



Gifts and Callings – Outline of 1 Corinthians 12

Introduction

“Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant:” Vs. 1

1. Other uses of “I would not have you ignorant.”
 - a. Concerning the rapture – 1 Thessalonians 4:13.
 - b. Concerning Old Testament types and shadows – 1 Corinthians 10:1.

“You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. 3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.” Vs. 2-3

2. We used to serve gods, who were not gods at all – made of wood and stone.
3. We served them, prayed to them, cried out to them and they could not speak back.
4. Now we serve a God Who *can* talk to us. He does it through many gifts of the Spirit and offices of Christ.

Sovereignty of Each Godhead Member

“There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.” Vs. 4

1. The Holy Spirit is over the nine gifts (vs. 7-11).
2. There are differences of gifts but the same Spirit.

“There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord.” Vs. 5

1. Jesus Christ is over the twelve offices (vs. 12-27).
2. There are differences of ministries (offices), but the same Lord.

“And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.” Vs. 6

1. God the Father is over the operations (vs. 28-31).
2. There are differences of operations, but it is the same God who works all in all.

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: 8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, 10 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. 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.” Vss. 7-11

1. There are doorways into the fruit and gifts of the Spirit.
 - a. The new birth - the doorway into the fruit of the Spirit – character
 - b. The doorway into the gifts of the Spirit is the infilling.
2. The Holy Spirit gives the gifts, and He works them also.
3. There is a *word* of knowledge or wisdom. There isn't a gift of knowledge or wisdom.
 - a. This is a *piece* of God's infinite knowledge and wisdom. The piece that applies to your situation.
 - b. Knowledge is general knowledge – not an explanation of scripture.
 - c. A word of wisdom is not how to apply scripture, but an answer to the word of knowledge – the issue.

The Offices of Jesus Christ

“For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For in fact the body is not one member but many.

15 If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? 16 And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? 18 But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. 19 And if they were all one member, where would the body be?

20 But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. 21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you”; nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” 22 No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. 23 And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty, 24 but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it, 25 that there should be no [h]schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. 26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.” Verses 12-27

The Pulpit Offices

“I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, 2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one

another in love, 3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

7 But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. 8 Therefore He says:

"When He ascended on high,

He led captivity captive,

And gave gifts to men."

9 (Now this, "He ascended"—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ..." Ephesians 4:1-13

The Seven Congregational Offices

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

3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. 4 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, 5 so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; 7 or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; 8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness." Romans 12:1-8

1. Paul is the only writer of the New Testament that discusses the Body of Christ, the Head, Christ, and its individual parts.
2. Each part, whether more visible or less visible, are all necessary for the proper function of the Church.

3. No matter what part, none can be lost. If we were to lose our salvation, Jesus would lose a finger or a toe (John 17:12).

The Operations of God the Father

“And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? 30 Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? 31 But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.” Verses 28-31

1. The “more excellent way” is the operation of love among the members of the Body of Christ (chapter 13).
2. The “more excellent way” is also the operation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in the local church service (chapter 14).