

First Corinthians 12:1-11

**Understand the unified impact of God's Spirit—12:1-3**

- 1) The next topic—12:1 <sup>1</sup> *Now concerning the things of the Spirit [pneumatikos], brothers, I do not want you<sup>pl</sup> to be ignorant.*
- 2) Recognize that idols are inarticulate—12:2 <sup>2</sup> *You<sup>pl</sup> know that when you<sup>pl</sup> were (unsaved) Gentiles you<sup>pl</sup> were led astray to the mute idols, however you<sup>pl</sup> were led.*
  - a) Perhaps a reference to parades leading to the temple in honor of idol/demons.
  - b) Cf. 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 18:26, 29; Psalm 115:5; 135:16; Habakkuk 2:18-19
- 3) Recognize the impact of the Spirit—12:3 <sup>3</sup> *Therefore I make known to you<sup>pl</sup> ...*
  - a) Evil speech—*that no one speaking in the Spirit of God says, "Jesus is accursed,"*
    - i) Perhaps from unbelieving Jews (cf. Deuteronomy 21:23; Galatians 3:13)
    - b) True speech—*and no one is able to say, "Jesus is Lord," except in the Holy Spirit.*
      - i) Cf. John 6:44; Romans 10:9

**Understand the unified source and activity of the Triune God—12:4-6**

- 1) God the Spirit—<sup>4</sup> *There are diversities of grace-gifts [charisma], but the same Spirit.*
- 2) God the Son—<sup>5</sup> *And there are diversities of ministries [diakonia], and the same Lord.*
- 3) God the Father—<sup>6</sup> *And there are diversities of accomplishments [energema], but it is the same God who is accomplishing [energeo] all things in everyone.*

**Understand the unified purpose of God's Spirit—12:7-11**

- 1) The Spirit's purpose—12:7 <sup>7</sup> *But to each one the (public) manifestation [phanerosis] of the Spirit is given for [pros] the common good.*
- 2) Specific manifestations—12:8-10
  - a) Group one—12:8
    - i) <sup>8</sup> *For to one is given through the Spirit the word of wisdom,*
    - ii) *and to another [allos] the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit,*
  - b) Group two—12:9-10a
    - i) <sup>9</sup> *and to **another** [heteros] faith in the same Spirit,*
    - ii) *and to another [allos] the grace-gifts [charisma] of healings in the same Spirit,*
    - iii) <sup>10</sup> *and to another [allos] the accomplishments [energema] of works of power [dunamis],*
    - iv) *and to another [allos] prophecy [propheteia],*
    - v) *and to another [allos] evaluations of spirits,*
  - c) Group three—12:10b
    - i) *and to **another** [heteros] different kinds [genos] of languages [glossa],*
    - ii) *and to another [allos] the translation/interpretation [hermeneia] of languages [glossa].*
      - Remember the content of speaking in foreign languages by the Spirit (cf. Acts 2:11; 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:16-17).
- 3) Deliberate manifestations—12:11 <sup>11</sup> *But one and the same Spirit accomplishes [energeo] all these things, distributing (cf. 12:4) to each one individually as He determines.*
  - a) This is God's sovereign choice (cf. Hebrews 2:4).

**Defining a spiritual gift:** a supernatural, God-energized ability that was sovereignly given for ministry within the local congregation during the transition from the old covenant program to the new covenant program to accomplish His will for His glory.