1Thes #135

Do you understand temporary spiritual gifts?

Please keep my oldest daughter in prayer she is about to give birth.

My wife flew up to New Jersey the other day to be there to help out with my first grandson, now we have a baby girl on the way!

We will open back up in 1Thessalonians chapter 5.

We are going to cover a short series on tongues and prophecy. These are subject matters I have covered before.

But we need to highlight them again for clarity and for the sake of new followers in the ministry.

This will probably be a two-part series.

1Thes 5:18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.

[1Th 5:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/5/19/s_1116019) Do not quench the Spirit,

We completed a series on the 5 sins against God the HS. I am hopeful that it gave many of you, greater insight about sins and the ministry of God the HS.

/[1Th 5:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/5/20/s_1116020) **do not utterly reject prophecies**, 21 but **examine everything**; hold firmly to that which is good,\

[1Th 5:22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/5/22/s_1116022) abstain from every form of evil.

[1Th 5:23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/5/23/s_1116023) Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us first get some perspective on the historical time-line of this letter to Thessalonica.

The historical context is that the letters to Thessalonica were written around 50-51 AD.

Written during the Apostle Paul’s second missionary journey, which means Paul was still well over a dozen years away from the end of his life (67 AD).

The Apostle Paul was clueless as to the time and dates of his future execution.

His focus at this point was on developing the early church and continuing with the mission of completing the canon of scripture.

The completed canon of scripture was still well over 40 years away from its finishing touches in 95 AD. The gift of prophecy, along with several other gifts were active and needed during this historical point.

/Taking into account the problem at Thessalonica was one of twisted scriptures and false teaching in relation to end time prophecy. Also, the time in which the Apostle Paul was writing the letters was a period of working on the canon of scripture – with at least 40 more years before completion. This statement comes into focus for that time period.\

The period of developing the early church and completing the canon of scripture was a time of some prophetic gifts as well as healings and some miracles.

Yet the CA itself is not an age of prophecy or an age of prophets.

/*We face an issue that no generation has ever faced before. In previous dispensations there was always unfulfilled prophecy; this dispensation is different, there is no prophecy to be fulfilled. This means that instead of being prophecy conscious with regard to the Christian way of life we must become historical trend conscious.*

 *Col. R.B. Thieme Jr.* \

Prophecies in the OT pointed to end time events such as the Tribulation period, the 2nd Advent, 1,000 years of reign of Christ on earth, the Great White Throne judgment and the certainty of the coming of eternity.

The Rapture and CA dispensation was much more of a mystery in the time before the cross of Christ.

It was the teaching ministry of Jesus Christ before the cross and then during HIS resurrection that mystery doctrine was fully introduced.

Under the mystery doctrine umbrella are such doctrines as the Rapture, the CA Dispensation, the indwelling and filling power of God the HS, among other principles and doctrines taught within mystery doctrine of the CA.

/*1Thes 5:20 - Do not disregard the gift of prophecy and the speaking of prophecy. 21 But test and recognize those who are speaking God’s word.*

The Apostle Paul is calling for maturity which means – discernment. There were plenty of prophets and yet only a select few who worked with the Apostles.\

This is a closer translation to what the Apostle Paul was saying in relation to the year of our LORD 2023.

Turn to 1 Corinthians chapter 13 RF.

Many prophets came out of the wood work in the OT and NT, yet only certain ones were ordained by GOD.

What the Apostle Paul was now concerned about was false doctrine surrounding the 2nd Advent of Christ that had been introduced into Thessalonica.

Misconceptions about the Rapture of the church and 7 years of Tribulation now became a cloud of confusion that many Bels at Thessalonica were teaching to one another.

/If you are off on one doctrine it is almost inevitable that several other doctrines and teachings will fall victim to confusion. Many Bels are going to heaven because of one moment of faith alone in Christ alone, yet their spiritual walk is skewed with confusion, fluff, arrogance and emotional waves.\

They have a tremendous amount of wasted time and effort in the cosmic system.

These are the Bels who the Apostle Paul taught about, that will have a barn fire at the BEMA SEAT judgement of Christ.

/1Cor 3:15 If anyone’s **work is burned up**, he **will suffer loss;** but he himself **will be saved**, yet *only* so as through fire.

The Bema Seat Judgment of Christ happens after the Rapture. Many Bels will suffer a moment of shame and a loss of rewards.\

In 1Corinthians chapter 13 the Apostle Paul is dealing directly with inordinate competition and inordinate ambition. Which also means approbation lust…those seeking power and attention.

The church at Corinth struggled with emotional nonsense and lust patterns getting the best of them. This lesson is directed at spiritual gifts because several Bels in Corinth insisted that they had gifts or callings that placed them above others in the congregation.

1Cor 13:1 If I speak with the tongues of mankind and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

The Apostle Paul is about to point out what really matters in the CA dispensation, and it is not prophecy or healings and tongues.

/The Apostle Paul is dropping a wake-up call on the tongues, healing and prophecy crowd. He is stating that you can be a Bel completely out of line, nothing more than a nosey instrument grabbing attention yet with no spiritual momentum! All tongues were designed for two purposes - a form of evangelism and also a warning of the 5th cycle of discipline.\

Both uses were geared toward the early formation of the church.

Both were gifts given for a warning and evangelism for a short period of time.

Tongues were always a language that could be understood. Almost always accompanied by someone who could clearly understand the language.

[1Co 13:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/13/2/s_1075002) If I have *the gift of* prophecy and know all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

/***IF*** - in verse 2 into verse 3 is a Greek 3rd class condition, maybe you will, maybe you won’t. The Apostle Paul is strongly emphasizing how useless spiritual gifts are if they are misunderstood and wrongly applied. Chapter 13 into chapter 14 is a hard lesson for those who want to make an issue out of tongues, healing and prophecy. The Apostle Paul actually clarifies these gifts are temporary! \

Everything the Apostle Paul is emphasizing within these two chapters tells all CA Bels there was a beginning and end of certain gifts in the CA Dispensation.

He is trying to get their attention on application of BD, not on temporary spiritual gifts.

/[1Co 13:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/13/3/s_1075003) And if I give away all my possessions *to charity,* and if I surrender my body so that I may glory, **but do not have love** (*agape*’), **it does me no good.**

This is impersonal, unconditional, virtue love, only found in the proper application of the two power options! \

Get your mind off the entertainment aspect of spiritual gifts is what he is stating.

Bels who seek entertainment and emotional nonsense instead of serious Bible study, always fall for the illusion of spiritual gifts such as tongues, miracles and prophecy to replace growing in God’s grace and knowledge.

The early formation of the church depended on a set of temporary gifts which were never designed to sustain Bels toward spiritual growth.

 REPEAT

The design was foundational and transitional. It represented GOD showing HIMSELF as HE did through the person of Jesus Christ, to simply carry and transition through until the completed canon of scripture.

Now we see Paul goes onto describe what it looks like to be walking in the New Nature in the proper fashion.

[1Co 13:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/13/4/s_1075004) Love is patient, love is kind, it is not jealous; love does not brag, it is not arrogant.

[/1Co 13:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/13/5/s_1075005) It does not act disgracefully, **it does not seek its own***benefit;* **it is not provoked,** does **not keep an account** of a wrong *suffered,*

Every human essence the Apostle Paul points out from verse 4 into verse 7 points directly to the person of Jesus Christ. \

[1Co 13:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/13/6/s_1075006) it does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

[1Co 13:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/13/7/s_1075007) it keeps every confidence, it believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

/The Apostle Paul is teaching these emotional Bels at Corinth that what will become important in the very near future is to apply the word to their life. Our union with Christ is our focus, walking in the new man to become more Christ like is the calling in the Church Age.\

[1Co 13:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/13/8/s_1075008) Love never fails; but if *there are gifts of* prophecy, they will be done away with; if *there are* tongues, they will cease; if *there is* knowledge, it will be done away with.

Notice how it is all written in a future tense.

/*Prophecy, will be done away with* –

*Katargeō,* future tense, passive voice and indictive mood.

The gift of assisting in the completed canon of scripture, concerning eschatology was about to be done away with (future). The few who had the gift (passive) would certainly have it no longer once the Bible was complete (indictive).\

KART-AR-GAYO, means to abolish or be done with something. It means to cease.

/*Tongues, they will cease* –

*Pauō,* future tense, middle voice, indictive mood.

Tongues will no longer be needed soon (future). The gift and action of tongues will no longer be a benefit for anyone who uses it (middle). It will come to a halt or no longer exist (indicative). \

POW-OH, means to cease and desist, to bring under restraint.

/*Knowledge, will be done away with -*

*Katargeō,* future tense, passive voice and indictive mood.

The gift of assisting and assembling the aligning of scripture (OT into NT), will be done because of a completed canon (future). Those working on the Bible (passive) will complete that which they started (imperative).\

KART-AR-GAYO, means to abolish, we know GNOSIS is not abolished because BD is the accurate knowledge of the mind of Christ.

This is pointing to the physical work and gift that certain people had in assisting with the New Testament writings.

Now as we close out 1Corinthians chapter 13 it all comes together.

[1Co 13:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/13/9/s_1075009) For we know in part and prophesy in part;

IN PART!... meaning partial, this is a historic point where the BIBLE is not yet complete.

[/1Co 13:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/13/10/s_1075010) but **when the perfect** (*teleios)***comes**, the partial will be done away with.

The full coming of age, a completion of work or a final growth of age or a stage.\

TELLY-US, is written in a Greek, neutered gender. It is neither male nor female, it is a completion of something!

The Apostle Paul is speaking in terms of a mission or a piece of work, not a person.

Something has come to full age or a lesson or stage of work has come to its fruition.

 REPEAT

[1Co 13:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/13/11/s_1075011) When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things.

The driving factor behind this lesson is not only the emotional Christians at Corinth… but all BELS!

Stop being enamored with gifts of healing, tongues and prophecy – grow up, focus on what the WORD teaches you.

[/1Co 13:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/13/12/s_1075012) For **now we see in a mirror dimly,** but then face to face; now **I know in part, but then I will know fully,** just as I also have been fully known.

Corinth was a known for several items – mirror manufacturer was one of them! The mirror of BD is going to be how we view ourselves going forward.\

[1Co 13:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/13/13/s_1075013) But now faith, hope, *and* love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

/The whole purpose of the gift of tongues is given in Isaiah 28:9-11. The sign of the 5th cycle of discipline was to be the gift of tongues. The 5th cycle of discipline occurred in 70 AD, that was the cutoff date for the Jews. The Jews have been scattered. There was an element of evangelism within tongues as well. Yet it predominately served as a sign post for prophecy. \

 But in 32 AD on the day of Pentecost and thereafter for 38 years, there would occur periodically the gift of tongues which is a gift of speaking the gospel in a Gentile language.