

June 5, 2024

## Speaking in Tongues

### Part 2

When we speak about the Baptism with the Holy Ghost and the initial evidence God gives of speaking in others tongues as recorded in the Bible, many people are preprogramed to reject that this is of God. They cannot deny it based on the scripture, so they point to some teacher who claims it all ceased with the death of the Apostles. **While it is true that many things ceased with the death of the early Apostles including preaching the truth, that does not mean God desired it to be that way. The loss of such reality is how the church fell into the dark ages!** We cannot disannul God's word based on religious teachers who decided they can tell us things ended when the scripture does not say that. We must be a people who believe God's word!

I want to address some common questions about the Holy Spirit Baptism and speaking in tongues. As always, I trust to give answers based on the word of God.

**1. Do we automatically receive the Holy Spirit when we receive Christ?** No! There is a clear difference between receiving the Spirit of Christ and receiving the Holy Ghost. The Apostle Paul

said, "God hath sent forth **the Spirit of his Son** into your hearts..." Galatians 4:6. He also said "...if any man have not **the Spirit of Christ**, he is none of his." Romans 8:9. We are saved when the Spirit of Christ, which is the Spirit of God's Son, comes into us. Many people were saved in Samaria when Philip preached there, but none received the Holy Ghost until the Apostles came down and laid hands on them to receive. Acts 8:4-25. Paul asked those believers he encountered at Ephesus, "Have you received the Holy Ghost **since you believed?**" Acts 19:2. He later reminded the Ephesians of this truth, saying, "...**after that ye believed**, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise..." Ephesians 1:13.

In Romans, Paul speaks of two different conditions for the child of God. The first condition is "...**if Christ be in you**, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness." Romans 8:10. When we receive Christ, we receive the life of God within and are transformed completely, but our natural body still needs to be "*quickened*" by the power of God's Spirit.

Paul then speaks of a second condition for a child of God, saying, "**But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you**, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." Romans 8:11. If Christ is in you, you are saved and have eternal life, but if the Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead (the Holy Spirit) dwell in you, he makes your mortal body alive for the supernatural service of God. I know most

teachers deny what I have told you, but it is God's word.

**2. Do you receive the Holy Spirit by faith?** Yes and No! You do not receive the Holy Ghost by faith if you think that means to simply ask God to send Him then just accept by faith that you have received the baptism of God's Spirit. However, we must *"ask in faith"* believing God will send the Spirit to us. Jesus Christ is the baptizer. Only when he baptizes us with the Spirit do we receive the Spirit. When that Baptism comes, you will begin to speak in other tongues as the Spirit of God gives you utterance. This is God's witness that He has given you His Spirit. Act 10:46.

**3. Is speaking in tongues our prayer language?** No! Our prayer language is a language we understand. Tongues is the Spirit's language. You need to pour out your heart to God in your native language, but allow the Spirit free reign to move on your spirit and pray though you if he chooses. Paul told us *"the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."* Romans 8:26. The language of God's Spirit is not something you can utter. That is why it is always *"as the Spirit gave them utterance."* Acts 2:3. Those I know who I confidently believe have God's Spirit working in them and speak in tongues are never able to do so unless the Spirit of God is moving on them. They are not *"sensual."* Jude 19. When Paul said, *"...my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful"* I Corinthians 14:14, he is describing how the

Holy Spirit moves upon the believer's spirit and in unison utterance reaches upwards towards God.

**4. Is speaking in tongues an important part of our walk?** Yes! First, it is the first evidence God gives that His Spirit has come into you. Second, as God's Spirit begins to move on someone He has filled and they begin to speak, pray, or worship in tongues, God in that time is building them up in His Spirit. Paul told us, *"He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself..."* I Corinthians 14:4. We need that edification for ourselves so we will have something from God to edify others. This is why Paul says, *"but he that prophesieth edifieth the church."*

**5. Is it wrong for a person to speak with tongues in the church house?** No! A person who has received God's Spirit should never be ashamed to allow God's Spirit to speak through them as they pray or worship, even in the church house. **It doesn't matter that you or I do not understand them. They are not praying to or worshipping us!** Paul said, *"For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue **speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.**"* I Corinthians 14:2. When the Spirit of God begins to move upon a few worshipers and they yield to Him, God has a fresh avenue to fill the entire place with His presence.

Paul's words of restraint upon those who spoke with tongues in the church was concerning those who were speaking to the congregation. When you speak to someone, what you say is useless if they do not understand you. Two of the gifts of

the Spirit are *“divers kinds of tongues”* and *“interpretation of tongues.”* I Corinthians 12:10. God places these two gifts together in a church body. One may deliver a message from God to the people in tongues then another gives the interpretation of the message by the Spirit of God. It is much like a missionary preaching through an interpreter. If there is no interpreter, the missionary’s words mean nothing to the people. Even so, speaking in tongues to the congregation profits nothing if God does not give the interpretation. I Corinthians 14:27-28.