

The primary feature in your life if you're filled with the Holy Spirit will be that Jesus Christ is Lord! TO YOU!

So many today will tell you that they are FILLED with the Holy Ghost who are ungodly and unholy and who DO NOT submit to Jesus Christ as Lord!

Paul wrote to the Corinthians and told them: "Now concerning spiritual gifts, I would not have you ignorant" of their use and place in the church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

But there were those in the Corinthian Church who desired spiritual gifts, who, because they were gifted, thought themselves to be the MOST SPIRITUAL (in the church). But the most spiritual ones in the church were those who knew and confessed (by the Holy Spirit) that Jesus Christ was BOTH Saviour and Lord!

Brethren: Don't be led into the trap of thinking you're spiritual, just because you're gifted or because you have a talent; and don't worship or exalt yourself or the spiritual gift that God has given you!

If God has gifted you as a believer with a talent or spiritual ability, it is NOT to be used for your glory or your exaltation, BUT for the edification and building up of the Church of Christ and for the advancement of His Kingdom!

Understand that in the time of the Corinthian Church, the Apostles of Christ were still very active in confirming disciples and calling elders, pastors, and deacons to the FIRST churches. And the Apostles were STILL at this time empowered to work miracles and signs and wonders.

The lame man healed by Peter and John, Ananias and Sapphira dropped dead at the word of Peter who discerned them to be lying to the Holy Ghost, Tabitha (Dorcas) who Peter raised from the dead, and Paul who had the poisonous viper latch onto his hand, but who was unharmed, and so on.

Also in this time, miraculous gifts and abilities were bestowed upon ministers and disciples in the churches, which were given by the Spirit of God, AGAIN, NOT to magnify the recipient of the gift, but for the profit, edification and building of the church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

At this time, the Apostles were STILL actively preaching, teaching, and writing the Word of God ALL by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

And they were recording and establishing the doctrines of the faith and the teachings of the NT church.

And so, these signs and miracles validated and certified that the Word which they spoke and recorded was inspired by the Holy Spirit.

1 Thessalonians 2:13, 2 Timothy 3:15-17, 2 Peter 1:16-21, Hebrews 2:1-4

So here Paul was teaching the Corinthians that they were NOT to focus on themselves, or on the gift, but to USE what God had "GIFTED" them with to strengthen, edify, and to build up the church. 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

1 Corinthians 12:4-6: Diversities (or distinctions or various) gifts, but the same Spirit. Differences (or, same word distinctions or various gifts) in administrations, but the same Lord. And diversities (or various distinctions), but it is the same God, which makes ALL of the gifts effectual or powerful in those that possess them, for the strengthening and building up of the church! NOTE (Verses4-6): The Trinity

So all of these various and diverse gifts were being apportioned to the church by the Spirit of God, as He saw fit, and according to His sovereign will.

(Verse7): "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man, or every member of the body (who have been gifted by God) to profit withal"

Gifts were given (to the church) for the common good and edification of the entire body of Christ, and for the profit of the whole church!

Romans 12:3-8, Ephesians 4:1-16

1 Corinthians 12:8-10:

And then (Verse 11): All of these gifts work, or were made effectual by the Spirit of God, who divided (or apportioned or assigned them) them severally, or to each saint as He willed.

These gifts of the Spirit were NOT given to the possessors of them for themselves, but for the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ! Herein, ALL of us ought to see the importance of the local NT Church.

1 Corinthians 12:12-31.

Beloved, there are no more apostolic miracles; but God does GIFT every member of His church to profit the church and for the edifying of itself in love, and for the building up of every saint upon their most holy faith.

We have differing or different gifts; we're not all the same, but we have been given a gift by the SAME SPIRIT to profit the whole body of Christ.