

PAUL'S FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A GODLESS WORLD

1 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 14:1-5

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX764 FEBRUARY 5, 2012

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

BODY BUILDING IN THE CHURCH OF GOD – PART 2

DISCOVERING THE NATURE OF GOD IN OUR EVERYDAY LIFE

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Love, Church, Gifts, Unity, Growth, Witness, God

1 Corinthians 14:1-5

Pursue love, and **desire** spiritual *gifts*, but especially that you may prophesy. :2 For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands *him*; however, in the spirit he speaks **mysteries**. :3 But he who prophesies speaks **edification** and **exhortation** and **comfort** to men. :4 He who speaks in a tongue **edifies himself**, but he who prophesies **edifies the church**. :5 I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies *is greater* than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive **edification**.

An Exciting Chapter Awaits Us Here.

Because it is all based upon the Christian and the church being (#1) open to the **Ownership** of Jesus Christ of His people and His church and (#2) the **Empowering** presence of the Body-Builder Himself – The Holy Spirit!

1.) Strengthening your personal faith

v.1-2

1a.) Strengthening your focus

1b.) Strengthening your effectiveness

1c.) Strengthening your endurance

but especially that you may **Prophecy**. :2 For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men **but to God**, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks **mysteries**.

2 For he who speaks in a tongue **does not speak to men but to God**

This rules out any messages or prophecies or words from God via the gift of tongues – unbiblical use

What we do See in Scripture is a Variation of the Holy Spirit's Application of this Gift

**The Benefits of Speaking or Praying in a Tongue When you're alone.
(it's very personal – it's private worship)**

1 Corinthians 14:14:15

For if I **pray in a tongue**, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. (*that's not a bad thing*) :15 What is *the conclusion* then? I will **pray with the spirit**, and I will also pray with the **understanding**. I will **sing with the spirit**, and I will also sing with the **understanding**.

1 Corinthians 14:18-20

I thank my God I speak with **tongues** more than you all; :19 yet in the church I would rather speak five words with my **understanding**, that I may teach others also, than ten thousand words in a **tongue**. :20 Brethren, do not be children in understanding;

BODY BUILDING IN THE CHURCH OF GOD

WHAT MAKES YOU A TRUE BELIEVER!

2.) Developing the faith of others

v.3-4

2a.) Developing faith means confidence

:3 But he who **prophesies** speaks **edification** and **exhortation** and **comfort** to men.

These Are The Marked Evidences of a Biblical Pastor/Teacher - a Prophet in the Church of God.

Edification grk: οἰκοδομῆ / **oikodome**, *oy-kod-om-ay*; an architectural term meaning to “build up” or to “erect or stand straight or tall” or to “assemble” in an upward direction – implying growth.

Exhortation grk: παρακλήσις **paraklesis**, *par-ak'-lay-sis*; imploration, to excite or to energize, to come alongside with a challenge or motivation. To stir up.

Comfort grk: παραμυθία **paramuthia**, *par-am-oo-thee'-ah*; to bring consolation into a situation. To comfort or to calm in the midst of a storm.

The Church is not a company. It is not a business. It is not a movement. It is literally, a living, breathing spiritual organism and Jesus Christ is in love with it – Jesus Loves His Church.

DEVELOPING THE FAITH OF OTHERS

2b.) Developing faith means power

:4 He who speaks in a tongue **edifies himself**,

This is the Private use of Tongues and Prayer

which would not need the gift of interpretation

2c.) Developing faith means fruitfulness

(4b) but he who **prophesies edifies the church.**

Recognize right now that both of these are good.

You being edified is a good thing – we want you edified.

And the church as a whole being edified is a good thing too.

You cannot have one without the other.

The Key to Understanding This is with the Word – “Edify”

but he who **prophesies edifies the church.**

edify grk: οἰκοδομῆ / **oikodome**, *oy-kod-om-ay*’;

an architectural term meaning to “build up” or to “erect or stand straight or tall” or to “assemble” in an upward direction – implying growth.

Regarding The Edifice - It’s Interesting to Note That:

The pagan high places, temples and minarets to their gods all had to be the highest point of recognition - **But Not So In Christianity**

The Sin at Corinth was that each believer / Christian

Was only interested in their own development and opportunity.

The Corinthian Christians only wanted to be involved in things that they wanted and didn’t care about the edification of the church as a whole-body.

Philippians 2:3-4

Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. :4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

When You Look at You – When You Think about You.

When You are Caring for You, You will be like

***Les Misérables*, - The Miserable**

**There is a great picture for us in the Old Testament
Regarding the gifts and their uses.**

#1 - Typological Picture:

Eliezer the Servant

Abraham & Isaac

And the mission of Eliezer, Abraham’s chief minister.

Genesis 15:1-3

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, “Do not be afraid, Abram. I *am* your shield, your exceedingly great reward.” :2 But Abram said, “Lord GOD, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house **Eliezer** of Damascus?” :3 Then Abram said, “Look, You have given me no offspring; *(but that’s ok God – I have an idea)* indeed one born in my house is my heir!”

Eliezer was Abraham’s head or chief servant.

Born in his home and like a family member. Archaeologists have unearthed ancient scrolls that record in those times how it was customary that a wealthy, childless couple would adopt their most trusted servant as their heir to all their wealth. – he was then empowered at the death of the father/master to pass on his wealth to his children – adoption.

Eliy{ezer, *el-ee-eh'-zer*;
God of help. Or the Help of God.

Why is this important ? - - because this servant, Eliezer is going to be used mightily by Abraham / God to find his son a bride from a foreign land.

#2 - Typological Picture: Isaac's 3 day death

Genesis 22:1-2,4

Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." :2 Then He said, "Take **now** your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and **offer him there as a burnt offering** on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." :4 Then on **the third day** Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off.

*Three days later Abraham sees the Mount.
In Abraham's mind – how long had his son been dead?*

Genesis 22:7-8

But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where *is* the lamb for a burnt offering?" :8 And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together.

Genesis 22:14

And Abraham called the name of the place, The–LORD–Will–Provide; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the LORD **it shall be** provided."

It shall be

There will be an event on the same mount that is promised prophetically.

#3 - Typological Picture: Rebekah's engagement gifts

Genesis 24:1-4

Now Abraham was old, well advanced in age; and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things. :2 So Abraham said to the oldest servant of his house, who ruled over all that he had, "Please, put your hand under my thigh, :3 and I will make you swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of the earth, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell; :4 but you shall go to my country and to my family, and take a wife for my son Isaac."

Genesis 24:22

So it was, when the camels had finished drinking, that the man took a golden nose ring weighing half a shekel, and two bracelets for her wrists weighing ten *shekels* of gold,

Genesis 24:50-53

Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, “The thing comes from the LORD; we cannot speak to you either bad or good. :51 Here *is* Rebekah before you; take *her* and go, and let her be your master’s son’s wife, as the LORD has spoken.” :52 And it came to pass, when **Abraham’s servant** heard their words, that he worshiped the LORD, *bowing himself* to the earth. :53 Then **the servant** brought out jewelry of silver, jewelry of gold, and clothing, and gave *them* to Rebekah.

Abraham’s Servants Name is Not Mentioned Here

John 16:12-14

“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. :13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, **He will guide** you into all truth; for **He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak**; and **He will tell** you things to come. :14 **He will glorify** Me, for **He will take** of what is Mine and declare *it* to you.

The ministry of the Holy Spirit

Is to bring people into the kingdom. Then to nurture them in the word. Then to empower them to walk holy lives. And to go out into the world to make a difference.

The LORD has given us this picture so that we might be bold.

Ephesians 4:4-7

There is one **body** (the church) and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; :5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; :6 one God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all. :7 But to **each one of us** grace was **given according to the measure of Christ’s gift.**

each grk: e°kastob hekastos, hek´-as-tos;

each of the every. Or each one of everybody. Each one of the whole. Meaning that no one has been left out of the Body.

given di÷dwmi didomi, did´-o-mee;

placed, set, adorned, appointed.

measure me÷tron metron, met´-ron;

a limited portion. By degree. A measure.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

Do you not know that you are **God's temple** and that God's Spirit dwells in you? :17 If any one destroys **God's temple**, God will destroy him. For **God's temple** is holy, and **that temple you are**.

1 Peter 2:4-6

Coming to Him as *to a living stone*, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, :5 you also, as **living stones**, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. :6 Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, "*Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.*"

You cannot be envious or jealous of someone else's spiritual gifts or ministry – Jesus Christ gave that gift to them!

Pray To Prepare Your Heart for What's Coming

BODY BUILDING IN THE CHURCH OF GOD

Will You Agree with God That

Rom. 3:23 you have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God,

Rom. 6:23a That you understand that the wages of sin *is* death,

Rom. 6:23b but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Rom. 5:8 Believing today that God demonstrates His own love toward you, in that while you were still a sinner, Christ died for you.

Rom. 10:13 But He now says to you that "*if you would call on the name of the LORD you shall be saved.*"

Rom. 10:9-10 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. :10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

End of Study

© By Jack D. Hibbs, February 5, 2012