

1 Corinthians 31 – 12:1-11

Concerning Spiritual Gifts

1. 12:1 – Introduction

- a. Charismatics are fascinated with chapters 12-14.
- b. Spirit gifts appeal to people who want power, an experience, or to feel special.
- c. Doctrines built from this: intervention, calling/career, healing, tongues, spiritism
- d. If you are complete in Christ you're not shaken by doctrine/experience – Col 2:10
- e. These spiritual gifts were not a sign that they were mature – 1 Cor 3:1-2
- f. “not be ignorant” – Paul wants to explain the purpose of spiritual gifts.

2. 12:2-3 - Not Every Power is from God

- a. “were Gentiles” – But now they are members of the body of Christ – Eph 2:11, 15
- b. “dumb” – don't speak Psa 115:4-6, rock and wood do not talk, but... Rev 13:14-15
- c. We see devils with powers in the Bible - Deut 13:1-3, Mat 7:22-23, Mat 24:24
- d. Evidence of devilish power in Acts – Acts 8:9-10, 13:6-11, 16:16-18
- e. Satan is transformed into a minister of righteousness – 2 Cor 11:14-15
- f. Satan's lying wonders bestowed upon the Wicked - 2 Thess 2:7-10
- g. There are other spirits calling Jesus accursed – Gal 1:8-9, 1 John 4:1-3 (Luk 4:41?)
- h. The Spirit glorifies and speaks for Jesus (not himself) – John 15:25-26, 16:13-14

3. 12:4-6 – Different, but the Same

- a. Obvious to see the three in one here, but not obvious to see differences - Heb 1:1
- b. It is God that works not you - Col 3:11, Eph 1:10, 23 (remember communion?)
- c. One Spirit, same Spirit, not better Spirit, more Spirit– Eph 4:4-6, 1 Cor 3:16, 6:19

4. Purpose of the Powers

- a. The powers in MMLJ were not new - Mat 10:1, 5-8; Exo 4:1-7
- b. The powers were prophesied – Joel 2:28; Jer 31:34 (John 14:26; 1 John 2:27)
- c. They were signs - Mark 16:17-20 → sign of kingdom come - Luke 10:9
 - i. Believe me for the works sake - John 5:36; 10:24-25; 14:11
 - ii. Kingdom of God is come - Mat 12:28; Luke 9:2, 10:8-9
- d. The powers were for use in the tribulation/kingdom – Rev 8:10-11; 9:3; John 14:12
- e. BoC powers were for a sign to unbelieving Israel – 2 Cor 12:12, Acts 15:12, 21:19

5. 12:7-11 – For Everyone to Profit

- a. The gifts are found in Romans 12:4-6, 1 Cor 12, and Ephesians 4:11-12
- b. The purpose of the gifts:
 - i. To profit every man, in the right message, to do right ministry - Eph 4:12
 - ii. To establish the body of Christ – 1 Cor 12:28, Rom 1:11 vs. 16:25
- c. The perfect (complete) man is now fully known - Eph 1:23, Col 1:28, 3:14, 4:12