

Ephesians 4:1-14

SUBJECT STUDY: GIFTS

What are gifts? Where do they fit in a Christian's life? Most Christians go through life never really identifying what they're gifts are. A gift is not a talent. A talent comes from the natural realm of your birth and you cultivate and develop throughout your life. A gift is something that you are given that you didn't have before that you have after you were saved to use for the glory of God. It is something that you were given after you were saved. It's whatever you and God recognize as something that you can use for God's glory. As we go through these studies, try to see how they fit and apply to your life, and you'll be able to determine what your gift is and how to use it for God's glory.

There are two types of gifts that God has given to man. The first type of gift is a whole man.

There are types of people who God has given gifts to and the actual person becomes a gift himself to mankind:

Ephesians 4:1-12:

Vs1: Paul is telling the Ephesians that they should walk the way God wants them to walk, in His Word and Way.

Vs2-3: put up with things that you don't like about other people. Everyone has something that annoys someone else. Be quiet, long-suffering, and put up with it. Deal with it in love.

Vs4-6: there's one Lord, one faith, and one baptism.

Vs7: grace is one gift given to us from God.

Vs8-10: When Christ ascended on high, he gave gifts unto men.

Vs11: these are whole people that Christ gave as gifts to mankind: apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers. Every pastor needs to be a teacher, but not every teacher needs to be a pastor.

Vs12: the things these gifts (people) are to do are: perfect the saints, do ministering work, build up the body of Christ.

Vs13: they are to work until: we are all unified in our faith, all knowing Jesus Christ as a full grown man in all His full glory.

Vs14: that we may spiritually mature and not be like small children in our faith, so we may strongly and securely and confidently know our Lord and be strong in our faith and not succumb to lies and trickery.

Definitions

Apostle: One who is sent by the Lord to fulfill a mission. There were only 12 of them. They have supernatural powers. There are no more apostles.

Prophet: One who speaks with divine clarity. They have supernatural powers.

Evangelist: One with the heart of God and brings everyone together, he is on fire to tell people of the world that there is a savior for mankind, and he tells it anywhere to anyone without fear.

Pastor: One with a supernatural ability to care and love for a whole body of people at once and lead them to Christ.

Teacher: Teachers are in the body of believers. One who is of the divine mind of Christ who can really help others understand the Word of Christ. The task of a teacher is to understand the mind of Christ as put forth by the bible and put it forth to people in such a manner that laymen can see the whole picture of what Christ has planned in the past, present, and future for mankind.