

WE WILL CONSIDER

- The Holy Spirit gifts were given to the Apostles in the first century to help them preach Jesus Christ and to help the new church reach maturity.
- The Bible teaches that when the church reached maturity the gifts stopped.
- The Bible prophesies that the gifts will appear on the earth again in God's coming Kingdom.

The **B**iBLE EXHIBITION

THE TRUTH ABOUT

the Holy Spirit Gifts

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is God's power. It is sometimes called the 'Holy Ghost' in English Bibles. God used this power to create everything, and it keeps everything alive (Job 26:13, 33:4, Psalm 104:30; Ecclesiastes 11:5).

Many times throughout the Bible, God gave His power to people to do special things for Him. Bezaleel was given the spirit of God to help him make things for the tabernacle (Exodus 31:3-4); Moses and 70 judges were given the spirit to help them lead (Numbers 11:17). The spirit of the LORD came on Gideon and Samson and they acted for God (Judges 6:34, 14:6,19, 15:14). David wrote Psalms under inspiration by the Holy Spirit (Matthew 22:43; Acts 1:16).

People in the New Testament had God's spirit, even before the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The Holy Spirit came upon Mary and she conceived Jesus without a man (Matthew 1:18,20; Luke 1:35). Others who received the Holy Spirit were John the Baptist (Luke 1:15), Elisabeth (Luke 1:41), Zechariah (Luke 1:67), the old man Simeon (Luke 2:25-26) and the Lord Jesus Christ at his baptism (Luke 3:22). During his ministry, Jesus gave the power to heal to 70 of his disciples (Luke 10:1-9), and again to his twelve disciples after his resurrection (John 20:22).

Pentecost

Jesus promised his disciples that when he went to the Father, the Holy Spirit would come upon them (Acts 1:4-5). In Acts 2:4, the Holy Spirit was poured out on the disciples and they began speaking in different languages. People from all different countries that had gathered to Jerusalem for Passover and Pentecost could each hear the disciples speaking in their native languages (Acts 2:5-6). Peter preached the Gospel to the crowd, and on that day 3,000 people were baptised into Jesus Christ (Acts 2:14,41).

Purpose of the Gifts

The Holy Spirit enabled the disciples to do amazing miracles.

Jesus said: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:8) The Holy Spirit power was to help the disciples witness to the world that Jesus Christ was the Messiah, the son of God who had been raised from the dead and would come back as King (eg Acts 2:22-36, 3:12-26).

The Holy Spirit also helped the apostles organise and strengthen the young church (Acts 9:31; 1 Corinthians 14:5,12).

Holy Spirit Gifts Today

The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit gifts were to come to an end when the young church had become mature in their faith in God, hope in the future and love for each other: 'As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away.' (1 Corinthians 13:8)

The gifts were to help lead the church towards maturity, and once the church reached that point the gifts stopped: 'We know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect ['mature'] comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways.' (1 Corinthians 13:9-11) The things that have not passed away are 'faith, hope, and love.' (1 Corinthians 13:13)

We no longer require the Holy Spirit gifts to make us spiritually mature. The complete scriptures, which were not available to the early church, make us mature for salvation: 'All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent ['mature'], equipped for every good work.' (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Holy Spirit Gifts in the Future

Prophecies in the Old Testament indicate that the Holy Spirit will be poured out again in the coming Kingdom of God. The prophecy relating to Pentecost in Joel 2:26-29 clearly has its main fulfillment in the future. Also Isaiah 44:1-5, speaking of a future time when Israel comes back to their God, says that God will pour out His spirit again. We look forward to God's coming Kingdom!

More information,

For more information, please don't hesitate to contact:

THE TRUTH ABOUT

SUMMARY

The Holy Spirit gifts were given to the apostles on the day of Pentecost.

The gifts enabled the disciples to do amazing miracles.

The gifts were to help the disciples preach and to help the young church reach maturity.

When the church reached maturity the gifts stopped.

Prophecies indicate that the gifts will be poured out again in God's coming Kingdom.

the Holy Spirit Gifts

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