

Gifts of the Spirit

Giving is God's divine plan to make us like Himself. It reveals our Faith; the action of our belief and bares our inner most desires through its application. Giving has to do with the inner awareness of His purpose and provides vision of His work and plans. To help us in becoming as He is, our heavenly Father has instilled a portion of Himself, His Holy Spirit within those that are being called. His Holy Spirit affords us gifts from Our Father which to be used to serve others. It is like a gift from a distant admirer given through a courier, herald or faithful messenger. As we begin this study, mark those things that the scriptures denote as Spiritual gifts and also notice what often has been assumed to be Spiritual gifts, but are not.

1 Corinthians 12:1~6 Now concerning **spiritual gifts**, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led. Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Spirit. Now there are **diversities** of **gifts**, but the same Spirit. And there are **differences** of **administrations**, but the same Lord. And there are **diversities** of **operations**, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

Paul is direct, giving us solid insight by stating; "if one calls Yahshua accursed, he has not the Spirit of Yah." This is in reference to those called anti-Christ, those denying that he was the prophesied coming Messiah (1 John 2). Denial is seen in two forms, physically and or spiritually. I can deny Yahshua's existence totally or I can disregard His teachings in my life. Either way I'm saying the same thing; "you're nobody to me." Let us not find ourselves without His Spirit guiding us.

*Paul goes on to describe **diversities** or different characteristics, features or expressions given through Yah's Holy Spirit, which is essence Yah Himself living in you. **Three diversities** or distinctions of His Spirit are mentioned; **gifts**, **administrations** and **operations**. Each of these three diversities holds within itself its own **diversities** or assortment of special attributes. Let's take a closer look at these diversities or different parts of His Spirit that are given and there meanings.*

Gifts #5486. charisma, khar'-is-mah; from 5483; a (divine) gratuity, deliverance from danger or passion; a spiritual **endowment**, religious **qualification**, or miraculous faculty. This is where we get the word charisma and charming, your personal character shown by your actions to others.

Administrations #1248. diakonia, dee-ak-on-ee'-ah; from 1249; attendance as a servant; aid, official service (especially of the Christian teacher), **ministering**, (-tration, -try), office, relief, **service**.

Operations #1755. energema, en-erg'-ay-mah; from 1754; an effect or working; from 1756 energeo; **to be active**, efficient, to do, be effectual, fervent, be mighty in, show forth self, **work**. This is where we get the word **energy**; in which your works and actions are seen.

*All these words are used to describe people with **diversities of the Holy Spirit**, Yah living in and through them. These diversities are seen in use by Spirit filled people in action, doing with **qualifications**...meaning **gifts**, to **serve**...meaning **administrations**, with **energy**...meaning **operations**, using the same Spirit of God. Once again Paul is talking about people having qualifications through a reputation or use...**Gifts** that are seen outwardly serving...**administering**, energetically putting forth self, which has been given to them...**operating**.*

The diversities or different aspects of the Spirit once again are:

Gifts: spiritual endowment or **qualification**.

Administrations: ministering, **servicing**.

Operations: to be active, be mighty in, **energy**.

Yet, all these Spirit lead people are said to have diversity of ability given to them for one most important reason, and that is to be used as they bring forth Yah through their actions. To increase our clarity of what is being said, let's reread 1Corinthians 12:4~6 using these newly defined words.

1 Corinthians 12:4~6 Now there are diversities of **QUALIFICATIONS** (gifts), but the same Spirit. And there are differences of **SERVING** (administrations), but the same Lord. And there are diversities of **ENERGY** (operations), but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

1 Corinthians 12:7~11 **But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.** For to one is given by the Spirit the **word of wisdom**; To another the **word of knowledge** by the same Spirit; To another **faith** by the same Spirit; To another the **gifts of healing** by the same Spirit; To another the **working of miracles**; To another **prophecy**; To another **discerning of spirits**; To another **divers kinds of tongues**; To another the **interpretation of tongues**: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

*Note that the **manifestation** is described as; the exhibition or display through action by which the Spirit of Yah is seen and felt. These abilities are given to **every man** who has His Spirit, which is to be used to profit all, meaning everybody, not just self and not just those of the body of Christ. These are given to man according to Yah's will, not ours, to serve His will and purpose.*

*These manifestations are seen in the appearance of the Spirit; in **words of wisdom, words of knowledge, the visual signs of faith, the act of healing, working of miracles, messages of prophecy, ability to discern between true and false Spirits, speaking in different languages, and the ability to understand different languages** when heard. All these diversities of ability are given to the saints, to be used outwardly, to be seen and heard by others in serving the Lord as He wills.*

*They are gifts from Yah to man to be used so we can be like Him, a Spirit filled **giver**. It is His Spirit working through you, not you yourself; you are just a tool being used. Being Spirit lead refers to a vessel holding a most precious gift; **His Holy Spirit**, being directed to shine in appearance as a **sign of His light** shining through you. If the light goes out, it is because we did not provide the substance to continue the gift to glow. This would be like us being the wax of a candle, and He being the wick from which the light glows. The wick alone would quickly burn out if it had not a substance to burn as wax or oil. The burning that causes the light to glow comes from the ability of the wax to give up of itself as a **burnt offering**, which in turn allowing the light to glow. Without His Spirit as a lit wick, we are just a piece of wax, melting in the heat of the day, without light and without shape.*

*Scripture speaks of a piece of clay in Yah's hand being shaped into a vessel...**to serve**. Once the clay dries and hardens, the vessel is no longer able to be worked. Its shape is set, some for honor and some for common use...it's forever formed in that profile, hardened, unchangeable. While it's still pliable, it has the ability to yield itself to be formed, the act of change...repentance, yielding in His Hands.*

2 Timothy 2: 19~21 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity. But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to **honour**, and some to **dishonour**. If a man therefore **purge himself** from these, he shall be a vessel unto **honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use**, and prepared unto every **good work**.

*The vessel is made of clay, which represents us. If we are willing to be molded, pulled, shaped and as all good earthenware, be hardened in the furnace of trials, we will be made a vessel of honor. His gifts are freely given to all, yet it is **our choice**...**IF we purge ourselves of our sin, according to His way.***

Once again **the choice is ours to make** as to what kind of vessel we become. This is all according to the amount of purging of sin in our lives that we are willing to address.

“Yah cannot use what He cannot control.” The question of our walk has always been from the beginning...**whom do I serve?** Do I serve Yah or self? Self, Satan, sin it's all the same, for all worship misdirected is idolatry in Yah's sight.

1 Corinthians 12:12~26 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are **one body**: so also is Christ. **For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body**, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, **but many**. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. And if they were all one member, where were the body? But now are they many members, yet but one body. And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness. For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked: That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.

*One body, from one Spirit, we are all baptized into one group. Note that the starting point of joining this body is your baptism. It is at that time His Holy Spirit is given to you to be **used** to mold you into a vessel **for service**. Also note that it is this molding from that time forward that produces the outward manifestations of His Spirit in you shown by the **fruit you produce**. These spiritual gifts are given to that fruit bearing person for the **act of service**. It started at baptism, so there is nothing that you had before in your physical life that could be considered a spiritual gift. We were of a carnal nature, made up of thoughts and deeds contrary to the truth prior to being called.*

It's the purging of self from that time forward, producing fruit, righteous works according to His word, the law which affords us the indwelling of His Holy Spirit. It's from the time you entered into this new life under contract, in Covenant with Yah, which Paul is speaking of, being displayed in and through the body of the church.

With that understanding we must be honest to admit that acts of service prior to our baptism, in the physical or moral realm cannot be considered Spiritual gifts. We have all been given abilities that we have developed as we matured that aid us in our life. These are some times called; God given abilities, which we share with others. The sharing with others is a righteous act in itself, a principle set down from Yah. But by scriptural definition it does not comply with what is called Spiritual gifts.

Spiritual gifts mentioned here are Spiritual in nature, and are not physical, yet are seen and felt outwardly as a witness of His Spirit, His light in and through the user.

*In 1 Corinthians 12:1~6 we see three different diversities, specific aspects of the His Holy Spirit which are: **Gifts**: spiritual endowment or **qualification** ... **Administrations**: ministering, **servicing** ... **Operations**: to be active, be mighty in, **energy**. Each of the three diversities mentioned also holds within itself **its own diversities** an assortment of special attributes which make them up.*

As stated in 1 Corinthians 12:7~11 the gifts of the Spirit are manifested by outward signs of; words of **wisdom**, words of **knowledge**, visual signs of **faith**, **healing**, working of **miracles**, **prophecy**, **discerning of spirits**, different kinds of **languages** and the **interpretation of languages**.

All these outward signs are demonstrated, seen and felt by the three different gifts of the Spirit, working in every man according to Yah's will. But who are the players, the saints who have and use these Spiritual gifts as seen by the manifestation of these signs? As we read further, Paul describes those with Yah's Spirit, the players, the members of the His church, the saints in the making, those called to be first fruits in His army serving according to His will.

1 Corinthians 12: 27~31 Now ye are the body of Christ, and **members in particular**. And God hath set some in the church, first **apostles**, secondarily **prophets**, thirdly **teachers**, after that **miracles**, then **gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues**. Are all **apostles**? are all **prophets**? are all **teachers**? are all **workers of miracles**? Have all the **gifts of healing**? do all **speak with tongues**? do all **interpret**? **But covet earnestly the best gifts:** and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.

Let's stop for a moment and review to digest completely what has been stated about the **manifestation**; meaning how spiritual gifts appear. They appear in every profitable user to benefit all and are seen in the form which produces:

- words of wisdom
- words of knowledge
- visual signs of faith
- acts of healing
- working of miracles
- messages of prophecy
- discernment between true and false Spirits
- speaking in different languages
- understanding different languages when heard

All these manifestations are the product of the **three Spiritual diversities**: **Gifts**: spiritual endowment or **qualification**... **Administrations**: ministering, **servicing**... **Operations**: to be active, be mighty in, **energy**.

Now Paul speaks in Verse 27~31 of those in **whom** the manifestations of the Spirit are **working effectively**, in **whom** the Spirit is living and producing itself through gifts of service outwardly. In those that are:

- apostles, prophets and teachers
- those that do miracles
- those with the gift of healing
- those that help
- those that govern in the church
- those having diversities of tongues

Now let's put these together and associate the product in which the Spirit appears with the end user having the Spirit working effectively. The gifts of the Spirit are manifestations by outward signs seen in:

- The gifts of **wisdom, knowledge, prophecy** are visibly seen in those that are **apostles, prophets and teachers**.
- Those of great **faith** are seen doing **miracles**, accomplished by "the action of their belief" assured in their standing with Yah to be heard and are aligned with His will.
- The **act of healing** the afflicted, are done by those with the gift of **helping and healing** provided through the Spirit.

- Those that **govern in the church**, refers to one that pilots, or directs the body of Christ with **messages of prophecy, discerning between true and false Spirits** which infiltrate the fellowship.
- And those with **diversities of tongues, languages** which are given to them with abilities of **speaking in different languages and understanding different languages**.

Do we have a full spectrum of His Holy Spirit able to do all things? No, but all are parts of the body, each supporting the other. The empowerment of His Holy Spirit is seen in three Spiritual diversities as **Gifts**; which are endowment or **qualification**, given to the user working effectively producing fruit. In **Administrations**; the ability of ministering, **servicing** Our Lord, showing forth His truth, evangelizing through His Spirit the righteousness by the law. And through **Operations**; to be active, be mighty in, **energized**, acting with power, zealous with great motivation, being on fire for His way.

All these are outward manifestations, the appearance of His Holy Spirit at work in the saints. They are empowered with His Spiritual gifts to show forth His grace to others through them. The fruit that one produces is not for its own consumption. You never see a fruit bearing tree eat its own fruit... No, the fruit is for others to feed upon. As it is here, all these gifts are given to be used by the user in the effective work of serving others.

If you are living a life of sitting and listening, allowing others to do His work of service, then there is no need to have His most precious gifts only to squander them. No, the gifts of His Spirit are given to the zealous, those that are motivated, energized with His power in its usage. As the saying goes; "Use it or lose it".

The question which brought about this study is asked. Did I have or receive these Spiritual gifts before baptism, before coming into the body of believers, or afterwards? Does the God given talents that I use in serving Yah count as Spiritual gifts? An example; if I play a musical instrument in praising Yah, is that a Spiritual gift? Did I play before coming to the truth? Did I help other with my talents before being baptized?

We should all admit that the stark answer to these questions reveal the truth of what we are calling Spiritual gifts and what are actual physical attributes.

Ephesians 4:1~16 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye **walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called**, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. **But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ**. Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave some, **apostles**; and some, **prophets**; and some, **evangelists**; and some, **pastors and teachers**; For the **perfecting of the saints**, for the **work of the ministry**, for the **edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ**: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the **whole body fitly joined together** and compacted by that which **every joint supplieth**, according to the **effectual working** in the measure of **every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love**.

Notice the starting request; “Walk worthy of the vocation wherewith you are called.” We are called to be molded into vessels **for service**. We are called to be **first fruits** as of the Levitical line to be Priests of Yah, to be **evangelists** of His way. We are called to do something with what has been given to us, His Spirit. We are expected to yield an increase, producing fruit for others to eat, not to bury our talents as the parable shows of the unprofitable servant. We should be eating meat by now and not just drinking milk...but serving in His house.

Once again we need to examine ourselves to see if we are being molded into vessels for service, and if we are yielding to the Sculpture’s hand. We need to stop and evaluate the presence of true spiritual gifts in our lives, and those things that are physical talents, masquerading as look a likes. We all want to promote our self worth. But at what point do we comprehend that this walk is not about us, it about promoting Yah and His Kingdom.

The battle for control is happening between our ears. We are only fooling ourselves when we deny the truth. We cannot take credit for something we had prior to coming into the walk and mark it as a Spiritual gift. So the next time you have opportunity to serve, and so find doing; saying to self; “**this is my Spiritual gift by which I serve**”. Ask yourself; is it my gift or His? Yes, all talents and gifts are from Yah. But is this force by which I serve, one of His Spiritual Gifts? Did I have the ability to perform it before I had His Holy Spirit, or is it by the **power of His Holy Spirit** working effectively in me that does this service? Is this one of the Spiritual gifts listed as empowering the called or is it a talent or physical attribute that I supply?

Even doing physical service, which you would not have done prior to our baptism because of our **lack of love**; “out going concern for others”, is His Holy Spirit working in you. That is part of the molding process to make us into **vessels for service**. This transformation of self in producing fruit should not be confused with Spiritual gifts.

Galatians 5: 22~26 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: **against such there is no law**. And they that are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

Note that the fruits of the spirit, “**out going concern for others**”, coexist with His law. They are the fulfillment of His words in action. By abiding with His Holy Spirit in the law, you produce these characteristics or qualities. None are offensive, meaning; going against the law.

Ephesians 5:8~11 For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) **Proving** what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

Once again, the producing of the fruits of the Spirit **proves** what is acceptable unto the Lord, according to His law. The **proof** is in the doing, the action of your belief.

Romans 12:1~2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, **which is your reasonable service**. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may **prove** what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

*If you believe that Yah is Spirit
And that He has imparted you with His Holy Spirit
Then show it by your actions*

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