

Romans 8:26-27

Tongues

8:26-27 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Definitions

Tongues

A language spoken with your mouth (Genesis 10:15, Exodus 4:10, Deuteronomy 28:49, Ezra 4:7, Daniel 1:4, John 5:2)

The Purpose of Tongues

A sign to unbelieving Jews (1 Corinthians 14:21-22, Isaiah 28:9-13, Mark 16:17-18)
*Note: signs are for the Jews, not Gentiles (1 Corinthians 1:22)

The Bible is clear that the whole reason for the gift of tongues was to confirm the word of the LORD to unbelieving Jews (Mark 16:20, Hebrews 2:3-4)

God did this with Israel when he brought them out of Egypt. The purpose of the signs that God gave Moses was to confirm to Israel that God sent Moses and that God would save them out of Egypt (Exodus 4:30-31)

The Gift of Tongues

Occurs only 3 times in the Bible: Acts 2, Acts 10, Acts 19

1. A language not known by the speaker
2. Given as a gift by God to believers
3. Given as a sign to confirm the word for a witness to unbelievers
4. Connected only with the Apostolic ministry

Acts 2: The day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-12)

- They began to speak with OTHER TONGUES, and they were not learned, it was supernatural (Acts 2:4)
- Jews from every nation under heaven dwelt at Jerusalem (Acts 2:5)
- The Jews from around the world HEARD THEM SPEAK IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGE, not gibberish (Acts 2:6-11)

Why did they speak in tongues? To confirm the word of the Lord concerning Jesus to the unbelieving Jews assembled on the day of Pentecost.

Acts 10: The salvation of Cornelius' house (Acts 10)

- Peter is told to preach to Gentiles, doubts at first (Acts 10:9-20)

- Still doubts it (Acts 10:34-35)
- Holy Ghost falls upon the Gentiles because they believed the gospel, they speak in other tongues, Why? To confirm to the unbelieving Jews present that God is going to save the Gentile just like he saves the Jew, through faith in Christ (Romans 3:30) (Acts 10:42-48). See also Acts 11:1-4, 15-18. In this case again, the sign of speaking in tongues was used to convince unbelieving Jews of truth.

Acts 19 Ephesian believers speak in tongues (Acts 19:1-6)

- They only knew of John's Baptism (Acts 19:1-4)
- So after they believed on Christ and were baptized (Acts 19:4-5) they received the Holy Ghost and spoke with other tongues (Acts 19:6). Why? To confirm to those disciples that were followers of John that what Paul preached was the truth. The sign of speaking in tongues confirmed to those disciples that it was the word of God in truth.

Correction for Tongues Misuse in the Corinthian Church

3 Chapters are dedicated to correcting the carnal immature baby church (1 Corinthians 3:1-4)

1 Corinthians 12:

Not every Christian speaks in Tongues (1 Corinthians 12:4-11)

*The gifts of the Spirit are to profit withal. That means, it is suppose to profit the body of Christ, not yourself.

Tongues are the least of the gifts (1 Corinthians 12:28-31)

1 Corinthians 13

Charity is greater than any gift of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 13)

Tongues will cease one day (1 Corinthians 13:8-13)

1 Corinthians 14

*No one is ever instructed to speak in an unknown tongue

*There is no indication anywhere in the Bible that an unknown tongue is a heavenly language

* People speaking in or from heaven spoke in Hebrew (Acts 26:13-14, Revelation 19:1)

Prophecy (preaching, teaching, exhorting) is better than tongues (1 Corinthians - 14:1-3, 5)

Unknown tongue

A language the people you are speaking to cannot understand (1 Corinthians 14:2)

A person who does this edifies himself (1 Corinthians 14:4), not the church which is what God wants (Ephesians 4:11-13, 16, 29; 1 Thessalonians 5:11, 1 Corinthians 14:12)

Pray to interpret the unknown tongue, never told to pray to speak in tongues ONE TIME ANYWHERE IN THE BIBLE (1 Corinthians 14:13)

Those that speak in an unknown tongue do so by their own spirit, NOT the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 14:14)

Speaking in an unknown tongue is pointless if no one interprets it, because you are speaking to the air (1 Corinthians 14:5, 7-11)

Speaking in an unknown tongue is an extreme waste of breathe and time if no one understands what you are saying (1 Corinthians 14:16-19)

Read again 1 Corinthians 14:19

Everyone thinks your church is mad if the whole church is babbling (1 Corinthians 14:23), but if there is prophesying, he gets convicted and judged by the Holy Spirit and worships God and says God is in you of a truth.

God given instructions on speaking in tongues in church

1. Maximum of 3 are allowed to speak in tongues (14:27)
2. It must be in order, in other words, can't be all speaking at the same time (14:27)
3. Must be an interpreter (14:27)
4. Be silent if there is no interpreter (14:28)
5. Women are not allowed to speak in tongues in church (14:34)

You do not loose control when filled by the Spirit (1 Corinthians 14:32), contrary to some of the things which Pentecoco's testify of.

Paul says, hey you big spiritual man, these aren't suggestions, these are COMMANDS FROM GOD! (14:37-38)

That is spiritual men will recognize that these writings are the words of God (1 Thessalonians 2:13, 2 Peter 1:20-21, 2 Timothy 3:14-17). In other words, if you don't believe these writings are the word of God, you're not spiritual.