

# The Nine Manifestations of the Spirit

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Before we get into the particulars of the nine manifestations of the Spirit; I believe it's important for us to briefly explore God's great purpose in displaying signs and wonders in the earth today.

## A Gospel of Power

- The ministry of Jesus and Early Church was saturated with the miracle working power of God

**Hebrews 2:3-4**, "This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him. God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will."

- The Apostle Paul also relied on the ministry of the Holy Spirit and power

**Romans 1:16**, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes..."

**1 Thessalonians 1:5**, "Our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction."

- Why do we need a Gospel of power;
  - o To stand head and shoulders above the competition- counterfeit false religions
  - o And to provide many convincing proofs that Jesus is alive-**Please Read: Acts 8:4-17**
- Jesus said these signs will follow those who believe in fulfilling the Great Commission
  - o **Please Read: Mark 16:15-20**
- Power evangelism begins with the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

## Luke 24:46-49

"This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

- Power, boldness and burning compassion to be an effective witness for Jesus
- As Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit and power, so are we
- In order to continue on the ministry of Jesus in the earth today until He returns

**Acts 1:8**, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

## It Takes a Consecrated Church

**2 Corinthians 12:12**, “The things that mark an apostle — signs, wonders and miracles — were done among you with great perseverance.”

- Notice what Paul said, “With great perseverance”
- Greater consecration, sacrifice and dedication- Hunger & thirst after righteousness
  - o Signifying a ‘Won’t Quit, Won’t Stop, Keep Believing for it attitude”

I believe for the days we live in, the Holy Spirit is challenging the Church into deeper levels of consecration and obedience; to pay the price of pressing into, taking bold steps of faith, contending for the lost and the saints in fervent prayer, consecration & diligence.

**1 Thessalonians 1:3**, “We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.”

- So is the power of the early church operating through us as it did then?
- Are we baptized with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in other tongues
  - o Being filled with the Holy Spirit is the gateway to the supernatural gifts of the Spirit
  - o For example, when Paul ministered to a group of believers

Acts 19:6, “When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.”

- Where is our passion, are we “...eagerly desire spiritual gifts” 1 Corinthians 14:1
- Finally, are we willing to consecrate ourselves, pay the price in the Word, prayer & dedication
- Remember, the ministry of signs and wonders is for all believers; not just the 5-fold ministry
  - o For example, there was Stephen, in the church was appointed to distribute food
  - o Acts 6:5, “*They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit.*”
  - o He was full of God’s Word and Prayer – walked in the fullness of the Spirit

**Acts 6:8-9**, “Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, did great wonders and miraculous signs among the people.”

- What Paul talked about the simplicity of the gospel and reliance on the power of God

**1 Corinthians 2:1-5**, “When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power.”

- This is what is missing in our lives and church services- demonstrations of the Spirit’s power

## Now Concerning Spiritual Gifts

“Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant...”

- In our western culture we tend to approach life academically; pursuit of knowledge
- Knowledge is important, it beings there, we must proceed into understanding- experience
- Believer’s meetings are all about tasting and seeing that the Lord is good
- In the past, the Lord has used me in the utterance gifts- always desire to be a greater blessing

### Please Read: **1 Corinthians 12:1-11**

- What strikes me is that the Corinthian church were zealous for power, but lacked maturity
- Apparently maturity is not a prerequisite for the Holy Spirit to manifest Himself in power
- If God had to wait for us to become fully mature...well not much would ever happen
- Maturity takes time for the Word and the Spirit to develop the fruit of righteousness in us

**1 Corinthians 13:1-3**, “If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.”

- For the purpose of our study we are going to break these 9 manifestations into three groups
  - Three gifts that Reveal something- Revelation gifts
    - Word of Wisdom, Word of Knowledge and Discerning of Spirits
  - Three gifts that Do something- Power gifts
    - Special Faith, Working of Miracles, Gifts of Healings
  - Three gifts that Say something- Utterance gifts
    - Prophecy, Tongues and Interpretation of Tongues
- I like the word ‘Manifestations’ better than gifts- these are not ours to operate as we will

## Three gifts that reveal something- Revelation gifts

Everything within the realm of knowledge- facts, events, purpose, motive, origin, destiny; human, divine, or satanic; natural or supernatural; past, present, or future- comes within the focal range of the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, and the gift of discerning of spirits.

- God knows everything, but what He’ll do is reveal a ‘Word’ or fragment of what He knows
- The word of wisdom gives us a revelation of the mind and purpose of God
  - The word of wisdom always deals with the future.
- The word of knowledge gives us a revelation of things present or past.
- The discerning of spirits gives us insight into the spirit world
- Our part is to make ourselves available for the Holy Spirit to use as He chooses
- The Spirit manifested 7 of the 9 in the OT except for: tongues & interpretation of tongues
  - Tongues and interpretation of tongues is unique to the Church Age

## Word of Wisdom

- This is not to be confused with natural wisdom, being smart like Solomon in the OT
  - o We can ask God for wisdom in James 1:5, but not the same as a Word of Wisdom
- Word of wisdom is a supernatural revelation by the Spirit concerning His divine purpose
  - o In regards to future things; a glimpse into the future plans, and strategies of God
- For example: the apostle John on the Isle of patmos- part of God's future plan was revealed
- When God spoke to Ananias concerning Paul's future ministry in Acts 9:15
  - o "He will carry my name before the Gentiles, their kings and the people of Israel"

Throughout the Old Testament as the prophets would prophesy, the Word of Wisdom and the Word of Knowledge would flow together. In the New Testament we see the same thing in:

**Acts 11:28-30**, "One of them, named Agabus, stood up and through the Spirit predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world. (This happened during the reign of Claudius.) The disciples, each according to his ability, decided to provide help for the brothers living in Judea. This they did, sending their gift to the elders by Barnabas and Saul."

### **The Word of Wisdom may come in many forms:**

The Word of Wisdom, like the Word of Knowledge, may be given by an audible voice, a vision or in the form of a dream. It may come through the vocal gift of prophecy, or through tongues and interpretation. In the Old Testament, Joseph received a Word of Wisdom through dreams which revealed God's plan and purpose for the future.

- Consider all the Messianic prophecies; details revealing the coming Messiah- Jesus

## Word of Knowledge

The Word of Knowledge is the supernatural revelation by the Holy Spirit of certain facts in the mind of God. God is omniscient and He knows everything. Fortunately for us, He does not reveal everything He knows to people. He gives them just a word, or a part of what He knows.

- This has nothing to do with academics, someone's IQ, experience or studying the Bible a lot
- A divine revelation of things not known to the individual concerning past and present things
- Jesus and the woman at the well- 5 husbands. Elijah and Ghazi- 2 Kings 5:25-26
- Remember the story of Ananias and Sapphira in Acts 5
- I like the example of the other Ananias; he was just a regular believer

**Acts 9:10-12**, "In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, 'Ananias!' 'Yes, Lord,' he answered. The Lord told him, 'Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.'"

## Discerning of Spirits

The Discerning of Spirits gives us insight into the spirit world. It actually has a more limited range than the other revelation gifts, because its revelation is limited to a single class of objects- spirits.

- This is not just limited to discerning demons, but also angels, Holy Spirit & human spirits
- Please understand this is not the gift of “Discernment” – but discerning of spirits- good/bad
  - o There is no such thing as the gift of “Discernment” mentioned in the Bible
- God let Moses look into the spirit world on more than one occasion
  - o When he asked in Exodus 33:18 to “Lord, show me your glory”
- Discern means to see; actually seeing into the spirit realm:
  - o A great example is 2 Kings 6:15- a servant seeing the chariots of fire around Elisha
  - o The apostle John and the book of revelation – in heaven
  - o When Paul referenced being caught up to heaven in 2 Corinthians 12

## Three Gifts that Do something- Power gifts

The power gifts are classified as the gifts that do something- Special Faith, the Working of Miracles, and the Gifts of Healings.

### Special Faith

Weymouth’s translations puts it in 1 Corinthians 12:9 as “... to a third man, by means of the same Spirit, special faith.”

Remember that the Gift of Faith, like all the other manifestations of the Spirit, is supernatural. It is the greatest of the three gifts of power. It is a manifestation of the Spirit to believers so they might receive a miracle. The Working of Miracles is a manifestation of the Spirit given to believers so they might work a miracle.

- Special faith, is not to be confused with faith in our hearts through the Word- general faith
- Special faith receives and working of miracles does something
- One gift is passive- it receives. The other gift is active- hence “It works- working of Miracles”
- One can supernaturally, and against all odds, through special faith believer God for a miracle:
  - o Whether it be for supernatural protection- Daniel in the lion’s den
  - o Supernatural sustenance- Elijah was fed by the ravens
  - o The raising of the dead- Jesus and Lazarus, Peter and Tabitha, Paul and young man
  - o The impartation of spiritual gifts- Paul and elders who had laid hands on Timothy

Remember, that spiritual gifts often work together in order to accomplish the task at hand. In the case of raising the dead, three gifts operate together- the Gift of Faith, the Working of Miracles, and the Gifts of Healings:

- Special Faith- To call the person’s spirit back into their body
- Working of Miracles- To resurrect and recreate new cells that had died
- Gifts of Healings- Heal the person from what killed them in the first place

## The Working of Miracles

What does the word “Miracle” mean? Well, from a secular definition it means anything that can be classified as amazing, extra ordinary, or some phenomena- buzz words like miracle drugs, miracle cleaners, miracle whip. Bottom line the word is overused and underestimated in our culture.

**Biblical Definition:** A miracle is a supernatural intervention in the ordinary course of nature; a temporary suspension of the accustomed order through the Spirit of God.

- Consider when God created the Universe- it was a working of the power of God
- Miracles are particularly common in the Old Testament- parting of the red sea for instance
- Healing restores what is already there back to normal- like a broken arm being healed
- A miracle would occur if the person never had an arm and a new one grew out
  - o Jesus turning water into wine
  - o Multiplication of the bread and fish
- The Working of Miracles is used to display God’s power and magnificence
- *Young’s Analytical Concordance to the Bible*- Greek word used for “Miracles” is “Powers.”
  - o The working of powers
  - o Greek: “Explosions of Almightyness”- impelling, staggering wonders & astonishment

## Gifts of Healings

The manifestation of the Gifts of Healings are given by God for the supernatural healing of disease without natural means from any source. Other translations renders “Gifts” of healings in the plural.

- I believe since there are many different sicknesses, diseases and conditions with the body
- Illness is either the direct or indirect work of the enemy- form of death
  - o The woman with a spirit of infirmity in Luke 13:12
  - o Need a Word of Knowledge on how to minister in cases like this
- Healing is spiritual warfare; destroying the works of the devil- Acts 10:38
- Healing is a manifestation of the love and compassion of God for humanity
- God provides many avenues to be healed
  - o Faith in God’s Word or a spoken word
  - o Laying on of Hands, prayer cloths
  - o By a special healing anointing upon someone from the Lord
  - o Manifestation of gifts of healings
- Jesus had the Spirit upon Him without limit or measure in John 3:34
- As the Body of Christ collectively we too have the Spirit of God without measure
- Some folks in the Body of Christ are used with special ministries- healings- ears or cancer etc.
  - o There are healing technicians in the Body of Christ who specialize in ministering healing

## Three gifts that Say something- Utterance gifts

The manifestation of the gift of prophecy was quite active in the Old Testament, but Tongues and the Interpretation of Tongues are unique to this dispensation.

### Prophecy

Prophecy is a supernatural manifestation of the Holy Spirit upon a believer in the form of inspired utterance in a known tongue. It carries the thought “to bubble forth like a fountain, to let drop, to lift up, to tumble forth, and to spring forth.”

- The Hebrew word that is translated “to prophesy” means “to flow forth”
  - o Typically you only get a few words initially, speak it by faith and more will come
- The Greek word that is translated “to prophesy” means “to speak for another”
- It means to speak for God, or to be His spokesperson- the Lord speaking through us
- The simple gift of prophecy should not be confused with the prophetic office
- **Please Read: 1 Corinthians 14:1-5**
  
- Every spirit filled believer can be used by the Holy Spirit to give a word of prophecy
  - o But that does not make him/her a prophet
  - o A prophet in conjunction with prophecy will often operate in the revelation gifts
- In the Old testament, prophecy was often used with word of wisdom- predict future events
- In the New testament it’s expressed through believers for edification, strengthening, comfort
  - o In the simple gift of prophecy there is no predicting of the future
- Like everything, prophecy needs to be judged in light of God’s Word
  - o 1 Corinthians 14:29- “...weigh carefully what is said”

**1 Thessalonians 5:19-21**, “Do not put out the Spirit’s fire; do not treat prophecies with contempt. Test everything. Hold on to the good.”

### Tongues

The manifestation of the Spirit of God which gives the Spirit filled believer the ability to speak in different kinds of tongues in 1 Corinthians 12:10. Not to be confused with the devotional gift of speaking in other tongues for personal edification; which is the initial evidence of being Baptized with the Holy- Acts 2:4.

**Please Read: 1 Corinthians 14:6-33**

### Interpretation of Tongues

The Interpretation of Tongues is the supernatural showing forth by the Spirit the meaning of an utterance in other tongues. It is not translation of the tongues; it is the interpretation of tongues.