



June 26-July 2, 2016

Texts: *I Corinthians 12:7, 10; 14:1-5*

SPRING 2016 SERIES:

The Christian and Spiritual Gifts

SUMMARY OF SERMON: I Corinthians 12 presents a list of nine “manifestational” gifts. These gifts, unlike motivational gifts, are only experienced by Christians and are used in a given situation for a given purpose. They are Holy Spirit inspired gifts that manifest the presence of God to His people. Three of them (prophecy, tongues, and the interpretation of tongues) are speech gifts that reveal the mouth of God, the focus this week.

RELATED BIBLE PASSAGES FOR THE COMING WEEK [The Bible readings this week illustrate instances where the speech gifts of God are used.]

Monday, June 27 – **I Thessalonians 5:12-28** [Paul is giving some final instructions about Christians ministering together. Note in vv.19-22 that prophecy was expected to be a normal part of Christian ministry. However, it was also to be checked so that personal agendas do not interfere with God’s inspiration.]

Tuesday, June 28 – **Joel 2:12-32** [Joel was delivering a prophetic message to the people of Israel during a devastating locust plague that Joel saw was because of the peoples’ idolatry and immorality. Through Joel the Lord calls the people to repentance – and also promises restoration and a prophecy that is fulfilled at Pentecost.]

Wednesday, June 29 – **I Timothy 4** [Timothy is now the leader at the church of Ephesus. Paul is giving him instructions about confronting false teachers. Note that some spiritual gift – or calling – was prophetically pronounced over Timothy when he began that ministry.]

Thursday, June 30 – **Acts 2:1-13** [In the initial impartation of the gift of tongues on the Day of Pentecost, it appears that the tongues given were actual human languages. No interpretation was given but, in this case, hearers who spoke the given tongues could understand that glory was being given to God.]

Friday, July 1 – **Numbers 11:4-30** [In this episode on the Israelites journey to the Promised Land, Moses gets overwhelmed by the peoples’ bickering. God brings encouragement through Spirit-empowered leaders who prophesy. When two other leaders later prophesy (vv.26-28) Moses expresses his desire that all God’s people would prophesy. This foreshadows the impartation of the Holy Spirit on Christ’s followers.]

Saturday, July 2 – **I Corinthians 14:6-19** [Paul clarifies in these verses the reason he prefers prophecy over tongues in public worship. In vv.13-18 he gives helpful guidelines to the right use of the gift of tongues.]



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