



## The Gifts of the Spirit

### *“Working of Miracles”*

July 20, 2016

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**Introduction** – We are continuing our series on the Gifts of the Spirit. The Lord impressed me, that as a Church, He wants us to have a **“Growing in God”** summer. We are to grow in the **Character and Charisma** of **Christ** this summer. The **Character of Christ** is grown in us by **The Fruit of God’s Spirit** and the **Charisma** (divine gratuity, spiritual endowment, free gift or miraculous faculty) is given through us by **The Gifts of His Spirit**.

**1 Corinthians 12:1-3, 7-11** – 1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: 2 You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. 3 Therefore I make known to you that **no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed** (banned or excommunicated), and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. 7 But the **manifestation of the Spirit** is given to each one **for the profit of all**: 8 for to one is given the **word of wisdom** through the Spirit, to another the **word of knowledge** through the same Spirit, 9 to another **faith** by the same Spirit, to another **gifts of healings** by the same Spirit, 10 to another the **working of miracles**, to another **prophecy**, to another **discerning of spirits**, to another **different kinds of tongues**, to another the **interpretation of tongues**. 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, **distributing to each one individually as He wills**. NKJV

God said (in the first verse of this chapter), that He did not want us to be ignorant of spiritual gifts. Ignorance comes through a lack of knowledge and if we don't know about these gifts, how will we be able to desire (covet earnestly) and experience these gifts.

**1 Corinthians 12:31** - But **earnestly desire the best gifts**. And yet I show you a more excellent way. NKJV

**1 Corinthians 14:1** - Pursue love, and **desire spiritual gifts**, but especially that you may prophesy. NKJV

Here the Greek word for **"gifts"** is **"charisma"** and means gifts of grace.

*“These nine gifts of the Holy Spirit are manifested through us by the grace of God, as The Holy Spirit wills. These gifts cannot be earned or owned by us. However, the Bible tells us that we are to desire spiritual gifts and grow in the grace of God.”*

Tonight we are going to be studying about the Working of Miracles. Let me take a minute to define what miracle means in the bible sense of the word, because this term is thrown around in many different ways; miracle drug, miracle birth, miracle sunset, etc.

**Miracle** – A miracle can be defined as a supernatural intervention by God in the ordinary course of nature.

When the working of miracles is in manifestation there is a **divine** intervention in the ordinary course of nature.

I. There are **Nine** Gifts that are divided into **three** categories

A. There are three **revelation** gifts, they **reveal** something

1. Word of **Wisdom**
2. Word of **Knowledge**
3. **Discerning** of Spirits

B. There are three **Power** Gifts, they **do** something

1. Gift of **Faith**
2. Gifts of **Healings**
3. Working of **Miracles**

C. There are three **Vocal** Gifts, they **say** something

1. Gift of **Prophecy**
2. Divers kinds of **Tongues**
3. Interpretation of **Tongues**

II. How are the Gifts of the Spirit are **Distributed**

A. According to the **Will** of God

B. **1 Corinthians 12:11** - But one and the same Spirit works all these things, **distributing to each one individually as He wills.** NKJV

C. To those who earnestly **Desire** them.

D. **1 Corinthians 12:31** - But **earnestly desire the best gifts.** And yet I show you a more excellent way.

III. Working of **Miracles**

A. Working of Miracles is the **supernatural** intervention by God in the ordinary course of nature.

B. Remember, the Gifts of the Spirit are **supernatural**, not natural.

C. **Penicillin** was called by some a miracle drug, but that is not the same as the Gift of the Spirit called Working of Miracles.

D. The Working of Miracles is a supernatural **energy** flow from God that causes an instantaneous creative change in the human body, nature or a specific situation.

E. The Working of Miracles is a very important manifestation of the Spirit. It is the mighty power of God flowing through a **person**.

F. The birth of Jesus Christ was a **miracle**. Having a baby, although it is miraculous, it does not qualify for being a scriptural miracle because it is of the ordinary course of nature.

IV. Working of **Miracles** in Scripture

A. The Miracle of **Elisha** dividing the water with Elijah's mantle

**2 Kings 2:14** - Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, "Where is the LORD God of Elijah?" **And when he also had struck the water, it was divided this way** and that; and Elisha crossed over. NKJV

**B. Turning common dust into insects**

**Exodus 8:16-19** – 16 So the LORD said to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Stretch out your rod, and **strike the dust of the land, so that it may become lice** throughout all the land of Egypt.'" 17 And they did so. For Aaron stretched out his hand with his rod and struck the dust of the earth, and it became lice on man and beast. All the dust of the land became lice throughout all the land of Egypt. 18 Now the magicians so worked with their enchantments to bring forth lice, but they could not. So there were lice on man and beast. 19 Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God." But Pharaoh's heart grew hard, and he did not heed them, just as the LORD had said. NKJV

**C. Jesus, turning water into wine**

**John 2:7-11** - 7 Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim. 8 And he saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare it. 9 When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom, 10 And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now. 11 **This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee**, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him. KJV

**D. Aaron's rod turning into a serpent**

**Exodus 7:8-12** - Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, 9 "When Pharaoh speaks to you, saying, '**Show a miracle for yourselves**,' then you shall say to Aaron, '**Take your rod and cast it before Pharaoh, and let it become a serpent.**'" 10 So Moses and Aaron went in to Pharaoh, and they did so, just as the LORD commanded. And **Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh and before his servants, and it became a serpent.** 11 But Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers; so the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments. 12 For every man threw down his rod, and they became serpents. **But Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods.** NKJV

**E. Children of Israel Crossing the Red Sea**

**Exodus 14:15, 21-22, 27-31** - 15 And the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward. 16 But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea. 21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. 22 So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. 27 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth, while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. 28 Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not so much as one of them remained. 29 But the children of Israel had walked on dry land in the midst of the sea, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. 30 So the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. 31 Thus Israel saw the great work which the LORD had done in Egypt; so the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD and His servant Moses. NKJV

#### F. **Widows** cruise of oil didn't fail

**1 Kings 17:8-16** – 8 Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, 9 "Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you." 10 So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, indeed a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, "Please bring me a little water in a cup, that I may drink." 11 And as she was going to get it, he called to her and said, "Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." 12 So she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die." 13 And Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go and do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring it to me; and afterward make some for yourself and your son. 14 For thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the LORD sends rain on the earth.'" 15 **So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for many days. 16 The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the LORD which He spoke by Elijah.** NKJV

#### G. **Jesus** feeding the five thousand

**John 6:5-14** - 5 Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" 6 But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do. 7 Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little." 8 One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, 9 "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?" 10 Then Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. 11 And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. 12 So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost." 13 Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. NKJV

#### H. **Ananias** & Sapphira falling dead

**Acts 5:1-11** - But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. 2 And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet. 3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? 4 While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God." 5 **Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last.** So great fear came upon all those who heard these things. 6 And the young men arose and wrapped him up, carried him out, and buried him. 7 Now it was about three hours later when his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. 8 And Peter answered her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for so much?" She said, "Yes, for so much." 9 Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out." 10 **Then immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last.** And the young men came in and found her dead, and carrying her out, buried her by her husband. NKJV

**Conclusion** – I am convinced that in these last days, God wants this gift of the Working of Miracles to be in manifestation as a sign to the unbelievers as a demonstration of God's power to all. Let's Hunger for Miracles!