

Five Kinds of Tongues

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

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

Isaiah 28:11-12 NKJV

Referenced in 1 Cor. 14:21

“For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, to whom He said, ‘This is the rest with which You may cause the weary to rest,’ and, ‘This is the refreshing’; yet they would not hear.”

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.

- **Please Read: 1 Corinthians 13:8-13**
- Someday tongues will cease, but until then we desperately need this utterance today
- Our finite minds are very limited in our understanding and communication
- Tongues is an encrypted message that the enemy cannot understand

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**
- Old Covenant saints were not born again; did not have the Holy Spirit within them

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].

- A vocal miracle whereby the Holy Spirit through our spirit speaks forth supernaturally
- 1 Corinthians 13:1, “If I speak in the languages of men and of angels...”

Tongues – The Initial Evidence of being baptized with the Holy Spirit

- So when did all this tongue talking begin? On the day of Pentecost in Acts 2:1-4
- It is the initial evidence of being Baptized with the Spirit and fire- Matthew 3:11

Acts 2:4 NKJV, “And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

Acts 2:4 YLT, “And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other tongues, according as the Spirit was giving them to declare.”

- GR “Utterance”: To speak out what is given- belonging to dignified & elevated discourse
 - o In this context it denotes an inspirational message aided by the Spirit of God
- The Holy Spirit provides the utterance, syllables and we provide the volume- speak out
- The Spirit of God works with and through us- we have to cooperate with Him
- The Holy Spirit is a gentleman, He won't make us speak with other tongues

Acts 10:44-46, “While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.”

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

1- For Personal Edification

Our spirit needs to be built up and edified on a regular basis- like charging our battery. God's Word is the bread and speaking with other tongues is likened unto drinking living water.

- **Please Read: John 7:37-39** – Streams of living water
- Notice that Jesus said “Rivers” – the GR denotes continuous running of water
- John 7:38 YLT, “*Rivers out of his belly shall flow of living water*”
- Pr. 20:27, “*The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly.*”

Ephesians 5:18-20, “Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

- There is only one infilling or being baptized with the Holy Spirit, but many refillings
- We should be praying in tongues every day as the Apostle Paul said
 - o 1 Cor. 14:18, *"I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you."*

Jude 20 NKJV

But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit

- To edify is to build something up, to strengthen, encourage and comfort

1 Corinthians 14:3-4

But everyone who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort. He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.

- Prophecy is an inspired utterance in a known tongue
- Tongues along with interpretation is equivalent to prophecy

1 Corinthians 14:13

"For this reason anyone who speaks in a tongue should pray that he may interpret what he says." *This pertains to both devotional and ministry tongues*

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

2- Worshipping God in other Tongues

- **Please Read: 1 Corinthians 14:14-18**
- Our natural minds are limited in vocabulary; in expressing love & devotion to God
- Speaking in tongues liberates our spirit to be able to truly express our heart to the Lord
- So the Bible encourages us to pray, worship and give thanks with our mind and spirit
- The supernatural was natural to the Early Church as it should be for us today

Acts 16:25, "About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them."

Acts 13:2-3, “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.”

3- Ministry Tongues and Interpretation of Tongues

1 Corinthians 12:10-11 *Ministry Tongues – to edify the Church*

To another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.

1 Corinthians 14:26-28 *Let’s come to church with something to give*

What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church. If anyone speaks in a tongue, two — or at the most three — should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret. If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and God.

1 Corinthians 12:28 KJV

“And God hath set some in the Church, first Apostles, secondarily Prophets, thirdly Teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of helps, governments, diversity of tongues.”

- NKJV- “Varieties of Tongues” and English Standard Version- “Various kinds of Tongues”
- GR “Diversity”: denotes categories, similar but distinct; like members of a family- related

4- Intercessory Tongues

The priesthood of the believer – we are called to be a Royal & Holy Priesthood

1 Peter 2:4-5

As you come to him, the living Stone — rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him— you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Revelation 8:3-4, “Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all the saints, on the golden altar before the throne. The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of the saints, went up before God from the angel's hand.”

Isaiah 66:8-9 KJV *Intercession proceeds new births & revival*

Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion travailed (labor), she brought forth her children. Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth? Saith the Lord: shall I cause to bring forth, and shut the womb? Saith thy God.

Ezekiel 22:30 *Intercession- pleads the case of another*

And I sought for a man among them that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none. *Judgment comes*

Galatians 4:19

My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you.

- **Please Read: Romans 8:18-28**
 - GR: “With groanings that cannot be uttered in articulate speech”
 - Being brought on by great pressure- Acts 7:34 “Israel in Egypt groaning”
 - So these sounds are uttered but not as words – moans and groans

The “New English Bible” translates it, “through our inarticulate groans the Spirit Himself is pleading for us.” The Phillips translation puts it, “agonizing longings which never find words.” The Holy Spirit knows how to effectively present the need with groanings in intercession.

5 - Tongues of Men

- **Please Read: Acts 2:1-18** A sign when preaching the gospel

1 Cor. 13:1, “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.”

Review:

- 1- Tongues for personal edification- the initial evidence of being filled with the Spirit
- 2- Worshipping God in other Tongues- Spiritual songs from our spirit by the Holy Spirit
- 3- Ministry Tongues and interpretation of Tongues- manifestation of the Spirit through us
- 4- Intercession in Tongues- travail by the Holy Spirit with groanings
- 5- Tongues as a sign to unbelievers- speaking in a human language unknown to the speaker