

Baptism of the Holy Spirit part 3

Tongues are a sign.

A sign in scripture is something that usually proves something and helps someone believe.

Mark 16:15-18 Jesus is giving the disciples some last words of encouragement and instruction before He ascends to be with the Father.

- So, a sign that is going to follow the believer as they go into the world and preach the gospel is new tongues.
 - o Mark 16:20 As the disciples went out and preached the word God confirmed what they preached was the authentic word of God with signs.
 - o What signs? The signs listed in verses 17 and 18 one of which is new tongues.
- Most people that don't believe in speaking in tongues will water down this verse and explain it as God is going to give you a new tongue and clean up your language. You won't cuss anymore, and you will talk more Godly to people.
 - o But when you look in scripture, you can see that the new tongues is the gift of tongues that comes with the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- Isaiah 28:11
 - o Here we see that Isaiah prophesied to us that we are going to speak with new tongues or new languages because this is one way God is going to speak to the people.
- Acts 2:4
 - o We see here that for the first time through the baptism of the Holy Ghost, the believers began to speak with new tongues as mentioned in Mark 16:17
 - o These tongues were not cleaned up language. These were different languages that the believer had not naturally learned but the Holy Spirit was enabling them to speak in.
- Acts 2:7-11
 - o So as the believers spoke in these new tongues (new to them because they were languages of other countries and nationalities), they became a sign to the unbelievers standing around that confirmed God was speaking to them.
 - Because how else could they be hearing the wonderful works of God in their own language from men that didn't speak their language unless God was giving them the language.
 - Think about it:
 - If someone changes the way they talk, that's not a real sign or confirmation that God is in them because anyone can change their language in front of certain people.

- But if someone that doesn't know your language starts talking to you about God in your native tongue, that's a definite sign that God is in them and what they are speaking is God's word.
 - So, the new tongues in Mark 16:17 is definitely referring to the tongues that come with the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
 - These tongues also became a sign to the believers that confirmed all the words Jesus spoke about sending the Holy Ghost to dwell in them.
 - When the men of other languages testified that these people that came out of the upper room was speaking in their own language, it confirmed to them that this had to be the Holy Ghost that Jesus promised to send because how else could we be talking in these languages we have never learned if the Holy Spirit wasn't in us giving us the words.
 - Side note: Something powerful about speaking in tongues on a regular basis is the fact that it will make you more aware of the presence of the Holy Spirit on the inside of you. The more aware you become of the indwelling presence of the Holy Ghost, the more holy you will live and the more sensitive you will be to His leadings.
 - (1 Corinthians 6:18-20) In these verses Paul connects the lack of awareness of the presence of the Holy Spirit with walking in the sin of fornication.
 - When dealing with those in the Corinthian church that was fornicating (sex outside of marriage), he said it must be because you don't know you are the temple of the Holy Ghost. Because if you did, you wouldn't do this. You would glorify God with your body.
 - So, what better way to become more aware of the presence of the Holy Ghost then to speak in tongues.
- Acts 10:44-47
 - This is where Peter is sent by the Holy Ghost to Cornelius' house to preach the gospel.
 - Cornelius was an Italian general which means that he and all in his house were gentiles.
 - But even though Cornelius was a gentile, he was a believer that prayed, fasted, and gave.
 - Cornelius was instructed by the Holy Spirit to go get Peter to come and minister to his household and the Holy Spirit also instructed Peter at the same time to go to Cornelius' house when those Cornelius sent came to get him.
 - But understand that up until now, the only people that the apostles had preached to and seen saved and filled with the Holy Ghost was Jews. They didn't know if this was even for the gentiles or if they were supposed to go preach to the

gentiles. Under the law, they were told to stay away from the gentiles because they worshiped idols.

- But through the work of the Holy Spirit, Peter by faith is going to preach the gospel to these gentiles in Cornelius' house and it says, "While Peter yet spake these words (or preached the gospel), the Holy Ghost fell on all of them which heard the word."
 - They knew the Holy Ghost fell on these gentiles and these gentiles received the Holy Ghost just like the Jews did because they heard them speak in tongues.
 - Remember new tongues are a sign that confirms God's word.
 - The tongues confirmed that these gentiles were born again and filled with the Holy Ghost. They confirmed that salvation and the gift of the Holy Ghost was not just for Jews but the whole world.
- Acts 11:15-18
- Peter in Acts 11 went back to the apostles in Jerusalem, and they were giving him a hard time about going to eat with gentiles or the uncircumcised.
 - But then Peter began to tell them how when He preached the gospel, they received the same gift of the Holy Ghost that they had received in the upper room.
 - Therefore, the tongues were a sign to the apostles that repentance unto life, as they called it, was also granted to the gentiles.
- Acts 11:15-16
- Notice that Peter says that when the Holy Ghost fell on the gentiles like it did on them in the upper room that he thought of what Jesus said about us being baptized with the Holy Ghost.
 - So, what we can draw from this scripture is that what happened in Cornelius' house is the baptism of the Holy Ghost.
 - So, Peter confirms for us once again that the baptism of the Holy Ghost initially results in speaking in tongues.
 - Therefore, tongues are a sign of confirmation that you have been baptized in the Holy Ghost.
 - So, Acts 2:4 was the baptism of the Holy Ghost because we saw them speak in tongues for the first time.
 - When Paul prayed for the certain disciples that he found in Ephesus in Acts 19, that was the baptism in the Holy Ghost because they spoke with other tongues.
 - When you are baptized in the Holy Ghost according to scripture, you will speak with other tongues and those other tongues will be the sign or evidence that you have been baptized.

Tongues have not ceased.

1 Corinthians 13:8-10

- People have used these verses to say that tongues and for the matter all of the gifts have ceased because that which is perfect is the completed bible and so since the completed bible has come tongues and all the gifts are no longer needed.
- But if you read the rest of the verses and you analyze your own spiritual life, you can see that that which is perfect is not referring to the bible and that which is perfect has not come yet.

1 Corinthians 13:11

- So, this is saying that when I became a man, there were things that I needed as a child I no longer need.
 - o Diapers, bottle, to be held, told not to touch the stove, or play with a light socket.
- So, there is coming a time that the things I need now, tongues, prophecy, revelation, I'm no longer going to need.

1 Corinthians 13:12

- So right now, spiritually, it's like I'm looking through a dark glass. But then (when that which is perfect has come) face to face.
 - o Just from this we can understand that when that which is perfect has come is talking about the coming of Jesus. When He comes back to get me, I'm going to see Him face to face.
 - o Right now, I see him but it's like I'm looking through a dark glass.
 - o Have you ever looked through a tinted window and you saw images but didn't see them clearly?
 - o That's what it's like with Jesus. I can see him, but I don't see and understand the fullness of him. But then, when he comes back, I won't be looking through a dark glass but face to face.
 - o The dark glass is my unredeemed flesh and unredeemed mind. It hinders me from fully seeing Jesus and the kingdom of God. But when He comes, I'm going to be changed in a moment in a twinkling of an eye and this corruption is going to put on incorruption.
- Now I know in part or I have some knowledge of the kingdom and God's plan but then (when that which is perfect is come) I will know as I am known.
 - o This means I will know the way God knows me.
 - o I will have my new mind and I will have the full knowledge of God.
 - o Therefore, I won't need tongues, prophecy, or revelation knowledge.
- So, the completed bible has come but it can't be the perfect thing that verse 10 is referring to simply because when I look at my life, I still don't have the full knowledge of God nor do I see the fullness of who Jesus is.

- Just because I have the bible and it may contain the knowledge of God and understanding of the fullness of Jesus, it doesn't mean that I automatically have it because I have the bible.
- I still need revelation of the bible. I still need to be able to pray in tongues over the word for understanding.
- Therefore verse 10 must be referring to the coming of Jesus.
- So, until Jesus comes back, I need tongues and prophecy and revelation knowledge.
- So therefore, until Jesus comes back, tongues will not cease.
- Also, if that which is perfect is referring to the bible and tongues have ceased then why would the bible say in 1 Corinthians 14:39 forbid not to speak with tongues.
- Also, if you believe we are in the end times, Daniel 12:4 says that knowledge shall increase.
 - So how can we be in the end times and knowledge increase but at the same time vanish away?
 - Because 1 Corinthians 13:8-12 is referring to the life after this when Jesus comes back.