

Purpose of Tongues Part 2

Review:

- When we speak in tongues, we are making a conscious decision by faith to speak as the Holy Spirit is giving us the language or the words to say.
- We can speak in two kinds of tongues: A tongue that is known in the earth and an unknown tongue that no man knows.
- Tongues are used to convey a message to the church in the public setting and work in conjunction with the gift of interpretation.
- The gift of tongues to convey a message to the church found 1 Corinthians 12 is not the same as the tongues you receive through the baptism in the Holy Ghost.
 - o The gift of tongues mentioned in 1 Corinthians chapter 12 is a gift for ministering to the body of Christ in the public church service and must be accompanied with the gift of interpretation.
 - o Not everyone will have this gift.
 - o But the gift of tongues you receive through the baptism of the Holy Spirit is for everyone and for your personal edification.

So, let's talk about the tongue for personal edification. This tongue is the unknown tongue mentioned in 1 Corinthians 14:2 and 1 Corinthians 14:4. This is the tongue you receive when you are baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Look what Paul says about this tongue in 1 Corinthians 14:4

- So, there's a tongue that we can speak in that's not a known tongue and it is for our personal edification
 - o Once again this is a different tongue than the one referred to in 1 Corinthians 12.
- The Greek word translated edifieth literally means to build a house, to restore by building, to rebuild, or repair.
- Paul was using it in a metaphorical sense to say that speaking in an unknown tongue will build you up spiritually and promote spiritual growth.

Let's look at how this happens

1. I am no more walking in who I am in Christ then when I'm speaking in tongues.
 - a. Tongues get me in order.
 - b. 1 Corinthians 14:14 tells us that our spirit is praying when we are speaking in an unknown tongue which means that our new born-again spirit is in control.
 - c. My natural mind is not in control, my flesh is not in control nor are my emotions in control.
 - d. Through speaking in tongues, I can bring my flesh under subjection to my spirit the way it is supposed to be.

- i. This is an amazing weapon to have because if you are frustrated, angry or emotional in a negative way you can start speaking in tongues and get yourself back in line with the spirit.
 - e. When I'm speaking in tongues, my spirit is in control of my tongue.
 - i. This is powerful because Proverbs 18:21 says that death and life are in the power of your tongue.
 - ii. James 3:3-5 - this says that the tongue is like the helm of a ship and the bit of a horse's mouth both of which controls direction. So, when you speak in tongues, you are actually giving the direction of your life over to the Holy Spirit.
- 2. Speaking in tongues increases my wisdom and revelation.
 - a. 1 Corinthians 4:1
 - i. Notice the phrase, "mysteries of God" or in other words truths in the mind of God that are mysteries to us because we don't know them.
 - ii. But Paul said that we are to be stewards or managers over these mysteries and therefore use these mysteries for the glory of the kingdom of God.
 - iii. How are you going to be stewards over what you don't know? So, we need to know these mysteries in order to steward over them.
 - b. 1 Corinthians 13:2
 - i. Paul, who called himself a steward over the mysteries of God, says that He understood all mysteries.
 - ii. In 2 Corinthians 12:7, Paul said he had abundance of revelations.
 - iii. Well, how did Paul come to the place where He understood the mysteries of God or the truths that was in the mind of God and had abundance of revelations? He did it through tongues.
 - c. 1 Corinthians 14:13
 - i. Here Paul lets us know that he that speaks in an unknown tongue should pray that he may interpret what he is saying.
 - ii. So going back to Paul who understood all mysteries and had abundance of Revelations said in 1 Corinthians 14:18-19 He spoke in tongues more than everyone he was writing to and when you read verse 19 you understand the tongue he is talking about is the personal tongue, not the gift of tongues to minister to the body.
 - iii. So, from 1 Corinthians 14:18-19, we can conclude that Paul spoke in tongues or prayed in tongues a lot.
 - d. So, what is Paul, who is praying in tongues a lot, speaking when he is praying in tongues?
 - i. 1 Corinthians 14:2 amp For one who speaks in an [unknown] tongue speaks not to men but to God, for no one understands or catches his

meaning, because in the [Holy] Spirit he utters secret truths and hidden things [not obvious to the understanding].

1. He is speaking mysteries or divine truths or truths that are in the mind of God.
- ii. 1 Corinthians 2:9-10 says that the Spirit searches the things that are in the mind of God or in other words those things that are mysteries to our natural senses and mind.
- iii. So, when you speak in tongues you are speaking those mysteries or truths.
- iv. When Paul was speaking in tongues a lot, he knew he was speaking mysteries or truths in the mind of God. So, then he would pray for the interpretation or understanding of what he prayed. This is how he got revelation.
- v. If you want to grow in wisdom and revelation, then you need to pray in tongues and believe God for the understanding of what you are praying.
- vi. You can pray in tongues over the word of God you are studying and trying to understand. You can pray in tongues about your ministry, the direction of your life, a decision you need to make, what to do about your family or marriage, etc. Pray in tongues over these things and believe God for the understanding of what you are praying, and revelation will come.