

The Gifting Work of the Holy Spirit, Part 2

10/30/25

Romans 12:3-8. The only mirroring of the 1 Corinthians 12 passage are the gifts of “faith” and “prophecy.” Newly in this passage, we see the *practical* gifts of service, teaching, exhorting, giving, leading, mercy.

First, serve like the Servant! Is. 42:1, Mk. 10:45. These with the gift of service have an *active* heart towards serving. These, of course, also give faithful preview of the Kingdom to come. Israel will serve all nations (Ex. 19:5-6) and all nations will serve Israel (Is. 60:9, 12).

Give like our God—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit, John 3:16, Galatians 2:20, Revelation 5:6-7. Those with the gift of giving are *actively* looking for opportunities to give. And, most of the time, God has deeply supplied them, 2 Cor. 9:6-9. The givers give preview of what God will do in the Kingdom: freely bestow His righteousness upon the nations, Is. 52:13-15. The Father has given to the Son (Ps. 2:8), and the Son now gives to us (Rom. 8:16-17).

Those given to lead, lead like Jesus! And do it with diligence. John 7, Psalm 47. The gift of leadership—those who have an ability to diligently stand with steadfastness and truth to pursue a God-glorifying vision. This is servant/shepherd leadership.

Those with the gift of mercy, walk in cheerfulness! Those with the gift of mercy are not given to exactitude of justice, though that would be their “right,” Deuteronomy 19:21. Instead, they show mercy, Matthew 5:39-42. This is like Jesus, of course, Luke 23:34. Justice is good and godly. How far do we take it? Those with the gift of mercy do not defy justice. Instead, they cheerfully give mercy when they can, and to the extent that is wise and prudent, just like God. Last two gifts mentioned back in 1 Corinthians 12:28—helping and administration.

Next, we have spiritual *office* giftings, 1 Corinthians 12:28 and Ephesians 4:11:

- Apostles (wisdom, knowledge, administration)
- Prophets (wisdom, knowledge, prophecy, teaching, exhortation)
- Evangelists (wisdom, knowledge, exhortation, service)
- Pastor-teachers (wisdom, knowledge, prophecy, teaching, exhortation, leadership)
- Deacons (service, helping, administration)

Also, the Spirit “anoints” for service. The High Priest and priests were anointed (Ex. 29:29). Kings were anointed (1 Sam. 10:1, 1 Sam. 16:12-13). Lost world leaders are anointed (Is. 45:1-2). The prophets were anointed (Is. 61:1).

Jesus was anointed (Matt. 3:16-17). We see many “fillings” as the NT goes forward: Luke 1:68, Luke 4:1, Acts 2:4, 14, Acts 4:8-10, Acts 4:31, Acts 9:17, Acts 13:10.

“Anointed” means “chosen.” In these instances, the Spirit seems to have “chosen” these men for specific acts of service, mainly proclamation.

Let us see the beautiful tapestry of the Spirit’s giftings: wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, spiritual discernment, tongues, interpretation of tongues, service, teaching, exhorting, leading, mercy helping, and administration.

He also gives gifts of spiritual offices—apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastor-teachers, and deacons. He also anoints, specially and specifically, for service in real time, real space. What has given Jesus the authority/right to give these gifts to the Body? Psalm 68:18, Ephesians 4:7-8, Colossians 2:15. In His Ascension, Jesus plundered the spiritual authority of the principalities and powers and gave spiritual authority to US! Now, we proclaim Him and show the world what He is like! 1 Corinthians 12:12-25.

Let us summarize the purpose of the spiritual gifts:

1. They reveal, in us, who God is. Three Persons, One God. Many gifts, one Body.
2. They reveal our identity as sons and daughters of God; as *co-heirs and co-rulers with Christ*. The powers have been plundered of spiritual authority. We have been given—in first fruits—the joy to rule and reign with Him.
3. To in-break and give faithful preview of the *Messianic Kingdom*! When Jesus comes:
 - a. God’s wisdom will be freely given, and the knowledge of God will FILL the earth.
 - b. God’s faithfulness will be on full display, and the nations, in full, will put their faith in King Jesus.
 - c. Jesus will heal the nations with all divine signs, wonders, and miracles.
 - d. Spiritual discernment will flood the nations, since then Satan will be cast down, and Jesus revealed.
 - e. Language will no longer be a blockade to God’s glory. All nations will speak and praise in one language.

- f. Israel will serve the nations, the nations will serve Israel, and ALL will serve the Servant.
- g. We will all marvel at the Giver and Leader of creation who leads with perfect administration.
- h. All the nations will show mercy to one another as they serve and love the Merciful one.

THAT Kingdom is breaking in. Therefore, today, the world is getting a taste of it through the church. Let us remember, though, the gifts are not the most important exercise in the Christian life. LOVE is, 1 Corinthians 13.