

Lesson #4

PERMANENT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

This is the last lesson in a four lesson series on Spiritual gifts:

Lesson #1: Introduction to Spiritual Gifts

Lesson #2: Nineteen Spiritual Gifts

Lesson #3: Temporary Spiritual Gifts

Lesson #4: Permanent Spiritual gifts

Last week we learned that there are three important dates and events related to operating spiritual gifts.

30 AD: event _____ number of gifts _____ (Acts2; 1 Cor.12: 11-13)
70 AD: event _____ number of gifts _____ (1 Cor.13:8; 14:2)
100 AD: event _____ number of gifts _____ (1 cor.12:8-10; 13:9)

“Once the credibility of the witness of the apostles had been established, and the canon of New Testament had been completed, there was not the same necessity for the exercises of the miraculous, spectacular gifts which gradually became less prominent.” (Holy Spirit and His Gifts by O.J. Sanders, pg.111)

This lesson will study each of the twelve permanent spiritual gifts. We will divide these gifts into three categories of study: SPEAKING GIFTS; SERVICE GIFTS; and SPECTACULAR GIFTS. Some Bible scholars refer to these gifts as Post -canon spiritual gifts.

TWO SPEAKING GIFTS

- **Evangelist** (*euaggelistes*): It is the supernatural ability to identify pockets of positive volition among unbelievers to proclaim the gospel of grace salvation and condemnation and teach security of that salvation (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; 10:28; Eph.2:8-9; Eph.4:11; 1 Cor.12:28; 1 Pet.2:2).
- **Pastor-teacher** (*poimen-didaskalos*): It is the supernatural ability to comprehend, categorize, and communicate the canon of Scripture for spiritual growth of believers (Heb.5:13-14; 2 Pet.3:18; Eph.4:11; Rom.12:7; 1 Cor.12:28-30; 1 Pet.4:10-11).

SEVEN SERVICE GIFTS

1. **The first two service gifts have a Greek definite article with only the second word. This means that the first word describes the gift and the second word describes its function of edification.**
- **Ministry in the ministry** (*diakonia en te diakonia*): It is the supernatural ability to minister in ministry activity of the church (Rom.12:7; 1 Cor.16:15-16; 2 Tim.4:11).
 - **He who exhorts in the exhortation** (*ho parakaleo/p.a.ptc nsm/ en te paraklesis*): It is the supernatural ability to exhort in a situation where encouragement is needed within the church body (Rom.12: 1-5,8; 1 Thess.3: 1-7).

2. **The next three service gifts have a Greek definite article with the first word but not the second word. The second word is also different than the first. This emphasizes a different quality or characteristic of edification occurs other than the gift.**
 - ***He who gives with liberality*** (*ho metadidomi/p.a.ptc nsm/ en haplotes*): It is the supernatural ability to perceive a need within the church body and to than to give of oneself and resources to generously meet that need (Rom.12:8; 1 Cor.13:3; 1 Tim.6:9-10).
 - ***He who leads with diligence*** (*ho proistemi/ p.a.ptc nsm/ en spoude*): It is the supernatural ability to take the initiative in some specific activity of the church and to get other believers to follow. (Rom.12: 8; 1 Tim: 3:12).
 - ***He who shows mercy with cheerfulness*** (*ho eleoo/ p.a.ptc nsm/ em hilarotes*): It is the supernatural ability to perceive suffering within the church body and to render kindness that encourages believers to follow God's will (Rom.12: 8; Acts 9:36-39; 1 Cor.16: 18).
3. **The third grouping of service gifts are referred to as free-floating gifts. By free-floating, we mean they do not have any additional Greek phrases attached to them. They are designed to service all the other gifts.**
 - ***Helps*** (*antilempsis*): It is the supernatural ability to render assistance to some burdensome task within the church (1 Cor.12:28; 16:16; Acts 20:35; Phil.4:2-3).
 - ***Administration*** (*kubernesis*): It is the supernatural ability to coordinate details of an activity or ministry of the church (1 Cor.12:28; Acts 6:1-4; 27:11).

THREE SPECTACULAR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

4. **Many Bible scholars question the existence of the final three permanent spiritual gifts. Some believe that these three gifts were discontinued with the completion of the canon of Scripture. This conclusion is based on a careful study of 1 Cor.12:8-10 and 13:8-10. However, since I am not aware of any Scriptural statement for their discontinuation, I am including them at this time.**
 - ***Different faith*** (*heteros pistis*): It is the supernatural ability to perform miracles and healings directly by the will of God apart from spiritual growth through the study of God's word (Rom.10:17) (1 Cor.12:9; 13:2).
 - ***Gifts of healings*** (*charisma iama*): It is the supernatural ability to cure variety of illness (not demon induced) directly by the will of God (1 Cor.12:9,28,30; Acts 4:30; 19:11-12).
 - ***Effects of miracles*** (*energema dunamis*): It is the supernatural ability to perform miracles directly at the will of God (demon induced illness) (1 Cor.12:10,28-29; Acts 9:40; 19:11).