

## Spiritual Gifts pt 3

Why Matt is Suspicious of Many Modern Claims to the Gifts of Miracles & Healing and You Should Be Too:

a. There is No Healing in the Atonement Promised for Today

Isaiah 53:5 5 But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed.

1 Peter 2:21-24 21 For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, 22 who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; 23 and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously; 24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

- What is the Christian called to in v.21?
- What does Peter explain in v.24?
- With what OT passage does He explain it?

b. Purpose of Miracles, Signs, and Wonders

Grudem (359) asks "are they (gift of miracles) confirming only the absolute truthfulness of the words of Scripture (as the very words of God), or are miracles given to confirm the truthfulness of gospel generally, whenever it is preached? In other words, do miracle confirm Scripture of the gospel?"

- I believe Grudem is correct in nailing the crux of the debate. If the supernatural gifts, especially miracles confirm the gospel, then we would expect them to be operative today as much and possible more (because of more believers) today. If they confirm revelation from God, then because even Grudem believes in a closed canon, then we would expect them to be inoperative today.

Hebrews 1:1-2 1 God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, 2 in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

- How did God speak previously?
- How do we see that progress of revelation in these verses?
- Who is Jesus compared to in v4 to end of chapter

Hebrews 2:1-4 1 For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it. 2 For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just penalty, 3 how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard, 4 God also testifying with

them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will.

- Why does he mention angels?  
Acts 7:53 "you who received the law as ordained by angels, and yet did not keep it."

- What was the 'word spoken through angels? The Mosaic Covenant
- Was that revelation from God?
- What is the 'salvation' speaking of? New Covenant
- Whom did God use to reveal it?
- How was the new message of salvation confirmed and testified to? 'signs and wonders, miracles, gifts of the Holy Spirit'
- So was it confirming the gospel or the revelation of the new covenant?

2 Corinthians 12:12 The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with all perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles.

- What were the signs of a true apostle? 'signs, wonders, and miracles'
- What did the apostles do? Write? 'Scriptures'
- Why do you think that God gave the Apostles the ability to do miracles? 'confirm the message'

#### c. Miracles Throughout Biblical History

- Before Law, Almost no miracles are recorded.
- Period of Moses, Joshua, and the Exodus
- Period of Prophets (Elijah and Elisha, etc.)
- Period of Jesus and the Apostles

What is the relationship between these three periods and Hebrews 2:3-4?

Do you think we need a great outpouring of miracles now that we have the sufficient and complete word of God?

When do you think they would have died out? When the Scriptures were complete.

#### d. Modern Gifts of Miracles Fall Short of Biblical Standard of Healings

##### i. Biblical Healings Were Undeniable

Matthew 9:1-8 1 Getting into a boat, Jesus crossed over the sea and came to His own city. 2 And they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralytic, "Take courage, son; your sins are forgiven." 3 And some of the scribes said to themselves, "This fellow blasphemes." 4 And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, "Why are you thinking evil in your hearts? 5 "Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, and walk'? 6 "But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—then He said to the paralytic, "Get up, pick

up your bed and go home.” 7 And he got up and went home. 8 But when the crowds saw this, they were awestruck, and glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

Matthew 9:33 33 After the demon was cast out, the mute man spoke; and the crowds were amazed, and were saying, “Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel.”

Matthew 12:23 23 All the crowds were amazed, and were saying, “This man cannot be the Son of David, can he?”

Matthew 15:31 31 So the crowd marveled as they saw the mute speaking, the crippled restored, and the lame walking, and the blind seeing; and they glorified the God of Israel.

## ii. Biblical Healing Was Immediate

Matthew 8:3 3 Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him, saying, “I am willing; be cleansed.” And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

Matthew 8:13 13 And Jesus said to the centurion, “Go; it shall be done for you as you have believed.” And the servant was healed that very moment.

Matthew 8:15 5 He touched her hand, and the fever left her; and she got up and waited on Him.

## iii. Biblical Healings Didn't Always Require Faith

Luke 7:11-16 11 Soon afterwards He went to a city called Nain; and His disciples were going along with Him, accompanied by a large crowd. 12 Now as He approached the gate of the city, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a sizeable crowd from the city was with her. 13 When the Lord saw her, He felt compassion for her, and said to her, “Do not weep.” 14 And He came up and touched the coffin; and the bearers came to a halt. And He said, “Young man, I say to you, arise!” 15 The dead man sat up and began to speak. And Jesus gave him back to his mother. 16 Fear gripped them all, and they began glorifying God, saying, “A great prophet has arisen among us!” and, “God has visited His people!”

John 11

## What About Tongues?

Seven Reasons Why I am Suspicious of Modern Day Tongues And You Should Be Too:

### 1. Tongues Throughout Church History

4th C—Chrysostom regarded the whole phenomenon of 'speaking in tongues' as not only something that was not practised in his own day, but was even obscure.

This whole phenomenon [of speaking in tongues] is very obscure, but the obscurity is produced by our ignorance of the facts referred to and by their cessation, being such

then as used to occur but now no longer take place. And why do they not happen now? Why look now, the cause too of the obscurity hath produced us again another question: namely, why did they then happen, and now do so no more? (Chrysostom, 344-407) 5th C—Augustine of Hippo regarded speaking in tongues (that is, xenoglossia) as a gift for the apostolic church alone, and argued that this was evident from the fact that his contemporaries did not see people receiving that gift in their own day.

In the earliest times, "the Holy Ghost fell upon them that believed: and they spake with tongues", which they had not learned, "as the Spirit gave them utterance". These were signs adapted to the time. For there behooved to be that betokening of the Holy Spirit in all tongues, to shew that the Gospel of God was to run through all tongues over the whole earth. That thing was done for a betokening, and it passed away. In the laying on of hands now, that persons may receive the Holy Ghost, do we look that they should speak with tongues? Or when he laid the hand on infants, did each one of you look to see whether they would speak with tongues, and, when he saw that they did not speak with tongues, was any of you so strong-minded as to say, These have not received the Holy Ghost; for, had they received, they would speak with tongues as was the case in those times? If then the witness of the presence of the Holy Ghost be not given through these miracles, by what is it given, by what does one get to know that he has received the Holy Ghost? Let him question his own heart. If he love his brother, the Spirit of God dwelleth in him. (Augustine of Hippo, 354-430)

1100s – Bernard of Clairvaux, commenting on Mark 16:17 ("they will speak in new tongues"), asked: "For who is there that seems to have these signs of the faith, without which no one, according to this Scripture, shall be saved?" He explained that these signs were no longer present because there were greater miracles – the transformed lives of believers

1901—Topeka, Kansas; Charles Fox Parham, a holiness preacher and founder of Bethel Bible College in 1900, is given credit for being the one who influenced modern Pentecostalism. During what has been called a sermon by Parham, a bold student named Agnes Ozman asked him for prayer and the laying on of hands to specifically ask God to fill her with the Holy Spirit. She became the first of many students to experience glossolalia.

## 2. Biblical Tongues Were An Actual Language

William J. Samarin, a linguist from the University of Toronto, published a thorough assessment of Pentecostal glossolalia that became a classic work on its linguistic characteristics. His assessment was based on a large sample of glossolalia recorded in public and private Christian meetings in Italy, Holland, Jamaica, Canada and the USA over the course of five years; his wide range included the Puerto Ricans of the Bronx, the Snake Handlers of the Appalachians, and Russian Molokan in Los Angeles.

- Samarin found that the resemblance to human language was merely on the surface, and so concluded that glossolalia is "only a facade of language".
- Samarin concluded that glossolalia is not "a specimen of human language because it is neither internally organized nor systematically related to the world man perceives".
- On the basis of his linguistic analysis, Samarin defined Pentecostal glossolalia as "meaningless but phonologically structured human utterance, believed by the speaker to

be a real language but bearing no systematic resemblance to any natural language, living or dead".

Felicitas Goodman, a psychological anthropologist and linguist, studied a number of Pentecostal communities in the United States, Caribbean and Mexico; these included English, Spanish and Mayan speaking groups. She compared what she found with recordings of non-Christian rituals from Africa, Borneo, Indonesia and Japan. She took into account both the segmental structure (such as sounds, syllables, phrases) and the supra-segmental elements (rhythm, accent, intonation), and concluded that there was no distinction between what was practised by the Pentecostal Protestants and the followers of other religions.

Acts 2:1-11 1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. 5 Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. 6 And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language. 7 They were amazed and astonished, saying, "Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 "And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born? 9 "Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs—we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God."

- In v.4, what were they speaking?
- In v.5, who was there?

Acts 10:44-47 44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message. 45 All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. 46 For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered, 47 "Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?"

Acts 11:15 15 "And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as He did upon us at the beginning.

The tongues of 1Co 14 were translatable.

1 Corinthians 13:1-2 (1 If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

### 3. Biblical Tongues Was a Sign of Covenant Judgment Upon Ethnic Israel

1 Corinthians 14:20-22 20 Brethren, do not be children in your thinking; yet in evil be infants, but in your thinking be mature. 21 In the Law it is written, "By men of strange tongues and by the lips of strangers I will speak to this people, and even so they will not listen to Me," says the Lord. 22 So then tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophecy is for a sign, not to unbelievers but to those who believe.

Where does Paul cite? Why call it Law? Paul assumes

What does Paul conclude from the citation in v.21?

What is a sign? What is tongues a sign for?

How many languages did God speak before Christ to how many peoples?

How many now w the new covenant?

Isaiah 28:9-13 9 "To whom would He teach knowledge, And to whom would He interpret the message? Those just weaned from milk? Those just taken from the breast?

Do you remember what Paul called the Corinthians? Childish

10 "For He says, 'Order on order, order on order, Line on line, line on line, A little here, a little there.'" 11 Indeed, He will speak to this people Through stammering lips and a **foreign tongue**, 12 He who said to them, "Here is rest, give rest to the weary," And, "Here is repose," but they would not listen. 13 So the word of the Lord to them will be, "Order on order, order on order, Line on line, line on line, A little here, a little there," That they may go and stumble backward, be broken, snared and taken captive.

Deuteronomy 28:49 49 "The Lord will bring a nation against you from afar, from the end of the earth, as the eagle swoops down, a nation whose language you shall not understand,

BTW Were the languages that Isaiah speak of actual languages?

IF tongues were a sign for ethnic Israels rejection of Christ then what purpose do they function today?

When you turn your tun signal on and then make the turn what is the purpose of keeping it on?

### 4. Biblical Tongues Was for Edification of BODY and Public Consumption

What is purpose of gifts?

Ephesians 4:11-12 11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;

What are the 5 gifts mentioned here?  
What was their purpose?

1 Peter 4:10 10 As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

What are the gifts to be used for here? “serving one another”

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. 6 There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. 7 But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

Why are gifts given?

1 Corinthians 14:3-5 3 But one who prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation. 4 One who speaks in a tongue edifies himself; but one who prophesies edifies the church. 5 Now I wish that you all spoke in tongues, but even more that you would prophesy; and greater is one who prophesies than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may receive edifying.

- If it is true that tongues is a private prayer language for the building up of oneself, then you must know that it would be the ONLY gift that function that way. It seems to be me to be totally out of character with God’s purposes in giving spiritual gifts.

1 Corinthians 14:18-19 18 I thank God, I speak in tongues more than you all; 19 however, in the church I desire to speak five words with my mind so that I may instruct others also, rather than ten thousand words in a tongue.

Is there a contrast between Pauls. Private prayer language and public tongues?

- a. “however”—Some take this to be a contrast with Paul’s speaking in tongue outside the church to his speaking in tongues inside the church. But the it is better to understand it as a contrast between how much he spoken in tongues publicly and how little he wants to speak in tongues publicly if there is no interpreter.
- b. You guys are big on tongues. Guess what I speak in the tongue more than any of you, but I’d rather speak 5 intelligible words than 10,000 in tongues without an interpreter.

Compare tongue as a modern private language with other gifts?

I think i have the gift of evangelism?

I think i have gift of preaching/teaching?

Bring out the gift and let's evaluate how it edifies the body?  
Can. You do that with this private gift language?

## **5. Biblical Tongues Were to be Done According to Apostolic Instructions**

### **a. No More Than Three**

1 Corinthians 14:27-28 27 If anyone speaks in a tongue, it should be by two or at the most three, and each in turn, and one must interpret;

- What was the maximum amount of people allowed to speak in tongue in one meeting?  
3
- Should everyone be speaking in tongue at once? Nope, 1 at a time.

28 but if there is no interpreter, he must keep silent in the church; and let him speak to himself and to God.

- What is the tongue speaker suppose to do if there is no interpreter?

1 Corinthians 14:34-35 34 The women are to keep silent in the churches; for they are not permitted to speak, but are to subject themselves, just as the Law also says. 35 If they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is improper for a woman to speak in church.

- Who was not permitted to speak in tongues in the assembly? Women
- Jesus Commands Us Not to Pray With Vain Repetitions

III—when Bernie was in a charismatic Roman Catholic group, every year that would pray over people for the baptism of the Holy Spirit to be evidenced by speaking in tongues. They told her not to think about anything but to keep repeating Hallelujah over and over.

## **6. Biblical Tongues Were Revelation**

1 Corinthians 14:2 2 For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries.

The person who speaks in tongues speaks what?

Ephesians 3:1-6 1 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— 2 if indeed you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace which was given to me for you; 3 that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief. 4 By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, 5 which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit; 6 to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel,

What is a mystery in eph 3:3?



Matthew 13:11 11 Jesus answered them, "To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been granted.

1 Co 14:4 He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. 5 I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; 1for he who prophesies is greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification.

If tongues are equal to prophesy when interpreted?

How does tongues edify self? The person speaking in tongues understands himself?

How could you be edified without understanding?

Why would there be a need for interpreter for congregation to be edified?

1Co 14:13-17 "Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may ginterpret. 14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. 15 What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding. 16 Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the uninformed say "Amen" at your giving of thanks, since he does not understand what you say? 17 For you indeed give thanks well, but the other is not edified.

What does he mean in v14?

## 7. Jesus Commands us Not to Pray with Vain Repetitions

Matthew 6:7 7 "And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words.

What are we to avoid in praying? 'meaningless repetition'

What group was noted for praying in this way? "Gentiles"