

“Spiritual Gifts” – Part II
Lesson 46

We begin part two of our lessons on spiritual gifts with the second listing of gifts found in 1 Corinthians, Chapter 12.

1. The WORD OF WISDOM is the ability to skillfully UNDERSTAND and APPLY God’s truth to life.
2. The word of knowledge is the ability to UNDERSTAND and SPEAK God’s Word.
 - A. KNOWLEDGE grasps the meaning of God’s Word and EXPLAINS it.
 - B. Wisdom emphasizes the APPLICATION of truth.
3. The gift of FAITH has to do with faith APART FROM saving faith.
 - A. This gift belongs to those who are PERSISTENT IN INTERCESSORY prayer.
 - B. It has to do with a STRONG TRUST in God in the middle of DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES.
4. The next two gifts are listed as MIRACULOUS gifts which I believe to have been TEMPORARY gifts practiced at VARIOUS TIMES in Biblical history.
 - A. Healings were NEVER used SOLELY to restore a person’s health; i.e., Paul never healed himself of his “thorn in the flesh.” See also Phil. 2:27; 1 Tim. 5:23; and 2 Timothy 4:20.
 - B. There was NEVER a time before THE COMING OF CHRIST when healings were COMMON.
 - C. Healings were done only by CHRIST, the APOSTLES, the SEVENTY, and a few apostolic ASSOCIATES such as Philip. Matt. 8:16 & 17; Matt. 10:1; Luke 10:1 & 9; Acts 8:5-7
 - D. All healing may not be miraculous healing but it is all DIVINE HEALING.
 - E. Paul did not heal as a NORMAL ministry activity. He healed mostly when he entered a NEW REGION where the GOSPEL MESSAGE and the PREACHER of the message needed authentication.
5. Miracles has to do with DIVINE acts CONTRARY to nature.
6. The MAIN PURPOSE of miracles was to AUTHENTICATE the MESSAGE and MESSENGER as being FROM God.

7. There are FOUR TIMES when miracles WERE PROMINENT in Biblical history:
 - A. The time of MOSES when he needed to be authenticated by God as the human LAWGIVER. Deuteronomy 34:10-12
 - B. Miracles SURROUNDED THE PROPHETS most notably Elijah and Elisha. 1 Kings 17:23 & 24
 - C. The LORD HIMSELF brought in the next major period of miracle working. Acts 2:22
 - D. Fourthly, we have THE TIMES OF THE APOSTLES. Hebrews 2:3 & 4
8. JOHN THE BAPTIST, whom Christ called THE GREATEST MAN born of women, NEVER DID EVEN ONE miracle recorded in scripture. Matthew 11:11 and John 10:41
9. ALL MIRACLES, not just healings, were done by THE APOSTLES and a few close ASSOCIATES.

* We have already dealt with prophesy in the Romans 12 list. See 1 Corinthians 14:3 for a definition of prophet.
10. Yet another spiritual gift is a spirit of DISCERNMENT.
 - A. Satan is the GREAT DECEIVER. The gift of discernment is the ability to recognize DECEPTIVE and ERRONEOUS doctrine.
 - B. The apostle Paul had this gift. Acts 16:16-18
 - C. PETER also had this gift and EXERCISED it. Acts 5:3
 - D. The BEREANS had this gift and WORKED to develop it. Acts 17:10 and 11; see also 1 Thessalonians 5:20-22
 - I will take a full lesson on the gift of tongues.
11. The gift of APOSTLESHIP was given to LAY THE FOUNDATION for the church. Ephesians 2:20
 - A. Receiving and declaring THE REVELATION of God's Word TO ESTABLISH doctrine. Acts 2:42
 - B. The apostles refers PRIMARILY to the 12 plus Matthias and Paul. Acts 1:26
 - C. In a SECONDARY sense others served as MESSENGERS of the church; i.e., Barnabas, Timothy, Titus, etc.
12. Although prophets today are FORTHTELLERS; in the early church, before the

COMPLETION of God's Word, some did have the gift of FORETELLING.
Acts 11:28; 21:10 & 11; Ephesians 3:5, etc.

13. The FINAL GIFT in this list is the GIFT OF HELPS. We have covered teachers, miracles, healings and administration, which is the same gift as HIM WHO LEADS in Romans 12.

A. The gift of helps is often a NON-PUBLIC gift.

B. It is an ability for SERVICE and similar to the gift, MINISTRY.

C. The gift of HELPS has to do with EFFICIENT and EFFECTIVE carrying out of ministry.