

## Tongues

*And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another...we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God. Acts 2:4-11*

-These men spoke in understandable languages; it was not gibberish.

*But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man **to profit withal**. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.*

*I Corinthians 12:7-11*

-Modern so-called tongues do not profit the church or those outside, rather they bring contention and confusion and ridicule. A gift of the Spirit is always for the purpose of edification. He does not breed confusion, that is of the devil.

*And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues...But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way. I Corinthians 12:28-31*

-Paul placed tongues at the bottom of the list of importance, not at the top.

*Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. I Corinthians 13:1*

-Most who hold to tongues are failing in the area of charity and thereby voiding the impact of this so-called gift.

*Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy. For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries. But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort. He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.*

*I Corinthians 14:1-4*

-Edification is the key, not confusion and self-glorification. Modern tongues never edify.

*For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle? So likewise ye, except ye utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken? for ye shall speak into the air. I Corinthians 14:8-9*

-If a tongue was to be used today, it would always have to have an interpreter.

*Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying serveth not for them that believe not, but for them which believe. I Corinthians 14:22*

-With the completion of the Canon, tongues are no longer needed for a sign. And if they were, most of the time in churches today they are not used this way.