profit whom? The Greek</u> understanding means, that which is profitable for the group, not personal. You benefit from the gifts when others use the gifts the Spirit has given them for the body of Christ, others.

Clarification Of "ANOTHER" Used In 1 Corinthians 12:8-10

- [KJV revised] 1Co 12:8; "For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;
- 1Co 12:9; "To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;
- 1Co 12:10; "To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another diverse kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:"

Another; #G243, *allos* = signifies numerical in distinction; of the same kind; one, two, three, 'of the same'... [from Strong's Exhaustive Concordance]

Another; #G2087, heteros = indicates a qualitative difference; a different class or kind; 'another type of animal altogether'... [from Strong's Exhaustive Concordance]

(This is for the purpose of showing that the Holy Scripture and the Holy Spirit indicate that the gifts are grouped into different classes or kinds. The bounds of this course do not include further exploration into these differences.)

- 8) For to one by the Spirit is given a word of *wisdom; and to another a word of ^knowledge, according to the same Spirit;
 - *supreme intelligence; the wisdom of God.
 - ^general knowledge or information.
- 9) 'To another' *faith in the same Spirit; and to another the gifts of ^healing, in the same Spirit;
 - *an inordinate (excessive) conviction of the truth of something that God declares.
 - ^healing = a means of healing, remedy, medicine; of physical injury and diseases, mental, and demonic
- 10) and to another 'operations of works of miracles {power}'; and to another *prophecy; and to another discerning {to separate, make a distinction} of spirits; to another diverse ^kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues.
 - *the declaration of that which cannot be known by natural means; it emanates from God and is the forth-telling of the will of God, whether reference to the past, present, or future; it signifies the speaking forth of the mind and counsel of God.
 - ^kinds {groupings} of tongues {languages}; and to another the interpretation of tongues:
- 11) But all these things the one and the same Spirit operates, dividing 'separately and severally' to each according as he counsels. *The Holy Spirit decides*.
- 12) For as the body is one, and has many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. We are in this together. Each one of us has to commit. We all have to hear the Spirit's voice, receive our gifts, and operate in them as the Spirit tells us.
- 13) For by one Spirit are *we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. *This also means females and males, and children and adults.
- 14) For the body is not one member, but many.
- 15) If the foot shall say, I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it then not of the body?
- 16) And if the ear shall say, I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it then not of the body?

- 17) If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the smelling be?
- 18) But now God has set the members, every one of them in the body, <u>as it has pleased him</u>. We need to know His voice in order to know what He has decided. It is common for individuals to be placed in church leadership and the list of qualifications never including that the person was chosen by the Holy Spirit; long time a Christian, good personal life, caring, gifted, but rarely because the Spirit said so.
- 19) And if they were all one member, where would the body be?
- 20) But now there are many members, yet one body.
- 21) And the eye cannot say to the hand, I have no need of you: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you.
- 22) but much rather the members of the body, which seem to be weaker, are necessary:
- 23) And those members of the body, which we think to be of less esteem, upon these we bestow more abundant honor; and our deformed parts have more abundant elegance. Paul is not speaking of false accolades or trumped-up recognition. These segments of scripture say that we are one, in this together, peas in a pod. This honor is real and truly given when we relate to these 'less esteemed' individuals as we do others; when we give them the same esteem the Spirit does, recognize that they (can) hear from God also, and we give them the room (opportunity) to function in those gifts.

The 'less esteemed' can be the children, the mentally handicapped, the physically handicapped, the non-affluent, the chronically ill, the not-so pretty, the obese, the non-degreed, the different culture, the different color, the large family, the highly intelligent, the talker, the wall-flower, the person not in leadership, someone not part of the clique, or in some churches only the 'chosen few' do all the ministering.

- 24) For our elegant parts have no need: but God has tempered the body together, having given more abundant honor to that part which lacked:
- 25) That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.
- 26) And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it.
- 27) Now you are the body of Christ, and members in particular.
- 28) And God has set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that 'works of power', then gifts of healings, *helps, governments {wise counsels}, diversities of tongues {groupings of languages}. *The ministrations of the deacons. The word deacon in the Bible applies to both male and female.
- 29) Are all apostles? are all *prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of ^miracles? *Are all prophets? No, but some need to be.
 ^Also translated power. It is from the Greek word dunamis, or dynamite.
- 30) Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with *tongues? do all interpret?

- *Jesus said that you can determine the type of tree by its fruit, not its gifts. The 'gift of tongues' is not a fruit, but it is the most common gift. It is a gift that acts as a primer in the things of the Spirit; just as the old fashioned mechanical hand pumps needed to have a little water put into them, to moisten them, in order for abundant waters to flow out of them. The frequent private use of praying-in-tongues causes one to more sensitive to the Spirit in other things.
- 31) But covet earnestly the *best gifts: and yet show I unto you a more excellent way. *stronger, better, nobler. How is that determined? Personally, I pray for the Lord's wisdom and choice.

So, what is the answer to the question pose in the first class? Are The Gifts Necessary Today? Absolutely, utterly, perfectly, definitely,...amen.

Five-Fold Ministry Including Prophecy Needed

- [kjv revised] Eph 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
- Eph 4:12 For the <u>perfecting</u> of the saints, for the <u>work</u> of the ministry, for the <u>edifying</u> of the body of Christ:
- Eph 4:13 Until we all come into the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, into a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:
- Eph 4:14 That we *henceforward* 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;
- Eph 4:15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ:
- Eph 4:16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplies, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, makes increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.
- The Lord Jesus did not present apostles and prophets as optional.
- Luk 2:11, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the *Lord." *Lord means *supremacy; supreme* in authority, *controller*; boss; absolutely in charge.
- Are we in unity? Have we become a perfect man? Are believers never deceived anymore? The need for prophecy and prophets must then still be necessary.
- Amos prophesied that in the last days there would be lots of information and knowledge available.
- [ESV]Amo 8:11-12, "Behold, the days are coming," declares the Lord GOD, "when I will send a famine on the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of *hearing the words of the LORD.
- "They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, to seek the word of the LORD, but they shall not find it."

- *to hear intelligently; to listen, to attend to; to render obedience. Now, in our day there is gluttony of information about God and the scriptures. A "famine of the hearing" is the lack of obedience to what the Lord is saying, not the lack of His speaking.
- Heb 3:18, "And to whom did He sware that they should not enter into His rest, but to t that *believed not?
- Heb 3:19, "So we see that they could not enter in because of *unbelief." *Both of these word in the Greek also contain the understanding of disobedience, and in some Bibles are translated disobedience. So, they were disobedient to God because they did not believe Him.

Isn't the Bible Alone Sufficient?

- The Word (Holy Bible) represents solid food. The Spirit represents (living) water. Both are needed for life. The Bible is foundational, firm, everything else is built upon it. It does not shift or change. The voice-of-God, the Holy Spirit speaking to us, gives us specific direction in life and ministry. The voice-of-God nevers tells us anything contrary to the Bible. The Spirit is also able, by speaking to us, to guide us in true and fruitful application of the Scriptures.
- 2Co 3:6, God... "Who also has made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter *kills, but the spirit gives ^life."
- The Bible alone, without the Spirit, does not give life. Salvation comes through accepting the sacrifice of Jesus and his lordship. Knowledge of the Bible does not save a person. The application of the Bible (the Word) without the Spirit destroys, or kills, the person. Without the ministry of the Spirit, the believer's life dies. Does your life, your walk as a Christian, need to be vitalized, made alive?
- The Lord Jesus Christ is of the opinion that the Bible and all that is of the Holy Spirit is needed; knowing His voice, the gifts of the Spirit, prophecy and prophets are all part of it. I'm going to go with His opinion.

Paul puts a premium on demonstrations; Proof of who God is backing.

- [ESV] 1Co 2:4, "Paul says,..."and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of *power,"
- 1Co 2:5, "so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the *power of God."

*dynamite!