

**Adult Bible Institute
Fall Semester, 2003
Spiritual Gifts Class, Session #3
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“The Source of Spiritual Gifts”

I. NOTE THE EMPHASIS OF 1 CORINTHIANS 12.

- A. 12:4-6---“different kinds of gifts,” different kinds of service,” “different kinds of working.” “same Spirit,” “same Lord,” “same God.”
- B. 12:8-9---“”given through the Spirit”, “by means of the same Spirit,” “by the same Spirit,” “by that one Spirit.”
- C. 12:11---“All these are the work of one and the same Spirit.”

II. FIRST AND FOREMOST, SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE A MANIFESTATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

- A. 12:7---“Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.”
- B. The operation of Spiritual Gifts in the lives of believers is one way that the the power of the unseen Spirit is seen.
 - 1. John 3:7-8---The unseen Spirit is seen through the visible effects of His impact and work.
 - 2. Spiritual power in the lives of Christians declares the reality of Jesus Christ, as He is the one Who sent the Spirit.
 - a. John 14:26; 15:26; 16:7.

III. SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE DETERMINED BY THE SPIRIT.

- A. 12:11---“All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as He determines.”
- B. 12:18---“But in fact God has arranged the parts of the body [referring to the administration of spiritual gifts], every one of them just as he wanted them to be.”
- C. 12:24--- “...But God has combined the members of the body...”

D. 12:28--- “And in the church God has appointed...”

IV. THERE SEEMS TO BE LINKAGE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS WITH THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

A. In the midst of a discussion about Spiritual Gifts, Paul speaks of the baptism of newly regenerated people into the body of Christ. (12:13).

B. This seems to imply that Spiritual Gifts are given at conversion.

V. AN ADDITIONAL PASSAGE SHOWING THE SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS.

A. Ephesians 4:7-12.

B. 4:7--- “grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.”

C. 4:8--- “he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men.”

D. 4:11--- “It was he who gave some to be apostles,...”

VI. SOME IMPLICATIONS OF THIS TRUTH.

A. Gifts are sovereignly determined and given by the Spirit. Again, there is no emphasis on the New Testament on the Christian seeking specific Spiritual Gifts.

1. “Spiritual gifts are revealed to be sovereignly given by God, and as such, they are not properly the objects of men’s seeking.”

Dr. John Walvoord, former President of Dallas Theological Seminary, in his book The Holy Spirit, p. 165.

B. Since Spiritual Gifts are given by the Spirit, they cannot be effectively used except through the power and filling of the Spirit.

1. This makes growth in holiness a critical issue, as sin will diminish the power of the Spirit (see Eph. 4:30-32).

C. Christians with power bring honor to Christ, while powerless Christians and churches discredit the testimony of Christ.