Holy Spirit Part 6 - The Beauty of Spiritual Language

A language not recognizable to your understanding.

Tongues Defined:

I. It's Scriptural

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

Acts 2:32-33 (NKJV) This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.

Acts 8:14-15 (NKJV) Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit.

Acts 8:16-17 (NKJV) For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the H oly Spirit.

Acts 8:18-19 (NKJV) And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money, saying, "Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit."

Acts 9:17 (NKJV) And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

Acts 10:44 (NKJV) While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.

Acts 10:45 (NKJV) The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles.

Acts 10:46 (NKJV) For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.

Acts 19:5-6 (NKJV) When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

Hasn't tongues ceased?

- 1 Corinthians 13:8 (NKJV) Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away.
- 1 Corinthians 13:9-10 (NKJV) For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

Do all who have been baptized in the Holy Spirit speak with tongues?

1. The Gift of Tongues (Public)

- 1 Corinthians 12:1 (NKJV) Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant:
- 1 Corinthians 12:4 (NKJV) There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.
- 1 Corinthians 12:7 (NKJV) But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:
- 1 Corinthians 12:8-9 (NKJV) for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit,

- 1 Corinthians 12:10 (NKJV) to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.
- 1 Corinthians 12:11 (NKJV) But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.
- 1 Corinthians 12:29-31 (NKJV) Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?
- 1 Corinthians 14:12-13 (NKJV) Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel. Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret.
- 1 Corinthians 14:26 (NKJV) 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.
- 1 Corinthians 14:27-28 (NKJV) If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret. But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God.
- 1 Corinthians 14:21 (NKJV) 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.

Isaiah 28:11-12 (NKJV) For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, 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 14:22 (NKJV) Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers...
- 1 Corinthians 14:23 (NKJV) 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?

- 1 Corinthians 14:24 (NKJV) But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an uninformed person comes in, he is convinced by all, he is convicted by all.
- 1 Corinthians 14:25 (NKJV) 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.

2. The Grace of Tongues (Private)

- 1 Corinthians 14:2 (NKJV) For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God...
- 1 Corinthians 14:4 (NKJV) He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.
- 1 Corinthians 14:5 (NKJV) I wish you all spoke with tongues...
- 1 Corinthians 14:18 (NKJV) I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all;
- 1 Corinthians 14:19 (NKJV) yet in the church I would rather speak five words with my understanding, that I may teach others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue.
- 1 Corinthians 14:39 (NKJV) Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues.

II. It's A Benefit

1. Intimacy

- 1 Corinthians 14:2 (NKJV) For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God...
- 1 Corinthians 14:14 (NKJV) For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.

2. Intercession

Romans 8:26 (NKJV) 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.

Romans 8:27 (NKJV) 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.

3. Instruction

- 1 Corinthians 14:2 (NKJV) 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.
- 1 Corinthains 2:7-8 (NSV) But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

4. Edification

1 Corinthians 14:4 (NKJV) He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself...

Jude 20 (NKJV) But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit.

III. It's A Choice

1 Corinthians 14:15 (NKJV) 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.