

## **WEDNESDAY WORD**

"For God is not the author of confusion" (1 Cor. 14:33).

The subject under consideration in this passage has to do with confusion in the order of worship. Although the message deals with speaking in tongues, the main focus is not on speaking in tongues but on strife in the church.

God is a God of peace. The whole Bible and all of human experience testify to the fact that God is love. It was love that caused God to create humankind for fellowship. It was love that caused Him to call Abram. It was love that sent Jesus into the world.

The special message of the Bible is that God sent Jesus into the world to bring peace. At the birth of Jesus, the heavenly host sang, "Peace on earth, good will toward men." Jesus' life was spent in teaching and preaching love and kindness. The church of today is the instrument of the same message.

The greatest act of Christ to establish peace was His death on the cross. God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself. Sin had made and still makes humans the enemies of Christ. Reconciliation removes that enmity.

The Christian is the instrument of peace. Pursue love, which is the more excellent way. To pursue love is to be like God. We become unchristian when we think like fallen humans instead of like God. The opening verse also exhorts Christians to prophesy. This means to speak forth in such a way that people can understand. The messenger of God should speak forth in such a way so as to build up.

Excel in spiritual gifts for the upbuilding of the church. The church of the Lord Jesus Christ is the hope for order and peace in the world. The church of today is to do what Jesus did in His earthly life. Two things are mentioned for the church to do – pray and praise (1 Cor. 14:15).

Become mature spiritually. A mature person is one who is convicted of sin and looks to Christ for cleansing. A mature person is one who fulfills his or her office according to God's will.

Each Christian must respond to God in order to have peace. The church at Corinth was guilty of doing the reverse of God's will. This is the reason there is disorder in the world today. The same is true of the church. Men and women in the church need to be right with God.

World peace waits on the children of God. God said, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (2 Chron. 7:14).

We, as Christians, are urged to become instruments of peace. We must surrender to our Lord completely.

Praise His holy name.