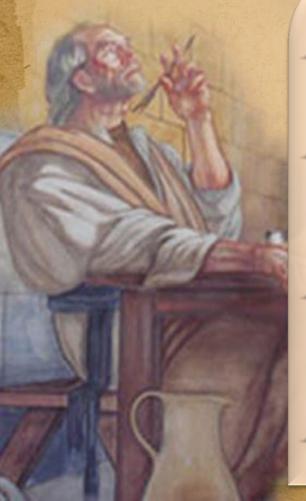
"Now Concerning" Reply To Their Letter -Liberty In Christ - 7:1-16:4 "The Gift of Tongues & Edification" 1 Corinthians 14:1-40

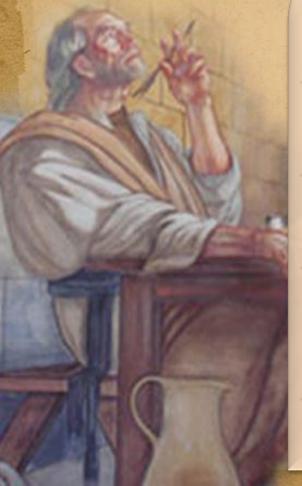
MIRACULOUS GIFTS IN CORINTH 12:1-14:40



- First question pertained to marriage (Chapter 7)
- ◆ The second question dealt with eating meat offered to idols – (Chapters 8-10)
- ◆ Chapters 11:2-16:4 deal with a variety of topics, first the issues of "headship" & "Lord's Supper" – 11:2-34
- → Now Spiritual Gifts 12:1-14:40



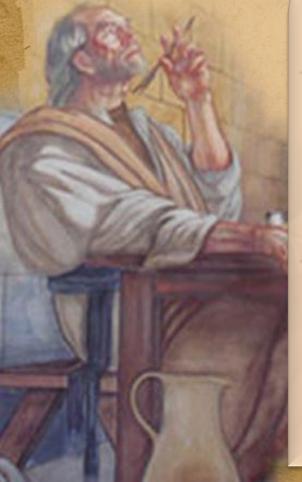
Miraculous Gifts In Corinth



THE PROBLEM AT CORINTH

- → They seemed ignorant of the purpose and proper use of the various gifts.
- → They were exercising such gifts in a very unloving and prideful way.
- → Those who didn't possess such gifts or the more flamboyant among the various gifts, were looked down upon (12:21-25).
- ★ The "ungifted" members were thinking that they were unneeded. (12:14-20)

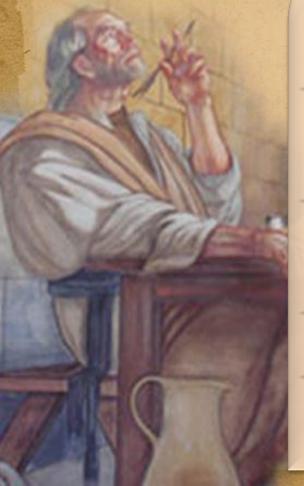
Miraculous Gifts In Corinth



THE PROBLEM AT CORINTH

- ◆ A spirit of competition had apparently developed in the assembly over who would be allowed to speak. (14:26-33)
- ★ They had lost sight of the main purpose of such gifts, i.e. the edification of the whole body and not merely the individual who possessed them. (12:7; 13:5; 14:3-5)

Miraculous Gifts In Corinth



CHAPTER 12

- ★ The Source of Revelation & Spiritual Gifts: 12:1-3
- ★ The Unity Behind The Various Gifts: 12:4-6
- → The Gifts Enumerated: 12:7-11
- ★ An Appeal For Unity/The Body And It's Members: 12:12-31

GIFTS HAVE NO VALUE WITHOUT LOVE...

CHAPTER 13

1 Corinthians 12:31 (NKJV)

³¹ But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.

- → Gifts are worthless without love— (1-3)
- Characteristics of love prove love's superiority (4-7; cf. 1 Cor. 8:1)
- ◆ The permanence of love demonstrates its value over spiritual gifts — (8-13)

Miraculous Gifts In Corinth The Gifts Enumerated: 12:7-11

INTELLECTUAL

The Word Of Wisdom

The Word Of Knowledge

Faith

EXHIBITION

Gifts Of Healings

Working Of Miracles,

Prophecy,

Discerning Of Spirits,

Language

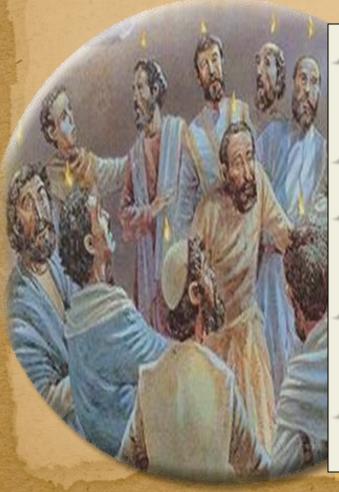
Different Kinds Of Tongues,

Interpretation Of Tongues.

[11] But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

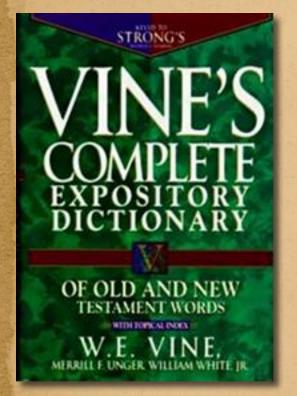
THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH

THEIR PURPOSE



- ★ To Confirm the word Mark 16:17-29; Acts 14:3; Hebrews 2:4
- To Confirm Messengers Acts 2;
- To Confirm God's Willingness To Accept The Gentiles - Acts 10
- To Facilitate The Preaching of The Gospel – Acts 2;
- To Edify When Understood –
 1 Cor 14:4,13,27

The Gift of Tongues In Corinth They Were Temporary



Greek Word: γλώσσα Transliteration: glōssa

There is no evidence of the continuance of this gift after apostolic times nor indeed in the later times of the Apostles themselves; this provides confirmation of the fulfillment in this way of I Cor. 13:8, that this gift would cease in the churches, just as would "prophecies" and "knowledge" in the sense of knowledge received by immediate supernatural power (cp. I Cor. 14:6). The completion of the Holy Scriptures has provided the churches with all that is necessary for individual and collective guidance, instruction, and edification.

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH THEY WERE TEMPORARY

1 Corinthians 13:8-13 (NKJV)

Prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away.

⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part.

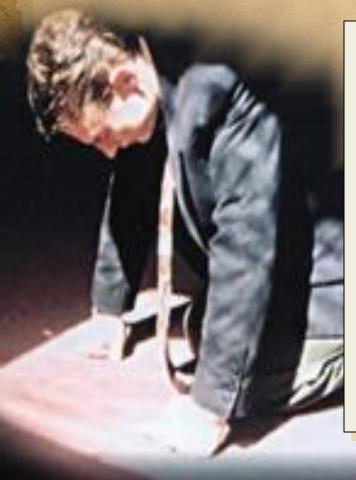
¹⁰ But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH THEY WERE TEMPORARY

1 Corinthians 13:8-13 (NKJV)

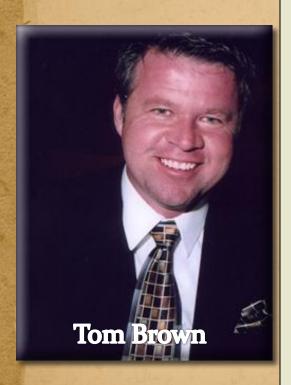
When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. ¹² For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.
¹³ And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these *is* love.

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH CLAIMS OF SOME TODAY



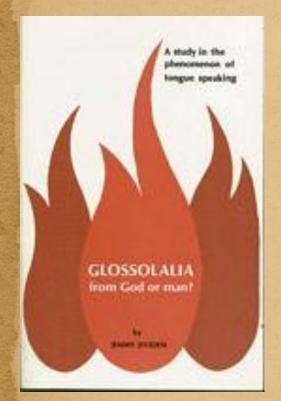
- Most Christians who claim to speak in tongues believe that they are speaking in an existing language – but have no idea what they are saying.
- Many speculate that it is a heavenly tongue. i.e. a language spoken by angels or by God, and does not correspond to any human language.

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH CLAIMS OF SOME TODAY



Speaking in Tongues - THE PHYSICAL EVIDENCE I was baptized in the Holy Spirit at the First Assembly of God church on Montana. . . . something hit me . . . Down I went, prostrate on the ground. I began to weep uncontrollably. God's presence was all over me. . . . The thought occurred to me, "This must be what my church has been talking about all these years. What is happening to me must be the baptism in the Holy Spirit." No sooner did I think that when I heard this scripture in my mind, "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues." If I'm filled with the Holy Spirit, then I'll speak in other tongues, I reasoned in my mind. Right then, I began speaking in other tongues--and I haven't stopped yet! Glory to God! - http://www.tbm.org/tongues.htm

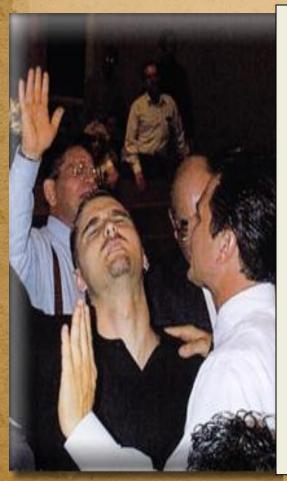
THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH CLAIMS OF SOME TODAY



Jimmy Jividen
Glossolalia – From God
or Man?

[The modern practice of] Gossolalia is a psychological phenomenon found in most world religions, both ancient and modern, and often completely outside of religious context. It has no rational meaning but consist of mere ecstatic utterances. (Jimmy Jividen - Glossolalia - From God or Man? Pg 23)

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH CLAIMS OF SOME TODAY



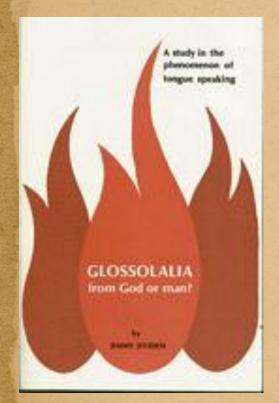
- Ecstatic utterances were used in the Greek oracles and in the ancient mystery religions – A prominent practice of the Apollo, Delphi, & Dionysus cults, (recorded by Plato)
- The first written record more than 1,100 years BC by Wen-Amon in Byblos.
- Spiritualists use ecstatic utterances in their claim to communicate with the dead.
- Mormons use ecstatic utterances as a confirmation of the authenticity of the Book of Mormon and other documents which came from Joseph Smith.

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH CLAIMS OF SOME TODAY

"One analytical study of glossolalia was performed . . . One individual's ecstatic speech was tape recorded and played back separately to many individuals who sincerely and devoutly believed that they had received the gift of interpreting tongues. Their interpretations were quite inconsistent. e.g. one said that "the utterances referred to a prayer for the health of someone's children." Another interpreted the speech as "praising God for a recent and successful church, fund-raising effort." It is obvious from that study that those particular interpreters were unable to extract significant meaning out of the glossolalia." http://www.religioustolerance.org/tongues5.htm

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN THE BIBLE

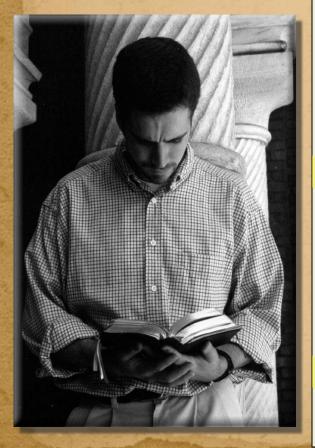


Jimmy Jividen
Glossolalia – From God
or Man?

"The glossa gift in the early church must be understood as 'languages.' All of the New Testament evidence points toward this. It is identified as languages known by men when it first came upon the apostles on the day of Pentecost. All of the other evidence in the New Testament fits this early definition. There is no need to try and read the Pagan phenomenon of ecstatic utterance back into the Bible." (Jimmy Jividen - Glossolalia -From God or Man ~ Pg 34)

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN THE BIBLE



Acts 2:4-13 (NKJV)

⁴ ... began to speak with other tongues,

<glossa> as the Spirit gave them utterance.

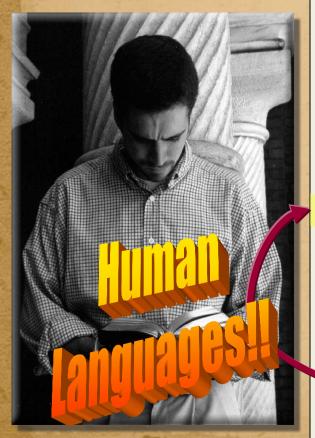
6 . . . everyone heard them speak in his own language.

⁷ ... "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? ⁸ And how *is it that* we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? ¹¹ ... -we hear them speaking in our own

tongues <glossa> the wonderful works of God."

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN THE BIBLE



Acts 10:44-46 (NKJV)

144 the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. 145 And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, 146 For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. . . .

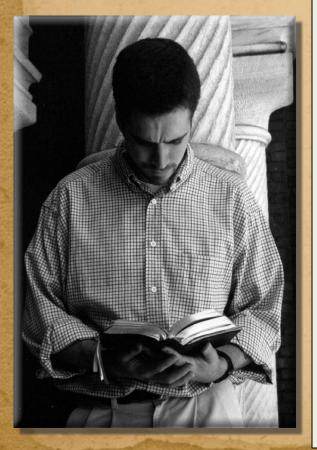
Acts 11:15-17 (NKJV)

15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning.

17 If therefore God gave them the same gift as *He gave* us . . .

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH

The Gift of Tongues In the Bible

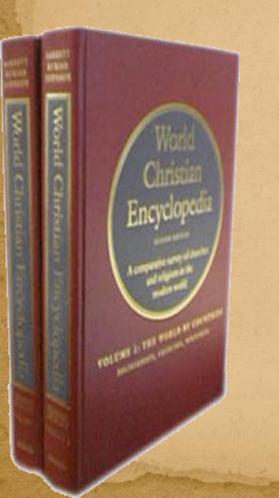


1 Corinthians 12 (NKJV)

- 10 . . . to another *different* kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.
- ²⁸ And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.
- ³⁰ Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN THE BIBLE

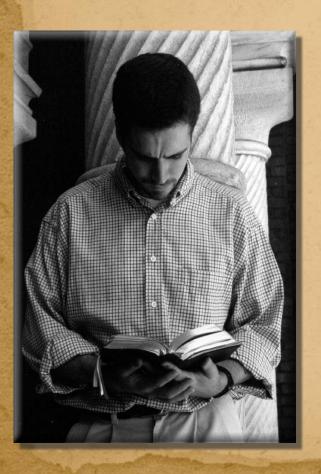


Adam Clark - (1 Cor. 12) -

verse 8 - Divers kinds of tongues. Γενη γλωσσων, Different languages, which they had never learned, and which God gave them for the immediate instruction of people of different countries who attended their ministry.

verse 28 - **Diversities of tongues**—Γενη γλωσσων Kinds of tongues; that is, different kinds. The power to speak, on all necessary occasions, languages which they had not learned.

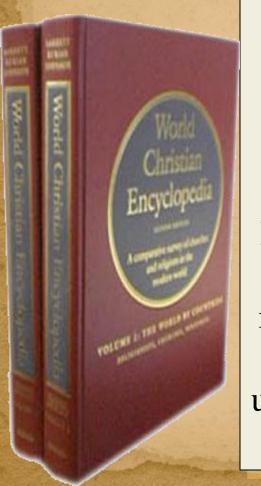
THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH EDIFICATION REQUIRES UNDERSTANDING



1 Corinthians 14:1-2 (NKJV)

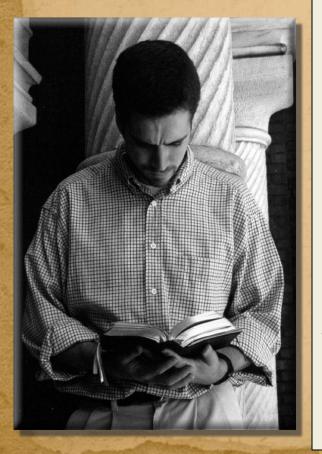
¹Pursue love, and desire spiritual *gifts*, but especially that you may prophesy. ² For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands *him*; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH EDIFICATION REQUIRES UNDERSTANDING



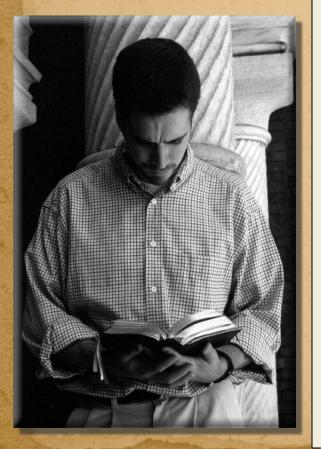
1 Cor. 14:2. For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue. - This verse is designed to show that the faculty of speaking intelligibly, and to the edification of the church, is of more value than the power of speaking a foreign language. The reason is, that however valuable may be the endowment in itself, and however important the truth which he may utter, yet it is as if he spoke to God only. No one could understand him. —Barnes' Notes on the New **Testament**

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH EDIFICATION REQUIRES UNDERSTANDING



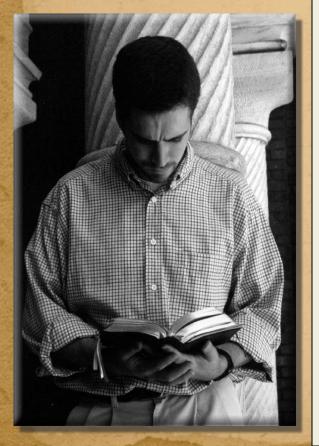
- ² For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands *him;* however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.
- ³ But he who prophesies <u>speaks edification</u> and exhortation and comfort to men.
- ⁴ He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH EDIFICATION REQUIRES UNDERSTANDING



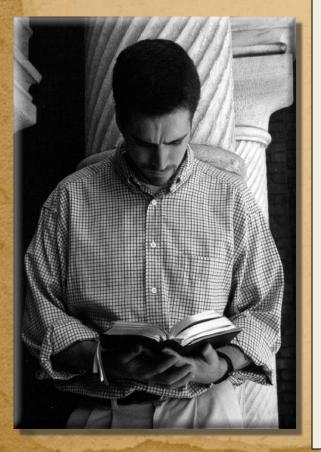
- ⁵ I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies *is* greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive **edification.**
- ⁶But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you unless I speak to you either by revelation, by knowledge, by prophesying, or by teaching?

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH EDIFICATION REQUIRES UNDERSTANDING



- ⁷ Even things without life, whether flute or harp, when they make a sound, unless they make a distinction in the sounds, how will it be known what is piped or played?
- ⁸ For if the trumpet makes an uncertain sound, who will prepare himself for battle?
- ⁹ So likewise you, unless you utter by the tongue words easy to understand, how will it be known what is spoken? For you will be speaking into the air.

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH EDIFICATION REQUIRES UNDERSTANDING



- ¹⁰ There are, it may be, so many kinds of **languages** in the world, and none of them *is* without significance.
- ¹¹ Therefore, if I do not know the meaning of the **language**, I shall be a foreigner to him who speaks, and he who speaks *will be* a foreigner to me.
- 12 Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual *gifts*, *let it be* for the **edification of the church** *that* you seek to excel.

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH EDIFICATION REQUIRES UNDERSTANDING



1 Corinthians Chapter 14

- ¹³ Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret.
- ¹⁴ For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.

"My feelings find utterance in prayer; my heart is engaged in devotion; my prayer will be acceptable to God, who looks upon the feelings of the heart, and I may have true enjoyment; but my understanding will be unfruitful, that is, will not profit others. What I say will not be understood by them; and of course, however much benefit I might derive from my devotions, yet they would be useless to others." —Barnes' Notes on the NT

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH EDIFICATION REQUIRES UNDERSTANDING



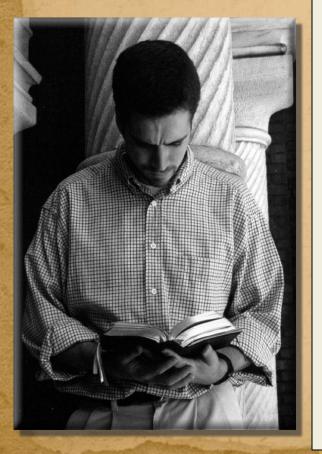
1 Corinthians Chapter 14

- ¹³ Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret.
- ¹⁴ For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.

If my prayers are composed of sentences and sayings taken out of the prophets, etc., and in their own language—my spirit prayeth, my heart is engaged in the work, and my prayers answer all the purpose of prayers to myself; but my understanding is unfruitful to all others, because they do not understand my prayers, and I either do not or cannot interpret them.—

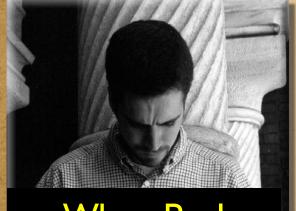
Adam Clarke's Commentary

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH EDIFICATION REQUIRES UNDERSTANDING



- with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.
- otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the uninformed say "Amen" at your giving of thanks, since he does not understand what you say? ¹⁷ For you indeed give thanks well, but the other is not edified.

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH EDIFICATION REQUIRES UNDERSTANDING



When Paul spoke, he wanted people to understand him!

- ¹⁸ I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all;
- yet in the church I would rather speak five words with my understanding, that I may teach others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue.
- ²⁰ Brethren, do not be children in understanding; however, in malice be babes, but in understanding be mature.

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH EDIFICATION REQUIRES UNDERSTANDING

Judah refused to hear the prophecies of God - Thus they would listen to the tongues of the Babylonians in bondage – this was a sign of their UNBELIEF! (Is. 28:11,12) -

1 Corinthians Chapter 14

²¹ In the law it is written: "With men of other tongues and other lips I will speak to this people; And yet, for all that, they will not hear Me," says the Lord. 22 Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophesying is not for unbelievers but for those who believe. ²³ Therefore if the whole church comes together in one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those who are uninformed or unbelievers, will they not say that you are out of your mind?

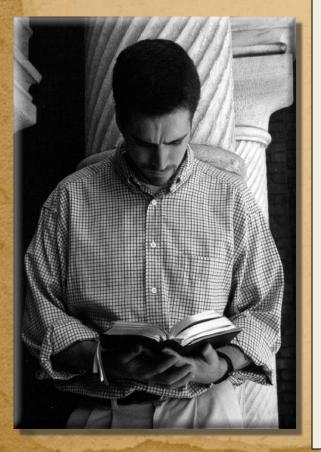
THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH EDIFICATION REQUIRES UNDERSTANDING

Some of the Corinthians were elevating the gift of tongues to a state of primary importance. The abuse of the gift of tongues was NOT a sign of faith but unbelief. (cp. Vs. 24,25)

1 Corinthians Chapter 14

²¹ In the law it is written: "With men of other tongues and other lips I will speak to this people; And yet, for all that, they will not hear Me," says the Lord. 22 Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophesying is not for unbelievers but for those who believe. ²³ Therefore if the whole church comes together in one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those who are uninformed or unbelievers, will they not say that you are out of your mind?

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH EDIFICATION REQUIRES UNDERSTANDING



- ²⁶ How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.
- ²⁷ If anyone speaks in a tongue, *let there be* two or at the most three, *each* in turn, and **let one** interpret.
- ²⁸ But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God. (vs. 32, exercise control)

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH EDIFICATION REQUIRES ORDER

1 Corinthians 14:29-38 (NKJV)

²⁹ Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge. ³⁰ But if *anything* is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent. ³¹ For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged. ³² And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. ³³ For God is not *the author* of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH EDIFICATION REQUIRES ORDER

1 Corinthians 14:29-38 (NKJV)

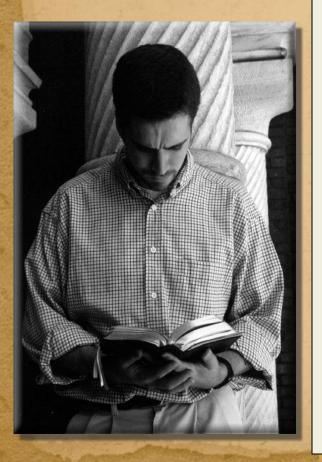
³⁴ Let your women keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak; but *they are* to be submissive, as the law also says. ³⁵ And if they want to learn something, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is shameful for women to speak in church. ³⁶ Or did the word of God come *originally* from you? Or *was it* you only that it reached?

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH EDIFICATION REQUIRES ORDER

¹ Corinthians 14:29-38 (NKJV)

³⁷ If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord. ³⁸ But if anyone is ignorant, let him be ignorant.

The Gift of Tongues In Corinth Edification Requires Order



1 Corinthians Chapter 14

³⁹ Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and **do not forbid to speak with tongues.** ⁴⁰ Let all things be done decently and in order.

Do not suppose that the power of speaking foreign languages is useless, or is to be despised, or that it is to be prohibited. In its own place it is a valuable endowment; and on proper occasions the talent should be exercised.—Barnes' Notes on the NT

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH THEY WERE TEMPORARY

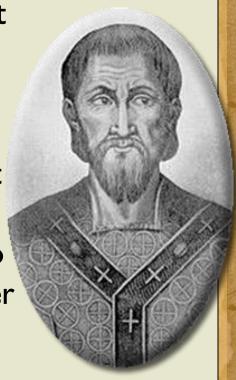
Clement of Rome - wrote a letter to the Corinthians in 95 A.D. discussing all of their spiritual problems. Tongues were never mentioned even though Corinth is the one place in the New Testament where tongues were apparently commonly used.

Justin Martyr - compiled a listing of spiritual gifts active in his time (A.D. 100-165) and did not include the gift of tongues.

Origen - never mentioned tongues and even argued that the "signs" of the Apostolic Age were temporary and that no contemporary Christian exercised any of these early "sign" gifts. (A.D. 185-253). (Cent. Cels., I, ii; III, xxiv; VII, iv, Ixvii).

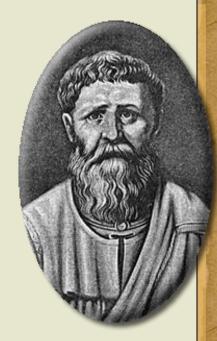
THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH THEY WERE TEMPORARY

Chrysostom - writing on I Corinthians and the gift of tongues said, "This whole place is very obscure: but the obscurity is produced by our ignorance of the facts referred to and by their cessation, being such as then used to occur but now no longer take place. And why do they not happen now? Why look now, the cause too of the obscurity hath produced us again another question: namely, why did they then happen, and now do so no more?." (A.D. 347-407).



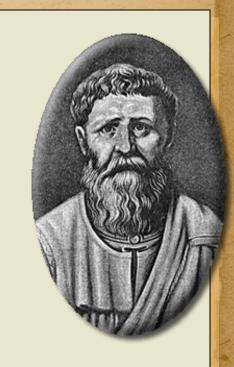
THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH THEY WERE TEMPORARY

Augustine - comments on Acts 2:4: "In the earliest times, "the Holy Ghost fell upon them that believed: and they spake with tongues," which they had not learned, "as the Spirit gave them utterance." These were signs adapted to the time. For there behooved to be that betokening of the Holy Spirit in all tongues, to shew that the Gospel of God was to run through all tongues over the whole earth. That thing was done for a betokening, and it passed away."



THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH THEY WERE TEMPORARY

Augustine - "For those that are baptized do not now receive the Spirit on the imposition of hands, so as to speak in the tongues of all the peoples; neither are the sick healed by the shadow of the preachers of Christ falling on them as they pass; and other such things as were then done, are now manifestly ceased." Retractions I xiii 7



THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH THEY WERE TEMPORARY

Bible	Modern Pentecostal's
Real Human Language Acts 2:8	Total Gibberish And Nonsense
Max Of 3 In Church and must have interpreter - I Cor 14:27,28	More Than 3 Speak Rarely Any "Interpreter" (visitors view as madness: 14:23)
Only One Interpretation Possible	Interpretations Vary
Emphasis On Proper Public Demonstration	Emphasis On Private Devotion
Considered a childish gift of lesser importance 14:5	Stressed As A Sign Of Spirituality
A Sign To Unbelievers 14:22	A Sign To Believers

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH THEY WERE TEMPORARY



- The Gift of Tongues was the ability to miraculously speak in different languages!
- The purpose of Tongues was to confirm and edify!
- The Gift of Tongues Was a Temporary gift which ceased After God completed Revealing His will!
- The Gift of Tongues Is NOT For Christians Today!

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IN CORINTH

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Prepared September 11, 2011

Preached September 11, 2011

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