

Come let us Grow Together: What does it mean to Speak in Tongues and How do you Know if that Person is Really and Truly Speaking in Tongues and not Just Trying to Deceive You?

Come let us Grow Together is a weekly series that deals with the many topical categories that exist within the Word of God. The purpose of this series is to grow in wisdom, knowledge, and understanding in things pertaining to God.

What is meant by speaking in tongues is that God will speak through you in another language that you do not know. This takes place as the Spirit gives the utterance. When you speak with other tongues you can quench it. Meaning to stop yourself from speaking. We are told in the scriptures not to do this. "Quench not the Spirit." (1 Thess 5:19) The Apostle Paul said, "I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all:" (1 Cor 14:18) And he also said "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal." (1 Cor 13:1) So we learn here that there are many languages that God can use when someone either receives the Holy Spirit for the first time, or whether that person is giving thanks to God in tongues, or whether that person is in intercessory prayer speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives the utterance, or whether the gift of the Spirit known as divers kinds of tongues is being used; that this language could be a language that was spoken on our Earth or that of Angels. However if the gift of divers kinds of tongues is being used this is only to be done with the gift of interpretation of tongues. Whether that be the same person who spoke with the gift of divers kinds of tongues or another that interprets it. But remember that you can not use the gift of divers kinds of tongues if you have never first received the gift of the Holy Spirit of which will always come with the evidence of speaking with other tongues as we see throughout the scriptures. (Isa 28:11-12) (Acts 2:1-4) (Acts 8:14-19) (Acts 10:44-48) (Acts 19:1-6) (1 Cor 14:21)

So, how do you know if that person is really speaking in tongues and not just trying to deceive you? There are several answers here. We are told in scripture "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world." (1 Jn 4:1-3)

So we need to try the spirit to see if it be of God. What manner of fruit is the person bearing that is speaking with other tongues? Are they producing good fruit? "For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh." (Lk 6:43-45)

If this is a person that is bringing forth a tongue that is being interpreted, if their word does not come to pass either the interpreter was wrong or both the person speaking in divers kinds of tongues and the interpreter is wrong. So does the interpretation align to the Word of God? Because God and His Word are inseparable. The Word of God is always taken over someone who is giving a prophecy or the interpretation of an unknown tongue.

There is also a gift of the Spirit known as the gift of discernment. Again you must first have the Holy Spirit before you can operate in one of the gifts of the Spirit. But this gift of discernment can reveal to you whether this is of God or not. There is also the gift of knowledge that can reveal to a person whether this is of God or not. However, it is imperative to make sure that you understand that when someone receives the Holy Ghost or the Holy Spirit that they will always speak with other tongues as the Spirit gives the utterance and this is not meant for an interpretation. This is the person receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost: everlasting life. The nine gifts of the Holy Ghost are gifts that are used to edify the body of Christ after that a person has first received the Holy Ghost. The gifts of the Spirit are to edify the body of Christ. However, this does not mean that God will not correct or chastise his people and use a spoken word to do so or a tongue and interpretation of the tongue to do so. Also the Pastor of the Church is God's chosen man to shepherd his flock. So if the Pastor be of God and thus filled with the Spirit of God the shepherd will be looking out for his flock. We are to "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you." (Heb 13:17) The Pastor of the Church will also be trying the spirit to see if it is of God and if he does not believe it to be true will inform the person and the Church. However, if the Pastor makes a mistake in doing this then that is between him and God. The person with the message has fulfilled what God gave to them and if they are cut off then they are to obey the Pastor even if it is to the detriment of the Church.

It is of the utmost importance that you follow after the plan of Salvation and go to a Church that is teaching the true plan of Salvation that is given to us and was laid out for us throughout the book of Acts as this was where we learned of the actions of the Apostles and were taught the plan of Salvation for all of mankind. The Epistles to the Churches that are after the book of Acts are written to already established Churches who have already been obedient to the plan of Salvation and are written to show the Christian how we are to live a holy life and also to explain to us what has taken place after we have been saved. The plan of salvation is not found in the epistles to the Churches but in the book of Acts, and the epistles elaborate to the Church what Jesus Christ has done for us and how that once you have become born again what has taken place and what we are to do. The plan of Salvation was given in Acts chapter 2 where the Holy Ghost was first poured out upon the believers and the message of what we are to do to become born again is given to us in this same chapter.

"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ. Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto

you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation. Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.” (Acts 2:36-41)