

Meeting the Holy Spirit
Who Is He, and Why Don't We Know Him So Well?



Meeting the Holy Spirit

- *The Spirit Before Pentecost*
- *The Explosion at Pentecost*
- *New Life in the Spirit*
- *The Spirit and the Flesh*
- *Where the Rubber Hits the Road*
- *The Gifts of the Spirit (part 4)*



The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

- God supernaturally gifts His people for ministry through His Holy Spirit
 - Summarize what we've said about what Paul is teaching about spiritual gifts in 1 Corinthians 12-13
 - If chapter 13 isn't a *tangent*, then why does Paul appear to be even bringing up the subject of spiritual gifts in chapters 12 and 14 in the *first* place?
 - How does that put studying spiritual gifts into a different perspective than we normally put it in when talking about our gifts in the church today?
 - Why is that?



The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

- God supernaturally gifts His people for ministry through His Holy Spirit
 - Summarize what we've said about what Paul is teaching about spiritual gifts in 1 Corinthians 12-13
 - Read 1 Corinthians 14:1
 - Tied with verse 12:31 and the “love chapter,” what does this verse suggest?
 - Why might Paul think that “prophecy” is the most important of the spiritual gifts to desire?
 - And is he saying that it's the one that we should therefore be *striving* to have? Why or why not?



The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

- God supernaturally gifts His people for ministry through His Holy Spirit
 - Summarize what we've said about what Paul is teaching about spiritual gifts in 1 Corinthians 12-13
 - Read 1 Corinthians 14:1
 - Read 1 Corinthians 14:2-4
 - What is the distinction between “tongues” and “prophecy” being made here?
 - What's the implicit distinction being made between “tongues” audibly spoken only to God and the “tongues” being spoken in Acts 2:4-8?
 - As we go through this section, keep in mind this question—what is Paul's perspective on speaking in “the tongues of angels” here?
 - Is he *recommending* it?
 - Is he recommending it, so long as someone else *interprets* the message?
 - Is he *neutral* about recommending it, but describing how to do it appropriately if you're going to do it?
 - Is he *not* supportive of it, but using it as an example of how the Corinthians are practicing their worship inappropriately?
 - Is he actively *against* it, and using its practice as an example of their inappropriateness?



The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

- God supernaturally gifts His people for ministry through His Holy Spirit
 - Summarize what we've said about what Paul is teaching about spiritual gifts in 1 Corinthians 12-13
 - Read 1 Corinthians 14:1
 - **Read 1 Corinthians 14:2-4**
 - What is the distinction between “tongues” and “prophecy” being made here?
 - Given the distinction being made between “tongues” and “prophecy” here, why does Paul encourage “prophecy” as the *greater* gift?
 - Again, what does *that* suggest about what he sees the church in Corinth doing wrong here?
 - Do you see how all of this is consistently best understood in its overall context?
 - So—again—why do we so rarely study the gifting of the Holy Spirit in its overall context of *koinonia* (healthy fellowship)?



The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

- God supernaturally gifts His people for ministry through His Holy Spirit
 - Summarize what we've said about what Paul is teaching about spiritual gifts in 1 Corinthians 12-13
 - Read 1 Corinthians 14:1
 - **Read 1 Corinthians 14:2-4**
 - What is the distinction between “tongues” and “prophecy” being made here?
 - Given the distinction being made between “tongues” and “prophecy” here, why does Paul encourage “prophecy” as the *greater* gift?
 - **How might people—especially those in Corinth, apparently—be tempted to think about themselves, if they knew that they had the gift of being a prophet of God?**
 - How would “the most excellent way” of the genuine love of chapter 13 and Paul's description of the gift in verses 14:3-4 help to guard against this?



The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

- God supernaturally gifts His people for ministry through His Holy Spirit
 - Summarize what we've said about what Paul is teaching about spiritual gifts in 1 Corinthians 12-13
 - Read 1 Corinthians 14:1
 - Read 1 Corinthians 14:2-4
 - Read 1 Corinthians 14:5
 - How does this summarize Paul's point so far?
 - How does it help answer our ongoing question ("What is Paul's perspective on speaking in "the tongues of angels" here?")?
 - Why *would* Paul want everyone to speak in tongues?
 - Why does he phrase it this strange way—that not only is the *gift* of prophecy greater, but that the *one* who *steps out* in the gift of prophecy is greater?
 - Why would that be relevant to the situation in the church in Corinth?
 - Why do we sometimes struggle today with Paul's structure here—that he clearly preaches *against* hierarchies while sometimes he clearly *preaches* hierarchies?



The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

- God supernaturally gifts His people for ministry through His Holy Spirit
 - Summarize what we've said about what Paul is teaching about spiritual gifts in 1 Corinthians 12-13
 - Read 1 Corinthians 14:1
 - Read 1 Corinthians 14:2-4
 - Read 1 Corinthians 14:5
 - How does this summarize Paul's point so far?
 - How does it help answer our ongoing question ("What is Paul's perspective on speaking in "the tongues of angels" here?")?
 - Why *would* Paul want everyone to speak in tongues?
 - Given what Paul says in this verse, why do Charismatics focus on the *first* snippet and emphasize tongues so much, tacitly ignoring the importance of the "but" here?
(NOTE: Yes, prophecy is important in Pentecostal and Charismatic churches as well, but many emphasize only that "*tongues* are the initial evidence of receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit," treating it as the essential baseline for all of the other sign gifts, including prophecy)



The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

- God supernaturally gifts His people for ministry through His Holy Spirit
 - Summarize what we've said about what Paul is teaching about spiritual gifts in 1 Corinthians 12-13
 - Read 1 Corinthians 14:1
 - Read 1 Corinthians 14:2-4
 - Read 1 Corinthians 14:5
 - How does this summarize Paul's point so far?
 - How does it help answer our ongoing question ("What is Paul's perspective on speaking in "the tongues of angels" here?")?
 - Why *would* Paul want everyone to speak in tongues?
 - Given what Paul says in this verse, why do Charismatics focus on the *first* snippet and emphasize tongues so much, tacitly ignoring the importance of the "but" here?
 - Getting past slamming this extreme doctrine or that one, what can we learn—even those of us who would call ourselves "moderates" in this doctrinal tug-of-war—what can we learn about how to honor the Spirit by how we honor His giftings?

