

Holy Spirit

Promise of Baptism of the Holy Spirit Given to the Apostles John 13, 14, 15 & 16: These chapters are often misunderstood because people pay no attention to the context. During this sermon pay attention to: 1. Who is speaking & 2. Who is being spoken to. It is Jesus' last night with His disciples, therefore, pay close attention when He says "you". He is speaking to the apostles, & He is not speaking to YOU the reader. When Jesus is speaking to you, the reader, he says "... he that", or "...a man" or "... any man". The Apostles were inspired & had special powers we do not have.

On Pentecost The Apostles & The Apostles Only are Baptized with Holy Spirit: Baptism of the Holy Spirit is mentioned in Matthew 3:11-12, John the baptizer tells us it is to come. Luke 24:49 Jesus says it is a promise of the Father & they will have "power from on high" & in Acts 1:8 Jesus says that the power is "The Holy Ghost". Acts 1:20-26 the vacancy of Judas filled. Acts 1:21-22 The qualifications to be an apostle are listed, Apostles must be eye witnesses of the ministry death burial & resurrection of Jesus. Acts 1:26 & 2:1. Chapter & verse divisions were not in the original Bible. Here we have unfortunate chapter break. Acts 2:1 must be read with 1:26 to understand who's being spoken of. "they were all with one accord" The word "they" is an antecedent. Antecedents always refer back to the last-named noun. Which is: "Mathias & he was numbered with the eleven apostles." Thus "Apostles" is the antecedent of "they" in Acts 2:1 Many make the mistake thinking that the 120 in Acts 1:15 is spoken of in Acts 2:1. Acts 2:2 "as of a rushing mighty wind" It was not a rushing mighty wind, it was the same sound. Acts 2:3 "cloven tongues like as of fire" Similarity denies that it is the same. It was not actual tongues of fire, it was "like as of fire". Acts 1:4 the result of this baptism is the apostles' speaking in tongues, languages they had not studied cf: Acts 2:1ff. Acts 1:5-21 cf: Joel 2:28-32.

The Miraculous Gifts of the Holy Spirit:

As we study the Book of Acts, we see that the apostles who were baptized with the Holy Spirit, were empowered to bestow these miraculous gifts to certain men by laying their hands on them cf:

Acts 8:18 And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

Hebrews 6:1-2 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, 2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

The laying on of hands would seem at first glance to be misplaced in this list, but not at all. Absolutely essential to a proper understanding of the limitation upon the appearance in the early history of the church of truly inspired men who could do miracles and speak with divine authority in the church is the knowledge of the fact that such abilities came to those men through the laying on of the apostles' hands (Acts 8:18), and from no other source whatsoever.

Out of such knowledge flow epic clear deductions which are of the utmost consequence to Christianity. The cessation of miracles and of directly-inspired teachers, and the closing up of the sacred canon of the New Testament, refutes the notion of any so-called apostolic succession - all these and many other truths of a most crucial kind are directly dependent upon just one little fact, namely, that it was through laying on of "the apostles' hands" that those wonderful gifts came to the church, and that that power was not hereditary, or transferable, by any other means whatever.

How did this come about? Remember Jesus had promised the Apostles cf:

John 14:13-14 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. V14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do [it].

John 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and [that] your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

John 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, [that] shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

John 16:23 And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give [it] you.

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

In Acts 3 the Apostle Peter & John heal the man at the gate beautiful

Acts 3:1-11

The Sanhedrin High Court of the Jews examined the Apostles and this miracle and threaten the Apostles cf:

Acts 4:18-28

The Apostles pray that “they” not “we” may work signs and wonders.

Acts 4:29-31

The Apostles ask that God turn it around on the Jewish high court by allowing other chosen men (and later also women) from the Church work miracles.

The first two men who were not apostles who worked miracles were, Stephen

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

What had just happened to Stephen & Phillip before verse 8?

Acts 6:6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid [*their*] hands on them.

Phillip

Acts 8:6. And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

When Samaria had received the Word of God, the apostles Peter & John went down & laid hands on them & imparted the Holy Spirit to them

Acts 8:14-19

Full, complete and absolute power of a kind like that delegated to an ambassador is never transferable, but every new ambassador must be commissioned at the original source.

Even the sorcerer understood this basic point (Acts 8:18ff); and the possession of that information by such a person as Simon, after such a brief contact with the faith, proves both the fundamental and elementary nature of the doctrine, and its basic simplicity as well.

It was in view of that knowledge that Simon tried to buy the gift, not from Philip who had baptized him and who also had the power, and who was personally known to Simon, but from Peter, an apostle!

This could not be the indwelling Holy Spirit, for all Christians received that at their baptism cf:

Acts 2:38-39 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. 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.

Why didn't Phillip impart these powers to them?

He was not an apostle & therefore, could not impart miraculous gifts.

When Paul laid his hands on those men of Ephesus, they were given the gift of tongues cf:

Acts 19:1-6. It was not necessary to have the apostles come from Jerusalem to the men of Ephesus because Paul was an apostle. These gifts were given until the New Testament revelation was complete.

The nine miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit are listed in

I Corinthians 12:4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

Likewise the word "gifts" is "a typically Pauline word, used only once by any other New Testament writer (1 Peter 4:10). It is derived from [*@charismata*], whence the term "charismatic." another form of the word being [*@charis*] (grace). thus these were "grace-gifts."

I Cor. 12:5 And there are differences of administrations (or ministries), but the same Lord.

I Cor. 12:6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

The mere fact of some of the Corinthian Christians havd one gift and others had another gift really made no difference, since it was the same Godhead working through all of them.

I Cor. 12:7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

To profit withal ... "This means that they were for the common good; the spiritual gifts were to benefit others"

I Cor. 12:8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

The word of wisdom ... "This gift was the teaching of the gospel and sound doctrine communicated by inspiration ... peculiarly to the apostles, and prophets enabling them to teach and direct religious faith and practice infallibly before the New Testament was written. This is mentioned first because it was first in importance.

The word of knowledge ... This was the gift of that superior order of prophets, among whom were Barnabas, Stephen and Paul himself. As Macknight pointed out, it was this class of persons who unraveled the mystery hidden before times eternal, who discovered the deep secrets hidden in the ancient Scriptures regarding the call of the Gentiles, the rejection of Israel, the salvation of all people through the faith and obedience of Christ,

I Cor. 12:9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

"Faith" is the endowment of all Christians, but more than ordinary faith is meant here.

This has a special meaning and it must mean a faith that has special, visible results, a faith that enables one to do miracles

Lipscomb identified faith here as "that which enabled one to remove mountains, as Jesus said, enabling one to exert power."

Matthew 17:20 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

1 Corinthians 13:1-2 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become [as] sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. 2 And though I have [*the gift of*] prophecy, and

understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

Gifts of healings ... "This evidently refers to the miraculous healing of diseases." There were many examples of this recorded in Acts, as for example when Paul healed Pu-blius and many others on Malta (Acts 28:8,9). In this connection, it is clear that not even Paul used such a gift for the indiscriminate healing of all who were sick.

There was a divine purpose in miracles, that being confirmation of the word of God. Significantly, Paul did not heal Timothy (1 Timothy 5:23), nor Tro-phi-mus (2 Timothy 4:20).

This are not to be confused with so called faith healers today.

The gift of healing provided restoration of life, which is beyond the power of these so called faith healers today. (see Acts 9:40; 20:9).

I Cor. 12:10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophec; to another discerning of spirits; to another [*divers*] kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

Five other miraculous gifts are listed here, making nine mentioned in I Corinthians the 12th chapter..

Working of miracles ... It appears that miracles would be a greater gift than healings, mentioned above them; these included miracles of judgment such as those executed upon Elymas, Ananias and Sapphira, but "The miracles of mercy stand higher in God's esteem than those which execute his judgments and mete out punishment."

Prophecy ... Gifts of prophecy which was teaching the gospel and sound doctrine before the scriptures were written but also included the ability to foretell some future events. This gift was given to certain Christians selected by God in the apostolic age; and there would appear to have been two orders of these, the higher including

those mentioned here in 1 Corinthians 12:8, and others whose ability concerned mainly the prediction of future events such as those prophesied by Agabus (Acts 11:28; 21:11).

Discernings of spirits ... This was a gift enabling its possessor to identify and expose false teachers. Presumably this gift was held by all of the apostles and prophets of the new dispensation as well as by other persons selected by God for this work.

Divers kinds of tongues ... "Kinds of tongues" or languages required the special gift of interpreting tongues mentioned a moment later and the absolute necessity of having an interpreter (as commanded in 1 Corinthians 14:27-28) Notice the opinion of outsiders that the tongue speakers were "mad" (1 Corinthians 14:23); plus the fact that there were many of them engaging in this activity all at once, requiring Paul to restrict it to one at a time (1 Corinthians 14:27);

Why did not Paul condemn it out of hand, instead of containing it by a series of regulations clearly designed to discourage and diminish it? We do not certainly know. But whatever purpose of God that was fulfilled by it, the Corinthians had twisted it by their shameless distortion and abuse of it.

Interpretation of tongues ... This is perhaps the key to understanding the whole passage. Through the influence of God's Spirit some could speak languages they had never learned; but for this to do any good at all, someone was required to interpret what was said, the ability to do so being the "gift of Interpretation of tongues" .

We may summarize thus:

All of these nine gifts were miraculous.

They all disappeared completely at the end of the apostolic age.

Prove that preacher you might say ... ok:

I Corinthians 13:8-10 Charity never faileth: but whether [*there be*] prophecies, they shall fail; whether [*there be*] tongues, they shall cease; whether [*there be*] knowledge, it shall vanish away.³ 9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. 10 But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.⁴

Indicates these gifts shall vanish away. “When that which is perfect” Greek word “*tellos*” neuter noun, the Bible would be neuter, but Jesus is masculine. Then that which is in part shall be done away. These gifts have passed away.

II Peter 1:3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that [*pertain*] unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue

This verse indicates God “hath given us all things ...”, so by the time II Peter was written God had already given the Church everything she needs the revelation was almost 100% complete only Jude and Revelation needed to be given and there is no new doctrine in either required for salvation.

Sources: KJV, Coffman’s Commentaries, theWord.com for the KJV