

Session #2 of 10 - 8/6/25 – INTRODUCTION to Spiritual Gifts part-2: "The 3 Categories"

Last week we discussed how God dispensed His varied spiritual gifts to the world in "3 Seasons":

- The 1st Season of the Father, the 2nd Season of the Son, and the 3rd Season of the Spirit.
1- Father spoke directly; 2- Father sent Jesus Christ; 3- Father (by JC) sent the Holy Spirit

This Week we will examine the 3 Categories of Biblical spiritual (*immaterial*) gifts: 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

- James 1:17 – **All** 3 categories of spiritual gifts originate and proceed forth from the **Father**.
 - All giftings (*all 3 categories*) are given by **grace**: Romans 12:6; Ephesians 4:7; 1 Corinthians 1:4-7
 - 1 Cor 12:4-6 – But, Diversities by the Spirit; Administrations by Christ; Operations by the Father.
 - Some are listed by the same name in different categories, *but they're distinct in function & purpose*
 - 1 Cor 12:28 - Here, giftings listed from all 3 categories are prioritized by order of their importance
1. **7 Motivational**: The **Father's gifts** to **all people**. Aptitudes & talents apportioned by the Father as He wills, onto the **souls** of **all men**. These gifts are perfected when used for Kingdom work. (Romans 12:6-8) **1-Prophecy, 2-Ministry, 3-Teaching, 4-Exhortation, 5-Giving, 6-Ruling, 7-Mercy**
- "Gifts" (Rom 12:6) Strong's #5486 = **charisma** -*spiritual endowments/qualifications (to saved & unsaved)*
 - In the natural, these giftings (*endowments, aptitudes, inclinations*), motivate & form personalities. These gifts give perspective in one's **soul** (*intellect, emotions & will*), on how one '*sees, feels, & acts*;
 - When used in the Church, they're often referred to as 'Serving Gifts.' These are natural giftings (*not supernatural*), but God can enhance them for the believers' Kingdom use & fruitfulness
 - As all gifts, we may choose, at will, exercise or suppress these motivational gifts. But we're held responsible to use them as good stewards to the glory of God (1 Peter 4:10; Matthew 25:18).
 - Aptitude tests are available for this category of giftings, to identify and discover which we have.
2. **5 Ministerial**: **Gifts of Christ** to the **Church**. To **persons** in **Offices** of ministry, to feed & nurture. (Ephesians 4:6-12) **1-Apostles, 2-Prophets, 3-Evangelists, 4-Pastors, 5-Teachers**
- "Gift" of Christ (Eph 4:7) Strong's #1431 = **dorea** -*gratuity*
 - "Gave 'Gifts' unto men" (Eph 4:8) Strong's #1390 = **dōma** -*presents (gifts to men → men to Church)*
 - Eph 4:8-10 – Upon his death, Christ descended (*into hell*). Then after His resurrection, he ascended (*into heaven*), at which time He: **1)** led captivity captive, *and*; **2)** gave gifts to men. These gifts are given to selected individuals who've been called to serve in offices of the Church
 - Eph 4:12 – Purpose: **1)** perfection (equipping) of the saints; **2)** work of ministry, *and*; **3)** edification of the Body of Christ (Church). → For the duration of the Church Age!
 - **Side-Note**: **Some** (*perhaps correctly*) suggest the 5-fold ministry is actually a 4-fold ministry. Because, according to 'correct' Greek translation, the last-mentioned gift to the Church should be a combined "Pastor-Teacher" office (*not two separate gifts*):
 - ❖ Application of the Greek "Granville-Sharp Rule" places the Pastor & Teacher gifts as a singular gift applied to the same person – the second (teacher) as being a descriptor/tasking of the first (pastor).
 - ❖ Similar in the Hebrew "wonderful counselor" (Isa 9:6). Technically, not Wonderful + Counselor.
 - Cessationists (*incorrectly*) insist on dismissing the first **2 (Apostles & Prophets)** as **extinct** gifts.
3. **9 Manifestational**: **Gifts of the Spirit** to **individual believers**; dispensed by the **Holy Spirit** as He wills onto the willing, so to supernaturally equip & enable them for spiritual service to the Church (1 Corinthians 12:7-10) **word of Wisdom, word of Knowledge, Faith, gifts of Healing(s), working of Miracles, Prophecy, Discerning of spirits, divers kinds of Tongues, and Interpretation of tongues.**
- "Manifestation" (1 Corinthians 12:7) Strong's #5321 = **phanerosis** -*a revelation, appearance, exhibition, expression – allowing men to "see," i.e., experience the power of God.*
...the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.
 - **Purpose**: (*as especially emphasized in the prophetic giftings*), is to bring...
1) edification; 2) exhortation, and 3) comfort – to *oneself* & for the *Church!* (1 Cor 14:3-4, 39-40).

- These Manifestational gifts (*like the Ministry gifts, and **unlike** the Motivational gifts) are not found to operate in all individuals ([1 Cor 12:28-31](#)).*
- The **proper/genuine** exercise of these gifts cannot be initiated “at will,” but only by the Holy Spirit’s prompting.
- The Holy Spirit gives the use/expression of these gifts to whomsoever He wills ([1 Cor 12:11](#)). This is so because the mind of the Spirit is in perfect harmony with the Father’s will ([Rom 8:27](#)).
- These 9 manifestational gifts have been further sub-divided into three distinct operations:
 - ❖ These Holy Spirit prompted gifts, supernaturally enable us to...
 - **Know** (reveal) something (Word of Knowledge, Word of Wisdom, Discernment of spirits);
 - **Do** something (Faith, Healings, Miracles); and
 - **Say** something (Prophecy, Tongues, Interpretation of tongues).
 - ❖ Often, in a single occurrence, more than only one manifestational gift may be seen in simultaneous operation ([Acts 14:8-10](#)).
- **Cessationists** are those who choose to believe that the 2 Ministry Offices of Apostle & Prophet, as well as all 9 of the manifestational gifts, ceased to operate beyond the 1st C. (or were re-defined), after the New Testament canon was completed with its 27 books. **Cessationists err in 3 ways:**
 1. They force an out-of-context interpretation of [1 Cor 13:10](#) – “*that which is perfect*” is **NOT** the completion of the New Testament canon, but rather the Kingdom of God at the Second Coming [1 Cor 13:12](#);
 2. They force a reinterpretation of several of the named gifts in order to neutralize their supernatural qualities;
 3. They therefore succeed in grieving and sinfully quenching the Spirit ([Ephesians 4:30](#) & [1 Thessalonians 5:19-20](#)).
 - Some Cessationists go as far as to claim that because these manifestational gifts *can’t* possibly be from God, (*if they appear*) they must be originating from the Devil – risking the grievous sin of [Matt 12:22-32](#); [Mark 3:28-29](#); [Luke 12:10](#); [1 John 5:16](#).
 - Many Cessationists, who claim not to believe that the manifestational gifts are for today’s use, unwittingly operate in some of those gifts without even realizing it!
- **All of the spiritual gifts** (*all 3 categories, to include all of the manifestational gifts*), were given by God with the intention to fully function and **endure for the duration of the Church Age!**