





**Revelation 7:9:** (NIV) *After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and **language** <1100>, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb....*

The word for *language* here is the exact same word for *tongue*.



So it is simple - to speak in a tongue is to speak in a distinct language, be it your own or another.

**Language gives clarity to the world around us:**

**Genesis 2:20:** (NASB) *The man gave names to all the cattle, and to the birds of the sky, and to every beast of the field, but for Adam there was not found a helper suitable for him.*

**The purpose of a tongue or language is to communicate:**

**Genesis 11:1-8:** (NASB) *<sup>1</sup>Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words. <sup>2</sup>It came about as they journeyed east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there... <sup>4</sup>They said, come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top will reach into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name, otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth. <sup>5</sup>The LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the sons of men had built. <sup>6</sup>The LORD said, Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing, which they purpose to do, will be impossible for them. <sup>7</sup>Come let Us go down and there confuse their language, so that they will not understand one another's speech. <sup>8</sup>So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of the whole earth; and they stopped building the city.*



**Who was given the ability to speak in tongues?**



**WHO** had the ability to speak in tongues?

 **Divisive belief, Speaking in Tongues, Nightline Online ABC**

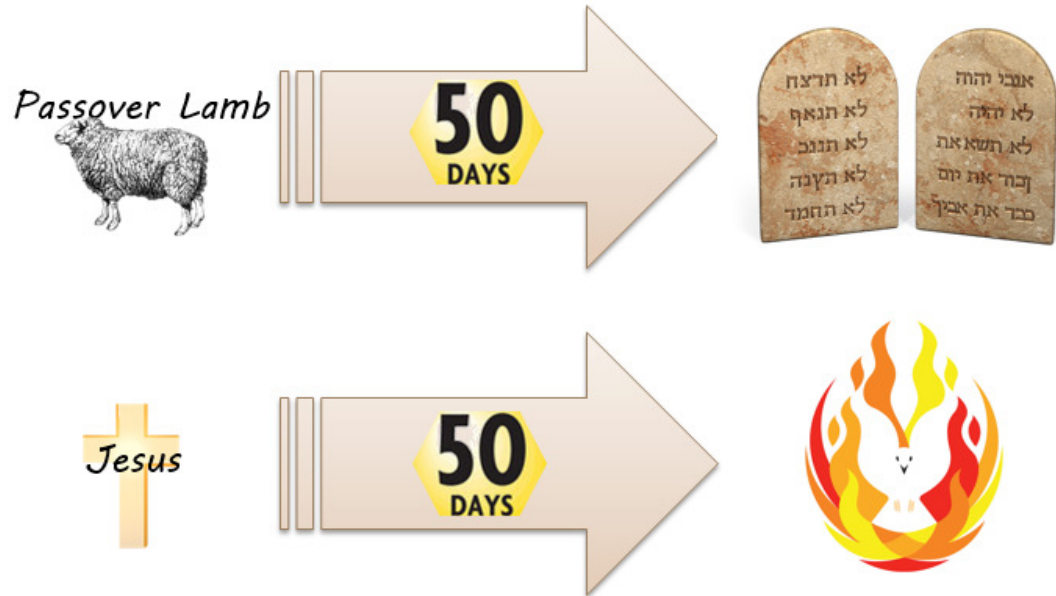
- *There's a vast number of people out there that because they did not personally experience it or have been taught against it all their lives, there's no way they have an ability to embrace it, so that's common. We're still mocked and made fun of.*
- *(People speaking unrecognizably)*
- *(Reporter) That's not stopping pastor Gerry Stoltzfoos or others in his congregation at the Freedom Valley Worship Center in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, from using what they say is a God-given gift.*
- *(Member of congregation) It's almost as if I am able to tap into God's heart and what He wants. I get goose bumps actually. You can feel Him all around you and you can feel Him speaking through the words that you are saying.*

**2 Timothy 3:16-17:** (KJV) *<sup>16</sup>All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: <sup>17</sup>That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*

The word of God provides everything we need. What does the word of God say on today's subject? The Bible unequivocally supports the idea of speaking in tongues; however, we have to figure out how it is supported.



Miraculously speaking in tongues, or different languages, was first introduced on the Day of Pentecost after Jesus was raised. Just as Israel had been delivered from slavery as a result of the Passover lamb and 50 days later was given the 10 Commandments as its guide for life, so Christianity 50 days after its "Passover Lamb" had been slain was given the Holy Spirit (God's power and influence) as a light and guide. Tongues were a gift that came as a result of that spirit.



**There are only three recorded New Testament speaking in tongues events:**

**1. Pentecost:** Acts 2:1-8: (NASB) <sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. <sup>4</sup>And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. <sup>5</sup>Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup>And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language. <sup>7</sup>They were amazed and astonished, saying, why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born?



**Observations:**

- Each individual listening clearly heard their native language spoken (over 14 languages).
- There was a mixed audience - those who mocked and those who would believe.
- The Apostle Peter immediately related this experience to Old Testament prophecy.

The speaking in tongues was instrumental here in bringing thousands to Christ, as the Gospel was being communicated in their own language. Without this ability, the audience would not have been able to understand the message. *The gift was used solely for the purpose of communicating.*



**2. The conversion of Cornelius:** Acts 10:34-35,44-47: (NIV) <sup>34</sup>Then Peter began to speak: I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism <sup>35</sup>but accepts men from every nation who fear Him and do what is right...<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. <sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. <sup>46</sup>For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup>Can anyone keep these people from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.

Cornelius had been following the Jewish Law. After Peter witnesses to him and his household, they receive the Holy Spirit and this gift to show they are now followers of Christ. As the first non-Jewish converts to Christianity, the purpose was to provide a significant sign verifying this arrangement was acceptable to God. Both the Jews and Gentiles could understand this dramatic sign.

**3. In Ephesus:** Acts 19:1-7: (NIV) <sup>1</sup>While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples <sup>2</sup>and asked them, did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed? They answered, no; we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit. <sup>3</sup>So Paul asked, "Then what baptism did you receive? John's baptism, they replied. <sup>4</sup>Paul said John's baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus. <sup>5</sup>On hearing this, they were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. <sup>7</sup>There were about twelve men in all.

Newly converted Christians were given the gift of speaking in other languages. (More detail on this later.)



**Observations about all three instances of speaking in tongues having a clear reference to:**

1. Newly spirit-begotten individuals - those being drawn into Christianity.
2. The preaching of an Apostle - not just any Christian. All three events had an Apostle present.
3. The audience: A Jew or Gentile, some believers and others nonbelievers or not yet converted.



**WHO?** Only Apostles and converts by way of an Apostle's teaching or laying on of hands of an Apostle; only Apostles could transfer the gift to other individuals.

**Why was the gift of tongues given? Was it to impress everyone?**

**WHY** was the miraculous ability to speak in an unstudied language granted?

First, it was a sign of God's favor.

**The Jewish nation was accustomed to such signs:**

Isaiah 7:13-14: (NRSV) <sup>13</sup>Then Isaiah said: Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.





### Another proof:

John 4:46-48: (NRSV) <sup>46</sup>Then he came again to Cana in Galilee where he had changed the water into wine. Now there was a royal official whose son lay ill in Capernaum. <sup>47</sup>When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went and begged him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. <sup>48</sup>Then Jesus said to him, unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe.



A caller from Connecticut suggests Jeremiah 9:23-24: *Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom. Let him who glories glory in this: that in his prudence he knows Me.* When growing in Christ, it is natural to receive gifts. These gifts can take many forms, but they are part of letting go of our little self and being close in God. Hebrews 2:4: *God added His testimony by signs, wonders, various acts of power.* Gifts are a result of being in His love. The purpose of these gifts are to bring others to that love. Anything that makes us feel special or appears that we have hidden knowledge to being in Christ keeps us from being a witness. Pride in speech divided men at Babel. Love in speech united men at Pentecost. Psalms 145:5: *They speak of the splendor of Your majestic glory; they tell of Your wonderful deeds.*



### No known language, *Speaking in Tongues, Nightline Online ABC*

- (Reporter) *It almost sounds like a foreign language, but actually those who speak in tongues are not saying anything in any known language.*
- (Member of congregation) *We say things in our own English language but speaking in tongues is a heavenly language that we're going to God and Jesus intercedes for us.*
- (Reporter) *They say they have no control over what comes out of their mouths; that they are swept up in a rush of ecstatic religious feeling and that the Holy Spirit is speaking through them. Do you hear yourself?*
- (Member of congregation) *Oh yeah. Sometimes I think I sound like a total idiot.*

Christianity today: Speaking a "spiritual language" no one understands.  
New Testament: In an understandable language.

Second, it was a miraculous method of communication that would fill a dramatic need to spread the Gospel to all - Jews first and then Gentiles. At Pentecost, there were over a dozen languages spoken. There was a need to get the Gospel out wide, far and fast.

### This would require effective communication via the understandable spoken word:

Romans 10:10-15: (NASB) <sup>10</sup>for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. <sup>11</sup>For the Scripture says, Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed. <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on him; <sup>13</sup>for Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved. <sup>14</sup>How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? <sup>15</sup>How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things!

This was about coming to Christ without discrepancy between Jew and Gentile.



Third, tongues were prophesied as a way not to impress the hearer, but to impress upon the hearer the beauty of the Gospel message:

1 Corinthians 14:20-23: (NASB) <sup>20</sup>Brethren, do not be children in your thinking; yet in evil be infants, but in your thinking be mature. <sup>21</sup>In the Law it is written, By men of strange tongues and by the lips of strangers I will speak to this people, and even so they will not listen to Me, says the Lord. <sup>22</sup>So then tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophecy is for a sign, not to unbelievers but to those who believe. <sup>23</sup>Therefore if the whole church assembles together and all speak in tongues, and ungifted men or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are mad?

The Apostle explains speaking in tongues is meant for the ears of those who do not believe. If it is done only in the presence of believers, it is contradicting the purpose expressed by the Apostle Paul.

It was all about spreading the understanding of truth and not about putting on a show!

Isaiah 28:9-12: (KJV) <sup>9</sup>Whom shall he teach knowledge? And whom shall he make to understand doctrine? Them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. <sup>10</sup>For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: <sup>11</sup>For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. <sup>12</sup>To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing; yet they would not hear.

The scriptural principle explained here is to build truth upon logic and understanding, Scripture upon Scripture, reasoning upon reasoning - not through saying something no one can understand or interpret or something that just makes you "feel good."

Scripturally speaking, speaking in tongues was to communicate the Gospel to those who did not have the ability to understand it any other way. It was not about serving ourselves; it was about spreading the word to others.

#### Our theme Scripture:

Psalms 19:14: (NASB) Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.



This is such a powerful message relating to our subject. We want the words of our mouth and meditation of our hearts to be acceptable to God. Therefore, they have to be in accordance with God. Samuel said to Saul in 1 Samuel 15:22: *It is better to obey than to sacrifice*, meaning it is better to do the Lord's will in the Lord's way.



<b>SPEAKING IN TONGUES</b>	
according to the New Testament	
<b>WHAT</b>	Speaking in an understandable foreign language
<b>WHO</b>	The Apostles, who could then pass the gift onto others
<b>WHY</b>	To communicate the Gospel message to others



**WHERE** was the gift of tongues supposed to be used?

First, a text to give us perspective:

1 Corinthians 12:27-28, 31: (NASB) <sup>27</sup>Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup>And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues... <sup>31</sup>But earnestly desire the greater gifts. And I show you a still more excellent way.

In order of importance, the gift of tongues is at the bottom of the list. What is the more excellent way he describes...? More on this later!

 **The science of tongues, *Speaking in Tongues*, *Nightline Online ABC***

- (Reporter) At the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Andrew Newberg is looking for an explanation for what most regard as unexplainable.
- It's not language. It's not regular language, at least, that would normally activate the frontal lobe.
- (Reporter) Newberg is exploring the relationship between faith and science, studying what happens in the brain during deepest moments of faith.
- If we're really going to look at this very, very powerful force in human history of religion and spirituality, I think we really have to take a look at how that affects our brain; what's changing, or turning on or turning off in our brain.

CT scan studies of people speaking in tongues show it is not an actual language - just sounds. The brain's frontal lobe that normally lights up when communicating does not light up when someone speaks in tongues.

The Scriptures define speaking in tongues as speaking in languages; contrary to what is done in modern day.

1 Corinthians 14:6-9: (NRSV) <sup>6</sup>Now, brothers and sisters, if I come to you speaking in tongues, how will I benefit you unless I speak to you in some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or teaching? <sup>7</sup>It is the same way with lifeless instruments that produce sound, such as the flute or the harp. If they do not give distinct notes, how will anyone know what is being played? <sup>8</sup>And if the bugle gives an indistinct sound, who will get ready for battle? <sup>9</sup>So with



*yourselves; if in a tongue you utter speech that is not intelligible, how will anyone know what is being said? For you will be speaking into the air.*

The Apostle Paul is against speaking in tongues if others cannot understand what is being said. He gives an example of the uselessness of tongues used out of context. *You are speaking to the air!* In other words, you are wasting your breath - no one, not even yourself, understands what you are saying - you may be speaking but you are not communicating the Good News!

The whole point of scriptural speaking in tongues was to communicate the Gospel. Now it has become an emotional event rather than one of communication. The Gospel should be transformative, not just emotional.

### **Its purpose is communicating meaning and contributing to others:**

1 Corinthians 14:10-12: (NASB) <sup>10</sup>*There are, perhaps, a great many kinds of languages in the world, and no kind is without meaning. <sup>11</sup>If then I do not know the meaning of the language, I will be to the one who speaks a barbarian, and the one who speaks will be a barbarian to me. <sup>12</sup>So also you, since you are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek to abound for the edification of the church.*

### **Was it ever instructed to use the gift for personal gain? No...**

1 Corinthians 14:13-14: (NASB) <sup>13</sup>*Therefore let one who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret. <sup>14</sup>For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful.*

### **Pray profitably:**

Matthew 6:7-8: (NASB) <sup>7</sup>*And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words. <sup>8</sup>So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.*

### **Was it ever instructed to use the gift IN the church, or BY the church for the benefit of others?**

1 Corinthians 14:20-25: (NASB) <sup>20</sup>*Brethren, do not be children in your thinking; yet in evil be infants, but in your thinking be mature... <sup>22</sup>So then tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophecy is for a sign, not to unbelievers but to those who believe. <sup>23</sup>Therefore if the whole church assembles together and all speak in tongues, and ungifted men or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are mad? <sup>24</sup>But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an ungifted man enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all; <sup>25</sup>the secrets of his heart are disclosed; and so he will fall on his face and worship God, declaring that God is certainly among you.*

The Apostle is telling us to be mature! Tongues were a sign for unbelievers so the gift was to be used the right way.

### **HOW was this gift of tongues to be a profitable gift?**

We know it was NOT profitable as a way to pray.

### **Praying in tongues produces an unfruitful result:**

1 Corinthians 14:15-17: (NRSV) <sup>15</sup>*What should I do then? I will pray with the spirit, but I will pray with the mind also; I will sing praise with the spirit, but I will sing praise with the mind also. <sup>16</sup>Otherwise, if you say a blessing with the spirit, how can anyone in the position of an outsider say the Amen to your thanksgiving, since the outsider does not know what you are saying? <sup>17</sup>For you may give thanks well enough, but the other person is not built up.*

Pray and sing praise in a manner that is clear and understandable to yourself and to those around you - anything else is a waste of time according to the







Apostle Paul. This gift was supposed to build those around you up by spreading the Gospel, not to make you emotionally feel good.



A caller from Connecticut suggests [Revelation 2:17](#): *He that hath an ear let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. God is speaking but not everyone is listening.* [Matthew 13:16](#): *Blessed are your eyes for they see and your ears for they hear and understand.*

**We know it was NOT profitable as oratory within the church - especially with no interpretation:**

**1 Corinthians 14:18-20:** (NRSV) <sup>18</sup>I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you; <sup>19</sup>nevertheless, in church I would rather speak five words with my mind, in order to instruct others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue. <sup>20</sup>Brothers and sisters, do not be children in your thinking; rather, be infants in evil, but in thinking be adults.

The Apostle Paul instructed the church to speak to build up the brotherhood; use your sanctified mind - it is FAR MORE VALUABLE than this gift of tongues that was only temporary and for a special purpose - to communicate the Gospel to those who otherwise would not be able to understand. Be grown up! That church was incorrectly using the gift and the Apostle had to refocus them.



**Brain scan results, [Speaking in Tongues, Nightline Online ABC](#)**

- (Dr. Newberg) This is the first scan when he was in prayer speaking in English. This is the second scan when he is praying in tongues.
- (Reporter) Pastor Stoltzfoos' scan showed that his frontal lobe, the part of the brain that controls language, was active when he prayed in English but for the most part it fell quiet when he prayed in tongues.
- (Dr. Newberg) When they're actually engaged in this whole, very intense, spiritual practice, religious practice for them, their frontal lobes tend to go down in activity, but I think it's very consistent with the kind of experience that they have because they say that they're not in charge. It's the voice of God; it's the spirit of God that's moving through them.

The three profitable, concrete examples of the gift of tongues we spoke about in the first hour:

**Tongues were profitable as a way to inspire the hearers with understanding and truth:**

**Acts 2:4-8:** (NASB) <sup>4</sup>And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. <sup>5</sup>Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup>And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language. <sup>7</sup>They were amazed and astonished, saying, why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born?

**Tongues were profitable as a way to praise God across cultural or language barriers:**

**Acts 10:45-47:** (NASB) <sup>45</sup>All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. <sup>46</sup>For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered, <sup>47</sup>Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?



The people that came with Peter to see Cornelius were Jewish converts to Christianity. They were embarking on something brand new and needed to see that God would accept these non-Jewish converts. They needed a big sign. It makes sense that the tongue Cornelius would be speaking was Aramaic, the Apostle's home language. Peter could hear/understand what was being said - God was being exalted.

### **Tongues were profitable as a cross-cultural sign and as a cross-cultural way to prophesy:**

**Acts 19:1-7:** (NASB) <sup>1</sup>It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples. <sup>2</sup>He said to them, did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed? And they said to him, no, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit... <sup>5</sup>When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying. <sup>7</sup>There were in all about twelve men.

These are probably other Gentile converts who were given the gift to speak in tongues and prophesy - to be an orator - looking into the Scriptures in a deep way and bringing things to the attention of others. (Used here, it does not mean being able to see the future.) They were given the gift to communicate with others and the knowledge of what needed to be communicated. They were given a depth of understanding and knowledge without having previously studied - it was a miracle! But the Apostle Paul himself could hear and understand it. Every time tongues are used in a legitimate, biblical way, there is an interpretation. That is the "how" of speaking in tongues. It is supposed to be interpreted and therefore understood.

**WHEN** did the gift of tongues work and has it now gone away?

**For those back in the early church who became careless, the Apostle gave them repeated guidelines to reign in their childish behavior:**

**1 Corinthians 14:26-29:** (NRSV) <sup>26</sup>What should be done then, my friends? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up. <sup>27</sup>If anyone speaks in a tongue let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn; and let one interpret. <sup>28</sup>But if there is no one to interpret, let them be silent in church and speak to themselves and to God. <sup>29</sup>Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said.

The Apostle Paul was dealing with an "infant" church. They were using this gift out of order and without respect for godliness. He told them: If you must exercise this gift, only do it with an interpretation. Order is critical and up-building the faithful is the most important thing. Speaking to yourself is NOT speaking in tongues, for Paul already warned against that as unfruitful (verse 14); it is rather using mind and spirit to quietly glorify God - meditate quietly to yourself instead.

We have only seen these gifts passed on to others in the presence of an Apostle - there is no evidence that anyone else could pass these gifts along.

**Acts 10:44,46:** (NRSV) <sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word... <sup>46</sup>For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter...





**Acts 19:6:** (NRSV) *When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied...*

Why? Because the Gospel needed to be spread beyond the natural landscape of Jewish language and scope. Others could not pass these things on because these gifts were merely a tool for the beginning stages of the Gospel work.



Jonathan called in to suggest: We should not be wasting our time and effort on things that the Apostle Paul says are not profitable.



A CQ app user asks the question: What is the difference between “speaking in tongues” and “speaking in the tongues of angels?”

**1 Corinthians 13:1-3:** *<sup>1</sup>If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup>If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.*

The Apostle Paul refers only to himself as speaking in the tongues of angels. He was given special visions - even one that brought him to “the third heaven” - none of us received. We do not know what he was capable of or what he saw that he specifically said he was not allowed to repeat. The Apostle Paul is making a dramatic point: Even if I could do *that*, there is a much better way - and then he goes into the chapter about love. Nowhere in Scripture are we given the gift to speak “in the tongues of angels.”

#### Where does the gift of tongues rank?

**1 Corinthians 12:27-28:** (NASB) *<sup>27</sup>Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup>And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues.*

It was a miraculous gift but the least of the gifts.



#### Brain scan comparisons, *Speaking in Tongues*, *Nightline Online ABC*

- (Reporter) *In earlier studies, Dr. Newberg looked at what happens in the brains of Buddhist monks meditating and Franciscan nuns praying, and it was noticeably different from what happens to tongue speakers.*
- (Dr. Newberg) *That is in incredibly stark contrast to the people who are like the Buddhist and Franciscan nuns who are in prayer, because they're very intensely focused and in those individuals the frontal lobes actually increase activity.*
- (Reporter) *But Dr. Newberg isn't out there to prove or disprove anything. He can tell you what happens in the brain, not why. Were you skeptical going into the studies?*
- (Dr. Newberg) *If by skeptical the question is, is this a real phenomenon? Meaning is this truly the voice of God speaking through them, that's a much more problematic question and something I'm not sure that we've specifically answered simply by doing our study.*
- (Reporter) *But those who believe, it doesn't matter if science can find the footprints of the Holy Spirit in their 21st century brain scans.*



- *When you've experienced this, you don't really care what anybody else thinks. It is personal in the first place. It is something between you and God, so we don't really care if it's validated or not, but it's fascinating when it is so that people who thought we were crazy can have something to look at to say - we're still crazy - we're just not as crazy as they thought.*

The peer pressure this creates is very sad. One might think, that person is doing this and they seem closer to God; what is wrong with me? It becomes an emotional need as part of inclusion. But that is never how the Gospel was built.

<b>SPEAKING IN TONGUES</b> according to the New Testament	
<b>WHAT</b>	Speaking in an understandable foreign language.
<b>WHO</b>	The Apostles, who could then pass the gift onto others.
<b>WHY</b>	To communicate the Gospel message to others; not for personal gain or emotional satisfaction.
<b>WHERE</b>	At the time of the early church for the benefit of those not yet Christian converts; therefore not used IN the church meeting environment but used BY the church in places where communicating the Gospel would need to cross language barriers.
<b>HOW</b>	It inspired and taught the hearer, allowed praising God across cultural or language barriers and was a way to prophesy (convey miraculous understandings of the Scriptures).
<b>WHEN</b>	During the beginning stages of spreading the Gospel. It would no longer be needed once the Gospel was physically written.



**What was prophesied to happen to these gifts?**

1 Corinthians 13:8-11: (NASB) <sup>8</sup>Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away. <sup>9</sup>For we know in part and we prophesy in part;

The gifts cease! Note which gifts are listed here: Tongues, prophecy (looking deeply into the Scriptures without study) and (instant) knowledge...these miraculous gifts were specifically used only to communicate, teach and preview the Gospel plan. The miraculous endowment ceases.



<sup>10</sup>but when the perfect (complete) comes, the partial will be done away.

When that which is complete arrives - when the Apostles through whom these gifts were given finished their work and wrote down the Gospel message, the Gospel would no longer be at that beginning stage but would now be able to pass on without miracles!

<sup>11</sup>When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things.

The Gospel in its infancy - spoken via miracle, understood (knowledge) via miracle and reasoned (prophecy) via miracle - the Gospel grows up and is now the communicated WORD of God!

**So, should Christians speak in tongues?  
For Jonathan and Rick (and Kathy!) and Christian Questions...  
Think about it...!**



**And now even more to think about...  
only in the Full Edition of CQ Rewind!**

**The great commission - we are to teach and preach - that means communicate!**

Matthew 28:18-20: (NASB) <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, all authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

**Here is another way of speaking and encouraging each other:**

Ephesians 5:18-20: (NIV) <sup>18</sup>Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, <sup>20</sup>always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**What about speaking in "new" tongues:**

Mark 16:9-20: (NIV) <sup>9</sup>When Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons. <sup>10</sup>She went and told those who had been with him and who were mourning and weeping. <sup>11</sup>When they heard that Jesus was alive and that she had seen him, they did not believe it. <sup>12</sup>Afterward Jesus appeared in a different form to two of them while they were walking in the country. <sup>13</sup>These returned and reported it to the rest; but they did not believe them either. <sup>14</sup>Later Jesus appeared to the eleven as they were eating; he rebuked them for their lack of faith and their stubborn refusal to believe those who had seen him after he had risen. <sup>15</sup>He said to them, go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. <sup>16</sup>Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. <sup>17</sup>And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; **they will speak in new tongues**; <sup>18</sup>they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well. <sup>19</sup>After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and he sat at the right hand of God. <sup>20</sup>Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it.



(Source: Biblical commentary by C.T. Russell) No part of the 16th chapter of Mark after the 8th verse is genuine. Omitted in the Sinaitic and Vatican manuscripts, evidently Mark's Gospel was originally incomplete and someone undertook to finish it about the fifth century. The fifth century Alexandrian manuscript is the oldest to contain the last 12 verses. These verses are spurious according to the American Standard Version, the Diaglott, and the Revised Version.

(Source: Biblical commentary by C.I. Scofield) The passage from verse 9 to the end is not found in the two most ancient manuscripts, the Sinaitic and Vatican, and others have it with partial omissions and variations.

**There are many historical records of the practice of speaking in tongues happening long before Christianity and in many non-Christian circles:**

(Source: Talking Pentacostalism.blogspot.com) Tongues speaking have occurred since ancient times in both the non-Jewish and non-Christian world. "In the ancient world, ecstatic utterances, trances, and frenzied behavior were commonly associated with pagan prophets. Eleventh-century B.C. documents record occurrences of ecstatic speech and the like in Egypt. In the Hellenistic world the prophetess of Delphi and the sibylline priestess spoke in unknown or unintelligible speech. Moreover, the Dionysian rites contained a trancelike state as well as glossolalia. Many of the magicians and sorcerers of the first-century world exhibited similar phenomenon, as is the case of the "spirit of divination" (or possibly ventriloquism) at Philippi in Acts 16:16-18."

(Source: [http://amazingdiscoveries.org/S-deception-tongues\\_ecstatic-language\\_pagan](http://amazingdiscoveries.org/S-deception-tongues_ecstatic-language_pagan)) Ecstatic language was a common form of worship in pagan temples. It was well established in Ancient Byblos (1100 BC). Plato (429-347 BC) mentions it as a phenomenon in his time. He tells us that a person under divine possession received utterances and visions that the receiver did not understand.

These utterances were sometimes accompanied by physical healing of people present. Virgil (70-19 BC) tells us that the sibylline priestess, when in prayer, united her spirit with the god Apollo and spoke in strange tongues.

**So, some segments of Christianity have again reeled in ancient pagan practices and applied them to the Christian faith.**