

Speaking In Tongues

Sermon for 7-24-16

Isaiah 28:9-12

⁹

“Whom will he teach knowledge?
And whom will he make to understand the message?
Those *just* weaned from milk?
Those *just* drawn from the breasts?

¹⁰

For precept *must be* upon precept, precept upon precept,
Line upon line, line upon line,
Here a little, there a little.”

¹¹

For with stammering lips and another tongue
He will speak to this people,

¹²

To whom He said, “This *is* the rest *with which*
You may cause the weary to rest,”
And, “This *is* the refreshing”;
Yet they would not hear.

1 Corinthians 14:20-22

²⁰ Brethren, do not be children in understanding; however, in malice be babes, but in understanding be mature.

²¹ In the law it is written:

“With *men of* other tongues and other lips
I will speak to this people;
And yet, for all that, they will not hear Me,”
says the Lord.

²² Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophesying is not for unbelievers but for those who believe.

Acts 2:1-4

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord[a] in one place. ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and *one* sat upon each of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Utterance = to speak out, speak forth, pronounce, not a word of everyday speech, but one belonging to dignified and elevated discourse.

Advantages of Speaking in Tongues

- **Tongues enables us to speak the highest form of language possible**
 - **Acts 2:1-4**
- **When we pray in tongues, we pray according to the will of God and those prayers get answered.**
 - **Romans 8:25-28** ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for *it* with perseverance.²⁶ Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷ Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit *is*, because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*.²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose.
 - **1 John 5:14-15**¹⁴ Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.
- **We speak to God and not to men**
 - **1 Corinthians 14:2** For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands *him*; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.
- **We speak mysteries, or the secrets of God.**
 - **1 Corinthians 14:2** For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands *him*; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.
 - The Spirit is the great Revealer of God.
 - **1 Corinthians 2:12** Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

- **We edify ourselves**
 - **1 Corinthians 14:4** He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.
 - **Jude 20** But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,
 - Another word for edify is *repair*
 - **There is healing and repairing when you speak in tongues**
- **Our spirit prays apart from our understanding**
 - **1 Corinthians 14:14** For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.
- **We give thanks to God**
 - **1 Corinthians 14:16-17** 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.
 - **The language of the Holy Spirit is giving thanks, and therefore giving thanks is holy.**

The most powerful prayer life is full of praying in tongues and praying in known earthly languages.

1 Corinthians 14:15

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.

Order and Peace of the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 14:22-33

Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophesying is not for unbelievers but for those who believe. ²³ Therefore if the whole church comes together in one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those who are uninformed or unbelievers, will they not say that you are out of your mind? ²⁴ But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an uninformed person comes in, he is convinced by all, he is convicted by all. ²⁵ And thus the secrets of his heart are revealed; and so, falling down on his face, he will worship God and report that God is truly among you.

²⁶ How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification. ²⁷ If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret. ²⁸ But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God. ²⁹ Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge. ³⁰ But if anything is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent. ³¹ For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged. ³² And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. ³³ For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

- Tongues are a sign of God's power to unbelievers and should not be avoided when unbelievers are around even if they think it's weird.
- Speaking in tongues as a group in corporate prayer is not forbidden by Paul; speaking in tongues one at a time more than three times in a row without an interpretation is.

1 Corinthians 14:39-40

Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues. ⁴⁰ Let all things be done decently and in order.