

Spiritual Gifts 4—Tongues 1

I. Introduction.

- A. **Share a Speaking in Tongues experience**—Who, how many, where, how long they spoke, what was the result...?
- B. **Why did God give us a tongue?**

II. Scripture.

- A. **How do you define the spiritual Gift of “Tongues”?**
- B. **Who is the primary audience for the Gift of Tongues (1Co. 14:22—“Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not...”)?**
- C. **What is the purpose for the Gift of Tongues?**
 1. **1 Co. 14:22**—“Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not...” Summary:
 2. **1Co. 14:4**—“He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself...” Summary:
 3. **1Co. 14:2, 13-17, 28**—“²For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the Spirit he speaketh mysteries. ¹³Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret. ¹⁴For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful. ¹⁵What is it then? I will pray with the Spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the Spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also. ¹⁶Else when thou shalt bless with the spirit, how shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he understandeth not what thou sayest? ¹⁷For thou verily givest thanks well, but the other is not edified.” Summary:
- D. **What are the types of tongues?**
 1. **“Tongues of men” (1Co. 13:1)**—Summary:

2. In his "**own language**," our "**own tongue**," and in "**our tongues**" (**Acts 2:6, 8, 11**)—Summary:
3. "**Other tongues**" (**Acts 2:4; 1Co. 14:21**)—Summary:
4. "**...they shall speak with New tongues**" (**Mar. 16:17**)—Summary:
5. "**Unknown tongue**" (**1Co. 14:2, 4, 13-14, 19, 27; 1Co. 14:19**)—*"Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an **unknown tongue**."* Summary:
6. "**Tongues of angels**" (**1Co. 13:1**)—*"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."* Summary:
7. "**Cloven tongues**" (**Acts 2:3**)—Summary:

E. Is the gift of tongues only a **Prayer or Spirit Language** (**1Co. 14:14**—*"For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful."*)?

F. Section IV lists all 27 times/21 verses on "**tongues**" and "**tongue**."

III. Application.

- A. **Do you believe the spiritual Gift of tongues is active today (Y/N)?**
Explain why to your neighbor, being consistent with your view of all spiritual gifts.
- B. **What were some of the main types of "tongues" God gave?**
- C. **What do you believe was the most important reason God gave the church the gift of "speaking with tongues?"**

IV. All "tongues" and "tongue" references in Scripture (NT).

A. "Tongues" (Mar. 16:17; Acts 2:3-4, 11; 10:46; 19:6; 1Co. 12:10, 28, 30; 13:1, 8; 14:5-6, 18, 21-23, 39).

1. **Mar. 16:17**— "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues."
2. **Acts 2:3-4**— "And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."
3. **Acts 2:11**— "Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God."
4. **Acts 10:46**— "For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter."
5. **Acts 19:6**— "And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied."
6. **1Co. 12:10**— "To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another diverse kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues."
7. **1Co. 12:28**— "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."
8. **1Co. 12:30**— "Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret?"
9. **1Co. 13:1**— "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."
10. **1Co. 13:8**— "Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away."
11. **1Co. 14:5-6**— "I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying. Now, brethren, if I come unto you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you, except I shall speak to you either by revelation, or by knowledge, or by prophesying, or by doctrine?"

12. **1Co. 14:18**—“**I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all.**”
13. **1Co. 14:21-23**—“**In the law it is written, 'With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord.'** Wherefore **tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying serveth not for them that believe not, but for them which believe. If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad?**” {Quote from **Isa. 28:11.**}
14. **1Co. 14:39**—“**Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues.**”

B. **“Tongue” (Acts 2:8; 1Co. 14:2, 4, 9, 13-14, 19, 26-27).**

1. **Acts 2:8**—“**And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?**”
2. **1Co. 14:2**—“**For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the Spirit he speaketh mysteries.**”
3. **1Co. 14:4**—“**He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.**”
4. **1Co. 14:9**—“**So likewise ye, except ye utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken? for ye shall speak into the air.**”
5. **1Co. 14:13-14**—“**Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret. For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful.**”
6. **1Co. 14:19**—“**Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue.**”
7. **1Co. 14:26-27**—²⁶**How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying.** ²⁷**If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret.**”