

XLV. The Believer's Spiritual Gifts - Pt 2

A. The using of our Gifts

1. Having then gifts - 3 Classification - Ro 12; 1 Co 12

a. Signs - 1 Co 12:9-10 - written 54 A.D.

- i. Authenticated the teaching of the Apostles - 2 Co 12:12; Heb 2:3-4
- ii. 1 Co 12:1 *pneumatikos* - non-carnal, ethereal (as opposed to gross), a spirit, supernatural, regenerate, religious:--spiritual.
- iii. the emphasis is the nature and authority of gifts - spiritually empower by the Holy Spirit
- iv. not mentioned in Ro 12; Eph 4:7, 11; 1 Pe 4:10-11
 - all written 4-10 years after 1 Co
 - were already coming to an end - 1 Co 13:8; Phil 2:25-30

b. The other two - Ro 12:3-8 ; Eph 4:7, 11; 1 Pe 4:10-11

- i. Speaking and Serving
- ii. *charisma* - a (divine) gratuity, deliverance (from danger or passion); a spiritual endowment, religious qualification, or miraculous faculty, free gift.
- iii. the emphasis is the source of gifts - the grace of God

2. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us

a. starts by referring back to the concept of unity in diversity

- i. differing refers to diversity
- ii. It is by God's sovereign grace that we all have been delt gifts referring to unity

b. according to the grace that is given to us

- i. through the grace given to me as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. - vs 3; 1 Co 3:10
- ii. Grace
 - God's favor, unmerited kindness - not earned or deserved
 - the only source of spiritual enablement
 - God's sovereign grace decides what measure of each gift His children receive - 1 Pe 4:10-11

B. let us use them:

1. if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith

a. two aspects of prophecy

- i. a special revelatory gift given
 - linked to sign gifts in 1 Co 12:10
 - as a sign gift, ended when purpose was fulfilled
- ii. The proclamation of God's message - 1 Co 14:29,31
 - here it is linked to speaking and serving gifts
 - concluding that it had both revelatory and non-revelatory aspects

b. gift of prophecy isn't about the content as much as the means of proclamation

- i. **propheteia** - prediction (scriptural or other):--prophecy, prophesying.
 - Lit meaning - speaking forth;
 - no connotation of prediction or other supernatural or mystical significance - 1 Co 14:3 for edification
 - ii. being God's spokesman,
 - to God's people - to encourage, admonish - 1 Co 14:3
 - also to reach unbelievers - 1 Co 14:24-25
 - c. In proportion to our faith - could be defined
 - i. in proportion to our (the) faith
 - ii. in proportion to the individual faith that God has sovereignly assigned
- 2. or ministry, let us use it in our ministering;
 - a. **diakonia** - attendance (as a servant, etc.); aid, (official) service (especially of the Christian teacher, or of the diaconate):--(ad-)minister(-ing, -tration, -try), office, relief, service(-ing).
 - b. has a broad scope of application, similar to gift of helps in 1 Co 12:28
- 3. he who teaches, in teaching;
 - a. **didasko** - to teach
 - i. the ability to interpret and present God's truth in an understandable way
 - ii. Different from prophecy is not content, but the ability to give systematic and regular instruction in God's Word - primary function of the Pastor
 - b. the great commission - Mt 28:19-20; characterization of early church - Ac 2:42
- 4. he who exhorts, in exhortation;
 - a. **parakaleo** - to call near, invite, invoke, beseech, call for, (be of good) comfort, desire, (give) exhort(-ation), intreat, pray. - lit to call alongside
 - b. Encompasses the idea of advising, pleading, encouraging, warning, strengthening
 - c. is to be done in some measure by all believers - Heb 3:12-13; 10:24-25
- 5. he who gives, with liberality;
 - a. **metadidomi** - to give over, share:--give, impart.
 - b. **haplotes** - singleness, sincerity (without dissimulation or self-seeking), or generosity (copious bestowal):--bountifulness, liberal(-ity), simplicity, singleness.
 - i. to give sacrificially of what is one's own
 - ii. To give of himself, not for himself - 2 Co 8:2-5; 9:6
- 6. he who leads, with diligence;
 - a. **proistemi** - to stand before, to preside, or to practice:--maintain, be over, rule.
 - b. **spoude** - "speed", despatch, eagerness, earnestness:--business, (earnest) care(-fulness), diligence, forwardness, haste - when lacking - Jd 17:6; 21:25
- 7. he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.
 - a. **eleeo** - to compassionate (by word or deed, by divine grace):--have compassion (pity on), have (obtain, receive, shew) mercy (on).
 - b. endowed with sensitivity to suffering and sorrow
 - c. **hilarotes** - alacrity:--cheerfulness. - Pro 14:21,31