

# Overview of the Gifts From Holy Spirit

**Gifts are Not a Matter of Character:** The exercise of spiritual gifts gives no indication of a person's character. Let me illustrate with a crude example. Suppose a person who is lazy, deceitful, and conceited receives an unearned gift of one million dollars. His character will not be changed at all. He will still be lazy, deceitful, conceited. In fact, he may even be more conceited because he has a million dollars in his bank account.

The same applies to a person who receives a dramatic spiritual gift such as prophecy or healings or miracles. If that person was weak and unstable before, he or she will be just as weak and unstable afterwards. But this person's new gift will give greater influence with people and the added responsibility of exercising it in a way that is righteous and pleasing to God.

A major problem in Christianity is that people tend to assess ministers more by their gifts than by their character. Yet repeated experience has demonstrated that it is possible for a person to exercise dramatic, impressive gifts and yet have a very defective character. Sometimes such people may even use their gifts to cover up the imperfections of their characters.

As a young preacher, I greatly admired an older man who had a spectacular ministry of miracles. He also taught very forcefully that it is possible for a Christian to live without ever sinning. Yet eventually, he divorced his wife, married his secretary, and died an alcoholic. Other well-known and successful preachers have experienced similar personal tragedies.

Solomon spoke with God and wrote significant portions of Scriptures, was both a prophet and a teacher, and had great discernment, yet his great sin led to the division of country of Israel and brought polytheism into Israel ultimately leading the Assyrian and Babylonian captivity. So the gifts and calls of God are without repentance, and we should not assume that people with great gifts from God are also great in the kingdom of God. This is why Jesus says, the first will be last and the last will be first. And that we are not to be a respecter of persons.

When confronted with cases such as these, people often respond, "But surely if a person misuses one of these gifts, God would take it away!" But the answer is, "No!" The gifts of the Spirit are exactly what the name implies: genuine gifts. Not loans with conditions attached or a repayment schedule. "For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable" (Romans 11:29).

Once we receive one of these gifts, we are free to use it, misuse it, or just not use it at all. Ultimately, however, God will require an account of what we have done—or not done—with the gifts He has given us through His Holy Spirit.



We need to always bear in mind the admonition of Jesus: “You will know them **by their fruits**” (Matthew 7:16). Not by their gifts, but by their fruits.

Jesus followed up this admonition in Matthew 7 with an explicit warning—that the exercise of spiritual gifts is not necessarily a passport to heaven:

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’” (v. 21-23)

This warning indicates that it is possible for a person to exercise spiritual gifts and at the same time to “practice lawlessness.” What is “lawlessness”? It is an arrogant assumption that God’s moral and ethical standards no longer apply to those who are able to exercise gifts of supernatural power.

Scripture tells us that if we lack the very first fruit of the spirit, which is love, every powerful miracle that occurs through us counts for nothing. At the end, only faith hope and love remain and that love itself is powered by faith. If we lack faith, we also lack love. Galatians 5:6 ... the only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

In order to walk, daily, in the power of God, we must have the fruit of the Spirit. But the power gifts of the spirit, come to both those walking in God, and to whomever the Holy Spirit decides to give them.

The child of God ought to thirst for the Word. He should know nothing else but the Word, and should know nothing among men save Jesus. “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word which proceedeth out of the mouth of God.” It is as we feed on the Word and meditate on the message it contains, that the Spirit of God can vitalize that which we have received, and bring forth through us the word of knowledge that will be as full of power and life, as when He, the Spirit of God, moved upon holy men of old and gave them these inspired Scriptures. They were all inbreathed of God as they came forth at the beginning, and through the same Spirit they should come forth from us vitalized, living, powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword.

With the gifts of the Spirit should come the fruit of the Spirit. With wisdom we should have love, with knowledge we should have joy, and with the third gift, faith, we should have the fruit of peace. Faith is always accompanied by peace. Faith always rests. Faith laughs at impossibilities. Salvation is by faith, through grace, and it is the gift of God. We are kept by the power of God through faith. God gives faith and nothing can take it away. By faith we have power to enter into the wonderful things of God. There are three positions of faith; saving faith, which is the gift of God; the faith of the Lord Jesus; and the gift of faith. You will remember the word of the Lord Jesus Christ given to Paul, to which he refers in the 26th of Acts, where the Lord commissioned him to go to the Gentiles, “to open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness unto light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them **WHICH ARE SANCTIFIED BY FAITH THAT IS IN ME.**” Oh, this wonderful faith of the Lord Jesus. Your faith comes to an end. How many times I have been to the place where I have had to tell the Lord, “I have used all the faith I have,” and then He has placed His own faith within me. <sup>[2]</sup>



Copied From Derek Prince<sup>[1]</sup>

But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills. 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

Every Believer is given gifts from Holy Spirit.

The key word that explains the distinctive nature of these gifts is “manifestation” (v. 7). The Holy Spirit Himself, dwelling in a believer, is invisible. But by these gifts operating through a believer, the presence of the Holy Spirit is made manifest to human senses. In each case, the results produced are in the realm of the senses; they can be seen or heard or felt.

Since these gifts are manifestations, not of the believer’s own personality, but of the person of the Holy Spirit within the believer, all of them are supernatural in character. In every case, the results that they produce are on a higher level than the believer could ever achieve by his ability alone. Each result is possible only through a direct, supernatural operation of the Holy Spirit. By these gifts, and through the believer, the Holy Spirit comes forth out of the invisible spiritual realm and makes a direct impact upon the physical world of space and time.

Paul established two important practical points concerning these gifts. First, they are distributed solely at the discretion of the Holy Spirit, according to His sovereign purposes for each believer’s ministry. Human will or achievement are not the basis for receiving these spiritual gifts. Second, they are given “to each one...for the common good” (v. 7), for a useful, practical purpose. As Bob Mumford said, “The gifts of the Spirit are tools, not toys.”

It has often been pointed out that these nine gifts fall naturally into three groups of three:

- 1.The gifts of utterance. These are gifts that operate through the believer’s vocal organs. They include prophecy, tongues, and the interpretation of tongues.
- 2.The gifts of revelation. These are gifts that impart spiritual illumination. They include the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, and the distinguishing of spirits.
- 3.The gifts of power. These are gifts that demonstrate God’s supernatural power in the physical realm. They include faith, the gifts of healing, and the working of miracles.

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### Jack Hayford on The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Why do we need to be filled with the Holy Spirit? Jesus, Himself, in the 14th through the 16th Chapters of the Gospel of John. John 14 to 16. Jesus, Himself, made clear that the fulfillment of the ministry He had in mind for His people. His followers. His disciples, His church, that the fulfillment of the ministry that He had in mind for them, would be dependent upon the coming of the Holy Spirit and their receiving of Him with power. John, Chapters 14 to 16. He said such things as "I will send the Comforter, He will take of the things of Mine and will show them unto you", "He will lead you into all truth", "He will testify of Me", "He will glorify Me". There are at least four things. In Acts 1:8 Jesus said something even more specific than that, He said "You will receive power after the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be witnesses unto Me." The word 'power' that is used there is a word that is translated several places 'miracle', the word 'dunamous' - you'll often hear people talk about it's the word from which the word 'dynamite' was derived in the English language, but that's not really the emphasis so much as it's an emphasis on a miracle quality. The word dunamous is used other places in the New Testament. It's translated 'miracle'. Jesus said 'You will receive a miracle dimension in your life after the Holy Spirit has come upon you.' Why? So you can go around waving your little miracle and saying 'I've got a miracle?' No. He said 'In order that there may evidence (He uses the word 'witness') you shall receive power (and here's the word power) and you shall be witnesses'. That's what a witness is — it's evidence for the case. So, He says you will receive power or a miracle dimension and you shall be witnesses unto Me, or you'll be evidence for the case. What case? Well, the case that He'd risen from the dead. The case that Messiah that is alive. The case that God has broken the death-grip of Satan on mankind.

"But just as His ministry depends His anointing, which I'm going to talk about in a minute, so your and my ministering His life depends upon His anointing. Kings can't function without anointing. So Jesus said, when they asked Him in Chapter 1, Verse 5 of Acts, they said 'When will the Kingdom appear? They were thinking Jesus was going to set up an earthly, visible kingdom. And He said 'that's not for you to know, but I'll tell you what is for you. You'll receive power after the Holy Spirit has come upon you'. In other words, they asked about kingdom, Jesus turned around and said the way the Kingdom happens is by the anointing of the Spirit. The miracle dimension, the evidence of my life happening through you. The evidence that dominion of life over death, of health over sickness, of love over fear, that that dominion is presently available through people like you and me."

Now, the absolute mandate then, is that we understand the fullness of the Holy Spirit is something that Jesus directed to take place. Jesus talked about the coming of the Comforter. He said what we would receive. And He specifically directed, in Luke 24:49, Jesus said "You stay in Jerusalem until you receive -13- power." He made clear that they should not even attempt to go anywhere and function in the calling that He'd given them. The Great Commission is contingent upon the Great Condition, and that is 'Have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed?' And the quickening of the Holy Spirit does not guarantee that a person will go in response to the Great Commission. A lot of people get filled with the Spirit and don't minister.

"I think that's been the blight of so much spirit-filled living. People have an experience in the Holy Spirit and there's no new dimension of authority in their life. Ask them if they had an experience 'oh yeah, such and such happened, I got excited, blessed, I was down there at Henry's house in prayer meeting — I was over at such and



such a center — I was at The Church On The Way, or wherever, we were worshipping, oh my God, it was great, I loved it'. And you can talk to them about spiritual language 'oh, yes, I spoke in tongues', but you don't see any manifest power in their lives. It's because we're not just talking about a single event. We're talking about an entry into an on-going pattern of fullness in the life of the Spirit of God. Luke 24:49 then, Jesus commanded it. Here Jesus talked about what it would entail. Here He said what it would enable. And here He gave the clear commands. So here is the Lord Jesus on the subject Why We Need To Be Filled With the Spirit, because Jesus said so. John the Baptist spoke of the Lord Jesus in these words: John 1:33 - John the Baptist said 'one comes after me that is mightier than I who shoes I'm not worthy to tie. He shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.' Listen to that - He shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit - that's in John 1:33. In Acts 1:5 – “For John truly baptized with water, but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days from now.”

We are baptized by water by a human, and we need to be baptized by Jesus in the Holy Spirit

“Now, say the term baptism with the Holy Spirit. Okay. That's the proper terminology. You can say also in the Holy -14- Spirit, but a lot of times your people say baptism of the Holy Spirit or baptism of the Holy Ghost. And I don't really make a big quibble over it with people, but let me tell you what you become vulnerable to -- if you say baptism of the Holy Spirit you make the Holy Spirit the agent of the baptism rather than the one with whom Jesus baptizes you. You see, the person who does the baptizing is Jesus. So it is Jesus' baptism. You get baptized in water and one of the pastoral staff baptizes you, you are baptized by one of the pastors. It was in command of Jesus, but it wasn't Jesus baptizing you. Jesus baptizes people, not in water, he baptizes them in the Holy Spirit. People need to be baptized in water because Jesus said to do that too. Baptism of the Holy Spirit, technically, is in I Cor 12:13 where it says 'by one's spirit are we all baptized into one body', so that the Holy Spirit enters people into the Body of Christ, then in obedience to Jesus, they are baptized in water and, according to Acts 2:38-39, when you do that you can expect Jesus to baptize you with the Holy Spirit. “

Jesus didn't start His ministry until he was baptized in Holy Spirit

“Now, Jesus, irrespective of the fact He was sinless, did not begin His own ministry without the fullness of the Spirit. He came to the waters of baptism the 3rd Chapter of Matthew records, and John said 'I'm not worthy to baptize you'. Jesus said 'go ahead and do it anyway, because it's appropriate that by this means we fulfill all righteousness.”

Galatians 5:22-23: <sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

1 Corinthians 12:7- “Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, <sup>10</sup> to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, 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 distributes them to each one, just as he determines.”

Love, the supreme fruit, is paired with wisdom. Joy is paired with knowledge. Peace is paired with faith. Forbearance (patience) is paired with healing. Kindness is paired with miraculous powers. Goodness is paired with distinguishing of spirits. Faithfulness is paired with speaking in different tongues. Self control is paired with interpretation of tongues



## Role of Holy Spirit

Copied from Wigglesworth, Concerning Faith

God has sent forth this outpouring that we may all be brought into a revelation of our sonship - that we are sons of God, men of power, that we are to be like the Lord Jesus Christ, that we are to have the powers of sonship, the power to lay hold of that which is weak and to quicken it. The Baptism of the Spirit is to make us sons of God with power. We shall be conscious of our human limits, but we shall not limit the Holy One who has come to dwell within. We must believe that since the Holy Ghost has come upon us we are indeed sons of God with power. Never say that you can't. All things are possible to them that believe. Launch out into the deep and believe that God has His all for you, and that you can do all things through Him who, strengthens you.

The Lord wants all saved people to receive power from on High--power to witness, power to act, power to live, and power to show forth the divine manifestation of God within. The power of God will take you out of your own plans and put you into the plan of God. You will be unmantled and divested of that which is purely of yourself and put into a divine order. The Lord will change you and put His mind where yours was, and thus enable you to have the mind of Christ. Instead of you labouring according to your own plan, it will be God working in you and through you to do His own good pleasure through the power of the Spirit within. Someone has said that you are no good until you have your "I" knocked out. Christ must reign within, and the life in the Holy Ghost means at all times the subjection of your own will to make way for the working out of the good and acceptable and perfect will of God within.

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