

THEY SHALL SPEAK WITH OTHER TONGUES

Spiritually discerned

1Co 2:11-16 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one.

For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

Few understand what speaking in tongues is really all about. Surprisingly it is the least understood subject among believers and yet the most debated; the least of the gifts but the most contentious.

Amusingly, many people who have never spoken in tongues speak as though they're experts in this field. In reality they are teaching as absolute truth something they have never experienced themselves. They are merely "parroting" someone else who has provided an "opinion" and not a revelation of the issue. In reality they are merely teaching the "mind and traditions of man" and not what the Word of God teaches.

It would be surprising to many to find that the Bible mentions speaking in tongues thirty-five times. Jesus Himself stated that it would be a "sign" to the preachers that a person has received the preaching of the gospel.

Mark 16:17-18 "And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

Acts 2:4 And they were **all filled with the Holy Spirit** and (*all*) began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them (*prompted them*) utterance.

Tongues are not "gibberish". It is the most intelligent language in all of creation. It is the language of the Holy Spirit.

What is the purpose of tongues?

1. It is a sign
 - a. That a person has received the gospel

Mark 16:17-18 (above)

- b. For Unbelievers that God is present

1Co 14:22 Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; It is not tongues or any of the gifts that prove you are a believer to your self. It proves it to other people.

2. To give rest to your soul

Isa 28:11-12 For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, 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.

1Co 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. (*Paul left out "the rest" for the purpose of presenting "tongues as a "sign"*)

3. Build you up in faith

Jude 1:20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on (process in which to build upon) your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,

It causes faith to arise from your spirit.

Ro 10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

The word "edify" means to "build up" or "charge up" in the same manner you would charge up a battery. We all need a spiritual re-charge. All of us at times feel spiritually drained. One of God's ways to charge your spirit is through speaking in tongues.

4. Edify your spirit

1Co 14:4 He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.

Eph 3:16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, (*empowered from within yourself*)

5. Gives thanks to God in the best way (*not polluted by "unbelief"*)

1Co 14:17 For you indeed give thanks well,

6. Speaks "directly, perfectly, and with absolute understanding" to God

1Co 14:2 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. ("*secrets*")

7. A method of knowing the will of God

Eph 5:17-19 Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

8. To have the Spirit bearing witness with our spirit

Ro 8:26-27 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.