

Diversity of Tongues – Part 1

Glossolalia Phenomenon: People speaking in languages unknown to the speaker.

- Greek words glossa “Tongue” and lalia “Talking” – tongue talking

Many have asked, “In being baptized with the Holy Spirit, why do I have to speak in other tongues?” So why is there a need to speak with other tongues in this day and age? Quite simply, it has to do with the fact that we are weak in our natural bodies and finite minds. For example, when we get to Heaven there will be no need for us to speak in tongues, because at that time we’ll be in the very presence of God in a glorified state with no limitations.

- Our finite minds are very limited in our understanding and communication
 - o In my limited understanding I only know some human languages
 - o The Holy Spirit on the other hand knows everything about everything
- There is a need to speak in mysteries so that the devil does not know what we are saying

1 Corinthians 14:2

For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries by the Holy Spirit.

- Tongues is a unique operation in this dispensation
- Seven of the nine manifestations of the Spirit operated under the Old Covenant
- With the exception of Tongues and the Interpretation of Tongues in **1 Cor. 12:10**

Speaking with other tongues by the Holy Spirit within our spirit was not available to Old Testament saints. Under the Old Covenant they were not born again. They did not have the Holy Spirit within their spirit in order to speak forth these languages and mysteries supernaturally.

1 Corinthians 14:2 AMP

For one who speaks in an [unknown] tongue speaks not to men but to God, for no one understands or catches his meaning, because in the [Holy] Spirit he utters secret truths and hidden things [not obvious to the understanding].

- Someday tongues will cease, but until then we desperately need this utterance today
 - o **1 Corinthians 13:8-13**

For This Dispensation

Isaiah 28:11-12, “Very well then, with foreign lips and strange tongues God will speak to this people, to whom he said, ‘This is the resting place, let the weary rest’; and, ‘This is the place of repose’ — but they would not listen.”

- Isa 28:11, KJ “*For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.*”
- **Please Read: 1 Cor. 14:21-25**
- Notice that Isaiah 28:11-12 is referenced to the diversity of tongues in 1 Cor. 14:21
- This supernatural utterance by the Holy Spirit was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost
- Another OT promises fulfilled in Joel 2:28 concerning the Holy Spirit being poured out

Acts 2:16-18, “No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: ‘In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.’”

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit

John the Baptist alluded to it in Mt 3:11, “*He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire*” Jesus also referred to this incredible experience in the Gospel of John.

John 7:37-39 NKJV, “On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, ‘If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart (belly KJV) will flow rivers of living water.’ But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.”

- John 7:38 YLT, “*Rivers out of his belly shall flow of living water*”
- Notice that Jesus said “Rivers” – the GR denotes continuous running of water
- Pr. 20:27, “*The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly.*”

Luke 24:49, “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.”

Acts 1:4-5, 8

On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” 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.”

This message is directed to those who are born again Christians that have been baptized with the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of speaking in other tongues. I'm going to assume that we all understand the dual work of the Holy Spirit- the Spirit within and the Spirit upon.

Why Tongues?

Because of our limitations, in our mortal body- movement, understanding etc.; we need help to compensate for these deficiencies and weaknesses- thank you Lord for the Holy Spirit!

Romans 8:26

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.

1 Corinthians 13:8-12

Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

- Utterance gifts provide powerful communication between heaven and earth
 - o 1 Cor. 12:10- Prophecy, tongues and the interpretation of tongues
 - o These are the "Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror"
- A time is coming when they will be done away with- enjoy them now while you can now
 - o "Prophecies will cease and tongues stilled"
 - o Why, because we will see the Lord face to face- no need to speak cryptically

Speaking Mysteries with our spirit

1 Corinthians 14:2, "For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries with his spirit."

- Tongues are also used as an encrypted message that the enemy cannot understand
- This is one reason why the devil fights the Baptism in the Holy Spirit so much
- Having a prayer language that transcends our intellect is a huge advantage in this life

1 Corinthians 2:11, 16

For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. "For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

The Holy Spirit aids us in getting the mind of God through prayer in order to establish His will upon the earth. Jesus had directed the disciples to pray in Matthew 6:10, “...*your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*”

John 16:12-15, “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.”

- Jesus said that the Holy Spirit will show us things to come
 - o Jeremiah 29:11- Concerning God’s plans- do they automatically come to pass?
- **Please Read: Daniel 9:1-3, 20-23**
 - o Daniel prayed concerning God’s promise and will for Israel to come to pass
- **Please Read: Luke 2:25-38**
 - o Often times God establishes His will in the earth through our prayers
- Just prior to the Day of Pentecost they were all together in prayer in one accord

Acts 1:14, “They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.”

Acts 13:2-4, “While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’ So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off. The two of them, sent on their way by the Holy Spirit...”

A great benefit we have when praying in the Spirit, in other tongues is that we can be assured that the utterance is uncontaminated by our un-renewed mind and human imperfections. I’ve found praying in other tongues quiets my mind and makes it easier for me to hear from God.

Ephesians 6:18, “And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.”

- James 3:4- our tongue is the rudder, we are the ship and the Spirit is the pilot

Talk about the baptism of the Holy Spirit- to receive- Acts 8, 10, 19

How prayer worked in the early church- prayer for Peter and John in Prison

Prayer for Saul- Jesus told us to pray for our enemies

Before Tabitha was raised from the dead- Peter prayed, Paul prayed before healing- Acts 28