

# **THE GIFT OF TONGUES - IT'S INFERIORITY**

Part 3 - 1 Corinthians 14:20-25

Sunday, July 31st, 2011  
IBC - Keeseville, NY

**INTRODUCTION:** Paul has been in thorny territory as he has been addressing the Church at Corinth on the use and abuse of the gift of tongues within the Church fellowship. It is so easy for a Church to become sidetracked from the main issue and to start stressing one particular doctrine until it is twisted from being truth to being error. When that which is not a biblical gift, but is mistakenly called that, is exercised, we have every right to discourage its use and even forbid it as a divisive matter within the Church. It is the task of the ministry, as far as it is possible, to ensure that the main responsibilities of Church testimony are in right focus. In Paul's dealing with the subject of tongues in 1 Corinthians 14:1-25 he sets out two major objectives that should be central within any Church fellowship. First - the **EDIFYING** of the Lord's people within the assembly, "Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel." (14:12). Secondly, as we will see this morning - the **EVANGELIZING** of the unsaved (14:24-25) that because of the united testimony of the Christians, someone who visits the Church will end up "...falling down on his face, he will worship God and report that God is truly among you." This is the twofold purpose of the local Church in any area and nothing must hinder that duo purpose...It is God's purpose.

## **I. THE INFERIORITY OF TONGUES IN THE CHURCH MEETING - 1-25**

### **A. CONCERNING LOCAL BELIEVERS - vvs. 1-19**

#### **1. THE ARGUMENT ESTABLISHED - vvs. 1-5**

#### **2. THE ARGUMENT ILLUSTRATED - vvs. 6-**

#### **3. THE ARGUMENT FURTHERED - vvs 14 - 19**

##### **a. UNINTERPRETED TONGUES = MINDLESS - v. 14-17**

##### **b. PAUL'S EXAMPLE = ARRESTING - v. 18-19**

### **PRINCIPLE:**

**WHAT TAKES PLACE IN THE LOCAL CHURCH  
MUST BE EDIFYING TO THE WHOLE CHURCH**

### **B. CONCERNING VISITING UNBELIEVERS - vvs. 20-25**

#### **1. THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF TONGUES - Isaiah 28 with 1 Corinthians 14:21**

**2. THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF TONGUES - Acts 2:1-11**

**3. THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF TONGUES - 1 Corinthians 14:22**

**4. THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF TONGUES - 1 Corinthians 14:23**

**5. THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF PROPHECY - 1 Corinthians 14:24-25**

CONCLUSION