

# **HOLY SPIRIT GIFTS**

**Grace Mercy Ministry**

## **Holy Spirit Gifts**

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# DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who gave His Church gifted men and spiritual gifts for all Christians to do the work of taking the Gospel to the world and making disciples in every nation (Matthew 28.19-20). It is secondly dedicated to all students of the Bible who sincerely want to know whether or not the “manifestation gifts” are for all Christians today.



# INVITATION

We invite all Christians to read this book so you can learn about a movement which has captured the hearts and minds of about half of all Protestants in the world.

If you are a member of a Pentecostal or Charismatic church we urge you to read this book from cover-to-cover. We are certain you will learn something about your movement's past you did not know about.

If you are not a member of a Pentecostal or Charismatic church please read this book to learn all about the Pentecostal and Charismatic movements for your own spiritual edification and so you can share what you learn with your brothers and sisters in the Lord.

Once you have read this book share what you have learned with others and pass it on to those you think would be interested in the truths in it.

**Please, read the Foreword, Preface and Introduction.**

Comments are welcomed. Email all comments (positive or negative) to – [gracemercy.ministry@yahoo.com](mailto:gracemercy.ministry@yahoo.com)

**Grace:** Something given which is NOT deserved.

**Mercy:** Something NOT given which is deserved.

**Grace:** Eternal Life is given which is NOT deserved.

**Mercy:** Eternal punishment is NOT given which is deserved.

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# FOREWORD

If you have any questions concerning the gifts of the Holy Spirit which are listed in 1 Corinthians 12.8-10, you should take the time to read this book from cover to cover. It gives you the facts that you need to determine if those gifts are for you.

The “manifestation gifts” of the Holy Spirit are:

1. word of wisdom
2. word of knowledge
3. faith
4. gifts of healings
5. workings of miracles
6. prophecy
7. discernings of spirits
8. speaking a known language which one does not know
9. interpreting a known language which one does not know.

If you have one or more of these gifts read this book to learn why you have them.

If you do not have any of these gifts read this book to learn why you do not have them.

Whether you have these gifts or not it is important to know why you have some or none, and this book will give you the answer.

As you read this book study the Bible and pray without ceasing. Ask God to give you full understanding concerning the “manifestation gifts” of the Holy Spirit.

## PREFACE

The gifts in 1 Corinthians 12.8-10 are called *pneumatikon charisma* (Spirit gifts). We use the term “manifestation gifts” because these gifts are manifestations of the Holy Spirit. The question of whether or not these gifts are for today is vigorously argued among many Christians. The Pentecostal and Charismatic denominations contend earnestly that these gifts are for all Christians today. Many members of other denominations argue that these gifts are not for Christians today because they have not been given since 100 AD. They contend that all experiences of those gifts are demonic or faked.

This book presents the facts, as given in the Bible, concerning these gifts and as experienced from the day of Pentecost until today. We are convinced that this fair and balanced presentation will enable everyone who reads it to come to a definite conclusion as to whether or not the “manifestation gifts” are for Christians today.

This book clears up the many misconceptions that are held by proponents and opponents of the “manifestation gifts.” It reveals the fact that the practice of speaking known languages one did not know did not begin on the day of Pentecost. The reader will also learn that many non-Christian religions have a practice that is identical to what the Pentecostals and Charismatics experience today of speaking in an ecstatic manner.

We urge readers to remember that the doctrines of the Christian faith are not based on experience or tradition. Instead, doctrine is based solely on Scripture and nothing else (*sola Scriptura*). If a doctrine cannot be fully supported with Scripture it must be rejected as a false doctrine or a non-biblical teaching.

# INTRODUCTION

Both sides of this controversial subject are presented using statements by the Pentecostals and Charismatics. We leave it to you, the reader, to decide if the “manifestation gifts” are for all believers today.

We ask you to keep in mind that the “manifestation gifts” had two purposes:

To prove that Jesus is the promised Messiah (Isaiah 28.11; Acts 2.11-12), and

To equip believers to do the work of service, preaching the Gospel and making disciples (Ephesians 4.11-12).

**If** the “manifestation gifts” are for believers today their main purpose is to help them mature in the Lord so they can share the Gospel in a clear and concise manner (1 Peter 3.15), and then disciple the people they lead to the Lord (Deuteronomy 4.9-10; 6.5-7; 32.46; Psalm 78.3-7; Matthew 28.19-20; 2 Timothy 2.2).

**If** the exercise of the “manifestation gifts” in a church is not assisting the members to grow spiritually then they are being used improperly. Every Pentecostal and Charismatic church in the world should have the most mature Christians to be found anywhere, who are daily sharing the Gospel, leading people to Christ and discipling them. Every member of every Pentecostal and Charismatic church in the world should be a super-believer who knows the Bible inside-and-out, who can quote hundreds of verses by memory, who can teach the Bible with no preparation, who can share the Gospel in a clear and precise manner, who boldly share the Gospel daily and who can disciple those they lead to the Lord.

Is this true of your church? Is this true of you? Do you spend more time in real prayer, Bible reading, Bible study, Bible memorization and meditation than you do in praying in “tongues,” singing and listening to preachers and gospel music?

As you study the Bible and this book keep in mind that “*man doth not live by bread alone but by everything that proceedeth out of the mouth of Jehovah doth man live*” (Deuteronomy 8.3; Matthew 4.4). The way a believer grows spiritually is by being in the Word daily – reading, studying, memorizing and meditating upon It – and by praying without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5.17). Spiritual growth

comes by being in the Word and by praying with your mind daily. It also comes by attending Bible studies, worship services, sharing the Gospel and discipling your children and those you lead to the Lord.

Christians who are not growing spiritually by having a daily discipline of praying, feeding on the Scriptures, attending regular Bible studies and worship services, sharing the Gospel and making disciples are spiritual babies. A believer can be saved for 50 or more years and be a spiritual baby. There are millions of elderly believers around the world who have not grown up spiritually. It is sad, but it is a fact of life. The average believer does not give this fact much thought because they do not understand how serious the problem is. Let us demonstrate the gravity of the illustration with an analogy that Chuck Smith uses:

**If** we were to see a baby of six months stand up in a crib and say “dadda” and “momma” we would think the child is making rapid growth. Yet if we came back 20 years later and we saw a fully grown man in the same crib stand up and say “dadda” and “momma” and that is all he could do we would be horrified.

Every believer should be just as horrified to see a brother or sister in a church who has been saved for 20 or more years and knows virtually nothing about the Bible, cannot share the Gospel, cannot quote more Scripture than John 3.16, does not read the Bible daily, rarely studies and meditates on the Bible, seldom prays, rarely attends Bible studies and only attends Sunday worship services regularly.

**If** you do not want to die as a spiritual baby in a crib study Appendix A carefully. Memorize the salvation verses and learn how to share the Gospel. Then set up a spiritual fitness program of daily Bible reading, study, memorization, meditation and prayer. Find a good Bible study to attend and find someone to disciple you.

We must also remember one last important truth: The use of “manifestation gifts” do not automatically produce sanctification (holy living) in those who have them. The believers in Corinth were not lacking in any gift (1 Corinthians 1.7), yet they were the most carnal church of the first century. It is the abundance of “manifestation gifts” that lead to carnality. This was true in Corinth and it is true in a great many churches that exercise the “manifestation gifts.” There is more carnality among those churches than the churches that do not have those gifts. It should also be noted that among the televangelists that exercise the “manifestation gifts” the level of carnality – divorce, adultery, greed, pride, deceit, love of worldly things – is extreme.

# PART ONE

## THE CASE FOR “MANIFESTATION GIFTS”

A persistent demonstration of supernatural power – signs and wonders including “holy laughter” and “slain in the Spirit” experiences – brought spiritual refreshing to thousands of Christians. In the process, a nondescript Toronto area church was transformed into a destination point for pilgrims from all over the world. (Christian Week, January 3, 1995)

How many have never been to a church like this in your whole life?

You’d think you had walked into a **mad house** or something.

Well, we have had one year to acclimatize. If we had started with this at this level we would not have had the faith to go on. I know as pastor **I would have shut it down.**<sup>1</sup> (John Arnott, pastor of the Toronto Airport Vineyard Church, emphasis added)

There’s **nothing in Scripture** that supports these kinds of phenomena that I can see, and I can’t think of anything throughout the church age that would. So **I feel no obligation to try to explain it.** It’s just phenomena. It’s just people responding to God.”

**There is no place in the Bible** where people were lined up and Jesus or Paul or anyone else went along and tapped them on the head and watched them go down, one after another, and somebody else ran along behind. Can you picture Peter and James – “Hold it, hold it, hold it!” – running along behind trying to catch them? And so the model that we’re seeing, either on stage or on television, is **totally different from anything that’s in Scripture.** (John Wimber, “Spiritual Phenomena: Slain In The Spirit – Part 1,”

Vineyard Christian Fellowship, Anaheim, CA, 1981, audiotape, emphasis added)

You have so much today that is pure flesh, yet people have labeled it as the Spirit. It's not the Spirit, because it's not centered on Christ. It's pure emotionalism. Some of what is happening today, some of these manifestations where people are barking, making sounds of animals – I can tell you, that is **not the Holy Spirit**. It is **purely demonic**. The **Holy Ghost does not bark**. Only a **devil barks**. If somebody barks in my meeting, I'll cast the devil out of that man.

You watching TBN here. If you're doing such nonsense, **get back to the Bible**. And **don't you dare experiment with what is not Scriptural**, checking out if God is in it. My brother, **if it's not in the Bible, He's not in it!! If it's not in the Word of God, He is not in it**. (Benny Hinn, "Praise The Lord" broadcast July 4, 1997, emphasis added)

One of the greatest **weaknesses** of the **charismatic movement** is its **lack of sound Bible teaching**. There seems to be an **undue preoccupation with experience**, which is **often placed above the Word**. As a consequence, **charismatics** have become a **fertile field** for strange and **unscriptural doctrines** proliferating through their ranks.

It is of utmost importance that we allow the **Bible to be the final authority for our faith and practice**. Any time we begin to allow experiences to become the criteria for doctrine or belief, we have lost Biblical authority, and the inevitable result is **confusion**. (Chuck Smith, *Charisma vs. Charismania*, p. 121, emphasis added)

Our findings that glossolalia can be easily learned through direct instruction, along with demonstrations that tongue speakers can initiate and terminate glossolalia upon request and can exhibit glossolalia in the absence of any indexes of trance[...] support the hypothesis that glossolalia utterances are **goal-directed actions rather than involuntary happenings**.<sup>16</sup> (Spanos, Nicholas P.; Cross, Wendy P.; Lepage, Mark; Coristine, Marjorie (February 1986). "Glossolalia as learned behavior: An experimental demonstration." *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, emphasis added)

# ONE

## BELIEFS OF PENTECOSTALS AND CHARISMATICS

### Speaking in “tongues”

Three different manifestations or forms of glossolalia can be identified in Charismatic/Pentecostal belief.

The “**sign of tongues**” refers to xenoglossia, in which one speaks a foreign language he has never learned. We see examples of this in the book of Acts (2.5-12; 10.44-46; 19.1-7).

The “**gift of tongues**” is also considered to be a glossolalic utterance by an individual that is addressed to a congregation of believers. This utterance is believed to be inspired directly by the Holy Spirit and requires a natural language interpretation, made by the speaker or another person. It usually is a prophetic message or a word of knowledge/wisdom.

There is also a gift of “tongues” that they use while praying. It is called “**praying in the spirit.**” When one prays in a mystery language only God can understand it (1 Corinthians 14.2, 14).

Historically, Pentecostals have viewed speaking in “tongues” as genuine languages. This was the view of the leaders of the Azusa Street revival. In 1 Corinthians 13:1, Paul writes, “*If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels....*” They believe that tongues can be a language of men or of angels. Some groups of Pentecostals and Charismatics are convinced that they speak the language of angels and consider most “tongues” to be languages that are incomprehensible to human beings.

There have been many **testimonies** and **anecdotal accounts** in Pentecostal and Charismatic churches of people hearing speaking in “tongues” and recognizing it as their own language. There have also been occasions where an onlooker would understand the language and identify the interpretation of the tongues to be accurate. In 1971, Paul Harris wrote a book entitled, *Spoken by the Spirit*, which contained 70 accounts of people speaking a language understood by the listeners.

## **Need for interpretation**

There is a variety of beliefs among Pentecostals and Charismatics regarding the need for interpretation of tongues. Some teach that if there is no interpreter, a speaker in “tongues” must be silent in church meetings in accordance with 1 Corinthians 14:27-28. Others practice speaking in “tongues” all at one time in the church meeting.

The gift of interpretation of tongues is widely exercised in some Pentecostal and Charismatic churches. After a message is spoken in tongues, someone interprets the tongue. In some cases, two people in the congregation receive the same interpretation, and one person speaks it out.

## **Singing in the Spirit**

On singing in the Spirit, Donald Hustad describes a pattern observed in Pentecostal and Charismatic churches in which, during worship, someone begins to utter musical sounds, which may or may not have recognizable words. Other members of the congregation join in and, although there is no particular effort to match the pitch or the words, the overall effect is harmonious. “It is as if the strings of a huge Aeolian harp have been set in motion by the wind of the Holy Spirit. The strangely-beautiful sound rises in volume, lasts for a longer or shorter period, and then gradually dies away.”<sup>1</sup>

## **Prophecy**

Most Pentecostals and Charismatics believe the gift of prophecy is still given to some believers today. They exercise it by itself or in conjunction with the gift of “tongues.” These prophetic utterances can range from a personal message for one person to a message for the entire world. Some of these messages are new revelation from God.

## **Healing and miracles**

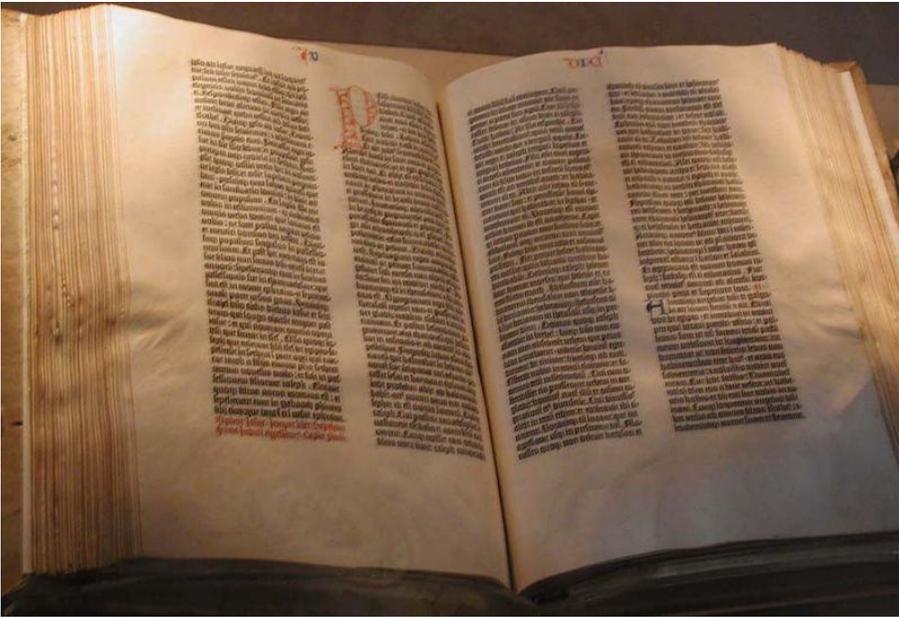
Only a miniscule fraction of all Pentecostals and Charismatic churches claim to have members who have the gifts of healing and or miracles. These gifts are extremely rare. Most of the men and women who claim to have them travel from church to church holding revival meetings where they heal the sick and perform miracles.

## Evidence of the indwelling

A portion of Pentecostals and Charismatics believe that the evidence of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is speaking “tongues.” They base it on two examples in the book of Acts. The family of Cornelius believed in Jesus Christ when Peter shared the Gospel with them. Before he baptized the Gentile believers the Holy Spirit fell on them and they began speaking known languages. They were then baptized (Acts 10.44-48). Paul found some disciples in Ephesus who had not received the Holy Spirit and had only been baptized by John. He baptized them and they began speaking in known languages (19.1-6).

### Notes

1. Hustad, Donald. “The Historical Roots of Music in the Pentecostal and Neo-Pentecostal Movements.” *The Hymn: A Journal Of Congregational Song* 38. January 1987. p. 7. Cited by Richard M. Riss in “Singing in the Spirit in the Holiness, Pentecostal, Latter Rain, and Charismatic Movements,” paper delivered at a conference sponsored by the North American Renewal Service Committee. Orlando, Florida. 7.28.1995.



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# TWO

## PENTECOSTALS AND CHARISMATICS SPEAK OUT

In this chapter you will read what the leading Pentecostals and Charismatics have said concerning the exercise of “manifestation gifts” in the modern era.

### John Arnott

John Arnott, pastor of the Toronto Airport Vineyard Church, had a few words to say about his church that are most informative:

How many have never been to a church like this in your whole life?

You’d think you had walked into a **mad house** or something.

Well, we have had one year to acclimatize. If we had started with this at this level we would not have had the faith to go on. I know as pastor **I would have shut it down.**<sup>1</sup> (emphasis added)

When he was asked by a reporter concerning the congregation at his first revival meeting he said they were “laughing, rolling, and carrying on.”<sup>2</sup>

### Guy Chevreau

Guy Chevreau attended the services at the Toronto Airport Vineyard Church soon after the “Toronto Blessing” began. The second night that he and his wife Janis attended she was allegedly overcome by the Holy Spirit and broke out in uncontrollable holy laughter. He said, “I would have attended only a couple meetings, having pompously dismissed what I was witnessing as Vineyard nonsense” (*Pray with Fire*, p. 3). Yet he could not ignore what happened because Janis “has never demonstrated any significant emotional instability: she is not in desperate need of attention; she is not easily persuaded, nor is she subject to either premillennial angst or hysteria” (Ibid., 3).

Even though the behavior of his wife and others at the meetings were extremely unusual, Chevreau accepted the phenomenon as being a work of the Holy Spirit:

Though Janis's behaviour was outside our experiential and expectation set, I reluctantly concluded that, given the context, it seemed as if God was doing some unusual, but truly wonderful things in and through my wife, as well as those around us. (Ibid., p. 4)

Janis did not break out into "holy laughter" just once but routinely. "In the early months, my wife frequently fell about in hysterics. While this now only occurs on occasion, the laughter was received as a precious gift – as never before, she discovered that the 'joy of the Lord is her strength'" (Ibid., p. 11).

A friend of Chevreau had numerous bouts of shaking so severely that he broke several folding chairs. He even had some women who broke out roaring like a lion and crowing like a rooster in the middle of prayer (Ibid.).

Another incident that persuaded Chevreau was the bizarre behavior of a regional overseer of the Vineyard churches. Ron Allen was about to speak to the congregation "and with a dumb-drunk look on his face, Ron slowly panned the congregation. His mouth dropped open – and for perhaps a minute, he made several attempts to speak. Then, without warning, he fell over sideways" (Ibid.).

Chevreau confessed that his first thought was, "God doesn't do that to people" (Ibid.). Yet he searched the Bible and found where Jehovah told Ezekiel that He would make his tongue cleave to the roof of his mouth and then give him back his power of speech (Ezekiel 3.26-27). He also found a similar incident concerning Welsh revivalist Richard Owen (Evans, Eifon, *The Welsh Revival of 1904*, p. 17, Worcester, Evangelical Press of Wales, 1989). He concluded that "some of the weirdness witnessed at the Airport meetings has historic precedent" (Ibid., p. 6).

## **Christian Week**

The bi-weekly Christian newspaper "Christian Week" described the unusual events at the Toronto Airport Vineyard Church:

A persistent demonstration of supernatural power – signs and wonders including “holy laughter” and “slain in the Spirit” experiences – brought spiritual refreshing to thousands of Christians. In the process, a nondescript Toronto area church was transformed into a destination point for pilgrims from all over the world. (January 3, 1995)

## John Wimber

John Wimber started a home church and moved it to Calvary Chapel in Costa Mesa. He parted company with Chuck Smith over the use of the “manifestation gifts” and eschatology. (He believed in Kingdom Theology while Smith is a Pre-Millennial/Pre-Tribulationist.) He went on to work with Kenn Gulliksen founder of Vineyard Christian Fellowships. This is what he had to say about being slain in the Spirit:

There’s **nothing in Scripture** that supports these kinds of phenomena that I can see, and I can’t think of anything throughout the church age that would. So **I feel no obligation to try to explain it**. It’s just phenomena. It’s just people responding to God.”

**There is no place in the Bible** where people were lined up and Jesus or Paul or anyone else went along and tapped them on the head and watched them go down, one after another, and somebody else ran along behind. Can you picture Peter and James – “Hold it, hold it, hold it!” – running along behind trying to catch them? And so the model that we’re seeing, either on stage or on television, is **totally different from anything that’s in Scripture**. (John Wimber, “Spiritual Phenomena: Slain In The Spirit – Part 1,” Vineyard Christian Fellowship, Anaheim, CA, 1981, audiotape, emphasis added)

This is what he had to say about the Toronto Blessing phenomenon:

Nearly everything we’ve seen – falling, weeping, laughing, shaking – has been seen before, not only in our own memory, but in revivals all over the world.<sup>3</sup>

## Benny Hinn

Benny Hinn is one of the most influential Pentecostal leaders of our time. He routinely slays people in the Spirit by waving his coat at them, blowing on them or tapping them on the forehead. He had this to say concerning the Toronto Blessing and Pensacola Phenomenon:

You have so much today that is pure flesh, yet people have labeled it as the Spirit. It's not the Spirit, because it's not centered on Christ. It's pure emotionalism. Some of what is happening today, some of these manifestations where people are barking, making sounds of animals – I can tell you, that is **not the Holy Spirit**. It is **purely demonic**. The **Holy Ghost does not bark**. Only a **devil barks**. If somebody barks in my meeting, I'll cast the devil out of that man.

You watching TBN here. If you're doing such nonsense, **get back to the Bible**. And **don't you dare experiment with what is not Scriptural**, checking out if God is in it. My brother, **if it's not in the Bible, He's not in it!! If it's not in the Word of God, He is not in it**. (“Praise The Lord” broadcast July 4, 1997, emphasis added)

What he said is true, but this applies to him and his activities at revival meetings where he allegedly heals people. Many people think what he does is just as bad as what John and Carol Arnott did at the Toronto Airport Vineyard Church (now called the Toronto Airport Christian Fellowship) and John Kilpatrick and Steve Hill at the Brownsville Revival (Pensacola Phenomenon). Randy Clark, the evangelist that sparked the Toronto Blessing, had been influenced by the ministry of Rodney Howard-Browne who started the holy laughter movement.

Many Charismatic pastors considered the activities that went on at the Toronto Blessing were not Scriptural. Most independent observers of the Brownsville Revival considered the stories of healings and miracles to be public relations hype to draw people in.

## Jesse Duplantis

Jesse Duplantis, pastor of Covenant Church and co-founder of Jesse Duplantis Ministries and co-founder of Covenant Compassion Center, began his religious career in 1976 teaching the Positive Confession, Word of Faith, Health and Wealth Gospel. He preaches as if he is a comedian and claims God told him, “Jesse, make Me laugh.”

Many of us think miracles get everybody to come to church. But miracles actually create doubt. (*Heaven, Close Encounters of the God Kind*, p. 129)

## Chuck Smith

Chuck Smith, founder of the Calvary Chapel Movement and one of the leading Charismatic pastors in the world, became disappointed in the direction that many Pentecostal and Charismatic churches were headed and wrote a book about it. He called the abuses of the “manifestation gifts” and the myriad false teachings “Charismania.” Thus, the title of his book, *Charisma vs. Charismania*. He made several comments in that book which are quite intuitive:

One of the greatest **weaknesses** of the **charismatic movement** is its **lack of sound Bible teaching**. There seems to be an **undue preoccupation with experience**, which is **often placed above the Word**. As a consequence, **charismatics** have become a **fertile field for strange and unscriptural doctrines** proliferating through their ranks.

It is of utmost importance that we allow the **Bible to be the final authority for our faith and practice**. Any time we begin to allow experiences to become the criteria for doctrine or belief, we have lost Biblical authority, and the inevitable result is **confusion**. (*Charisma vs. Charismania*, p. 121, emphasis added)

One of the experiences that is quite common among charismatics is the practice of being “slain in the Spirit.” **I have never discovered the supposed value of this experience**. (Ibid., p. 122, emphasis added)

He explained that some evangelists knock people down in the flesh:

When I was young I attended many services where people were supposedly being slain in the Spirit. I often had hands laid on me; quite often there was a gentle pressure exerted on the forehead, **pushing me backward**. With some of the evangelists, it was not quite so gentle. If you stand with your eyes closed, hands lifted, and your head tilted back, it does not take much pressure for you to go over backward, especially if you know that someone is standing behind you to catch you! (Ibid., pp. 122-123, emphasis added)

Concerning the practice of casting out demons from believers he said:

Paul warned against doctrines of demons in the last days. This whole doctrine and practice was **developed entirely upon experiences**, with no solid scriptural foundation. (Ibid., p. 124, emphasis added)

Smith argued in his book that true believers cannot be demon possessed and therefore cannot have demons cast out of them:

There is no account in the Scriptures of a born-again believer in Jesus Christ being exorcised of a demon.

That demons can and do possess the bodies of *unbelievers* is an accepted fact of Scripture, and that they can be exorcised through the authority of the name of Jesus is also evident. But to believe that a child of God can be freed from the problems of flesh (such as lust, anger, and envy) by exorcism is charismania. (Ibid., p. 121)

Another problem that Smith sees with a large number of the Pentecostal and Charismatic churches is the “power of rhema over the logos.” In too many churches the “ministry of the prophet or exhorter is preferred above that of the teacher” and the “anointing of the Spirit is preferred above that of the teacher.” In these churches the anointing of the Spirit is recognized “not so much by the truth that is unfolded,” but by the “fervency and excitement displayed by the speaker” (Ibid., p. 125).

Smith described the gimmick that virtually all televangelists use to make people think they are anointed:

If the voice is loud and pitched high, and the speech very forceful and rapid, this is the sign of true anointing, especially if he sucks a lot of air between phrases and throws in amens and hallelujahs between thoughts! Some of the more adept evangelists have

developed great skills in **whipping the people into a high state of excitement bordering on hysteria** by just repeating a single phrase, such as “Praise the Lord,” using different voice intonations. (Ibid., emphasis added)

He goes on and hits hard at the use of speaking in “tongues” that is prevalent in the Pentecostal and Charismatic churches:

Because of the preference for the spoken word, **tongues** with interpretation or a prophetic utterance **is desired above the preaching or teaching of the scriptures**. In many charismatic fellowships, if there have not been manifestations of these vocal gifts, the people do not recognize or acknowledge the moving of the Spirit in that service. I have often heard people say that the Spirit moved in such a powerful way in the service that the **preacher did not even have an opportunity to speak**. This idea is used to express the “ultimate” in the moving of God’s Spirit. (Ibid., emphasis added)

Smith refuted this concept that the moving of the Spirit is seen by numerous people speaking in “tongues” and making prophetic utterances:

It is God’s Word that ministers to the spirit of man and feeds the spirit. So if the minister is not given the opportunity to share God’s Word, we must legitimately question if the soul of man or the Spirit of God was moving in the service. It is sad that the unscriptural excesses are so freely tolerated among charismatics. Often, hungry and sincere believers who sense a lack of power in their lives will go to services with an open, hungry heart seeking God’s power, but when they observe the absence of solid Scriptural content and the presence of distasteful fleshly manifestations, they turn their backs on the whole valid and beautiful work of God’s Spirit that a person can experience in this life. (Ibid., p. 126)

We must remember that Smith was reared in a Foursquare Gospel church and saw a lot of abuses of the “manifestation gifts” of the Holy Spirit. He also came to realize that many Pentecostals do things to draw attention to themselves instead of to the Lord:

Many of the things done in charismatic services are done to draw attention to the individual. The person who shouts “Hallelujah!” and

thrusts his hand upward is drawing attention to himself, and many times distracts those who are truly worshipping God. (Ibid., p. 127)

He also criticized how some evangelists motivate people to give:

I have heard evangelists say that God told them that ten people were going to give a thousand dollars that night, then would rant and rave and threaten the people until the ten were standing to their feet. As each would stand, attention would be given to him or her, and applause would be encouraged. As the crowd applauded I felt sick in my heart, and I thought, “Enjoy it and take it in, poor soul, for this will be the only reward you will receive for that gift.” As Jesus said, “You have your reward.” I also felt anger toward the pastor or evangelist who would encourage people to give in such a way as to receive no reward from God. I also felt that **he lied** when he declared that God had told him how many people were going to give a thousand dollars. This is nothing more than a **psychological ploy**. (Ibid., pp. 127-128)

Another trick that many evangelists and pastors use to raise money is sending out letters requesting donations for some special emergency or endeavor. These mass mailings make some donors believe the pastor is making a special request just to them. As Smith notes in his book the donor’s name is inserted into the text of the letter several times and there are numerous lies made by the pastors who often say, “The Lord laid you on my heart this morning to pray especially for you. Is something wrong? Please write me and tell me your need so I can help you” (Ibid. p. 128).

Smith saw through the lies and correctly analyzed the problem:

It has always puzzled me how these men who have learned all the secrets of faith and have such great power with God **never seem to have enough faith to trust God to take care of their own needs**, but warn that **God’s work is going to fail** unless the people come to His aid immediately and save him from bankruptcy. (Ibid., pp. 128-129)

A false doctrine that has misled many is the prosperity doctrine. This doctrine teaches that God never wants His children to be sick and if a Christian gets sick it is because of sin or a lack of faith. Smith noted that such teachings “sound more like Mary Baker Eddy than the Apostle

Paul!” (Ibid., p. 129). These prosperity preachers teach that a person’s words become a force for good or evil. Smith believes that as a person hears this teaching he would “swear that the sermons came from *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* rather than the Bible” (Ibid.).

Here is a shocking confession a Charismatic leader made to Smith:

One of these charismatic leaders said to me, “Inasmuch as this was given to Paul lest he be exalted above measure, don’t you think that if Paul could have just conquered his flesh, the thorn would not have been necessary?” I cannot imagine the **spiritual pride insinuated by such a remark**. In essence, he was declaring that he had conquered over his flesh more thoroughly than Paul. This surely was not apparent by the flashy clothes, car, and home that he possessed. Yet he said that **all of this lavish living was just a sign of his faith**, for if God could trust us with money, **He wanted us to prosper**, and anyone with enough faith could **live like the King’s kid**. (Ibid., p. 130)

Smith refuted this idea saying Jesus had no place to lay His head and He sent Peter to fetch a coin out of the mouth of a fish to pay a tax. We can add to this what James said, “*But let the brother of low degree glory in his high estate: and the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away*” (James 1.9-10).

Smith is irked by the refusal of medical treatment. “In other cases I know of people who followed the lies of the positive-confession evangelists, and when their confession failed to materialize, they turned their backs on God completely,” he explained (Ibid., p. 130).

Besides people losing their faith due to this heretical doctrine, Smith noted that some of these prosperity evangelists are hypocrites:

I also know that some of the **evangelists** who are the chief exponents of this positive confession as the way to constant health and continuous prosperity have **spent time in the hospital for nervous exhaustion** (Ibid., emphasis mine).

Smith concluded his expose of the hypocrites with powerful rebukes:

The people who seem to **prosper the most** from these teachings are the **evangelists themselves**. How will they answer to God for **conning the poor little widow out of half of her Social Security check**, causing her to miss several meals for lack of funds so they

can fly their **private jets to their luxury condominiums in Palm Springs and dine in the plushiest restaurants?**

Paul writes to Timothy about the perverse teachings of men of corrupt minds who are destitute of the truth, for they suppose that godliness is a way to prosperity. Paul warned Timothy to stay away from them. This is a free but accurate translation of the Greek text in 1 Timothy 6:5. Paul then told Timothy that godliness with contentment was great riches. (Ibid., p. 131, emphasis added)

Smith is convinced that charismania is a “repelling influence on so many hungry, earnest saints of God who are needing and searching for a deeper experience of God’s power in their lives” (Ibid., p. 145).

## Conclusion

Jonathan Edwards wrote a treatise in 1741 called “The Distinguishing Marks of the Spirit of God.” He stated that we could recognize God’s hand by five sure distinguishing, Scripture evidences:

1. It raises the esteem of Jesus in the community.
2. It works against the Kingdom of Satan.
3. It stimulates a greater regard for the Holy Scriptures.
4. It is marked by a Spirit of Truth.
5. It manifests a renewed love of God and of man.

Pentecostals and Charismatics believe the “manifestation gifts” are for all believers today. As Smith says in his book, Christians “need to always remain open to God for whatever He may desire to bestow upon us” (*Charisma vs. Charismania*, p. 146). His prayer is that all Christians “may experience all of the fullness of the Holy Spirit and the gifts that He desires to bestow upon us as we wait for our Lord’s return” (Ibid.).

Cessationists have received all of the gifts that the Holy Spirit desires to give them and the “manifestation gifts” are not among them. They also cite Scripture which says that every believer has been given “*every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ*” (Ephesians 1.3) and in Jesus Christ “*dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily, and in Him ye are made full*” (Colossians 2.9-10a). They have also served God faithfully for over 1900 years without the

“manifestation gifts.” Some of these men, considered to be the greatest Christians of the Church Age by Pentecostals and Charismatics, are:

Clement of Rome, Ignatius, Polycarp, Papias, Justin Martyr, Irenaeus, Clement of Alexandria, Anathasius, Eusebius, Cyril, Chrysostom, Maximus, Tertullian, Cyprian, Ambrose, Jerome, Augustine, Thomas Becket, John Hus, Jerome of Prague, Savonarola, Peter Waldo, John Wycliffe, Martin Luther, John Calvin, Thomas Cranmer, John Knox, William Tyndale, Huldrych Zwingli, Hugh Latimer, Nicholas Ridley, William Gurnall, John Newton, David Brainerd, Jonathan Edwards, George Whitefield, William Carey, David Livingston, Adoniram Judson, John Gill, George Muller, James Hudson Taylor, Robert Moffat, Dwight L. Moody, Charles Spurgeon and Charles Thomas Studd.

Should the Holy Spirit have given the “manifestation gifts” to these men? Are those gifts just for the first century Christians and those living in the last days? Does a Christian need those gifts to bring glory to God? Do you believe any Pentecostal/Charismatic evangelist or preacher has made as great an impact on the world as the men noted above?

## Notes

1. [www.bible.ca/tongues-website-video-laughter-madhouse.ram](http://www.bible.ca/tongues-website-video-laughter-madhouse.ram).
2. [www.christianitytoday.com/ct/1994/october24/4tc078.html](http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/1994/october24/4tc078.html).
3. [www.christianitytoday.com/ct/1994/october24/4tc078.html](http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/1994/october24/4tc078.html).



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## PART TWO

### HISTORY OF PENTECOSTALISM

In like manner we do also hear many brethren in the Church, who possess prophetic gifts, and who through the Spirit speak all kinds of languages, and bring to light for the general benefit the hidden things of men, and declare the mysteries of God. (Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, Book V, Chapter VI)

This whole phenomenon [of speaking in tongues] is very obscure, but the obscurity is produced by our ignorance of the facts referred to and by their **cessation**, being such then as used to occur but now no longer take place. (Chrystom, *Homilies on First Corinthians*, xxix, 1, emphasis added)

In the earliest times, “the Holy Ghost fell upon them that believed: and they spake with tongues,” which they had not learned, “as the Spirit gave them utterance.” These were signs adapted to the time. For there behooved to be that betokening of the Holy Spirit in all tongues, to shew that the Gospel of God was to run through all tongues over the whole earth. That thing was done for a betokening, and it passed away. (Augustine, *Homilies on the Gospel of John 6:10*, in *The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers*, 7:497-98)

Since the canon of the Scripture has been completed, and the Christian Church fully founded and established, these extraordinary gifts have ceased. (Jonathan Edwards, *Charity & Its Fruits*, 29)

And again, I exhort you, my brethren, that ye deny not the gifts of God, for they are many; and they come from the same God. And there are different ways that these gifts are administered; but it is the same God who worketh all in all; and they are given by the manifestations of the Spirit of God unto men, to profit them.

And again, to another, all kinds of tongues; And again, to another, the interpretation of languages and of divers kinds of tongues.

And all these gifts come by the Spirit of Christ; and they come unto every man severally, according as he will.

And I would exhort you, my beloved brethren, that ye remember that every good gift cometh of Christ (Moroni 10:8, 15-18).

# **THREE**

## **HISTORY OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES**

The late 19th century and the early 20th century practice of speaking in “tongues” is not the first in church history. There are earlier examples in church history and writings after the New Testament, but it had never been regarded as orthodox until the rise of Pentecostalism.

### **100 to 400**

References to speaking in tongues by the Church fathers are rare. There were a handful of first-hand accounts of pastors in the early Church who saw the use of “manifestation gifts” and very few second-hand accounts among their writings.

#### **Justin Martyr (100-165)**

Justin Martyr said around 150 AD that the prophetic gifts remain with us, even to this present time and “Now, it is possible to see amongst us women and men who possess gifts of the Spirit of God” (*Dialogue with Trypho*, Chapter 82).

#### **Irenaeus (140-202)**

Irenaeus recorded that he had heard some in the church speaking all kinds of languages through the Spirit:

In like manner we do also hear many brethren in the Church, who possess prophetic gifts, and who through the Spirit speak all kinds of languages, and bring to light for the general benefit the hidden things of men, and declare the mysteries of God. (*Against Heresies*, Book V, Chapter VI)

## Montanus (2nd century)

Little is known about Montanus. Before his alleged conversion to Christianity, he was a priest of the Oriental **ecstatic cult** of Cybele, the mother goddess of fertility. According to Eusebius, the 4th-century church historian, Montanus prophesied from an ecstatic state in the region of Phrygia (central Turkey):

7. “There is said to be a certain village called Ardabau in that part of Mysia, which borders upon Phrygia. There first, they say, when Gratus was proconsul of Asia, a recent convert, Montanus by name, through his **unquenchable desire for leadership** gave the adversary opportunity against him. And he became beside himself, and being suddenly in a **sort of frenzy** and ecstasy, **he raved**, and began to **babble** and **utter strange things**, prophesying in a manner contrary to the constant custom of the Church handed down by tradition from the beginning.

8. Some of those who heard his **spurious utterances** at that time were indignant, and they **rebuked him** as one that was possessed, and that was under the control of a demon, and was led by a deceitful spirit, and was distracting the multitude; and they **forbade him to talk**, remembering the distinction drawn by the Lord and his warning to guard watchfully against the coming of **false prophets**. But others imagining themselves possessed of the Holy Spirit and of a prophetic gift, were elated and not a little puffed up; and forgetting the distinction of the Lord, they challenged the mad and insidious and **seducing spirit**, and were cheated and deceived by him. In consequence of this, he could no longer be held in check, so as to keep silence.

9. Thus by artifice, or rather by such a system of **wicked craft**, the **devil**, devising destruction for the **disobedient**, and being unworthily honored by them, secretly excited and inflamed their understandings which had already become **estranged from the true faith**. And he stirred up besides two women, and filled them with the **false spirit**, so that they talked wildly and unreasonably and strangely, like the person already mentioned. And the spirit pronounced them blessed as they rejoiced and gloried in him, and puffed them up by the magnitude of his promises. But sometimes he rebuked them openly in a wise and faithful manner, that he

might seem to be a reprover. But those of the Phrygians that were deceived were few in number. And the arrogant spirit taught them to revile the entire universal Church under heaven, because the **spirit of false prophecy** received neither honor from it nor entrance into it.

10. For the **faithful** in Asia met often in many places throughout Asia to consider this matter, and examined the novel utterances and **pronounced them profane**, and **rejected the heresy**, and thus these persons were **expelled from the Church** and debarred from communion.”

11. Having related these things at the outset, and continued the refutation of their delusion through his entire work, in the second book he speaks as follows of their end:

12. “Since, therefore, they called us slayers of the prophets because we did not receive their loquacious prophets, who, they say, are those that the Lord promised to send to the people, let them answer as in God’s presence: Who is there, O friends, of these who began to talk, from Montanus and the women down, that was persecuted by the Jews, or slain by lawless men? None. Or has any of them been seized and crucified for the Name? Truly not. Or has one of these women ever been scourged in the synagogues of the Jews, or stoned? No; never anywhere.”

13. But by another kind of death Montanus and Maximilla are said to have died. For the report is that, incited by the spirit of frenzy, they both **hung themselves**; not at the same time, but at the time which common report gives for the death of each. And thus they died, and ended their lives like the traitor Judas. (*Ecclesiastical History*, v. 16, emphasis added)<sup>1</sup>

## **Tertullian (160-220)**

Tertullian in an anti-heretical apologetic (written about 207) alludes to instances of the “interpretation of tongues” as one among several examples of “spiritual gifts” common enough in his day to be easily encountered and provide evidence that God was at work in the church:

Let Marcion then exhibit, as gifts of **his god**, some prophets, such as have not spoken by human sense, but with the Spirit of God, such as have both predicted things to come, and have made manifest the secrets of the heart; let him produce a psalm, a vision, a prayer – only let it be by the Spirit, in an ecstasy, that is, in a rapture, whenever an interpretation of tongues has occurred to him; let him show to me also, that any woman of boastful tongue in his community has ever prophesied from amongst those specially holy sisters of his. Now all these signs (of spiritual gifts) are forthcoming from my side without any difficulty, and they agree, too, with the rules, and the dispensations, and the instructions of the Creator; therefore without doubt the Christ, and the Spirit, and the apostle, belong severally to my God. Here, then, is my frank avowal for any one who cares to require it. (*Against Marcion*, Book V, Chapter VIII, c. 207, emphasis added)

### **Novatian (200-258)**

Novatian, a pre-Catholic Church scholar, priest, theologian and antipope who held the title between 251 and 258, was excommunicated by the followers of Pope Cornelius. He caused a schism in the church which lasted for several centuries. He fled during a period of persecutions, and may have been martyred. He wrote that the “manifestation gifts” were in use in his day:

The Fathers also recount the lists of gifts of the Spirit recorded in the New Testament. This is He who places prophets in the Church, instructs teachers, directs tongues, gives powers and healings, does wonderful works, often discrimination of spirits, affords powers of government, suggests counsels, and orders and arranges whatever other gifts there are of charismata; and thus make the Lord’s Church everywhere, and in all, perfected and completed. (*Treatise Concerning the Trinity*, Chapter 29.)

Novatian was the last Church father who claimed that the “manifestation gifts” were still in use. There is no later record of them being used. The question we must consider is why did they disappear for about 1,600 years.

## **Hilary of Poitiers** **(300-368)**

Hilary of Poitiers was elected bishop of Poitiers in 353 because he was so well liked by the people. He wrote against the Arian heresy that was sweeping through Western Europe. He wrote that the “manifestation gifts” were given to the Church, not that they were still in use in his time:

For God hath set some in the Church, first apostles...secondly prophets...thirdly teachers...next mighty works, among which are the healing of diseases... and gifts of either speaking or interpreting divers kinds of tongues. Clearly these are the Church’s agents of ministry and work of whom the body of Christ consists; and God has ordained them.” (*On the Trinity*, Vol. 8, Chapter 33)

## **Chrysostom** **(349-407)**

Chrysostom regarded “speaking in tongues” as not only something that was not practiced in his own day, but was obscure:

This whole phenomenon [of speaking in tongues] is very obscure, but the obscurity is produced by our ignorance of the facts referred to and by their **cessation**, being such then as used to occur but now no longer take place. And why do they not happen now? Why look now, the cause too of the obscurity hath produced us again another question: namely, why did they then happen, and now do so no more? (*Homilies on First Corinthians*, xxix, 1, emphasis added)

## **Augustine** **(354-430)**

Augustine of Hippo regarded speaking in “tongues” as a gift for the apostolic church alone, and argued that this was evident from the fact that his contemporaries did not see people receiving that gift in their own day:

In the earliest times, “the Holy Ghost fell upon them that believed: and they spake with tongues,” which they had not learned, “as the Spirit gave them utterance.” These were signs adapted to the time.

For there behooved to be that betokening of the Holy Spirit in all tongues, to shew that the Gospel of God was to run through all tongues over the whole earth. That thing was done for a betokening, and it **passed away**. In the laying on of hands now, that persons may receive the Holy Ghost, do we look that they should speak with tongues? Or when he laid the hand on infants, did each one of you look to see whether they would speak with tongues, and, when he saw that they did not speak with tongues, was any of you so strong-minded as to say, These have not received the Holy Ghost; for, had they received, they would speak with tongues as was the case in those times? If then the witness of the presence of the Holy Ghost be not given through these miracles, by what is it given, by what does one get to know that he has received the Holy Ghost? Let him question his own heart. If he love his brother, the Spirit of God dwelleth in him. (*Homilies on the Gospel of John 6:10*, in *The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers*, 7:497-98)

Augustine clearly stated that the evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit was not “speaking in tongues.” The proof is not an experience, but a lifestyle of loving the brethren and the unsaved.

## **400 to 1886**

### **St. Patrick (???-493)**

St. Patrick of Ireland in his “Confessio” called “The Confession of St. Patrick,” records hearing a strange language being prayed by the Holy Spirit in a dream:

And another night – God knows, I do not, whether within me or beside me – most words which I heard and could not understand, except at the end of the speech it was represented thus: “He who gave his life for you, he it is who speaks within you.” And thus I awoke, joyful.

And on a second occasion I saw Him praying within me, and I was as it were, inside my own body, and I heard Him above me – that is, above my inner self. He was praying powerfully with sighs. And in the course of this I was astonished and wondering, and I pondered who it could be who was praying within me. But at the

end of the prayer it was revealed to me that it was the Spirit. And so I awoke and remembered the Apostle's words: "Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we know not how to pray as we ought. But the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with sighs too deep for utterance [Romans 8:26]." And again: "The Lord our advocate intercedes for us [Romans 8:27]." (*Confessio*, sections 24 and 25)

### **Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153)**

Bernard of Clairvaux, commenting on Mark 16:17 ("they will speak in new tongues"), asked: "For who is there that seems to have these signs of the faith, without which no one, according to this Scripture, shall be saved?"<sup>1</sup> He explained the signs were not present because there were greater miracles – the transformed lives of believers.

### **Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)**

Hildegard of Bingen is reputed to have spoken and sung in tongues. Her spiritual songs were referred to by contemporaries as "concerts in the Spirit."

### **Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)**

Thomas Aquinas wrote about the gift of tongues in the New Testament, which he understood to be an ability to speak every language, given for the purposes of missionary work. He explained that Christ did not have this gift because his mission was to the Jews, "nor does each one of the faithful now speak save in one tongue" for "no one speaks in the tongues of all nations, because the Church herself already speaks the languages of all nations." (*Summa Theologica*, Question 176.)

## **Moravians (1410)**

The Moravians were a group of Roman Catholics led by Jan Hus (John Huss) who wanted to reform the church. They are referred to by detractors as having spoken in “tongues.” John Roche, a contemporary critic, claimed that the Moravians “commonly broke into some disconnected Jargon, which they often passed upon the vulgar, ‘as the exuberant and resistless Evacuations of the Spirit.’”<sup>2</sup>

It should be noted that Jan Hus was burned at the stake in 1415 shortly after breaking with the Catholic Church in 1410. It is to be understood that the Catholic Church would have nothing good to say about them. We do not know what they were doing because there is no record of it.

## **Anabaptists (1520)**

The Anabaptist sect sprang up soon after Martin Luther broke with the Roman Catholic Corporation on October 31, 1517. They were led by the Zwickau Prophets, Jan Matthys, John of Leiden (Jan Bockelson van Leiden), Thomas Müntzer and Menno Simons. They taught that a male believer was sovereign and should submit passively to secular government. They taught total separation of Church and state. They also believed a Christian should never take up arms for the government or even defend oneself. Yet the Munster Anabaptists believed in punishing “apostate” believers with death and forcing their wives into sexual slavery with the leaders. The modern descendants of the Anabaptists are the Amish, Brethren, Hutterites, and Mennonites.

They exercised many of the “manifestation gifts” and would dance about when falling under the power of the Holy Spirit, make prophetic utterances<sup>3</sup> and speak in tongues.<sup>4</sup> In Germany some Anabaptists, “excited by mass hysteria, experienced healings, glossolalia, contortions and other manifestations of a camp-meeting revival.”<sup>5</sup> The Anabaptist congregations that later developed into the Mennonite and Hutterite churches tended not to promote these manifestations, but did not reject them.

There is no specific account of an Anabaptist exercising the “manifestation gifts” only claims that they did. Did they use the gifts

or were they counterfeit manifestations? We cannot be certain because there are no first-hand accounts, but we know that none of the Reformers exercised the “manifestation gifts” or recorded that they saw them used.

## **Quakers (1640)**

The early Quakers, such as Edward Burrough, make mention of tongues speaking in their meetings: “We spoke with new tongues, as the Lord gave us utterance, and His Spirit led us.”<sup>6</sup>

## **Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679)**

Thomas Hobbes, a leading philosopher of the 17th century, wrote mainly about politics and occasionally about religion:

Seeing therefore miracles now cease, we have no sign left whereby to acknowledge the pretended revelations or inspirations of any private man; nor obligation to give ear to any doctrine, farther than it is conformable to the Holy Scriptures, which since the time of our Saviour supply the place and sufficiently recompense the want of all other prophecy; and from which, by wise and learned interpretation, and careful ratiocination, all rules and precepts necessary to the knowledge of our duty both to God and man, without enthusiasm, or supernatural inspiration, may easily be deduced. And this Scripture is it out of which I am to take the principles of my discourse concerning the rights of those that are the supreme governors on earth of Christian Commonwealths, and of the duty of Christian subjects towards their sovereigns. (*Leviathan*, III, xxxii)

## **Camisards (1700)**

The Camisards (French Prophets) also spoke sometimes in languages that were unknown:

“Several persons of both Sexes,” James Du Bois of Montpellier recalled, “I have heard in their Extasies pronounce certain words, which seem’d to the Standers-by, to be some Foreign Language.” These utterances were sometimes accompanied by the gift of interpretation exercised, in Du Bois’ experience, by the same person who had spoken in tongues.<sup>7</sup>

## **Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758)**

Jonathan Edwards is considered the greatest evangelist of the First Great Awakening (1730-1740s) and America’s greatest theologian. He is also known for his sermon on Hell. He did not believe the “manifestation gifts” were for Christians after the Bible was completed:

Since the canon of the Scripture has been completed, and the Christian Church fully founded and established, these extraordinary gifts have ceased. (*Charity & Its Fruits*, 29)

## **First Great Awakening (1720)**

During the First Great Awakening, which was led by Jonathan Edwards and George Whitefield, “it was not unusual to have a large proportion of the congregation prostrated, some motionless, others convulsively screaming, shouting, and bounding about on the floor. A Baptist preacher who traveled over the Blue Ridge about that time, in a region under revival, relates that it was not uncommon to hear the people, when religiously exercised, bark like dogs.”<sup>8</sup>

“Closely connected with the jerks was an exercise called barking. Short guttural sounds similar to the barking of a dog often proceeded from those afflicted with jerking. A minister in lower Kentucky stated that ‘it was common to hear people barking like a flock of spaniels on their way to meeting... There they would start up suddenly in a fit of barking, rush out, roam around, and in a short time come barking and foaming back. Down on all fours they sometime went, growling, snapping their teeth, and barking just like dogs. Voluntary dancing, another form of exercise, was encouraged as a means of warding off other disagreeable exercises. It appeared some years after the revival

began among certain Presbyterians in Kentucky and Ohio who were called New Lights because they ‘taught that the will of God was made manifest to each individual who honestly sought after it by an inward light, which shone in the heart.’”<sup>9</sup>

Some may see this as the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, but it was not. Some were convicted of their sins and behaved in an unusual manner. Others may have been possessed by demons to act in a chaotic way to disrupt the revival. Satan does not sit back and do nothing when men of God preach the Gospel hard and heavy. He does whatever he can to disrupt it or stop it.

If you believe this behavior was produced by the Holy Spirit you must explain why the Apostles did not behave in this manner on the day of Pentecost. Also consider the possibility that the bizarre behavior by these people and that of those who were part of the Azusa Street Revival might have been caused by demonic activity.

### **Emanuel Swedenborg (1688-1772)**

Emanuel Swedenborg, a Swedish scientist, philosopher, and theologian, was considered to be a Christian mystic, but he considered himself to be a “Servant of the Lord Jesus Christ” who sent by Jesus Christ to teach the things which shall be of the New Church.<sup>10</sup>

In 1744 at the age of 56 he began to experience dreams and visions and claimed he was appointed by the Lord to write a heavenly doctrine to reform Christianity. He claimed that the Lord had opened his spiritual eyes, so that from then on he could freely visit heaven and hell, and talk with angels, demons and other spirits.

In *Life on Other Planets*, he claimed that he conversed with spirits from Jupiter, Mars, Mercury, Saturn, Venus, and the moon. He did not report conversing with spirits from Uranus and Neptune, however, which were not discovered yet. This is seen by some to raise question about the credibility of all his reports on this matter.

In April 1745, Swedenborg was dining in a private room at a tavern in London. By the end of the meal, darkness fell upon his eyes, and the room shifted character. Suddenly he saw a person sitting at a corner of the room, telling Swedenborg: “*Do not eat too much!*” Frightened by the stranger he hurried home. Later that night, the same man appeared in his dreams. The man told Swedenborg that He was the Lord, that He had appointed Swedenborg to reveal the spiritual

meaning of the Bible, and that He would guide him in what to write. The same night, the spiritual world was opened to Swedenborg.<sup>11</sup>

There is evidence that Swedenborg wrote a letter to John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, in February, saying he (Swedenborg) had been told in the world of spirits that Wesley wanted to speak with him.<sup>12</sup> Wesley, startled, since he had not told anyone of his interest in Swedenborg, replied that he was going on a journey for six months and would contact Swedenborg on his return. Swedenborg replied that that would be too late since he (Swedenborg) would be going to the spiritual world for the last time on March 29.<sup>13</sup> (Wesley later read and commented extensively on Swedenborg's work.)<sup>14</sup> Swedenborg's landlord's servant girl, Elizabeth Reynolds, also said Swedenborg had predicted this date, and that Swedenborg was as happy about it as if it was "going on holiday or to some merrymaking."<sup>15-16</sup>

Was Swedenborg given his visions by the Holy Spirit, the devil or did he simply make them up? Was he chosen to reform the Church?

### **Gustav von Below (1817)**

In Germany, Gustav von Below, an aristocratic officer of the Prussian Guard, and his brothers, founded a charismatic movement based on their estates in Pomerania, which may have included speaking in "tongues."<sup>17</sup>

### **Edward Irving (1830)**

Edward Irving, a minister in the Church of Scotland, claimed that a certain woman would "speak at great length, and with superhuman strength, in an unknown tongue, to the great astonishment of all who heard, and to her own great edification and enjoyment in God." Irving further stated that "tongues are a great instrument for personal edification, however mysterious it may seem to us."<sup>18</sup>

Notice that Irving claimed the woman spoke in an "unknown tongue" to "her own great edification and enjoyment in God." Paul said:

*For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries. But*

*one who prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation. One who speaks in a tongue edifies himself; but one who prophesies edifies the church...*

*But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking in tongues, what will I profit you unless I speak to you either by way of revelation or of knowledge or of prophecy or of teaching? (1 Corinthians 14.2-4, 6).*

## **Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (1830)**

The history of the Mormon Church, contains extensive references to the phenomenon of speaking in “tongues” by Joseph Smith, Jr., Brigham Young and many others. It is clearly taught in the book of Mormon and also in Doctrine and Covenants:

And again, I exhort you, my brethren, that ye deny not the gifts of God, for they are many; and they come from the same God. And there are different ways that these gifts are administered; but it is the same God who worketh all in all; and they are given by the manifestations of the Spirit of God unto men, to profit them.

And again, to another, all kinds of tongues; And again, to another, the interpretation of languages and of divers kinds of tongues.

And all these gifts come by the Spirit of Christ; and they come unto every man severally, according as he will.

And I would exhort you, my beloved brethren, that ye remember that every good gift cometh of Christ (Moroni 10:8, 15-18).

And again, it is given by the Holy Ghost to some to know the diversities of operations, whether they be of God, that the manifestations of the Spirit may be given to every man to profit withal.

And again, it is given to some to speak with tongues; And to another is given the interpretation of tongues.

And all these gifts come from God, for the benefit of the children of God (Doctrine and Covenants 46:16, 24-26).

Let the gift of tongues be poured out upon thy people, even cloven tongues as of fire, and the interpretation thereof. (Doctrine and Covenants 109:36)

Tongues and their interpretation are classed among the signs and miracles which always attend the faithful and which stand as evidences of the divinity of the Lord's work. (See Mormon 9:24; Mark 16:17; Acts 10:46; 19:6.) It is not necessary for tongues to be taught to the Church particularly, for any man that has the Holy Ghost, can speak of the things of God in his own tongue as well as to speak in another; for faith comes not by signs, but by hearing the word of God. (*Teachings of Joseph Smith*, pp. 148-149, as quoted by Bruce R. McConkie, *Mormon Doctrine*, Second edition, p. 801)

Speak not in the gift of tongues without understanding it, or without interpretation. The devil can speak in tongues; the adversary will come with his work; he can tempt all classes; can speak in English or Dutch. Let no one speak in tongues unless he interpret, except by the consent of the one who is placed to preside; then he may discern or interpret, or another may. (Ibid., p. 162, 212)<sup>19a</sup>

Sidney Rigdon disagreed with Alexander Campbell regarding speaking in "tongues," and later joined the Mormon Church. The Mormon Church embraced speaking in "tongues" and the interpretation of "tongues." At the 1836 dedication of the Kirtland Temple the dedicatory prayer asks that God grant them the gift of tongues and at the end of the service Brigham Young spoke in tongues, another elder interpreted it and then gave his own exhortation in tongues. Many other worship experiences in the Kirtland Temple prior to and after the dedication included references to people speaking and interpreting tongues. In describing the beliefs of the church in the Wentworth letter, Joseph Smith, Jr. identified a belief in the "gift of tongues" and "interpretation of tongues."

The fact that some members of the Mormon Church exercised the "gift of tongues" and the "gift of interpretation" should be of grave concern for all Pentecostals and Charismatics. We know that the experience cannot be of God because the Mormon Church is a false church and there is no salvation in it. If one believes the "gift of tongues" and the "gift of interpretation" are gifts from the Holy Spirit then the experience that the Mormons had must have been demonic.

This must also be true concerning all of the experiences throughout history of non-Christians exercising those gifts.

A question that everyone must ask who believes the “manifestation gifts” are for Christians today is, “How can one be 100% certain that their experiences and those of others are not self-induced or demonic?”

## **1886 to 1900**

### **The Holiness Movement**

In August of 1886, Richard Spurling (1810–1891), an ordained Baptist minister associated with the Latter Rain movement, rejected the dominant Landmark Baptist views of the church. With seven members from Holly Springs and Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Churches in Monroe County, Tennessee, and Cherokee County, North Carolina, he organized the Christian Union. They hoped to free themselves from man-made creeds and unite on the doctrines and practices found in the New Testament. In September, Spurling’s son, Richard Green Spurling (1857–1935), was ordained as pastor of the Christian Union congregation. He also formed two other congregations.

Around 1895, a revival under the preaching of B. H. Irwin swept into the area. The Spurlings accepted Irwin’s teachings on holiness, but were wary of the extreme direction in which they felt the movement was headed. In 1902, R. G. Spurling influenced a Holiness group led by W. F. Bryant to form the Holiness Church at Camp Creek, North Carolina. Spurling was elected pastor and Bryant was ordained as a deacon. The next year brought into the church an energetic and powerful leader, Ambrose Jessup Tomlinson, a former Quaker who experienced an inner change of regeneration and sanctification. He caught Spurling’s vision of the restoration of the church and joined the church at Camp Creek on June 13, 1903. He quickly became the acknowledged leader and it was reported that he barked and wailed while praying. Other strange and eerie manifestations caused many to believe that he was possessed by a demon.

New churches were organized in North Carolina, Tennessee, and Georgia. The first annual meeting of all the churches was held in 1906 in Cherokee County, North Carolina, and the name “Church of God”

was adopted in 1907. Tomlinson professed a baptism of the Holy Spirit experience in 1908, which firmly established the church as part of the Pentecostal Movement. This took place under the preaching of Gaston B. Cashwell, a minister who was very influential in bringing Pentecostalism to North Carolina, the Appalachians and the east coast. In 1909, Tomlinson was elected General Overseer of the Church of God.<sup>19b</sup>

## **1900 to 1906**

### **The Beginning**

The modern Pentecostal Christian practice of glossolalia is often said to have originated around the beginning of the 20th century in the United States. The city of Topeka, Kansas is often cited as the center of the Pentecostal movement and the resurgence of glossolalia in the Church. Charles Fox Parham, a holiness preacher and founder of Bethel Bible College in 1900, is given credit for being the one who ignited the modern Pentecostal movement. During a 1900 New Year's Eve sermon by Parham, a student named Agnes Ozman asked him for prayer and the laying on of hands so God would fill her with the Holy Spirit. She became the first of many students to experience glossolalia. Parham followed within the next few days, and before the end of January 1901, glossolalia was being discussed in newspapers as a sign of the second advent of Pentecost.

Parham found himself as the leader of the movement and traveled to church meetings around the country to preach about holiness, divine healing, healing by faith, the laying on of hands and prayer, sanctification by faith, and the signs of baptism of the Holy Ghost and Fire, the most prominent being speaking in tongues.<sup>20-22</sup>

Word of the outpouring of the Spirit spread to other Holiness congregations. Parham wrote, studied, traveled, preached, and taught about glossolalia for the next few years. He and others who believed in or manifested "tongues" were persecuted from both inside and outside of the church. In 1905, he opened a Bible school in Houston. It was there that William J. Seymour became a follower of his. It is notable that Seymour was black, and Parham was white. It is further notable that Seymour did not speak in tongues while in Houston.

Seymour was invited to speak in Los Angeles about the baptism of the Holy Spirit in February 1906. His first speaking engagement was

met with dispute, primarily because he preached about “tongues” being a primary indication of the baptism of the Spirit, yet he did not himself speak in “tongues.” It was not until April that his preaching and teaching about glossolalia brought results. Similar to the experience of Parham in 1901, Seymour’s students received the ability to speak in “tongues” a few days before he did.

By May 1906, one month after the Great San Francisco Earthquake which was seen as an “act of God,” Seymour was leading a major movement known as the Azusa Street Revival in Los Angeles. It has been characterized as an inter-denominational, inter-racial, inter-sex revival during a time in the United States in which women and non-whites were not afforded the same civil rights as white men. People from many denominations and races gathered daily to see and hear, to preach and pray, to sing and shout, and to speak in new “tongues.”

Newspapers, clearly biased against the movement, reported the happenings as a wild and weird group of mostly “colored” people acting as if they were pretty disturbed, exhibiting behavior unheard of in most Protestant churches of the time: **intense shouting, vigorous jerking, dancing, passing out, crying, howling, emotional outbursts, and speaking gibberish.**

Many religious leaders in Los Angeles and other places were quick to disparage the goings on at Azusa Street, informing their flocks that the new Pentecostal movement was (at worst) sensational, Satanic, Spiritualism, and (at best) too overly focused on the Holy Spirit instead of Jesus Christ. The matter of glossolalia was then (as it is now) hotly debated within the Church as being either heresy or exemplary and necessary for a spiritual rebirth in Jesus Christ.

Witnesses at the Azusa Street Revival wrote of seeing fire resting on the heads of participants, miraculous healings in the meetings, and incidents of speaking in tongues being understood by native speakers of the language. According to the first issue of William Seymour’s newsletter, “The Apostolic Faith,” from 1906:

A Mohammedan, a Soudanese by birth, a [m]an who is an interpreter and speaks six[t]een languages, came into the meetings at Azusa Street and the Lord gave him messages which none but himself could understand. He identified, interpreted and wrote [a] number of the languages.<sup>23</sup>

Parham and his early followers believed that speaking in “tongues” was xenoglossia. Some followers traveled to foreign countries and

tried to use the gift to share the Gospel with non-English-speaking people. These attempts consistently resulted in failure and many of Parham's followers rejected his teachings after being disillusioned with their attempts to speak unlearned foreign languages. Despite these setbacks, belief in xenoglossia persisted into the latter half of the 20th century among some Pentecostal groups.<sup>24</sup>

## **1906-1913**

### **First Wave**

The revival at Azusa Street lasted from 1906 until 1913. It is called the First Wave and from it grew many new Protestant splinter groups and denominations. Many denominations rejected the doctrines of Parham and Seymour, while some denominations adopted them in one form or another. Baptism of the Holy Spirit was a doctrine that was embraced by numerous preachers who believed the Azusa Street revival was a true outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the last days. The excitement of the revival diminished greatly in 1913 and by 1915 William Seymour and his wife pastored a small African-American congregation until his death in 1922 and then his wife carried on until 1931 when she lost the building.<sup>25</sup>

## **1915-1947**

### **The Organizing era**

The Azusa Street Revival birthed numerous denominations and churches that sprang up all over the world, died out, merged and split.

The Assemblies of God denomination was founded in 1914, the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World (PAW) in 1914 and the Pentecostal Church of God in 1919. In 1916 the Oneness Movement (Pentecostal Assemblies of the World) split with the Assemblies of God over the doctrine of the Trinity. The Oneness Pentecostals, led by African-American preacher Garfield Haywood, believed there is only one God (Jesus Christ) and there is no Father or Holy Spirit. They also teach that a convert must be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ rather than in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. A second group, the General Assembly of the Apostolic Churches, was formed in 1916, under the leadership of D. C. O. Opperman and Howard

Goss, but it quickly merged with the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World (PAW) in 1917 to keep its preachers from being drafted for World War I service. The first chairman of the merged group was C. W. Doak and the first secretary was Haywood.<sup>26</sup>

In 1917 several Oneness Pentecostal preachers formed the General Assembly of the Apostolic Assemblies and then merged their organization with PAW in 1918.

In 1923 the Church of God of Prophecy split into two churches. The new church took the name Church of God (Cleveland, Tennessee).

In 1924, the white leaders of PAW separated to form the Pentecostal Church, Incorporated. It later merged with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Jesus Christ in 1945 to become the United Pentecostal Church International.<sup>27</sup>

Three new Oneness churches were formed in 1925: the Apostolic Churches of Jesus Christ, the Pentecostal Ministerial Alliance, and Emmanuel's Church in Jesus Christ. Two years later Emmanuel's Church in Jesus Christ and the Apostolic Churches of Jesus Christ merged, taking the name the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ.

In 1927 Aimee Semple McPherson (1890-1944) founded the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel.

A union between the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ and the PAW was consummated in November 1931. The merged groups kept the name of Pentecostal Assemblies of the World.

The Pentecostal Assemblies of Jesus Christ (PAJC) was formed in 1931 by disenchanted leaders within the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ and the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World (PAW).

In 1943 the American Pentecostal churches were accepted as charter members of the National Association of Evangelicals. And in 1945 several mergers produce the United Pentecostal Church (Missouri).

Homer Aubrey Tomlinson, older brother of Milton, formed a separate denomination, the Church of God (Huntsville, Alabama) under his leadership in 1943.

The PAJC and the Pentecostal Churches Inc. (PCI) merged in 1945 forming what is now called the United Pentecostal Church (UPCI). The merger left some dissatisfied and in August of 1946 revived the original charter of the PAJC and reorganized the group.

The organizing of the myriad churches and denominations were wrought with enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions and factions:

*Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions.* (Galatians 5.19-20)

## 1947-1960

### Second Latter Rain Movement

The Second Latter Rain Movement began after World War II when there was a deep spiritual hunger among Pentecostals,<sup>28</sup> who were concerned about the declining operation of the “manifestation gifts” which were so evident when the Pentecostal Movement began in the early 20th century.<sup>29</sup> This controversial movement was spearheaded by Billy Graham, and the Healing Revival that featured Oral Roberts, Jack Coe, and William Branham.<sup>30</sup>

The leaders of Sharon Orphanage, a small Canadian Pentecostal orphanage in North Battleford, Saskatchewan, were inspired to look for a deeper dimension of Christianity after visiting Branham’s meeting. They and 70 students gathered in October 1947 to begin the first term of the newly formed Sharon Bible College.<sup>31</sup> Initial leadership of the group at that time was from two former pastors of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, George Hawtin and Percy G. Hunt, and Herrick Holt, a pastor of the Church of the Foursquare Gospel in North Battleford, Saskatchewan.<sup>32</sup> On February 11, 1948, a young woman prophesied<sup>32</sup> about an open door which God had set before the students and was asking them to pass through it. Another student prophesied that this open door was the doorway into the gifts and ministries in the Body of Christ.<sup>31</sup>

In the spring of 1948, on the Easter weekend, special services were held which the school called the “Feast of Pentecost.” This led to the first “Camp Meeting” during July 7–18, which drew crowds in the thousands.<sup>31-32</sup> The teachings from this revival came to be known as “Latter Rain” and quickly spread throughout the world.

## **1960-1999**

### **Second Wave**

The Second Wave, neo-Pentecostalism or the Charismatic movement, entered most Churches in the early 1960's in Van Nuys, California, under Dennis Bennett, Rector of St. Marks Episcopal (Anglican) Church. In ten years it spread to all major Protestant families of the world, reaching a total of 55 million people by 1990. It included the Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, Lutherans, Roman Catholics and many others.

### **Third Wave (1967)**

The Third Wave, the Catholic Charismatic Renewal movement started in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1967 among students and faculty of Duquesne University. By 1993 it touched the lives of over 100 million Catholics in over 238 nations.

### **Fourth Wave (1981)**

The Fourth Wave, the Evangelicals, started in 1981 at Fuller Theological Seminary with John Wimber. By 1990, 33 million evangelicals around the world were exercising the "manifestation gifts."

### **Baptists seek dialogue with Charismatics (1995)**

Two professors at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, told Baptist Press that Southern Baptists shouldn't fear the charismatic movement. "We shouldn't feel defensive or threatened by an alternative experience, perspective or insights about the Holy Spirit," said William Hendricks, director of Southern's doctoral studies program. Churches should not be making

a big issue of the movement, he added, because “you could be fighting what is a legitimate experience of the Spirit.”

Tim Weber, professor of church history, agreed saying, “Most charismatics take the Bible as seriously as Southern Baptists, although they read it differently.” The professors also said Southern Baptists should not divide Charismatics into a separate “camp,” since their influence has touched the 15 million-member Southern Baptist Convention. The professors believe the time has arrived for a more reasoned approach to Charismatics and dialogue with them (Charisma, April 1995, p. 79).

### **SBC joins hands with Charismatics (1999)**

Pastor Ron Phillips and the Central Baptist Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee had a “Fresh Oil & New Wine” conference in 1999 that was attended by more than 500 Southern Baptist Convention pastors. The church used the charismatic rock-style music and experienced charismatic phenomenon. Another Southern Baptist pastor, Dwain Miller of Second Baptist Church in El Dorado, Arkansas, prophesied to Phillips that God would use him “to bring renewal to the SBC’s 41,000 churches.” He is referring to a charismatic “renewal,” which is always accompanied by unscriptural ecumenical fervor and downplaying of Bible doctrine.

In 2006 Phillips made a bold declaration concerning the “manifestation gifts”:

Paul Pressler’s last book, where he and others promised those of us with charismatic leanings a place at the Southern Baptist Convention table. Check with Wallace Henley in Houston as well. I serve Central Baptist Church of Hixson in Chattanooga, Tenn., and have hosted “Fresh Oil and New Wine” conferences for years. Six hundred-plus Baptist churches cooperate with us. We want to stay (in the SBC), but the circle of so-called orthodoxy grows ever narrower. If the gifts of the Spirit have ceased, then let the convention say it. Scholars may not believe in the supernatural, but no reputable New Testament scholar denies the gifts are clearly taught. The action of the International Mission Board is one more step down for a declining denomination whose only hope is a fresh openness to the Holy Spirit.

We must note that the biblical method of revival for any group of believers who have become dull of hearing, apathetic and worldly is Scripture. Pastors must teach (not preach) Scripture book-by-book on Sunday morning. They must start a serious discipleship program. They must hold Bible studies every night of the week at church or in homes. They must encourage the members to memorize Scripture and hold them accountable. They must train members how to share the Gospel and take them out in the streets to share the Gospel. They must also hold prayer meetings every day and night of the week at church or in homes. In other words they need to do their job.

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# FOUR

## WHAT THE AZUSA STREET REVIVAL WAS LIKE

Men and women were mowed down by the axe of God like a forest. The glory was resting for over two years in some localities. Ministers could not minister, like Moses, when the cloud of glory came down on the Tabernacle. The weeping for mercy, the holy laughter, ecstasy of joy, the fire descending, burning its way to the hearts of men and women with sanctity and glory, were manifestations still cherished and longed for in greater power. Many were heard speaking in tongues and prophesying. Many witnessed God's healing power in their bodies. Confusion and extravagance, undoubtedly, were present, But the Lord had His hand on His people, and they were preserved and were taught of God to persevere and pray.

Gradually the gifts were again manifested. The voice of God was heard... and, the voice, with no uncertain sound to its hearers, was opening new doors, and the Pentecostal flame ran through the country, and is still spreading. (Chevreau, Guy, *Pray with Fire*, citing Evans, Eifon. *The Welsh Revival of 1904*. Worcester: Evangelical Press of Wales. 1969. p. 194)

Two eye witness of the revival described the meetings this way:

They shouted three days and three nights. It was Easter season. The people came from everywhere. By the next morning there was no way of getting near the house. As people came in they would fall under God's power; and the whole city was stirred. They shouted until the foundation of the house gave way, but no one was hurt.<sup>1</sup>

No instruments of music are used. None are needed. No choir – the angels have been heard by some in the spirit. No collections are taken. No bills have been posted to advertise the meetings. No church organization is back of it. All who are in touch with God

realize as soon as they enter the meetings that the Holy Ghost is the leader.<sup>2</sup>

The first edition of the *Apostolic Faith* publication claimed a common reaction to the revival from visitors:

Proud, well-dressed preachers came to “investigate.” Soon their high looks were replaced with wonder, then conviction comes, and very often you will find them in a short time wallowing on the dirty floor, asking God to forgive them and make them as little children.<sup>3</sup>

Among first-hand accounts were reports of the blind having their sight restored, diseases cured instantly, and immigrants speaking in German, Yiddish, and Spanish all being spoken to in their native language by uneducated black members, who translated the languages into English by “supernatural ability.”<sup>2</sup>

Singing was sporadic and in *a cappella* or occasionally in tongues. There were periods of extended silence. Attendees were occasionally slain in the Spirit. Visitors gave their testimony and members read aloud testimonies that were sent to the mission by mail. There was prayer for the gift of tongues. There was prayer in tongues for the sick, for missionaries, and whatever requests were given by attendees or mailed in. There was spontaneous preaching and altar calls for salvation, sanctification and baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Lawrence Catley said that in most services preaching consisted of Seymour opening a Bible and worshippers coming forward to preach or testify as they were led by the Holy Spirit.<sup>4</sup> Many people shouted throughout the meetings. The members of the mission never took an offering, but there was a receptacle near the door for anyone that wanted to support the revival. The core membership of the Azusa Street Mission was never much more than 50–60 individuals with hundreds and thousands of people visiting or staying temporarily over the years.<sup>5</sup>

In an article entitled, “Weird Babel of Tongues,”<sup>6</sup> a Los Angeles Times reporter describe what went on at the meetings:

**Breathing strange utterances** and mouthing a creed which it would seem **no sane mortal could understand** the newest religious sect has started in Los Angeles.<sup>7</sup> (Emphasis added.)

Another *Los Angeles Times* article was not so kind in its description of unusual things going on on Azusa Street:

Meetings are held in a tumble-down shack on Azusa Street, and the devotees of the **weird doctrine** practice the most **fanatical rites**, preach the **wildest theories** and work themselves into a state of **mad** excitement in their peculiar zeal. Colored people and a sprinkling of whites compose the congregation, and night is made **hideous** in the neighborhood by the **howlings** of the worshippers, who spend hours swaying forth and back in a **nerve racking** attitude of prayer and supplication. They claim to have the “gift of tongues” and be able to understand the **babel**.<sup>5</sup> (Emphasis added)



Headline about the “Weird babel of tongues” and other behavior At Azusa Street, from a 1906 Los Angeles Times newspaper.

Another local paper reporter in September 1906 described the happenings with the following words:

...disgraceful intermingling of the races... they cry and make **howling noises** all day and into the night. They run, jump, shake all over, shout to the top of their voice, spin around in circles, fall out on the sawdust blanketed floor jerking, kicking and rolling all over it. Some of them pass out and do not move for hours as though they were dead. These people **appear to be mad, mentally deranged or under a spell**. They claim to be filled with the spirit.

They have a one eyed, illiterate, Negro as their preacher who stays on his knees much of the time with his head hidden between the wooden milk crates. He doesn't talk very much but at times he can be heard shouting, 'Repent,' and he's supposed to be running the thing... They repeatedly sing the same song, 'The Comforter Has Come.'<sup>8</sup> (Emphasis added)

Charles Parham was also severely critical:

Men and women, white and blacks, knelt together or fell across one another; a white woman, perhaps of wealth and culture, could be seen thrown back in the arms of a big "buck n---r," and held tightly thus as she shivered and shook in freak imitation of Pentecost. Horrible, awful shame!<sup>5</sup>

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# FIVE

## LATTER RAIN

### Latter Rain Movements

There were two Latter Rain movements – the first was in the late 19th century and the second was after World War II.

#### 19th Century Latter Rain Movement

The first came from radical Holiness theology and Revivalist phenomenon which began in western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee. Elements of the movement gave rise to and merged with what would become modern Pentecostalism.<sup>1</sup> Groups of disaffected Baptists and Methodists.<sup>2</sup> The movement was spread throughout the area by Baptist preacher Richard G. Spurling, Sr. He called his movement the “Latter Rain.”<sup>1</sup> Spurling and his followers encountered strong opposition from their fellow Baptists. At an 1886 Holiness revival meeting in Monroe County, Tennessee, Spurling’s followers formed the Christian Union.<sup>3</sup>

Spurling, Sr. was joined by his son Richard G. Spurling, Jr. and Methodist preacher W. F. Bryant.<sup>4</sup> Spurling, Jr. held a revival in his Baptist church in Liberty, Tennessee during 1892 at which some members spoke in tongues. This resulted in Spurling be ostracized along with about 30 members of his congregation. They held meetings in the home of W. F. Bryant in nearby Camp Creek, North Carolina.<sup>3</sup> From this, the Holiness Church was organized by Spurling, Bryant and Frank Porter<sup>5</sup> and it became the center of the rapidly-spreading movement.<sup>4</sup>

A. J. Tomlinson came in contact with the Camp Creek Holiness Church in 1896. He accepted it as representing the New Testament pattern, and in 1903 he joined it as a preacher.<sup>6</sup> Richard G. Spurling, Jr. and William F. Bryant, even though they remained respected

figures, gradually gave way to Tomlinson's strong influence.<sup>7</sup> He assumed clear leadership of the movement and began drawing together many of the earlier Latter Rain congregations.<sup>8</sup> In 1906 he held the first annual revival meeting at Camp Creek. The next year he moved it to Union Grove, closer to his home in Cleveland, Tennessee. In 1907, he changed the name from Holiness Church to the Church of God,<sup>9</sup> and began preaching at revivals nationwide. He drew other churches into the movement. Other revival meetings were conducted by Charles Fox Parham in Topeka, Kansas, in Los Angeles by William J. Seymour.<sup>4,6,10</sup> The revivals spearheaded by these three men became known as "The Outpouring of the Latter Rain."<sup>6</sup> In 1908 the headquarters of the Church of God denomination was moved to Cleveland, Tennessee and in 1909 Tomlinson was elected its General Overseer. The unity in the newly formed denomination was temporary as schisms arose immediately. Tomlinson was later expelled from the denomination.<sup>6,8</sup>

The first phase of the Latter Rain movement was wrought with "*strife, jealousies, wraths, factions, divisions, parties* (factions) (Galatians 5.20). Instead of bringing unity to the Church it did just the opposite. Some may blame the believers who rejected the claims of Spurling, Bryant, Porter, Parham, Seymour and Tomlinson for the problems of the Latter Rain movement, but if they were being lead by the Holy Spirit they would not have fought among themselves. It was the "*strife, jealousies, wraths, factions, divisions, and factions*" within the movement that caused those without to not accept it as being from God.

## **Second Latter Rain Movement**

The Second Latter Rain Movement had its beginnings in the years following World War II. The late 1940s was a time of deep spiritual hunger among Pentecostals,<sup>11</sup> who were concerned about the declining operation of the gifts of the Spirit once so evident when Pentecostalism began in the early 20th century.<sup>12</sup>

The evangelical awakening that was spearheaded by Billy Graham, and the Healing Revival that featured Oral Roberts, Jack Coe, and William Branham.<sup>13</sup> sparked the second Latter Rain Movement.

Several leaders of Sharon Orphanage, a small Canadian Pentecostal orphanage in North Battleford, Saskatchewan, were inspired to look for a deeper dimension of Christianity after visiting

Branham's meeting. They and 70 students gathered in October 1947 to begin the first term of the newly formed Sharon Bible College.<sup>14</sup> Most were first year students, but some were second and third year students from the Pentecostal Bible College in Saskatoon.<sup>14</sup> The students worked hard by day to prepare the buildings for classes and gathered in the evenings for intercessory prayer, prophecy and fasting.<sup>14</sup>

Initial leadership of the group at that time was from two former pastors of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, George Hawtin and Percy G. Hunt, and Herrick Holt, a pastor of the Church of the Foursquare Gospel in North Battleford, Saskatchewan.<sup>15</sup> They were later joined by George Hawtin's brother Ernest and their brother-in-law, Milford Kirkpatrick.<sup>15</sup>

On February 11, 1948, a young woman prophesied<sup>15</sup> about an open door which God had set before the students and was asking them to pass through it. Another student prophesied that this open door was the doorway into the gifts and ministries in the Body of Christ.<sup>14</sup> Thomas Holdcroft wrote in his paper, *The New Order Of The Latter Rain*:

In extended chapel services for four days... the procedure emerged of calling out members of the audience and imparting a spiritual gift to them by the laying on of hands accompanied by a suitable proph-ecy. The authorization and direction of these activities was a series of vocal prophetic utterances by both students and their teachers.<sup>16</sup>

In the spring of 1948, on the Easter weekend, special services were held which the school called the "Feast of Pentecost." This led to the first "Camp Meeting" during July 7-18, which began drawing crowds in the thousands.<sup>14-15</sup> The teachings from this revival came to be known as "Latter Rain" and quickly spread throughout Canada, the United States and the world.

Leaders of the various Pentecostal denominations opposed the movement due to its unusual teachings and practices.<sup>17</sup> Resolution #7 of the 1949 General Council of the Assemblies of God USA made the following declaration:

We disapprove of those extreme teachings and practices, which being **unfounded scripturally**, serve only to **break fellowship** of like precious faith and tend to **confusion** and **division** among

members of the Body of Christ, and be it hereby known that this 23rd General Council **disapproves** of the so-called “New Order of the Latter Rain.”<sup>11</sup> (Emphasis added)

Some other notable individuals of the “Later Rain” were Myrtle Beall, Winston Nunes, Omar Johnson, George Warnock and Ern Baxter.

The second “Latter Rain” leaders broke with the dispensationalism which had been accepted by Pentecostal denominations. Dispensationalism tended to be pessimistic in its outlook whereas the “Latter Rain” doctrine emphasized a victorious eschatological outlook. Rather than attempting to simply save a few souls before the rise of the Antichrist, the “Latter Rain” teachers said the Church would overcome the world and the Church would come into “*full stature*” as taught by the Paul (Ephesians 4.11-13).

The term *Latter Rain* stems from Bible passages such as Jeremiah 3:3, 5:23–25, Joel 2:23, Hosea 6:3, Zechariah 10:1, and James 5:7. The idea of a latter rain was not new to Pentecostals. It was present from the earliest days of Pentecostalism which believed that the reappearance of speaking in tongues and the baptism of the Holy Spirit marked the latter rain of God’s Spirit and that these were signs of the coming end of history. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost had been the “former rain” that established the Church, but the current “move” of the Spirit was the latter rain that would bring the Church’s work to completion and culminate in the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, which was and is imminent.

A major feature of the expected latter rain would be the “manifestation of the Sons of God” or “Joel’s Army.” The “Latter Rain” leaders taught that as the end of the age approached, the “overcomers” would arise within the Church. There was debate among various branches as to the nature and extent of this manifestation. These Manifest Sons of God, ones who have come into the full stature of Jesus Christ, would receive the Spirit without measure. They would be as Jesus was when he was on Earth and would receive a number of divine gifts, including the ability to change their physical location, to speak any language through the Holy Spirit, and would be able to perform divine healings and other miracles. They would complete the work of God, restoring man’s rightful position as was originally mandated in Genesis and by coming into the full stature of Christ would usher in his millennial reign. Extreme

versions of this spoke of Jesus as a “pattern” Son and applied “ye are gods” (Psalms 82:6) to this coming company of believers.<sup>18</sup>

Joel’s Army has been connected to Dominion Theology and Fivefold ministry thinking,<sup>19</sup> and has been described as a “rapidly growing apocalyptic movement” prophesied to become an “Armageddon-ready military force of young people with a divine mandate to physically impose Christian “dominion” on non-believers.”<sup>19</sup>

The “Latter Rain” taught that there would be a restoration of the five ministerial roles mentioned in Ephesians 4:11 (apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, teacher). It was believed that the foundational roles of apostle and prophet had been lost after the time of the first apostles due to the Dark Ages but that God was restoring these ministries in the present day. These ideas are part of the “prophetic movement” and “New Apostolic Reformation.”

Belief in the restoration of the offices of apostle and prophet distinguished the second “Latter Rain” Movement from the rest of Pentecostalism. Classical Pentecostals understood the five ministerial roles not as offices or authority designated to any particular person but as functions available to the entire Spirit baptized congregation subject to the leading of the Spirit.<sup>20</sup>

The movement itself should be distinguished from those whom it ultimately influenced. Some branches of the movement ultimately led to cult-like groups, some parts of the movement remained orthodox, and other parts of the movement moderated the doctrine and ultimately had positive effects on the Charismatic and Pentecostal churches at large.

During the early years, some of the most ardent critics of the “Latter Rain” and its theology came from within Pentecostalism, particularly the Assemblies of God. In 1949, the General Council of the Assemblies of God, following the leadership of its General Superintendent E. S. Williams, stated that pre-tribulation rapture represented correct eschatology, and it rejected the “Latter Rain” practice of personal prophecy accompanied by the laying on of hands, as well as the Manifest Sons of God doctrine.<sup>21</sup> One noted Assemblies of God leader, Stanley Frodsham, left the Assemblies in favor of the “Latter Rain,” noting the experiential similarities with the Azusa Street Revival. The stand of the other Pentecostal denominations ultimately led to the withdrawal, under pressure, of Elim Fellowship founder Ivan Q. Spencer from inter-Pentecostal fellowship.

Modern criticism of the “Latter Rain,” however, is primarily among fundamentalists, as is evidenced by the hosts of websites critical of the movement. Such sites use association with the “Latter Rain” as a way of discrediting modern Charismatics.<sup>22</sup> Some identify the roots of more recent Charismatic trends such as Kingdom Now theology, the Kansas City Prophets including Paul Cain, and the New Apostolic Reformation including C. Peter Wagner as being rooted in the “Latter Rain.” While there are some doctrinal parallels, the historical connections have not been well demonstrated. The modern charismatic movement, while clearly influenced by some “Latter Rain” ideals such as the fivefold ministry and the laying on of hands generally rejects the more extreme elements of its theology.

A controversial offshoot of the Latter Rain is the “Reconciliation” movement who believe in Manifest Sonship theology.<sup>23</sup> Reconciliation (also called ultimate or universal reconciliation) is a doctrine of Christian Universalism focusing on God’s plan to save the whole world through the atoning sacrifice of Christ. According to this tradition, the manifest Sons of God are expected to reign on earth during a coming millennial age until ultimately every human being will be restored to harmony with God.<sup>24</sup>

Key leaders of the second “Latter Rain” movement were:

**Maria Fraser** founder of the “Latter Rain” Assemblies in South Africa (Blourokkies).

**Reg Layzell** founder of the Glad Tidings church and author of, *The Key of David* and *Unto Perfection*.

**George Warnock**, who had been Ern Baxter’s secretary, wrote *The Feast of Tabernacles* (1951) which became influential for its view of the biblical feasts and hermeneutics.

**George and Ern Hawtin** traveled the country and gathered many followers.

**A. Earl Lee**, a father of the movement in Southern California who had previously worked with Aimee Semple McPherson.

**Myrtle Beall** who ran what is now known as Bethesda Christian Church north of Detroit, Michigan. It was one of the first major churches to embrace the “Latter Rain” movement.

**James Watt**, one of the original elders at the Sharon Orphanage and school and the first to move in the distinctive “Heavenly Choir.”

**J. Preston Eby** an early proponent who resigned under pressure from the Pentecostal Holiness Church in 1956 because his “Latter Rain” beliefs were not approved of by the church.

Some of the main figures of the second “Latter Rain” movement became prominent figures in the **Ministers Fellowship International**:

**Dick Iverson**, founder of City Bible Church, formerly Bible Temple, and Portland Bible College, is apostolic overseer of Ministers Fellowship International.<sup>24</sup>

**Kevin Conner** is a very influential Bible teacher who came out of the Latter Rain and who has taken the best of these new ideas and blended them with the more traditional hermeneutics. His approach has influenced T.D. Jakes and others.

**David Schoch** was a leader associated with this branch of the Latter Rain and was an honorary member of the apostolic board of MFI until his death in July 2007.<sup>24</sup> The church he led is now known as City At the Cross in Long Beach, California.

**Violet Kitley** founded Shiloh Christian Fellowship in Oakland, California. Her son, David Kitley, is also an honorary member of the MFI leadership.<sup>24</sup>

They and others accepted the teachings formed various groups which became known as the “Latter Rain.” It was embraced by the new Charismatic churches while many Pentecostal denominations rejected it. The Assemblies of God USA in their 2000 position paper on End Time Revival rejected it<sup>25</sup> as did most classical Pentecostal denominations.<sup>26</sup>

The major figures of the Toronto Blessing were **John Arnott, Was Campbell, Ron Allen, Randy Clark, Larry Randolph** and **Marc DuPont** (Chevreau, Guy, *Pray with Fire*, p. 12).

The Kansas City prophets were **Bill Hamon, Rick Joyner, Paul Cain, Mike Bickle, James Goll, John Paul Jackson** and **Lou Engle**. Cain had participated in the “Voice of Healing Revival” started by William Branham during the 1950s. The Kansas City Prophets

continue to be active in ministry throughout North America and frequently speak at Charismatic conferences.

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22. For an example, see "The Latter Rain Revival" by Barbara Aho at [watch.pair.com](http://watch.pair.com).

23. <http://sigler.org/kingdom/page1.html> & <http://greater-emmanuel.org/> links. [watch.pair.com](http://watch.pair.com) are websites with many links to ministries that teach both Reconciliation and Sonship doctrines.

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# PART III

## ECSTATIC LANGUAGE AND GLOSSOLIA

A god “takes away the mind of these men . . . in order that we who hear them may know that it is not they who utter these words . . . when they are **out of their wits**, but that it is the god itself who speaks and addresses us through him” (Plato, *Ion*, 534c-d, emphasis added).

The Sibyl, with **frenzied mouth** uttering things not to be laughed at, unadorned and unperfumed, yet reaches to a thousand years with her voice by aid of the god. (Heraclitus, Fragment 12, emphasis added)

Breathing strange utterances and mouthing a creed which it would seem no sane mortal could understand the newest religious sect has started in Los Angeles. (Los Angeles Times)

Meetings are held in a tumble-down shack on Azusa Street, and the devotees of the **weird doctrine** practice the most **fanatical rites**, preach the **wildest theories** and work themselves into a state of **mad** excitement in their peculiar zeal. Colored people and a sprinkling of whites compose the congregation, and night is made **hideous** in the neighborhood by the **howlings** of the worshippers, who spend hours swaying forth and back in a **nerve racking** attitude of prayer and supplication. They claim to have the “gift of tongues” and be able to understand the **babel**.<sup>5</sup> (Los Angeles Times, emphasis added)

# SIX

## ECSTATIC LANGUAGE

### Xenoglossy

There have been some extraordinary stories concerning alleged xenoglossy. Throughout recorded history there have been many occasions where people have spoken in what was called ecstatic tongues. Note most of these accounts predate Pentecost and were of non-Christian origin. Christians therefore can not say with confidence that every occurrence of glossolalia must be an expression of the will of God even though many believe this.

On that occasion a young Amen worshiper attracted historical infamy when he became possessed by a god and began to make sounds in a strange ecstatic tongue.

Seven hundred years later, the Greek philosopher Plato demonstrated that he was well acquainted with the phenomenon of speaking in “tongues.”

But in reality the greatest blessings come to us through **madness**, when it is sent as a **gift of the gods**. For the prophetess at Delphi and the prophetesses at Dodona when they have been **mad** have conferred many splendid benefits upon Greece both in private and public affairs, but few or none when they have been in their right mind; and if we should speak of the Sibyl and all the others who by prophetic inspiration have foretold many things to many persons and thereby made them fortunate afterwards, anyone can see that we should speak a long time. And it is worthwhile to adduce also the fact that those men of old who invented names thought that **madness** was neither shameful nor disgraceful; otherwise, they would not have connected the very word mania with the noblest of arts, that which foretells the future, by calling it the manic art. No, they gave this name thinking that mania, when it comes by gift **of the gods**, is a noble thing. (*Phaedrus* 244a-c, emphasis added)

Elsewhere Plato said a god “takes away the mind of these men . . . in order that we who hear them may know that it is not they who utter these words . . . when they are **out of their wits**, but that it is the god

itself who speaks and addresses us through him” (*Ion*, 534c-d, emphasis added).

He also explained that poets compose only when they are “possessed” (*entheos*, “within is a god”), “out of their minds” (*ekphron*), and when their “mind is no longer in them” (*Ion* 533d-534e). In *Apology* 22c and *Meno* 99c he said that these inspired poets do not know what they are saying.

According to Plato there are four forms of “madness”: 1 – a mantic madness which leads to prophecies from gods through divine possession as exhibited at the oracles of Delphi and Dodona or in the words of the Sybil (244a-d); 2 – a madness that provides a way of release for those in need during a crisis (244d-e); 3 – a poetic madness that comes from the inspiration of the Muses (245a); and 4 – the madness of the soul in its attempt to ascend to the divine (245c-249d). The first three forms of madness are those that Plato asserts are the results of “inspired madness.”

Greek philosopher Heraclitus (5th century BC) was the first to mention the Sybil:

The Sibyl, with **frenzied mouth** uttering things not to be laughed at, unadorned and unperfumed, yet reaches to a thousand years with her voice by aid of the god. (Fragment 12, emphasis added)

There were a total of ten locations where Sybils prophesied in Greece, Turkey, Persia, Libya and Italy from the 5th century BC to the Middle Ages. All of the thousands of women who were Sybils spoke prophetically in the manner noted above.

These Sybils made prophetic utterances while allegedly under the influence of a spirit. They were unaware of what they prophesied while in a trance. [**Authors’ note:** We are convinced that if they were not frauds they prophesied under the influence of demons.]

There are also legends of people speaking in “tongues” among various cults – Mithra cult of the Persians; the Osiris cult of Egypt, the Dionysian cult and the Orphic cults in Macedonia, Thrace and Greece.

## Conclusion

Since pagans have spoken in “tongues” for over 2,000 years one must have an answer to this question: Is it possible that some Christians who speak in “tongues” do so by demonic powers as the pagans do?

# SEVEN

## GLOSSOLALIA

Some glossolalists believe their practice is the “speaking in tongues” described in the New Testament and that their utterances are of a real, unlearned language (xenoglossia).<sup>1-2</sup> Others explain the activity as a “language of the spirit” or a “heavenly language,” perhaps the language of angels.<sup>3</sup>

### **Secular linguists examine glossolalia**

**William J. Samarin**

Glossolalia is a material phenomenon which has physical and psychological patterns that can be described. Numerous scientific studies have been published providing an objective description of the linguistics of glossolalic speech and the neural behavior of the speakers.

William J. Samarin, a linguist from the University of Toronto, published a thorough assessment of Pentecostal glossolalia that became a classic work on its linguistic characteristics. His assessment was based on a large sample of glossolalia recorded in public and private Christian meetings in Italy, Holland, Jamaica, Canada and America over the course of five years. His wide range included the Puerto Ricans of the Bronx, the Snake Handlers of the Appalachians, and Russian Molokan in Los Angeles.

He found that glossolalic speech resembles human language in some respects. The speaker uses accent, rhythm, intonation and pauses to break up the speech into distinct units. Each unit is itself made up of syllables, the syllables being formed from consonants and vowels taken from a language known to the speaker.

It is verbal behavior that consists of using a certain number of consonants and vowels in a limited number of syllables that in turn are organized into larger units that are taken apart and rearranged pseudogrammatically with variations in pitch, volume, speed and intensity.<sup>4</sup>

Glossolalia consists of strings of syllables, made up of sounds taken from all those that the speaker knows, put together more or less haphazardly but emerging nevertheless as word-like and sentence-like units because of realistic, language-like rhythm and melody.<sup>5</sup>

That the sounds are taken from the set of sounds already known to the speaker is confirmed by others. Felicitas Goodman found that the speech of glossolalists reflected the patterns of speech of the speaker's native language.<sup>6</sup>

Samarin found that the resemblance to human language was merely on the surface, and so concluded that glossolalia is "only a facade of language."<sup>7</sup> He reached this conclusion because the syllable string **did not form words**, the stream of **speech was not internally organized**, and – most importantly of all – there was no systematic relationship between units of speech and concepts. **Humans use language to communicate, but glossolalia does not**. Therefore he concluded that glossolalia is **not** "a specimen of human language because it is neither internally organized nor systematically related to the world man perceives."<sup>7</sup>

On the basis of his linguistic analysis, he defined Pentecostal glossolalia as "meaningless but phonologically structured human utterance, **believed by the speaker to be a real language but bearing no systematic resemblance to any natural language, living or dead**."<sup>8</sup>

## Felicitas Goodman

Felicitas Goodman, a psychological anthropologist and linguist, studied a number of Pentecostal communities in the United States, Caribbean and Mexico; these included English, Spanish and Mayan speaking groups. She compared what she found with recordings of non-Christian rituals from Africa, Borneo, Indonesia and Japan. She took into account both the segmental structure (such as sounds, syllables, phrases) and the supra-segmental elements (rhythm, accent, intonation), and concluded that there was no distinction between what

was practiced by the Pentecostal Protestants and the followers of other religions.<sup>2</sup>

In 2006, the brains of a group of individuals were scanned while they were speaking in tongues. Activity in the language centers of the brain decreased, while activity in the emotional centers of the brain increased. Activity in the area of control decreased, which corresponds with the reported experience of loss of control. There were no changes in any language areas, suggesting that **glossolalia is not associated with usual language function.**<sup>10-12</sup> Other brain wave studies have also found that brain activity alters in glossolalia.<sup>13</sup>

The material explanation arrived at by a number of studies is that **glossolalia is a “learned behavior.”**<sup>14-15</sup> What is taught is the ability to produce language-like speech. This is only a partial explanation, but it is a part that has withstood much testing. It is possible to train novices to produce glossolalic speech. One experiment with 60 undergraduates found that 20% succeeded after merely listening to a 60-second sample, and 70% succeeded after training:

Our findings that glossolalia can be easily learned through direct instruction, along with demonstrations that tongue speakers can initiate and terminate glossolalia upon request and can exhibit glossolalia in the absence of any indexes of trance[...] support the hypothesis that glossolalia utterances are **goal-directed actions rather than involuntary happenings.**<sup>16</sup> (Emphasis added)

That glossolalia can be learned is also seen in the traces left behind by teachers. An investigation by the Lutheran Medical Center in Brooklyn showed that the influence of a particular leader can shape a group’s glossolalia: where certain prominent glossolalists had visited, whole groups of glossolalists would speak in his style of speech.<sup>17</sup>

Glossolalia exercises is part of the famous Strasberg method acting school. On its web site it is called the “Gibberish exercise”:

This is a fun acting exercise. Take a scene or monologue you’ve been working on. Keep the intentions and circumstances, but instead of speaking the lines, speak gibberish. You’ll notice how much can be communicated through body language, tones and looks. This exercise will also help break a rhythm you’ve fallen into and help you discover new things about the scene or monologue.<sup>18</sup>

## Non-Christian glossolalia

Other religious groups have been observed to practice some form of *theopneustic glossolalia*. It is perhaps most commonly in Paganism, Shamanism, and other mediumistic religious practices.<sup>19</sup> In Japan, the God Light Association used to practice glossolalia to cause adherents to recall past lives.<sup>20</sup>

Glossolalia has even been postulated as an explanation for the Voynich manuscript. It was written between 1404-1438 and no one has been able to decipher it.<sup>21</sup>

Certain Gnostic magical texts from the Roman period have written on them unintelligible syllables such as “t t t n n n d d d d...” etc. It is conjectured that these may be transliterations of the sorts of sounds made during glossolalia. The Coptic Gospel of the Egyptians also features a hymn of (mostly) unintelligible syllables which is thought to be an early example of Christian glossolalia.

In the 19th century, Spiritism was developed by the work of Allan Kardec, and the phenomenon was seen as one of the self-evident manifestations of spirits. Spiritists argued that some cases were actually cases of xenoglossia (from Greek, *xenos*, stranger; and *glossa*, language).

The language of spirits or supernatural beings is commonly found among aboriginal peoples of the subarctic regions of North America and Asia. The shamans employ this form of speech in their divinatory and curing ceremonies.<sup>22-23</sup> There are also reports of this type in Micronesia.<sup>24</sup>

Another category of speaking in “tongues” is the language of animals. Eliade has examined the use of animal language used by religio-medical functionaries and finds it a common phenomenon among Siberian shamans as well as practitioners elsewhere. A quotation from Eliade will perhaps be an adequate summary of the form:

...this secret language is actually the “animal language” or originates in animal cries. In South America the neophyte must learn, during his initiation period, to imitate the voices of animals. The same is true of North America . . . All over the world learning the language of animals, especially of birds, is equivalent to knowing the secrets of nature and hence to being able to prophesy... Learning their language, imitating their voice, is

equivalent to ability to communicate with the beyond and the heavens.<sup>25</sup>

Another form of “tongues” that is found among Pentecostals/Charismatics is *phonations frustes*, the monotonous repetition of words and syllables that have no meaning.

Alfred Metraux describes the Chaco Indians of South America perform their magical rites which often consist of a monotonous repetition of a melodious theme mixed with words or syllables that have no meaning.<sup>26</sup>

Ortiz found that the Andes tribal doctors chew drugs to induce a semi-conscious state during which they recite unintelligible prayers.<sup>27</sup>

The Dinka in the Sudan utter ecstatic speech when they are possessed by spirits. He describes one of these speeches, “Bursts of frenzied movement were interspersed with quieter periods, when he (the possessed individual) sang snatches of songs which nobody could understand. The situation is a familiar one to all Dinka.”<sup>28</sup>

Xenoglossia, the miraculous ability to speak in a foreign language without studying that language, is not exclusive to Pentecostals and Charismatics. Swanton saw a shaman of the Haida Indians in the Pacific Northwest speak the Tlingit language which he could not speak. The shaman claims a spirit takes control of his tongue.<sup>29</sup>

May described an incident in which Nels Charles, an Indian of northern California who attended a white mission school, spoke a foreign language he did not know. He quotes him as saying, “I can’t even talk Wintu well, but when a spirit enters me the spirit talks and they say I talk Wintu perfectly well. It is just like talking with unknown tongues and getting the spirit in the Pentecostal church.”<sup>30</sup>

Edman says a Wheaton College graduate who was born and reared on the Tibetan border heard the monks speak English during their ritual dances. They quoted Shakespeare and spouted profanities like drunken sailors. They even cursed in the German and French languages.<sup>31</sup>

Slotkin, an anthropologist and former member and officer of the Native American Church (Peyote cult), had considerable experience with the cult. The Peyote cult is an Indian version of Christianity that adopted Christian theology, ethics and eschatology. Peyote is a drug that produces heightened sensibility causing the subject to feel that he can influence others with his thoughts or be influenced by the thoughts of others. Slotkin gives an account of this odd form of glossolalia:

In this connection a frequent phenomenon is speaking in tongues, which results from the fact that people from different tribes participate in a rite together, each using his own language; Peyote teaches one the meaning of otherwise unknown languages.

For example, during the rite of each male participant in succession sings solo four songs at a time. Recently a Winnebago sitting next to me sang a song with what I heard as a Fox text (Fox is an Algonquian language closely related to Menomini, the language I use in the rite), sung so clearly and distinctly I understood every word.

When he was through, I leaned over and asked, "How come you sang that song in Fox rather than Winnebago (a Siouan language unintelligible to me?)"

"I did sing it in Winnebago," he replied. The afternoon following the rite he sat down next to me and asked me to listen while he repeated the song; this time it was completely unintelligible to me because the effects of Peyote had worn off.<sup>32-33</sup>

## **Xenoglossia?**

Practitioners of glossolalia may disagree with secular linguistic researchers and claim that they are speaking human languages (xenoglossia). Ralph Harris, in the work, *Spoken By the Spirit*, published by Radiant Life/GPH in 1973, describes seventy five occasions when glossolalic speech was understood by others.

The Pentecostals and Charismatics who claim they speak known languages should be glad to have their utterances recorded and analyzed by linguists. Yet a miniscule fraction of Pentecostals and Charismatics are willing to do that. Why? What are they hiding?

If they claim they are speaking an unknown language they should refrain from speaking it in public. According to their doctrine this alleged "prayer language" is for private use not public. All public speaking of "tongues" must be of a known language which the speaker has not learned. In all cases in which men exercised the gift of "tongues" they did not know the language they spoke and there were people present who were not believers in Jesus Christ or who did not believe Gentiles could be saved (Acts 2.6; 10.44-48; 19.6). The gift was given as a sign to lead some to salvation and to cause others to understand that salvation was for everyone.

## Glossolalia should be universal

The traditional Pentecostal view is that every Christian should expect to be baptized in the Holy Spirit, the distinctive mark of which is glossolalia<sup>34</sup> While most Protestants agree that baptism in the Holy Spirit is integral to being a Christian, others believe that it is not separable from conversion and no longer marked by glossolalia. Pentecostals appeal to the declaration of the Apostle Peter at Pentecost, that “*the gift of the Holy Spirit*” was for you and “*your children, and to all that are afar off, [even] as many as the Lord our God shall call unto him*” (Acts 2:38-39). Cessationists reply that the gift of speaking in a known language that one had not learned was never intended to be given to all Christians (1 Corinthians 12:30). The statement by Peter was made to the Hebrew people and not to Christians. And he did not say that everyone who believes in Jesus Christ will receive the Holy Spirit and also speak in “tongues.”

Different aspects of speaking in tongues appear in Acts and 1 Corinthians, such that the Assemblies of God declare that the gift in Acts “is the same in essence as the gift of tongues” in 1 Corinthians “but different in purpose and use.”<sup>35</sup> They distinguish between (private) speech in tongues when receiving the gift of the Spirit, and (public) speech in tongues for the benefit of the church. Others assert that the gift in Acts was “not a different phenomenon” but the same gift and in both cases the speech is in an unlearned language.<sup>36</sup>

The New Testament describes “tongues” as something that can potentially be interpreted into human language, thereby “edifying the hearers” (1 Corinthians 14:5, 13). At Pentecost and Caesarea the speakers were praising God (Acts 2:11; 10:46). Paul referred to praying, singing praise, and giving thanks in “tongues” (1 Corinthians 14:14-17), as well as to the interpretation of “tongues” (1 Corinthians 14:5), and instructed those speaking in tongues to pray for the ability to interpret their tongues so others could understand them (1 Corinthians 14:13). While some limit speaking in tongues to speech addressed to God – “prayer or praise,”<sup>37</sup> others claim that speech in “tongues” is revelation from God to the church, and when interpreted into human language by those with the gift of interpretation of “tongues” for the benefit of others present, may be considered equivalent to prophecy.<sup>38</sup>

Musical interludes of glossolalia are sometimes described as “*singing in the Spirit*.” Some hold that singing in the Spirit is

identified with singing in “tongues” in 1 Corinthians 14:13-19,<sup>39</sup> which they hold to be “spiritual or spirited singing,” as opposed to “communicative or impactive singing” which Paul refers to as “singing with the understanding.”<sup>40</sup>

## **Sign for unbelievers (1 Corinthians 14:22)**

Some understand that “tongues” are “a sign for unbelievers that they might believe,”<sup>41</sup> and so advocate it as a means of evangelism. Others point out that Paul quotes Isaiah to show that “when God speaks to people in language they cannot understand, it is quite evidently a sign of God’s judgment” so if unbelievers are baffled by a church service they cannot understand because tongues are spoken without being interpreted, that is a “sign of God’s attitude,” “a sign of judgment.”<sup>42</sup>

## **Comprehension**

Some say that speech in tongues was not understood by the speaker while others assert that the tongues-speaker normally understood his own foreign-language message. This is not correct. Virtually no one who speaks in “tongues” understands what they say. There is no proof that those who claim to know what they are saying do because only a miniscule fraction speak a known language. There is no way to confirm their interpretation. This is a serious problem with the tradition of speaking in a “tongue” that is not a real language.

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# PART IV

## THE ARGUMENT AGAINST “MANIFESTATION GIFTS”

*But now they are many members, but one body. And the eye cannot say to the hand, I have no need of thee: or again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be more feeble are necessary: and those [parts] of the body, which we think to be less honorable, upon these we bestow more abundant honor; and our uncomely [parts] have more abundant comeliness; whereas our comely [parts] have no need: but God tempered the body together, giving more abundant honor 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 suffereth, all the members suffer with it; or [one] member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. Now ye are the body of Christ, and severally members thereof. And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondly prophets, thirdly teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, [divers] kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all [workers of] miracles? have all gifts of healings? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret? **But desire earnestly the greater gifts**. And moreover a most excellent way show I unto you. (1 Corinthians 12.20-31, emphasis ours)*



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# EIGHT

## GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

### Gifted men

The Church was founded by the apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers that Jesus Christ gave to her:

*And he gave some [to be] apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ: till we all attain unto the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a fullgrown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ. (Ephesians 4.11-13)*

These men were divinely inspired to preach the Gospel and teach the Scriptures. They were given the ability to do this by Jesus Christ who gave gifts to men (Ephesians 4.8). He imparted, to specific men of the first century, special abilities to carry out their duties as apostles, evangelists, pastors and teachers.

These gifted men relied primarily on the abilities given to them by Jesus. They had access to Scripture, but in a limited way. The only ones who had copies of the Old Testament in the first century were the Pharisees, Sadducees, scribes and very wealthy families. The apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers had extremely limited access to the Old Testament. Their reliance was mostly on the “manifestation gifts” given to them by Jesus rather than on their personal study of Scripture.

The Hebrews who believed in Jesus Christ had a background in Scripture, but the Gentile converts did not. The Gentile converts who pastored churches like Titus relied solely on the gifts given to them by Jesus through the Apostles and what teaching they received at the hands of the Apostles. The first converts (Hebrew and Gentile) had the

“manifestation gifts” imparted to them by the Apostles as Timothy did by Paul:

*For which cause I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee through the laying on of my hands. (2 Timothy 1.6)*

The “manifestation gift” that Timothy received from Jesus to perform his duties were imparted to him by Paul. Only Apostles could impart the “manifestation gifts.” This is why Paul wrote to the Roman Christian saying he desired to visit them so he could impart the *pneumatikon charisma* to them (Romans 1.11).

The ministry gifts were imparted by the pastors (*presbytery*) through prophetic utterance and the laying on of hands:

*Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. (1 Timothy 4.14).*

This was the method in which the ministry gifts were imparted by the Apostles and pastors to converts.

We understand that the “manifestation gifts” could only be imparted by the Apostles from the ministry of Philip the evangelist. He preached the gospel in Samaria and performed numerous miracles. Many believed in Jesus and were baptized but none of them received the Holy Spirit or were given any of the “manifestation gifts” (Acts 8.5-13, 16). Peter and John went to Samaria and prayed that the converts would receive the Holy Spirit. They prayed and laid hands on the converts who then received the Holy Spirit (Acts 8.14-17).

Simon the magician saw this and asked to buy from Peter the power to do the same. Peter told him to repent (Acts 8.18-24).

Paul also explained that men with specific gifts were given to the Church in his first letter to the Corinthian church:

*And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondly prophets, thirdly teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, [divers] kinds of tongues. (1 Corinthians 12.28)*

As previously noted Jesus gave the Church men who had specific gifts to build up the Church. Paul told the Ephesians that the apostles, prophets and teachers were given to the Church. Here Paul adds miracle

workers, healers, helpers, governors and lastly men who could speak a known language which they did not know how to speak.

The gift of being able to speak an unlearned language was given for two reasons – as a sign to unbelievers (1 Corinthians 14.21-22) and to share the Gospel with people who spoke foreign languages (Acts 2.8). (The subject of speaking an unlearned language will be dealt with in full in Chapter Two.)

Today all evangelists, pastors and teachers in the Western world have total access to Scripture from Genesis 1.1 to Revelation 22.21. Most evangelists, pastors and teachers in the Second and Third world countries have total or partial access to Scripture. They do not rely on divine inspiration to perform their duties. Instead they must study Scripture daily (Acts 17.11) to show themselves approved (2 Timothy 2.15). The Holy Spirit teaches them, but His teaching is not given without intense study of Scripture and prayer by them because it is Scripture that is inspired by YAHWEH and “*profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness. That the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work*” (2 Timothy 3.16-17). It is the inspired word of God that equips not only the evangelists, pastors and teachers in the Church but also all believers to do good works.

We know this is so because Paul commended the believers at Ephesus to “*God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build [you] up, and to give [you] the inheritance among all them that are sanctified*” (Acts 20.32). He did not commend them to the apostles, evangelists, pastors or teachers. We see that believers of the first century were moving away from the authority of the apostles, evangelists, pastors and teachers when Paul was on his way to Rome around 65 AD. They were at that time living by the authority of Scripture – the Old Testament and the New Testament which was nearly completed. Even though few Christians if any at all had the complete New Testament, excluding the books of John and Revelation which were written about 30 years later, they had enough to carry on the work of the ministry.

Paul was admonishing his flocks to move away from apostolic authority to the authority of Scripture. In his farewell message to the believers in Ephesus (Acts 20.17-35) he prophesied that after he departed evil men whom he called “*greivous wolves*” would become members of their congregation and they would not spare the flock.

These men would teach “*perverse things*” in order to “*draw away the disciples after them*” (v .29).

He commended them to Jehovah and to the “*Word of his grace*” that is Scripture (v. 32). He did not commend them to the apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers because believers are to rely solely on the authority of Scripture (Sola Scriptura).

It is clear to us today that believers cannot rely on the authority of men who call themselves, apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers or the Vicar of Christ. Every man who has claimed he has been given divine insight, knowledge, visions and revelations from God has been shown to have made errors in doctrine and the alleged messages from God. The history of the Church is littered with hundreds of false prophets and teachers, founders of cults, and men and women who claimed they were given special messages, visions and revelations.

When believers follow “prophets” who claim they have been selected by God to reform the Church or start a new church they are easily victimized. Instead of accepting the word of the “prophet” that he was given a “new revelation” by God, they are to test the spirits (1 John 4.1). If anything the “prophet” says contradicts Scripture he must be rejected. And if he claims he has “new revelation” that does not contradict Scripture his “fruits” must be examined (Matthew 7.15-20).

Is he wealthy? His standard of living equal to or less than the average of his congregation or is it far greater? Does he emphasize his supreme authority? Is he proud? Does he have numerous people who serve him or does he serve those around him like Jesus did (Matthew 20.28).

The way to be great is not to claim you have a special revelation from God or you have new knowledge or you have been chosen to start a new church. No! The way to be great is to be a servant to all:

*But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Not so shall it be among you: but whosoever would become great among you shall be your minister; and whosoever would be first among you shall be your servant: even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many. (Matthew 20.25-28)*

Spiritual leaders who seek to be great in this life (famous and wealthy) are not led by the Holy Spirit. Instead of being a great man of God he is a backslidden believer. Does this truth mean that virtually every pastor we see on television is not being led by the Holy Spirit? Or did some of them attain fame and great wealth without seeking it?

## Manifestation Gifts

The *pneumatikon charisma* are the “manifestation gifts” of the Holy Spirit. *Pneumatikon* means spirit and *charisma* means gifts – Spirit gifts. These gifts are listed in 1 Corinthians 12.8-10:

*For to one is given through the Spirit the word of wisdom; and to another the word of knowledge, according to the same Spirit: to another faith, in the same Spirit; and to another gifts of healings, in the one Spirit; and to another workings of miracles; and to another prophecy; and to another discernings of spirits; to another [divers] kinds of languages; and to another the interpretation of tongues.*

1. Word of wisdom (Giving a message from God to the Church.)
2. Word of knowledge (Specific divine knowledge not found in Scripture.)
3. Faith (Exercising faith beyond the norm.)
4. Healing (The ability to heal just as Jesus did to the glory of God.)
5. Miracles (The ability to perform a supernatural act to the glory of Jehovah.)
6. Prophecy (Speaking/writing Scripture under divine inspiration.)
7. Distinguishing of spirits (The ability to determine if a person is a servant of God or a servant of Satan.)
8. Kinds of languages (Speaking a known language that one has not learned.)
9. Interpretation of tongues/languages (Understanding a known language which one has not learned.)

The Holy Spirit gives to each member of every church the manifestation of the Spirit for the good of the church (1 Corinthians 12.7). One or more of the “manifestation gifts” were given to every member of every church. In the first century the churches that

apostles founded or visited had all nine of the “manifestation gifts” and the seven ministry gifts, a total of 16 gifts.

## Ministry gifts

There are two categories of gifts – ministry gifts and “manifestation gifts.” When Paul wrote to the church in Rome he described the ministry gifts that the Holy Spirit gives to members of all churches. The “manifestation gifts” were always imparted from an apostle to a man by the laying on of hands. At the time Paul wrote this letter no apostle had visited Rome so none of the “manifestation gifts” had been given to the believers there. Paul sought to go to Rome so he could impart those gifts:

*For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established.* (Romans 1.11)

The ministry gifts are found in Romans 12.6-8:

*And having gifts differing according to the grace that was given to us, whether prophecy, [let us prophesy] according to the proportion of the faith; or ministry, [let us give ourselves] to our ministry; or he that teacheth, to his teaching; or he that exhorteth, to his exhorting; he that giveth, [let him do it] with liberality; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that showeth mercy, with cheerfulness.*

1. Prophecy (Speaking the truths found in Scripture accurately.)
2. Ministry (Do the non-spiritual work in the church.)
3. Teaching (Teaching Scripture.)
4. Exhortation (Giving a message from Scripture designed to motivate or comfort others.)
5. Giving (Giving money to the church.)
6. Ruling (Taking a leadership role either as a pastor or layman.)
7. Mercy (Comforting and restoring others when they sin.)

These gifts can be found in every true church in the world. Since every believer is given at least one gift “*differing according to the grace that was given to us*” (Romans 12.6), a church with 100 members should have a dozen or more members who have at least one of each of these gifts. Churches that have only a few members who exercise their gifts are dysfunctional churches.

The gift of prophecy in this list is not the same as the gift of prophecy in the list in 1 Corinthians 12. Some argue that they are the identical gift of speaking/writing Scripture under divine inspiration. Others argue that the gift of prophecy in Romans is that of speaking the truths found in Scripture accurately. The key is “*according to the proportion of the faith.*” Men who exercise the gift of prophecy in Romans 12.6 speak the truths found in Scripture accurately according to “*the faith*” (the completed Christian faith). That faith is based solely on Scripture. This means the men who have the gift of prophecy in Romans have the ability to accurately teach Scripture by careful study of it. Not all pastors and Bible teachers have the gift of prophecy. Every church should have at least one man who has this gift, but since we are living in the apostasy of the last days (2 Thessalonians 2.3; 2 Timothy 4.3-4) very few pastors and Bible teachers have the ministry gift of teaching Scripture accurately.

Virtually every Protestant church in the world have members who exercise six of the seven ministry gifts found in Romans 12. As noted above only a few churches have men who exercise the gift of prophecy due to the apostasy that we are living in.

## Conclusion

### Purpose of the “manifestation gifts”

The “manifestation gifts” were given for two major reasons – to prove that Jesus is the Messiah and to equip believers for the work of ministry.

Paul wrote that the manifestation gifts were the proof that His Son Jesus is the only way to be saved:

*How shall we escape, if we neglect so great a salvation? which having at the first been spoken through the Lord, was confirmed unto us by them that heard; God also bearing witness with them, both by signs and wonders, and by manifold powers, and by **gifts of the Holy Spirit**, according to his own will. (Hebrews 2.3-4)*

God bore witness to salvation through Jesus by “*signs and wonders, and by manifold powers, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit.*” The “*signs and wonders*” that the Apostles performed when they exercised their “manifestation gifts” was this proof. It was given untold times by them, but only a handful of them were recorded in the Bible.

If God gave mankind continuous proof throughout the Church Age there is no record of it. The last testimony of the “manifestation gifts” being exercised was by Tertullian who lived from 160 to 220 AD. Did God stop giving proof from 220 to 1892 when members of the Baptist church of Richard Spurling, Jr. spoke in “tongues”? Did God intend to give proof to mankind in the first and second centuries and then in the last two centuries before the Second Coming?

Paul made it explicitly clear that Jesus Christ gave the Church gifted men (apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastor, teachers) and gifts (miracles, healings, helps, governors, languages) *“for the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ: till we all attain unto the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a fullgrown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ”* (Ephesians 4.12-13).

The “manifestation gifts” were given for the purpose of maturing believers. They were not given so pastors and evangelists can put on a big show and use them to become famous and wealthy. If the members of the church of any pastor who claims he has some “manifestation gifts” are not super-believers who know the Scriptures inside and out, and are leading the lost to the Lord and then discipling them, that pastor is using the gifts for the wrong reason. He is using them for selfish purposes to bring himself fame, wealth and glory. He is not using them to glorify God.

We must also remember that since the “manifestation gifts” were given to help believers mature in the Lord, the churches that have them should have the most mature believers. Their members should know the Scriptures far better than members of churches that do not have the “manifestation gifts.” They should be able to share the Gospel and explain any portion of Scripture and doctrine (1 Peter 3.15) better than members of other churches. They should also have been discipled and actively be discipling others (Matthew 28.19-20), including their children (Deuteronomy 6.6-7).

Do the Pentecostal/Charismatic churches have the most mature believers in all of Christendom? Or do they have the least mature? If you are a Pentecostal or a Charismatic how well do you know Scripture? Do you read, study, memorize and meditate on Scripture daily (Acts 17.11)? Can you share the Gospel in a clear manner (1 Peter 3.15)? Have you been discipled and are you discipling others (Matthew 28.19-20)? If you have not been discipled see Appendix A.

# NINE

## WHEN THE PERFECT COMES

Paul wrote that the “manifestation gifts” would be used until the “*perfect comes*”:

*Love never faileth: but whether [there be] prophecies, they shall be done away; whether [there be] tongues, they shall cease; whether [there be] knowledge, it shall be done away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part; but when that which is perfect is come, that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I felt as a child, I thought as a child: now that I am become a man, I have put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know fully even as also I was fully known. But now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; and the greatest of these is love. (1 Corinthians 13.8-13)*

This passage clearly says the gifts of prophecy, speaking of languages and the word of knowledge will one day be done away with. The implication is that the other “manifestation gifts” would also pass away.

The key is the phrase “*but when that which is perfect is come, that which is in part shall be done away.*” What is “*that which is perfect?*”

Those who believe the “manifestation gifts” are for today argue that the *perfect* is Jesus Christ and the gifts will continue to be used until He returns. Others argue that the “*perfect*” is the Bible. When the Bible was completed there was no longer a need for the “manifestation gifts.” This means that around 100 AD the “manifestation gifts” were no longer given.

### Put away childish things

Paul went on to give us more knowledge concerning the “manifestation gifts.” He said, “*When I was a child, I spake as a child, I felt as a child, I thought as a child: now that I am become a man, I*

*have put away childish things*” (1 Corinthians 13.11). What was Paul taking about – he had “*put away childish things?*”

Is it possible the “manifestation gifts” were the childish things Paul put away when he became a spiritual man? The childish things were spiritual things. What was the infant Church given to help them mature? It was given the “manifestation gifts” which enabled them to do wondrous things with very little spiritual growth. The Apostles were not spiritual giants on the day of Pentecost – they were spiritual infants. They preached powerful sermons bringing thousands to the Lord, they performed miracles, they healed the sick and raised the dead solely by the power of the Holy Spirit in spite of their lack of spiritual maturity.

Given the context of the passage – “manifestation gifts” – it would seem logical that the childish things Paul did away with were the “manifestation gifts.” This is why he went on to say that it is better to have the gift of prophecy instead of the gift of speaking a known language that one has not learned (1 Corinthians 14.1-2).

## **Misuses of the gift of languages**

Apparently the believers in Corinth had misused the gift of speaking a known language for the purpose of evangelism and were using it in public for another purpose. Three-quarters of chapter 14 were written to straighten out the misuse of the gift of language.

The Corinthians were misusing the gift of language for the speaker’s edification rather than the edification of others. Paul said he desired that they seek after the gift of prophecy instead so they could edify the church (1 Corinthians 14.4). He noted that the one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks a language unless he also interprets it.

If a person is given the gift of speaking a known language which he does not know from studying he has no idea what he is saying unless he also has the gift of interpretation of a language he does not know. The question we must ask is “Why would Jehovah have given numerous believers in Corinth the gift of speaking a language without giving others the gift of interpreting languages?”

Many Corinthians were exercising the gift of languages, but few if any who had the gift of interpretation. We know that the gift of languages was speaking a known language because Paul said:

*There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and no [kind] is without signification. If then I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be to him that speaketh a barbarian, and he that speaketh will be a barbarian unto me. (1 Corinthians 14.10-11)*

## **Speaking mysteries**

Most Pentecostals and Charismatics believe that the comment Paul made below is a reference to a special prayer language:

*For he that speaketh in a tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God; for no man understandeth; but in the spirit he speaketh mysteries. (1 Corinthians 14.2)*

They read into this statement something that is not there. Paul does not say there is a “special prayer” language here or elsewhere. He wrote that an individual who speaks a known language to men who do not understand that language is speaking to God only because no one understands what he is saying. Since no one comprehends what he is saying he is speaking mysteries.

The believers in Corinth were speaking in “tongues” and very few of these utterances were interpreted. This was a misuse of the gift so the Holy Spirit inspired Paul to lay out rules for speaking a known language which a person does not know:

*If any man speaketh in a tongue, [let it be] by two, or at the most three, and [that] in turn; and let one interpret: but if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God. (1 Corinthians 14.27-28)*

Paul allowed the Corinthian believers to continue to speak in “tongues” when they were not in church. He corrected a misuse of the gift of speaking a known language which one does not know. He was not confirming that there was a special gift of speaking a mystery language in prayer. That is an assumption that many Pentecostals and Charismatics make. It is possible Paul did not forbid they speak this mystery language because he understood it would soon pass away. If he explained what they were doing was not of God it could destroy their faith and cause great dissension in the church at Corinth and possibly a split. Instead he allowed them to continue knowing the misuse would soon fade away.

This abuse of the gift of speaking a known language did not affect the other churches and was only practiced by heretics in the second and third centuries.

There is no special “prayer language” that no one knows and which millions of Christians around the world speak on a daily basis. This so-called “prayer language,” if it were real, would be a sign gift. It is a daily sign that the one who has it is truly saved and baptized in the Spirit. This concept contradicts clear passages in the Bible that say Christians are to live by faith (Romans 1.17; Galatians 2.20; 3.11; Hebrews 10.38). Every Christian who speaks mysteries (1 Corinthians 14.2) is living by signs. This should concern the people who speak an alleged mystery language. Are they living by faith or by signs?

What did Jesus say to the Pharisees when they asked Him for a sign?

*An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of Jonah. And he left them, and departed.* (Matthew 16.4)

Are the Pentecostals and Charismatics of the 20th and now 21st centuries an *evil and adulterous generation*?” It is definitely something to think about.

## **Rules for using the gift of speaking a language**

Paul laid down scriptural rules for believers who exercised the gift of speaking a known language that they had not learned:

*If any man speaketh in a tongue, [let it be] by two, or at the most three, and [that] in turn; and let one interpret: but if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God. And let the prophets speak [by] two or three, and let the others discern.* (1 Corinthians 14.27-29)

Paul had to lay down strict rules on the gift of speaking a known language which one had not learned because it was being misused and counterfeited. The Corinthian believers became enamored by this gift and used it so much their worship services had turned into a circus:

*If therefore the whole church be assembled together and all speak with tongues, and there come in men unlearned or unbelieving, will they not say that ye are mad? (1 Corinthians 14.23)*

This was a gentle way of rebuking the Corinthians who were out of control. Paul rebuked them in both of his letters several times for various problems (1 Corinthians 1.11-13; 3.1-5; 18-23; 4.5-16; 5.1-13; 6.1-20; 8.7-13; 10.14; 11.18-19, 21, 30; 14.34-35; 14.33-34; 2 Corinthians 7.14-18; 10.7; 11.3, 8-9; 12.20-21; 13.2, 5). This was just one of those rebukes rather than a hypothetical question. Today there are thousands of Pentecostal/Charismatic churches around the world that do not follow the rules for speaking a known language which a person has not learned.

## **Spiritual poverty and worldly riches**

The rules are explicitly clear and they cannot be broken by any church or group of believers as noted previously (1 Corinthians 14.27-29). Every church and group of believers who violate this rule is in open disobedience to God. He will not bless them. If they attract a large crowd and they grow rich in the world's goods it is not the blessing of God. It is a curse! They are no different than the church at Laodecia which thought they were spiritually rich because of their worldly wealth. According to Jesus they were lukewarm Christians and He told them that flatly:

*So because thou art **lukewarm**, and neither hot nor cold, I will spew thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and have **gotten riches**, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art the **wretched** one and **miserable** and **poor** and **blind** and **naked**: I counsel thee to buy of me gold refined by fire, that thou mayest become rich; and white garments, that thou mayest clothe thyself, and [that] the shame of thy **nakedness** be not made manifest; and eyesalve to anoint thine eyes, that thou mayest see. (Revelation 3.16-18, emphasis ours)*

The believers in Laodecia thought they were super-spiritual because of their worldly riches. Instead they were super-worldly and spiritually blind and bankrupt. A vast number of Christians today believe that because their denomination, association, ministry and church is big and successful it is proof that they have been blessed by God. That simply is not true. Since we are living in the apostasy of the last days (2 Thessalonians 2.3; 2 Timothy 4.3-4) the majority of the large denominations, associations, ministries and churches are apostate. If they were not we would not be living in the apostasy of the last days.

## What is the perfect?

Is the perfect the completion of the Bible? In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul wrote that Jesus gave gifts to men (4.8) and these gifts were “*apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers.*”

*And he gave some [to be] apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ: till we all attain unto the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a fullgrown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: that we may be no longer children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, in craftiness, after the wiles of error; but speaking truth in love, we may grow up in all things into him, who is the head, [even] Christ. (Ephesians 4.11-15)*

We see here that the gifted men that Jesus gave to the Church were given to perfect the saints (believers) so they could do the work of ministry and build up the *body of Christ*. Those gifted men performed these duties until all believers attained “*unto the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a fullgrown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.*”

Did those gifted men fulfill their duty? Did they build up the “*body of Christ*” unto the “*unity of the faith?*” One group of believers today contend that the gifted men fulfilled their ministry of “*perfecting the saints*” with the “manifestation gifts” which are found in 1 Corinthians 12. Once they completed their ministry those men had no need to impart the “manifestation gifts” to another generation of believers. Thusly, the “manifestation gifts” simply were not imparted (given) to any believers after the first century AD.

Others contend that the gifted men who were given the “manifestation gifts” imparted them to others who did the same throughout the Church Age. They have great difficulty finding historical accounts of believers using those gifts after the first century. There are only a handful of historical accounts of Christians exercising the “manifestation gifts” until the 20th century. The very few accounts of Christians allegedly using the “manifestation gifts” are all second and third hand accounts. None of them can be accepted as being gifts given by the Holy Spirit and used according to the guidelines Paul set down in his first letter to the Corinthians.

## What group is apostate?

The Pentecostal and Oneness denominations have **274 million** members around the world. The major Charismatic churches (Calvary Chapel, Vineyard) total about **40 million** members. The two groups have a combined membership of roughly **314 million**.

The Baptist denominations in the world total around **100 million**. The Lutheran denominations have **75 million** members, the Methodists have **75 million** and the Reformed also have about **75 million**. The Anglican denominations have about **80 million** members. The total membership of the major non-Pentecostal/Charismatic denominations is about **405 million**.<sup>1</sup>

The Pentecostals and Charismatics made massive inroads into other denominations and by 1990 it is estimated that **33 million** evangelicals were exercising the “manifestation gifts.” If we add 33 million to 314 we have **347 million** Christians in the world who exercise the “manifestation gifts.” If we subtract 33 million from 405 million we have **372 million** who do not.

Since we are living in the apostasy of the last days the majority of churches are apostate. Which group do you think is apostate? Is the **347 million** strong or the **372 million** strong group apostate?

It should be noted that not all of the churches in the group that is apostate are also apostate. There are a few churches in that group that are not. And many of the churches in the group that is not apostate are apostate. One denomination that is well down the road of apostasy is the Anglican.

Now to determine which group is apostate we must see what Jesus had to say:

*Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, did we not **prophesy by thy name**, and by thy name **cast out demons**, and by thy name **do many mighty works**? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. (Matthew 7.21-23, emphasis ours)*

There is only one group of Christians in the world that emphasize the three things that this group of unsaved people will claim they did in the name of Jesus Christ come judgment day. They truly believe they are saved and that they were doing the work of Jesus Christ. This will not

be a group of a few hundred or a few thousand. There will be hundreds of millions or possibly billions of people who will be in this group.

## **Conclusion**

### **Misuses of the gift of languages**

The believers in Corinth were misusing the gift of speaking a known language which a person does not know. They were speaking in “tongues” in worship services so much that they had turned a solemn act into a circus. This is why Paul laid down strict rules governing the use of speaking a known language. ALL Pentecostal and Charismatic churches that do not follow those rules are imitating the Corinthian church and committing the same sin they did. Instead of imitating the spiritual infants in Corinth believers today are to put away childish things and grow unto a mature disciple.

### **Prayer language**

There is no special “prayer language” that some Christians speak and have no idea what they are saying. The gift of languages is solely the gift of speaking a known language without learning it. If you insist that there is a special “prayer language” the use of it is a sign. Christians are to live by faith (Romans 1.17; Galatians 2.20; 3.11; Hebrews 10.38) not by signs. Jesus condemned the Jews because they sought after signs (Matthew 16.4). That applies to people today who seek after signs rather than living by faith.

### **Spiritual wealth**

Most Christians think that a congregation that has a large sanctuary and other big buildings, thousands of members and revenue of millions of dollars each year has been blessed by God with all those worldly riches. It does not matter to the members if the pastors know what their spiritual duties are and if they are performing them for the glory of God and not their own glory. They also do not care if they are being fed the Word and are being disciplined. They are just happy they are part of a famous church with a famous head pastor.

Worldly wealth is not a mark of spiritual wealth. Virtually every congregation that has a massive campus with dozens of acres of land,

lots of big buildings, a gigantic sanctuary, a gym, a jet, a TV studio and dozens of pastors with a world famous head pastor is spiritually poverty stricken. The members are spiritual babies crying “dada” and “mama” in their crib (church) who rarely read and study the Bible, memorize and meditate on Scripture, pray with understanding, share the Gospel and make disciples. Virtually none of the members have been discipled or even want to be discipled. To them church is a social club where they can have fun and party.

## **The Perfect**

The “*perfect*” is either the Second Coming of Jesus Christ or the completion of the faith with the closure of Scripture.

Those who have the “manifestation gifts” can only use them in accordance with the rules that Paul laid down in 1 Corinthians 14. Those gifts are to be used to help believers reach full maturity in the faith. They are not to be used to draw people to a church so it can have more members and more money and the pastors can be famous.

**If** the “*perfect*” is the Second Coming of Jesus Christ the gifted men that Jesus gave to the Church will be with the Church until that day. This means that there will be apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers in the Church until the Second Coming (Ephesians 4.11). It also means that all of the “manifestation gifts” will be given to every church that wants them throughout the Church Age (1 Corinthians 12.28). Since there is no record of apostles and prophets being in the Church and the “manifestation gifts” being given to believers throughout the Church Age after the first century it would seem as if the perfect is the completion of the Christian faith (the completion of the Bible) around 100 AD.

## **Notes**

1. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Christian\\_denominations\\_by\\_number\\_of\\_members](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Christian_denominations_by_number_of_members).



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# TEN

## CESSATIONISM

The discussion regarding speaking in “tongues” has been controversial since the first appearance of the “manifestation gifts” in the late 19th century, and it became more intense since the widespread Charismatic Movement of the 1960s. Many books have been published either defending or attacking the practice. The issue has sometimes been a contributing factor in splits within churches and in denominations. Within that debate are continuationists who believe that the gift of “tongues” and the other “manifestation gifts” have a role to play in contemporary Christian practice and cessationists who believe that the “manifestation gifts” were given only to believers in the time of the early Church.

There are two major camps within cessationism:

**Classical Cessationism** asserts that the “manifestation gifts” ceased with the apostles and the completion of the Bible around 100 AD. Those gifts were given to equip believers to do the work of spreading the Gospel and making disciples (Ephesians 4.11-13). They also served as proof that Jesus is the true Messiah and His disciples were commissioned to evangelize the world (Matthew 28.19-20; Acts 1.8; 2.1-12).

God occasionally performs miracles today, such as healings or divine guidance, so long as these “miracles” are not used to create new doctrine or add to the New Testament canon. Some Classical Cessationists believe that the miraculous gifts can take place where the message of salvation is being propagated to a tribe or nation which is unfamiliar with the Gospel. Richard Gaffin, John F. MacArthur and Daniel B. Wallace are perhaps the best-known classical Cessationists.

**Full Cessationism** additionally asserts that no miracles are performed by God today by the hand of man. God performs miracles but no human agent is involved. All divine guidance is through Scripture as the Bible says (2 Timothy 3.16). B. B. Warfield, J. Gresham Machen, F.N. Lee are the most notable teachers of this.

## Conclusion

Is the doctrine of cessationism dangerous to the Body of Christ? Some Pentecostals and Charismatic pastors think it is. One very prominent Charismatic pastor said this about cessationism:

That definitely is leading to a part of the apostasy within the church. I mean, the, the Holy Spirit is the life of the church, and uh, you know it is, without the Holy Spirit there is just a total spiritual deadness and uh where you deny actually the work of the Holy Spirit within the church today it is just opening the door to you know to apostasy.

Yet another lesser known Charismatic pastor had this to say about cessationism:

Nowhere in the Scripture do I see any indication that uh, cessationism is linked to an apostasy in the last days. In fact if any in that 2 Timothy chapter three passage and a little bit latter he says in verse five, *“Having a form of godliness but denying its power, from such people turn away for of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives,”* well we’ll this skip this part there so forth the drama. Verse eight says, *“Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses so did these also resist the truth, men of corrupt minds disapproved according to concerning the faith”*...

So if anything I think the apostasy is **not linked to denying the gifts**, but instead maybe counterfeiting the gifts which we certainly see being popular as far as I am concerned on American religious TV today. (12.28.2012, CSN, To Every Man an Answer program)

Which pastor is correct? Is the belief that the “manifestation gifts” ceased to be given around 100 A.D. right or is it possible that what we see today is a counterfeiting of those ancient gifts?

# ELEVEN

## ARGUMENTS AGAINST MANIFESTATION GIFTS

The doctrines that the Pentecostals and Charismatics have developed concerning the “manifestation gifts” have been based on a misunderstanding of Scripture.

### Tongues

The doctrine that there are three types of gifts of “tongues” is simply not biblical. The Bible is clear that there is only one gift of speaking a **known** language which the speaker has not learned (1 Corinthians 12.10; 14.10-11). Notice that Paul says “*divers kinds of tongues*” and “*There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and no [kind] is without signification. If then I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be to him that speaketh a barbarian, and he that speaketh will be a barbarian unto me.*” It is clear from the Bible that the gift of “tongues” is a gift of speaking a known language which the speaker has not learned. It does not matter if that gift is used for evangelism or for edification of the church with aid from one who has the gift of interpretation. It is one gift of speaking a known language.

Some believe that they can speak a heavenly language of angels. The Bible does not say the Holy Spirit gives Christians the gift of speaking the language of angels. Paul said, “*If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am become sounding brass, or a clanging cymbal*” (1 Corinthians 13.1). He simply gave a hypothetical supposition that if he had the divine ability to speak the angelic language and he did not have love this ability would be worthless. Doctrine is based on clear statements not on hypothetical statements.

The third is the alleged gift of praying in “tongues.” The Bible does not say the Holy Spirit gives believers the gift of praying in

“tongues.” The Corinthian believers were praying in what they thought was a mystery language. Paul rebuked them harshly saying that what they were doing was wrong. He told them that “*if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful. What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also*” (1 Corinthians 14.14-15). Instead of flatly telling them to stop praying the mystery language he said they could, but they also had to pray in a real language. The praying in the spirit here is not praying in the Holy Spirit, but by a person’s own spirit.

The best one can say is that some people can allow their spirit to take control of their vocal cords and pray in a language that only spirits understand. If this is what you believe you must follow the command by Paul that you should also pray with your mind. If you pray more with your spirit than with your mind you are not following the command of Paul. And when you are in public with other believers you should always pray with your mind (1 Corinthians 14.16-19). He called the practice of praying in “tongues” and speaking in “tongues” without interpretation childishness (1 Corinthians 14.20). He also said, “*howbeit in the church I had rather speak **five words** with my understanding, that I might instruct others also, than **ten thousand** words in a tongue*” (1 Corinthians 14.19, emphasis added).

Which is more important to you? Is it more important to hear ten thousand words in a mystery language that you do not understand or to hear five words that you understand? Is it more important to you to be entertained by watching people speak a mystery language or to have a pastor teach you the Bible “*line on line,*” chapter-by-chapter and book-by-book (Isaiah 28.10). If you think being taught Scripture by a man who knows the Bible inside and out is more important than being entertained go to a church where the pastor does just that.

The incidents in which people have spoken in a known language which was understood as such are few and far between. Why is that? Is the most common gift given to Christians one of speaking the language of angels or are Pentecostals and Charsimatics speaking gibberish as all linguists have concluded and the few times they have spoken a real language has been by the power of demons to deceive people?

Why did the Holy Spirit not nip this unusual practice by the Corinthians in the bud? We can only speculate, but He could have allowed it to go on just as He allows false religions to prosper. God

allows men to chase after false doctrines and false religions to prove to man that man cannot discern between good and evil on his own. It is only by the power of God that any man can discern what doctrine and what religion is true.

God allowed false prophets and dreamers to rise up in Israel to test the people (Deuteronomy 13.1-11). He is omniscient and knew before He created the universe what every man, woman and child would ever do. He tests people to show them how base they are:

*I said in my heart, [it is] because of the sons of men, that God may prove them, and that they may see that they themselves are [but as] beasts. (Ecclesiastes 3.18)*

This is why it is the spiritual responsibility of every believer to study a doctrine thoroughly to determine if it is biblical or not. Too many believers accept doctrines because their pastor, Bible teacher, favorite televangelist, friend or spouse says it is true. It is up to each believer to study Scripture daily to see whether the things pastors and bible teachers say are biblical (Acts 17.11; 2 Timothy 2.15).

## **Singing and praying in the Spirit**

Some believe that Christians can “sing in the Spirit.” In the same passage that Paul dealt with praying in the spirit he dealt with singing in the spirit. Some believers in Corinth thought they could sing a mystery language that only their spirit understood. Paul told them if they sing in the spirit they also need to sing with their mind (1 Corinthians 14.15).

The purpose of all the gifts of the Spirit listed in Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12 is to edify (1 Corinthians 14.17), exhort (1 Corinthians 14.31) and equip believers (1 Corinthians 12.28; 14.26; Ephesians 4.11-12). When any “manifestation gift” does not edify, exhort or equip believers it should not be used. Edification, exhortation and equipping are three aspects of spiritual growth.

The Greek word *oikodome* (edify, edified) means “the act of building a home” (Vine’s, p. 357). It is used figuratively to signify spiritual growth. Scripture is the main tool that is used for spiritual growth (2 Timothy 3.16). The specific “manifestation gifts” of speaking a known language and interpreting a known language are specifically to be used to instruct believers so they can grow spiritually (1 Corinthians 14.3-6) and to convict the unsaved so they trust in Jesus (1 Corinthians 14.24-25).

If one believes he has the gift of singing or praying in the Holy Spirit he can do so for his edification. These so-called “gifts” must only be used in the privacy of one’s home. They can never be used in church or in a home Bible study or prayer meeting with other than family members present.

## **Gift of prophecy**

Those who believe that the gift of prophecy is extant today must believe that prophets can be given divine revelation that should be added to the Bible. They must believe the warning in Revelation 22.18 only applies to the book of Revelation. Joseph Smith, Jr. believed this and that is why he added to Scripture the Book of Mormon and other writings.

The gift of prophesy is exercised by numerous Pentecostals and Charismatics for personal gain. There are hundreds of cases in which a person has claimed he was given a revelation or message from God for a specific person. Some of these messages are that the person should give him money or something else. There are even cases of prophets saying the Lord told them that the subject should get divorced so they can marry him/her.

The most dangerous aspect of this gift is that it has been used to start every cult in Christendom. Below is a list of men and women who claimed that they had the gift of prophecy and received divine revelation to start a new church that was the one and only true church:

Joseph Smith, Jr. – Mormon Church (1830)

Joseph Bates, J. N. Andrews, James White, Ellen G. White –  
Seventh-day Adventist Church (1863)

Mary Baker Eddy – Church of Christ, Scientist (1879)

Charles Taze Russell – Watchtower Society (1881)

Herbert W. Armstrong – Worldwide Church of God (1934)

Victor Paul Wierwille – The Way International (1942)

Sun Myun Moon – Unification Church (1954)

Mark L. Prophet – The Summit Lighthouse (Church Universal and  
Triumphant) (1958)

David Berg – Children of God (1968)

Vernon Howell (a.k.a. David Koresh) – Branch Davidians (1983)

It should be noted that the writings and teachings of Baptist preacher William Miller and practicing Freemason until 1831,<sup>1-3</sup> were used by Joseph Smith, Jr., Joseph Bates, James White, Ellen G. White, J. N. Andrews, Charles Taze Russell and Herbert W. Armstrong to formulate some of their doctrines. Miller was the first preacher in America to gather a large following based solely on his prophetic teaching of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. He prophesied that Jesus would return between March 21, 1843 and March 21, 1844.<sup>4</sup> A new date (April 18, 1844) was based on the Karaite Jewish calendar (as opposed to the Rabbinic calendar) when his first prophecy failed.<sup>5</sup> Like the previous date, April 18 passed without Christ's return. Miller responded publicly, writing, "I confess my error, and acknowledge my disappointment; yet I still believe that the day of the Lord is near, even at the door."<sup>6</sup> Samuel S. Snow made a prophecy that Christ would return on, "the tenth day of the seventh month of the present year, 1844."<sup>7</sup> Again using the calendar of the Karaite Jews, this date was determined to be October 22, 1844.

Miller stopped predicting and retired, yet he held to his belief that the return of Christ was imminent. His four most devoted followers Joseph Bates, J. N. Andrews and James and Ellen White gathered some other followers and founded the Seventh-day Adventists Church.

### **“Tongues” is evidence of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit**

The belief that the evidence of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is speaking in “tongues” is not biblical. The Gentile family of Cornelius spoke known languages as a sign to the Jewish believers who did not understand that Gentiles could be saved (Acts 10.45). It was a fulfillment of a prophecy made by Isaiah:

*Nay, but by [men of] strange lips and with another tongue will he speak to this people. (Isaiah 28.11)*

The disciples of John who spoke known languages did so in the presence of other Jews as a sign to them. Paul spent three months

preaching the Gospel to the Jews in the synagogue. The Jews rejected the Gospel and Paul had to preach the Gospel in the school of Tyrannus. He did that for two years performing numerous miracles and people were being healed by handkerchiefs and aprons that he had touched (Acts 19.8-12).

There are also several examples of people who were filled with the Holy Spirit who did not speak in “tongues”:

Luke 1:15 – John the Baptist was “*full of the Holy Spirit.*”

Luke 1:41 – Elizabeth “*filled with the Holy Spirit.*”

Luke 1:67 – Zacharias “*filled with the Holy Spirit.*”

Luke 3:22; 4:1, 18 – Jesus was “*full of the Holy Spirit.*”

Acts 4:31 – Believers “*were all filled with the Holy Spirit*” and they preached the Gospel rather than speaking in “tongues.”

Acts 7:55 – Stephen was “*full of the Holy Spirit.*”

Acts 8:14-17 – Samaritans “*received the Holy Spirit.*”

Acts 11.22-24 – Barnabas was “*full of the Holy Spirit.*”

The only time the Apostles and converts spoke known languages which they did not know was to fulfill the prophecy of Isaiah noted above. The next statement said they would not believe:

*To whom he said, This is the rest, give ye rest to him that is weary; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear. (Isaiah 28.12)*

Even though the Jews were given this sign of strange men speaking foreign languages (Acts 2.8), the vast majority of them did not believe as the prophecy said they would not.

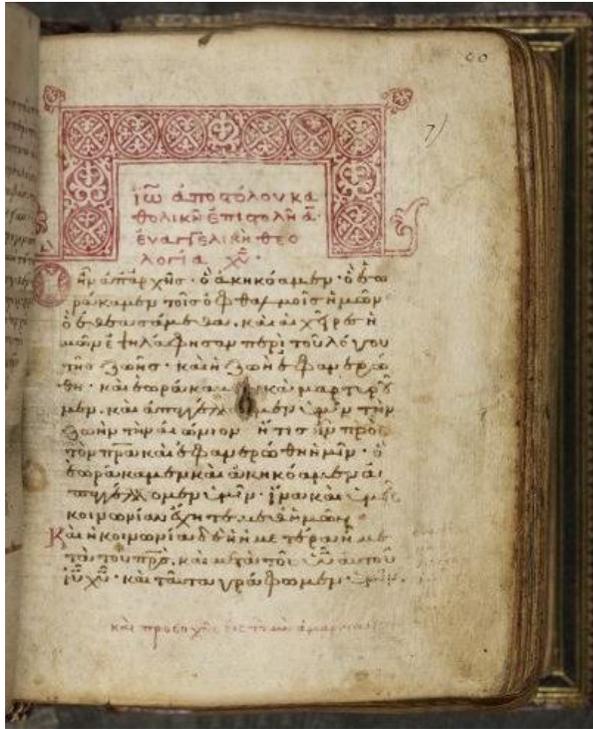
## Notes

1. Bliss, Sylvester. *Memoirs of William Miller*, Boston: Joshua V. Himes, 1853. pp. 21-22.

2. Miller (listed as Capt. Miller) is later given as one of the early masters of Morning Star Lodge, No. 27. This lodge is said to have been “organized in Poultney prior to 1800, though the exact date is not known.” David L. Rowe’s recent Miller biography *God’s Strange Work: William Miller and the End of the World*.

3. Rowe, David L. *God’s Strange Work: William Miller and the End of the World* (Eerdmans: 2008) gives extensive documentation of Miller’s Masonic connections, noting that he attended a meeting as a youth on March 4, 1798; joined the Morning Star Lodge in Poultney and eventually rose to the rank of Grand Master. David L. Rowe, *God’s Strange Work: William Miller and the End of the World* (Eerdmans. 2008. p. 27.

4. Quoted in Everett N. Dick, *William Miller and the Advent Crisis*, Berrien Springs: Andrews University Press. 1994. pp. 96–97.
5. Knight, George R. *Millennial Fever and the End of the World*, Boise, ID: Pacific Press. 1993. pp. 163–164.
6. Sylvester Bliss, *Memoirs of William Miller*, Boston: Joshua V. Himes, 1853. p. 256.
7. Snow, Samuel S., *Advent Herald*, 8.21.1844. p. 20.



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# TWELVE

## HISTORY OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES EXAMINED

Every time evangelists and missionaries have tried to use the gift of speaking a known language which they have not learned they have failed. It has not been used for evangelism since the first century.

### Confusion

The main characteristic of the Pentecostal/Charismatic movement is confusion during services. The attendees of the Azusa Street meetings exhibited behavior unheard of in Protestant churches: **dancing, intense shouting, vigorous jerking, passing out, crying, howling, emotional outbursts, and speaking gibberish.** The same behavior was seen at the Toronto Blessing, Brownsville Revival and other revival meetings all over the world. Jon Arnott, pastor of the Toronto Airport Church said about his meetings, “You’d think you had walked into a **mad house** or something.” YAHWEH is not a God of confusion:

*For YAHWEH is not a God of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints. (1 Corinthians 14.33)*

### End of the “manifestation gifts”

The last early Church father to say the “manifestation gifts” were being exercised was Tertullian who lived from 160 to 220 AD. He wrote around 207 that they were still being used.

John could have imparted these gifts as late as 100 AD. The men who were given those gifts could have been born around 80 AD. If they lived 100 years that would bring the use of the “manifestation gifts” to about 180 AD at the latest. This would be the end of the

Apostolic Age. Yet Ireneus (140-202) and Tertullian (160-220 AD) wrote that they saw Christians who exercised the “manifestation gifts.” Yet neither of them said that they exercised those gifts.

Some believers who were eager to have the “manifestation gifts” after they were no longer given imitated them. Ireneus and Tertullian thought that the counterfeit gifts were real. This is the most logical explanation considering the fact that many non-believers engaged in ecstatic speech at that time such as Marcion and his followers whom Tertullian challenged. He challenged their counterfeit gifts because of the false doctrines that Marcion was teaching.

If the “manifestation gifts” could have been imparted by someone other than the Apostles there would have been a clear record of them throughout Church history. There is no record of them being used continuously. There are sporadic accounts that are highly questionable and the gifts are exercised by heretics in a non-biblical manner.

### **Demonic imitation**

The devil is the great imitator. He wants to be like God so much (Isaiah 14.14) that he imitates Him whenever he can. Could the use of the “manifestation gifts” in modern times be the devil imitating what took place in the first century?

This question is extremely important because speaking in “tongues” was a gift that Joseph Smith, Jr., Brigham Young and many other Mormons claimed to exercise. It is also a common practice in numerous pagan religions.

Do virtually all Pentecostals and Charismatics speak in “tongues” due to a gift from the Holy Spirit while the Mormons and members of pagan religions speak in “tongues” due to demonic influence?

How can a Christian who speaks in “tongues” but does not understand what he is saying know he is saying something meaningful or just uttering gibberish? Can he be certain he is praising his Lord and not cursing Him? Just because a practice makes a person feel good or feel more spiritual does not make it right?

### **Are “manifestation gifts” a great deception?**

Will millions of people who exercised some of the “manifestation gifts” be turned away by Jesus Christ on the Day of Judgment just as He said:

*Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven. **Many** will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy by thy name, and by thy name cast out demons, and by thy name do many mighty works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.* (Matthew 7.21-23, emphasis added)

Could most of those people be Pentecostals and Charismatics? If they are not what group of pseudo-Christians could this prophecy refer to? There has to be some group of people on Earth that specializes in these three things.

Jesus said “many” will think they were saved performing numerous miracles for Him, yet they were not! We must also remember what Jesus said about the percentage of people who will be saved:

*Enter ye in by the narrow gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and **many** are they that enter in thereby. For narrow is the gate, and straitened the way, that leadeth unto life, and **few** are they that find it.* (Matthew 7.13-14, emphasis added)

It is significant that the word “many” is used twice to designate how “many” will be lost. *Many* will be lost while “few” will be saved. We cannot ascribe a specific percentage to “many” and “few” but the majority of people will be lost while a minority will be saved. We can also say that the majority of the people who exercised the “manifestation gifts” of prophecy, casting out demons and mighty works (miracles) will be lost.

### **Will everyone who wants to be saved be saved?**

One last thing we must take note of is that Jesus said some people will want to be saved and seek to be saved but they will not be saved:

*“Strive to enter through the narrow door; for **many**, I tell you, will seek to enter and will **not be able**.”* (Luke 13.24, emphasis added)

There were millions of people throughout the Church Age who truly wanted to be saved, but were not, and there will be millions more. We can speculate as to why they were not saved, but no one

can be certain. One thing we can be certain of is that millions of people in numerous denominations have sought to be saved and will seek to be saved and think they are saved, but they will NOT be saved.

# THIRTEEN

## AZUSA STREET

The things that the people did who attended the Azusa Street revival meetings were unprecedented in the history of the Church. Nothing like it had ever been seen before. It was looked upon by the Christian community as extremely unusual and not of the Lord. The secular world also considered what they did to be weird saying, “These people appear to be **mad, mentally deranged or under a spell**”<sup>1</sup> (emphasis added).

Some of the things the attendees did were – shout loudly for hours, roll around on the dirty floors, **howl**, run, jump, **shake all over**, shout at the top of their voice, **spin around in circles**, fall on the floor **jerking, kicking** and rolling all over it, and **pass out** and not move for hours as though they were **dead**.<sup>1</sup>

Similar things have been seen in many Pentecostal and Charismatic services since 1906, and even more outrageous things such as barking like dogs, growling like a lion and uncontrollable laughter. And they do it all in the alleged power of the Holy Spirit and in the name of Jesus Christ. Two of the most notable “outpourings” in recent years were the Toronto Blessing and the Brownsville Revival.

Some questions everyone needs to meditate on and answer are:

Since the entire secular world thinks the activities at the Pentecostal and Charismatic revivals of the 20th and 21st centuries are bizarre and laughable can they be of the Holy Spirit?

If the revivals were of the Holy Spirit they would have brought thousands or millions to the Lord. Why have they only been the laughing stock of the secular world and a side show for Christians?

Have the Pentecostals and Charismatics who have attended the revivals matured in the Lord and become dynamic disciples of Jesus Christ who have discipled others?

Have most of the Christians caught up in the revivals remained spiritual infants who are looking for another spiritual fad to get high on?

Why did the apostles and believers of the first century not exhibit some or all of the actions of those of the Azusa Street revival, Toronto Blessing, Brownsville Revival and other revivals?

Has the Holy Spirit changed the way He manifests His power due to cultural differences of the first and twentieth centuries?

It is clear from the testimonies of the people who attended the revival and secular observers that they did not follow the commands of Paul concerning the use of the “manifestation gifts.” Far more than three people spoke in “tongues” during a service and most of those utterances were not interpreted against the clear command of Scripture:

*If anyone speaks in a tongue, it should be by two or at the most three, and each in turn, and one must interpret; but if there is no interpreter, he must keep silent in the church; and let him speak to himself and to God. (1 Corinthians 14.27-28)*

If the Holy Spirit changed His ways, for whatever reason, does that mean He is not God? Jesus said He is the “*same yesterday and today, and forever*” (Hebrews 13.8). Is the Holy Spirit also the “*same yesterday and today, and forever*” or does He change His ways from time-to-time? Does He also inspire people to violate the strict rules of worship set down in the Bible?

Since most of the leading evangelists and televangelist of the Pentecostal/Charismatic Movement have been plagued with myriad scandals did the Holy Spirit choose men and women who He knew would fail miserably in their personal lives to lead this so-called “Last Days” revival?

Below is a short list of leading evangelists, televangelists and pastors of the PC Movement who had their name tarnished by a sex, financial scandal, drugs, false visions/prophecies and/or fake healings:

Aimee Semple McPherson (drugs, money)  
Jack Coe (fake healings)  
Kathryn Kuhlman (fake healings, money)  
Marjoe Gortner (fake healings)  
Oral Roberts (false visions, fake healings, money)  
Richard Roberts (money, divorce)  
Paul Crouch (sex, money)  
Jim Bakker (sex, money)  
Jimmy Swaggart (sex)  
Kenneth Copeland (money, false prophecies)

Benny Hinn (money, sex, fake healings, false prophecies)  
Paula White (money, sex)  
Peter Popoff (fake healings, false prophecies)  
Morris Cerullo (money, fake healings)  
Robert Tilton (money)  
W.V. Grant (money, fake healings)

It is unusual that virtually every televangelist in America is a millionaire who lives an extravagant lifestyle. None of them do as all Christians are commanded to do – give to the poor and needy. Instead they plead with the poor and needy to give to them. Few of them give any of their massive salaries to the Lord and none have made their giving public. Are they afraid to do that? And NONE of them truly believe the doctrine that they all teach about “seed faith giving.” They preach hard that if their followers give them “seed money” the giver will be blessed by God with ten-fold, thirty-fold, sixty-fold or a hundred-fold.

If they gave everything they made above the median income of the American people (\$50,000) they would be blessed from ten-fold to a hundred-fold. Since the average income of the top 15 televangelists in America is over \$900,000 they could give \$800,000 to the poor and the Lord and be blessed the next year from \$8,000,000 (ten-fold) to \$80,000,000 (hundred-fold). If they truly believed their “seed faith giving” doctrine why would they not give all they could. Within a few years they would be billionaires. They obviously do NOT believe what they teach about giving. Do they believe anything they teach?

The documentation of the myriad scandals of these and many other televangelists and pastors is detailed in the book, *Greed?* from DOV Bookstore – [www.dovbooks.com](http://www.dovbooks.com)

## Notes

1. “Azusa History.” International Center for Spiritual Renewal. Archived from the original on May 11, 2007. <http://web.archive.org/web/20070511032252/http://www.icfsr.org/history.html>



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# FOURTEEN

## EXERCISING “MANIFESTATION GIFTS”

No one who claims to have had the gifts of healing and miracles since the Apostolic Age has been able to verify this.

### Questions to wrestle with

Some questions which all Pentecostals and Charismatics must wrestle with are:

Why have more than 100 million Catholics around the world exercised some of the “manifestation gifts”?

Is this a way the Holy Spirit is working to reform the Catholic Church?

Is it possible the Catholic religion is a false religion and Satan is using counterfeit gifts to bring the Catholics and Pentecostals/Charismatics together to form a world religion?

**If** the Holy Spirit is using the “manifestation gifts” to reform the Catholic Church and bring about worldwide revival can we be living in the last days? [**Authors’ note:** The Bible is clear that during the Tribulation there will be a world religion that everyone will be forced to be part of or they will be killed. That religion is the worship of the Antichrist (Revelation 13.15-16). We have seen a movement to form a world religion in the last century with the Parliament of the World’s Religions in 1893; the creation of the Council of Religious Education in 1905 and the Federal Council of Churches in 1908 which merged in 1950 to form the National Council of Churches; the creation of the World Council of Churches in 1948 and the

Conference of European Churches in 1959; and the founding of the Three Faiths Forum in 1997 and the Christian Churches Together in 2006. If we are seeing a worldwide revival through the “manifestation gifts” then we cannot be living in the end times.]

**If** we are living in the apostasy of the “last days” (2 Thessalonians 2.3; 2 Timothy 4.3-4) is Satan using counterfeit gifts to bring the false Catholic religion together with the apostate Pentecostals and Charismatics?

## Skeptics

Unsaved men who doubt certain evangelists have the gifts of healing and working miracles have investigated some of these “gifted men.” Every time a non-Christian has investigated the claims of the healers and miracle workers they have found that they did not heal a single person or perform a single miracle. This fact is strong evidence that the “manifestation gifts” have not been given to believers in these last days.

The most famous investigations were conducted by James Randi who proved that Peter Popoff and Ernest Angley were fakers. He wrote a book, *The Faith Healers*, in which he exposed their tricks and gimmicks and those of other self-proclaimed “faith healers” – W.V. Grant, Oral Roberts and Pat Robertson. Popoff declared bankruptcy within a year of being exposed by Randi although he has made a comeback.

After exposing the leading “faith healers” as frauds Randi decided to prove that most people are gullible and will accept almost any claim without checking it. In 1988 he perpetrated a fraud on the media with help from his friend Jose Alvarez and Australia’s “60 Minutes” television program. He released a fake press package and launched a publicity campaign for a spirit channeler named Carlos (Jose Alvarez). Randi told him what to say with radio equipment. The media and the public bought into the hoax. Not a single reporter checked the credentials and history of Carlos which had been fabricated by Randi. The hoax was exposed on “60 Minutes” in which Carlos and Randi explained how they pulled it off.<sup>1-2</sup>

The James Randi Educational Foundation currently offers a prize of \$1,000,000 to eligible applicants who can demonstrate a supernatural ability under agreed-upon scientific testing criteria.

Similar to the paranormal challenges of John Nevil Maskelyne and Houdini.<sup>3</sup>

Since 1963 there have been 25 organizations that have offered rewards ranging from \$1,000 to \$1,000,000 to anyone who can perform a healing, miracle or any supernatural or psychic ability. No one has won any of these awards.<sup>4</sup> If the men and women who claim they have the gifts of healing and miracles truly had them they could collect over \$1,000,000 by demonstrating their powers. They could then take that money and give it to the poor and needy.

### **Manifestation gifts – for revival or apostasy**

All Pentecostals and Charismatics who do not believe every Pentecostal and Charismatic church should have at least one member who has the gift of miracles and one member who has the gift of healing are **cessationists**.

**If** the “manifestation gifts” are for all Christians today then the Holy Spirit is using them to bring about worldwide revival and to reform the Catholic Church, which is a true Christian church with some doctrinal problems and traditions that are not biblical. We are therefore seeing a worldwide revival which means we cannot be living in the end times. (The Bible is clear that during the last days there will be great apostasy in the Church – 2 Thessalonians 2.3; 2 Timothy 4.3-4).

**If** the “manifestation gifts” are **not** for Christians today the devil is using these counterfeit gifts to bring Catholics and Pentecostals/Charismatics together to form a world religion. We are living in the last days and the Pentecostal/Charismatic movement is the major cause of the apostasy of the end times. We will see a world religion formed with assistance from Pentecostals and Charismatics.

One of the leading televangelists of the twentieth century, Kathryn Kuhlman, almost always had Catholic priests and nuns in uniform on her stage at her revival meetings:

She had a special love for doctors, and wanted them either on the stage or on the front rows of the auditorium. The same was true of priests and nuns – especially if they were ‘in uniform.’ Nothing thrilled Kathryn more than to have thirty or forty Catholic clergymen, especially if they wore clerical collars or, better yet, cassocks, sitting behind her while she ministered. Somehow it

seemed to lend authenticity to what she was doing – and helped create the proper climate of a trust and understanding which was so necessary for a miracle service. (Jamie Buckingham, *Daughter Of Destiny*, p. 221)

Many other Pentecostal and Charismatic televangelists and prominent figures have also worked with Catholics – David du Plessis, Demos Shakarian (founder of the Full Gospel Business Men’s Fellowship International – FGBMFI), Benny Hinn, Kenneth Hagin, John Hagee and Paul Crouch.

## **Healings and miracles**

Every time a skeptic examines the claims of “faith healers” and “miracle workers” he finds the claims to be fraudulent. There is not a single “healing” or “miracle” performed in the 20th or 21st centuries that has been verified by non-Christians.

Numerous case studies have been made of claims by faith healers. Following a Kathryn Kuhlman meeting in 1967 in Philadelphia, Dr. William A. Nolen conducted a case study of 23 people who claimed to have been cured during her services.<sup>5-8</sup> Nolen’s long-term follow-ups concluded there were no cures in those cases.<sup>9-10</sup> Furthermore, “one woman who was said to have been cured of spinal cancer threw away her brace and ran across the stage at Kuhlman’s command; her spine collapsed the next day, according to Nolen, and she died four months later.”<sup>11</sup> In 1976, Kuhlman died in Tulsa, Oklahoma, following open-heart surgery.<sup>12</sup>

**If** the gifts of healing and miracles have been for real for over a century there would be thousands of verified cases of healings and miracles by skeptics. In the first century thousands of skeptics (non-believers) were saved due to the healings and miracles performed by the apostles. The same would be true today. Instead, the unsaved mock faith healers and the Christians who give them their money. Hollywood routinely mocks faith healers and Pentecostals. Watch any of these movies to see for yourself – *Religulous* (2008), *The Apostle* (1997), *Leap of Faith* (1992), *Marjoe* (1972) and *Elmer Gantry* (1960).

# FIFTEEN

## IS THERE A LATTER RAIN?

Many Pentecostals and Charismatics believe that the outpouring of the “manifestation gifts” at the close of the 19th century was the “latter rain” outpouring of the “manifestation gifts” that were given on the day of Pentecost. This concept is not biblical because every use of the term “latter rain” in the Bible is a direct reference to literal rainfall. Not a single use of that term is allegorical (Deuteronomy 11.14; Job 29.23; Proverbs 16.15; Jeremiah 3.3; 5.24; Hosea 6.3; Joel 2.23; Zechariah 10.1; James 5.7).

In the 20th century a belief in a latter rain became very popular. The Charismatics took passages in Zechariah and Joel to mean that God would give the Church the *pneumatikon charisma* in the last days as He had at its conception.

If we examine these passages we will see that they have nothing to do with the 20th century use of the “manifestation gifts.” They are references to literal rainfall:

*Ask ye of YAHWEH rain in the time of the latter rain, [even of] Jehovah that maketh lightnings; and he will give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field. (Zechariah 10.1)*

*Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in YAHWEH your God; for he giveth you the former rain in just measure, and he causeth to come down for you the rain, the former rain and the latter rain, in the first [month]. (Joel 2.23)*

## Outpouring of the Holy Spirit

The prophecy of Joel 2.28-29 is used by all Pentecostals and Charismatics as proof that the Azusa Street phenomenon was of the

Holy Spirit. If we take a close look at that prophecy we see something else:

*“And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: and also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my Spirit.”*

We must remember that this prophecy was made to the nation of Israel, *the children of Zion* (Joel 2.23), and not the Church. The big question is: When will this outpouring take place. The answer is found in verses 30-32:

*“And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of YAHWEH cometh. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of YAHWEH shall be delivered; for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those that escape, as YAHWEH hath said, and among the remnant those whom YAHWEH doth call.”*

We see that at the time the Holy Spirit is poured out on the nation of Israel and not the Church there will be specific signs – *wonders in the heavens and in the earth: blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood.*

Is there a clue in the Bible as to when these signs will be poured out? If we study the Olivet Discourse we find that just before the Second Advent these events take place:

*And there shall be signs in sun and moon and stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, in perplexity for the roaring of the sea and the billows; men fainting for fear, and for expectation of the things which are coming on the world: for the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. (Luke 21.25-26)*

These signs take place just before the Second Advent which means the prophecy of Joel 2.28-29 will be fulfilled right before those signs. We do not know how long before them, but most likely just a few days. During that last week a large number of Israel will be saved because of the signs of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and because of the signs

given throughout the entire Tribulation period. It is in that last week that all of Israel who are still alive will be saved (Romans 11.26).

## **Foundation of the Church**

According to Holy Spirit who wrote through Paul, the foundation of the Church was the apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers:

*And he gave some [to be] apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ: till we all attain unto the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a fullgrown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ. (Ephesians 4.11-13)*

The requirement for a man to be an apostle was he had to have been a disciple of Jesus Christ:

*Of the men therefore that have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and went out among us, beginning from the baptism of John, unto the day that he was received up from us, of these must one become a witness with us of his resurrection. (Acts 1.21-22)*

Since no one for over 1900 years walked with Jesus Christ there are no apostles today. This is important because many Pentecostals claim they are apostles and have many of the “manifestation gifts.” The fact that they erroneously claim to be apostles disqualifies them as such and also shows they do not know the basics of the Christian faith or they are deliberately twisting Scripture unto their own destruction (2 Peter 3.16). Another proof that all of the men and women who are part of the Latter Rain Movement are false prophets and teachers is that most of their prophecies are not fulfilled. The few that are fulfilled are unimportant and things that anyone could guess would happen. For a short list of false prophecies that the leading Pentecostal and Charismatic televangelists have made see Appendix C, Prophecies.

## **The first “Latter Rain” movement**

The “Latter Rain” movement began with the disillusioned Baptist preacher Richard G. Spurling, Sr., his son Junior and dissatisfied

Methodist preacher W. F. Bryant. They adopted the teachings of the radical holiness preachers of the late 19th century and began speaking in “tongues” in 1892. They were quickly ostracized by both denominations but gathered a small following. A. J. Tomlinson joined them and soon took over their movement. He held revival meetings and Charles Fox Parham and William J. Seymour began to hold revival meetings preaching the same doctrines and also speaking in “tongues.” Virtually all Pentecostal and Charismatic denominations and churches sprang from the teaching and doctrines of those men.

Every Christian should find an answer to the following questions in the Bible, this book or other books:

Were the three founders of the Pentecostal movement great men of God that the Holy Spirit used to bring revival?

Did the leaders of the Baptist and Methodist churches that ostracized the Spurlings, Bryant and their followers grieve the Holy Spirit?

Are the leaders of the denominations and churches that reject the “manifestation gifts” grieving the Holy Spirit?

Did God raise up the founders of the Pentecostal/Charismatic movement to bring revival to the Church just before the Second Coming of Jesus Christ?

Is it possible that the Spurlings, Bryant, Tomlinson, Parham, Seymour and others were deceived into believing false doctrine and exercising false gifts of the forces of darkness?

Is the Pentecostal/Charismatic movement one of the leading causes of the apostasy of the last days (2 Thessalonians 2.3; 2 Timothy 4.3-4) that must come before the Rapture?

Was Jesus referring to Pentecostals and Charismatics in His statement that many who will claim to have prophesied, cast out demons and performed miracles in His name will not be saved? (Matthew 7.21-23).

## **The second “Latter Rain” movement**

The second “Latter Rain” movement was sparked by the preaching of Billy Graham and the Healing Revival that featured Oral Roberts, Jack Coe, and William Branham. The leaders of the Pentecostal Sharon Orphanage in Canadian were inspired by the Branham revival meetings. These men, George Hawtin, Percy G. Hunt and Herrick

Holt, gathered with students in October 1947 to seek the leading of the Holy Spirit. They were later joined by Ernest Hawtin and Milford Kirkpatrick, the brother-in-law of the Hawtins. By July 1948 they held their first “Camp Meeting” which drew thousands. This second “Latter Rain” movement quickly spread throughout the world. The teachings and practices of these men and the other leaders of the second “Latter Rain” movement have had powerful influence on many Pentecostal churches and virtually all Charismatic churches in the world.

**This movement was strongly condemned and rejected by the leading Pentecostal denominations.**

The leaders of this “Latter Rain” movement rejected the dispensational teachings of the Pentecostal denominations. They taught the Church would overcome the world instead of being persecuted and martyred.

The “Latter Rain” leaders also taught that God would raise up “Joel’s Army.” The members of this army would be super “overcomers” (the Manifest Sons of God) who would come into the full stature of Jesus Christ receiving the Spirit without measure. They would complete the work of God, restoring man’s rightful position as was originally mandated in Genesis and by coming into the full stature of Christ would usher in His millennial reign.

Every Christian should find an answer to the following questions in the Bible, this book or other books:

Were the founders of the second “Latter Rain” movement great men of God that the Holy Spirit used to bring a second revival?

Did the leaders of the Pentecostal denominations and churches that rejected the second “Latter Rain” movement grieve the Holy Spirit by their actions?

Did God raise up the founders of the second “Latter Rain” movement to bring a second revival to the Church just before the Second Coming of Jesus Christ?

Will there be a third “Latter Rain” movement before the Rapture?

Is the controversial doctrine of the second great revival of the 20th century true that the Church will overcome the secular world and usher in the Millennial Kingdom of Jesus Christ?

If this doctrine is true does it contradict the Bible that clearly says there will be a great falling away from the faith just prior to the Rapture and the Tribulation (2 Thessalonians 2.1-3; 2 Timothy 4.3-4)?

Is it possible that the Spurlings, Bryant, Tomlinson, Parham, Seymour and others were deceived into believing false doctrine and exercising false gifts of the forces of darkness?

**If** the “Latter Rain” proponents are correct why has virtually every man and woman who claims to be an apostle and a prophet been caught in some kind of scandal?

Is the Pentecostal/Charismatic movement one of the leading causes of the apostasy of the last days (2 Thessalonians 2.3; 2 Timothy 4.3-4) that must come before the Rapture?

Was Jesus referring to Pentecostals and Charismatics in His statement that many who will claim to have prophesied, cast out demons and performed miracles in His name will not be saved? (Matthew 7.21-23).

**If** the “manifestation gifts” are for all Christians today and less than half of them are using them (Catholics excluded), then a little more than half of all the Protestants in the world are resisting the Holy Spirit. If this group is actively resisting the “manifestation gifts” they are also resisting the teaching of the Holy Spirit. Some of the doctrines they hold to are not biblical and some of their traditions are not scriptural. Yet every man who was part of the Protestant Reformation was not given any of the “manifestation gifts.” It seems unusual that God would not give those men the “manifestation gifts” if those gifts are so very important to doing the work of the Lord. Who would need them more than the Reformers?

**If** the “manifestation gifts” are **not** for Christians today then the Pentecostals and Charismatics have been lead astray by false prophets and false teachers:

*For the teraphim have spoken vanity, and the diviners have seen a lie; and they have told false dreams, they comfort in vain: therefore they go their way like sheep, they are afflicted, because there is no shepherd. Mine anger is kindled against the shepherds, And I will punish the he-goats. (Zechariah 10.2-3a).*

Teraphim were man-made idols and some had the ability to speak as stated here. The idols did not speak instead a demon spoke through them. The diviners were men and women who claimed to have the ability to see visions of future events. These false diviners were influenced by demons or simply made things up. They told people false dreams (visions) to make money.

The Hebrew people who believed these false prophets were spiritually lost as sheep without a shepherd. God always punished these deceivers and we have seen many false prophets and false teachers in the Pentecostal/Charismatic movements judged by God for their sins.

Jesus Christ prophesied of a group of people who truly believe they are saved who would prophesy, cast out demons and perform miracles in His name (Matthew 7.21-23). If that group is not the Pentecostals and Charismatics there must be another group in the world that focuses on those three things. What group is it?

## **Is there a Latter Rain?**

One must ask why the manifestation gifts virtually disappeared until 1901 when a widespread movement of speaking languages began with Charles Parham. The proponents of the continuation of “manifestation gifts” claim that they became dormant until the time of the “latter rain.” They claim that the term “latter rain” is a reference of the “manifestation gifts” being given a second time in the last days prior to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

No passage in the Bible says there will be a second pouring out of the Holy Spirit in the last days. The verses that refer to a “latter rain” all have to do with literal rainfall for crops (Deuteronomy 11.14; Job 29.23; Proverbs 16.15; Jeremiah 3.3; 5.24; Hosea 6.3; Joel 2.23; Zechariah 10.1; James 5.7). The context of all of the passages is that of God giving people early and latter rains so their crops will grow.

The belief that “manifestation gifts” would be poured out in the last times as the late rain comes to make sure the crops yield their fruit was invented by the men who propagate this doctrine. If they are correct in what they teach there should be members in every church in the world who regularly exercise all nine of the “manifestation gifts.” Every church will have members who have the gifts of the word of wisdom, word of knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, distinguishing of spirits, kinds of languages and interpretation of languages.

Many of the Pentecostal and Charismatic churches claim they have members with seven of the nine gifts, but only a handful claim to exercise all nine gifts regularly. The two gifts that very few of these churches claim they have are the gifts of healing and miracles. It is for

this reason that the few men and women that claim they have those gifts have revival meetings all over the world in which they allegedly heal people and perform miracles. Every Pentecostal and Charismatic who believes every Pentecostal/Charismatic church should have members who exercise all nine manifestation gifts on a regular basis, but admit that not all have the gifts of healing and miracles are cessationists.

The question must be asked, “If most Pentecostal and Charismatic churches have just seven of the nine manifestation gifts and only a handful have all nine why do most churches not have the other two?” The only answer we can come up with are the gifts of healing and working miracles are limited to a handful of men and women. Why? We do not know, but this fact makes many believers question whether the “manifestation gifts” are truly being given today.

Chuck Smith, founder of the Calvary Chapel Movement, thinks they are rarely given because few are capable of handling the gifts of miracles and healing:

If they had this kind of gift would just try to capitalize on it and use it for their own enrichment rather than to really bring honor and glory to the Lord. You know when a person has the gift of miracles, the working of miracles, there is always that tendency of people to try to elevate them, and almost worship them as they did with Peter. Unless you’re very strong I think that things could just really turn your head and destroy you, you know, and so I think it is good that God is delivering to each man severally as He wills. I think the potential is there, but I don’t know that we are capable of handling those kinds of things. (Pastor’s Perspective, August 9, 2011)

Smith also said for years he asked God to give him the “working of miracles and the sign gifts” yet one day while praying, fasting and waiting he felt God told him He gave him the “greater way” – the gift of “love.” He never again asked for the sign gifts.

His statement is powerful and one of the reasons as to why those gifts have not been given to anyone since the first century A.D.

# SIXTEEN

## GLOSSOLIA EXAMINED

### Tongues

Virtually everyone since the late 19th century who has spoken in “tongues” has spoken gibberish. The speech that the Pentecostals and Charismatics call “tongues” is complete gibberish. Only on a few rare occasions have people spoken a known language which they have not learned. Because the instances of “tonguers” speaking a known language are so very rare this “gift” is not a gift from the Holy Spirit of speaking a known language that one has not learned (1 Corinthians 12.10; 14.9-11).

This truth has been confirmed by linguists who have conducted extensive investigations into the “tongues” phenomenon. They have always concluded that Pentecostals and Charismatics are speaking gibberish that they have learned from listening to others speak gibberish. They even conducted an experiment in which they trained people who had no experience in speaking in “tongues” to speak in “tongues.”

### Prayer language

The “gift” that the Pentecostals and Charismatics have can only be an alleged “gift” of speaking a special prayer language. As we saw in Chapter Ten there is no special “prayer language” that no one understands and which millions of Christians around the world speak on a daily basis. This so-called “prayer language,” if it were real, would be a sign gift. It would be a daily sign that the one who has it is truly saved and walking in the Spirit. This concept contradicts clear passages in the Bible that say Christians are to live by faith (Romans 1.17; Galatians 2.20; 3.11; Hebrews 10.38). Every Christian who speaks mysteries (1 Corinthians 14.2) is living by signs. This should concern the people who speak an alleged mystery language. Are they living by faith or by signs? What did Jesus say to the Pharisees when they asked Him for a sign?

*An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of Jonah. And he left them, and departed.* (Matthew 16.4)

Are the Pentecostals and Charismatics of the 20th and now 21st centuries an “*evil and adulterous generation?*”

The argument by some radical Pentecostals/Charismatics that every Christian should have the gift of speaking in “tongues” is clearly not biblical because Paul said that “all” do not speak a known language they have not learned (1 Corinthians 12.30). Their claim that all Christians should speak the alleged mystery “prayer language” is also not biblical because there is no special “prayer language.”

Many Pentecostals and Charismatics speak this mystery prayer “tongue” on a daily basis. They claim it strengthens their faith and makes them holy. This practice may do these things, but the Bible does not say speaking a mystery language will increase one’s faith or make them holy. The Word of God is clear that faith comes by hearing Scripture:

*“So belief [cometh] of hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.”*  
(Romans 10.17)

We increase our faith by daily hearing, reading, studying, memorizing and meditating on Scripture mixed with prayer. If you speak a mystery prayer language try spending an equal amount of time in the Bible each day. Set up your spiritual fitness program today (Appendix A).

ALL Pentecostals and Charismatics who speak in “tongues” must ask themselves these vitally important questions:

How do you know for certain you are praising God and not cursing Him when you speak in “tongues”?

How do you know you are not cursing your family, friends, pastors and brethren when you speak your mystery prayer language?

Could you strengthen your faith more by studying the Bible than by speaking the mystery prayer language?

Do you spend more time speaking your mystery prayer language than you do praying with your mind and studying the Bible?

## AFTERWORD

The question of whether or not the “manifestation gifts” are for all Christians today is a question that every believer in Jesus Christ should have an answer to based on the Bible. Reader, study the Bible and this book until you have an answer to the following questions:

**If** the “manifestation gifts” are for all believers should all of them be used on a regular basis by the congregations that have them? Those gifts are – word of wisdom, word of knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, distinguishing of spirits, kinds of languages and interpretation of languages (1 Corinthians 12.8-10)

**If** a congregation has members that exercise most of the gifts on a regular basis, but never or rarely exercise the other gifts why do they not use the other gifts? Did the Holy Spirit refuse to give them those gifts or did the members refuse to accept them?

Are some gifts such as healing and miracles not given to every church, but only to a few special churches?

Are the super “manifestation gifts” of healing and miracles only given to the super-Christians who use them to build mega-churches?

Are the churches that have the “manifestation gifts” using them for *“for the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ”* (Ephesians 4.12)?

Is every member of every Pentecostal/Charismatic church being disciplined so he/she can share the Gospel and then disciple others?

Should the super-pastors who have the super-gifts of healing and miracles have the best equipped congregations where every member is being disciplined so they can disciple others?

**If** the super-pastors who have the super-gifts have congregations that are **not** equipped to share the Gospel and make disciples why do they

have those super-gifts? Are they for their own glorification? Are their congregations supposed to support them so they can do the evangelism and just forget about discipleship?

Is the Great Commission for all Christians and all churches or is it not for the Church today?

*Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.* (Matthew 28.19-20)

**If** the Pentecostal and Charismatic churches have no discipleship programs, and they have few or no members who are capable of making disciples for what good are their “manifestation gifts”?

**If** the gift of prophecy is extant this means new revelation (new Scripture) can be added to the Bible until the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. This also means the warning to not add to the Word of God (Revelation 22.18) only applies to the book of Revelation. Every Christian cult in the world has claimed new revelation.

Since the majority of the members of Pentecostal and Charismatic churches speak in “tongues” has the Holy Spirit changed His methods? Instead of giving members of a church a variety of the “manifestation gifts” as He did in the first century, does He now give most members the ability to speak the mystery “prayer language,” a few members the gift of speaking a known language they have not learned, fewer still the gift of interpretation and virtually no one the gifts of miracles and healing? The Holy Spirit is God Almighty and He does not change His ways just as Jesus Christ does not (Hebrews 13.8). Paul made it perfectly clear that not everyone is given the gift of speaking a known language (1 Corinthians 12.30).

When believers go to Heaven will they worship the Lord in the same manner as some Pentecostal and Charismatic congregations do? Will we laugh, cry, bark, growl and roll on the floor?

Grace Mercy Ministry  
November 2011

## APPENDIX A

### WHAT YOU MUST DO TO BE SAVED

Do not wait until the Tribulation starts to trust in **Jesus Christ** to save you. If you go into the Tribulation, there is no guarantee you will survive it for very long. Within the first year or so, one-fourth of the world's population will die from war, famine, pestilence and wild animals (Revelation 6.8). By the middle of the Tribulation, one-third of the remaining population of the world will be dead (Revelation 9.15), leaving half of the world's population alive. Things only get worse. So many people die during the Tribulation that man becomes rarer than gold (Isaiah 13.12).

If you have not trusted **Jesus Christ** to save you, do it now! Read the following Scriptures:

*For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans 3.23)*

*For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in **Christ Jesus our Lord**. (Romans 6.23)*

*But God commendeth his own love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, **Christ** died for us. (Romans 5.8)*

*For by grace have ye been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not of works, that no man should glory. (Ephesians 2.8-9)*

*In whom we have our redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace. (Ephesians 1.7)*

*For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. (Romans 10.13)*

*If thou shalt confess with thy mouth **Jesus** as Lord, and shalt believe in thy heart that God raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved: for with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. (Romans 10.9-10)*

*But as many as received him, to them gave he the right to become children of God, [even] to them that believe on his name. (John 1.12)*

If you understand you are a sinner in need of salvation because there is a real Hell, ask **Jesus** to save you right now. Tell Him that you are trusting in Him to save you and cleanse your sins by the blood He shed on the cross.

Once you have trusted in **Jesus**, and in Him alone to save you, find a good Bible teaching church to join. If you need help locating a church contact [GraceMercyMinistry.com](http://GraceMercyMinistry.com).

## **DISCIPLESHIP**

**Jesus** commissioned His disciples to be His witnesses to His resurrection, and to make disciples of all nations:

*Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. (Matthew 28.19-20)*

*But ye shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea and Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. (Acts 1.8)*

That commission applies to all true believers. Once a person is saved by trusting in **Jesus Christ** alone, he is to become a *disciple* of **Jesus**. One does that by engaging in several spiritual activities on a daily and a regular basis:

- 1 - **Pray** (Matthew 7.7-11; Luke 18.1-8; John 14.13-14; 16.24; Ephesians 6.18; James 1.5; 1 Thessalonians 5.17).
- 2 - **Listen** to Scripture (Deuteronomy 4.9-10; Proverbs 8.34; Luke 8.15, 21; 11.28; James 1.22; Revelation 1.3).

- 3 - **Read** Scripture (Deuteronomy 17.19; Psalm 42.1-2; 63.1; 143.6; Revelation 1.3).
- 4 - **Study** Scripture (Deuteronomy 8.3; Matthew 4.4; Proverbs 2.1-5; 8.34; 22.17; John 5.39; Acts 17.11; Romans 15.4; 2 Timothy 2.15; 3.15).
- 5 - **Memorize** Scripture (Deuteronomy 6.6; Psalm 37.31; 40.8; 119.11; Proverbs 2.1; 3.1, 3; 4.1, 21; 6.21; 22.18; Isaiah 51.7; Ezekiel 3.10).
- 6 - **Meditate** on Scripture (Joshua 1.8; Job 22.22; 23.12; Psalm 1.2; 4.4; 19.14; 63.6; 77.12; 104.34; 119.15, 23, 27, 48, 78, 97, 99, 148; 143.5; 1 Timothy 4.15)
- 7 - **Fellowship** with the brethren (Psalm 119.63; Proverbs 13.20; Acts 2.42, 46-47; 5.42; Hebrews 3.13; 10.24-25; 1 John 1.7)
- 8 - **Share the Gospel** (Psalm 96.2; Acts 2.47; 1 Peter 3.15).
- 9 - **Make disciples** (Deuteronomy 4.9-10; 6.5-7; 11.18-19; 32.46; Psalm 78.3-7; Matthew 28.19-20; 2 Timothy 2.2).

If a Christian develops a discipline in these basics of holy living he will become a *disciple* of **Jesus Christ**. It does not happen overnight. It takes many years to become a mature *disciple*, but it starts with the daily discipline of being in prayer, in the Word, in regular fellowship with other Christians and in regular sharing of the Gospel.

As you grow in the Lord you will pray more, and listen to, read, study, memorize and meditate on Scripture more and more. You will share your gospel more often, and spend more time in fellowship with other Christians.

## **SPIRITUAL FITNESS PROGRAM**

1. **PRAY:** Pray as often as you can, wherever you are. Pray for your family, friends, fellow employees, employer, church members, pastors, and city, state and federal politicians. Pray with your family daily and with church members on a regular basis. Begin and end each day in prayer, and pray throughout the day.

2. **LISTEN TO SCRIPTURE:** Play recordings of the Bible and listen to sermons and studies. Buy an audio copy of the Bible, and listen to it at home and in the car. Buy DVDs of movies about the Bible and watch them often (*The Gospel of John, Peter and Paul, The Greatest Story Ever Told, King of Kings*, etc.).

3. **READ SCRIPTURE:** Make a reading program and stay with it. If you read three chapters a day in the Old Testament and one in the New Testament you will read the Bible through in one year. It is also important to read one chapter of Proverbs each day. It does not take more than a half-hour a day to read five chapters.

4. **STUDY SCRIPTURE:** Choose a book of the Bible or a topic to study, and stay with it until you finish it.

5. **MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE:** If you memorize one verse a week you will have 52 verses memorized in one year. Use memory cards and carry them with you.

6. **MEDITATE ON SCRIPTURE:** Once you have a few verses memorized you can meditate on them any time of the day, and wherever you are. Until then keep a pocket Bible or pocket New Testament handy. Keep a Bible and a few New Testaments in your car at all times for yourself and others. Get into the habit of giving out Bibles and pocket New Testaments.

7. **FELLOWSHIP WITH THE BRETHREN:** Become an active member of a church. Support the church with your time, talents, spiritual gifts and money. Go to the pastor and volunteer your time, talents and gifts.

8. **SHARE THE GOSPEL:** Once you learn how to share the Gospel be ready to do so 24/7. Be sensitive to the leading of the HOLY SPIRIT to share the Gospel. Carry tracts with you and hand them out as you are prompted by the HOLY SPIRIT. If the person(s) wants to talk – speak with them, but if they do not want to talk ask them to read the tract, and pray as you walk away. Keep a diary of your witnessing. When you lead someone to the Lord invite him to church, and make sure they become an active member. If you are not mature enough to disciple them ask your pastor(s) to find someone to disciple them.

9. **MAKE DISCIPLES:** Once you have been discipled, start to disciple others.

## APPENDIX B

### ARGUMENTS FOR/AGAINST MANIFESTATION GIFTS

<p>The manifestation gifts are a latter rain outpouring of the <i>pneumatikon charisma</i>.</p>	<p>All references of “latter rain” are of literal rainfall and there is no empirical evidence of the <i>pneumatikon charisma</i> being given since 100 AD.</p>
<p>Experience is all the proof needed.</p>	<p>Mormons and members of numerous pagan religions speak in “tongues.”</p>
<p>Some Pentecostals and Charismatics have spoken known languages.</p>	<p>Most Pentecostals and Charismatics speak a mystery “prayer language” not a known language they have not learned. It seems odd that the Holy Spirit has given millions of Christians the ability to speak a mystery “prayer language” but given less than a fraction of 1% the gift of speaking a known language they have not learned and the gift of interpretation.</p>
<p>There is a special “prayer language,” that most Pentecostals and Charismatics speak which is probably the language of angels.</p>	<p>The Bible does not say there is a special “prayer language” and it is not listed among the <i>pneumatikon charisma</i>. It is a creation of man not of God.</p>
<p>Evidence of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is speaking in “tongues,” the mystery language no one knows.</p>	<p>The evidence of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is living a holy life, walking in the Spirit, loving the brethren and the lost, studying Scripture daily, sharing the Gospel and making disciples.</p>

<p>Some believers have a second blessing in which the Holy Spirit gives them special power and the evidence is speaking in “tongues.”</p>	<p>Ephesians 1.3 says ALL believers have been given “<i>every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ</i>” and Colossians 2.9-10a says, “<i>for in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily, and in Him ye are made full.</i>”</p>
<p>Anyone can be healed if they have enough faith.</p>	<p>Paul had the <i>pneumatikon charisma</i> of healing and he could not heal himself, Timothy or Trophimus (2 Corinthians 12.7-10; Galatians 4.13-15; 1 Timothy 5.23; 2 Tim. 4.19-20).</p>
<p>Jesus was chastised for our well-being and we are healed by His scourging (Isaiah 53.5). All we have to do is believe this.</p>	<p>Paul either did not know this passage (Isaiah 53.5) or he did not have enough faith.</p>
<p>The healings, miracles and tongues of the Pentecostals and Charis-matics must be of the Holy Spirit.</p>	<p>Unbelievers can do the same things by the power of demons (Matthew 7.21-23; 24.24; 2 Thessalonians 2.9; Revelation 13:11-14; 16:14; 19:20)</p>
<p>People have been healed by Christians who have the gift of healing in modern times.</p>	<p>Not a single alleged “healing” has been verified by a doctor. Many “healings” have been shown to not be healings and some people who were “healed” later died of their ailment.</p>
<p>There is nothing wrong with preachers and evangelists being wealthy. It is a proof that God is blessing them.</p>	<p>Most preachers and evangelists who claim to have the “manifestation gifts” of healing, miracles and “tongues” are very wealthy. Yet none of the apostles were wealthy and the greatest apostle (Paul) had to work as a tent maker to support himself (Acts 18.3). The general biblical rule concerning the rich and poor is the rich are spiritually poor while the poor are spiritually rich (James 1.9-10).</p>

<p>God promises that if you give to Him he will give back more to you in this life.</p>	<p>The Bible is explicitly clear that our rewards for giving to God will be in Heaven not in this life (Matthew 6.19-21). Those who give to get more in this life have a love of money that will spiritually kill them. Instead of seeking after riches we are to be content in all things (1 Timothy 6.7-11).</p>
<p>The gift of prophecy is extant which means new revelations and Scripture can be added to the Bible.</p>	<p>The Bible is complete and no new revelations or Scripture can be added to It (Revelation 22.18).</p>

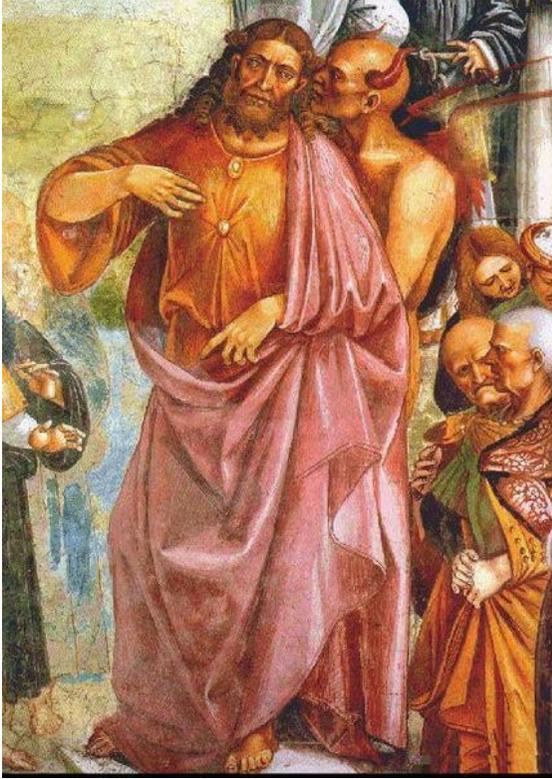
# APPENDIX C

## FAITH CHECK

Take a few minutes and examine your daily walk with YAHSHUA.

<b>Spiritual Activities</b>	<b>Average Time Spent Daily</b>
Prayer	_____
Reading and studying the Bible	_____
Memorization & review	_____
Meditation	_____
Devotions with family	_____
Fellowship with believers	_____
Sharing the Gospel	_____
Helping others	_____
Total time serving Jesus	_____

<b>Activities of the Flesh</b>	<b>Average Time Spent Daily</b>
Watching TV & movies	_____
Reading (secular books)	_____
Hobbies	_____
Recreation	_____
Attending sporting events	_____
Socializing (in person or by phone)	_____
Shopping	_____
Other non-spiritual activities	_____
Total time serving yourself	_____



# ANTICHRIST: DECEIVER OF THE WORLD

This book reveals what country the Antichrist will rule, when he will rise to power and what he will do. This is a must-read book for everyone who has the slightest interest in Bible prophecy.

This book also gives you a time-line of the creation of the coming New World Order along with the 17 prophecies that **MUST** be fulfilled before the Rapture. To learn who the Antichrist is and what is in store for the world and for you order your copy of *Antichrist: Deceiver of the World* from Grace Mercy Ministry - [gracemercy.ministry@yahoo.com](mailto:gracemercy.ministry@yahoo.com)

# APPENDIX D

## PROPHECIES

A great many of the leading Pentecostal/Charismatic televangelists and some preachers claim to have the “manifestation gift” of prophecy. To prove they have this gift they must make prophetic utterances, but a large percentage of their prophecies are meaningless or they are found to be false prophecies. Here are a few of the prophecies that the leading televangelists have made.

### Benny Hinn

Benny Hinn is considered by many to be the most influential televangelist in the world. When he speaks millions of people listen.

The prophecies marked as being made on December 31, 1989 are extracts from Hinn’s ramblings one night at the Orlando Christian Center. He apparently kept the crowd there until about one in the morning when he said “What did I say in that prophecy, guys? How long did I? I prophesied for twenty minutes? I’d like to know what I said. I was totally gone.”

### **God will destroy the homosexual community**

The Lord also tells me to tell you in the mid-’90s, about ’94-’95, no later than that, God will destroy the homosexual community of America. [audience applauds] But He will not destroy it – with what many minds have thought Him to be, He will destroy it with fire. And many will turn and be saved, and many will rebel and be destroyed. (Orlando Christian Center, 12.31.1989) [**Authors’ note:** This is an obvious **false prophecy!**]

## Two Moseses

The Lord also says that two of his great giants will die in the mid-'90s. They've held the torch of revival for the last forty years, these two. One of them has been to this church, and the other has not. One will die suddenly while asleep. And the other will die of sickness. And as both giants die, which will be in the mid-'90s, I will shake this world with a last revival. Their death will be the closing pages of this move. And the new move of God will begin, which I have promised. Remember when Moses died, Joshua arose. And when the Moseses of this day will die – two of them still walking this earth, whose calling is that of Moses – my Joshuas will arise. (Orlando Christian Center, 12.31.1989) [**Authors' note:** We wonder who those two Moseses were that died in the 1990s. Did Hinn think Kenneth Hagin and Oral Roberts would die in the 1990s and he would be the Joshua that would take their place. If so he missed by about ten years as Hagin died in 2003 and Roberts in 2009.]

## Fidel Castro

The Spirit tells me – Fidel Castro will die – in the '90s. Oooh my! Someone will try to kill him and they will not succeed. But there will come a change in his physical health, and he will not stay in power, and Cuba will be visited of God.' (Orlando Christian Center, 12. 31.1989) [**Authors' note:** Hinn was just guessing and he missed by a long shot.]

## Woman president and world dictator

The Spirit tells me that following the rapture – a woman president will be in the White House, and that woman president will destroy this nation, but My church will, will be gone. ... A world dictator is coming on the scene. ... I see a short man, who's a perfect incarnation of Satan... This man will rule the world. The next few years you will see him. But not long after that, you will see Me." (Orlando Christian Center, 12.31.1989) [**Authors' note:** Hinn missed on both. How long is a "few years"? It has been over 22 years and no woman president or Antichrist.]

## **A New Plague Will be Birthed Because of a New Drug**

God tells me to tell you there's a new disease that will arise on the scene – unknown to mankind. It will kill many. The Spirit of God tells me to tell you that there is a demon spirit (my goodness). His name is Apollyon. He's written-up in the book of Revelation. His name is the destructor, destroyer. He will come from the south – from South America into America itself – and will plague many for living in rebellion. God tells me to tell you that the drug problem of America will cause many to die with that plague. This new plague will be birthed because of a new drug that will come on the scene in the '90s. It will come from South America. And the United States Government will look at, on that day, and say, "Where do we go now?" But My people will arise with healing in their wings, even as healing are in Mine. (Orlando Christian Center, 12.31.1989) [**Authors' note:** This plague was not AIDS for it reared its ugly head in 1981, being first reported on June 5.]

### **Canada**

Canada will be visited with a mighty revival that will start in the west coast of British Columbia. It will sweep across the west. It will sweep across even Alaska, and will come east. But the great move of God that I have planned for America will not begin on the west coast, but on the east coast. It will break-loose in the next three years and sweep across the west. (Orlando Christian Center, 12.31.1989)

### **Earthquakes**

The Spirit of God tells me an earthquake will hit the east coast of America and destroy much in the '90s. Not one place will be safe from earthquakes in the '90s. These who have not known earthquakes will know it. People I feel the Spirit all over me. He speaks in "tongues." (Orlando Christian Center, 12.31.1989) [**Authors' note:** He missed this one by a mile. There has been only one major earthquake on the east coast (2011) and it did very little damage. Hinn believed the Rapture would take place in the 1990s and thought there would be a rash of severe earthquakes due to a misunderstanding of Matthew 24.7.]

## **A Woman Leader**

The Spirit of God tells me there will be a woman that will arise as a leader in the west. In her day much evil will take place. She will be very powerful. (Orlando Christian Center, 12.31.1989) [**Authors' note:** No evil woman yet. Hillary comes close but she will not sneak back into the White House. It is unlikely she will fulfill Hinn's prophecy.]

## **Two years to the Rapture**

Paul, I can say this – Are you ready for this? We may have two years before the rapture. Can I be blunt with ya? I don't know if we have two years left. I'm gonna prove to you from the Word tonight, that we have less than two years. (TBN, Praise-a-Thon, 11.09.1990) [**Authors' note:** He missed by 21 years as of 2011. Since the Rapture will not take place for another 20 plus years he will have missed it by over 40 years.]

## **Israel Will Sign Treaty With Hafez Al-Assad**

On the April 2, 2000 Trinity Broadcasting Network program, Hinn claimed God was about to make a major move to anoint the people of God, as soon as Israel signed a treaty with the ailing Hafez Al-Assad of Syria, which he said would likely be within the next year. This would signal the impending large scale shift of financial wealth from the wicked to those obedient to God. But, in order to benefit from this unprecedented supernatural anointing, you had to be obedient to God and sow your financial seed (to TBN) right then and there (TBN, Spring 2000 fundraising Praise-A-Thon). [**Authors' note:** Assad died on June 10, 2000 and his son, Bashar, took over on July 17, 2000. No treaty was ever signed.]

## **TBN's Last Tel-A-Thon**

STOP what you are doing and hear this! The Lord said to me last Saturday, I heard His voice in that church, and He said, "Tell them, time is running out," and His voice was coming in waves in into my heart. "Time is running" and then there was a second voice. Now hear this one. "Tell the people, I am passing by many." Hear this – "I am passing by many and if I pass by it would be as though

I never knew them. I am passing by many and if I pass by it would be as though I never knew them.” My friend we’re all being tested right now on whether we are gonna stick with this or walk away from it. Tonight is decision night. It is not only decision night for America, for the next four years, this is decision night for eternity. What you do for God tonight, you do it with your soul, you do it with your life. This is **not**, my friend, just another Tel-A-Thon. **This is - this may very well be the last one.** Time is so short people, I’m tellin’ ya, never have I sensed it – I am telling you I am speaking to you **prophetically**. (11.07.2000 – TBN’s Fall Praise-A-Thon, emphasis added) [**Authors’ note:** TBN is still going strong with its Praise-A-Thons.]

### **Jesus is physically appearing in the Muslim world**

Ladies and gentleman, Jesus is shaking the world! Now something else is happening that is to me awesome! Absolutely awesome! The Lord is physically appearing in the Muslim world. I’m telling you, Paul, I am hearing it now more and more and more. Since we preachers cannot go there, Jesus is – just going there Himself. Since we preachers are not permitted to go in, He is just showing up – Himself. You know the Scriptures says clearly that the Lord did appear, did He not? Ah for forty days, isn’t that right? And the, and the, and the Scriptures says He, He, He even, He even appeared to Paul. Now we are always thinking, well Jesus can’t really preach, preach the Gospel. Who told you that? He was the first one to preach the Gospel. In fact He is the one who came to Paul and said, Paul, I am Jesus. He, He didn’t send no angel to do that job. He did it Himself. If Jesus revealed Himself to Paul, why not reveal Himself to a lot more than just Paul? And He is doing it! The reason the Lord had to appear to Paul is because He knew Paul wouldn’t listen to nobody else. Now in the case of Cornelius, the angel said send for Peter, ’cause, because Cornelius was, was ready, his heart was right, he’d been in prayer. But here’s Paul killing everybody, causing ’em to blaspheme, Jesus said this man won’t even listen to an angel, so I’ll go do the job myself. So He went and knocked him right off his horse and preached the Gospel to him. He’s doing the same thing today in the Muslim world. He’s appearing, hear this, He is appearing to Muslims, saying I am Jesus of Nazareth! And they’re coming to know the Lord! Why are those

things happening? It's the last days! Saints, this is why we need to give to the Gospel now more than ever. You know naively say well I gave last year. Forget it! Last year it's gone! That cycle is over with! Seed time – harvest of last year is gone. Every season is a fresh season. We are in a fresh season. What, what you gave last year will not reap you anything this year. What you gave even a few months ago is gone, you got the harvest for that.” (TBN Praise-a-thon, 4.02.2000) [**Authors' note:** This contradicts Scripture and it simply is not true. The angels at the Lord's ascension said He would return in the same way Her departed (Acts 1.9). He will only return to Earth one time at His Second Advent. He will not make any physical appearances to anyone. The Mormons teach He appeared physically to the Indians in the Americas. His appearance to Paul was not physical. He spoke to him. He is not speaking to Muslims as he spoke to Paul.]

## **Jesus will physically appear at Benny Hinn's meetings**

Let me tell you something. The Holy Spirit has already told me He is about to show up. And you know, oh, I gotta tell you this quickly, just before we go. I had a word of prophecy from Ruth Heflin, you know who Ruth Heflin is? Ruth prophesied over me back in the seventies and everything she said has happened. She just sent me a word through my wife and said the Lord spoke to her **audibly** and said that He is going to appear physically in one of our crusades in the next few months. Yeah, she – I'm telling ya – she said, the Lord spoke to her **audibly** and said, “Tell Benny I'm going to appear physically on the platform in his meetings.” Lord, do it in Phoenix Arizona in the name of Jesus! And in Kenya too, Lord, please, Lord, in fact, do it in every crusade. In Jesus' name. (This Is Your Day, 3.29.2000, emphasis added)

The hour is urgent. Many of you have known me for many years. But I am telling you right now, things I haven't said years 'n years 'n years ago. I believe – here this, hear this! I believe, that Jesus, God's Son, is about to appear physically, in meetings and to believers around the world, to wake us up! He appeared after His resurrection and He is **about to appear** before His second coming! You know a prophetess sent me a word through my wife, right here, and she said “Tell your husband that Jesus is go'n to **physically appear in his meetings.**” I am expecting to see, I am

telling you that – I feel it’s going to happen. I, I, I’m, I’m careful in how I am saying it now, because I know the people in Kenya are listening. I know deep in my soul, something supernatural is going to happen in Nai – in Nairobi Kenya. I feel that. I may very well come back, and you and Jan are coming, too. Paul and Jan are coming to Nairobi with me, but Paul, we may very well come back with **footage of Jesus on the platform!** You know that the **Lord appeared in Romania recently**, and there’s a video of it? Where the **Lord appeared in the back of a church** and you see him on video walking down the aisle? Yeah! Paul do you remember when I came on TBN years ago and **showed you a clip of the Lord appearing in our church in Orlando**, on the balcony on the wall? Yeah. You, you remember that? “Very well, I saw it!” [Paul Crouch] That was ’80, ’80 something, ’86, what – whatever. You know I always wondered why the Lord, why did He do that? Do you know why, now I look back? That was the beginning of the greatest move of God in our church. Because ’83, ’84, and ’85 were horrible years for me, horrible years. Eighty-six the blessings of God began, but they began with a – with this **manifestation of the Lord’s face on, on the balcony, that stayed for eight weeks**. Eight solid weeks! The Lord has done this in the past, but He is about to do it again, now hear this, **I am prophesying this!** Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is about to **appear physically** in some churches, and some meetings, and to many of His people, for one reason – to tell you He is about to show up! To wake up! Jesus is coming saints! You have held back from the Lord in the past, don’t you dare do it now. The day will come you’ll stand before Him and give an answer. How dare we not give to God. How dare we hold back. (TBN Praise-a-thon, 4.02.2000, emphasis added) [**Author’s note:** On May 9, 2000, Hinn was the guest of Jan Crouch on the TBN Behind the Scenes program. Video from his Kenya Crusade was shown, but nothing was said about Jesus appearing like Hinn said He would. Study Matthew 24:23-27 to see that Jesus will not return to Earth until He comes for His bride in the air (1 Thessalonians 4.16-17) and then to Earth at His Second Coming:

*“Then if anyone says to you ‘Behold, here is the Christ’ or ‘Here,’ believe [it] not. For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will give great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect. Behold, I foretold [it] to you. If therefore they say to you, ‘Behold, He is in the wilderness’ do not go out, or, ‘Behold,*

*[He is] in the chambers, ' believe [it] not. For as lightning comes from the east and appears as far as [the] west, so also shall the coming of the Son of Man be. For wherever the carcass is, there will the vultures be gathered together." (Matthew 24.23-27)*

*For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout of command, with the archangel's voice and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we the living who remain shall be caught away together with them in [the] clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Lord. (1 Thessalonians 4.16-17)*

*And I saw Heaven opened and behold, a white horse and One riding it who is called Faithful and True. In righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes [were] like a flame of fire and on His head [were] many diadems, having a name written which no one knows except Himself. And [He was] clothed in a garment dipped in blood and His name is called the Word of God. And the armies in Heaven were following Him on white horses dressed in fine linen that is white and clean. And out of His mouth goes forth a sharp sword that with it He might smite the nations and He will shepherd them with a staff of iron. And He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God, the Almighty.*

*He has on His garment and on His banner a name written: King of kings and Lord of lords.*

*And I saw one angel standing in the sun, and he cried with a loud voice saying to the birds flying in the mid-heaven: "Come, gather yourselves to the supper of the great God, that you may eat flesh of kings, of chief captains, and flesh of strong [men], and flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all, free and bond, and small and great.*

*And I saw the beast and the kings of the Earth and their armies gathered together to make war with Him who sits on the horse and with His army. And the beast was seized and with him the false prophet who performed the signs before him, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshipped his image. The two were cast alive into the Lake of Fire burning with sulphur. And the rest were killed with the sword that goes forth out of the mouth of Him who sits on the horse and all the birds were filled by their flesh. (Revelation 19.11-21)]*

## **Satan to Unleash Horror and Terror on this Earth**

Wednesday, the Wednesday before the 20th would be the 19th, correct, no the 18th of December at 2 am I awakened to a **prophecy** ringing in my heart. I was hearing myself **prophecy**. Jeremiah the prophet said that when the Spirit of God came upon him, when the word of the Lord came upon him, it was as fire came into his being. And he could not hold the prophecy. When the Word of the Lord is given to you, you'll prophecy even if you're alone in that place. And so I felt as though my mouth was about to burst with this **prophecy**. But what I heard was frightening. That was on Wednesday, Thursday morning at 2 a.m. in fact. And now I'm hearing the words "Rivers of blood, rivers of blood." And the Lord revealed to me what's coming in the next few days and weeks with this war with Iraq. I will tell you this, Satan is ready to unleash horror and terror on this earth as never before. But I heard the Lord say, **literally I heard Him speak those words**, He said, "Dark days are ahead for the world, and bright days for my people." [Applause] I was **prophecying** it. "Those who know me and those who walk with me will know light and beauty, says the Lord." God began to speak these words... March 3rd. I just heard March 3rd in my ears. What's March 3rd? What day is that? We don't know. I don't know what March 3rd what day it would be? I'm not sure what I would be, I don't know what crusade or service or maybe I'm not anywhere. But I'm hearing the Lord say that to me. (TBN, Praise the Lord, 12.30.2002, emphasis added) [**Authors' note:** The only horror and terror unleashed by Satan in the Iraq War was by the U.S. forces. Either Hinn missed this prophecy or he believes the Bush administration was under satanic influence.]

**Kim Clement**

**New York City**

New York City, consumed by a spirit that has even taken hold of the people and caused greed. Tonight the Spirit of the Lord says my Spirit is about to burn so strongly that it will cause a fire to take place and the fire will burn everything that has not been born of my Spirit. It will take everything that has not been born of my

Spirit. It will take everything that has not been born of my Spirit and I will burn it down. And God says, righteousness will prevail. I will take every dividing racial spirit and I will destroy it. I will take the cultural demons that have caused people to separate themselves and I will do something that is so mighty that it will be spoken of by people on the West Coast, says the Spirit of the Lord! (New Life Christian Church, Southgate, Michigan, 4.20.1996) [**Authors' note:** This prophesy is crazy. Does Clement truly believe God will burn up the planet leaving just Christians? Where do these false prophets come up with this nonsense? Do they make it up or are demons feeding it to them?]

### **Rabbis, Jehovah Witnesses, Christian Science and Scientologists will be saved**

I will even take the rabbi's, even take the people that are dressed in the cloaks and garments. They will come out and say there is only one Lord. His name is Jesus! It's Jesus! I will even allow my Spirit to baptize them in the very sanctuaries. I will even go into the temples, and I will fill them with my Spirit. And don't let anybody tell you that I cannot do it, says the Lord. I can go to the temple any time I like. I can go to the Jewish places anytime I like. I can go to Mount Zion any time I like. I will go wherever I want to.

But that's not all! But that's not all! He says, I'm going to go way beyond and even go into the Christian Science church. I will go to the Scientologists. I will even go to the Jehovah Witnesses. And they will go from JW to JC in the house! For God says, I'll take the Jehovah Witnesses, the Christian Scientists, I will even take the psychics, and fill them with my Spirit. You know why? You know why, says the Lord? Because I'll go wherever I want. I'll go wherever I want. But listen – I'm about to take a trip to Israel.

And the Spirit of the Lord says, when that happens, there will be an invasion of my blood into the territories that would never be holy, but shall become holy. I will take the holy places which are actually unholy, and I will lift them up. I will declare, this is not holy. I will tear down the idols and their gods. I will tear down the spirits of Allah. (July 25, 1996) [**Authors' note:** It has been over 15 years and this prophecy has not been fulfilled even in a small way.]

## **Cure for AIDS**

Therefore, the Lord says to you tonight, “Get ready, for my kingdom is coming and I shall declare my glory. The miraculous, the miraculous... what is this about the miraculous? The miraculous shall be in this way. I will do things you never thought I would do. I will bring a cure for AIDS/HIV. God says there shall be a cure. I will raise them up. But what about the gays?” God says, “I will take gay people and I will cause them to be filled with my Spirit and to speak my Word with purity and life. Do not tell me I cannot do it, says the Lord; I will do exactly what I like. If I can go to the woman at the well, if I can go to the adulterer, if I can go to the religious Pharisee, if I can go to the tax-collector, why can I not do it today?” (TBN, 3.05.2002) [**Authors’ note:** Clement missed this by a country mile. The only cure for AIDS/HIV is a strong immune system. No drug can cure it or even alleviate. Eating an organic, vegetarian diet with distilled water, plenty of sleep and reduction of stress is the best remedy.]

### **Five evangelists will be raised up**

Five great evangelists shall be raised up, says the Spirit of God:

One is a writer living in the Northeast, who has written of these dungeons.

One is a prophetic voice in the darkness – Eminem, I prophesy it.

A president shall be My spokesman, even greater than the one that you have now shall come forth and shall bring righteousness forth without law and without methods, says the Spirit of God.

One a businessman, who has hailed himself as the Chief of Microsoft. I will take the one wealthy man, I speak of men in this Nation, and shall become the financier of the kingdom of God, says the Lord.

I shall take one who is blind...

Spiritual forces of hell, the word of the Lord has gone forth, we have captured them from your hands. It is done, it is finished, the power of Christ has spoken it and it shall be done!

A Middle Eastern man who is blind, with great influence with the kings of the East shall be raised up from a Muslim stronghold,

be filled with My spirit, but remain behind the cloth. And bring Christ to kings of the East, with his hand with the hand of the President of the United States in the year 2007, says the Spirit of the Lord. Rejoice for this shall be a great undertaking, says the Spirit of God. Come on! (Detroit, Michigan, 6.29.2003, taken from "Summer of Your Life" CD) [**Authors' note:** It has been eight years and this has not taken place. It most likely never will.]

God told me that March 11, 2004 would be the beginning of an unusual chain of events in the Kingdom of God. He spoke about that day being the unveiling of mysteries and revelations that would affect the following areas over a period of time:

There will be political events that will bring a period of peace for the USA.

Hidden agendas will be exposed and a shaking of terrorist activities in a big way.

There will be unusual access into secular arenas for the purpose of evangelism.

Medical discoveries will be made that will affect the following diseases: Alzheimer's, Diabetes, Parkinson's, a lung disease, and a rare bone disease.

There will be unusual spiritual manifestations in spiritually uninhabited places with mass responses due to media coverage of these events.

There will be kingdom appearances in church meetings instead of regular revival meetings. Churches that are hungry for fresh things from God will "tarry" until these Kingdom manifestations actually take place.

March 11 will begin disclosures in political circles, and the President will have to use a firm hand against internal enemies.

Cain will be exposed – Ministries that attempted to "destroy and kill" their brothers because of jealousy, accusation, and hatred, will be banished for a season until they are humble again. Then they will bring forth an "Enoch" move of the Spirit.

Finally, I saw March 11 as the "beginning of the end" of major terrorist leaders and movements. (TBN, 1.13.2004) [**Authors' note:** On March 11, 2004 close to 200 people died when terrorists bombed several trains in Madrid. It was not the "beginning of the end of major terrorist leaders and movements." There have been no "unusual access into secular arenas," "medical discoveries,"

“unusual spiritual manifestations,” “Kingdom appearances,” and “disclosures in political circles” on or soon after March 11, 2004.]

## **Osama Bin Laden**

Osama Bin Laden said that in 35 days America would be abolished, wiped out because he has a plan for 35 days. And the word of the Lord came to me and said, “You prophesy that the very thing that he said and predicted for this nation is reversed, I’m going to bring him out in 35 days. There is a resurrection day coming over this Easter. This Easter will be one of the greatest Easters this nation has ever celebrated. Why? Because there will be a resurrection of the dead, speaking spiritually of revelation that has died, of prophetic words that have died and been buried in the ground. This Easter, not only will I bring your greatest enemy out, but I will also bring about a severe judgment against the powers and the principalities that have come against my servants, against my people. There shall be a judgment.” (January 13th, 2004 – TBN) [**Authors’ note:** Usama bin Laden did not die in 2004 according to this prophecy. He is said to have been killed in 2011, although some in the Intelligence Community believed he had died in December of 2001. This was a clear false prediction.]

## **Cures Discovered For Diseases**

Alzheimer’s has come against too many of God’s people; the prophetic word of the Lord is coming to you tonight. Alzheimer’s, Diabetes, Parkinson’s disease, rare bone and lung diseases; these five things will suddenly come to the surface with incredible discoveries and it will begin this year. (January 13, 2004 – TBN) [**Authors’ note:** This is an obvious **false prophecy!** It has been seven years and nothing.]

## **Something wonderful will happen in March 2004**

God said that on March the 11th – the month of March has been set aside by God for the Church in the United States of America for something unbelievably wonderful to happen – there’s going to be one unusual event, almost like a renting of something, a curtain, and a veil for the church. Pastors and leaders, watch the month of

March. A fabulous anointing is going to be released, and what you've struggled to get is going to be released like that! In just one second. It's payback time. (TBN, March 2004) [**Authors' note:** What happened?]

## **Viruses will be wiped out and super computer**

This shall be known as the year of viruses being annihilated. For there shall be 3 deadly viruses that shall begin the process of annihilation in 2005. And those that were supposed to die shall live, shall live...

Get ready, for there shall be a creation of a computer that shall supersede everything that has been invented up to this point. It shall be so rapid, and there shall be no more viruses that shall come and be able to touch your systems. Do not be afraid of the 666, do not be afraid of the beast. Do not be afraid of those that would teach that their power is going to destroy you. The greatest years are about to come upon you and the Holy Spirit has withheld certain blessings, but now they shall begin in just a few minutes. They have already begun in the spirit where the blessing of the Lord shall begin and overtake your lives. You will populate the marketplace in 2005. I'm going to give you cities through mass media.

In 2005 there will be grace without limit given to you your families, your children, your business, your bodies. There is no prescribed limit. (Pasadena, California, 12.31.2004) [**Authors' note:** There were no three deadly viruses in 2005 and we missed this super computer. Believers were not given cities through mass media.]

## **A New Pope**

For in 21 days from now a shaking will take place in the Roman Catholic Church. They will say, No it can not be. Why would they elect such a person? And then they will say, No we can not do it at this time. But it shall be done and I will bring the Spirit into the Roman Catholic Church and the Vatican. There will be an infilling of the Spirit of the Cardinals and the priests. This day I have received a servant. This day you call him the Pope. This day I call him My son. This day you said a pope has died, this day I say a servant has won. (Portland, Oregon, 4.02.2005) [**Authors' note:**

We missed this shaking. Exactly what was shook? Since Joseph Ratzinger took the office of Pope nothing unusual has happened in the Catholic Church.]

“Do I hear Catholics praying? There is a move of My Spirit moving among the Catholic people. They are dissatisfied. Their children have been abused...taken advantage of. They are praying for God to come into a system and shake it. Your prayers are being sent into the very highest powers of the Roman Catholic Church. For a Pope shall be laid to rest, and I will raise up an unusual man that will take that position. And even though some of you despise this, I will raise up an unusual man that will come in and bring the Spirit of God amongst the Roman Catholic people. Think it not possible, but it shall be so, says the spirit of the Lord.” (Humble, Texas, 4.13.2003) [**Authors’ note:** It is unlikely that Ratzinger will “bring the Spirit of God amongst the Roman Catholic people.”]

## Earthquake

There will be an earthquake in the Northwest. And it shall be between Portland Oregon and Seattle WA up into Vancouver. This has already happened (before) and it will come to pass and the people listen and say ok, its already being spoken, so now we must prepare ourselves. (Whittier, California, 4.23.2005) [**Authors’ note:** There is no time factor in this prediction. There may be an earthquake there before the Rapture. These kinds of predictions are absurd.]

## Mardi Gras

During the summer and at the Mardi Gras, says the Lord, at New Orleans, watch what I do. There is going to be an interference in the Mardi Gras, says the Lord. God said, listen you hear that? That sound of joy, the music of the one that sits and plays. And God said, you watch what I do in the Mardi Gras, watch what I do in a place of great perversion. Watch what I do. (Scottsdale, Arizona, 2.09.2007) [**Authors’ note:** Mardi Gras was back in business in 2007 two years after Hurricane Katrina struck it in August 2005. Based on such criteria as hotel occupancy and parade crowds, tourism officials declared the 2007 carnival not only a resounding success, but also a harbinger of tourism’s resurgence in the city

that Hurricane Katrina ravaged. The number of Mardi Gras visitors ranged between 700,000 to 800,000.]

## **Kenneth Copeland**

Kenneth Copeland, in a dedication service on December 2, 2001 for the new 2000 seat Word of Life church auditorium in Honolulu, predicted that close to one billion Muslims would be saved in the next few months:

And there are going to be multiplied millions upon millions, there's going to be close to a billion people that have been trapped in that religion, that over the next few months are gonna to come into the kingdom of God. (cheering) That's gonna happen, you watch and see what I'm telling you. Because its been ... I'm telling you Satan's fat is in the fire he pushed it over the line, and God has moved, and for over a hundred years the United States has been an instrument of judgment in the hand of God. That's one of the reasons we're blessed, amen? I'd like to get in there and walk around a while but I don't have the time but I can tell you this, **that thing has come to an end, its over, I'm talking about Islam and every, all that that stands for. That's over with.** Now, God is making His move. (Kenneth Copeland, Word of Life Christian Center, Honolulu HI, Dedication Celebration Service, Evening, 12.02.2001, emphasis added) [**Authors' note:** This nutty prediction did NOT come true. This prophecy will never come true.]

## **Pat Robertson**

Robertson has announced on several occasions near the end of the year that God spoke to him revealing certain truths or events that would happen in the following year. "I have a relatively good track record," he said. "Sometimes I miss."<sup>1</sup>

### **Bush will be re-elected**

Religious broadcaster Pat Robertson said he believed God has told him President Bush would be re-elected in a "blowout" in November.

"I think George Bush is going to win in a walk," Robertson said on his January 3, 2004, edition of the 700 Club. "I really believe I'm

hearing from the Lord it's going to be like a blowout election in 2004. It's shaping up that way."<sup>2</sup>

He then went on to say, "The Lord has just blessed him," Robertson said of Bush. "I mean, he could make terrible mistakes and comes out of it. It doesn't make any difference what he does, good or bad, God picks him up because he's a man of prayer and God's blessing him." [**Authors' note:** Bush won a **squeaker** just like he did against Al Gore in 2000. Some believe there was election fraud in 2004 that gave Bush the win just as there was in 2000.]

## Second Coming

In late 1976, Robertson predicted that the end of the world was coming in October or November 1982. In a May 1980 broadcast of the 700 Club he stated, "I guarantee you by the end of **1982** there is going to be a judgment on the world."<sup>3</sup>

## Pacific Northwestern tsunami

In May 2006, Robertson declared that storms and possibly a tsunami would hit America's coastline sometime in 2006. Robertson supposedly received this revelation from God during an annual personal prayer retreat in January. The claim was repeated four times on the 700 Club.

On May 8, 2006, Robertson said, "If I heard the Lord right about 2006, the coasts of America will be lashed by storms." On May 17, 2006, he elaborated, "There well may be something as bad as a tsunami in the Pacific Northwest."<sup>4</sup> While this claim didn't garner the same level of controversy as some of his other statements, it was generally received with mild amusement by the Pacific Northwest media. The History Channel's initial airing of its new series, "Mega Disasters," debut episode "West Coast Tsunami," was broadcast the first week of May. [**Authors' note:** This is an obvious **false prophecy!**]

## Terror attack

On the January 2, 2007, broadcast of the 700 Club, he said that God spoke to him and told him that "mass killings" were to come

during 2007, due to a terrorist attack on the United States. He added, “The Lord didn’t say nuclear. But I do believe it will be something like that.”<sup>3</sup>

When a terrorist attack failed to happen in 2007, Robertson said, in January 2008, “All I can think is that somehow the people of God prayed and God in his mercy spared us.”<sup>4</sup> [**Authors’ note:** These guys always have some excuse as to why their prophecies fail.]

## **Worldwide violence and American recession**

On the January 2, 2008 episode of the 700 Club, Pat Robertson predicted that 2008 would be a year of worldwide violence. He also predicted that a recession would occur in the United States that would be followed by a stock market crash by 2010.<sup>4</sup> However, there was a decrease in overall deaths for the period,<sup>5</sup> and the American economy had already entered a recession in 2007, with increased household debt<sup>6</sup> and the collapse of financial institutions.<sup>7</sup> [**Authors’ note:** Robertson was close. 2011 was the year of worldwide violence and the stock market crashed in 2008. He is not getting these predictions from God. He is making educated guesses or just making them up.]

## **Mideast meltdown**

In October 2008, Robertson posted a press release on the Georgian Conflict speculating that the conflict is a Russian ploy to enter the Middle East, and that instability caused by a predicted pre-emptive strike by Israel on Iran would result in Syria’s and Iran’s launching nuclear strikes on other targets. He also said that if the United States were to oppose Russia’s expansion, nuclear strikes on American soil are also pending. “We will suffer grave economic damage, but will not engage in military action to stop the conflict. However, we may not be spared nuclear strikes against coastal cities. In conclusion, it is my opinion that we have between 75 and 120 days before the Middle East starts spinning out of control.”<sup>8</sup> [**Authors’ note:** He missed this one by a light-year! Russia did not use the Georgian incident to move into the Middle East and Israel did not launch a pre-emptive strike on Iran, although she may in the future. Syria and Iran have not launched nuclear strikes. The Middle East was hit with numerous uprisings in 2011, but it is not spinning out of control.]

## Economic chaos and recovery

On the January 1, 2009 broadcast of the 700 Club, Robertson said, “If I’m hearing [God] right, gold will go to about \$1900 dollars an ounce and oil to \$300 a barrel.” He also suggested that Americans would broadly accept socialism. Despite these predictions, he also said that economically, “things are getting ready to turn around.”<sup>9</sup> [Authors’ note: Once again he missed by a light-year. Gold reached about \$1,550 in late April of 2011, almost \$1,600 in July of 2011 and then hit \$1,900 briefly in August 2011. On July 11, 2008, oil prices rose to a new record of \$147.27, but since then it dropped to \$33.87 on December 21, 2008. It is amazing that Robertson would predict it would climb to \$300 a barrel in 2009. At the end of 2009 it was just above \$80. The American people have not accepted socialism and the economy is not turning around yet.]

## Paul Crouch and “Pastor” Henkle

On April 14, 1993, Paul Crouch came on during a portion of a “Praise-A-Thon” that was a week-long, 24-hour appeal for funds to keep the Trinity Broadcasting Network [TBN] on the air. He claimed that he had some world-shaking news.

That news was that a “very dear friend” of his whom he identified as “Pastor Henkle” had recently had some personal and verbal words directly from God. Crouch assured everyone that he had experienced some of Pastor Henkle’s prophecies in the past and had observed them to come true. The world-shaking words that Pastor Henkle supposedly had received directly from God were:

On June the 9th, Thursday, 1994, I am going to rip evil from this world! [Author’s Note: Isaiah 25:6-9 was given as a Scriptural basis for this prophecy.]

## Oral Roberts (1918-2009)

**1960:** Roberts claimed that God had told him to make His healing power known throughout the earth. This report appeared in *Charisma* magazine in May 1987: In 1960, Roberts believed God spoke to his heart and said:

Raise up your students to hear My Voice, to go where My light is dim, where My voice and My healing power is not known. To go even to uttermost bounds of the earth. Their work will exceed yours. And in this, I am well pleased. [**Authors' note:** To date, none of his students' work has exceeded his.]

**1983:** Roberts announced that Jesus had appeared to him in person and commissioned him to find a cure for cancer (*Time*, July 4, 1983). [**Authors' note:** No cure for cancer has been found at the Oral Roberts University or anywhere else. His School of Medicine (1978) and City of Faith Medical and Research Center hospital (1981) were closed in 1989.]

## Peter Popoff

Peter Popoff claimed that he made a visit to Heaven in the 1970s and wrote about it in a booklet, *140 Predictions About Your Future*, and *The Other Side of Life*, in 1981. Below are a few of those 140 “future” events that “certainly” will take place “by the end of this decade” (1980s):

1. & 25. Russia and China will fight a war (pp. 16, 19).

2. Russia will take the oil fields of Iran and Pakistan (p. 17).

3-4. Brezhnev would soon die and there would be a minor revolution in Russia “shortly after” his death (p. 17). [**Authors' note:** Brezhnev died in 1982 and the USSR collapsed in 1991 after a minor revolution. Is nine years “shortly after”? This looks like a **false prediction.**]

9. There will be a mighty spiritual revival in the Soviet Union and “high officials will be saved and filled with the Holy Spirit.” There will also be “unprecedented” “heavenly miracles” there (p. 18).

10. Popoff will preach in front of the Kremlin (p. 18).

16. A nuclear bomb will accidentally explode (p. 18).

18. “Many great world leaders will commit suicide with pills and drugs (p. 19).

20. Khomeni would die by the hands of an assassin (p. 19). [**Authors' note:** He died of old age at age 89 in a hospital in Iran. This is a **false prediction.**]

22. “Many portions of Earth are going to fall to Communist rule in the next few years” (p. 19). [**Authors' note:** This is a **failed prediction!** No country has fallen to communism since 1981 and the communist Soviet Union collapsed in 1991.]

28. India will become a “Christian” nation after “tremendous turmoil and social upheaval” (p. 20). [**Authors’ note:** That would be a miracle of miracles since 82% of the people in India are Hindus. This will most certainly be shown to be a false prediction.]

32. Terrorists will hold a city in America hostage and there will be an “accidental” atomic bomb explosion (p. 20).

34. Florida and Texas will be devastated by tidal waves. [**Authors’ note:** Too bad he did not see the tsunami that hit Japan in 2011.]

35. A “number” will be “assigned to each person in America” and this “amazing event will happen very soon” (p. 21). [**Authors’ note:** It has been 30 years since he made this prediction in writing and the “number” has not been given to people in America to buy or sell. Thirty years is not “very soon.” Popoff missed this one by more than two decades and counting. It most likely will be another 10 to 20 years before everyone in America is forced to get a “number.” This is a clear **false prediction!**]

38. There will be more scandals in government which will result in a “trend to more honest government” (p. 21). [**Authors’ note:** There have been many more government scandals, but instead of Americans getting more honest government they have gotten more dishonest government. This is a definite **false prediction.**]

39. A “new political party” will be created that will be a front for the communist party that will deceive many Americans. [**Authors’ note:** The only political party formed in America since 1981 was the Reform Party which was founded by Ross Perot in 1995. It is not a front for communists. This is another **false prediction.**]

42. The United States will stop importing oil and start exporting it after new oil fields are discovered. [**Authors’ note:** no major fields have been discovered since 1981. Popoff did not know that the United States has always exported oil with 1.7 million barrels per day in 2008. This is a **false prediction.**]

45. “A new fuel will be discovered that will revolutionize our society in the next few years” (p. 22). [**Authors’ note:** It has been 30 years and no new fuel has been discovered. This is a clear **false prediction!**]

50. Increased terrorism will lead to “even more regulation in our lives” (p. 22). [**Authors’ note:** He was correct about this prediction.]

56. “Christian scientists will discover a drug that retards the growth of cancer cells” (p. 23). [**Authors’ note:** Nothing yet.]

59. “Socialized medicine will come to America and health care will decline” (p. 24). [**Authors’ note:** He got this one right.]

62. “High power lines will be proven injurious to the nervous system” (p. 24). [**Authors’ note:** He is correct but many have known this for several decades.]

67. Gold will reach \$2,000 per ounce in the 1980s then it will plunge to an all-time low (p. 24). [**Authors’ note:** Gold hit an all-time high of \$850 in January of 1980, more than a year before Popoff published this book of predictions. It also crashed to a low of about \$480 in mid-March of 1980. The highest price in the 1980s was the \$850 mark in January 1980. He **missed this prediction** by a long shot.]

68. The ECU (European Currency Unit) will be the “Tribulation money” (p. 24). [**Authors’ note:** He did not know about the Euro which replaced the ECU so this prediction is false. It is unlikely the Euro will even be the “Tribulation money.” A new currency will be created.]

69. “Large American corporations will go bankrupt, but smaller companies would replace them (p.25). [**Authors’ note:** He was right about the big corporations going belly up, but the remainder of his prediction **was wrong!** He got half right and **half wrong.**]

72. “Many banks will fail” (p. 25). [**Authors’ note:** He was right about this one.]

77. “Computers will enable governments to establish ‘thought courts.’ Crimes will be tried before they are committed based on computer predictions” (p. 25). [**Authors’ note:** This prediction comes straight out of the science fiction industry. We are decades away from this being fulfilled if ever. We doubt this will be fulfilled.]

92. “Polygamy will be legalized in some states” (p. 28). [**Authors’ note:** This is unlikely before the Rapture, but likely after it.]

95. Terrorists will set untold fires throughout America (p. 28). [**Authors’ note:** This is unlikely.]

100. “A major dam is going to burst. I saw thousands drowning helplessly” (p. 28). [**Authors’ note:** It is possible, but unlikely.]

102. Terrorists will derail trains killing thousands (p. 29). [**Authors’ note:** We are still waiting for this one.]

103. “So many air disaster will take place in the decade of the 1980s that congress will call for the grounding of all aircraft until investigations are completed” (p. 29). [**Authors’ note:** This was a solid **false prediction!**]

105. He predicted weather problems, earthquakes and other natural disasters during the 1982 alignment of planets. [**Authors’ note:** He missed this one by a light-year. One more **false prediction!**]

117. “The one spoken of in the Bible as the Antichrist is very nearly ready to reveal himself. He is about thirty years old” (p. 31). [**Authors’ note:** This is a definite **false prediction!** No one can honestly think 30 plus years is “very nearly ready.” If the Tribulation does not start for another 10 or 20 years the Antichrist will be 70 or 80 years old when he comes to power. That is absurd.]

121. Appearances of angels will be more frequent in the 1980s (p. 36). [**Authors’ note:** As far as we know there were no verified appearances of angels in the 1980s. Some Christians think they have seen angels, but it is their opinion that what they saw was a holy angel. It is possible that these angels that some Christians claim they have seen are fallen angels pretending to be holy angels (2 Corinthians 11.14). This is a **false prediction.**]

122. “Angels will be photographed! A major American newspaper will carry pictures of angels in their bodily form” (p. 36). [**Authors’ note:** Some Christians claim they have photographed angels, but there has never been a verified photograph of an angel. This is a false prediction unless you believe the National Enquirer is a major American newspaper and you think angels have been photographed. We do not so this must be a **false prediction.**]

123. People will see the Bible written in the sky (p. 36). [**Authors’ note:** This has not happened. This is another **false prediction.** Of all 140 of Popoff’s predictions only 4½ were correct (50, 59, 62, 69a, 72). A whopping 16 were wrong (3-4, 20, 22, 35, 38-39, 42, 45, 67, 103, 105, 117, 121-123). Most of the others will turn out to be false predictions. We must conclude that Popoff did not get these predictions from God because so many are false predictions. God never makes a false prediction.]

## Conclusion

This is but a fraction of the false prophecies that some of the biggest names in the Pentecostal/Charismatic movement have made. Since they have started making prophetic utterances beginning with the Azusa Street Revival not a single self-proclaimed “prophet” has made a correct prophecy. Most of their prophecies are like those of Nostradamus (unclear and vague) and good guesses. Yet all prophecies that are clear, detailed (not general) and have a time factor in them have not been fulfilled.

Most of their prophecies are unimportant and have no spiritual value. If God is trying to warn people about impending disasters to save lives why would He not use one or more of these prophets to predict true catastrophes such as the great earthquake of San Francisco of April 18, 1906; the Chinese famine of 1907 that killed 24 million people; the Spanish Flu of 1918-1920 that killed 50 to 100 million people worldwide; the Russian famine of 1921 that killed 5 million people; the Chinese famine of 1928-1930 that killed 3 million people; the 1931 great floods of China that killed 1 million people; the Soviet famine of 1932-34 that killed 7 to 10 million people; the Chinese famine of 1936 that killed 5 million people; the Chinese drought of 1941 that killed 3 million people; the Vietnamese famine of 1943-1945 that killed 2 million people; the Chinese famine of 1958-1961 that killed 15 to 43 million people; the Indian Ocean Tsunami of 2004 and the Haiti earthquake of 2010; the numerous hurricanes, tornadoes and earthquakes that have killed millions of people in the 20th and 21st centuries; the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941; the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963; and the attacks on America of September 11, 2001?

Famine is one of the biggest killers of mankind. God gave Joseph knowledge of an impending famine in Egypt (Genesis 41.14-36). Why can He not do it today, especially since there are hundreds of self-proclaimed “prophets” running all over the world?

Even though none of the “prophets” warned the American people of the 911 attacks, radio talk show host Alex Jones predicted on July 25, 2001, that Usama bin Laden’s Al Qaeda network would attack New York City targeting the World Trade Center buildings. He did not give a specific date but he said it was imminent. He was the only one in the world who correctly predicted the 911 attacks.<sup>10</sup>

The Azusa Street Revival began on April 14, 1906, just four days before the great quake that destroyed San Francisco. Why did God not use one of the prophets to warn the people of San Francisco?

A very important question must be asked, “Could these men and other men and women who have uttered false prophecies be servants of the devil?”

*“An appalling and horrible thing has happened in the land. The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests rule on their own authority; and My people love it so! But what will they do at the end of it?” (Jeremiah 5:30-31)*

*For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Messiah. And no wonder for Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore [it is] not a great thing if his servants also transform themselves into servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works. (2 Corinthians 11:13-15)*

## Notes

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10. (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e51r0izXpuY>).



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# FINAL THOUGHTS

## Non-Pentecostals and Charismatics

A vitally important question that every Christian who does not exercise any of the “manifestation gifts” (1 Corinthians 12.8-10) must ask himself is:

### **Am I resisting the Holy Spirit?**

**If** the “manifestation gifts” are for all believers today then the Holy Spirit wants to give one or more of those gifts to every believer. Since about half of all Protestant believers do not exercise any of those gifts they must be resisting the Holy Spirit! They are either resisting Him consciously or through ignorance. Those who are knowingly resisting the Holy Spirit are actively grieving Him (Ephesians 4.30) and quenching Him (1 Thessalonians 5.19) in violation of biblical commands!

**If** this is true it is a very powerful indictment of Christians who do not want the “manifestation gifts” of the Holy Spirit who lives within them! Can they be fully used by the Holy Spirit to do the will of God? Can they truly live a fully sanctified (holy) life as all believers are commanded to? (1 Peter 1.15-16). Are non-Pentecostal/Charismatic believers hindering the work of the Holy Spirit?

A very prominent Charismatic pastor told the authors on a radio talk show that he believes the members of churches that do not believe the “manifestation gifts” are for Christians today are “resisting the Holy Spirit.” We are certain that most Pentecostal and Charismatic pastors would agree with him.

**If** they are correct does that mean the major cause of apostasy of the last days (2 Thessalonians 2.3; 2 Timothy 4.3-4) is the rejection by the cessationists of the “manifestation gifts” of the Holy Spirit?

**If** you are a member of a church in which the members do not exercise the “manifestation gifts” are they exercising the other gifts of Romans 12.6-8? Do members regularly preach (gift of prophecy), serve, teach, exhort, give liberally, lead and show mercy? If they do not you may want to speak with your pastors about this.

Does your church have a dynamic discipleship program in which everyone is being trained to be a disciple who can share the Gospel in a clear and concise manner and then disciple those he leads to the Lord? If it does not have a discipleship program you may give prayerful consideration to asking your pastors to start one.

## **Pentecostals and Charismatics**

Please give careful consideration to these thoughts and questions concerning the “manifestation gifts” of the Holy Spirit:

Every pastor of every church that exercises the “manifestation gifts” should know what gifts each member has. Even the pastors of mega-churches should know this. The assistant pastors should have a specific number of members they are responsible for watching over their spiritual welfare (Hebrews 13.17). These pastors should have a list of members and know what gifts they have.

**If** you are a member of a church that exercises the “manifestation gifts” go to your pastor and simply ask him if he knows what gifts each member has. If he asks you why you want to know tell him you want to know if the church has a balance of gifts as the Bible says every church should have (1 Corinthians 12.14, 19). When Paul asked if all the members of a church were apostles, prophets, teachers, miracle workers, healers, speakers of a known language they do not know, and interpretation of languages (1 Corinthians 12.29-30) the answer was no! If he tells you it is none of your business you know he has a problem. You may want to find another church.

You can also do an informal survey of the members by simply watching what gifts they exercise. You can discreetly ask some members what gifts they have if you do not know what they are. Once you complete your discrete survey see if there is a balance of gifts.

**If** virtually everyone has the ability to speak the mysterious “prayer language,” few or none have the gift of speaking a known language they do not know and a few or no members have the gift of interpretation you know there is an imbalance.

**If** a large percentage have the gifts of a word of wisdom and a word of knowledge, but very few have the gifts of faith and distinguishing spirits something is wrong.

**If** no members or only the pastor or a couple others have the gifts of prophecy, or miracles or healing something is wrong.

Once you examine the distribution of gifts if there is an imbalance you are a member of a dysfunctional church. You need to give much prayer to whether or not you should go to another church where there is a balance of the “manifestation gifts.”

All of the gifts in 1 Corinthians 12.8-10 were given for two purposes – to prove that Jesus is the promised Messiah (Isaiah 28.11; Acts 2.11-12), and to equip believers to do the work of preaching the Gospel and making disciples (Ephesians 4.11-12).

The purpose of all the gifts of the Spirit listed in Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12 is to edify (1 Corinthians 14.17), exhort (1 Corinthians 14.31) and equip believers (1 Corinthians 12.28; 14.26; Ephesians 4.11-12). When any “manifestation gift” does not edify, exhort or equip believers it should not be used. Edification, exhortation and equipping are three aspects of spiritual growth.

**If** the “manifestation gifts” are for believers today their main purpose is to help them mature in the Lord so they can share the Gospel in a clear and concise manner (1 Peter 3.15) and then disciple the people they lead to the Lord (Matthew 28.19-20).

**If** the exercise of “manifestation gifts” in a church is not helping the members grow spiritually they are being used improperly. Every Pentecostal and Charismatic church in the world should have the most mature Christians to be found anywhere, who are daily sharing the Gospel, leading people to Christ and discipling them. The members of all Pentecostal and Charismatic churches should be a super-believers who know the Bible inside-and-out, can quote hundreds of verses by memory, can teach the Bible with no preparation, can share the Gospel in a clear and precise manner, who boldly share the Gospel daily and who can disciple those they lead to the Lord. If this is not true of your church then the members of your church are not using the “manifestation gifts” properly.

Do you spend more time in real prayer, Bible reading, Bible study, Bible memorization and meditation than you do in praying in the mystery prayer language and listening to preachers and gospel music?

Christians who are not growing spiritually by having a daily discipline of praying, feeding on the Word, attending regular Bible studies and worship services, sharing the Gospel and making disciples are spiritual babies. A believer can be saved for 50 or more years and be a spiritual baby. There are millions of elderly believers around the world who have not grown up spiritually. It is sad, but it is a fact of life. The

average believer does not give this fact much thought because they do not understand how serious the problem is.

Once again we use the illustration of just how serious a lack of spiritual growth is:

**If** we were to see a baby of six months of age stand up in a crib and say “dadda” and “momma” we would think the child was making rapid growth. Yet if we came back 20 years later and we saw a fully grown man in the same crib stand up and say “dadda” and “momma” and that is all he could do we would be horrified.

Every believer should be just as horrified to see a brother or sister in a church who has been saved for five or more years and knows virtually nothing about the Bible, cannot share the Gospel, cannot quote more Scripture than John 3.16, does not read the Bible daily, rarely studies the Bible, almost never meditates on Scripture, seldom prays, rarely attends Bible studies and only attends Sunday worship services regularly. There are millions of Christians in America and around the world who are spiritual babies and can do no more in the spiritual world than saying “dadda” and “momma.”

**If** you are not a super-believer study Appendix A carefully and do what it says. Make certain you are born from above, become a disciple and set up a spiritual fitness program.

## **One last question for Pentecostals and Charismatics**

All Pentecostal and Charismatic believers who exercise one or more of the “manifestation gifts” must ask themselves this question concerning those gifts:

**Have I been misled by false prophets into believing the “manifestation gifts” are for Christians today?**

**If** the “manifestation gifts” were not given to believers after the Bible was completed (circa 100 AD), and they have not been given to believers of the 19th, 20th or 21st centuries everyone who has them has counterfeit gifts of the Holy Spirit. Those gifts are from the flesh not the Holy Spirit!

**If** the founders of the Pentecostal movement were exercising counterfeit gifts from the flesh then those who have followed them have

imitated their actions and they do not have true Holy Spirit gifts. This means most Pentecostals and Charismatics unwittingly have imitated others not knowing what they are engaged in his a spiritual hoax!

All Pentecostals and Charismatics would argue vigorously that their gifts are real and they have helped them grow spiritually. They would also argue that Pentecostals and Charismatics have won millions of souls for the Lord and have done untold good works for Him.

Roman Catholics and Eastern Orthodox Catholics can make the same claim and so can Mormons, Jehovah Witnesses, Seventh Day Adventists, Campbellites, and “Christians” from dozens of other denominations and cults. Jesus said there will be many who will call Him “Lord” on judgment day and argue with Him that they prophesied in His name, cast out demons in His name and performed many wonders in His name. But he will say to them:

*“I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.”* (Matthew 7.23)

Come Judgment Day there will be millions or possibly billions of people who thought they were saved, had served Jesus Christ faithfully and performed many good works. Yet they believed “*another Gospel*” (Galatians 1.6, 9) and they were not saved! They also performed their many good deeds in the flesh or in the power of demons, not in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Just because some practice, custom, ritual or act makes you feel spiritual does not mean it is biblical or something God wants you to do. Even if you believe it is biblical, and you have grown spiritually and you have performed many good works because of it does not mean it is of God. If that were so it would mean the vast majority of Roman Catholics, Eastern Orthodox Catholics, Mormons, Jehovah Witnesses, Seventh Day Adventists, the Campbellites, and “Christians” from dozens of other denominations and the “cults” are truly born again.

Think about it!

## **All believers**

Remember this important truth: All of the gifts of the Holy Spirit that are found in Romans 12 and in 1 Corinthians 12, were given to equip believers to do the work of preaching the Gospel and making disciples (Ephesians 4.11-12). The main purpose of all gifts is to help believers mature in the Lord so they can share the Gospel in a clear and concise

manner (1 Peter 3.15) and then disciple the people they lead to the Lord (Matthew 28.19-20).

Everything God has given us (life, health, intelligence, knowledge, understanding, wisdom, talents, employment, a domicile, cars, spouse, children, possessions and money) is to be used for the glory of Him who gave them to us. Everything we do and say is to be done for the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10.31). Everything God gives us is a tool to help us serve Him better. If there are some things you have that cannot be used to help you glorify God you may want to consider parting with them. If there are possessions or hobbies that consume your time and keep you from praying, studying the Bible and serving God fully you may want to give them up.

**If** you are a true child of God and you want to serve Him, He will take away everything that hinders you from serving Him if you do not dispose of them yourself. If you do not rid yourself of these things and God does not it may be evidence that you are not saved.

There are millions of people in the world who think they are saved but are not. They can be found in every religion and cult. They can even be found in your church. There have been many people in churches who were members for twenty or more years who went up at an altar call to be saved. Some have been deacons, wives of deacons and even pastors.

## **Closing argument**

We saw in Chapter 13 “What the Azusa Street Revival Was Like,” that the leaders and the people who attended it did not exercise the “manifestation gifts” in accordance with the commands given by Paul. More than three men spoke in “tongues” in a single worship service and there was not always an interpretation:

*If anyone speaks in a tongue, it should be by two or at the most three, and each in turn, and one must interpret; but if there is no interpreter, he must keep silent in the church; and let him speak to himself and to God. (1 Corinthians 14.27-28)*

The activities at most meetings were not orderly, but extremely chaotic and confusing to outsiders:

...work themselves into a state of **mad excitement** in their peculiar zeal.<sup>1</sup>

Night is made **hideous** in the neighborhood by the **howlings** of the worshippers, who spend hours swaying forth and back.<sup>1</sup>

They cry and make **howling noises** all day and into the night. They run, jump, shake all over, shout to the top of their voice, spin around in circles, fall out on the sawdust blanketed floor jerking, kicking and rolling all over it. Some of them pass out and do not move for hours as though they were dead. These people **appear to be mad, mentally deranged or under a spell.**<sup>2</sup>

**If** the Azusa Street Revival was of the Holy Spirit it means He violated the clear commands of Scripture! This is something that serious believers cannot accept for any reason. God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit do NOT violate Their Word. To do so would be a sin! They cannot sin (Deuteronomy 32.4; Titus 1.2; Hebrews 4.15; 6.18). Therefore, is the only conclusion that we can come to is that the Azusa Street Revival was not of the Holy Spirit? If it was not of the Holy Spirit has all that has followed it also not been of the Holy Spirit? Is it a great deception by the great deceiver – Satan?

*And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, the old serpent, which is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, and cast him into the abyss, and shut [it], and sealed [it] over him, that he should **deceive the nations no more**, until the thousand years should be finished: after this he must be loosed for a little time. (Revelation 20.1-3)*

*And the devil that **deceived them** was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where are also the beast and the false prophet; and they shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. (Revelation 20.10)*

The Bible is clear that the devil not only deceives individuals (2 Corinthians 4.4), but he also deceives all of the nations of the world. The methods he uses to deceive all mankind are myriad. He deceives them in all aspects of society – politics, economics, education, medicine, science, ethics and religion. The great apostasy of the last days that we live in (2 Thessalonians 2.3; 2 Timothy 4.3-4) is partly due to deception by Satan. We can be certain that he has deceived billions of people through false religions, cults, doctrines and practices.

Is the only conclusion a believer can come to after examining all of the facts concerning the Pentecostal/Charismatic Movement is that it is a great deception by Satan and part of the fulfillment of Bible prophecy?

*Let no man beguile you in any wise: for [it will not be,] except the **falling away** come first, and the man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition. (2 Thessalonians 2.3)*

*For the time will come when they will not endure the sound doctrine; but, having itching ears, will heap to themselves teachers after their own lusts; and will turn away their ears from the truth, and **turn aside unto fables**. (2 Timothy 4.3-4) (Emphasis added)*

Is the Pentecostal/Charismatic Movement a major cause of the apostasy of the last days that must come before the Rapture?

Could the Pentecostal/Charismatic televangelists and preachers be the men that Jeremiah and Jesus warned us of?

*Thus saith YAHWEH of hosts, Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they **teach you vanity**; they speak a **vision of their own heart**, and not out of the mouth of YAHWEH. (Jeremiah 23.16, emphasis added)*

*For there shall arise false Christs, and **false prophets**, and shall show **great signs and wonders**; so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. (Matthew 24.24, emphasis added)*

The Bible is clear that in the last days there will be false prophets who will claim to have visions from God, but they will be from their vain imaginations. These mock-Christians will perform fantastic “*signs*” and “*wonders*” that will lead the elect astray if possible. They will also cause their followers to believe in fables. We also know from the parable of the sower that the enemy sows tares among the wheat. Instead of pulling out the tares before the harvest (Second Coming of Christ) they are allowed to grow up alongside the wheat. It is only at the Second Coming that the tares (the lost) are pulled out and cast into Hell (Matthew 13. 24-30).

If the Pentecostal/Charismatic preachers are not the false prophets we were warned of who are those deceivers?

## Notes

1. Hayford, Jack W.; Moore, S. David. *The Charismatic Century: The Enduring Impact of the Azusa Street Revival*. Warner Faith. 2006. (August, 2006 edition).
2. "Azusa History." International Center for Spiritual Renewal. Archived from the original on May 11, 2007. <http://web.archive.org/web/20070511032252/http://www.icfsr.org/history.html>.



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