

Manifestations of the Spirit

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

"There are certain things that you cannot do, but other Christians can, certain gifts of the Spirit that your brother has that you may need in order to get through life to the gates of heaven. All together the church, as it marches along the royal route to heaven in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, is equipped as a body in victory. Observe closely that victory is in the group and not in isolation. One of the most damaging things that is done today in the name of fundamentalism is to grieve the Holy Spirit and divide the body. For victory, the body must work together in harmony and fellowship and love, under the authority of the Holy Spirit. I need your gift to see me through and you need mine: all of us need each of us, for we have mutual dependence as a body. God forbid that any of us should do one thing, or say one thing, that would harm the Lord's body, the church, by ruining another's gift by destroying fellowship." Redpath

- I. Unity can only come about in the church when all agree that Jesus alone sits on the throne as King and Lord over all. Anyone who asserts himself in that role and acts like they are lord, becomes an antichrist who puts himself or herself in place of Jesus Christ's rightful role as King. They embrace the idol of self and become an instrument of the evil one's desire to lead the body of Christ away from the Spirit of truth.

1 Cor. 12:1-3

Rom. 11:25

1 Thess. 4:13

James 2:19

John 16:13-14

Matthew 7:21-23 *21"Not everyone who says to me, 'LORD, LORD,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22Many will say to me on that day, 'LORD, LORD, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' 23Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'*

- II. The diversity and unity of the Trinity give us a model to follow as important and valuable members of the body of Christ. The Spirit is the one who manifests to each one of us our spiritual gifts, the Lord Jesus gives us our ministry assignments through the use of the gifts, and the Father empowers (*energēma*) us to fulfill those assignments for the common good of the church.

1 Cor. 12:4-6

Eph. 1:4-6

χάρισμα charisma = grace or gifts denoting extraordinary powers, distinguishing certain Christians and enabling them to serve the church of Christ, the reception of which is due to the power of divine grace operating on their souls by the Holy Spirit.

- III. We have all been given spiritual gifts to help the church stay unified as we wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. There are twenty-one spiritual gifts listed in Paul's writings, with each one being as equally important as the other for the spiritual wellbeing of the body. **Romans 12:6-8** identifies the gifts of prophesying, serving, teaching, encouraging, giving, leadership and mercy. **1 Corinthians 12:4-11** identifies the gifts of words of wisdom, words of knowledge, faith, healing, miraculous powers, prophecy, distinguishing between spirits, speaking in tongues and the interpretation of tongues. **1 Cor. 12:28** identifies the gifts of healings, helps, administration and the speaking in different kinds of tongues.

1 Cor. 12:7-11

1 John 4:1

1 Corinthians 1:4-7 *4I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. 5For in him you have been enriched in every way-with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge- 6God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. 7Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our LORD Jesus Christ to be revealed.*