

# HOLY SPIRIT POWER

May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - Holy Spirit Power

Part 7

We continue our message series which is based on **1st Corinthians 12:1-11** where the Apostle Paul says; *“Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.”*

These 9 gifts of the Spirit are generally broken into different categories and to start, we’re using some comments by Matthew Henry’s Commentary for them.

The first three gifts are known as the Revelation Gifts.

**1. Word of wisdom** – *“To one was given the word of wisdom; that is, say some, a knowledge of the mysteries of the gospel, and ability to explain them, an exact understanding of the design, nature, and doctrines, of the Christian religion. Others say an uttering of grave sentences, like Solomon’s proverbs. Some confine this word of wisdom to the revelations made to and by the apostles.”*

**2. Word of knowledge** – *“To another the word of knowledge, by the same Spirit; that is, say some, the knowledge of mysteries (2:13): wrapped up in the prophecies, types, and histories of the Old Testament: say others, a skill and readiness to give advice and counsel in perplexed cases.”* In some situations, it would be like having the word of knowledge given to you where the Spirit gifts you to be able to ‘read someone’s mail’ so to speak – he shows you what’s going on in their life. Hand in hand with that, you’d need wisdom to know when and how to deliver that word of knowledge to that person. So the gift of wisdom is used to deliver the gift of word of knowledge.

**3. Discerning of spirits** - *“To another the discerning of Spirits, power to distinguish between true and false prophets, or to discern the real and internal qualifications of any person for an office, or to discover the inward workings of the mind by the Holy Ghost, as Peter did those of Ananias, Acts 5:3.”*

The next gifts of the Spirit are known as the Power Gifts.

**4. Gift of faith** – *“To another faith, by the same Spirit; that is, the faith of miracles, or a faith in the divine power and promise, whereby they were enabled to trust God in any emergency, and go on in the way of their duty, and own and profess the truths of Christ, whatever was the difficulty or danger.”* Someone operating in this gift, nothing will stop them because of the gift of faith in them.

**5. Gifts of healings** – *“To another the gift of healing, by the same Spirit; that is, healing the sick, either by laying on of hands, or anointing with oil, or with a bare word.”*

**6. Working of miracles** – *“To another the working of miracles; the efficacies of powers, energemata dynameon, such as raising the dead, restoring the blind to sight, giving speech to the dumb, hearing to the deaf, and the use of limbs to the lame.”* Also in there would be creative miracles.

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The last section of these gifts are known as the Inspiration Gifts.

**7. Gift of prophecy** – *“To another prophecy, that is, ability to foretell future events, which is the more usual sense of prophecy; or to explain scripture by a peculiar gift of the Spirit.”* In the Old Testament we see right through God using prophets to foretell future events, even if these prophets lived hundreds of years apart from each other.

**8. Gift of divers kinds of tongues** – *“To another divers kinds of tongues, or ability to speak languages by inspiration.”*

**9. Gift of interpretation of tongues** – *“To another the interpretation of tongues, or ability to render foreign languages readily and properly into their own.”* So this could go beyond – so to speak – what we’ve usually heard taught where someone speaks in supernatural tongues and then someone else in that meeting gives the interpretation to those tongues. This again, is for the edification of the body of Christ, given by the Holy Spirit as he wills.

Two or more of these gifts can operate at the same time. In the Old Testament, the gifts of the spirit operated thru the prophet, the priest and the King. But according to **1 Corinthians 12:7**, the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one in the church for the profit of all the church, as we read; *“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all.”*

In the Old Testament the working of miracles and prediction of future events thru prophets were the spirit gifts in operation, but they never had the gift of tongues and interpretation, because the Holy Spirit had not been given yet.

Working of miracles are in the New Testament with the other gifts in a balance for the edification of the body of Christ and are to be operated without the ‘Man of God’ syndrome that we often see in the Old Testament amongst the Prophets. We see it prevalent today don’t we. Someone comes into your town or city with lots of advertising and much ado. They maybe even have body guards around them that you can’t even speak with them.

The ‘Man of God’ syndrome is nothing more than a work of the flesh, instead of a work of the Holy Spirit for the edification of the body of Christ. In the Old Testament we often read about the prophet or man of God coming into towns and cities, giving direction to kings and leaders, but the people had an awesome reverential fear of God in them – there was no show and hype with it but genuine holy reverence.

Prophecy gifts in the New Testament are for the building up and edifying of the church body and not merely for telling future events but rather for edifying the church here and now. The ‘man of God’ syndrome is an Old Testament narrative that has crept into the church. Life in the body of Christ is not just about the ‘man of God’, rather it’s about the Holy Spirit being poured out corporately on everyone in the church; young, old, male or female. As we read in vs. **7**; *“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all.”* All of the gifts are in operation though each one, and it’s no longer about one man only hearing from God.

Each one receives the manifestation of the Spirit, it’s not a select few any more as it was under the Old Testament. That’s why they call it new wine, it’s a new move of the Holy Spirit and can’t be poured into old wine skins (Old Testament ways). The manifestation of the Holy Spirit gifts is a corporate move of the body of Christ working together as one, each one operating in the gifts for the profit of all .

Let’s look at **John 16:7**; *“Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.”*

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This is Jesus saying that he is going to set up his headquarters on earth in the body of Christ on earth called the Church. That's why the gifts of the Holy Spirit are available to all believers, not just a select few as it was in the Old Testament.

In **Acts 1:15** we read about the 120 disciples whom Jesus is setting up his headquarters in as they wait. It says; *“And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples (altogether the number of names was about a hundred and twenty),”*

**Acts 2:1-4** continues in describing the outpouring of Holy Spirit as Jesus foretold that it would. It says; *“When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”* Again, Jesus set up headquarters in 120 men and women.

We also have differences of administrations and operations of the Holy Spirit. It's not just receiving a spiritual language, but much more. In **1 Corinthians 12:5-7** it says; *“There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all.”*

You can see that there is no room for the 'man of God' syndrome to operate when the Holy Spirit set up headquarters in the birth of the early Church. It's evident that it's a corporate move of the Holy Spirit who gives his gifts to all believers in different ways as he wills for the profit of all the Church body.

A big reason why the nine spiritual gifts are not operating corporately in most Church's today is because of this 'man of God' syndrome, that has the gifts operating in the "Man of God" only, and maybe a select few in the church that will stroke 'Man of God' image and keep it alive at the expense of quenching the gifts of the Holy Spirit from operating in other members in the body of Christ.

In **Matthew 7:21-23**, Jesus says this; *“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’”*

The 9 spiritual gifts are given to members of the church as Holy Spirit chooses.

So let's look a little closer now at the first gift mentioned, which is the Word of Wisdom. Firstly, there are different kinds of wisdom that I'd like to highlight.

We have **God's wisdom** as we read in **James 1:5**; *“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.”* In **Proverbs 4:7**, we read about the wisdom that God gave to King Solomon when he asked for it; *“Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.”*

We also have the **wisdom of satan**. We read about it in **James 3:14-16**; *“But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic. For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.”*

We saw Peter operating in satan's wisdom as we read in **Matthew 16:21-23** where Jesus says; *“From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day. Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, “Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!” But He turned and said to*

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Peter, “Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.”

We also see the **wisdom of man**. We read about it in **Ecclesiastes 1:16-18** where it says; “*I communed with my heart, saying, “Look, I have attained greatness, and have gained more wisdom than all who were before me in Jerusalem. My heart has understood great wisdom and knowledge.” And I set my heart to know wisdom and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is grasping for the wind. For in much wisdom is much grief, and he who increases knowledge increases sorrow.*”

So now we read about **Wisdom of the spiritual man**. We read about it in **1 Corinthians 2:6-16**; “*However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. For “who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.*”

So in the 9 gifts of the Spirit, what is a Word of Wisdom? We’ve read about a lot of wisdom, what makes this gift different from what we’ve just read? The Word of Wisdom is not natural or human wisdom but rather supernatural. The Word of Wisdom is a portion of divine wisdom given by supernatural means. It has no source in you, your flesh, your mind, your actions etc. It is supernatural.

The Word of Knowledge is closely associated with the Word of Wisdom, in that it is the facts revealed, but it is not sufficient in itself, in that it needs a Word of Wisdom to present the facts. And remember this is not human wisdom endowed from God, it is supernatural wisdom. You could say that it even goes way beyond that of Solomon, even though he has the wisest teaching in the world. This supernatural gift goes beyond that. We can absolutely learn from King Solomon’s teachings, but this is of a different nature and realm.

In **1 Corinthians 2:10**, the Apostle Paul says; “*But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.*”

The Bible was written supernaturally, therefore the Bible is supernatural wisdom. It was written by men who were supernaturally inspired to write it, not by man’s wisdom.

Paul continues saying in **1 Corinthians 2:13-14**; “*These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*”

Let’s look at some ways Word of wisdom can manifest.

- It can be **audible voice** of God as we read in **Acts 9:3-7**; “*As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?” And he said, “Who are You, Lord?” Then the Lord said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads.” So he,*

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*trembling and astonished, said, “Lord, what do You want me to do?” Then the Lord said to him, “Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.” And the men who journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice but seeing no one.”*

- The Word of Wisdom can be given in **visions or dreams** as we read in **Acts 16:9**; *“And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” He was given an open vision to go and help someone. In **Acts 2:17**, Peter quotes from the Prophet Joel saying; ““And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, that I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams.”*

In your sleep you’ll have wisdom, in your down time and as your resting and meditating on the things of the Lord you’ll be seeing visions!

- Word of wisdom thru **prophecy**. **Acts 21:10-11** says; *“And as we stayed many days, a certain prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. When he had come to us, he took Paul’s belt, bound his own hands and feet, and said, “Thus says the Holy Spirit, ‘So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man who owns this belt, and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.’”*

This is the gift of the Word of Wisdom, and really there is so much more than what we’ve talked about. This is a supernatural gift that is available to you as the Holy Spirit chooses to give it to you. You can’t conjure it up. So when these Spirit gifts come your way, step out in them. Allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you when you have open visions, when you dream dreams, or when prophets come and speak into your life. They are words of wisdom and they’re what you need to step out into the gifts you’ve been given. It’s God’s will for your life. It’s God’s will for a healthy church. It’s God’s will for a corporate move of these gifts. The ‘man of God’ syndrome is finished. We’re not talking about being disrespectful to leadership or leaders in your lives in your church. We’re talking about those who have grieved the Holy Spirit and not allowed the gifts to operate corporately in the local church.