

# SPIRITUAL GIFTS

SALVATION

JESUS  
LOVES  
YOU.

# Spiritual Gifts

-Kimberly Early

IT IS IMPORTANT TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE BIBLICAL DEFINITIONS OF NUMEROUS GREEK WORDS BEFORE DETERMINING THE MEANING OF "SPIRITUAL GIFTS". FROM MY OWN DISCOVERY OF SUCH GREAT GREEK WORDS, I FIND IT MERELY IMPOSSIBLE TO DENY THE INTRIGUING FEATURES OF THE "SPIRITUAL GIFTS". THE LIST OF GREEK WORDS AND DEFINITION I FOUND TO BE OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. CHARISMA: TO SHOW FAVOR. TO GIVE A GRACIOUS, CHEERFUL & UNDESERVING GIFT. A GIFT FROM GOD'S GRACE.
2. PNEUMATIKOS: ONE WHO POSSESSES THE NATURE OF GOD'S DIVINE SPIRIT.
3. DOMA: TO HAVE A STURDY, OR CONCRETE CHARACTER.
4. DOREA: ASPECTS OF FORMAL ENDOWMENT AND GRACIOUS TO THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS.
5. MERISMOS: SIGNIFIES THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.
6. DIAIRESEIS: (MUCH LIKE MERISMOS) GIFTS INVOLVING DIVERSITY.
7. DIAKONIA: THE MINISTRY ITSELF. THE ACTIVITIES OF SERVICES.

EACH ONE OF THESE PARTICULAR GREEK WORDS SHOULD BE MENTIONED WHEN DESCRIBING SPIRITUAL GIFTS, BECAUSE EACH INDIVIDUAL GIFT HOLDS EVERY ONE OF THESE ASPECTS.

MANY CHRISTIANS DEFINE "SPIRITUAL GIFTS" AS AN ENDOWMENT OR EXTRAORDINARY POWER THAT IS ACCESSED THROUGH GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT, YET COLLABORATED BY THE HOLY TRINITY. THE PURPOSE OF THESE GIFTS IS TO EDIFY, BUILD OTHERS UP, EXHORT, ENCOURAGE, AND COMFORT THOSE WHO ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST, ALSO KNOWN AS "THE CHURCH".

EVERY FOLLOWER OF JESUS CHRIST, FROM PAST UNTIL PRESENT ARE BELIEVED TO POSSESS VARIOUS TYPES OF SUPERNATURAL GRACES. FROM THE STATEMENT IN ACTS 2:33, WE CONCLUDE THAT THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT ARE GIVEN BY THE EXALTED CHRIST. WE OBSERVE THAT GRACE-GIFTS ARE DISTRIBUTIONS OF THE SPIRIT'S POWER AND ARE NUMEROUS YET PRECISE & SPECIFIC ACCORDING TO EACH PERSON'S ENCOUNTER. IT HAS BEEN NOTED THAT GOD HAS ALWAYS ENGAGED IN ENABLING AND EMPOWERING THROUGH HIS HOLY SPIRIT. EVEN IN THE FIRST CENTURY, GIFTS WERE OF SUPERNATURAL EMPOWERMENT AND DIVINE ENABLEMENT OF THE SPIRIT WORKING THROUGH A COMMITTED LIFE BY AWAKENING, COMFORTING, AND FLOURISHING.

IN SUMMARY, SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE GIVEN BY GOD THROUGH CHRIST, AND ARE MANIFESTED WITHIN THE PERSON OF WHOM THE HOLY SPIRIT DWELLS. ACCORDING TO SEVERAL REFERENCES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT OF THE HOLY BIBLE, THERE ARE SEVEN GIFTS AND SEVEN FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. THE FOLLOWING PAGES CONTAIN A LIST OF KEY REFERENCES FROM BOOKS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT THAT EXPAND ON THE VARIOUS GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

## WISDOM

WISDOM IS A GOD-GIVEN ABILITY TO APPLY SPIRITUAL TRUTH EFFECTIVELY TO MEET A NEED IN A SPECIFIC SITUATION.

### SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES:

1 CORINTHIANS 1:8-8 HE WILL ALSO KEEP YOU FIRM TO THE END, SO THAT YOU WILL BE BLAMELESS ON THE DAY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

JAMES 3:13-18-13 WHO IS WISE AND UNDERSTANDING AMONG YOU? LET THEM SHOW IT BY THEIR GOOD LIFE, BY DEEDS DONE IN THE HUMILITY THAT COMES FROM WISDOM. 14. BUT IF YOU HARBOR BITTER ENVY AND SELFISH AMBITION IN YOUR HEARTS, DO NOT BOAST ABOUT IT OR DENY THE TRUTH. 15 SUCH “WISDOM” DOES NOT COME DOWN FROM HEAVEN BUT IS EARTHLY, UNSPIRITUAL, DEMONIC. 16 FOR WHERE YOU HAVE ENVY AND SELFISH AMBITION, THERE YOU FIND DISORDER AND EVERY EVIL PRACTICE.

17 BUT THE WISDOM THAT COMES FROM HEAVEN IS FIRST OF ALL PURE; THEN PEACE-LOVING, CONSIDERATE, SUBMISSIVE, FULL OF MERCY AND GOOD FRUIT, IMPARTIAL AND SINCERE. 18 PEACEMAKERS WHO SOW IN PEACE REAP A HARVEST OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

1 CORINTHIANS 2:3-5-31 I CAME TO YOU IN WEAKNESS WITH GREAT FEAR AND TREMBLING. 4 MY MESSAGE AND MY PREACHING WERE NOT WITH WISE AND PERSUASIVE WORDS, BUT WITH A DEMONSTRATION OF THE SPIRIT’S POWER, 5 SO THAT YOUR FAITH MIGHT NOT REST ON HUMAN WISDOM, BUT ON GOD’S POWER.

SPIRIT OF DISCERNMENT GOD-GIVEN ABILITY TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN TRUTH AND ERROR, GOOD AND EVIL, AND RIGHT AND WRONG.

### SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

1 CORINTHIANS 12:10-10 TO ANOTHER MIRACULOUS POWERS, TO ANOTHER PROPHECY, TO ANOTHER DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN SPIRITS, TO ANOTHER SPEAKING IN DIFFERENT KINDS OF TONGUES, [A] AND TO STILL ANOTHER THE INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES.

ACTS 5:1-4-4-NOW A MAN NAMED ANANIAS, TOGETHER WITH HIS WIFE SAPPHIRA, ALSO SOLD A PIECE OF PROPERTY. 2 WITH HIS WIFE’S FULL KNOWLEDGE HE KEPT BACK PART OF THE MONEY FOR HIMSELF, BUT BROUGHT THE REST AND PUT IT AT THE APOSTLES’ FEET.

3 THEN PETER SAID, “ANANIAS, HOW IS IT THAT SATAN HAS SO FILLED YOUR HEART THAT YOU HAVE LIED TO THE HOLY SPIRIT AND HAVE KEPT FOR YOURSELF SOME OF THE MONEY YOU RECEIVED FOR THE LAND? 4 DIDN’T IT BELONG TO YOU BEFORE IT WAS SOLD? AND AFTER IT WAS SOLD, WASN’T THE MONEY AT YOUR DISPOSAL? WHAT MADE YOU THINK OF DOING SUCH A THING? YOU HAVE NOT LIED JUST TO HUMAN BEINGS BUT TO GOD.”

ROMANS 9:1- I SPEAK THE TRUTH IN CHRIST—I AM NOT LYING, MY CONSCIENCE CONFIRMS IT THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT—

## HEALING

HEALING IS A GOD-GIVEN ABILITY TO CONSISTENTLY PRAY ON BEHALF OF AND FOR OTHERS, SEEING FREQUENT SPECIFIC CHANGES.

### SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

ROMANS 8:26-27-26 IN THE SAME WAY, THE SPIRIT HELPS US IN OUR WEAKNESS. WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT WE OUGHT TO PRAY FOR, BUT THE SPIRIT HIMSELF INTERCEDES FOR US THROUGH SPEECHLESS GROANS. 27 AND HE WHO SEARCHES OUR HEARTS KNOWS THE MIND OF THE SPIRIT, BECAUSE THE SPIRIT INTERCEDES FOR GOD'S PEOPLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WILL OF GOD.

COLOSSIANS 1:9-12-9 FOR THIS REASON, SINCE THE DAY WE HEARD ABOUT YOU, WE HAVE NOT STOPPED PRAYING FOR YOU. WE CONTINUALLY ASK GOD TO FILL YOU WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF HIS WILL THROUGH ALL THE WISDOM AND UNDERSTANDING THAT THE SPIRIT GIVES, 10 SO THAT YOU MAY LIVE A LIFE WORTHY OF THE LORD AND PLEASE HIM IN EVERY WAY: BEARING FRUIT IN EVERY GOOD WORK, GROWING IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD, 11 BEING STRENGTHENED WITH ALL POWER ACCORDING TO HIS GLORIOUS MIGHT SO THAT YOU MAY HAVE GREAT ENDURANCE AND PATIENCE, 12 AND GIVING JOYFUL THANKS TO THE FATHER, WHO HAS QUALIFIED YOU TO SHARE IN THE INHERITANCE OF HIS HOLY PEOPLE IN THE KINGDOM OF LIGHT.

COLOSSIANS 4:12-13-12 EPAPHRAS, WHO IS ONE OF YOU AND A SERVANT OF CHRIST JESUS, SENDS GREETINGS. HE IS ALWAYS WRESTLING IN PRAYER FOR YOU, THAT YOU MAY STAND FIRM IN ALL THE WILL OF GOD, MATURE AND FULLY ASSURED. 13 I VOUCH FOR HIM THAT HE IS WORKING HARD FOR YOU AND FOR THOSE AT LAODICEA AND HIERAPOLIS.

## TONGUES/INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES

TONGUES /INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES IS A GOD-GIVEN ABILITY TO SPEAK WITH UNKNOWN WORDS OR IN A LANGUAGE ONE DOESN'T KNOW IN ORDER TO EDIFY BOTH ONESELF AND OTHERS.

### SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES:

MARK 16:17-17 AND THESE SIGNS WILL ACCOMPANY THOSE WHO BELIEVE: IN MY NAME THEY WILL DRIVE OUT DEMONS; THEY WILL SPEAK IN NEW TONGUES;

ACTS 2:1-12-WHEN THE DAY OF PENTECOST CAME, THEY WERE ALL TOGETHER IN ONE PLACE. 2 SUDDENLY A SOUND LIKE THE BLOWING OF A VIOLENT WIND CAME FROM HEAVEN AND FILLED THE WHOLE HOUSE WHERE THEY WERE SITTING. 3 THEY SAW WHAT SEEMED TO BE TONGUES OF FIRE THAT SEPARATED AND CAME TO REST ON EACH OF THEM 4 ALL OF THEM WERE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND BEGAN TO SPEAK IN OTHER TONGUES[A] AS THE SPIRIT ENABLED THEM.

5 NOW THERE WERE STAYING IN JERUSALEM GOD-FEARING JEWS FROM EVERY NATION UNDER HEAVEN. 6 WHEN THEY HEARD THIS SOUND, A CROWD CAME TOGETHER IN BEWILDERMENT, BECAUSE EACH ONE HEARD THEIR OWN LANGUAGE BEING SPOKEN. 7 UTTERLY AMAZED, THEY ASKED: “AREN’T ALL THESE WHO ARE SPEAKING GALILEANS? 8 THEN HOW IS IT THAT EACH OF US HEARS THEM IN OUR NATIVE LANGUAGE? 9 PARTHIANS, MEDES AND ELAMITES; RESIDENTS OF MESOPOTAMIA, JUDEA AND CAPPADOCIA, PONTUS AND ASIA, 10 PHRYGIA AND PAMPHYLIA, EGYPT AND THE PARTS OF LIBYA NEAR CYRENE; VISITORS FROM ROME 11 (BOTH JEWS AND CONVERTS TO JUDAISM); CRETANS AND ARABS —WE HEAR THEM DECLARING THE WONDERS OF GOD IN OUR OWN TONGUES!” 12 AMAZED AND PERPLEXED, THEY ASKED ONE ANOTHER, “WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?”

## LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP IS THE GOD-GIVEN ABILITY TO LEAD AND DIRECT MEMBERS TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOALS AND PURPOSES OF THE CHURCH. THEY SEEK GOD’S WILL IN ALL THINGS AND THEY MOTIVATE PEOPLE TO WORK TOGETHER IN UNITY TOWARD COMMON GOALS

## SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

1 CORINTHIANS 12:28-28 AND GOD HAS PLACED IN THE CHURCH FIRST OF ALL APOSTLES, SECOND PROPHETS, THIRD TEACHERS, THEN MIRACLES, THEN GIFTS OF HEALING, OF HELPING, OF GUIDANCE, AND OF DIFFERENT KINDS OF TONGUES

ROMANS 12:8-8 IF IT IS TO ENCOURAGE, THEN GIVE ENCOURAGEMENT; IF IT IS GIVING, THEN GIVE GENEROUSLY; IF IT IS TO LEAD, DO IT DILIGENTLY; IF IT IS TO SHOW MERCY, DO IT CHEERFULLY.

EPHESIANS 4:11-12-11 SO CHRIST HIMSELF GAVE THE APOSTLES, THE PROPHETS, THE EVANGELISTS, THE PASTORS AND TEACHERS, 12 TO EQUIP HIS PEOPLE FOR WORKS OF SERVICE, SO THAT THE BODY OF CHRIST MAY BE BUILT UP

1 PETER 4:1-4 THEREFORE, SINCE CHRIST SUFFERED IN HIS BODY, ARM YOURSELVES ALSO WITH THE SAME ATTITUDE, BECAUSE WHOEVER SUFFERS IN THE BODY IS DONE WITH SIN. 2 AS A RESULT, THEY DO NOT LIVE THE REST OF THEIR EARTHLY LIVES FOR EVIL HUMAN DESIRES, BUT RATHER FOR THE WILL OF GOD. 3 FOR YOU HAVE SPENT ENOUGH TIME IN THE PAST DOING WHAT PAGANS CHOOSE TO DO—LIVING IN DEBAUCHERY, LUST, DRUNKENNESS, ORGIES, CAROUSING AND DETESTABLE IDOLATRY. 4 THEY ARE SURPRISED THAT YOU DO NOT JOIN THEM IN THEIR RECKLESS, WILD LIVING, AND THEY HEAP ABUSE ON YOU.

1 CORINTHIANS 12: 14-14 EVEN SO THE BODY IS NOT MADE UP OF ONE PART BUT OF MANY.

## PROPHECY

PROPHECY GOD-GIVEN ABILITY TO REVEAL GOD'S TRUTH AND PROCLAIM IT IN A TIMELY AND RELEVANT MANNER FOR UNDERSTANDING, CORRECTION, REPENTANCE, OR EDIFICATION.

### SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

1 CORINTHIANS 14:1-3-FOLLOW THE WAY OF LOVE AND EAGERLY DESIRE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT, ESPECIALLY PROPHECY. 2 FOR ANYONE WHO SPEAKS IN A TONGUE[A] DOES NOT SPEAK TO PEOPLE BUT TO GOD. INDEED, NO ONE UNDERSTANDS THEM; THEY UTTER MYSTERIES BY THE SPIRIT. 3 BUT THE ONE WHO PROPHESES SPEAKS TO PEOPLE FOR THEIR STRENGTHENING, ENCOURAGING AND COMFORT.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:28-AND GOD HAS PLACED IN THE CHURCH FIRST OF ALL APOSTLES, SECOND PROPHETS, THIRD TEACHERS, THEN MIRACLES, THEN GIFTS OF HEALING, OF HELPING, OF GUIDANCE, AND OF DIFFERENT KINDS OF TONGUES.

EPHESIANS 4:11-SO CHRIST HIMSELF GAVE THE APOSTLES, THE PROPHETS, THE EVANGELISTS, THE PASTORS AND TEACHERS,

## ENCOURAGEMENT

ENCOURAGE GOD-GIVEN ABILITY TO PRESENT WORDS OF COMFORT, CONSOLATION, AND ENCOURAGEMENT, SO AS TO STRENGTHEN, OR URGE ACTION, THOSE WHO ARE DISCOURAGED OR WAVERING IN THEIR FAITH.

### SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

ROMANS 12:8- THEREFORE, I URGE YOU, BROTHERS AND SISTERS, IN VIEW OF GOD'S MERCY, TO OFFER YOUR BODIES AS A LIVING SACRIFICE, HOLY AND PLEASING TO GOD—THIS IS YOUR TRUE AND PROPER WORSHIP. 2 DO NOT CONFORM TO THE PATTERN OF THIS WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND. THEN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO TEST AND APPROVE WHAT GOD'S WILL IS—HIS GOOD, PLEASING AND PERFECT WILL.

ACTS 11:22-24- NEWS OF THIS REACHED THE CHURCH IN JERUSALEM, AND THEY SENT BARNABAS TO ANTIOCH. 23 WHEN HE ARRIVED AND SAW WHAT THE GRACE OF GOD HAD DONE, HE WAS GLAD AND ENCOURAGED THEM ALL TO REMAIN TRUE TO THE LORD WITH ALL THEIR HEARTS. 24 HE WAS A GOOD MAN, FULL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND FAITH, AND A GREAT NUMBER OF PEOPLE WERE BROUGHT TO THE LORD.

ACTS 15:30-32-30 SO THE MEN WERE SENT OFF AND WENT DOWN TO ANTIOCH, WHERE THEY GATHERED THE CHURCH TOGETHER AND DELIVERED THE LETTER. 31 THE PEOPLE READ IT AND WERE GLAD FOR ITS ENCOURAGING MESSAGE. 32 JUDAS AND SILAS, WHO THEMSELVES WERE PROPHETS, SAID MUCH TO ENCOURAGE AND STRENGTHEN THE BELIEVERS.

## FAITH

FAITH GOD-GIVEN ABILITY TO ACT ON GOD'S PROMISES WITH CONFIDENCE AND UNWAVERING BELIEF IN GOD'S ABILITY TO FULFILL HIS PURPOSES.

### SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

1 CORINTHIANS 12:9-TO ANOTHER FAITH BY THE SAME SPIRIT, TO ANOTHER GIFTS OF HEALING BY THAT ONE SPIRIT,

1 CORINTHIANS 13:2-IF I HAVE THE GIFT OF PROPHECY AND CAN FATHOM ALL MYSTERIES AND ALL KNOWLEDGE, AND IF I HAVE A FAITH THAT CAN MOVE MOUNTAINS, BUT DO NOT HAVE LOVE, I AM NOTHING.

ROMANS 4:19-21-19 WITHOUT WEAKENING IN HIS FAITH, HE FACED THE FACT THAT HIS BODY WAS AS GOOD AS DEAD—SINCE HE WAS ABOUT A HUNDRED YEARS OLD—AND THAT SARAH'S WOMB WAS ALSO DEAD. 20 YET HE DID NOT WAVER THROUGH UNBELIEF REGARDING THE PROMISE OF GOD, BUT WAS STRENGTHENED IN HIS FAITH AND GAVE GLORY TO GOD, 21 BEING FULLY PERSUADED THAT GOD HAD POWER TO DO WHAT HE HAD PROMISED.