

## GIFTS AND TANGENTS IN THE CHURCH

In the area of the work of the Holy Spirit - 2 absolute statements:

- 1) No Scriptural evidence to say that the gifts of the early church cannot be evident today.
- 2) There is no Scripture that says a Christian has to speak in tongues to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

### Categories of the working of the Spirit:

#### 1. Ministries of the H.S. Characteristics: Eph. 1:13-14

A. Once for all

B. For every believer at the moment of salvation

1. Regeneration: imparting spiritual life - John 3:1-18

2. Indwelling of the H.S. - Rom. 8:9, I Cor. 6:19

Permanent residence

Acts 2 - 120 Jews

Acts 1:4-5

John the Baptist Mt. 3:11-12 baptized with H.S. and fire

3. Baptism of H.S. - I Cor. 12:12-13

H.S. putting me INTO Christ - Eph. 5:30

4. Sealing of H.S. - Eph. 1:10-14

God's pledge that you are His forever - Eph. 4:30 unto the day of redemption

5. Filling ministry of H.S. - Eph. 5:18

dependent on our willingness

6. Teaching ministry & empowering ministry - John 14:16, 16:15 ,

II Tim. 1:7, Rom. 8:11

Prayer - Rom 8:24-26, I John 5:14, 15

Clothed with power from on high - Luke 24:49

#### 2. Gifts of H.S.

God given ability which will enable you to accomplish God's Plan for your life - Rom. 12

A. You have a gift

B. Being available to Christ

C. Walking in faith

Body - union in relationship, but diversity in function

I Cor. 12:4-7 - the doctrine of not getting up-tight. Varities of gifts, varities of ways being used, varities of effects.

vs. 7 - functioning of the gift

vs. 8 - wisdom - apply Bible in a practical way

knowledge - insight into deeper truths of Bible

faith - trust God with great vision - Mueller

healing

miracles - to authenticate the message of God

prophecy - foretell and forthfell the Bible to present day life

distinguishing of spirits - from devil of God

tongues - different languages

Just as HE WILLS.

(Football team - each man plays his ability for the best of the team)

Giving, mercy, comfort, helps, hospitality, administration

#### 3. Fruits: I Cor. 12:31 - to all the church:

A. LOVE - available to every believer -

Fruit of Spirit is more important to God than your gift. Gal. 5:16

"walk by the Spirit" v. 22-23- produced by H.S.

It **GROWS** as we depend on H.S. - necessary everyday - I do not have to have a gift



What do you have to do?

- 1) Be willing - "present" your members.
- 2) Believe - that He will fill and empower & teach & work through you.

Teach chart:

In the Body of Christ:

ONE Spirit (Eph. 4:4, Rom. 8:9)

ONE Hope - conformed to Christ and His coming again

ONE Faith - in the Object (ICor. 12:11-13)

ONE God - who is the sphere of all of our lives (Eph. 4:16, Col. 2:18-19)  
"joints & ligaments" - we need each other - gifts are different and diverse. But they should only serve to UNITE us & produce active participation & a close knit fellowship.

WRONG WAY

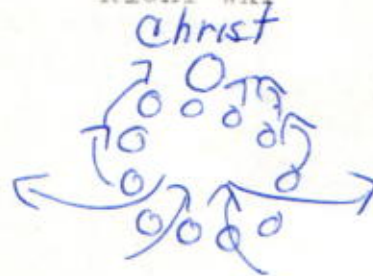


isolation - "we are the only ones who are right"

separation - "we don't want to be polluted by other Christians"

Inevitable result: looking at each other's fallen flesh will result in enmity & strife & the root of bitterness will spring up - then splits & schisms

RIGHT WAY



1. Focus on Christ
2. Experience fellowship, support one another
3. Go out to reconcile others to Christ.
4. Bring them in & build them up in the Word & focus them on Christ.

