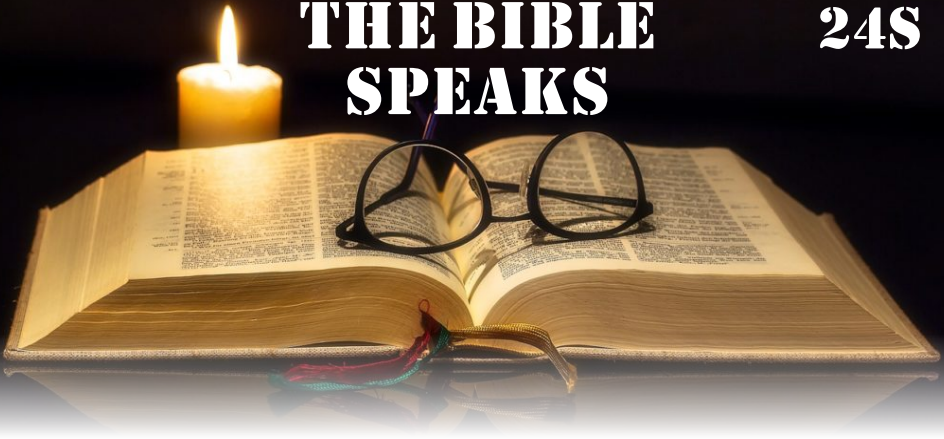


THE BIBLE SPEAKS

24S



Languages, Tongues or Lying Lips



HIGHER LEVEL MINISTRIES

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus

Philippians Chapter 2 verse 5

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A gift from the enemy can be very deadly. The fallen angels have successfully dispatched many human targets by beautifully “Gift” wrapping a bomb that explodes when opened. Today the Devil is using a counterfeit gift of the Spirit – a pagan form of the gift of tongues – to gain access to the church of God and destroy it from within. The genuine gift of tongues is a powerful tool for the proclamation of the gospel. But remember, the Devil has a counterfeit for every truth of God. Glossolalia is the word often used to describe the popular experience found in most charismatic churches. It is defined in the American Heritage Dictionary as: “fabricated and non meaningful speech, especially such speech associated with a trace-state or certain schizophrenic syndromes.” Contrast that with the same dictionary's definition for a language: “The use by human beings of voice sounds, and often written symbols representing these sounds, in organized combinations and patterns in order to express and communicate thoughts and feelings.” By any definition, the disjointed sounds of glossolalia are not a language.

1. How many languages were there in the beginning? **Genesis 11:1** -

2. So when does the Bible say multiple languages came into existence? **Genesis 11:5-9** -

Note: The Tower of Babel incident occurred around 4,200 years ago - about 100 years after the Flood. As people migrated from the Tower of Babel out to the rest of the known world, the languages spoken polarized groups of people. Verse 9 tells us they were scattered abroad across the globe. The whole world spoke these languages up until the time of Christ and beyond.

3. What were the most prominent languages spoken at the time of Christ? **John 19:19-20** -

4. In a world with so many different languages, how is the gospel to be communicated? **Romans 10:12-15** -

5. Who was appointed to preach the Gospel? **Mark 3:13-14** -

6. Why did Jesus tell the Disciples to wait in Jerusalem? **Acts 1:2-4** -

7. What Jewish festival happened to bring believers from all over the world to one place, even though they spoke different languages? **Acts 2:1 & 5** –

8. At Pentecost, did the apostles speak in languages or in an unknown tongues? **Acts 2:5-8** –

Note: This gift enabled the disciples to fulfill Jesus' commission to take the gospel to "all the nations;" to every "tribe, tongue, and people" (compare: **Matthew 28:19** and **Revelation 14:6**)

9. How many different languages were spoken by believers visiting Jerusalem? **Acts 2:9-11a** –

10. Why was the gift of tongues given? **Mark 16:15-17** –

Note: This "Gift" was primarily given for the purpose of witnessing to others. The fifteen language groups that were present at the Feast of Pentecost were to hear the Gospel and then take it back to their own lands.

11. When do we see the next two occurrences of tongues after Pentecost?

a) **Acts 10:44-47** –

b) **Acts 19:1-6** –

Before we begin this part of the study it would be good to understand what type of church the Corinthian church was.

12. What were the problems in the church at Corinth?

a) **1 Corinthians 1:10-13** –

b) **1 Corinthians 5:1-2** –

c) **2 Corinthians 11:3-4** –

d) **1 Corinthians 8:1-2 and 1 Corinthians 12:28-30** –

13. Do all born-again Christians receive the gift of tongues?

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 –

14. How important was, and is, the gift of tongues in relation to other spiritual gifts? **1 Corinthians 12:28-31** – _____

15. What does Paul mean when he talks about the tongues of men and the tongues of angels? **1 Corinthians 13:1** – _____

Note: Men speak in the language of mankind i.e. all languages of the world. Angels speak in a language that is common to mankind in all its forms.

16. Which gift is for believers and which gift is for non-believers?

1 Corinthians 14 (this chapter deals with 2 gifts in particular) -

a. _____ b. _____

The Devil is using this counterfeit gift of tongues to his advantage. Using this Trojan horse, Satan is introducing pagan worship styles into the Christian church with a frightening degree of success. Satans goal is to shift our focus from faith to feeling, and the stage is set for Satans' final performance! The concept that a person who is "slain in the spirit" will fall to the floor and wallow and babble, is an insult to the Holy Spirit. The reason God gives us His Spirit is to restore in us His image – not to rob us of our dignity and self control! In Isaiah 1:18 God gives us an invitation: "Come now, let us reason together." He wants us to use the minds that He gave us. Some of you reading this study might be thinking "How dare you? I have spoken in tongues for years and know it's from God!" As Christians, we should never base our conclusions on how we feel. After all. The Devil can certainly make us feel good. Rather, we must base our beliefs on the Word of God.

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|--|--------------------------|
| 1. Do you desire to receive the genuine gifts of the Holy Spirit? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. In order to receive them do you agree to submit and be obedient to Gods will? | <input type="checkbox"/> |



All Bible texts quoted are from the King James Bible

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