

## Lesson 19

### What About Speaking in Tongues?

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#### Introduction:

This is a topic that has been often misunderstood, even among the Christian community. The purpose of this lesson is to provide more comprehensive biblical teaching so that we can effectively prove the significance of speaking in tongues, and clearly define the different types and purposes of “speaking in tongues.”

#### The Different TERMS used for “Speaking in Tongues”

- Speaking in “New”, “Other,” “Another” or “Unknown” Tongues (languages)
- Praying in Tongues
- Praying in the Spirit
- Praying in the Holy Ghost
- The **Gift of Tongues**
- *Divers kinds of tongues* (KJV)
- *Various kinds of unknown tongues* (AMPC)

#### What does the Christian community say about SPEAKING IN TONGUES?

It is often referred to as the “*gift of tongues*” (1 Cor. 12-14)

#### What does the Bible say about Speaking in Tongues?

It depends, since there are different **TYPES** of SPEAKING IN TONGUES (or types of Praying in Tongues) that serve different purposes.

#### TYPES OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES:

##### 1. Sign of the Infilling of the Holy Ghost

*Acts 2:4, 10:44-46, 19:6;*

*John 3:8* – the SOUND of being born of the Spirit!

**\*This is the foundation for all types of tongues!**

##### 2. Edifying Tongues – when you pray in the spirit and it edifies you.

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

#### NOTES

*\*Throughout this lesson, we will compare the “gift of tongues” with the other types of speaking in tongues.*

#### **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.*

## TYPES OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES:

## NOTES

3. **Refreshing Tongues** – when you pray in the spirit to receive His rest.

### Isaiah 28:11-12

*For with stammering lips and **another tongue** Will he speak to this people. To whom he said, **This is the rest** wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; And **this is the refreshing**: yet they would not hear.*

4. **Intercession Tongues** – when you pray in the spirit to minister to others. (Rom. 8:26-27)

- a) **Warfare Intercession Tongues** – to war against the hindrances and attacks of the enemy for the Church to expand God's kingdom. (Rom. 8:26, Matt. 16:18)

Matthew 16:18 *And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my **church**; and **the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.***

- b) **Travail Intercession Tongues** – to give birth to new souls and for Christ to be formed in them.

Isaiah 66:8b *Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.*

### Galatians 4:19

*My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you,*

5. **The Gift of Tongues** – used in conjunction with the gift of Interpretation of Tongues to edify the body.

**It is one of the 9 GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT, called the “divers kinds of tongues”**

1 Cor. 12:8–10 <sup>8</sup> *For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; <sup>9</sup> To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; <sup>10</sup> To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another **divers kinds of tongues**; to another the interpretation of tongues:*

## Its PURPOSE is to edify the body

### **1 Corinthians 14:5, 12**

*I would that ye **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**. Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the **edifying of the church**.*

There are **RULES** that govern this gift.

### **1 Corinthians 14:27–28**

<sup>27</sup> *If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret. <sup>28</sup> But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God.*

There are **NO RULES** that govern the **OTHER** types of speaking in tongues.

## Biblical Foundation on How to Obtain the Correct Doctrine of Speaking in Tongues (and of any other subject)

**2 Timothy 3:16** *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is **profitable for doctrine**, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:*

- Every part of the Word is vital for doctrine thus, no verse can be omitted or ignored.
- If there is any scripture that contradicts a doctrine – it makes that doctrine invalid.

**2 Corinthians 13:1** *This is the third time I am coming to you. **In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established**.*

- A doctrine can only become valid with at least two or three supporting verses, with no other verse that contradicts it.
- A doctrine cannot be established by only one single verse.

**Application of 2 Cor. 13:1** - Doctrine supported by at least 2 scriptures: **Why we NEED to Speak in Tongues:**

1. **To have the SIGN of our new birth and salvation** (John 3:5,7, 8; Mark 16:17, Acts 2,10, 19)

**John 3:5,7,8**

<sup>5</sup> 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.** <sup>7</sup> Marvel not that I said unto thee, **Ye must be born again.**

<sup>8</sup> 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.**

**Mark 16:16-17**

<sup>16</sup> He that **believeth** and is baptized **shall be saved**; but he that believeth not shall be damned. <sup>17</sup> And **these signs shall follow them that believe**; In my name shall they cast out devils; **they shall speak with new tongues**;

2. **To edify ourselves** (Jude 20)
3. **To receive God's rest and refreshing** (Isaiah 28:11-12)
4. **To help us to pray for ourselves and to intercede for others** (Romans 8:26)

**Rightly Dividing the Word to obtain Correct Doctrine**

**2 Timothy 2:15** Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth.**

We need to rightly divide the Word by knowing about the **DIVISIONS of the New Testament** so that we could get the correct **CONTEXT** of each verse/chapter/book.

**Four Division of the New Testament:**

1. Gospels
2. Acts
3. Epistles
4. Revelation

**NOTES**

**How did we determine these 4 divisions?**

The book/s in each of these divisions had a **SIMILAR** audience, focus and purpose which was **DIFFERENT** from the books of the other divisions.

## **KEY ELEMENTS for each Division:**

- **Audience** – WHO it is addressing
- **Main Content or Focus** – WHAT it is ABOUT
- **Purpose** – What it is FOR

### **AUDIENCE:**

1. **GOSPELS** – to the Jews and Gentiles
2. **ACTS** – to the UNSAVED or SINNERS
3. **EPISTLES / LETTERS** – to the CHURCH
4. **REVELATION** – to the 7 churches of Asia Minor in the First Century AD (Rev. 1 – 3)

### **FOCUS:**

**GOSPELS** – Biography of Jesus Christ

**Matthew** – Jesus as Messiah and King

**Mark** – Jesus as a Servant

**Luke** – Humanity of Jesus

**John** - Deity of Jesus

**ACTS** – Conversion of Sinners

**EPISTLES** – Teachings to the Churches for their growth

**REVELATION** – Revelation of Jesus Christ and prophecy of future events after the Rapture.

### **PURPOSE:**

**GOSPELS** - confirms the end of the OT and introduces the NT plan of Salvation, Jesus' commands and teachings.

**ACTS** - teaches us about the plan of salvation that the Apostles obeyed and how the Churches were started.

**EPISTLES** – teaches us about the foundational biblical concepts and practical application for our spiritual growth.

**REVELATION** - for our knowledge of prophetic events after the rapture.

## **NOTES**

## Comparison between these 2 TYPES of Tongues:

## NOTES

### 1. Initial Sign of being filled with God's Spirit

- **Scriptural Reference:** Acts 2,10,19
- **NT Division:** The Book of Acts
- **Audience:** Unsaved Souls/Sinners
- **Content:** How Sinners were Converted
- **Purpose:** This was a SALVATION issue!

### 2. The Gift of Tongues

- **Scriptural Reference:** The First book of Corinthians, Chapters 12 -14
- **NT Division:** Epistles to the Churches
- **Audience:** Saved Church Members
- **Content:** Teaching for the Churches
- **Purpose:** To EDIFY the body of Christ.
- **The Gift of Tongues was applied to the members of the body of Christ who already spoke in tongues** (when they were “first” filled with the Holy Ghost in the Book of Acts)!
- **Therefore, the possession of this “Gift” was NOT a Salvation issue!**
- This cannot be the same as the other type of tongues because **the operation of this GIFT required specific RULES** (1 Cor. 14:27-28).

### Conclusion:

#### **Possess the SIGN and FLOW of the Holy Ghost!**

The action of **speaking** in tongues is not what saves us but it is the Holy Ghost or the Source of power (*Acts 1:8*) that saves us.

It is just like breathing, wherein the “action” of breathing does not save you but the oxygen that enters into your lungs as you breathe, is what saves you. And when you're **breathing** – that is a good sign or proof that you are **alive!**

Likewise, **when we speak in tongues**, it is a **SIGN** that the **power of God** is truly inside of us since it is flowing through us by a language (or tongue) that we have never learned! (*Isaiah 28:11-12, Mark 16:16-17*)

Furthermore, **we should KEEP SPEAKING IN TONGUES** because **it enables God's power to continue to FLOW through us!**

And the Apostle Paul, who is our example, encourages us **NOT to stop speaking in tongues!** (1 Cor. 14:39)

### Why We Need to Speak in Tongues:

1. **To have the sign of our new birth** – John 3:8, Mark 16:17, Acts 2:4, Acts 10:45-46, Acts 19:6
2. **To edify ourselves and grow in our faith** – Jude 1:20, 1 Cor. 14:4
3. **To give us God's strength, rest and refreshing** – Isaiah 28:11-12
4. **To edify the body** – 1 Cor. 14:5,12
5. **To help us to pray for ourselves, others and the Kingdom of God** – Rom. 8:26-27, Ephes. 6:18, Gal. 4:19

### Ephesians 6:18 (ERV)

**Pray in the Spirit at all times.** Pray with all kinds of prayers, and ask for everything you need. To do this you must always be ready. Never give up. Always pray for all of God's people.

### 1 Corinthians 14:39 (KJV)

Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and **forbid not to speak with tongues.**