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Today we are going to find out what scripture reveals to us about Tongues….

**CLICK**

1 Corinthians 13:1

**13**If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

Paul here shows that there is a tongue of men and of angels.

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In a Cristian sense people usually look back to Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit was witnessed and came upon the people.

Tongues can confuse or edify people. To edify is to enlighten or improve the morals or knowledge of somebody. There are some who believe you have to speak tongues to show that the Spirit is in you. But what tongues are they speaking of? Do they mean when you can speak in different languages, or do they mean speaking in God’s language? I do not believe that you have to speak in tongues to prove that the Holy Spirit is working in your life. The fruit of your life shows who is inside.

But I do have a true story to tell you of a time when God used tongues for His glory. My grandfather was preaching in a small tabernacle, on that Sunday a Mexican family that could not speak English came into the service. The Holy Spirit spoke thru my grandfather and the family understood the gospel that was preached. This act edified the church and gave glory to God.

Where is this type of tongue shown in scripture though… one where people of another nationality/language hear someone in their own tongue – their own language.

**Turn to Acts 2**

The day of Pentecost was the fiftieth day after the Sabbath of Passover week (Lev 23:15-16) so it was the first day of the week – This was the Feast of Weeks (Dt 16:10), the Feast of Harvest (Ex 23:16) and the Day of First fruits (Nu 28:26) archaeology bible page 186, 275 articles & 1768 notes

People came from all over for this celebration.

**CLICK**

**Acts 2:1-13**

**2**When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. **2**And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. **3**And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. **4**And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

**5**Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. **6**And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language. **7**They were amazed and astonished, saying, “Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? **8**And how is it that we each hear *them* in our own language to which we were born? **9**Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, **10**Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, **11**Cretans and Arabs—we hear them in our *own* tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God.” **12**And they all continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, “What does this mean?”

Here is another true story: My son was in prayer with his karate class years ago, someone was making weird noises during prayer and then another person began to make noises during prayer. Later when he spoke with me about it he was confused, he told me that in the past they said they speak in tongues. I asked him; during prayer who were you focusing on was it God or the people making the noises during prayer? He said it was the people. I also told him that speaking from the heart in God’s language is a gift of the Spirit but it should never cause confusion or cause you to not focus on God.

***CLICK***- turn to Romans 8:26 this one will be up on the screen…

Years ago, when I was Vice Chairmen this church was possibly going to change dramatically the pastor retired and we were going thru a transition, we were either going to have the district take over or continue on with the local board. I truly didn’t know if God was going to provide another pastor and thought the church may close. I went to the church several times by myself and knelt at the altar and prayed. I was in dismay, confused, scared, I did not know what was going to happen. In my prayers I cried and cried out to God, I didn’t have words to say, I groaned with sadness. I was speaking from the heart. **God understood what I was saying.** It was the language of my heart, which is beautiful. I told my son that this is not a language that can be taught, that it is a gift when the Holy Spirit speaks for you.

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In Romans Paul spoke of the language of the heart.

**Romans 8:26,27 (MKJV)**

26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

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**1 Corinthians 14:1-33**

1 Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy.

2 For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit.

3 But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort.

4 Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church.

5 I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified.

**CLICK**

**lalevw**

***Laleo*** (lal-eh'-o);   
Word Origin: Greek, Verb   
a prolonged form of an otherwise obsolete verb

1. to utter a voice or emit a sound
2. to speak
   1. to use the tongue or the faculty of speech
   2. to utter articulate sounds
3. to talk
4. to utter, tell
5. to use words in order to declare one's mind and disclose one's thoughts
   1. to speak

**CLICK**

**musthvrion**

***Musterion*** (moos-tay'-ree-on);   
Word Origin: Greek, Noun Neuter   
from a derivative of muo (to shut the mouth)

1. hidden thing, secret, mystery
   1. generally mysteries, religious secrets, confided only to the initiated and not to ordinary mortals
   2. a hidden or secret thing, not obvious to the understanding

a hidden purpose or counsel

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6 Now, brothers and sisters, if I come to you and speak in tongues, what good will I be to you, unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or word of instruction?

7 Even in the case of lifeless things that make sounds, such as the pipe or harp, how will anyone know what tune is being played unless there is a distinction in the notes?

8 Again, if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?

9 So it is with you. Unless you speak intelligible words with your tongue, how will anyone know what you are saying? You will just be speaking into the air.

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10 Undoubtedly there are all sorts of languages in the world, yet none of them is without meaning.

11 If then I do not grasp the meaning of what someone is saying, I am a foreigner to the speaker, and the speaker is a foreigner to me.

12 So it is with you. Since you are eager for gifts of the Spirit, try to excel in those that build up the church.

13 For this reason the one who speaks in a tongue should pray that they may interpret what they say.

14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful.

15 So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding.

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16 Otherwise when you are praising God in the Spirit, how can someone else, who is now put in the position of an inquirer, say “Amen” to your thanksgiving, since they do not know what you are saying?

17 You are giving thanks well enough, but no one else is edified.

18 I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you.

19 But in the church I would rather speak five intelligible words to instruct others than ten thousand words in a tongue.

20 Brothers and sisters, stop thinking like children. In regard to evil be infants, but in your thinking be adults.

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21 In the Law it is written:

“With other tongues

and through the lips of foreigners

I will speak to this people,

but even then they will not listen to me,

says the Lord.”

22 Tongues, then, are a sign, not for believers but for unbelievers; prophecy, however, is not for unbelievers but for believers.

23 So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and inquirers or unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind?

*Paul quoted a writing found in Isaiah 28:11 drunkards were not listening to the prophet Isaiah and he predicted the Assyrian taskmasters who would give them instruction in a foreign language… while in captivity.*

*They would be a stranger in a land that speaks a different language. This to show the disconnect of an unbeliever or an unlearned person in the presence of an assembly of people all speaking in tongues.*

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24 But if an unbeliever or an inquirer comes in while everyone is prophesying, they are convicted of sin and are brought under judgment by all,

25 as the secrets of their hearts are laid bare. So they will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, “God is really among you!”

26 What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up.

27 If anyone speaks in a tongue, two—or at the most three—should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret.

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28 If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and to God.

29 Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said.

30 And if a revelation comes to someone who is sitting down, the first speaker should stop.

31 For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged.

32 The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets.

33 For God is not a God of disorder but of peace—as in all the congregations of the Lord’s people.

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Let’s just highlight some direction given by Paul:

We need to continue our focus on God. When you speak in another tongue, whether it is of another language or of the language of the heart, ensure that there is an interpreter. Do not cause confusion or draw others attention away from God.

God is not the author of confusion. If you can speak another language, use it to spread the gospel, edify the church. Like what Paul stated back in verse 5:

*The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified.*

Think back to when we spoke on the gifts of the Spirit… this verse was about the gift of tongues… but the meaning of kinds of tongues was… the language or dialect used by a particular people distinct from that of other nations.

**1 Corinthians 12:10b**

**….to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.**

The word kinds is ***Genos*** (ghen'-os); and means nationality or descent from a particular people.

Tongue is ***Glossa*** (gloce-sah'); and means language or dialect used by a particular people distinct from that of other nations.

Also, when we studied the Gift of the Spirit – The word for Interpretation was ***Hermeneia*** (her-may-ni'-ah); and means interpreting what has been spoken more or less obscurely by others.

So, this gift of Kinds of Tongues is being able to speak in different languages.

Interpretation of Tongues is understanding a foreign language and / or being able to understand something that was obscure or vaguely spoken – in other words understand something that was unclear to others.

Tongues is a gift of the Spirit – but the true gift of the Spirit is Holy Spirit Himself intertwined in our lives…

Like I said earlier on:

I do not believe that you have to speak in tongues to prove that the Holy Spirit is working in your life. The fruit of your life shows who is inside.

+Kinds: 1085

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| **gevnoß** ***Genos*** (ghen'-os);  Word Origin: Greek, Noun Neuter  from (1096)   1. kindred    1. offspring    2. family    3. stock, tribe, nation       1. i.e. nationality or descent from a particular people    4. the aggregate of many individuals of the same nature, kind, sort |

Tongues: 1100

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| **glw'ssa** ***Glossa*** (gloce-sah');  Word Origin: Greek, Noun Feminine  of uncertain affinity   1. the tongue, a member of the body, an organ of speech 2. a tongue    1. the language or dialect used by a particular people distinct from that of other nations |

Interpretation: 2058

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| **eJrmhneiva** ***Hermeneia*** (her-may-ni'-ah);  Word Origin: Greek, Noun Feminine  from the same as (2059)   1. interpretation    1. of what has been spoken more or less obscurely by others |