



“But you have an unction
of the Holy One...”

by Nils Olson

"But you have an unction from the Holy One..."

Use of the following study on the Baptism
and Gifts of the Holy Spirit is encouraged for
the edification of the Body of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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Preface

In teaching this material on the Holy Spirit's gifts, it will be helpful to explain to those being taught what you, as a believer in the Body of Christ, have experienced in being used by the Holy Spirit in His gifts. For example, if the Holy Spirit has used, or is using you to give messages in tongues, interpreting, prophecy, words of wisdom, knowledge, gifts of healings, faith, working of miracles and discerning spirits, how does He prepare your heart to minister the gift? It may be the first time many of you have ever heard about these wonderful gifts. Teaching you what to expect can and will dispel any hear you may have about operating in the gifts. The student only knows and can practice what he has been taught; and "experience is the best teacher."

If you have not been used in any of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and have no "experience" to tell about, open up the subject and ask others to share how they have been used, what they experienced when the Holy Spirit is about to use them.

Years ago, we never spoke about being used by the Holy Spirit to minister a gift for FEAR that pride would grip us and take control. Many times the Holy Spirit cannot operate His gifts through people because of fear. Fear kills faith, and faith is necessary to operate in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. However, such a great desire to see those in the local Body of Christ being used by the Holy Spirit has welled-up in us, that we realize people will never learn unless they are taught.

New Christians, and old ones alike, have many questions about these necessary gifts of the Spirit. It seems that it is expected that the "pentecostal" Christian should already know all about them. NOT SO! Some "pentecostal" churches do not even instruct their people in this important subject.

If your heart is open and sincere to learn about these gifts, as well as the moving of the Holy Spirit in the church world today, then there is no need to worry about the manifestation of the gifts being "wild fire" or "the flesh." There are some who will operate in their own selves, but because you have been given the Holy Spirit, He will witness to your spirit that it is not He. "But ye have an unction (anointing) from the Holy One, and ye know all things." "...but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in Him." 1 John 2:20, 27.

This study is presented that you may "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."

Appreciation to the following members of the Body of Christ for the use of their notes in this study on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit:

HAGIN, Kenneth E. "Concerning Spiritual Gifts," Kenneth Hagin Ministries, Tulsa, OK 74150, USA. 1974.

HAYES, Norvel "Seven Ways Jesus Heals," Harrison House, Tulsa, OK 74153, USA. 1982.

IVERSON, Dick "The Holy Spirit Today," Revised Edition, Bible Temple, Inc., Portland, OR 97213, USA. 1976.

PENTECOST, Dwight "Your Adversary The Devil," Zondervan Pub., Grand Rapids, MI 49506, USA. 1969.

UNGER, Merrill P. "Unger's Bible Dictionary," 3rd ed., Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, IL, USA. 1974.

WAGNER, C. Peter "Your Spiritual Gifts," 3rd printing, Regal Books, G/L Pub., Ventura, CA, USA. 1980.

The Holy Spirit Baptism

Mark 1:7-8 and John 7:38-39

I The purposes of the Holy Spirit Baptism.

Definition: (907NT Strong's) bap-tid-zo; fully wet. From bap-to, meaning to cover wholly. Therefore, the Holy Spirit Baptism covers every aspect of our daily lives spiritually, emotionally and physically.

- A. To comfort. Jesus left and returned to Heaven. The Holy Spirit takes Jesus' place in the life of the believer. John 14:15-18.
- B. To teach us the things of God. John 14:26; 16:13.
- C. To write God's Law in our hearts. Jeremiah 31:33.
- D. To make us holy, like God. The HOLY Spirit. "Christian" means "one like Christ," or "Christ-one." 1 Peter 1:15-16.
- E. To help us preach and teach about Jesus. Acts 1:8. Witnesses TESTify. Note that Jesus became anointed first, and then taught with astonishing power. Mark 1:22, 27. The word "testify" in our English language comes from the Latin root word "testis," which is the singular of "testes," the male reproductive glands. "Testimony" means, therefore, to give evidence, witness with authoritative dunamis, power. The ultimate goal of every Christian should be to REPRODUCE one of his own kind! This cannot be done if one is "impotent." Therefore, the "power" (potency, dunamis) of the Holy Ghost is a vital necessity for the Christian.
- F. To uplift, encourage, buildup the church body and oneself. 1 Corinthians 12:7 -- "But the manifestation of the (Holy) Spirit is given to every man to profit withal." Jude 20-21 -- "But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, keep yourselves in the love of God..."
- G. To manifest the fruit of God, that is His very personality and character, in our everyday lives. Galatians 5:22-23.
- H. To clothe us with God's power and holiness. Galatians 3:27 (Amplified Bible) "For as many of you as were baptized into Christ, into a spiritual union and communion with Christ, the Anointed One, the Messiah, have put on, clothed yourselves with Christ." Ephesians 6:14-18 indicates that it is the Holy Spirit who clothes us with God's armor. "...Stand therefore having your loins girt about with truth (by someone else), and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace..." But we must each individually "take the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, and pray in the Spirit."

(Note: Jesus is not Christ. "Christ" is not Jesus' last name. He is THE Christ, THE Anointed One, THE Messiah. Christ is the anointing of God, that is, the Holy Ghost. See Acts 17:3; 18:5, 28.

II There is a difference between receiving the Holy Spirit at new birth and what we call “the baptism of the Holy Spirit.” They are two distinct experiences. Most denominational groups teach from John 20:19-23 that we receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit at conversion. John’s description in this portion of scripture “...he breathed on them, and saith unto them Receive ye the Holy Ghost...” and Paul’s description of “...if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature (creation)...” can simply be cross referenced with the natural creation of Adam in Genesis 2:7, where the LORD God... “...formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.”

Paul declares simply in 1 Corinthians 15:45-46 (Amplified Bible) that “...it is not the spiritual life (breath) which came first, but the physical and then the spiritual.” The Holy Spirit is the one who births us into the family of God; it is Jesus who breathes on us His breath to give us new life in Christ. But the baptism of the Holy Spirit is another distinct experience.

III Two misconceptions, ideas, attitudes or ways of thinking that will keep people from receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit are:

- A. “I want it to be God...” See Luke 11:13.
- B. “It (the experience) will come from above and zap me...”
 - 1. Luke 24:49 spoken to the Disciples. “...tarry ye...”
 - 2. Acts 1:8 “...after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you...”
 - 3. John 7:37-39 spoken to the believer “...out of your belly...”

IV How to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

- A. When one is "born again of the Spirit," the Holy Spirit is already residing in the heart of the believer. It is just exactly like water existing in the pipe of the kitchen faucet. In order to receive the full benefit of that life-giving, satisfying, thirst-quenching water, YOU must first act by opening up the faucet to let the water flow out! The water is in the pipe, just as the Holy Spirit is already indwelling your innermost being. Simply turn on the faucet, open up your mouth and let the Holy Spirit flow out.
- B. PIPE -- FAUCET -- ACTION -- WATER.
- C. Acts 2:37-39 says that repentance and water baptism are the only pre-requisites. There is no need to try to be holy in order to receive the Holy Spirit. That is HIS work, not ours. He makes us holy after He begins flowing from our innermost being. "...after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you..."
- D. Matthew 5:6. A hunger and thirst for more of God. No interest, no Holy Spirit.
- E. Luke 11:13. Don't be afraid. God will give you that for which you ask. Fear kills any desire to go on with God and the Holy Spirit Baptism is the step that begins our deeper walk with God.
- F. Ephesians 5:18-19. The attitude of one's heart should be that of wanting more of

Jesus, more of praising and worshipping Him that is worthy. There is no end to God and to what He has for those who desire to draw closer to Him. He is eternal.

V. The evidences one has been filled.

A. Speaking in other tongues (different, foreign languages)!

1. Acts 2:4, 8:15-19, 10:45-46, 19:2-6 all show that speaking in tongues is the initial evidence, the first evidence that one has been filled. If "joy" was the first evidence, then you would not be sure you were filled with the Holy Spirit when you wake up and find yourself in a "blue Monday" attitude. Nor would you be sure you were filled with the Holy Spirit when you run out of "patience" or "love" in certain situations. But, you can know for sure that you are filled with the Holy Spirit anytime you open your mouth and speak as He gives you other (tongues) words in which to praise and pray to God. A person filled with the Holy Spirit can speak in other tongues when he has no joy, love or patience and find that he will soon be given the joy, love and patience he needs. That is what being filled to overflowing with the Holy Spirit is all about: "...rivers of living water (the Holy Spirit) flowing out of the belly..."
2. Many feel they do not have to speak in other tongues to be filled with the Holy Spirit. The choice (will) to speak in tongues is theirs, but nevertheless, the Word of God clearly shows us that the first, initial evidence of being filled (baptized) with the Holy Spirit is speaking in other tongues. John Osteen, pastor of Lakewood Church in Houston, Texas, said, "The baptism of the Holy Spirit is like buying a pair of new shoes: the tongues come with it."
3. Fruit of the Spirit. Galatians 5:22-23.
4. Holiness. 1 Peter 1:15-16.
5. Boldness. Acts 4:29-31. The boldness the Holy Spirit gives us is not the kind that is audacious, blatant or repulsive, but rather a boldness described as "not being afraid" to speak up for the Lord to anyone. See also Acts 5:17-32. "Go, stand and speak..."
6. Desire to pray. Luke 4:1, 14 and 18. Acts 4:24-33 (esp. v 31).
Note: Acts 2:4 -- "...they began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance (the words to speak)." The Holy Spirit cannot speak in other tongues! YOU must! He needs your tongue and mouth.

This Side or That Side of the Needle

The baptism of the Holy Spirit will take the believer through the "eye of the needle" into the vastness and glory of the unending, inexhaustible and exciting love of God.

We have our needles of church tradition, customs, culture and denominational barriers that keep us from true fellowship with God and with one another. On THIS SIDE of the eye of the needle we find it dark and so narrow that there is no space to move among ourselves in true fellowship. On THIS SIDE of the needle it is very narrow because WE stand in the way; no space to let God show His glory in the church, because "we never did it that way before." Those are the seven last words of any dying church.

But, when we "humble ourselves" and pass through the eye of the needle, we lay aside the traditions and denominational rules that have been put on us to keep us from knowing God more intimately, and enter into the vastness of God's (not man's) Kingdom. On the OTHER SIDE of the eye of the needle we find the roomy, extensive, spacious and open places of God where we find freedom, liberty, no obstacles or hindrances. We find room to move in any direction the Holy Spirit leads us. It is as though we have been "translated out of a kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of Light, the Kingdom of God's dear Son," which is made real only by the Holy Spirit.

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 (especially verse 7)

"But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal."

I GIFTS OF GOD

A. Salvation. John 4:10

B. Healing. Ephesians 2:8-9 says that "by faith you are saved." The word 'saved' in Greek is *sode-zo*; it means to save, that is to deliver or protect; HEAL, PRE SERVE, SAVE, DO WELL, BE (MAKE) WHOLE.

C. Holy Spirit Baptism. Acts 2:38. From this gift others begin to flow.

1. Fruit of the Spirit. Galatians 5:22-23. Nine.

2. Gifts of the Father. Measure of faith. Romans 12:1-8

3. Gifts of the Son. Measure of grace. Ephesians 4:7-16

4. Gifts of the Holy Spirit. 1 Corinthians 12:1-11. Nine.

Note: The Holy Spirit baptism takes one deeper in the things of God. There is no end to God. We never reach a climax. There is always still more and more and more in God. BUT WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, one will always remain at the same level. Thus this study on the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Until the Christian receives the baptism of the Holy Spirit, he/she may not have been ready to receive the teachings that follow in this study. But assuming that you have been filled with the Holy Spirit, now you are ready. See John 16:12-14.

Mark 16:17 says, "And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name...they shall speak with new tongues." Commenting on this portion of scripture, John Osteen, pastor/teacher of Lakewood Church in Houston, Texas, says that the believer's speaking in tongues is the beginning of an uncapping of ALL that the Holy Spirit has.

II YOU MUST DESIRE THESE GIFTS

A. God wants to give you the best gifts. See the best ones.

1. 1 Corinthians 12:31. "Covet earnestly the best gifts (plural)."

2. 1 Corinthians 14:1. "Desire spiritual gifts (plural)." No limit. The Holy Spirit gives as HE WILLS.

- B. Desire the gifts for the church, not for yourself. "To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." 1 Corinthians 12:7 RSV.
- C. When you receive gifts, or are used in the operation of the Holy Spirit's gifts, remember that you are only a vessel.
 - 1. Acts of the Apostles, or better rendered as "Acts of the Holy Spirit by the Apostles."

III THE GIFTS

A. Utterance Gifts

- 1. Prophecy
- 2. Tongues
- 3. Interpretation of tongues
- 4. The best of these three is prophecy.

B. Power Gifts

- 1. Faith
- 2. Working of miracles
- 3. Gift(s) of healing(s), plural
- 4. The best of these three is faith. For without faith, it is impossible for the others to be manifest.

C. Revelation Gifts

- 1. Word of wisdom
- 2. Word of knowledge
- 3. Discerning of spirits, of which there are only three: God's, man's and Satan's.
- 4. The best of these three is the word of wisdom because it shows the purpose and plan of God.

IV UTTERANCE GIFTS

A. Prophecy (There are two kinds.)

- 1. The gift ministry of the prophet to the church.
 - a. Ephesians 4:11. The job, position or office of the prophet 1) foretells the

future and 2) guides the church by revelation from God.

b. Ezekiel 2:1-10 describes the prophet's work/ministry.

2. The gift of prophecy for the whole church.

a. 1 Corinthians 14:1-5 (esp verse 3). One who prophesies, edifies, exhorts and comforts the church. This is all done in an understandable language.

b. There is a difference between these two gifts. Acts 21:8-11. Philip, the evangelist, had four daughters which did PROPHECY. But after several days there came down from Judea a certain PROPHET named Agabus.

c. What is prophecy?

1. Wuest translates it as "the forth-telling of God's Word. See Revelation 19:10. the testimony of Jesus (concerning Jesus, about Jesus) is the spirit of prophecy. Jesus is the Word made flesh who dwelt among men "telling-forth" all that His Father spoke.

2. All prophecy is based of the Word of God. If it does not line up with what the Bible teaches and says, then the prophecy can be questionable. God uses His Word to edify, exhort and comfort the church.

3. Prophecy comes as God reveals or speaks His Word to the vessel He is going to use. It begins with a word or thought, usually from the Bible. (Note: Read the Word of God and fill yourself with it. The testimony of Jesus, about Jesus, concerning Jesus is found in the Word. This is the true spirit of prophecy. Psalm 1:2 urges one to meditate on the Word.)

d. Operation of the gift.

1. The Holy Spirit will begin by speaking a word or thought, usually from the Bible, to one's heart (mind). He will often repeat the word or thought, sometimes adding to it little by little.

2. Many times the entire message is NOT given to you. As you step-out in FAITH to speak, the Holy Spirit gives the rest automatically.

3. As you begin to speak, the anointing comes upon you to speak with authority from God. People will know it is God and not you.

B. Tongues (There are two kinds.)

1. The SIGN of being filled with the Holy Spirit baptism is initially evidenced by speaking in tongues. Acts 2:4. This language is for ANY BELIEVER, ALL BELIEVERS, no limit.

a. What this experience does for the believer.

1. Edifies self. 1 Corinthians 14:4. Personal.

2. No one can understand this tongue except the Holy Spirit, who may reveal (interpret) the meaning to the believer while the individual is intimately waiting on God in prayer or communion. Personal.
3. By praying in this tongue your spirit is encouraged, built-up and comforted. Personal.
4. There is POWER in your prayer/communion tongue.
 - b. Acts 1:15; 2:41; 4:4. One-hundred-twenty (120) people were filled, then 3,000 and then 5,000. No limit! In a church service ALL can sing, pray and worship in tongues to God.
2. The GIFT of tongues. This gift is to edify, buildup and comfort the ENTIRE church. Corporate. See 1 Corinthians 14:5, 12-15. This gift is different than the Holy Spirit baptism which is evidenced by speaking in tongues.
 - a. "...to another divers kinds of tongues..." 1 Cornithians 12:10. This shows that this gift is NOT GIVEN TO ALL, as are the tongues of the Holy Spirit baptism, but only to those whom the Holy Spirit wills.

C. Interpretation of tongues

1. To interpret is to untie, unfasten, unravel something said in a foreign language. In the operation of this gift, time is spent untying, undoing, unraveling, loosening the message in tongues.
 - a. Interpretation, NOT a translation! The message in tongues may not be interpreted word-for-word, but rather the Holy Spirit "interprets" (unties, unravels, loosens, unfastens) the message into our language so that we all may benefit by it.
 - b. The gift of tongues (plus)
The gift of interpretation (equals) prophecy.
 - c. Often times if one is used in one of these utterance gifts, the Holy Spirit can/will use him in all three.
2. Operation of the gift(s).
 - a. Message in tongues. Each case is different, but what the author has experienced is:
 1. The Presence of God (otherwise termed "the anointing" begins to move on the inside, usually the belly, abdomen, gut. It becomes greater, with the possibility of shaking on the inside, moving upward to the chest. Breathing increases. There is no thought or word that accompanies this anointing.
 2. Step out in FAITH to speak the message as the Holy Spirit gives you the (foreign) words to speak. He knows when to stop.

3. When to speak?

- a. Wait for an appropriate opening, possibly during a lull in the praise/worship time, or after the ministry of the Word.
- b. The contents of the message/interpretation many times will confirm what the ministry of the Word is speaking to the church body.
- c. Interpretation of the message in tongues.

1. The same as that of the gift of prophecy.

2. Limits.

- a. For prophecy, tongues and interpretation, "let it be by two, or at the most by three." 1 Corinthians 14:27. See also Deuteronomy 17:6; 19:15; Matthew 18:16; John 8:17 and 2 Corinthians 13:1 for the principle of God's Word being established in the mouths of two, or at the most by three.
- b. However, when there are more than three vocal manifestations, be careful not to limit God, because a "WORD of wisdom," or a "WORD of knowledge" can also be spoken by the gifts of prophecy, tongues and interpretation. Therefore, it is very important to LISTEN TO THE CONTENT of each vocal manifestation to determine which gift is operating.

(A word of advice: God desires to use you in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. DO NOT BE AFRAID. God will prepare your heart with a word or sign first. This gives you room to step-out in faith and speak. Remember that fear kills faith. Please read these scriptures in the Amplified Bible for a better understanding of how we should respond in order to allow the Holy Spirit to operate His gifts through us: 2 Timothy 1:6-7 and Romans 12:6. "Let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith." One translation renders it "respond to faith and prophesy.")

Comment: It would be much easier to move in the operations of the gifts of the Holy Spirit if leadership spent time waiting for God during praise and worship, or at the end of the service in a time of response to and from God. Let's try it and see what God will do! We must create time in the worship service for God to manifest Himself among us. It is HIS worship service, not ours.

V POWER GIFTS

A. Faith (There are three kinds.)

1. Saving faith.

- a. This kind of faith is for anyone. It is given to us by the Word of God. See Romans 10:17 and Ephesians 2:8. "Faith cometh by hearing the Word of God." "For by grace you are saved through faith; it is the gift of God." The word "IT" refers here to faith being a gift of God.
- b. Saving faith come to us by (as a result of) the Word of God being spoken. It grows and develops as we come to understand Christ.
- c. Read in detail Romans 10:14-18 and 1 Peter 1:23-25. Saving faith comes before the salvation experience. It comes by the Word of God.

2. General faith.

- a. Romans 12:3b says, "...but to think soberly. according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith." All believers have been given this general faith.
- b. General faith is manifest in our daily Christian life in PRAYER. See Mark 11:22-24. Through this faith one receives answers to his prayers.
- c. General faith increases, bears more fruit as we "feed on the Word of God."
- d. Romans 10:17. "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." Develop your faith by reading the Word.
- e. It is the same faith, but different degrees of it. It is called "the measure of faith" indicating there are degrees.

3. The gift of faith.

- a. A word from God, requiring action on the hearer's part, is needed to operate in this gift.
 1. Jesus. John 8:28-29 and 5:19-20. Jesus always heard from God and responded.
 2. Paul. Acts 14:8-10: Paul perceived by a word from God. Acts 13:8-12: Paul filled with the Holy Spirit was told by a word what would happen, stepped out in faith and spoke. Acts 27:21-25: Paul gave a word of faith to the people in the boat.
- b. A word (of faith) is spoken by the Holy Spirit to one's heart. The person must then obey and SPEAK or DO what the Holy Spirit has spoken. This gift of faith cannot operate unless there is an obedient response.
- c. The gift of faith comes via the written Word of God, dreams, visions or the

inner voice of the Holy Spirit.

- d. See Hebrews 11, the FAITH chapter for this principle (ie. a word spoken by God is needed to operate this gift of faith).
 1. Hebrews 11:7. Noah acted in faith at a word from God.
 2. Hebrews 11:8. Abraham's going out was because of a word from God.
 3. Hebrews 11:11. Sarah believed she could have a child because of a word from God.
 4. Hebrews 11:30. Israel destroyed the walls of Jericho because God had revealed His plan to them by a word.
- e. Operation of the gift.
 1. God speaks a word of faith.
 2. Vessel receives the word of faith. If the person receiving the word of faith is obedient to do as told by the word of faith, then...
 3. Miracles, healings occur.
- f. This gift of faith works together with the working of miracles, gift(s) of healing(s), word of knowledge and sometimes word of wisdom and discerning of spirits. Faith is needed to operate all these gifts listed here.
- g. Mark 11:22-24 says, "...and doubt not in your heart..." NO DOUBTING! Because doubt kills the word of faith.
- h. C. Peter Wagner (pg. 158-161) suggests that "a person with this gift is also very interested in the future rather than the past. They are goal-centered. They see church growth and development as possible even when circumstances show the opposite. To a person with this gift, the impossible is possible because of what the Word of God says."
- i. A word of advice! (from Wagner's 'Your Spiritual Gifts, pg. 160) quoting Kenneth Kinghorn. He warns: "The person who has the gift of faith should not chide others for their lack of faith. After all, not every Christian possesses this gift."

B. The working of miracles

1. Definitions:

- a. Kenneth Hagin (pg. 77) says, "Water turned into wine by the process of nature is a natural miracle. But water turned into wine by speaking a word, as Jesus did in John 2:1-11, is the meaning of the spiritual gift of the working of miracles."

- b. In defining "miracles" in Greek, Hagin (pg. 79) points out that miracles are "explosions of almightiness; impelling, staggering wonders and astonishment." Simply stated then, the working of miracles can be defined as "the power, ability, strength to do explosions of almightiness."
- c. Howard Carter (Questions and Answers On Spiritual Gifts) says, "The working of miracles is a very important manifestation of the Spirit. It is the mighty power of God flowing through a person."
- d. Working of miracles changes the course of nature. Sunrises, sunsets, rose gardens, the beauty of nature are not miracles of God, but rather they are miracles of nature.

(Note: In Greek, "miracle" is translated "dunamis", or "force." Therefore, when God does a miracle (dunamis), His power to alter nature is manifest. A miracle is a working of power by God.)

2. Kinds of miracles

- a. Ones that change the course of process of nature.
- b. Healing miracles.

3. Some Old Testament miracles that changed the ordinary course or process of nature. Plagues in Egypt.

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| a. Exodus 7:19-20. Blood. | Required to say, take, stretch. |
| b. Exodus 8:5-7. Frogs. | Required to say, stretch. |
| c. Exodus 8:16-17. Lice. | Required to say, stretch, smite. |
| d. Exodus 9:8-12. Boils. | Required to take, sprinkle. |
| e. Exodus 9:22-26. Hail. | Required to stretch. |
| f. Exodus 10:12-15. Locusts. | Required to stretch. |
| g. Exodus 10:21-23. Darkness. | Required to stretch. |
| h. Exodus 11:1-6. Death. | Required to speak. |

- 1. Directions for the safety of families in Israel given in Exodus 12 had to be obeyed in order for God to reveal His miraculous power of deliverance.
- 2. Moses always "obeyed a word" or "spoke a word from God." He obeyed the "word of faith" and the miracles were done by God.
- i. Red Sea crossing. Exodus 14:21-31 (especially verse 16). It has been suggested that a miracle of God opened the sea, and that faith kept it open.

- j. Meal and oil. 1 Kings 17:12-16. Elijah "spoke a word." the woman obeyed and the miracle was done.
4. Some NEW TESTAMENT miracles that changed the ordinary course or process of nature.
- a. John 2:1-11. Jesus turned water into wine. By "speaking a word" and the disciples obeying that word, the miracle happened. "This beginning of miracles..." People believed as a result. Miracles cause people to believe in Jesus Christ as Lord.
 - b. Mark 4:39. Jesus "spoke a word" to the wind and sea. They obeyed and the miracle happened.
 - c. Acts 6:8. "Stephen, full of FAITH and POWER (ie. dunamis) did great wonders and miracles among the people." Notice also verse 5, "...Stephen, a man full of FAITH and the HOLY SPIRIT." The Holy Spirit operated His gift of faith through Stephen.
 - d. Acts 8:5-8. God did miracles and healed the sick through Philip. Notice that the Power Gifts (faith, working of miracles and gift of healings) all operated here.
 - e. Acts 19:11. "God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul."
 - f. Acts 15:12. God did wonders and miracles by Paul and Barnabas.
5. What is common in each of the Old and New Testament miracles listed above? This common factor explains how the gift is operated.
- a. God SPEAKS A WORD.
 - b. A human vessel RECEIVES, BELIEVES and OBEYS that word.
 - c. The MIRACLE OCCURS.
1. Notice the similarity in the operation of this gift with that of the operation of the gift of faith. It is the author's belief that the word spoken in the operation of the gift of the working of miracles is that of the Word of Faith. Faith is necessary to see the impossible come to pass.
 2. Hebrews 11:11 (Amplified) says, "...Because of FAITH also Sarah herself received physical power to conceive a child, even when she was long past the age for it, because she considered (God) Who had given her the promise, reliable and trustworthy and true to His Word."
 - a. Jeremiah 1:7. Faith. Defined as "man speaking from his mouth words that God has spoken." Cf. The Japanese character for faith, 信仰, shows a man speaking from his mouth words that God has ordered, commanded or spoken.

- b. "Even when she was long past the age for it." This is contrary to the course of nature for a woman to have a child at nearly 100 years of age.
- c. (God), Who had given her the promise. Promises are spoken with words from the mouth. Therefore, God gave her the spoken promise of His Word.
- d. It produced the miracle of Isaac.

6. Operation of the gift of the working of miracles.

- a. God prepares a person's heart with a word of thought about the miracle, usually requiring action on the hearer's part for the miracle to come to pass.
- b. As the person steps out in faith and obeys that word, acting to allow the Holy Spirit to perform it, believing what has been spoken by God will actually happen, then...
- c. The miracle occurs.

7. Other observations.

- a. The gift of faith always seems to accompany the working of miracles and the gift(s) of healing(s).
- b. Iverson (pg. 94) says that "Miracles aid the development of faith in the church." He goes on to say, "The gift of miracles is dependent on the faith and obedience of the believer. The main reason any gift is lacking in the church is because of the lack of faith and obedience."

(Comment: To those of you who have been used in the operation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit -- When the Holy Spirit moves or gives you a word, whether in prophecy, tongues or interpretation, or faith, step out and speak it (obedience). It is God who will speak to edify the body of believers present. Lack of faith and obedience can also be called "reluctance" and/or "holding back."

- c. Kenneth Hagin (pg. 80) says, "This working of miracles is indeed a mighty gift, glorifying the God of all power, stimulating the faith of His people, astonishing and confusing the unbelief of the world."

B. Gift(s) of Healing(s). Many kinds.

1. Norvel Hayes, "Seven Ways Jesus Heals"

- a. Through your own faith. Hebrews 11:6; 10:23.
- b. Through laying on of hands. Mark 1:40-41; 16:17-18.
- c. Through the head of the house. Matthew 21:21-22. God has made the husband the head of the house. "If you have faith and doubt not..." Authority.

- d. **Through the gift(s) of healing(s).** 1 Corinthians 12:1, 9.
 - e. Through anointing with oil. James 5:14-16.
 - f. Through special miracles. Acts 9:11-12.
 - g. Through praying for others. James 5:16.
2. The purpose of the gift(s) of healing(s) according to Hagin (pg. 81) is:
- a. To deliver the sick person.
 - b. To destroy the works of the devil in the human body.
3. No natural means of healing are used when this/these gift(s) of healing(s) is/are operated. "Natural means" includes medicines, treatments, doctors and hospital care. Hagin states: "If this was the case, then healing by doctors, medicine, hospital care etc. would be free." Medicine is only temporary.
- a. SUPERNATURAL! This/these gift(s) of healing(s) is/are always coupled with the gift of faith. See Matthew 13:58. "And He did not many works there because of their unbelief."
4. What kind of healings do we see in scripture?
- a. Instantaneous. Matthew 8:3 and Mark 1:31. Miracles.
 - b. Gradual.
 - 1. Mental sickness may be a result of the inner man being sick or hurt. The soul (emotional being), or the spirit of the individual may need to be healed first. This is not necessarily instant, but will rather take time. Heart attitude needs healing before physical healing takes place.
 - 2. Inner healing gifts may include the operation of the gifts of knowledge and discernment in order to help deal with these kinds of people.
 - 3. Gradual physical healings are found in the Bible. See John 4:43-54 (esp. verse 52) "...began to amend." Also modern day testimonies of gradual healings. John 20:30-31 and 21:25.
5. Some ways one can know if he is being used in the gift(s) of healing(s). (Iverson pgs. 87-88)
- a. By the inner witness of the Holy Spirit. By just simply knowing.
 - b. By the ability to believe God for healing. There is no question in your heart that God cannot heal.
 - c. Through compassion for the sick. This is a key!

1. Matthew 2:34. Compassion on two blind men.
 2. Mark 1:41. Compassion on the leper.
 3. Luke 7:12-14. Compassion on a widow.
- d. By results. The test of any ministry or gift is the fruit it bears.
 - e. By people recognizing it and by people coming to you. Proverbs 18:16 says, "A man's gift makes room for him, and brings him before great men." Contrast Proverbs 25:14 where it says, "Whoso boasts himself of a false gift is like clouds and wind without rain."
 - f. By laying on of hands of the presbytery. See 1 Timothy 1:18, 4:14 and 2 Timothy 1:6. When prophetic ministry establishes a person in his place in the Body of Christ, many times gifts and ministries are clearly spoken.
6. Gift(s) of healing(s). Plurality of gifts. See 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28, 30. The Amplified says "all power to heal all manner of sicknesses."
 - a. God knows and wants to heal every kind of sickness. Therefore He has given different gift(s) of healing(s) to different people in the Body of Christ.
 - b. Matthew 4:23 says, "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing ALL manner of sickness and ALL manner of disease among the people."
 - c. Notice that Jesus taught and preached the Word first before practicing what he taught. The preaching of the Word builds a person's FAITH. It is the Word that heals, and if there is no teaching or preaching of it first, then there will be no manifestation of healing. Cf. Psalm 107:20, "He sent his Word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions."
 7. Operation of the gift(s) of healing(s).
 - a. A word of faith (ie. the gift of faith) is spoken by a word of knowledge or the gift of discernment.
 - b. Obedience to that word brings...
 - c. ...the healing or miracle.

Comment: In addition to the teaching in this booklet, it is very important to realize that healing, whether spiritual, emotional or physical, has its origin in Isaiah 53:4-12. Cf. 1 Peter 2:20-25.

JESUS bore our illness, disease and even bad habits;
 JESUS carried our aches and pains;
 JESUS was pierced for our national, moral and religious rebellion;
 JESUS was beaten to pieces, crushed, destroyed for our moral evil.
 JESUS' punishment brought us our peace.

JESUS' stripes, bruises, blue marks healed us all.
 Make JESUS the Lord of your heart and healing begins! Healing of your spirit, soul and body. 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24.

VI REVELATION GIFTS

A. The Word of Wisdom.

1. Hagin emphasizes (pgs. 59-62) that "It is NOT the 'gift of wisdom.' It is the 'word of wisdom.' God knows all things, but never reveals all. He rather gives A WORD of what He knows. If we had the 'gift of wisdom,' we would have ALL wisdom. The same for the 'gift of knowledge.' It is NOT the gift, but rather A WORD. If we had knowledge and wisdom in 'gift' form, we would have no need to know anything."
2. What is the difference between the word of wisdom and the word of knowledge?
 - a. The WORD OF WISDOM is a supernatural revelation by the Holy Spirit about the purpose and plan in the mind and will of God. It speaks of the FUTURE.
 - b. The WORD OF KNOWLEDGE is a supernatural revelation by the Holy Spirit about facts in the mind of God concerning people, places or things. It ALWAYS speaks of things PAST or PRESENT. One cannot be knowledgeable of the future; he can only know of things past or present.
3. The word of wisdom is NOT natural wisdom. It is supernatural.
 - a. Natural wisdom is given to all men to deal in the affairs of everyday life. James 1:5 says, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to ALL MEN liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

(Note: "Wisdom" is defined in the Greek as 'sophia,' meaning higher or lower, worldly or spiritual wisdom. This definition shows that there are two kinds of wisdom. All people can have general wisdom for the affairs of everyday life, BUT...
 - b. ...1 Corinthians 12:8 says, "For to ONE is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom."
 - c. Joshua 1:8 and Proverbs 2:10-17. Having "good success" means "to do wisely." Wisdom to live our Christian lives is given to us as we read and study the Bible, but this is NOT the supernatural word of wisdom.
4. The word of wisdom is made known in different ways.
 - a. The audible voice of God. Exodus 19:1-7 (esp. verses 5-6 reveal the future). Moses received the Law by the audible voice of God.
 - b. Vision.

1. Acts 16:9-10. Gospel to Macedonia.
 2. Acts 18:7-11. Pioneering Corinthian church.
 3. Acts 27:10, 22-25. Paul on his way to Rome.
- c. Dream. Genesis 37:5-11. Joseph's dreams.
- d. Vocal gift of prophecy.
1. Acts 11:27-30. Future famine.
 2. Acts 21:10-14. Paul's future. See Acts 23:10-11 for the fulfillment of that word.
- e. Tongues and interpretation, because they are equal to prophecy. (Note that the above listed ways of receiving the word of wisdom ALWAYS reveal God's purpose and plan for the future.
5. The word of wisdom and the word of knowledge often work together.
- a. Acts 9:10-16. Notice the vehicle of this word of wisdom was a VISION. Verses 11-12 are a word of knowledge, but verses 15-16 are a word of wisdom revealing the plan and purpose of God concerning Paul. The word of knowledge revealed present facts about Paul (where he was and what he was doing), BUT the word of wisdom revealed a future aspect of Paul's ministry to the Gentiles.
6. Other observations.
- a. "This gift," says Dick Iverson, "cannot be gained through study and experience, yet neither is it a substitute for study and experience."
 - b. According to Kenneth Hagin, "Knowledge and wisdom look and operate much alike, but can be differentiated by past-present and future."
 - c. Colossians 2:3. "(This Christ) in whom are hid ALL the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."
 - d. 1 Corinthians 2:9-12. These two revelation gifts are given to the church for a reason: so we won't be in the dark!

B. The Word of Knowledge.

1. As in the word of wisdom, so it is a WORD of knowledge. If it was the gift of knowledge, we would know all things and have no need of education, studying, investigating etc. Only God can know all things, because He is almighty.
2. God's knowledge of us is unthinkable, mind boggling!
 - a. Psalm 139:1-6 and 23-24.

b. John 14:15-18, 26. 1 John 2:27 and 2 Peter 3:18. The Holy Spirit gives us knowledge about God as we read, study and pray.

c. One's level of knowledge about God depends on his/her relationship with Him. For example, "How well do I know my marriage partner?"

3. Types of knowledge.

a. Study, research.

b. Knowing the unknown (supernatural).

c. General knowledge (people, places, things, dates etc.)

d. Intimate knowledge (that of living with another).

4. God's word of knowledge is the supernatural revelation by the Holy Spirit of certain facts in the mind of God.

5. The word of knowledge is manifest in different ways.

a. Visions.

1. Revelation 1:10. John, in the Spirit, or by the Spirit, saw the conditions of the seven churches in Asia Minor. He was in exile at the time, so he could not have possibly known those conditions. The Holy Spirit revealed them to him.

2. Acts 9:10-12. Ananias was given a word of knowledge about Paul by the Spirit in a vision during prayer.

3. Acts 10:9-20. Peter, at a time of prayer, saw in a vision the plan of God for the Gentile world. That was a word of wisdom. But verses 19-20 show the Holy Spirit giving specific knowledge that men were looking for him. Note also Acts 10:1-8, where Cornelius saw in a vision and received specific knowledge of where Peter could be found.

b. Inward revelations.

1. John 4:15-18. The woman at the well. The word of knowledge came to Jesus as He was talking to her. This word revealed intimate details of the woman's life-style. The word of knowledge should lead to a person's salvation, healing or deliverance, as in the case of this woman. Results should always occur when this word is operated.

c. Other ways the word of knowledge may manifest.

1. Prophecy.

2. Tongues and interpretation.

3. An angel (messenger).
6. Other scriptures revealing a word of knowledge.
 - a. Matthew 16:15-17. Peter KNEW Jesus was the Christ by divine revelation.
 - b. Acts 5:1-11. Peter KNEW the condition of the hearts of Ananias and Sapphira by revelation.
 - c. Acts 18:9-10. Knowledge concerning Paul's ministry at Corinth.
 - d. Acts 20:29-31. Paul KNEW about false prophets at Ephesus.
 - e. Acts 27:23-24. Paul KNEW about the safety of their journey on the boat.
7. "...he that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith to the churches..."
 This statement is made several times in the Book of Revelation. The content of these VOCAL "word gifts" determines whether it is a word of wisdom or a word of knowledge. We must train our EARS to listen to each prophecy, tongue and interpretation to determine whether or not it is a word of wisdom or a word of knowledge. Remember:
 - a. Past-Present is revealed by the word of knowledge.
 - b. Future is revealed by the word of wisdom.
8. The word of wisdom and the word of knowledge and sometimes the discerning of spirits operate together, or at the same time.
9. Dick Iverson (pgs. 73-74) suggests some points to remember when operating in the word of knowledge.
 - a. Sometimes when God reveals something by a word of knowledge, it should not necessarily be spoken immediately to the corporate body. If that word comes by a dream or vision, the person receiving it should pray and ask God what to do with it before speaking it forth.
 - b. If one receives a word of knowledge about an important situation and doesn't know what to do with it, he should then consult the pastor/eldership for wisdom in what to do.
 - c. A word of knowledge may come in a meeting through prophecy. It may be a warning or caution to someone whom God knows is living in sin, or is about to make a major mistake. Of the people who are gathered at the meeting, only the person to whom the word is being spoken will know.
 - d. A word of knowledge can give a person direction or specific guidance in making decisions.
10. Knowledge of God and the Bible comes via studying and praying, but is NOT the "word of knowledge."

- a. 2 Timothy 2:15.
- b. Acts 17:10-11.
- c. Acts 6:4.
- d. Hosea 4:6.

C. The Discerning of Spirits.

1. The definition of “discern” is to tell or distinguish. Also implied in the meaning is “seeing.” Another phrase used to explain the idea of “discern” is to separate thoroughly.
2. GOD is a Spirit and His entire world (realm) is a spirit realm.
 - a. John 4:24. “God is a SPIRIT: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit (realm) and in truth.” (realm) added by author.
 - b. Hebrews 12:9. God is the Father of spirits.
 - c. Hebrews 1:7, 14. Angels are spirit beings.
 - d. Genesis 3:24. Cherubim are spirit beings. They are for protection.
 - e. Isaiah 6:2-6. Seraphim are spirit beings for glorifying God.
 - f. Daniel 7:10. Spirit beings cannot be numbered.
 - g. Matthew 26:53. Twelve legions of angels (72,000).
 - h. 1 Samuel 1:3. God is the “LORD of hosts.” This word in Hebrew (tsaw-baw) means a mass of persons especially organized for war (an army). See also Romans 8:31.
3. MAN is created in God’s image.
 - a. Genesis 1:26 and 2:7. Man is a spirit being living in a body of flesh. Or, as Iverson says, “Man is a soul and a spirit clothed with flesh.” See also 1 Corinthians 2:11; James 2:26; Job 32:8 and Zechariah 12:1.
4. SATAN is also a spirit being.
 - a. Isaiah 14:12-15 and Ezekiel 28:12-18 tell us he fell from a high angelic position because of pride, ambition and rebellion.
 - b. He took with him a HOST of angelic (spirit) beings. We call them “evil or demon” spirits, also “devils.”
 1. Matthew 25:41.

2. 2 Peter 2:4.

3. Jude 6. The Amplified Version says, "And ANGELS that did not keep (care for, guard and hold to) their own first place of power but abandoned their proper dwelling place, He has reserved in custody in eternal chains (bonds) under the thick gloom of utter darkness until the judgment and doom of the great day."

c. See these scriptures describing the world (realm) of evil spirits.

1. Luke 10:17-20. Spirits are subject unto us.

2. 1 Timothy 4:1. Seducing spirits; doctrines of devils.

3. Revelation 16:13-14. Devils working miracles.

4. Matthew 12:43-45. Unclean spirits seek a place to live.

5. Man's spirit is sandwiched in between God's and Satan's.
The Christian and the church especially need the ability to distinguish these spirits.

a. 1 John 4:1-4 tells us to "try the spirits (plural) whether they are of God.

6. Especially in the church service and in church-related affairs, the power to discern these three spirits is vitally necessary.

a. Our war is not one of flesh and blood, but rather is spiritual warfare!
Ephesians 6:11-12 tells us we are fighting against "wicked spirits" (marginal reading).

b. This war is greater than one can imagine. Iverson describes it this way:

"God is at war with the evil man's spirit and the evil spirits of satanic majesty. Satan and his spirits are at war with man's spirits and the Spirit of God. It is greater than a world war; it is a universal war. This is, in fact, the real battleground of good and evil; right against wrong."

c. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5. The real battle is in a person's thought-life, mind. The devil doesn't usually come up to a person and hit him, but he comes in a subtle way to our thought-life and mind. Cf. Genesis 3:1 where it says, "Now the serpent was more subtil (subtle) than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made." Subtle means 'cunning or crafty.' Therefore, the enemy comes to our thought-life and mind in cunning and crafty ways to destroy us. However, the Bible says, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose MIND (thought, or imagination) is stayed on thee: because he trusteth thee." Isaiah 26:3.

d. Point to remember: Thoughts, whether good or bad, are sourced in the spirit. Bodies do not think, but spirits do.

- e. J. Dwight Pentecost says, "God and Satan are in a battle for the minds of men. It is the mind that Satan wants, for if he can control the mind, he eventually can control the will." (Pg. 180)

7. What is the "discerning of spirits?"

a. Three definitions:

1. Simply speaking, it is a gift that "gives insight into the spirit world (realm)." (Hagin, pg. 66)
2. "God-given ability to recognize the identity of the spirits which are behind different manifestations or activities." (Iverson, pg. 76)
3. "The special ability God gives to some members of the Body of Christ which enables them to know with assurance whether certain behavior purported to be of God is in reality divine, human or satanic." (Wagner, pg. 102)

- b. All mature Christians can discern (distinguish) good from evil, right from wrong. See Hebrews 5:13-14. But, "...to another (ie. to some) discerning of spirits..." is given.

- c. This gift is generally given to those in leadership positions in the Body of Christ who guide and guard the people of God.

1. Acts 20:17, 28-30. The Ephesian elders were warned by Paul (an apostle, church leader).
2. Matthew 7:15-16. Wolves in sheep's clothing are known by their fruit. Jesus warned future church leaders.
3. Ezekiel 33:7-9. Ezekiel (a prophet) was appointed to watch the people. He speaks a word as God reveals the condition of the people's hearts.

- d. Iverson (pg. 76) suggests that one who is used by the Holy Spirit in this gift may have a special ability to discern areas of human spirits, that is attitudes, needs in people's lives etc., while another may have the ability to discern areas of demonic activity. Yet others may have little discernment in these areas, but have an ability to clearly discern which gifts and manifestations are of God and which are not. This variety is much like the gift(s) of healing(s).

8. The purpose of discerning of spirits.

- a. Iverson describes that the purpose of this gift is "to protect, guard, guide and properly feed the flock of God."
- b. Hagin (pg. 66) relates that "discerning of spirits also implies 'seeing.' By this gift one can see into the spirit world." See 2 Kings 6:13-18.

9. Discerning spirits in the New Testament.

- a. Mark 5:35-42. Spirit of doubt, unbelief.
- b. Luke 4:33-37. Unclean spirit.
- c. Luke 13:11-13. Spirit of infirmity.
- d. Acts 16:16-18. Spirits of divination.
- e. Discernment begins with whether or not the manifestation is one of encouragement, joy or fear. See 2 Timothy 1:7 and 1 John 4:18 (Living Bible). Read the above scriptural references again to notice if there was any manifestation of joy, encouragement or fear.

10. Other instances of Jesus discerning spirits.

- a. Matthew 9:1-8 (especially verse 4). "Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?"
- b. Matthew 12:25. "And Jesus knew their thoughts." Many times this gift is coupled with the Word of Knowledge.
- c. Luke 5:22. "Jesus perceived their thoughts."
- d. Matthew 16:15-17. God-inspired revelation.
- e. Matthew 16:21-23. Satan-inspired words.
- f. Mark 5:5-13. Legion of unclean spirits.

11. New Testament leaders discerned spirits.

- a. Acts 5:1-10. Evil and human spirits discerned.
 - 1. Verse 3: "Why hath Satan filled YOUR hearts to lie?"
 - 2. Verse 4: "Why hast thou conceived this thing in your heart?"
 - 3. Verse 9: "How is it that you have agreed together?"
 - 4. Ananias and Sapphira had a lying spirit.
- b. Acts 8:9-23. Simon had a spirit of bitterness.
- c. Acts 13:9-12. Elymas had a spirit of perversion.

12. Observation.

- a. The gift of discerning of spirits usually operates closely with the other gifts of the word of knowledge, wisdom, faith and possibly even the

working of miracles.

--- LAST WORDS ---

This brings this study on the Gifts of the Spirit to an end, but in conclusion we would like to make special mention of what Pastor Dick Iverson of Portland, Oregon's Bible Temple (now The City Church) says about these Spiritual Gifts. He says,

"These gifts could be called the 'senses of the Church.' Just as man has five senses through which he contacts the world around him, so the church has been given these nine spiritual senses to contact the spiritual world."

"These senses are virtually important to human life. One who lacks them is nearly a vegetable. The same is true in the spiritual. The gifts of the Spirit are just as essential for the growth and protection of the body of Christ as the five senses are to the human body."

"A child without his senses will not be able to grow and develop as a normal child. This is the condition of churches which try to grow without the gifts. They can struggle along with 'professional evangelism' and 'professional ministers,' try to compete with the world in theatrical entertainment, etc., but real growth comes as these gifts function in the assemblies. We need never wonder why churches are 'crippled' if these gifts do not function."

Lastly, Brother Iverson says that *"a person being used in the gifts of the Holy Spirit should always be 1) in prayer/communion with God, 2) studying and meditating on the Word of God and 3) building himself up by praying in tongues."*

"But all these (gifts) worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as He will." 1 Corinthians 12:11.

"Covet earnestly the best gifts." 1 Corinthians 12:31.

(END)