

**The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit**  
**(Part 1 – The Nature of the Holy Spirit)**  
*Trinity Baptist Church Discipleship Training*

**Introduction:**

This study will focus upon the third person of the Godhead or Trinity. It will presuppose the Biblical doctrine of the Trinity. It will consist of two parts. Part 1 will focus on the person and nature of the Holy Spirit and Part 2 will focus on the work or office of the Holy Spirit.

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I. The Nature of the Holy Spirit

- A. He is the third person of the Trinity distinguishable from the Father and the Son
- B. He is of the same substance and fully equal with the Father and the Son
- C. The name Holy Spirit owes its origin to His mode of existence
  1. The Hebrew word רִיחַ (ruach) means wind, breath, spirit
  2. The Greek word πνεῦμα (pneuma) means Spirit, Ghost, or breath, wind
  3. The Holy Spirit exists without a body and without all the limitations of a body.
  4. He is called the “Breath of the Almighty”  
**Job 33:4** - “The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life.”  
**Psalms 33:6** – “By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath (ruach) of his mouth.”
  5. Jesus compared His activity with the wind  
**John 3:8** – “The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.”
  6. Where Jesus is called the Word as the revealer of God, the Holy Spirit is called the Spirit or Breath of God manifesting God's power.
- D. Usually the Holy Spirit is represented as being given by God or by Christ using such verbs as given, sent, poured out, breathed, proceeded, descended.  
**Numbers 11:29** – “And Moses said unto him, Enviest thou for my sake? would God that all the LORD'S people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit upon them!”

**Nehemiah 9:20** – “Thou gavest also thy good spirit to instruct them, and withheldest not thy manna from their mouth, and gavest them water for their thirst.”

**Isaiah 42:1** – “Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, *in whom* my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.”

**John 3:34** – “For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure *unto him*.”

**John 14:26** – “But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”

**John 15:26** – “But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, *even* the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:”

1. Christian Theology calls this relation a projection, procession, outgoing, spiration, emission, outpouring, etc.
2. The Son "proceeds" from the Father while the Holy Spirit "proceeds" from the both the Father and the Son – given of both but not born of both
3. Although the Holy Spirit is said to "proceed" from the Father and Son and the Son is said to "proceed" from the Father these interpersonal relations exist within the Divine Being as a whole – known as the ontological Trinity. All of the distinctive works of the economical Trinity have but one Author – God.
4. In a special sense it can be said that the economy of the Father pertains to the Old Testament, the economy of the Son began with the incarnation, and the economy of the Holy Spirit began at Pentecost.

E. The Holy Spirit sustains the same relationship to Christ as Christ does to the Father

1. Just as the Son has nothing, says nothing, and does nothing of Himself but receives everything from the Father (John 5:26, 30; John 16:15) in the same manner the Holy Spirit receives everything from Christ.  
**John 16:13** – “Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew *it* unto you.”
2. As the Son declares and glorifies the Father (John 1:18; John 17:4, 6) so the Holy Spirit declares and glorifies the Son.  
**John 15:26** – “But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, *even* the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:”  
**John 16:14** – “He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew *it* unto you.”
3. Just as no one comes to the Father except through the Son (Matt. 11:27; John 14:6), in the same manner no one can say that “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

**1 Corinthians 12:3** – “Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and *that* no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.”

II. The Names Attributed to the Holy Spirit

A. Holy Spirit

**Luke 11:13** – “If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?”

See also John 20:22; Acts 1:5; Psalm 51:11

B. Spirit of Grace

**Hebrews 10:29** – “Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?”

C. Spirit of Truth

**John 14:17** – “*Even* the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.”

See also John 15:26; John 16:13

D. Spirit of Counsel (or Wisdom) and Knowledge

**Isaiah 11:2** – “And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;”

E. Spirit of the Lord God

**Isaiah 61:1** – “The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *them that are bound*;”

F. Spirit of Glory

**1 Peter 4:14** – “If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy *are ye*; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.”

F. Counselor

**John 14:16** And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

See also John 16:7

G. Spirit of God

**Genesis 1:2** – “And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.”

(Used in 26 other verses)

H. Spirit of Christ

**Romans 8:9** – “But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.”

**1 Peter 1:11** – "Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow."

I. Comforter

**John 15:26** – "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, *even* the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:"

III. The Holy Spirit is a Person

A. He has personal characteristics

1. He has a mind

**1 Corinthians 2:12** – "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God."

**Romans 8:27** – "And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what *is* the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*."

2. He has a will

**1 Corinthians 12:11** – "But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."

3. He has emotions – He can be grieved

**Ephesians 4:30** – "And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."

B. The Bible uses personal pronouns to speak of Him – See **John 16:7-15**

C. He can be treated as only a person can be treated

1. We can grieve Him

**Ephesians 4:30** – "And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."

2. We can lie to Him

**Acts 5:3 But** – "Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back *part* of the price of the land?"

3. He can be tempted

**Acts 5:9** – "Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband *are* at the door, and shall carry thee out."

4. He can be resisted

**Acts 7:51** – "Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers *did*, so *do ye*."

D. He can perform actions that only a person can do

1. He works

**1 Corinthians 12:11** – "But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."

2. He searches

**1 Corinthians 2:10** – "But God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God."

3. He speaks

**Acts 13:2** – "As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them."

4. He testifies

**John 15:26** – "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, *even* the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:"

5. He teaches

**John 14:26** – "But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

6. He reproves

**John 16:8** – "And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:"

7. He hears

**John 16:13** – "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come."

8. He directs men's lives

**Acts 16:6-7** – "Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia, After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not."

E. He has a relationship with God's people which demands personhood

1. We are baptized in His name professing to acknowledge the Spirit as we do the Father and the Son - We stand in relation with Him as we do with the Father and the Son

2. He is our Teacher, Sanctifier, Comforter and Guide

#### IV. The Holy Spirit is God

A. Scripture equates Him with God

**Acts 5:3** – "But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back *part* of the price of the land? 4 Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God."

**2 Samuel 23:2-3** – "The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word *was* in my tongue. The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men *must be* just, ruling in the fear of God."

**1 Corinthians 3:16** – "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?"

**1 Corinthians 12:4-6** – “Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.”

Compare Heb. 1:1 with 1 Peter 1:21

**Hebrews 1:1** – “God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,”

**2 Peter 1:21** – “For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.”

B. He is Holy

1. The most common adjective used to describe Him
2. The most blasphemous sin which shall never find forgiveness is said to be that committed against the Holy Spirit.

**Mark 3:28-29** – “Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme: But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation:”

C. He is Eternal

**Hebrews 9:14** – “How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”

D. He is Omnipresent

**Psalms 139:7** – “Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?”

E. He is Omniscient

**John 14:26** – “But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”

**John 16:13** - Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.”

**1 Corinthians 2:10** – “But God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.”

F. He is Omnipotent

**Luke 1:35** – “And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.”

**The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit**  
**(Part 2 – The Work of the Holy Spirit)**  
*Trinity Baptist Church Discipleship Training*

**Introduction:**

This second half of our study will focus upon the work of the Holy Spirit. "The general doctrine of the Scriptures is that the Spirit is the executive of the Godhead. Whatever God Does, He does by His Spirit" [Hodge, Charles. *Systematic Theology*, Vol.1, (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1986), p.529].

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- I. The Work of the Holy Spirit in Creation
  - A. It was the Holy Spirit that moved upon the face of the water reducing chaos to order. **Gen. 1:2**
  - B. The Holy Spirit was active in the creation of man  
**Genesis 1:26** – "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.
  - C. The Holy Spirit is the giver of life  
**Job 33:4** – "The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life."  
**Psalms 104:29-30** – "Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust. Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth."

## II. The Holy Spirit and Revelation

### A. God's will has been revealed by His Spirit

**Micah 3:8** – "But truly I am full of power by the spirit of the LORD, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto Jacob his transgression, and to Israel his sin."

**2 Peter 1:21** – "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost."

**Ephesians 3:5** – "Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:"

**1 Peter 1:10-12** – "Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace *that should come* unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow."

**1 Corinthians 2:9** – "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God."

### B. All truth is applied to the heart by the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth

**John 14:26** – "But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

**John 15:26** – "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, *even* the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:"

**John 16:13** – "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come."

## III. The Holy Spirit Sent to Equip Men For Particular Tasks in the Old Testament

He came upon them to endue them with extraordinary physical or intellectual power but could also depart from them.

### A. Joseph

**Genesis 41:38** – "And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find *such a one* as this *is*, a man in whom the Spirit of God *is*?"

### B. Moses (and the seventy elders)

**Numbers 11:17** – "And I will come down and talk with thee there: and I will take of the spirit which *is* upon thee, and will put *it* upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with thee, that thou bear *it* not thyself alone."

### C. Bezaleel the craftsman for the tabernacle

**Exodus 31:2** – "See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah: And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in



silver, and in brass, And in cutting of stones, to set *them*, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship."

D. Balaam

**Numbers 24:2** – "And Balaam lifted up his eyes, and he saw Israel abiding *in his tents* according to their tribes; and the spirit of God came upon him."

E. Joshua

**Numbers 27:18** – "And the LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom *is* the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him;"

F. The Judges of Israel

1. Othniel (whom God equipped to go into battle)

**Judges 3:9** – "And when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD, the LORD raised up a deliverer to the children of Israel, who delivered them, *even* Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother. And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel, and went out to war: and the LORD delivered Chushanrishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand; and his hand prevailed against Chushanrishathaim."

2. Gideon

**Judges 6:34** – "But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abiezer was gathered after him."

3. Jephthah

**Judges 11:29** – "Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah, and he passed over Gilead, and Manasseh, and passed over Mizpeh of Gilead, and from Mizpeh of Gilead he passed over *unto* the children of Ammon."

4. Samson

**Judges 14:5** – "Then went Samson down, and his father and his mother, to Timnath, and came to the vineyards of Timnath: and, behold, a young lion roared against him. And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and he rent him as he would have rent a kid, and *he had* nothing in his hand: but he told not his father or his mother what he had done."

(also Judges 13:25; 14:19; 15:14)

**Judges 16:20** – "And she said, The Philistines *be* upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist not that the LORD was departed from him."

G. Saul

Holy Spirit Entered

**1 Samuel 10:6** – "And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man."

Holy Spirit Departed

**1 Samuel 16:14** – "But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him."

## H. David

**1 Samuel 16:13** – "Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah."

**2 Samuel 23:1** – "Now these *be* the last words of David. David the son of Jesse said, and the man *who was* raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel, said, The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word *was* in my tongue."

## IV. The Work of the Holy Spirit in the Incarnation of Christ

## A. Mary's conception was of the Holy Spirit

**Matthew 1:18** – "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost."

## B. The Anointing of Christ (qualifying Him for His office)

**John 1:32** – "And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him."

**John 3:34** - For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure *unto him*."

**Acts 10:38** – "How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him."

**Isaiah 11:2** – "And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;"

**Isaiah 61:1** – "The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *them that are* bound;"

**Luke 4:18** – "The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,"

**Isaiah 42:1** – "Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, *in whom* my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles."

**Matthew 12:28** – "But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you."

**Luke 4:1** – "And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,"

**Hebrews 9:14** – "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"

C. Jesus was raised on the third day by power of the Holy Spirit

**Romans 8:11** – "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 1:3-4** – "Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; And declared *to be* the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:"

#### V. The Work of the Holy Spirit in the Salvation of the Elect

"There are certain works which are more particularly ascribed to the Holy Spirit, not only in the general economy of God, but also in the special economy of redemption. In general it may be said that it is the special task of the Holy Spirit to bring things to completion by acting immediately upon and in the creature" [Berkhof, Louis. *Systematic Theology*, Grand Rapids: (Eerdmans, 1996) p. 98].

A. Awakening the sinner – Conviction of sin

1. The Holy Spirit awakens the sinner to the sense of danger

**John 16:7-8** – "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:"

a. There is a wide scale of degrees

b. There can be an apprehension of sin that does not lead to salvation. It excites his fears but not his affections

2. This apprehension of sin both precedes and accompanies regeneration

a. Prior to this work of the Spirit the sinner remains blind to his peril

b. While this awakening of the sinner is not regeneration it is the beginning of the awakening of the sensibilities of the sinner

c. The Holy Spirit convinces and persuades the sinner that he has truly offended the holiness of God and is thus under condemnation

3. The Holy Spirit's means of conviction is the Word of God

**Ephesians 6:17** – "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:"

**Hebrews 4:12** – "For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

B. Regeneration or the New Birth

**John 3:3-8** – "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit."

**1 Thessalonians 1:5-6** – "For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:"

**Titus 3:5** – "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;"

1. This spiritual resurrection or new birth is immediately evidenced by faith and repentance – both given by the Holy Spirit
2. This results in a radically changed life

**2 Corinthians 5:17** – "Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

C. The Holy Spirit Illuminates our Minds – beginning with regeneration and continuing our whole life. Every experience must be measured by the Word of God.

The Holy Spirit "takes His own Word, He illumines it, and takes our minds and enlightens them, and we are thus made receptive to the Word. Through such a process we are able to check all the experiences that we may have, so that we may be sure that we are not being led astray or deluded" [Lloyd Jones, D. Martyn. *Authority*. (Edinburgh: The Banner of Truth Trust, 1985), p. 63].

1. He testifies of Christ

**1 John 4:2** – "Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:"

**John 15:26** – "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, *even* the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:"

**1 Corinthians 12:3** – "Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and *that* no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost."

2. He is a teacher of truth  
**John 14:26** – “But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”
  3. The command for us not to quench the Spirit is in the context of not despising the speaking of God's revelation but examining its content.  
**1 Thessalonians 5:19-21** - Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.”
- D. He is God's instrument of engrafting us into the Body of Christ
1. We are baptized into the body of Christ  
**1 Corinthians 12:13** – “For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether *we be* Jews or Gentiles, whether *we be* bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.”
  2. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit took place at our conversion  
**Ephesians 4:4-6** – “*There is* one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all.
- E. The Holy Spirit is God's mark of ownership upon His people
1. He indwells us – Without this indwelling we do not belong to God  
**Romans 8:9** – “But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.”  
**1 Corinthians 3:16** – “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”
  2. He witnesses within us that we are the Sons of God  
**Galatians 4:6** – “And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.”  
**Romans 8:15** – “For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.”
  3. He is God's seal upon us  
**Ephesians 1:13** – “In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,”  
**Ephesians 4:30** – “And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.”  
**2 Corinthians 1:21-22** – “Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, *is* God; Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.”
    - a. This occurs at conversion
    - b. This sealing has three aspects:
      - To authenticate as genuine
      - To render secure
      - To denote ownership

**2 Timothy 2:19** – "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

- F. The Holy Spirit is the Source of Holiness  
**Romans 8:11-13** – "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. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live."
1. Paul speaks of the "fruit of the Spirit" – **Gal. 5:22**  
**See Gal. 5:17-25**
  2. The Holy Spirit seizes control of our minds, hearts, and wills just as alcohol seizes control of the mind in a natural sense – **See Eph. 5:18 ff.**
    - a. He teaches us to submit to one another
    - b. He places husbands & wives in proper relationship
    - c. He teaches children to obey their parents
    - d. He sets the proper relationship between masters and servants - proper understanding of authority
  3. The Holy Spirit frees us from the servitude to sin – **See Romans 6:3 ff.**  
 He gives us the power to live holy lives – we see the Law as good and holy
- G. The Holy Spirit continues to strengthen the believer  
**Ephesians 3:16** – "That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;"
1. He gives us the power to mightily defend the truth
    - a. The Apostles were told to tarry at Jerusalem to wait for this power  
**Acts 1:4** – "And, being assembled together with *them*, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, *saith he*, ye have heard of me."  
**Acts 1:8** – "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."
    - b. Stephen had this power  
**Acts 6:9** – "Then there arose certain of the synagogue, which is called *the synagogue* of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of them of Cilicia and of Asia, disputing with Stephen. And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake."
  2. The Holy Spirit grants the power to preach the Word of God  
**1 Corinthians 2:4** – "And my speech and my preaching *was* not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:"

**Acts 4:31** – "And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness."

**Peter 1:12** – "Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into."

**Romans 15:19** – "Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ."

3. Jesus promised His disciples that they would receive the power to speak boldly even during the threat of great personal harm

**Mark 13:11** – "But when they shall lead *you*, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost."

4. The Holy Spirit equips us to stand against Satan

**Ephesians 6:10-11** – "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."

**Ephesians 6:17** – "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:"

- H. The Holy Spirit gives the believer assurance that he has truly been converted  
**1 Thessalonians 1:5** – "For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake."  
**Romans 8:14-16** – "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with *him*, that we may be also glorified together."

- VI. The Holy Spirit helps us in prayer

**Jude 1:20** – "But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,"

**Romans 8:26** – "Likewise 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."

- VII. The Holy Spirit Equips the People of God for Service

(For a list of spiritual gifts see the chart, *Four Groupings of Spiritual Gifts*, and *Summary of Spiritual Gifts* on pages 21-24)

[House, H. Wayne. *Charts of Christian Theology and Doctrine*. (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1992) pp. 70-73]

- A. Every Believer is filled with the Holy Spirit upon conversion – it is an act of His grace
- 1 Corinthians 6:19** – "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?"
- Romans 8:9** – "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his."
1. Every believer is filled with the Holy Spirit based upon the work of Jesus Christ on Calvary.
    - a. The giving of the Holy Spirit was linked to the glorification of Christ
 

**John 7:37-39** – "In the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet *given*; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)"

**Acts 2:32-33** – "This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear."

      - (1) Jesus was raised and sits on the right hand of God
      - (2) Jesus received the promise of the Holy Spirit
      - (3) Jesus shed forth the Holy Spirit upon His people
    - b. We receive complete salvation at the moment of our conversion and the Holy Spirit as the seal and down payment of our inheritance. It is not the result of our praying, seeking, desiring, or anything else.
 

**Ephesians 1:13** – "In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory."
  2. In addition we are commanded to be filled with the Holy Spirit.
 

**Ephesians 5:18** – "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;"

    - a. To submit to His authority
    - b. To obey the convictions of His Word
  3. We are continually filled that our joy and peace might increase
 

**Romans 15:13** Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.



4. Scripture is clear that the filling of the Holy Spirit is a repeatable experience
    - a. The Apostles were filled at the day of Pentecost  
**Acts 2:4** – "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."
    - b. The Apostles were filled again in Acts 4  
**Acts 4:31** – "And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness."
  5. Paul prayed that the Ephesians might receive a greater filling of the Spirit  
**Ephesians 3:14-19** – "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what *is* the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God."
  6. Through disobedience we can grieve the Holy Spirit and quench His influence  
**Ephesians 4:29-30** – "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."  
**1 Thessalonians 5:19** – "Quench not the Spirit."
  7. Examples of those filled with the H.S.
    - a. Characterizes a person as having great boldness in the faith and consistency in his Christian walk
    - b. The Deacons - **Acts 6:1-7**
    - c. The Apostles  
**Acts 4:8** – "Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,"
- B. The Holy Spirit grants various gifts to every believer as he is to function within the body of Christ
1. Each believer is given a different gift according to the needs of the church  
**1 Corinthians 12:4** – "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit."  
**See 1 Corinthians 12:4-31**
  2. We can see this demonstrated in the lives of the Apostles as they were equipped for service.  
**Matthew 10:20** – "For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you."  
**Luke 12:12** – "For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say."

**Luke 24:49** – "And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high."

3. We can see it in the calling of pastors

**Acts 20:28** – "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood."

4. We can see it in the qualifications for deacons

**Acts 6:3** – "Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business."

C. The Holy Spirit sovereignly directs the labors of believers

**Acts 16:6** – "Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,"

#### VIII. The Matter of Cessation of Some Gifts

A. Many of the gifts were given as "signs" to authenticate the Gospel message

**Mark 16:17-18** – "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

**1 Corinthians 14:22** – "Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying *serveth* not for them that believe not, but for them which believe."

**1 Corinthians 1:22** – "For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God."

B. Other gifts were given for the edification of the church

**1 Corinthians 14:1-3** – "Follow after charity, and desire spiritual *gifts*, but rather that ye may prophesy. 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. But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men *to* edification, and exhortation, and comfort. He that speaketh in an *unknown* tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church."

C. Paul makes it clear that the church offices were given to the church for its edification.

**Ephesians 4:8** – "Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men."

**Ephesians 4:11** – "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the

Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:"

- D. The "sign gifts" would be of a temporary nature until the Word of God was complete – See **1 Corinthians 13:8-13**
1. **Verse 8** speaks of love that never fails. Then it speaks of some gifts that shall eventually fail or cease. All are of the category of revelatory gifts – prophecies, tongues, word of knowledge. These are referred to again in **Verse 9** – "For we know in part, and we prophecy in part."
  2. **Verse 13** speaks of things that would abide: faith, hope, and love.
  3. In **Verse 10** Paul tells us that when that which is perfect comes that which is in part shall be done away or cease.
  4. What is "that which is perfect" which shall come and put an end to the ceasing things.
    - a. Some say this is referring to the second coming of Christ. This would be in conflict with the context of the whole passage.
      - (1) If the ceasing things of **Verse 8** do not end until Christ returns then the abiding things of **Verse 13** would have to abide or continue into eternity.
      - (2) Scripture makes it clear that faith and hope DO NOT abide into eternity.  
*FAITH* involves trusting in the unseen –  
**Hebrews 11:1** – "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.  
*HOPE* too involves looking to that which is not yet  
**Romans 8:24** – "For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?"
      - (3) To say that the gifts of **Verse 8** and the things of **Verse 13** cease at the same time would make the passage nonsensical. You can't say that one thing will *cease* and while another will *abide* and then have them both end at the same time.
    - b. It makes better sense to apply "that which is perfect" to the Word of God.
      - (1) Upon the completion of the Canon the revelatory gifts would no longer be needed.
      - (2) Faith and hope would continue until Christ returns and love which is greatest abides into eternity.
      - (3) Paul refers to the revelatory gifts as childish things for when we have the fullness and completion of God's revelation of what purpose could they possibly serve?
      - (4) Before the Word of God was completed we could only see as through a clouded window but now we know in fullness. That is, as full as God would have us to know on earth. Just as God knows about us all that can be known, the Bible reveals all that can be known about God for we can know nothing apart from the Word of God.

- E. When, then, did tongues and the other miraculous gifts cease?
1. According to 1 Cor. 13 they ceased at some point as the New Testament Scriptures were being completed.
  2. MacArthur – "I am convinced by history, theology, and the Bible that tongues ceased in the apostolic age. And when it happened, they terminated altogether" [MacArthur, John F. Jr. *Charismatic Chaos*. (Grand Rapids, Zondervan Publishing House, 1992) p. 231].
  3. As pointed out above, tongues were given as a sign to unbelievers, particularly unbelieving Israel. They served during the transition of the Old and New Covenants. Scripture is now sufficient to declare the New Covenant to the world.  
**1 Corinthians 1:22** – "For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:"

IX. The Matter of Tongues

- A. Some teach that every believer receives the Holy Spirit in measure at conversion but the full measure of the filling does not occur until a subsequent moment
1. By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century this second work of the Holy Spirit was being called the "baptism of the Holy Ghost."
  2. Some also teach that speaking in tongues is the outward evidence that a person has been baptized in the Holy Spirit.
  3. According to Dale Bruner the Charismatics see three important characteristics of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit
    - a. It is usually distinct and subsequent to the new birth
    - b. It is evident initially by the sign of tongues
    - c. It must be earnestly sought  
[Bruner, Frederick Dale. *A Theology of the Holy Spirit*. (Grand Rapids, Eerdmans, 1970) p.61].
- B. According to Scripture the baptism of the Holy Spirit describes the one time work of God at our conversion as we are engrafted into the body of Christ
1. John the Baptist described this work which Christ would perform by His Spirit  
**Matthew 3:11** – "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and *with fire*"
  2. Jesus told His disciples to tarry in Jerusalem until this Baptism occurred  
**Acts 1:4-5** – " And, being assembled together with *them*, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, *saieth he*, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence."
  3. Paul describes this Baptism  
**1 Corinthians 12:13** – "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether *we be* Jews or Gentiles, whether *we be* bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."

**Ephesians 4:4-6** – "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all."

3. If tongues were the evidence of this work every believer would speak in tongues.

C. Tongues are mentioned in three books of the Bible

1. **Mark 16:17; Acts 2, 10, 19; 1 Corinthians 12-14**
2. The Book of Mark merely refers to it as an apostolic gift
3. Some Charismatics point to **Romans 8:26-27** as referring to tongues  
**Romans 8:26-27** – "Likewise 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. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what *is* the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*."
  - a. The word "groanings" is from the Greek word στεναγμός (stenagmos). It refers to a deep sigh or a sense of longing for something. It does not refer to making indistinguishable noises.  
**Acts 7:34** – "I have seen, I have seen the affliction of my people which is in Egypt, and I have heard their groaning, and am come down to deliver them. And now come, I will send thee into Egypt."
  - b. The verbal form of the word is found in James to refer to verbal complaints – not some unintelligible speech  
**James 5:9** – "Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door."
  - c. Paul uses the verbal form in 2 Corinthians to refer to deep sighing, not speaking in tongues  
**2 Corinthians 5:2** – "For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven:"  
**2 Corinthians 5:4** – "For we that are in *this* tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life."
  - d. The writer of Hebrews uses the word to refer to the deep sighings of a pastor concerning those that do not submit to the authority of his ministry.  
**Hebrews 13:17** – "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that *is* unprofitable for you."

D. The Book of Acts should not be used as a normative pattern for the church. Hermeneutically, it is not a doctrinal book but a historical book. It covers a transitional period. The Old Covenant fades away and the New Covenant comes to fullness. The Book of Acts records the initial outpouring of the Holy Spirit

1. There is no distinct pattern
    - a. In **Acts 2** the Baptism of the Holy Spirit came as a subsequent act to salvation but in **chapters 10 & 19** believers were baptized with the Holy Spirit when they believed.
    - b. There is no record of tongues in **chapter 8**
    - c. They did not seek the baptism in either chapters
  2. We also see the transitional nature of the book in the fulfillment of **Acts 1:8** – "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."
    - a. **Acts 2:14** – the Jews – "Jerusalem and all Judaea"
    - b. **Acts 8:14-17** – the Samaritans – "and in Samaria"  
(It is interesting that God waited to bestow His Spirit upon the Samaritans until the Apostles could witness the event – verification)
    - c. **Acts 10:44-45** – the Gentiles – "uttermost part of the earth"
    - d. Each of these passages record the initial outpouring of the Holy Spirit. After this initial outpouring believers were baptized with the Holy Spirit upon conversion.
  3. Some try to distinguish between the tongues of Acts and the tongues of 1 Corinthians insisting that in Acts they were human languages while in 1 Corinthians they were heavenly or angelic languages
    - a. The tongues of Acts are clearly human language  
**Acts 2:6-8** – "Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?"
    - b. The speakers in Acts understood what they were saying  
While the Apostles spoke in their native tongue, all present were able to understand in their native tongue  
**Acts 2:7-8** – "And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?"
- E. The tongues of **1 Corinthians** (Chapters 12-14)
1. Most of what Paul says is to restrict the use of tongues because of abuses within the church
  2. In Chapter 12 Paul deals with tongues in the context of spiritual gifts in general – Paul describes tongues as one of many gifts and that all do not possess the same gifts (the Charismatics teach that every believe should seek the baptism of the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues)
    - a. **Verse 7** declares that the Holy Spirit is given to every believer  
**1 Corinthians 12:7** – "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal."

- b. **Verses 8-11** describe the various gifts each given to individuals according to the Sovereign Spirit.  
**Verse 8** – "For to one is given . . ."  
**Verse 9** – "to another . . ." etc.  
**1 Cor. 12:11** – "But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."
  - c. In **Verse 30** Paul teaches that in the distribution of the gifts it is not God's purpose that *ALL* would speak in tongues  
**1 Corinthians 12:30** – "Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret?"  
The expected answer to Paul's question is NO.
  - 3. In Chapter 13 Paul discusses the importance of love as the proper motive in exercising the gifts. Tongues are not supreme. Love is supreme.
    - a. Paul makes it clear that a person could speak in tongues and yet not manifest the filling of the Spirit since the first fruit of the Spirit is love.
    - b. At the close of this chapter Paul gives his interesting dialogue concerning the ceasing of tongues which we discussed above.
  - 4. In Chapter 14 Paul stresses the inferiority of tongues to prophecy and addresses the proper use of tongues in the church.
- F. Are tongues a heavenly language or an earthly, human language?
- 1. What did Paul mean by "tongues . . .of angels" in Chapter 13?
    - a. Charismatics teach that tongues are of a language known only to God and to those with the gift of interpreting.
    - b. Paul was using an idiom to make a hypothetical case. Paul did not actually understand every mystery, nor did he have all knowledge or all faith, nor did he give all to the poor, nor did he give his body to be burned. In light of the context of the passage it would be difficult to argue that Paul spoke the language of angels.
    - c. We have no biblical evidence that angels speak some celestial language – every account describes them speaking in a human language.
  - 2. Nowhere in Scripture does the Bible teach that tongues are anything other than a human language or that the tongues of Acts are different from the tongues of 1 Corinthians.
    - a. The Greek word in both books is γλῶσσα (glossa) which just as in English speaks of the tongue as an organ or of a human language.  
1) the tongue, a member of the body, an organ of speech 2) a tongue 1a) the language or dialect used by a particular people distinct from that of other nations
    - b. The word "unknown" placed before the word "tongue" in the KJV version of **1 Cor. 14** is in italics signifying that it is an editor's addition for translation purposes and is not in the original Greek.
  - 3. No where in Scripture do we find that the one speaking in tongues does not understand what he is speaking.
    - a. Paul implies this in **1 Cor. 14:4**

**1 Corinthians 14:4** – "He that speaketh in an *unknown* tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church."

The one speaking is edified because he understands while the others present do not.

- b. On might argue, "then why the need for an interpreter? Doesn't this imply that the one speaking does not understand?"

**1 Corinthians 14:5** – "I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater *is* he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying."

- c. The Bible makes it clear that there was something unique about the gift of interpretation – that it was something supernaturally imparted. If this were not the case any lost person could interpret if he simply knew the foreign language. Perhaps interpretation was as important as translation.

**See Neh. 8:3-8**

- d. It is possible for the same person to have both the gift of tongues and the gift of interpreting, but not always. In fact, he should pray for the gift.

**1 Corinthians 14:13** – "Wherefore let him that speaketh in an *unknown* tongue pray that he may interpret."

4. The word translated "interpret" in **1 Cor. 14:13** is διερμηνεύω (diermeneuo) which means: to unfold the meaning of what is said, explain, expound 2) to translate into one's native language  
**1 Corinthians 14:13** – "Wherefore let him that speaketh in an *unknown* tongue pray that he may interpret."

5. Problem verses:

**1 Corinthians 14:2** – "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."

Some say this proves that tongues are a mysterious heavenly language known only to God.

The reason we are to prefer prophesy is because the one speaking in tongues is not speaking to men (men do not understand him) but to God (because only God can understand him). He is speaking mysteries because God's revelation cannot be understood by those present unless someone interpret. This verse does not teach some mysterious unearthly language.

**1 Corinthians 14:14** – "For if I pray in an *unknown* tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful."

- a. Some would say this both proves the existence of a prayer language as well as proving that the individual speaking does not understand what he is speaking.
- b. We must maintain consistency with the context. The context is clearly dealing with the place of tongues in the church and the superiority of prophecy. Paul has nowhere indicated a private



prayer life nor that the individual does not understand what he is saying

- c. No where in Scripture do we find such distinction between the mind of a man and the spirit of a man that the spirit can be thinking one thing while the mind is thinking another. No where do we find such a dissection of a man.
- d. The word "unfruitful" is from the Greek word ἄκαρπος (akarpos) without fruit, barren, not yielding what it ought to yield "Paul is saying in this passage, that if he is praying in a tongue/language (in the church---the context has not changed from the rest of the chapter, the public assembly, into a private prayer meeting), then his spirit is praying and the people are hearing uncertain words, but his mind is not bearing fruit to them because they cannot understand the prayer unless one again interprets." [Belcher, Richard P. *A Journey in the Spirit*. (Columbia, Richbarry Press, 1997) p. 178].