

## Rightful Place For Tongues In The Church I Corinthians 14

What are some things you really wanted in life?

Sports, trophies, high grades, awards, to build something, to master an instrument.

It takes a determined heart set on God's will in your life.

It is the willingness to invest time that crowds out the barriers and the insignificant.

It takes patience that suffers long and overcomes the frustrations of your own limitations.

It takes energy that will exhaust you.

It is an investment of money that will deny you of other pleasures.

It takes submission to anything that is good to allow you to accomplish the goal.

No matter how good you are it takes humility in understanding your limits.

It takes a teachable spirit that listens in order to continue to excel in accomplishing your goal.

WHY? In today's lesson we see the reason to pursue love and be earnest with spiritual gifts if for the edification of the church. --- love  
*Loving God, Loving Others; Life is for Service*

### **I. Pursue Love**

A. **Pursue**: Diwkete = diwkw 2P P. Imper. Act.

to run swiftly in order to catch a person or thing, to run after.  
2A to press on: figuratively, one who in a race runs swiftly to reach the goal.<sup>1</sup> The hound pursuing its game.

B. **Love**: agaph – Denying self at all cost to please God through complete obedience to the glory of God that results in a favorable

---

<sup>1</sup>Strong, James: *The Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible : Showing Every Word of the Test of the Common English Version of the Canonical Books, and Every Occurrence of Each Word in Regular Order.* electronic ed. Ontario : Woodside Bible Fellowship., 1996, S. G1377

service to others in light of eternity.

I Cor. 13 – Of faith, hope and love, why is love the greatest? It is a natural outflow after a proper and biblical foundation of faith and hope.

C. For the Christian, love is a motivator for good works.

It is impossible to demonstrate a mature agaph without a foundation of faith and hope. We need to develop faith and live in hope in order to love in the mature manner God would have us love. If we know and exercise our spiritual gift in the context of agaph we will be pleasing to God and bear fruit of our ministry.

**II. Desire Spiritual Gifts:** zhoute = zheow 2P Pres. Imper. Act. (same as above) Lit: "Be zealous about spiritual gifts" In English the word "zeal" is only a noun or adjective, but not a verb like in Greek, so it's a bit awkward in its translation.

1 to burn with zeal. 1A to be heated or to boil with envy, hatred, anger. 1A1 in a good sense, to be zealous in the pursuit of good. 1B to desire earnestly, pursue. 1B1 to desire one earnestly, to strive after, busy one's self about him. 1B2 to exert one's self for one (that he may not be torn from me). 1B3 to be the object of the zeal of others, to be zealously sought after. 1C to envy. ... covet<sup>2</sup> jealous

2. Desiring to exercise spiritual gifts is not wrong.

### **III. The Corinth Church**

A. Didn't love the way they should have loved. Divisions.

They had someone among them committing adultery and didn't deal with it. Paul spent the whole of chapter 7 dealing with marriage, divorce, and celibacy because people were acting in the flesh in every way possible. People abused their freedoms in Christ and lacked love and concern for their fellow Believers in

---

<sup>2</sup>Strong, James: *The Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible : Showing Every Word of the Test of the Common English Version of the Canonical Books, and Every Occurrence of Each Word in Regular Order.* electronic ed. Ontario : Woodside Bible Fellowship., 1996, S. G2206

Christ. The roles of men and women were confused. People abused the Lord's table (pot - LUCK). They were doing what they wanted to do. They were serving self in the church, but not serving in the best interest of the church. They wanted church to be what they wanted it to be and not serving to exhort the whole for a unified testimony of God's grace and unified message found in the Gospel.

B. Chapter 12 - Paul instructs about spiritual gifts.

Chapter 13 - Love chapter (keeping spiritual gifts in the context of agaph).

Chapter 14 -

*Culturally "The practice of ecstatic utterances was common in many of the pagan Graeco-Roman religions of Paul's day, including those active in Corinth. Devotees of a god would drink and dance themselves into frenzies until they went into semiconsciousness or even unconsciousness--an experience that in such drunkenness their spirits left their bodies and communed directly with the god or gods, a practice to which Paul alludes in Ephesians 5:18. The ecstatic speaking that often accompanied such experiences was thought to be the language of the gods." (Commentary on I Cor. by John MacArthur p. 370).*

We can see why the abuse of tongues and the disinterest in prophecy would infiltrate into the church when the people are not spirit-filled.

When individuals in the church exercised their personal interest in Corinth too often it ignored the needs of others.

So, it became very necessary for Paul to lay out regulations for proper use of tongues and the rightful place of prophecy for mutual edification and the glorification of God. Following these regulations would bring about a proper testimony to the World.

#### **IV. Putting Tongues And Prophecy In Its Proper Place.**

When it comes to gifts, how do we demonstrate we love the Lord? We are to faithfully utilize the gift given us as stewards of God, to whom we give account. It's not doing something outside of our giftedness. That would

be seeking to show off. It's prideful. That's exactly what some were doing in Corinth. They were seeking the gift of tongues because it was a showy gift and showing off their form of spirituality.

**A. Speaking in an unknown tongue is a mystery and it doesn't exhort the church (vs. 2).**

1. The tongue = language that is unknown to the speaker but known to hearers.

**1100** γλῶσσα [*glossa* /gloce·sah/] n f. Of uncertain

affinity; TDNT 1:719; TDNTA 123; GK 1185; 50 occurrences; AV translates as “tongue” 50 times. **1** the tongue, a member of the body, an organ of speech. **2** a tongue. 1A the language or dialect used by a particular people distinct from that of other nations.

- a. **Acts 2:1ff** - the Apostles are speaking in languages they had not learned, being enabled supernaturally by the Holy Spirit to do so.
  - b. **Acts 2:5-13** - Jews from other nations who gathered in Jerusalem had learned other languages, having been in those countries, heard the Apostles speaking in their learned language from that country.
2. The tongue spoken was abused in Corinth because it was unknown to everyone present. Only God would understand because He knows all languages. The church didn't understand and that made it a mystery.
  3. Speaking in an unknown tongue was useless (vs. 6).
  4. Truth conveyed by tongues remained a mystery unless an interpreter was present.

**B. Prophecy Edifies Every Time (vs. 3-5).**

1. Prophecy - involves God's message going forth in a clear and

- understandable way with the result that the saints are edified, exhorted, and comforted. This is what produces a healthy body of Believers. (*God's Gift of Tongues*, Geo. Zeller p. 67).
2. If all could receive one gift over the other Paul would choose prophesy for them all. All the church would always benefit.
    - a. Not all would ever receive the gift of tongue or prophecy (cf. I Co. 12). Do all have the gift of exhortation? Administration? Etc. finance committee.
  3. Tongues interpreted is put on the same level as prophesy. It exhorts the church.
    - a. Paul was not forbidding tongues at all.

### **Summary:**

Prophecy: God's message, understood, edifies.

Tongues: God's message not understood, without interpretation, is non edifying.

Tongues: God's message understood through an interpreter is edifying.

### **V. The Purpose Of Tongues Declared (vs. 6).**

Revelation - revealing and unfolding God's precious truth once not known.

Knowledge - making known the deeper things of God. Deeper moral wisdom for living.

Prophecy - telling forth God's life-changing message.

Doctrine - teaching God's Holy Word of truth. A body or system of truth.

Now that exhorts!

### **VI. Paul Gives Two Illustrations Of Valid Communication.**

He demonstrates that intelligent communication is impossible apart from the recognition of known sounds.

#### **A. An Instrument makes recognizable sounds and I can name the tune being played (vs. 7).**

1. A cat walks across the piano keys and plays sounds that

make no sense.

2. The gift of tongues must apply this truth.

Is it noise? Does it exhort by revealing instruction for edification?

**B. A trumpet in battle needs to be properly heard and interpreted (vs. 8).**

Retreat or charge?

There is no time for confusion. The signal must be clear, or someone may die.

**C. Paul Applies The Principle Of The Illustrations For Corinth: (vs. 9).**

1. Must utter words that are easily understood (intelligible, clear, easily recognizable).

2. Tongues were words (not nonsense syllables)

3. In Corinth (vs. 8):

Words conveyed in a foreign tongue are not recognizable. It's merely speaking into the air and is of no value.

4. The principle restated (vs. 10-11).

a. Over 3,000 languages on Earth.

b. **5456 φωνή** [*phone* /fo·nay/] the idea of disclosure; AV

translates as “voice” 131 times, “sound” eight times, “be noised abroad + 1096” once, and “noise” once. **1** a sound, a tone. **1A** of inanimate things, as musical instruments. **2** a voice. **2A** of the sound of uttered words. **3** speech. **3A** of a language, tongue.<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>3</sup>Strong, James: *The Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible : Showing Every Word of the Test of the Common English Version of the Canonical Books, and Every Occurrence of Each Word in Regular Order.* electronic ed. Ontario : Woodside Bible Fellowship., 1996, S. G5456

*Genesis 11:1 - Now the whole earth had one language and one speech.*

*Deuteronomy 28:49 - The Lord will bring a nation against you from afar, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flies, a nation whose language you will not understand,*

*2 Peter 2:16 - but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained the madness of the prophet.*

The principle: The problem comes when a person does not understand the language. There is no communication, exhortation and no instruction can take place.

\*I will speak in a Heavenly Language today. You won't understand what I'm saying, but it's going to be powerful. God knows. I'm exhorted. You?

Conclusion (vs. 9-12): The tongue must be easy to understand or it's all in vain.

If not, it's like I'm a foreigner—there is no communication. I'm left lost. There is no service rendered for edification. There is no value because I can't grow.

If I understand the language, I benefit and grow and so does the whole church.

## **VII. God's Priority (vs. 12).**

The gift of tongues was a communication supernaturally delivered that revealed the will and knowledge of God.

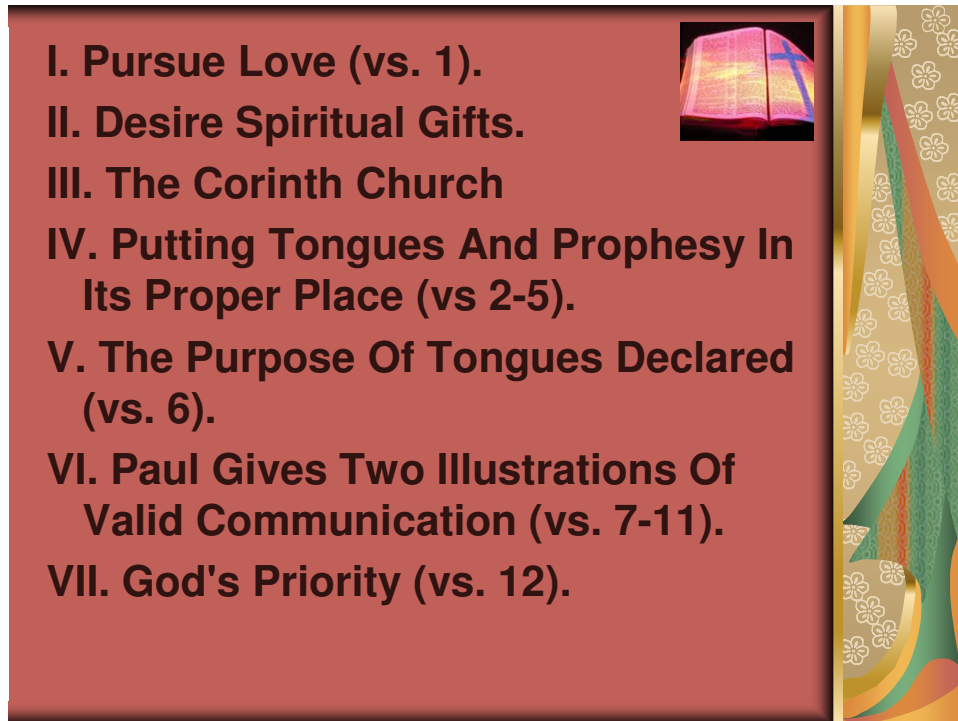
### **God's priority is a healthy Church.**

Be zealous in the use of gifts because God uses you to build up the body.

Paul was not telling the church not to utilize the gift of tongues. He was rebuking them for the abuse of it. They were edifying self.

He was encouraging them to understand its rightful place.

How are we using the gifts and talents bestowed on us?  
Edification of self or edification of the church?



I. Pursue Love (vs. 1).  
II. Desire Spiritual Gifts.  
III. The Corinth Church  
IV. Putting Tongues And Prophecy In Its Proper Place (vs 2-5).  
V. The Purpose Of Tongues Declared (vs. 6).  
VI. Paul Gives Two Illustrations Of Valid Communication (vs. 7-11).  
VII. God's Priority (vs. 12).

Just as we ended with *God's Priority is a healthy church*, today we pick up with verse 13.

**Our worship is to be with understanding.  
(prayer, singing, & thanksgiving)**

If you could speak just 5 words what would they be???????

**VIII. The Chief Concern Of The Tongue-Speaker Is That His Message Be Interpreted (vs. 13-18).**

A. Tongues Needs To Be Interpreted In Order To Exhort The Fellowship (vs. 13).



- B. Praying In A Tongue Without *Understanding* Is Unfruitful (vs. 14).
- C. Pray & Singing With *Understanding* Is Fruitful (vs. 15).

***John 4:22-24 - You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews.  
23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.  
24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”***

Let's worship with understanding when we pray, sing, & give thanks (vs. 16-17). Let it not be in vain by speaking in a tongue with no understanding. We do the same if we just go through the motions of worship.

Let's sing with understanding. Think upon the words.  
Join in prayer when one leads.  
Join in the giving of thanks and praise.

D. Paul Possessed The Gift Of Tongues (vs. 18-19).

1. He used it properly.
2. Paul acknowledged that people in the Corinth church ...
  - a. ... had people in the fellowship that had the gift.
  - b. ... never said that their tongues-speaking was satanic.
  - c. ... but it wasn't exercised in love and for the profit of all.
3. Five words of understanding vs. ten thousand words in tongues not interpreted.
  - a. A 5-word sermon????? That would so frustrate me.  
I like the 40 minutes I get.

"Very little can be said." I'm frustrated just to  
Think about it. You have no more than 5 seconds.

***What would appeal to the Jewish mind?***

**"Christ died for our sins." (15:3)-**  
That would mean something and would appeal to the Jewish mind.

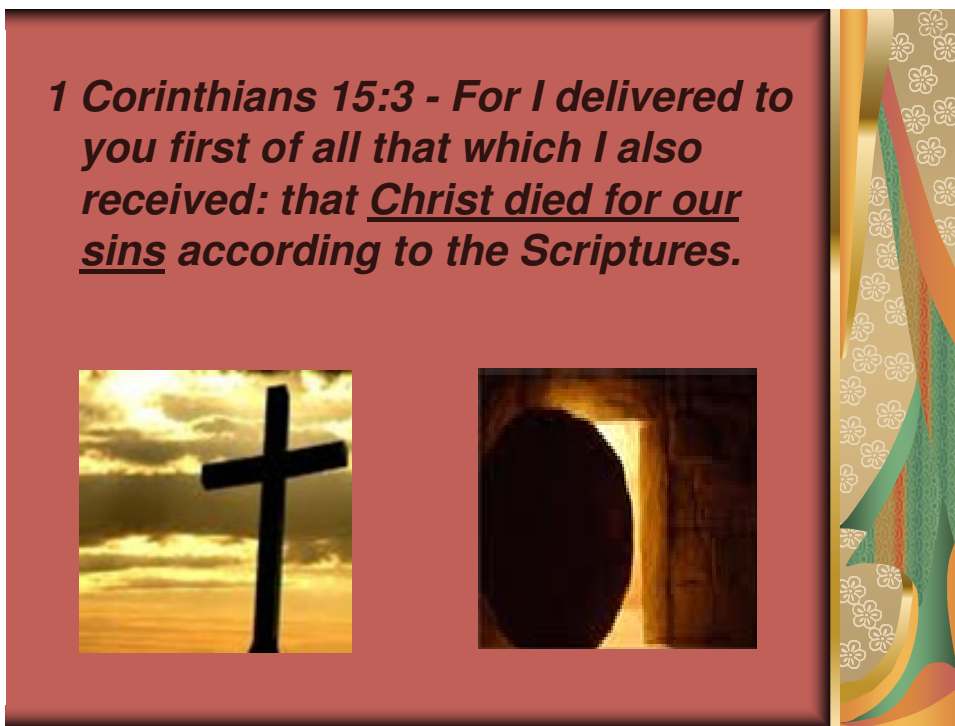
That's enough to raise a Jewish person's curiosity or anger him.

"Jesus loves you."

"God really cares for you."

- b. Ten Thousand words take about 1.5 hours.  
If in tongues uninterrupted - vain! BORING!

***1 Corinthians 15:3 - For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures.***



**The Chief Concern Of The Tongue-Speaker Is That His Message Be Interpreted**

Vs. 20 - Paul's desire would be for the Corinth Believer to be mature in their thinking.

Don't be babes = grow in understanding.

In regards to evil be babes = innocent and free from sin.

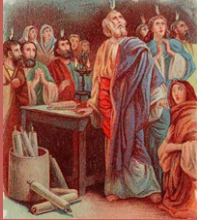
Paul, up to this point, covered the foundational principles of gifts in the church. That would be love & edification. The priority is to be the health of the church through understandable communication.

Starting with verse 21 Paul will begin to lay out the purpose for the gift of tongues. Next time!

## **February 27th**

Review: start with slide #13


**The Rightful Place For  
Tongues In The Church**



**I Corinthians 14**

**☞ God's priority is a healthy Church.**

**☞ Be loving and zealous in the use of spiritual gifts because God uses each of us to build up the body of Christ.**



**I. Pursue Love**

**II. Be Zealous In The Use Of Spiritual Gifts**



**The gift of tongue: is an unknown language supernaturally spoken by a speaker but known to the hearers or an interpreter. This message revealed the will and knowledge of God.**

**I. Pursue Love**

**II. Be Zealous In The Use Of Spiritual Gifts**



**Prophecy: God's message spoken forth and immediately understood.**

**O.T: foretelling the future and telling forth divine truths before they were revealed in the N.T.**



**When is the gift of tongue put on an equal level with prophecy?**

**Only when the tongue is interpreted.**



## **IX. Paul's Desire For The Believers At Corinth Was To Be Innocent & Mature - I Cor. 14:20**

Don't be child-like in your thinking abilities. Children don't have much discernment. Be discerning.

Yet, in regards to being evil (NKJV- malice), be like babes - be free, innocent of the deep evils of the world.

Be mature.

**Be innocent and mature.** - Paul wants this for Corinth. Wow.

**The real trophy of God's grace.** Untouched by the world.

How do you remain innocent and mature?????????

**Believers are to be learners.** How many Christians are truly learners?

When you are a student in a school how do you prepare for a class?

How do you conduct yourself in a class?

What do you do when class is over?

*Acts 17:11 - These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.*

Paul would go into a new town and preach. He loved it when people, and especially unbelievers, would hear and go search the Scripture. Wouldn't you love that?

A marked up Bible is a blessing to see. Buy good books to read and study (George Parker). Memorize Scripture.

***2 Timothy 3:16-17 - All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,  
17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.***

***1 John 4:1 - Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.***

How do you "test the spirit"?

One test to distinguish truth from deception is that of content

a. See Deut. 13:1-5. Walvoord & Zuck

b. John in his epistle (\*I John 4:1-4) adds to the required confession the affirmation that Jesus Christ came "in flesh" (cf. John 1:14; 20:31). There were opponents who had apparently either denied that the divine Word could become human or else they diminished the significance of his humanity in their effort to exalt his divinity. This error led to the heresy known as Docetism (**Do-ce-tism**), the view that Jesus only *seemed* to be human, seemed to die; He was a pure spirit. In contrast, 1 John demands full recognition of Jesus' humanity.

\*What people believe matters. Deity, Salvation, The Bible, Creation ...

The second test of the spirits is that of response to God's Word. The children of God respond to the divine Spirit, while the world responds to the spirit of deception. It may be, therefore, that the opponents were actually winning more converts than were the faithful who remained with John.<sup>4</sup>

\*What evidence is there in a person's lifestyle that reveals a heart for God?

Someone who has an active church life (involvement, view of leadership), who looks for opportunities to give out the Gospel, is a helping,

---

<sup>4</sup>Mays, James Luther ; Harper & Row, Publishers ; Society of Biblical Literature: *Harper's Bible Commentary*. San Francisco : Harper & Row, 1996, c1988, S. 1 Jn 4:1

loving neighbor, lives a life of sacrifice, has a desire for God's Word, desires to pray, desires to be blameless, and understands their role (husband, wife, children, leader, teacher, business owner, employee etc.).

What was it though that characterized the church of Corinth?

*Judges 17:6 - In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes. (Repeated in Judges 21:25)*

... but they changed.

We to need to keep changing.

## **X. THE PURPOSE OF TONGUES FOR ISRAEL DECLARED: A SIGN OF IMPENDING JUDGMENT**

A. Quoting Isaiah (vs. 21).

*Isaiah 28:11-12 - For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, 12 To whom He said, "This is the rest with which You may cause the weary to rest," And, "This is the refreshing"; Yet they would not hear.*

*Isaiah 28:13 - But the word of the Lord was to them, "Precept upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little," That they might go and fall backward, and be broken and snared and caught.*

**28:11-13.** Following up on the leaders' mimicking, Isaiah said that if they did not want to listen to his "lecturing" then they would be "lectured" by another people who had a difficult and different speech. **Foreign lips** would deliver the message of judgment on them. Isaiah was referring to the Assyrians who were advancing on Israel and would soon conquer it. Though God had offered Israel **rest** and **repose** they refused to **listen** to Him and His messenger. Therefore **the LORD** would turn their mocking back on them and they would **be injured . . . snared,**



**and captured** by a people whose language they did not understand.<sup>5</sup>

1. The point: Israel was judged because of their sin by a people of a different language (Assyrians - tongue).
2. Paul is using this event as an illustration to show:
  - a. tongue is a language
  - b. this tongue is in relation to a judgment and curse due to the nation's sin.

Before we get to looking at this verse, let's look at verse 22.

Vs. 22

GPS - Therefore, the tongues are (PIA) for a sign not to the ones believing, but to the unbelieving, but the prophesy (is - PIA) not to the unbelievers but to the believing.

"Therefore" - "for this reason we understand" tongues are a sign

"for" - purpose

"sign" - *shmeion* // // // // *semeion* 1 a sign, mark, token. 1A that by which a person or a thing is distinguished from others and is known. 1B a sign, prodigy, portent, i.e. an unusual occurrence, transcending the common course of nature. 1B1 of signs portending remarkable events soon to happen. 1B2 of miracles and wonders by which God authenticates the men sent by him, or by which men prove that the cause they are pleading is God's.

is used of "miracles" and wonders as signs of divine authority; it is translated "miracles" in the RV and KJV of Luke 23:8; Acts 4:16, 22; most usually it is given its more appropriate meaning "sign," "signs," e.g., Matt. 12:38, 39, and in every occurrence in the Synoptists, except Luke 23:8; in the following passages in John's Gospel the RV substitutes "sign" or "signs" for the KJV "miracle or miracles"; 2:11, 23; 3:2; 4:54; 6:2, 14, 26; 7:31; 9:16; 10:41; 11:47; 12:18, 37; the KJV also has "signs" elsewhere in this Gospel; in Acts, RV, "signs," KJV, "miracles," in 6:8; 8:6; 15:12; elsewhere only in Rev. 13:14; 16:14; 19:20. See SIGN, TOKEN, WONDER.

When considering the significance of signs, the intent of a sign was to give credence to the messenger and give credence to the message. A miracle was like a pointer - a sign. It was never intended that the weight of the miracle was to end with the miracle itself. It was a sign that pointed to a messenger and message about God.

---

<sup>5</sup>Walvoord, John F. ; Zuck, Roy B. ; Dallas Theological Seminary: *The Bible Knowledge Commentary : An Exposition of the Scriptures*. Wheaton, IL : Victor Books, 1983-c1985, S. 1:1077

The key point of this verse is that it is clearly stating that if we are going to understand tongues for the early NT church we need to understand tongues of the OT.

These will be key things we will observe as we consider other O.T. passages that will lead us right back to the principles found in the Isaiah passage.

Israel always understood that foreign tongues were a sign of God's judgment and curse to the nation. Likewise, the absence of foreign tongues was always a sign that the nation was under the blessing of God.

Can a person who doesn't believe in the use of sign gifts believe that God could use one of the sign gifts through a believer as a single, unique occurrence?

Where tongues ever used in any other way than stated in these lessons?

Purpose

Rules

## **miracle**

**mid-12c., from O.Fr. *miracle*, from L. *miraculum* "object of wonder"** (in Church L., "marvelous event caused by God"), from *mirari* "to wonder at," from *mirus* "wonderful," from \**smeiros*, from PIE \*(*s*)*mei-* "to smile, be astonished" (cf. Skt. *smerah* "smiling," Gk. *meidan* "to smile," O.C.S. *smejo* "to laugh;" see **smile**). Replaced O.E. *wundortacen*, *wundorweorc*. The Greek words rendered as *miracle* in the English bibles were *semeion* "sign," *teras* "wonder," and *dynamis* "power," in Vulgate translated respectively as *signum*, *prodigium*, and *virtus*. (Online Etymology dictionary © 2001-2010 Douglas Harper).

## The Purpose Of Tongues Declared

Vs. 20 - Paul tells us to be mature in our understanding and innocent in regards to sin.

Vs. 21 - He goes on to quote Isaiah 28:11-12. Why quote? He's appealing to the intellect. Having understanding of Scripture should bring about right behavior.

I can imagine the people reading this verse and thinking, "why is he quoting Isaiah?"

Vs. 22 - "therefore" = *w{ste}* = "for this reason". In order to understand the purpose of tongues you have to first understand Isaiah 28:11-12.

### **I. The Message of Isaiah 28**

A. Ungodly Jews rejected and mocked the message of God's prophet.

1. Isaiah's message was clear and simple and even monotonous (vs. 1-4, 7-8).
2. A future Israel will enjoy the power and justice of the Messiah's reign (vs. 5-6).
2. Unbelieving Jews rejected the message and mocked (vs. 9-10):
  - a. The message (cf. Isa. 30:15-17).
  - b. The messenger
  - c. The style of preaching
3. The Lord responds to their mockery:
  - a. They will not hear the clear speech of Isaiah, but the unknown language of a foreign conqueror (vs. 11).

### **II. A Pattern That Results In Hearing A Foreign Tongue**

(a known language unknown to the unbelieving hearers of Israel).

- A. God has a message for the people. (Isa. 28:12a).
- B. The people refuse to listen to God (Isa. 28:12b).

- C. God causes tongues to be heard as a sign of judgment (Isa. 28:11).
- D. Dispersion follows (Isa. 28:13).

### **III. The Pattern In Times Past Reveal The Significance And Purpose of Tongues.**

#### **A. Gen. 11 - The Judgment upon Babel.**

Tongues revealed for the first time.

1. God has a message for the people. (Gen. 9:1,7).
2. The people refuse to listen to God (Gen. 11:4).
3. God causes tongues to be heard as a sign of judgment (Gen.11:7).
4. Dispersion follows (Gen. 11:8).

#### **B. Deut. 28 - Israel was given the Law. A blessing was set before them if they obeyed the Law and a curse if they disobeyed.**

1. God has a message for the people. (vs. 1).
2. The people refuse to listen to God (vs. 15).
3. God causes tongues to be heard as a sign of judgment (vs. 49).
4. Dispersion follows (vs. 64-65).

#### **C. Jeremiah 5 - Weeping Prophet**

1. God has a message for the people. (4:1).
2. The people refuse to listen to God (5:3).
3. God causes tongues to be heard as a sign of judgment (5:15).
4. Dispersion follows (Gen. 18-19).

### **IV. The Absence Of Tongues Is Proof That The Nation Is Under The Blessings Of God (Isaiah 33:17-19. The Millennial Reign is in view).**

#### **Bringing it back to I Cor. 14:22a**

#### **The purpose of tongues declared:**

Tongues were a sign for the unbelieving, rebellious, Christ-rejecting nation of Israel. This was not the case in I Cor. 14.

## **V. The Pattern Repeated In The New Testament.**

Sadly the Jewish nation didn't learn their lesson throughout history. The Assyrian and Babylonian captivities should have taught Israel a lesson.

### **This cycle happened one more time in the N.T.**

1. God has a message for the people.

*Matthew 11:28 - Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*

Compare this to the repeated opportunities in Jeremiah 4:1 and Isaiah 28:12.

*Jeremiah 4:1 - "If you will return, O Israel," says the Lord, "Return to Me; And if you will put away your abominations out of My sight, Then you shall not be moved.*

*Isaiah 28:12 - To whom He said, "This is the rest with which You may cause the weary to rest," And, "This is the refreshing"; Yet they would not hear.*

2. The people refuse to listen to God.

*Matthew 23:37 - "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!"*

3. God causes tongues to be heard as a sign of judgment.

The Lord Jesus predicted the terrible judgment that would come upon the nation in 70 A.D. because they would refuse God and reject the Messiah.

*Matthew 23:38 - See! Your house is left to you desolate;*

*Matthew 24:2 - And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down."*

"The destruction of Jerusalem took place in 70 A.D. as the city was invaded by the Roman armies, led by General Titus. For the next two thousand years the living God would not dwell in a temple made with hands, but He would dwell in a unique body of Believers, and in each member in particular (I Cor. 3:16-17; 6:19). God's program was shifting from Israel to the Church.

Years earlier God had caused foreign tongues to be spoken and heard as a judgmental sign to the nation Israel (Acts 2, 10,19). For those Jews who were familiar with their Old Testament, the sounds of foreign tongues gave no cause for rejoicing! Tongues were a sign of God's curse, not of God's blessing. Tongues signified a coming invasion, and conveyed an ominous message of rebellion, judgment, and dispersion. When God spoke in tongues, the Jews understood the message (Isa. 28:11; I Cor. 14:21). Tongues were a sign-gift, given to an unbelieving, Christ-rejecting nation:"

***1 Corinthians 14:22 - 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.***

***(God's Gift of Tongues, by George W. Zeller p. 87-88).***

4. Dispersion Follows.

***Matthew 27:25 - And all the people answered and said, "His blood be on us and on our children."***

The nation had been scattered in A.D. 70 and now for 2,000 years. They have been out of the land and severely persecuted.

Although the people have had a country since 1948, only a small remnant has returned to the land.

They are not allowed to worship in their temple. The Muslims own it. The Jewish people have always suffered persecution since 70 A.D. and have never had rest or peace from war in their land.

## The following pages are taken from:

<[http://www.religioustolerance.org/jud\\_pers1.htm](http://www.religioustolerance.org/jud_pers1.htm)> (theologically very liberal)

## Persecution of Jews by Roman Pagans:

- **70:** The Roman Army destroyed Jerusalem, killed over 1 million Jews, took about 100,000 into slavery and captivity, and scattered many from Palestine to other locations in the Roman Empire.
  - **Circa 115 -117:** Jews in Cyprus, Cyrene, Egypt and parts of Mesopotamia revolted against the Roman Empire in what is known as the Kito's War. This caused the death of several hundreds of thousands of Romans and Jews. The Roman Legions eventually crushed the rebellions. <sup>1</sup>
  - **132:** Bar Kochba led a hopeless three-year revolt against the Roman Empire. Many Jews had accepted him as the Messiah. About a half-million Jews were killed; thousands were sold into slavery or taken into captivity. The rest were exiled from Palestine and scattered throughout the known world, adding to what is now called the "Diaspora." Judaism was no longer recognized as a legal religion. <sup>2</sup>
  - **135:** Serious Roman persecution of the Jews began. They were forbidden, upon pain of death, from practicing circumcision, reading the Torah, eating unleavened bread at Passover, etc. A temple dedicated to the Roman pagan god Jupiter was erected on temple mountain in Jerusalem. A temple of Venus was built on Golgotha, just outside the city.
  - **200:** Roman Emperor Severus forbade religious conversions to Judaism.
- 

## Persecution of Jews by Christians:

Initial persecution of Jews was along religious lines. Persecution would cease if the person converted to Christianity.

- **306:** The church *Synod of Elvira* banned marriages, sexual intercourse and community contacts between Christians and Jews. <sup>3,4</sup>
- **315:** Constantine published the *Edict of Milan* which extended religious tolerance to Christians. Jews lost many rights with this edict. They were no longer permitted to live in Jerusalem, or to proselytize.
- **325:** The *Council of Nicea* decided to separate the celebration of Easter from the Jewish Passover. They stated: "*For it is unbecoming beyond measure that on this*

*holiest of festivals we should follow the customs of the Jews. Henceforth let us have nothing in common with this odious people...We ought not, therefore, to have anything in common with the Jews...our worship follows a...more convenient course...we desire dearest brethren, to separate ourselves from the detestable company of the Jews...How, then, could we follow these Jews, who are almost certainly blinded."*

- **337:** Christian Emperor Constantius created a law which made **the marriage of a Jewish man to a Christian punishable by death.**
- **339:** **Converting to Judaism became a criminal offense.**
- **343-381:** The Laodicean Synod approved Canon XXXVIII: "*It is not lawful [for Christians] to receive unleavened bread from the Jews, nor to be partakers of their impiety.*" 5
- **367 - 376:** St. Hilary of Poitiers referred to Jews as a perverse people who God has cursed forever. St. Ephroem refers to synagogues as brothels.
- **379-395:** Emperor Theodosius the Great permitted the **destruction of synagogues** if it served a religious purpose. Christianity became the state religion of the Roman Empire at this time.
- **380:** The bishop of Milan was responsible for the **burning of a synagogue; he referred to it as "an act pleasing to God."**
- **415:** The Bishop of Alexandria, St. Cyril, expelled the Jews from that Egyptian city.
- **415:** St. Augustine wrote "*The true image of the Hebrew is Judas Iscariot, who sells the Lord for silver. The Jew can never understand the Scriptures and forever will bear the guilt for the death of Jesus.*"
- **418:** St. Jerome, who created the Vulgate translation of the Bible wrote of a synagogue: "*If you call it a brothel, a den of vice, the Devil's refuge, Satan's fortress, a place to deprave the soul, an abyss of every conceivable disaster or whatever you will, you are still saying less than it deserves.*"
- **489 - 519:** Christian mobs destroyed the synagogues in Antioch, Daphne (near Antioch) and Ravenna.
- **528:** Emperor Justinian (527-564) passed the Justinian Code. It prohibited Jews from building synagogues, reading the Bible in Hebrew, assemble in public, celebrate Passover before Easter, and testify against Christians in court. 3
- **535:** The "*Synod of Claremont decreed that Jews could not hold public office or have authority over Christians.*" 3



- **538:** The *3rd and 4th Councils of Orleans* prohibited Jews from appearing in public during the Easter season. Canon XXX decreed that "*From the Thursday before Easter for four days, Jews may not appear in the company of Christians.*" <sup>5</sup> Marriages between Christians and Jews were prohibited. Christians were prohibited from converting to Judaism. <sup>4</sup>
- **561:** The bishop of Uzes expelled Jews from his diocese in France.
- **612:** Jews were not allowed to own land, to be farmers or enter certain trades.
- **613:** Very serious persecution began in Spain. Jews were given the options of either leaving Spain or converting to Christianity. Jewish children over 6 years of age were taken from their parents and given a Christian education
- **692:** Cannon II of the Quinisext Council stated: "*Let no one in the priestly order nor any layman eat the unleavened bread of the Jews, nor have any familiar intercourse with them, nor summon them in illness, nor receive medicines from them, nor bathe with them; but if anyone shall take in hand to do so, if he is a cleric, let him be deposed, but if a layman, let him be cut off.*" <sup>5</sup>
- **694:** The 17th Church *Council of Toledo*, Spain defined Jews as the serfs of the prince. This was based, in part, on the beliefs by Chrysostom, Origen, Jerome, and other Church Fathers that God punished the Jews with perpetual slavery because of their alleged responsibility for the execution of Jesus. <sup>5</sup>
- **722:** Leo III outlawed Judaism. Jews were baptized against their will.
- **855:** Jews were exiled from Italy.
- **1050:** The *Synod of Narbonne* prohibited Christians from living in the homes of Jews.
- **1078:** "*Pope Gregory VII decreed that Jews could not hold office or be superiors to Christians.*" <sup>6</sup>
- **1078:** The *Synod of Gerona* forced Jews to pay church taxes.
- **1096:** The *First Crusade* was launched in this year. Although the prime goal of the crusades was to liberate Jerusalem from the Muslims, Jews were a second target. As the soldiers passed through Europe on the way to the Holy Land, large numbers of Jews were challenged: "*Christ-killers, embrace the Cross or die!*" **12,000 Jews in the Rhine Valley alone were killed in the first Crusade.** This behavior continued for 8 additional crusades until the 9th in 1272.
- **1099:** The Crusaders forced all of the Jews of Jerusalem into a central synagogue and set it on fire. Those who tried to escape were forced back into the burning building.
- **1121:** Jews were exiled from Flanders (now part of present-day Belgium)

- **1130:** Some Jews in London allegedly killed a sick man. The Jewish people in the city were required to pay 1 million marks as compensation.
- **1146:** The *Second Crusade* began. A French Monk, Rudolf, called for the destruction of the Jews.
- **1179:** Canon 24 of the *Third Lateran Council* stated: "*Jews should be slaves to Christians and at the same time treated kindly due of humanitarian considerations.*" Canon 26 stated that "*the testimony of Christians against Jews is to be preferred in all causes where they use their own witnesses against Christians.*" 7
- **1180:** The French King of France, Philip Augustus, arbitrarily seized all Jewish property and expelled the Jews from the country. There was no legal justification for this action. They were allowed to sell all movable possessions, but their land and houses were stolen by the king.
- **1189:** Jews were persecuted in England. The Crown claimed all Jewish possessions. Most of their houses were burned.

- **1205:** Pope Innocent III wrote to the archbishops of Sens and Paris that "*the Jews, by their own guilt, are consigned to perpetual servitude because they crucified the Lord...As slaves rejected by God, in whose death they wickedly conspire, they shall by the effect of this very action, recognize themselves as the slaves of those whom Christ's death set free...*"
- **1215:** The *Fourth Lateran Council* approved canon laws requiring that "*Jews and Muslims shall wear a special dress.*" They also had to wear a badge in the form of a ring. This was to enable them to be easily distinguished from Christians. This practice later spread to other countries.
- **1227:** The *Synod of Narbonne* required Jews to wear an oval badge. This requirement was reinstated during the 1930's by Hitler, who changed the oval badge to a Star of David.
- **1229:** The Spanish inquisition starts. Later, in 1252, Pope Innocent IV authorizes the use of torture by the Inquisitors.
- **1236:** Pope Gregory ordered that church leaders in England, France, Portugal and Spain confiscate Jewish books on the first Saturday of Lent. <sup>1</sup>
- **1259:** A "*synod of the archdiocese in Mainz ordered Jews to wear yellow badges.*" <sup>1</sup>
- **1261:** Duke Henry III of Brabant, Belgium, stated in his will that "*Jews...must be expelled from Brabant and totally annihilated so that not a single one remains, except those who are willing to trade, like all other tradesmen, without money-lending and usury.*" <sup>2</sup>
- **1267:** The *Synod of Vienna* ordered Jews to wear horned hats. Thomas Aquinas said that Jews should live in perpetual servitude.
- **1290:** Jews are exiled from England. About 16,000 left the country.
- **1298:** Jews were persecuted in Austria, Bavaria and Franconia. 140 Jewish communities were destroyed; more than 100,000 Jews were killed over a 6 month period.
- **1306:** 100,000 Jews are exiled from France. They left with only the clothes on their backs, and food for only one day.
- **1320:** 40,000 French shepherds went to Palestine on the Shepherd Crusade. On the

way, 140 Jewish communities were destroyed.

- **1321:** In Guienne, France, Jews were accused of having incited criminals to poison wells. 5,000 Jews were burned alive, at the stake.
- **1338:** The councilors of Freiburg banned the performance of anti-Jewish scenes from the town's passion play because of the lethal bloody reactions against Jews which followed the performances. 9
- **1347 +:** **The Black Death** originated in the Far East. China, Mongolia, India, central Asia, and southern Russia have all been suggested as the source. 10 Mongol invaders brought it to Caffa in the Crimea (modern-day Fedodosiya). Defenders from the city later spread the disease throughout many Mediterranean ports. 11 Rats initially carried the Black Death; their fleas spread the disease from the rats to humans. As the plague worsened, the germs spread from human to human. In five years, the death toll had reached 25 million. In England, two centuries passed before its population levels recovered from the plague. People searched for someone to blame. They noted that a smaller percentage of Jews than Christians caught the disease. This was undoubtedly due to the Jewish sanitary and dietary laws, which had been preserved from Old Testament times. Rumors circulated that Satan was protecting the Jews and that they were paying back the Devil by poisoning wells used by Christians. **The solution was to torture, murder and burn the Jews. "In Bavaria...12,000 Jews...perished; in the small town of Erfurt...3,000; Rue Brulic; 1/2e...2,000 Jews; near Tours, an immense trench was dug, filled with blazing wood and in a single day 160 Jews were burned."** 5 In Strausberg 2,000 Jews were burned. In Maintz 6,000 were killed...; in Worms 400..." 3
- **1354:** 12,000 Jews were executed in Toledo.
- **1374:** An epidemic of possession broke out in the lower Rhine region of what is now Germany. People were seen "*dancing, jumping and [engaging in] wild raving.*" This was triggered by enthusiastic revels on St. John's Day - an Christianized version of an ancient Pagan seasonal day of celebration which was still observed by the populace. The epidemic spread throughout the Rhine and in much of the Netherlands and Germany. Crowds of 500 or more dancers would be overcome together. Exorcisms were tried, but failed. Pilgrimages to the shrine of St. Vitus were tried, but this only seemed to exacerbate the problem. Finally, the rumor spread that God was angry because Christians had been excessively tolerant towards the Jews. God had cursed Europe as He did Saul when he showed mercy towards God's enemies in the Old Testament. Jews "*were plundered, tortured and murdered by tens of thousands.*" The epidemic finally burned itself out two centuries later, in the late 16th century. 4
- **1391 :** Jewish persecutions begin in Seville and in 70 other Jewish communities throughout Spain.
- **1394 :** Jews were exiled, for the second time, from France.

- **1431 +:** The *Council of Basel* "forbade Jews to go to universities, prohibited them from acting as agents in the conclusion of contracts between Christians, and required that they attend church sermons." 5
- **1434:** "Jewish men in Augsburg had to sew yellow buttons to their clothes. Across Europe, Jews were forced to wear a long undergarment, an overcoat with a yellow patch, bells and tall pointed yellow hats with a large button on them." 1
- **1453 :** The Franciscan monk, Capistrano, persuaded the King of Poland to terminate all Jewish civil rights.
- **1478:** Spanish Jews had been heavily persecuted from the 14th century. Many had converted to Christianity. The Spanish Inquisition was set up by the Church in order to detect insincere conversions. Laws were passed that prohibited the descendants of Jews or Muslims from attending university, joining religious orders, holding public office, or entering any of a long list of professions.
- **1492 :** Jews were given the choice of being baptized as Christians or be banished from Spain. 300,000 left Spain penniless. Many migrated to Turkey, where they found tolerance among the Muslims. Others converted to Christianity but often continued to practice Judaism in secret.
- **1497:** Jews were banished from Portugal. 20 thousand left the country rather than be baptized as Christians.
- **1516:** The Governor of the Republic of Venice decided that Jews would be permitted to live only in one area of the city. It was located in the South Girolamo parish and was called the "*Ghetto Novo*." This was the first ghetto in Europe. Hitler made use of the concept in the 1930's.
- **1523:** Martin Luther distributed his essay "*That Jesus Was Born a Jew*." He hoped that large numbers of Jews would convert to Christianity. They didn't, and he began to write and preach hatred against them. Luther has been condemned in recent years for being extremely antisemitic. The charge has some merit; however he was probably typical of most Christians during his era.
- **1539:** A passion play was forbidden in Rome because it prompted violent attacks against the city's Jewish residents. 9
- **1540:** Jews were exiled from Naples.
- **1543:** In his 20's, Martin Luther, had expected Jews to convert to Christianity in large numbers. Distressed by their reluctance, he developed a hatred for Jews, as expressed in his letters to Rev. Spalatin in 1514, when he was 31 years of age. He wrote:

"I have come to the conclusion that the Jews will always curse and blaspheme God and his King Christ, as all the prophets have predicted....For they are thus given over by the wrath of God to reprobation, that they may become incorrigible, as Ecclesiastes says, for every one who is incorrigible is rendered worse rather than better by correction." 6

In 1543, he wrote "*On the Jews and their lies, On Shem Hamphoras*" :

"...eject them forever from this country. For, as we have heard, God's anger with them is so intense that gentle mercy will only tend to make them worse and worse, while sharp mercy will reform them but little. Therefore, in any case, away with them!...What then shall we Christians do with this damned, rejected race of Jews?

- First, their synagogues or churches should be set on fire,...
- Secondly, their homes should likewise be broken down and destroyed... They ought to be put under one roof or in a stable, like Gypsies.
- Thirdly, they should be deprived of their prayer books and Talmuds in which such idolatry, lies, cursing and blasphemy are taught.
- Fourthly, their rabbis must be forbidden under threat of death to teach any more...
- Fifthly, passport and traveling privileges should be absolutely forbidden to the Jews...
- Sixthly, they ought to be stopped from usury. All their cash and valuables of silver and gold ought to be taken from them and put aside for safe keeping...
- Seventhly, let the young and strong Jews and Jewesses be given the flail, the axe, the hoe, the spade, the distaff, and spindle and let them earn their bread by the sweat of their noses as in enjoined upon Adam's children...

To sum up, dear princes and nobles who have Jews in your domains, if this advice of mine does not suit you, then find a better one so that you and we may all be free of this insufferable devilish burden - the Jews." 7

- **1550:** Jews were exiled from Genoa and Venice.
- **1555-JUL-12:** A Roman Catholic Papal bull, "*Cum nimis absurdum*," required Jews to wear badges, and live in ghettos. They were not allowed to own property outside the ghetto. Living conditions were dreadful: over 3,000 people were forced to live in about 8 acres of land. Women had to wear a yellow veil or scarf; men had to wear a piece of yellow cloth on their hat. 8
- **1582:** Jews were expelled from Holland.
- **1648-9:** Chmielnicki Bogdan led an uprising against Polish rule in the Ukraine. The secondary goal of Bogdan and his followers was to exterminate all Jews in the country. The massacre began with the slaughter of about 6,000 Jews in Nemirov. Other major mass murders occurred in Tulchin, Polonnoye, Volhynia, Bar, Lvov, etc. Jewish

records estimate that a total of 100,000 Jews were murdered and 300 communities destroyed.

"From A.D. 1800 to the present, the Jews suffered extreme hardship. Nearly one out of every two Jews in the world (five out of seven Jews in Europe) were systematically and brutally murdered by the Nazis and their sympathizers in the 1930s and 1940s"

([http://www.tpub.com/content/religion/14229/css/14229\\_71.htm](http://www.tpub.com/content/religion/14229/css/14229_71.htm))

About 6 million Jews died during the Holocaust.

## **Is there HOPE for Israel??**

**Rev. 7 cf. chap. 14 & 21.** A literal interpretation gives great hope! If we didn't interpret Revelation literally there would be no hope for Israel.

There is NO NATION that is more secure than Israel! Their flag will be waving in the end. Jerusalem will be established in the Millennial Reign of Christ and will go into the eternal state. The promised seed of Gen. 3, the promised King the seed of David will be in His proper place.

### **When we come to the N.T. we see that tongue is called a gift. Why?**

1. Many gifts were given and this is just one of them.

a. Exhort the new fledging church.

Spiritual Gifts: To the end of mutual edification God has equipped the church with various gifts apportioned and bestowed by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12:11). (p. 14).

All the gifts were in operation in the foundational years of the church. But, just as the Apostles and Prophets went off the scene, so did the temporary sign gifts. (p. 17)

b. Authenticating ministry and the Word of God not yet written

c. Hope for Jew and Gentile even though Israel is set aside - gift

2. All the sign-gifts were transitional for the Church Age.

3. Transitional? At the cross we saw the completion of the O.T. sacrificial system. In Acts two we saw the birth of the church, which in turn set aside of Israel in her purposes.

4. The office of apostle is brought in for the foundation of the church age. That office exists no longer. It was 12 and no more.

5. Sign-gifts accompanied their messages to authenticate their ministries and authority.

a. There were only three periods of history where miracles were performed:

(1) During the ministry of Moses and Joshua.

(2) Elijah and Elisha

(3) Jesus and the apostles



b. A future time will be during the Millennial Kingdom.

*Hebrews 6:5 - and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come,*

**I believe the gift of tongues has ceased.**

**Why has tongues ceased?**

1. Temporary sign-gifts were to run their course and then die out.

\*1 Corinthians 13:8-10

"cease" - "pauo" = which means "to stop, to come to an end."  
The gift will stop by itself. It had a limited energy supply and a limited lifespan. When its limits were reached, its activity automatically ended. (middle voice = indicates intentional, voluntary action upon oneself). (MacArthur p. 359).

"Done away" - passive voice = something outside brings its cessation. "When the perfect has come". This does not apply to tongues.

2. Tongues as a sign of judgment has been fulfilled 70 A.D.

Purpose of tongues which revealed impending punitive decision of God has run its course. The ministry once entrusted to the nation of Israel is now entrusted to the Church, which is comprised of both Jew and Gentile. Israel has been set aside during this Church Age. They have been dispersed and will not be re-gathered as a nation until the Millennial Kingdom.

3. Apostolic Age - sign gifts authenticated their ministry 50-55 A.D. is the last recorded sign-gift miracle.

John died shortly after 90 A.D.

Purpose ran its course.

4. The Word of God and the Spirit's ministry is sufficient.

There is no purpose for a sign-gift which was revelatory in nature as well as authenticated the ministry of the apostles. We have the completed and sufficient Word and

the sufficient ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Do I need or does this World need more revelation other than what has been given? No. Is the Holy Spirit able to move in man with such convincing force as to bring him where He desires to accomplish His work?

Yes.

5. John MacArthur p. 361.

MacArthur gives two other reasons that prove the cessation of tongues.

p. 360 - Inferior means of edification.

p. 361 - Their use is mentioned only in the earlier N.T. books.

How do I treat my charismatic friends?

Many of them are brothers in the faith.

Some of them I truly question. (security of the Believer; works keeps them saved).

I will and have cooperated with those who were evangelical and for the purpose of evangelism. I've belonged to the community's Pastor's Fellowship where I was among only 3 pastors not a charismatic. I've taught and given lessons in this group. We've joined together for a community Thanksgiving service. I draw a line of separation with non-evangelicals for evangelism, worship and any teaching ministries.

I had a good enough reputation among them that some would consult with me concerning cooperation with liberals and matters of truth found in Scripture.

Few portions of the New Testament pose as many problems for translators and interpreters as does 2 Corinthians. Few, therefore, are the preachers who undertake a systematic exposition of its contents. For those undaunted by its demands, however, an intimate picture of a pastor's heart may be found as the Apostle Paul shepherded the wayward Corinthians and revealed a love which comes only from God.<sup>6</sup>

---

<sup>6</sup>Walvoord, John F. ; Zuck, Roy B. ; Dallas Theological Seminary: *The Bible Knowledge Commentary : An Exposition of the Scriptures*. Wheaton, IL : Victor Books, 1983-c1985, S. 2:551

## The Priority Of Prophecy

### **I. The Gift Of Tongues Was A Sign For Unbelievers**

A. Tongues For Unbelievers (vs. 22).

1. To the Jewish unbelievers.
2. Any unbeliever that came in among the church.

B. The Prophecy Was For Believers.

- For the instruction and maturing of the saints.

### **II. A Corinthian Real-Life Scenario (vs. 23-25).**

#### **The Way It's Not Suppose To Happen**

A. Everyone gathers for church.

B. At some point in the service everyone is speaking in tongues.

C. The uninformed (new comers) & unbelievers are invited to church and they decide to attend.

1. Their conclusion about church: "you're out of your mind"  
"they are wild" = frustrated, confused about church
2. Not "Wow, these people are spiritual"
3. We have many people drawn to the tongue movement today, but I would agree with Paul, that it is such a horrible testimony that most people are totally turned-off by Christians thinking we are crazy snake handlers and holy rollers. Too many unbelievers believe we are people who have an illogical and irrational approach to spiritual life.

#### **4. What are some negative things some unsaved say concerning Christians?**

\*The Bible has many interpretations.

\*Christians are confusing.

\*"Going to church is like a rock concert."

\*"I'm as good as they are."

\*After examining a worship service they feel they can worship God at home or out in a boat enjoying His creation.

### III. The Preferred Approach To Worship & Preferred Results (vs. 24-25).

- A. Everyone gathers for church.
- B. During the church service everyone prophesies (preaching and teaching one by one).
- C. The uninformed (new comers) & unbelievers are invited to church and they decide to attend.

#### 1. Their response to preaching:

- a. He's convinced by all. Speaking logically.
- b. He's convicted by all. Speaking the same things. Unified in thought.
- c. His heart has been revealed (secret sin).
- d. He's humbled (falls down).
- e. Worships God.
- f. He goes out from your church and gives testimony.
- g. Acts 2:37ff

#### 2. What do we desire for people to say about us?

- a. Greeters are friendly, caring, nice bulletin, nice Welcome Packet, kind comments about our building... These things certainly help.
- b. We truly should have a sincere priority in our teaching ministries.

##### (1) What are our teaching ministries?

SS all ages, Children's Church, Pulpit  
Awana, GNC, Bible Studies, YAF

##### (2) Prayerfully prepare.

##### (3) Pray for me and all those who teach.

##### (4) Pray that people would be convinced and transformed by the Word of God.

Good Bible teaching transforms people,  
churches, families, and communities.  
It brings hope and peace.

**In what ways?**

# A Proper Procedure For Tongues In The Church Of Corinth

## I. We've Laid A Doctrinal Basis. (Review Slides)

**Doctrine understood makes practice logical.**

## II. Procedure For Tongues That Glorifies God & Exhorts The Congregation

- A. Two-three at the most were to speak in tongues. Why? Was that all time would permit?
- B. One speaker at a time is to utilize the gift of tongue.
- C. One interpreter per person. Not two or three to interpret.
- D. If there is no interpreter in the assembly, no person is to speak in a tongue (control).
- E. The person who has a message to share by a tongue who does not have opportunity to share because of no interpreter present is to remain silent and pray to God.

## Conclusion:

**Doctrine understood makes practice logical.**

Why go to church? Why invest in the church? Why be moral?  
Why become a member? Why missions? Why read the Bible daily?  
Why pray daily? Why be baptized or participate at the Lord's Table?

*When I understand doctrine I desire to obey with confidence.*

*On the one hand, we can have people obey without understanding and not be of any spiritual value.*

*On the other hand, people don't practice righteousness because they don't know what is right.*

*Paul was not instructing the Corinthians not to practice tongues. He wanted them to practice tongues with a proper doctrinal understanding. The proper practice of tongues would certainly bring glory to God. He desired for the saints to be built up through a proper use of tongues with understanding, and he desired for the unsaved to see the Savior through the life of a godly congregation.*

### **III. Instruction For Women (vs. 34-35).**

A. Context: abuses. Tongues & Prophecies needed guidelines.

1. Self-control through keeping silent (28,30,34).

B. Paul addressed women before in I Cor. 11 - head covering.

1. They were not to take things from the world and bring it into the church. There was to be subordination in the church.
2. Some of the notes from chapter 11.

#### **A. There Is A Dress Code In Culture That Portrays A Message:**

1. Men didn't cover their heads in worship because that would have been dishonoring to God (vs. 4).
2. Women were to cover their heads.
  - a. It was universal custom for both Jewish and Greco-Roman cultures for the public wearing of head coverings for women.
  - b. It is true in most cultures that women have always had longer hair than men to show beauty and softness.
  - c. vs. 15 – Her hair was given to her! That stands for all time.
  - d. It was shameful for women not to cover their heads. They may as well shave their heads bald. Shameful!

#### **II. The Principle Of Headship Stated And Defined (vs. 3).**

Headship: authority/subordination; ruling, sovereign

Is there anywhere in society or around the world where this is not so?

Christ is head of man.

Man is head of woman.

God is head of Christ. Just as there is harmony within the Godhead there is to be harmony in a marriage.

Marriage: A covenant companionship between a fallen man and a fallen woman as equals fulfilling God-ordained roles that result in unity for the purpose of sanctification and exercising dominion on the earth under God.

Head covering issue: women were to dress like women.

### III. Wives Are To Be Submissive To Their Husbands (vs. 34-35).

#### A. A Consistent Theme in Scripture.

*Ephesians 5:22 - Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.*

*Colossians 3:18 - Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.*

*Titus 2:5 - to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.*

*1 Peter 3:1 - Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives,*

*1 Peter 3:5 - For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands.*

**B. Silent in the churches (all churches - circulatory letter - a universal principle). {some say we need to keep in mind the context of the church worship services - tongues and prophecy. Conferences, child classes, SS for boys?}**

1. Why? Standard of conduct that reflects order.
  - a. Man was created first.
  - b. Woman was created for man and not man for the woman.
  - c. Reflects order as in the Godhead.
  - d. Does not reflect that women are inferior to men.

1 Timothy 2:11-15 - Let a woman learn in silence with all submission.

12 And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence.

13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve.

14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.

15 Nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.

2. There were **disturbances** in the church services and Paul intended to quiet the situation. We don't know what the disturbances were.

Evidently, too much talking. Arguing. Wives and husbands having a disagreement there at church.

As it pertains to roles of husband and wife there is one thing that bothers me. I truly like disagreeing with a lady knowing she has a husband. I wish I could discuss the matter directly with him. I don't ever want him to think I disrespect his wife. I understand the man desires to protect his wife. Guys can disagree with each other and that's okay.

3. Husbands need to be educated in the Word, so as to minister to his wife. Women should bring concerns to their husband and he is to take leadership in dealing with the questions.
4. The principle is clear: the role of leadership is reserved for men.

### **C. Paul's Challenge To The "Spiritual" (vs. 36-38).**

Paul expected opposition to his teaching.

1. Recognize the principles of commands of roles in marriage and worship are found in Scripture.
  - a. If they were spiritual, as they supposed themselves to be, they would recognize what he was saying was truth. They didn't need tongues to affirm what Paul was teaching. They had the Word (O. T).
  - b. If the supposedly spiritual person doesn't recognize these things from God's Word, then that person is to not be recognized as spiritual, wise and knowledgeable, but regarded as ignorant.

### **Paul's Conclusion vs. 39-40**



Desire prophesy (clear biblical teaching).  
Don't forbid tongues. They are profitable.  
Done in properly and orderly bringing glory to God and for the cause of  
Christ.

### III. Wives Are To Be \_\_\_\_\_ To Their Husbands (vs. 34-35).

#### A. A Consistent Theme in Scripture.

*Ephesians 5:22; Colossians 3:18; Titus 2:5; 1 Peter 3:1, 5*

#### B. Silent in the churches (all churches - circulatory letter

- a \_\_\_\_\_ principle).

1. Why? Standard of conduct that reflects order.

a. Man was created \_\_\_\_\_.

b. Woman was created for \_\_\_\_\_ man.

c. Reflects \_\_\_\_\_ as in the Godhead.

d. Does not reflect women are \_\_\_\_\_ to men.

Cf. 1 Timothy 2:11-15

2. There were \_\_\_\_\_ in the church services and Paul intended to quiet the situation.

3. Husbands need to be \_\_\_\_\_ in the Word.

4. The principle is clear: the role of leadership is reserved for men.

#### C. Paul's Challenge To The "Spiritual" (vs. 36-38).

Paul expected \_\_\_\_\_ to his teaching.

### Paul's Conclusion vs. 39-40

## Is there HOPE for Israel??

Rev. 7 cf. chap. 14 & 21. A literal interpretation gives great hope! If we didn't interpret Revelation literally how can we extend any hope for Israel?

There is NO NATION \_\_\_\_\_!

**When we come to the N.T. we see that tongues is called a gift. Why?**

1. Many gifts were given and this is just one of them.

a. Exhort the new fledging church.

Spiritual Gifts: To the end of mutual edification God has equipped the church with various gifts apportioned and bestowed by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12:11). (p. 14).

All the gifts were in operation in the foundational years of the church. But, just as the Apostles and Prophets went off the scene, so did the temporary sign gifts. (p. 17)

b. \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ of God not yet written.

c. Hope for Jew and Gentile even though Israel is set aside - gift

2. All the sign-gifts were \_\_\_\_\_ enablements for the Church Age.

3. Transitional? At the cross we saw the completion of the O.T. \_\_\_\_\_ . In Acts two we saw the \_\_\_\_\_ of the church, which in turn set aside \_\_\_\_\_.

4. The office of apostle is brought in for the foundation of the \_\_\_\_\_ . That office exist no longer. It was 12 and no more.

5. Sign-gifts accompanied their messages to authenticate their ministries.

a. There were only three periods of history where miracles were performed:

(1) During the ministry of Moses and Joshua.

(2) Elijah and Elisha

(3) Jesus and the apostles

b. A future time will be during the Millennial Kingdom.

*Hebrews 6:5 - and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come,*

### Why has tongues ceased?

1. Temporary sign-gifts were to run their course and then die out.  
\*1 Corinthians 13:8-10

"cease" - "pauo" = which means "to stop, to come to an end."  
The gift will stop by itself. It had a limited energy supply and a limited lifespan. When its limits were reached, its activity automatically ended. (middle voice = indicates intentional, voluntary action upon oneself). (MacArthur p. 359).

"Done away" - passive voice = something outside brings its cessation. "When the perfect has come". This does not apply to tongues.

1. Tongues as a sign of judgment has been fulfilled 70 A.D.
2. Apostolic Age - sign gifts authenticated their ministry.  
50-55 A.D. is the last recorded \_\_\_\_\_ miracle.  
Purpose ran its course.
3. The Word of God and the Spirit's ministry is sufficient.  
There is no purpose for a sign-gift which was \_\_\_\_\_ in nature.  
We have the completed and **sufficient** \_\_\_\_\_ and the **sufficient** ministry of the \_\_\_\_\_.

Do I need or does this World need more revelation other than what has been given? \_\_\_\_\_. Is the Holy Spirit able to move in man with such convincing force as to bring him where He desires to accomplish His work? \_\_\_\_\_.

4. John MacArthur (I Corinthians Commentary p. 361).

MacArthur gives two other reasons for the cessation of tongues.  
p. 360 - Inferior means of edification.  
p. 361 - Their use is mentioned only in the earlier N.T. books.