

QUESTIONS ABOUT TONGUES PT 1 (2015-11-22 SAM)

1) DIDN'T TONGUES CEASE? (1 CORINTHIANS 13:8)

1 Corinthians 13:8 is in the middle of a teaching about tongues and the Gifts of the Spirit. This teaching begins in 1 Corinthians 12:1 and doesn't end until 1 Corinthians 14:40. When left in the context of the entire passage, it is impossible to use 13:8 as a foundation to teach that tongues have ceased. This is especially true considering 1 Corinthians 14:21 and Isaiah 28:11-12.

2) ISN'T IT TRUE THAT TONGUES AREN'T FOR EVERYONE? (1 CORINTHIANS 12:30)

1 Corinthians 12:30 must be kept in the context of the entire chapter.

V1-11...V12-30

QUESTIONS ABOUT TONGUES PT 2 (2015-11-22 SPM)

You must also understand the total function of tongues and how the gift manifests.

- 1) Tongues as a sign for the unbeliever (Acts 2:1-13)
- 2) Tongues for intercessional prayer ("travailing in the Spirit")
- 3) Tongues for interpretation
- 4) Tongues for personal edification (tongues for a prayer language)
- * Tongues for worship (1 Corinthians 14:15)

Numbers 1-3 above are at the discretion of the Holy Spirit and cannot be produced at the will of the individual. Number 4 is a Gift given by the Holy Spirit for the on-going benefit of the Believer. To understand this, it is important to understand the benefits of praying in tongues.

- 1) Romans 8:26-27 To know, understand and be prepared to carry out the will of God for the individual.
- 2) 1 Corinthians 14:2 To speak directly to God
- 3) 1 Corinthians 14:2 To pray out those things which are mysteries (understanding of scripture, the will of God, essentially, those things which a Christian feels are confusing)
- 4) 1 Corinthians 14:4 Personal, spiritual edification (maturity)
- 5) 1 Corinthians 14:14 To pray directly out of our spirit
- 6) 1 Corinthians 14:4 & 2:6-13 Enable a minister to adequately and clearly teach Christians (this is especially true for the pastor and teacher)
- 7) Jude 1:20 To build ourselves up on our faith
- 8) Jude 1:20-21 & Romans 5:5 To develop God's love within and live by that love

All of these are directly associated with a work being performed by God in the born again spirit of a Christian. There is nothing in scripture indicating that a Christian can do something by his own effort in the natural involving human intellect that is an equal substitute for what praying in tongues produces. This being true, and since it is God's desire for all of these things to take place in the lives of His children, the only conclusion is that praying in tongues is, indeed for everyone. This gift is not forced on any Christian; each person must receive by faith without mentally trying to analyze the process which would create a hindrance to receiving.