

IMPACT
NEXT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Total Man	3
The Builder and the Building	7
Equality of the Church Ministry	10
Ascension Ministries	12
Gifts of the Spirit	21
Hand of God	28



THE TOTAL MAN

> **1 Thessalonians 5:23**

23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- God of peace
- Sanctify
- Wholeness or total man must be sanctified.
- Spirit
- Soul
- Body

> **Psalms 23:3**

3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

- Shepherd leads into
- *Paths* not *path*
- Paths of righteousness or right paths
- For his name's sake

> **Proverbs 3:5-10**

5 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. **6** In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. **7** Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil. **8** It shall be health to thy navel and marrow to thy bones. **9** Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase. **10** So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

- Trust in the Lord with all your mind
- His understanding not yours - not your insight
- Ways & Paths
- God's wisdom
- God's path not an evil path - evil actions
- Health to navel and marrow to thy bones

- Medicine that will keep you in good health and keep your body refreshed
- Healing your wounds and easing your pains
- Honor the Lord - show he is great
- Substance - first fruit
- Full barns and overflowing wine - The Lords blessing

> **Proverbs 3:17**

17 Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.

- Pleasant Ways
- Paths of peace

> **Proverbs 3:21-26**

21 My son, let not them depart from thine eyes keep sound wisdom and discretion: **22** So shall they be life unto thy soul, and grace to thy neck. **23** Then shalt thou walk in thy way safely, and thy foot shall not stumble. **24** When thou liest down, thou shalt not be afraid: yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy sleep shall be sweet. **25** Be not afraid of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh. **26** For the Lord shall be thy confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken.

- Wisdom & Discretion should always be in your mind
- Health to thy soul
- No stumbling
- No fear
- Rest - sweet sleep
- No panic when others are in crisis
- On this path God will keep you safe

> **Proverbs 3:27-31**

27 Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it. **28** Say not unto thy neighbor, go, and come again, and tomorrow I will give; when thou hast it by thee. **29** Devise not evil against thy neighbor, seeing he dwelleth securely by thee. **30** Strive not with a man without cause, if he have done thee no harm. **31** Envy thou not the oppressor, and choose none of his ways.

- Do good to those in need
- Don't think up evil ways to hurt the person living nearby who puts his confidence in you
- Don't argue with someone who has done you no harm
- Don't go down the path of an evil man - harm of any sort

> ***Psalms 119:105***

105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

- Word is a lamp & light
- Lamp is for your feet - direction
- Light is for your path - right path

If we choose to follow God by his wisdom which is found in his word, and to do his will and not our own then the paths of righteousness for his name's sake will bring honor to his name and will be right paths of health and peace. What is the total man and what paths does he take?

1. Spiritual
2. Emotional
3. Physical
4. Financial
5. Relational

> ***Spiritual Path***

- Prayer
- Fasting
- Word
- God Connection

> ***Emotional Path***

- Soul
- Sabbath

> ***Physical Path***

- Bodily Exercise Profits Little
- Health

> ***Financial Path***

- Honor the Lord with thy substance
- Healthy financially

> ***Relational Path***

- Let brotherly love continue
- Paths of peace with your fellow man
- Lift up holy hands without wrath or doubting
- Healthy relationships or toxic
- Vine and branches - fruit



THE BUILDER AND THE BUILDING

1 Corinthians 3:10-17

10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. **11** For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. **12** Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; **13** Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. **14** If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. **15** If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. **16** Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? **17** If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

> **Master Builder**

- Paul proclaims himself to be a wise master builder.
- The Greek describes it as not only someone who drew the plans but also directed the building work and assigning task.
- He knew not only how to build but what material needed to be used.

> **Foundation**

- Could also refer to the fact that the Corinthian church had already been founded as in past tense as used in verse 6 in regard to Apollos.
- We have already laid the foundation in the Corinthian church and it was founded upon Christ!
- Can only build upon this foundation.

> **Material**

- Gold
- Silver
- Precious Stones

- Wood
- Hay
- Stubble

> **Test of Fire**

- Test not a purging
- Day of fire will reveal what you used to build.
- Material that will stand the test of fire or be consumed by it.
- God is going to see what your building is made of.
- Quality of your building

> **Man's Work**

- Others had come to Corinth claiming to be super apostles and Paul is saying that their works or ministry will be revealed by fire to see what it's made of.

> **Abiding Works**

- God will reward the person who builds upon this foundation with things that don't burn.
- If Man's work/ministry is built with the right material it will not only be revealed but also rewarded.
- Lasting and rewarding ministry versus the ministries that don't last or are consumed by fire.

> **Loss of Works/Ministry**

- Loss of works/ministry by the test of fire.
- Man shall be saved but separated from his building.
- Builder is separated from the building.
- Analogy - ship is lost but the sailor is saved.

> **Temple of God**

- God's building.
- God dwells in you.
- Now God is the builder and we are his building.
- God is building a building that will stand the test of fire.
- Baptism of Holy Ghost and fire.
- Fire is a consuming agent to remove the chaff or things that are not pure.

> **Defiled Temple**

- Making his temple into something that is not pure.
- Defile is to destroy the temple from being what God built it for.

> **Destroy**

- a. corrupt morally
- b. ruin financially
- c. seduce sexually

- God will destroy the destroyer or ruin the ruiner.

Example: Jesus Coming to the Temple

- The builder of the temple came to his house and declared “you have changed the material of this place.”
- “You have defiled my temple.”
- “My house shall be known of all nations to be a house of prayer but you have turned it into a den of thieves.”
- God’s intent for us is to be his temple or a house of prayer.
- What kind of prayer life have you developed?

> **Summary**

- You are the builder of your ministry and must use the right material.
- Ministry that will last and not be consumed by God’s test of fire.
- Understand the difference between being a builder of ministry and the building or temple of God.
- Where do you spend the most time building a ministry or allowing God to build a man?
- Ministry and gifts should also be accompanied by the nature of God in us.
- Paul said I travail again until Christ be formed in you.
- Don’t substitute building a ministry for building the man.
- Study 1 Corinthians 13
- Powerful ministries void of love.



EQUALITY OF THE CHURCH MINISTRY

2 Corinthians 8:14-15

14 But by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may be a supply for their want, that their abundance also may be a supply for your want: that there may be equality: **15** As it is written, He that had gathered much had nothing over; and he that had gathered little had no lack.

Ephesians 4:7-13

7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. **9** (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? **10** He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) **11** And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; **12** For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: **13** Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

> **Five-Fold Ministry**

1. Apostle
2. Prophet
3. Pastor
4. Teacher
5. Evangelist

- Foundational Gifts
- Ascension Gifts

- *Apostle & Prophet to the general body?*
- *Pastor Teacher Evangelist to the local church?*

> **Maturing Son**

The need for tutors & governors... maturing son

Galatians 4:1-2

1 Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all; **2** But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father.

- The whole purpose clause can be translated “in order to strengthen the body of Christ” or “in order to strengthen the believers as the body of Christ”
- It may be difficult to employ the figure of height and stature in speaking of Christ, since such a figure of speech may be interpreted as purely physical in the sense that people would grow up to be as tall as Christ was. Therefore reaching to the very height of Christ’s full stature may be better rendered in some instances as “becoming as mature as Christ was” or “in our trust in God becoming completely like Christ”
- “In love” may be understood as the means whereby the body is made to grow (so TEV through love), but the text can be taken to mean that the body’s love increases, it becomes ever more loving. Barth says: “‘love’ is denoted as the ground, the sphere, the instrument of the church’s existence.” He takes love here as encompassing God’s (and Christ’s) love for mankind, the believers’ love of God and Christ, and the believers’ love for one another. It may be necessary to specify in translation who loves whom, and so the following may be said, “The whole body grows and builds itself up as the members have more love for one another”
- ***So as a person matures, they love more...***



ASCENSION MINISTRIES

> *Purpose of Ascension Gift/Ministries*

Galatians 4:1-6

1 Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all; 2 But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father.

- The need for tutors & governors... maturing son

Ephesians 4:11-16

11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

> *Notes From Handbook on Ephesians*

Ephesians 4:11

- But often a more appropriate rendering is equivalent to “to some he gave the task of being...” or “... assigned the task of being...”
- Evangelists: The term may be translated “those who told others about the Good News” or “those who went about from place to place telling the Good News.”
- In a number of languages pastors and teachers may be rendered as “those who help the believers and teach them” or “those who guide the believers and teach them.”

Ephesians 4:12

- “He did this to prepare all God’s people” may be expressed as “he did this in order that all God’s people would be ready to ...” or “... would be able to ...”

- The phrase for the work of Christian service may be rendered “for the work people who follow Christ must do” or “in order to do what they should as believers” or “in order to help others as believers should.”
- The whole purpose clause can be translated “in order to strengthen the body of Christ” or “in order to strengthen the believers as the body of Christ.”

Ephesians 4:13

- “all of us together shall come to ...”
- Come ... to translates the Greek verb “arrive at, reach, attain to.” There are three goals to be reached, indicated in Greek by the threefold use of the preposition “into”:
 - (1) “The oneness of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God”: A literal translation of the expression to “the oneness in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God” might imply “to a point of agreeing about our faith and about our knowledge concerning the Son of God.” But this passage is not about diverse doctrines and heresies but about the unity of believers. Therefore, it is better to translate to “the oneness in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God” as “to that place of being like one in the way we trust Christ and in our experiencing the Son of God.” In this context knowledge implies much more than “knowing about.” Here the emphasis is upon “experiencing the presence of the Son of God” or “experiencing the power of the Son of God.” That is to say, experiencing his power in the life of the believer.
 - (2) We shall become mature people: It may even be possible in some languages to say “we shall become like grown people in our faith” or “we shall completely grow up in our faith.”
 - (3) Reaching to the very height of Christ’s full stature; “a full-grown man,” “a mature man”
 “that full maturity which comes from Christ” JB “fully mature with the fullness of Christ himself.” So, the “fullness” of Christ here is either to be indicated by stature, maturity, perfection, completeness, or whatever else best fits the context of the language. It may be difficult to employ the figure of height and stature in speaking of Christ, since such a figure of speech may be interpreted as purely physical in the sense that people would grow up to be as tall as Christ was. Therefore, reaching to the very height of Christ’s full stature may be better rendered in some instances as “becoming as mature as Christ was” or “in our trust in God becoming completely like Christ.”

Ephesians 4:14

- Here the purpose or result of the church’s maturity is spelled out in contrast with the figure of immature, indecisive children who are led astray by cunning and artful schemers.
- The first participle means “tossed about by waves” (the verb occurs only here in the New Testament; for the noun “wave” see James 1:6). The second participle is “carried around” the picture is that of a small boat in a storm, unable to hold a steady course.

This figure of rough waves and strong winds is applied to wrong teachings which carry immature Christians away from the truth of the gospel.

- “We will no longer be like a small boat tossed one way and then another by the waves or blown in one direction and another by the wind which keeps changing.”
- “The teaching of deceitful men” translates in the Greek “the teaching in/by the deceit of man” “deceit” translates a word used nowhere else in the New Testament, and which literally means “playing with dice.” Here it means “trickery, sleight of hand.” In order to relate teaching of deceitful men to the preceding figures of speech, it may be best to translate “the way deceitful men teach others is like that” or “that is just what happens when deceitful men teach people”
- “In the cunning in accordance with the scheming of error” (Hdb): the Greek word for “cunning” or “craftiness” is used in 2 Corinthians 11:3 of the snake in the Garden of Eden as it tricked Eve.
- It may also be possible to translate who lead others into error as “who cause others to go down the wrong road” or “who cause others to believe what isn’t true.”

Ephesians 4:15

- So, TNT “base our lives on truth (and love).” Perhaps something like “maintaining the truth” (Robinson) or “being faithful to the truth” can express the broader meaning. In any case, it is truth in the fellowship of the church (see verse 4:25).
- If, however, the phrase “speaking the truth” is understood in its broader implication of “living according to the truth,” one may translate “we should live according to what is true in the Good News ... and in this way we will grow up ...”
- A spirit of love translates “in love” as it is the Christians’ love for one another in the body of Christ which guarantees growth and health (see also 5:2); for the idea of growth see verse 2:21. It may be difficult to speak of a spirit of love, but it is always possible to translate in such a way as to mean “while always loving one another” or “and showing love for one another”
- We must grow up in every way to Christ, who is the head: the growth of the body has Christ as the goal. “To grow up into Christ” does not mean “to become Christ” it means the growth, the maturity, of all Christians is directed toward the goal which is Christ himself, to become like him and to be completely (in every way) incorporated in him.
- TNT has “grow up into a perfect union with Christ,” and compare Robinson’s comment: “Learn more and more to live as part of a great whole.” Brc has “we shall become more and more closely united with him who is the head.” Once again, the concrete picture the writer uses is not completely adequate for the spiritual reality he is describing.

- The phrase “we must grow up” reflects a Greek form of the verb indicating an exhortation. In many instances this may be translated as “let us grow up” or “we should grow up.”
- The figure of Christ as the head of the body, the church, means that he rules or he governs the body. It is often necessary to specify what the head is related to, and therefore one may wish to translate who is the head as “who is the head of the church.”

Ephesians 4:16

- The syntax of this verse in Greek is complex. The subject (see Hdb translation under verse 11) is “the whole body,” the verb is “makes,” and its object is “the growth of the body.” The verse is obviously related to Colossians 2:19, “from whom the whole body, supplied and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows the growth of God.” The best way to analyze the verse is to use the Hdb translation of the Greek (under verse 11).
- “From whom the whole body”: “from whom” clearly expresses the idea of the head, Christ, being in charge of the body, the church (as in Col 2:19). TEV has under his control, which states the circumstances under which all of the rest of verse 16 becomes true. In some languages it is best to translate the phrase “under his control” as “he has control of all the different parts of the body” or even “because he controls all the different parts of the body.”
- “Joined and knit together”: the first participle is of the verb used in 2:21. The second participle is used also in Colossians 2:19. TEV translates the first one (all the different parts of the body) fit together, and the second one (the whole body) is held together. The different parts of the body fit together may be expressed in some languages as “all the different parts of the body come together to make one” or “...come together to make one body”
- “Through every joint of supply”: the first noun appears in the New Testament only here and in Colossians 2:19; it means either “joint” or “ligament” (in Col 2:19 it is used together with “bond”). The writer is not scientific in his use of the term, and the precise meaning of the word here is unclear. *NEB has “Bonded and knit together by every constituent joint” (Mft, RSV, and others also use “joint” Gdsp, TNT, and others use “ligament”). Whether “joint” or “ligament,” the idea is that of joining or holding together.
- Rather than the passive expression the whole body is held together by every joint with which it is provided, it may be best to use an active expression, “every joint in the body helps to hold the whole body together.”
- “Of supply” TEV with which it is provided (so Phps; Mft, RSV “supplied” Brc “equipped”). The Greek noun “supply, equipment” in this genitive phrase could be understood in the active sense that the joints “supply” something to the body (as the related verb means in the parallel Col 2:19; see TEV is nourished). So BJ translates “the joints which nourish it.” But the idea of joints providing nourishment to the body is a rather strange one (see Robinson), and so most take the noun in the passive sense of “being supplied.” So Murray: “By every band (or ligament) with which Christ furnishes it.” Beare, following Abbott, prefers the idea of “contact” (for the Greek noun translated “joint”) and takes the

whole phrase to mean “through every contact of supply,” indicating that the nourishment (which here is that which Christ provides) spreads through the body “by an endless succession of ‘contacts.’” “This is quite attractive and may be the meaning intended. Similarly Barth: “He provides sustenance to it through every contact.” But the meaning can be faithfully represented without specifying a particular bodily part, by doing what SpCL has done: “by means of the union among all its parts” (similarly BrCL).

- The following prepositional clause “according to the working in measure of each and every part” (Hdb) may go with what precedes or with what follows; it seems better to take it with what follows. TEV translates So when each separate part works as it should (compare RSV “when each part is working properly” NEB “the due activity of each part” NIV “as each part does its work”). “Working” translates a noun used in 1:19. “In measure” translates a prepositional phrase; the noun “measure” is used also in 4:7, 13. “Part” translates a word which means “part, piece” some Greek manuscripts (and Vulgate) have “member.”
- The clause when each separate part works as it should may also be translated as a condition, for example, “So if each separate part works as it should.” In this context works is to be understood in a much broader sense than to engage in physical work, and it may be best to translate the introductory clause as “so when each part does what it should do” or “... functions as it should.”
- “Makes the growth of the body”: this is the verb and object of this relative clause (verse 16), of which the subject is “the body” at the beginning of the verse. The verb “makes” is in the middle voice, which may properly be taken to mean “makes for itself” or “makes by itself.” The noun “growth” is related to the verb “to grow” (2:21; 4:15).
- “To the building of itself in love”: for “building” see verb 2:21; and verse 4:12. It may be difficult to introduce a shift in the figure of speech at the end of verse 16. Accordingly, builds itself up may be rendered in some languages more satisfactorily as “becomes stronger” or even “becomes better.”
- “In love” may be understood as the means whereby the body is made to grow (so TEV through love), but the text can be taken to mean that the body’s love increases, it becomes ever more loving. Barth says: “‘love’ is denoted as the ground, the sphere, the instrument of the church’s existence.” He takes love here as encompassing God’s (and Christ’s) love for mankind, the believers’ love of God and Christ, and the believers’ love for one another. It may be necessary to specify in translation who loves whom, and so the following may be said, “The whole body grows and builds itself up as the members have more love for one another.”

> **Foundational Gifts & Ascension Gifts**

Ephesians 2:20-22

20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; **21** In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: **22** In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

> **Foundational Apostles & Prophets**

These ministries and gifts are in the foundation. Christ, the apostles, and the Old Testament prophets are all a part of the foundation. After his ascension the foundation has been laid and nothing can be added into it, only built upon it.

> **Ascension Gifts/Ministries**

The ministries mentioned by Paul were not given as gifts until after his ascension. Every ascension ministry must measure itself to make sure it is building or in alignment with the foundation or foundational apostles and prophets. Ascension ministries must be submitted to foundational ministries. According to Paul we are a part of the building that is being built as a habitation for God by his Spirit. The Spirit will never contradict itself with division from the foundation and the building.

1 Corinthians 14:29-33

29 Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge. **30** If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. **31** For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted. **32** And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. **33** For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

- One building
- Habitation of God
- Temple of the Holy Ghost
- Church

- **Built by One Spirit** - so the spirit would not say one thing to an OT prophet and then create confusion in the building/temple/church or go off the foundation and build outside the perimeter or off the foundation.

- Ascension Apostle are subject to Foundational Apostle
- Ascension Apostle would not contradict Foundational Apostle

> **Five Ascension Ministries of Ephesians**

1. Apostle
2. Prophet
3. Pastor
4. Teacher
5. Evangelist

Apostle: *ap-os-tol-ay*

- *commissioned as an ambassador of the gospel with miracle powers*
- *a messenger who is sent out or away from*
- *the root word ap-os-tel-lo means to set apart or send forth or send out on a mission*

An apostle is one who is commissioned of the Lord and the church to go into a different area or areas to establish the gospel and set up the church, and whose ministry is accompanied by miracles.

Prophet: *prof-ay-tance*

- *a foreteller or an inspired speaker*
- *two root words pro meaning fore or in front of, prior, or before and fay-see meaning to show or to make known one's thoughts.*
- *to make manifest, to make light, or to illuminate*

A prophet then, is one whom the Lord causes to directly speak by the spirit of foretelling the future. One who with inspiration foretells the scriptures. One who knows and discerns by the Spirit of the Lord through the gifts of the spirit.

There is the spirit of prophecy, which is the anointed testimony of Jesus: there is the gift of prophecy, which is one of the nine gifts of the spirit, and there is the resident spirit of a prophet, which true Bible prophets possess.

Evangelist: *yoo-ang-ghel-is-tace*

- *preacher of the gospel*

Pastor: *poy-mane*

- *a shepherd*

Teacher: *did-as-kal-os*

- *an instructor*

> **Hand of God**

- Apostles - Govern
- Prophets - Guide
- Evangelist - Gather
- Pastors - Guard
- Teachers - Ground

(Permission from Lee Stoneking to use from his book Five-Fold Ministry)

> **Equality in the Church**

2 Corinthians 8:14-15

14 But by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may be a supply for their want, that their abundance also may be a supply for your want: that there may be equality: **15** As it is written, He that had gathered much had nothing over; and he that had gathered little had no lack.

- Paul, in reference to the Corinthians and their giving
- Others abundance is given to help those who lack or have need

Ephesians 4:7

7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

(Handbook on Ephesians)

- “Has received” translates the Greek passive “was given” the implied agent is Christ, who is the subject in the following verses. So it may be better to translate “Christ has given each of us a special gift, our own part of his abundant supply”

Here again the Greek word for “grace” has the concrete sense of special gift (see verse 3:2, and verse 3:7, as well as verse 3:8). The clause “according to the measure of the gift of Christ” is similar to “according to the gift of the grace of God” in verse 3:7. For “giving, gift” see verse 3:7. The Greek noun “measure, standard, degree” is also used in verses 13, 16. The meaning of the verse is that the gift that each Christian has is determined by Christ’s generosity. See NEB “his due portion of Christ’s bounty” TNT “And yet, of his bounty, Christ has given to each one of us a due portion, a special gift”

Romans 12:6

6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

- God gives each ministry by his grace the measure of gifting
- Each five ministries as gifts from God has different functions
- When one is lacking there is a gift from God missing and need in the body
- Each ministry must function in its own anointing to bring equality in the church

> *Summary*

After his ascension God by his grace has measured out gifts to give to his church or body. These ascension ministries/gifts are for:

- The building of his church upon the foundation
- The maturing and perfecting of his body with the ultimate goal being mature children like Christ, operating in his love
- Agent with the Spirit for discipling believers
- When these differing gifts operate in the church by his One Spirit there is nothing lacking or deficit
- The church is not yet come to the fullness of his stature so the ministries must continue to operate
- What great gifts God has given to fulfill his purpose



GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

> **1 Corinthians 12 :1-11**

1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. **2** Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led. **3** Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. **4** Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. **5** And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. **6** And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. **7** But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. **8** For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; **9** To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; **10** To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: **11** But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

> **Nine Gifts of the Spirit**

1. Word of wisdom
2. Word of knowledge
3. Faith
4. Gifts of healing
5. Working of miracles
6. Prophecy
7. Discerning of spirits
8. Divers tongues
9. Interpretation of tongues

> **Nine Gifts in Three Categories**

You will notice that the nine gifts are listed in three categories with three gifts in each category (3 x 3).

Three is the number for power and in the gifts of the Spirit there are three groups of three.

a. completeness b. finality c. unity

> **Three Categories in the Gifts of the Spirit**

1. Revelation
2. Power
3. Vocal

1. Word of wisdom
2. Word of knowledge
3. Discerning of spirits

> **Power**

1. Faith
2. Healing
3. Miracles

> **Vocal**

1. Prophecy
2. Divers tongues
3. Interpretation of tongues

> **Three Categories Defined**

Revelation Gifts: God reveals something from heaven to man.

Power Gifts: God does something for man.

Vocal Gifts: God brings blessings to others by edification, exhortation, and comfort.

Defining the Gifts:

1. Word of wisdom is wisdom from God in regard to a given situation.
2. Word of knowledge is the revealing of a fact in existence which cannot be revealed naturally by someone else.
3. Gift of faith is faith beyond the person being used.

4. Working of miracles is when God uses someone to work a miracle.
5. Gifts of healing is when God uses someone to heal another.
6. Divers tongues is speaking in a tongue not known to the speaker.
7. Interpretation of tongues is when God uses someone to interpret a tongue not known to the church.
8. Gift of prophecy is the anointed speaking forth words coming directly from God.

- *THE AUTHORITY OF THE GIFTS IS THE WORD!*
- *NO GIFT CONTRADICTS THE WORD!*

> **God's Gift to the Church**

1. Nine gifts of the spirit. (1 Corinthians 12)
2. Ascension Gifts - Ministry offices: apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers and evangelist. (Ephesians. 4:11)
3. Helps & Governments. 1 Corinthians 12
4. Gifts to the body of Christ. Romans 12: 6-8

Gifts to the body:

1. *Prophecy*
2. *Ministry or serving*
3. *Teaching*
4. *Exhortation*
5. *Giving*
6. *Ruling or authority to lead*
7. *Showing mercy*

> **Purpose of the Gifts of the Spirit**

1. *Weapon*

2. *Power tools*
3. *Edify or build up the church or body*

Source of the Gifts of the Spirit

1. Holy Ghost: verse 3
2. Spirit: verse 4
3. Lord: verse 5
4. Verse 7 states that by the “Spirit to profit withal”.

“God gives each person some proof of the Spirit’s presence to be used to help the whole church.”

1. Diversity of gifts, but the same Spirit: verse 4
2. Differences of administration, but the same Lord: verse 5
3. Members but one body: verses 12-31

> Unity & Love

1. The gifts must operate in unity. verse 12
2. They are not to bring division to the body. verse 18
3. They are not to exalt or separate a brother with pride. verse 21
4. They must operate in love. 1 Corinthians 13: 1-8

Fifteen character traits of love:

1. *Patient*
2. *Kind*
3. *Not Envious*
4. *Not Boastful*
5. *Not Proud*
6. *Not Rude*
7. *Not Self Seeking*
8. *Not Easily Angered*

9. *Keeps No Record Of Wrongs*
10. *Does Not Delight In Evil*
11. *Rejoices In The Truth*
12. *Always Protects*
13. *Always Trusts*
14. *Always Hopes*
15. *Always Perseveres*

> **Balance**

The psalmist said “my foot standeth in an even place.” Battle training taught the importance of your feet being even so you would not lose your balance easily and be knocked down. Unity and love are the footing that the gifts must be balanced with or you will lose your ability to stand.

The more love you have for the body of Christ the more you see the need for the gifts to operate in order to help or build up the church! The person used in the gifts by love would never separate from the body by pride.

The word of wisdom is a supernatural gift of a portion of divine insight, judgement, or guidance for a particular need.

1. Word of wisdom, not all wisdom.
2. Spirit’s ability to show us wisdom in any situation.

> **Word of Knowledge**

A revelation of divine information by someone who does not know it by natural means while another person has natural knowledge of it.

The recipient receives it by the spirit. In other words, it is divine knowledge being imparted to a person by the Spirit.

Example:

Acts 5 is a good example of the word of knowledge when Peter spoke to Ananias and Sapphira.

> **Discerning of Spirits**

Supernatural gift of perceiving the spiritual motivation for an action, or what type of spirit is at work.

1. Divine
2. Demonic
3. Human

- *Notice that it does not say the discerning of devils.*
- *Discernment is half the battle of casting an evil spirit out.*
- *Peter discerned Simon the Sorcerer was not right in Acts 8.*
- *Paul discerned the spirit of divination in Acts 16.*

> **Gift of Faith**

The Gift of Faith is a supernatural faith that comes from God beyond your own measure of faith.

- *We exercise and increase our faith by use.*
- *Gift of faith operates when a situation demands more faith than you personally have.*
- *Faith of God*

Supernatural intervention of God that transcends the laws of nature in a situation and operates through or with a human being.

- *Any miracle that happens when God uses a person to assist.*

> **Gifts of Healing**

When God supernaturally heals the sick.

- *The only gift in the plural*
- *The healing of body, soul, and spirit.*
- *The crown of thorns - healing of our minds*
- *The stripes upon his back - healing of our bodies*
- *The wound in his side - healing or restoring of our spirit to God.*

> **Diverse Tongues**

Supernatural utterance in one or more languages unknown to the speaker.

- *Tongue as the initial sign of Holy Ghost is not the gift of tongues*
- *Tongues of edification*
- *Tongues for interpretation*
- *Tongues for communication - speaking to someone in their known tongue.*

> **Interpretation of Tongues**

The supernatural ability to interpret or explain the meaning of a public utterance in tongues.

- *Not a translation - The message in tongues may be long and the interpretation short or vice versa.*

Supernatural utterance from God in the language of the speaker. Speaking something that has come directly from God at that moment.

- *Direct word from God.*
- *Someone who speaks in tongues speaks to God.*
- *Someone who prophesies speaks to others.*
- *Direct word from God to build faith or revelation in a congregation*
- *Reveal the secrets of one's heart*
- *Can reveal the future*
- *Music and prophecy work together*
- *Prophecy according to the measure of faith - Faith cometh by hearing.*

Dimensions of prophecy:

- *Singing*
- *Preaching - under the spirit of prophecy but accumulated knowledge.*
- *Gift of prophecy - direct word from God without foreknowledge.*

Difference between gift of prophecy and the office of a prophet:

- *Gift of prophecy does not make one a prophet.*
- *Word of wisdom does not make one all wise.*
- *Word of knowledge does not give one all wisdom.*
- *The prophet was not a message sent from God but a man sent from God.*
- *Jeremiah gives the function of a prophet - root out, pull down, destroy, throw down, build and plant.*



THE HAND OF GOD

