

# UNDERSTANDING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

## “Built on the Foundation”

Scripture Reading: EPHESIANS 2:19-22

- ) **SLIDES 1-6**. Bible Jeopardy!
- ) **SLIDE 7-8**. Read today’s Scripture text.
- ) **SLIDE 9**. This is week #6 in this series on Understanding the Spiritual gifts. I have titled today’s message “*Built on the Foundation*” (v20). A quick review of a few important truths.
- ) **SLIDE 10**. They are not earned. They are not learned. They cannot be bought. They cannot be taught. They are gifts! And the main purpose of spiritual gifts is to edify the church. We use them to build each other up in the faith.
- ) **SLIDE 11**. What are the Spiritual gifts? Again, different Bible translations may use different terms.
- ) **SLIDE 12**. Over the past three weeks we have covered these eleven gifts—WORD OF WISDOM, WORD OF KNOWLEDGE, FAITH, DISTINGUISHING OF SPIRITS, MERCY, TEACHING, HELPS, SERVING, ADMINISTRATION, EXHORTATION, and GIVING. And more than likely everyone in here has at least one of these gifts.
- ) **SLIDE 13**. You will notice that there are seven gifts remaining. One of these is an ordinary gift which any of us can have and that would be prophecy (forth-telling). More on this later.
- ) **SLIDE 14**. The remaining six are in a category we call sign (miraculous – apostolic) gifts.
- ) These six gifts are very controversial and highly debated in today’s church. What is this controversy over? The question is do these six gifts still exist in the church today? That’s what we are going to start pursuing today and the next several weeks.

- ) Just a very brief background. It wasn't always a controversial issue. But just like many other clear doctrines of the faith, there are always some who need something more so they twist and misinterpret what's in here. True vs new.
- ) Again, more in-depth information on these gifts in a few weeks.
- ) **SLIDE 15**. Often I say that we need to build a foundation when covering a certain Biblical issue. What is a foundation?  
WEBSTER.
- ) **SLIDE 16**. This is a foundation of a building—possibly a house or a business. We are all familiar with foundations. How many foundations are necessary for this house? One.
- ) **SLIDE 17**. EPHESIANS 2:20. The church is just like this house. There is only one foundation. And God's Word says that the church is built upon the apostles and prophets, and Jesus Christ is the cornerstone.
- ) **SLIDE 18**. And there were certain Spiritual gifts that were instrumental in building the foundation of the church. And once that foundation was built by the apostles and prophets, there was no longer a need for these gifts.
- ) But there are many Christians today who disagree with that. So, today I want to introduce you to the two sides or the two ways of looking at these particular gifts. And with that I will introduce two new words into our Biblical vocabulary.
- ) **SLIDE 19**. The first is **CONTINUATIONIST**. A continuationist believes that ALL the Spiritual gifts listed in 1 CORINTHIANS 12 and ROMANS 12 have continued throughout the centuries and are still available to Christians today.
- ) What is their proof text? The best proof text they use would be the simple fact that they are listed in 1CORINTHIANS 12 and ROMANS 12. Another good proof text would be that we see these gifts (prophecy, miracles, tongues) being demonstrated many times in the Book of ACTS.

- ) **SLIDE 20.** The second is **CESSATIONIST**. A cessationist believes that CERTAIN Spiritual gifts listed in 1 CORINTHIANS 12 and ROMANS 12 have ceased once the foundation of the church had been established by the apostles and prophets and are not available to Christians today.
- ) What is their proof text? This is where we will stop for today because I want to speak at length about this next Sunday and over the weeks after.
- ) **SLIDE 21.** I am a cessationist. Why? Because the foundation has been built.

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