

SPIRITUAL GIFTS FORM THE ONE BODY OF CHRIST

We are currently studying the Spiritual Gifts section of 1st Corinthians, chapters 12-14) where Paul is responding to “Questions asked by the Corinthian congregation” (1 Cor.7:1).

(1 Cor.7:1) “Now concerning spiritual (gift), brethren, I do not want you to be unaware (agnoeo/ p.a.infin).”

In our [last lesson](#) we studied the involvement of all three members of the Godhead with spiritual gifts from (1 Cor.12:4-6).

This is very important in biblical history. It is a big deal!

In the next three lessons, Paul will outline each member of the Godhead’s involvement with Spiritual gifts.

- The Holy Spirit’s involvement with spiritual gifts (1 Cor.12:4, 7-11)
- **The Lord’s involvement** with spiritual gifted ministries (1 Cor.12:5, 12-17)
- God, The Father’s involvement with spiritual gifted ministries performances (1 Cor.12:6, 18-31)

<p>This lesson will study <u>four aspects</u> of The Lord’s involvement in Spiritual Gifts Forming One Body of Christ.</p>

1. **As a member of the Godhead, the Lord’s involvement is with the ministries of all Spiritual Gifts given to believers at the moment of their salvation (1 Cor.12:5) [varieties of ministries] (diakonia/ gplf).**

As the second member of the Godhead, it is the Lord’s responsibility to govern the ministries of all Spiritual Gifts within the church body (Eph.4:4-16) **One Body** and **One Lord** (Eph.4:4-5).

(Eph.4:7) “But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ’s gift.”

(Eph.4:10-11) (Now this *expression*, “He ascended,” what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, **so that** He might fill all things.) ¹¹ And He gave some *as* apostles, and some *as* prophets, and some *as* evangelists, and some *as* pastors and teachers, (spiritually gifted ministries).”

Christ Seated in Session: (Eph.1:20-23) ²⁰ which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And He put all things in subjection under His feet and gave Him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

(Eph.4:12-13) **(ministries):** “For the equipping of the **saints for the work of service (diakonia)**, to the building up of the body of Christ; until we all attain **to** the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, **to** a mature man, **to** the measure of the stature which belongs **to** the fullness of Christ.”

(Eph.4:16) **(Body Growth):** “From whom (Christ) **the whole body**, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the **proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.**”

How does a person become a member with a spiritual gifted ministry in the body of Christ, the Church?

2. Spiritually gifted ministries are given with the baptism of Holy Spirit at the moment of grace salvation by means of Believing the Gospel of Jesus Christ (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9).

- Baptism of Holy Spirit is 1 of 8 works of the Spirit in grace salvation ([50 Things FREE](#)).
- Distribution of spiritual gifts is another work of the Holy Spirit at salvation (1 Cor.12:11).

The Holy Spirit baptizes every Church Age Believer **into Christ** and **into the body of Christ** at salvation (Gal.3:27) (clothed/ a.p.ind.2pl) and (1 Cor.12:13) (baptize/ a.p.ind.1pl).

3. Jesus Christ is the:

- **The Savior** of the body of Christ
- **The Lord** of the body of Christ
- **The head** of the body of Christ, **which is the Church.**

Jesus is the Savior of the body of Christ and its head.

(Eph.5:23) “For the husband is the head of the wife, **as Christ is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body.**” (Eph.1:20-23; Col.1:18, 24)

Jesus is also the **Lord of spiritual gifted ministries** within the body of Christ, the Church. (1 Cor.12:5; 12:12-17).

4. In (1 Cor.12:12-17), Paul used two unique conditional clauses (ean and ei) to answer the congregation’s questions regarding spiritual gifted ministries (See ‘if’ in the Greek text).

- (1 Cor.12:15) If (ean/ 3rd class condition = maybe) the foot should say:
 - “Because I am not a hand, I am not *a part* of the body,”
 - That’s absurd!
- (1 Cor.12:16) If (ean/ 3rd class condition = maybe) the ear should say:
 - “Because I am not an eye, I am not *a part* of the body,”
 - That’s absurd!
- (1 Cor.12:17a) If (ei/ 1st class condition = true) the whole body were an eye:
 - “Where would the hearing be?”
 - That’s absurd!
- (1 Cor.12:17b) If (ei/ 1st class condition = true) the whole body were hearing?
 - “Where would the sense of smell be?”
 - That’s absurd!

Holding such views regarding spiritual gifts is absurd. Making the body of Christ mono-gifted is absurdity (1 Cor.12:1) (agnoeo) meaning “without doctrinal knowledge of function of spiritual gifts in the body of Christ.”

Paul was correcting problems submitted by the congregation regarding gifted ministries, with new covenant doctrinal truth, to the church (whole body).

The master Plan of God calls for a variety of spiritual gifted ministries to function harmoniously in every church (the whole body) (Eph.4:16).