Laying the Foundations

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Section Three: The Gift of Tongues

Section Three will help Believers come to a greater knowledge of why God has given the gift of speaking in tongues. Also covered will be the various types of manifestations of this Gift of the Spirit.

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And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. (Acts 2:4)

Section Three - Part One

	As covered in Section Two,	_ things have been confirmed in _	
about the baptism in the Holy Spirit:			
1)	This event is	and	_ being born again.
2)	It is available to	without exception.	
3)	God is seen in the New Testament a	as essentially expecting all Christia	ans to
this experience.			
4)	The initial,	that a person has b	een filled with the
	Holy Spirit is the ability to speak i	n tongues.	
	Many people have believed and tau	ght that the only purpose for spea	aking in tongues is
that it is a sign that a person has received the Holy Spirit. However,			
reveals that there are other reasons for speaking in tongues. In addition to being the initial			
evidence of being filled with the Holy Spirit, there are essentially manifestations			
of tongues. Understanding these manifestations is absolutely essential in order to avoid			
confusion concerning the gift of tongues.			

TONGUES AS A SIGN TO THE UNBELIEVER

Possibly the most unique manifestation	on of speaking in tongues is when it is a sign to
the unbeliever. When this happens, the person	believes he is simply speaking
in tongues. He does not	the language and has no understanding of what is
being said.	
However, somebody from another cour	ntry who is listening will recognize the speech as
being in his	He will clearly understand
that is spoken, and more than	likely not realize that the speaker is unaware of
what is happening. A good example of this is	found in Acts 2:4–8. When an event of this nature
takes place, it is without question a	·
The purpose for something like this ha	ppening is for the benefit of the
[Read Acts 2:8-11]. The things that are said w	ill essentially be a declaration of both the
of God. The	impact of such an event on the life of the hearer
can be, especially whe	en he realizes that the speaker did not previously
know the listener's native language. This part	icular operation of tongues is the
the masses gave attention	to Peter when he preached: their initial interest
was in what they were hearing [Read Acts 2:1	<i>1-12].</i> The end result was that about
people were born again <i>[Read Acts 2:41]</i> .	
The manifestation of tongues as a sign	to the unbeliever be
or Only	y the Holy Ghost can do this and it is according to
the will of God.	
TONGUES FOR INTERPRETATION	
The most	operation of tongues is tongues and
interpretation. Simply explained, this is when	a person speaks in tongues and an interpretation
immediately follows. Typically this takes place	e in a such as a church

service; but it can tak	ke place in a smaller ven	ue, such as a		·
Although	_ who is filled with the	Holy Spirit is a	candidate for eit	her the tongues
or the interpretation,	God has not promised t	hat He will use _		in this gift
[Read 1 Cor. 12:10 & 3	<i>30].</i> Just because a perso	on is not used by	God in this fash	ion does not
mean he is less spiritu	ual than someone else.			
According to s	cripture, it is		for most or all o	of the people in a
service to think that	they are to operate in to	ongues and inter	pretation <i>[Read</i>	1 Cor. 14:26-27].
When a person senses	the Holy Spirit moving	on him to speak	in tongues, he is	to
until anyone else who	is speaking to finish. It	is	_ to	someone for
the purpose of speaki	ng in tongues.			
Once the tong	ues have been spoken th	ere should be an		God
may give the person v	vho spoke in tongues the	e interpretation	or He may give i	t to someone
else. Some people are	used by God		tha	n others for the
interpretation of ton	gues. The reason for this	s is that they ma	y be more	to
the Lord for interpret	ation. If a person is in a	an	pu	blic assembly, he
must be <i>extremely</i>	abou	t speaking out i	n tongues; it is p	ossible that the
other people in the se	ervice are not filled with	n the Holy Spirit	and would not u	nderstand what
is taking place. There	fore, no one may be pres	sent to interpret	•	
<u>'</u>	What is the Purpose for	Tongues and Int	erpretation?	
Essentially, th	ere are pur	poses for tongue	es and interpreta	tion. The first is
			for pe	ople in general or
for a specific person.	These types of message	will	line	up with what is
contained in the Bible	e. Such messages will	co	ntradict scriptu	re. The guarantee
of this is the fact tha	t the	is the source of	the message. If a	n interpretation
of tongues does not	what is	s recorded in Goo	l's word, then the	e interpretation

did not come from God. Such interpretations are usually based out of a person's,		
even though their intentions are good.		
The other purpose for tongues and interpretation is to give		
to people in general or to a specific person. Such an interpretation is also		
referred to as a or a		
Whenever this type of message is delivered it will not instruct people to do something that		
goes against God's word. It may be relative to either or events.		
If an interpretation is telling a person to do something, that person should pray		
and ask God for		
Whenever tongues for interpretation take place for either of the two purposes		
mentioned above, the hearers should always judge the interpretation in light of		
The more a person matures spiritually, the more he will be able to		
between genuine and incorrect interpretations.		

Section Three - Part Two

TONGUES FOR INTERCESSION

	The operation of tongues which is probably the most to	the
major	ity of Christians is that of tongues for intercession. Many people refer to this as	
	Tongues for intercession is a form of	
	<i>[Read Rom. 8:26–28].</i> These verses in Romans portray the Holy Spirit be	ing
involv	ved in our prayers for the purpose of	
in our	and in the There are two key word	S O
phrase	es in this passage:	
1)	Maketh intercession (huperentugchano): "to	
	for or in the behalf of someone."	
2)	Groanings (stenagmos): "to groan; a	
	as of the"	
	When the Holy Spirit moves on a person for this type of prayer, it comes forth in a v	ery
uniqu	e fashion. The person praying may almost sound as if he is in great o	ır
	It is almost as though he is very deeply or	
	over something or someone. Additionally, he will a very inter	ıse
	during this time of prayer. Some people seem to believe that these feelin	gs
are a	result of the individual experiencing the love and concern God has for a particular per	sor
who is	s in sin or facing a devastating situation. Rarely ever will the person know what he is	
prayir	ng about.	
	Tongues for intercession will typically occur a person has already be	en
prayir	ng in the Spirit for a period of time. However, it is also possible for a person to sense	in
their	spirit that the Holy Ghost is wanting them to for the purpose o	f

interceding. Also, there is no specific	for this kind of praying. It could
last several minutes or possibly for hours.	
This particular manifestation of tongues	cannot be by anyone
other than the Holy Spirit. Only He will move on	a person to start praying this way and He will
also this anointing when the time o	f prayer is over.
TONGUES FOR PRAYER (ALSO CALLED "TONGUES FOR	R EDIFICATION")
The most common manifestation of tong	ues is for an individual's
There are several passages of	scripture which explain the
a Christian to pray in	tongues. ["Praying in" and
"praying in the" mean the same thi	ing.]
<i>[Read 1 Cor. 14:2, 14-15]</i> When we pray in	n tongues it is our producing
the prayer and not our Since we a	re praying in a language that originates with
God, our mind will not the	e words we are speaking. Likewise, since we are
speaking to God, other people w	ill not understand what is being said. Praying
in the Spirit is the most	method of praying to God. It is very
important for us to pray both in our own language	ge and in tongues.
When we decide to pray in the Spirit, the	Holy Spirit directly
to our spirit what we should say. We then	those words that the Holy
Spirit is giving us. Our mind is	of this process, which is why it is possible to
think on other things while praying in the Spirit.	. It is to this
in ways that make sense to	.
[Read Romans 8:26-28] Praying in the Sp	irit helps us in the area of our
Infirmities could be defined as, "our inability to	because of the
imposed on us by the	" This means that if there are things in our

lives which seem to be	, praying in the Spirit will assist us to
those things.	
Additionally, we do not know what God	knows. He is, which
means He knows everything even before it hap	pens. He also knows the we should
make. We do not know v	ve should pray about, and we also do not know
how we should pray about what w	e do know. Praying in tongues enables the Holy
Spirit to help us pray	It is literally
impossible to pray of God'	s will when we pray in tongues.
The more we pray in tongues, the more	the things we pray about will
to bring about God's perfect v	vill for us as individuals and for the
From this perspective, it is	that we pray in the Spirit as often
as possible. Unless a person prays in tongues, I	ne will experience the
of what is described in Rom. 8:26-28.	