



ACCM

Bible Study: Tuesday, February 23, 2021.

Topic: Letter to the Corinthians Parts 12a

I Cor 12.

THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

INTRODUCTION: The topic being addressed in chapter 12 is very easy to identify because the apostle stated it and it is about spiritual gifts. Spiritual gift is a need in every environment. Ignorance about spiritual gifts gives dominance and undue advantage to our enemy, the devil. The onset of the demise of many churches start when they begin to downplay spiritual gifts. The church cannot therefore afford to be ignorant about spiritual gifts.

I found that the rate at which brethren desire or covet spiritual gifts is directly proportional to the zeal of the brethren. This is because it is impossible to have the gifts and remain quiet. It must be mentioned also that it is the possession of these gifts that drives the various ministries. I therefore encourage everyone to seek these gifts if we are going to be successful in our Christian work and walk.

If any Christian will be victorious in spiritual warfare, the acquisition of these gifts is a must. This is because whether we are Christians or non-Christians, we are interacting with spirits daily. These are either demonic spirits or the spirit of God. May the Lord grant us the required knowledge as we go through this all important topic on the gifts of the spirit?

DISCUSSIONS

What is your understanding of Verses 4-7?

1. Diversity of gifts Rom 12:4-8,
2. Differences of ministry
3. Diversities of activities
4. The manifestation is for the profit of all not a few. Not given for personal enrichment. I Peter 4:10, Eph 4:12-13, I Cor 14:26
5. Everyone is given this gift.

The allocation of spiritual gifts is a work of grace and favor but your ability stops where favor starts. Your desire for the gift does not grant it to you automatically.

Why should a believer be zealous or desirous for spiritual gifts? I Cor 14:12. It is to bless the people of God and to do the work of ministry

The gifts must be operated with love, humility and sense of stewardship. Rom 12:8, I Peter 5:2.

Verses 8-11.

WHAT ARE THESE GIFTS

1. Words of wisdom: Insight into doctrinal truth either to solve difficult problems or defending the faith as we see in apologetics. Acts 6:10.
2. Words of knowledge: The ability to apply doctrinal truth to life issues. The power to communicate information that was divinely revealed. By this gift mysteries are made ordinary knowledge. Apostle Paul remarkably demonstrated this gift in his ministry. I Cor 15:51, 3:16, I Thess 4:15-17.
3. Faith. This is an unusual measure of trust in God beyond that exercised by the average Christian whereby exploits are accomplished for God. I Cor 13:2
4. Gifts of healings. Miraculous power to heal diseases. Acts 3:6-7, 19:11-12
5. Working of miracles. This could include casting out demons, raising the dead or changing situations. Acts 8:6-7.
6. Prophecy: The ability to declare God's message to the people and sometimes it includes the prediction of future events. More often than not, they simply express the mind of God. It could also include the encouragement and the strengthening of God's people. Acts 14:3, 11:27-28, Acts 21:10-11
7. Discerning of spirits. This is the ability to differentiate the word of God proclaimed by a true prophet of God from that of a satanic deceiver. I John 4:1, Jer. 29:8-9, II Peter 2:1.
8. Different kinds of tongues. The ability to speak a foreign language without having learned it. Acts 2:11.
9. Interpretation of tongues. An ability to translate an unlearned known language to others. I Cor 14:27

Distributing to each one individually as "He" wills.

CONCLUSION: Although these gifts could be coveted, they cannot be selected by the individuals as they are distributed by the Holy Spirit as He wills. This removes the ability to boast of the possession of any of them.

I want us to remember before next week that there are diversities of gifts, differences of ministries and diversities of activities. These gifts are given to all to profit the church.