

THE BASICS OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES

4/10/20

The first thing we need to observe is that God chose tongues as a sign and also designed their spiritual usage. God has given us plenty of details and directions, to work out everything we need to know about tongues. Good doctrine needs to be established by the sound use of scripture... not by feelings or personal beliefs.

Explanation about tongues (the evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit)... general.

First occurrence. ACT 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. **2** And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. **3** And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. **4** **And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.** *This event is clearly described, fulfills multiple bible prophecies and offers the basis for many further scriptural references. The Gentiles also had the same experience (Acts 10 & 11).*

Paul confirms that speaking in tongues was common to all true church members. 1COR 14:26 How is it then, brethren? **when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue,**

Promised for all. ACT 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. **39** For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to **all** that are **afar off**, even **as many** as the Lord our God shall call.

A language designed by and for God. 1COR 14:2 For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue **speaketh not unto men**, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.

JOH 4:24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him **must** (*no options*) **worship him in spirit and in truth.**

1COR 14:14 For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my **spirit prayeth**, but my understanding is unfruitful.

The Scriptural Purposes Of Tongues... 1. Consistent God given sign. 2. A prayer language. 3. A voice gift.

1. Sign to the seeker, the hearer and the unbeliever... MAR 16:17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with **new tongues**;

JOH 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. **8** The **wind** (*Spirit*) bloweth where it **listeth** (*chooses*), and thou hearest the **sound** (*voice*) thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is **every one that is born of the Spirit.** *The voice of the Spirit... tongues, is common to all true Christians.*

2. A language of prayer. ZEP 3:9 For then will I turn to the people a **pure language**, that they may all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one **consent** (*spiritually yoked together*).

ROM 8:26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our **infirmities** (*weaknesses*): for **we know not what we should pray for as we ought**: but the Spirit itself (*the holy spirit*) maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. **27** And he that searcheth the hearts (*the holy spirit*) knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. (*A custom designed language*).

3. A gift used in meetings as a sign for the unbeliever and a blessing to the believer and speaker.

1COR 14:6 Now, brethren, if I come unto you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you, except I shall speak to you either by revelation, or by knowledge, or by prophesying, or by doctrine? **7** And even things without life giving sound, whether pipe or harp, except they give a distinction in the sounds, how shall it be known what is piped or harped? *The tongue needs to be interpreted at the time of the gifts.*

1COR 14:18 I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all: **19** Yet in the church (*at the time of the spiritual voice gifts*) I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might **teach** others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue. *Interpretation and prophecy are edified teaching.*

EPH 6:18 Praying **always** with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit (*spiritual prayer is already defined as praying in tongues*), and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

The problems of those who oppose or downplay tongues, prophesied. JUDE 1:18 How that they told you there should be **mockers** in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. **19** These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit. **20** But ye, beloved, **building up yourselves** on your most holy faith, **praying in the Holy Ghost** (*tongues*), *This is God's commandment to us.*

False... Tongues is done away with. 1COR 14:8 Charity never faileth: but whether there be **prophecies**, they shall fail; whether there be **tongues**, they shall cease; whether there be **knowledge**, it shall vanish away. *Knowledge is still available and many prophecies are yet to be fulfilled.* **9** For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. **10** But

when that which is perfect is come (*Jesus*), then that which is in part shall be done away. *This prophecy refers to the return of Christ and not the completion of the bible.*

False... Tongues is from Satan. No direct scriptural references to this problem at all.

False... Tongues is for preaching to the unsaved in their natural language. **ACT 2:7** And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? **8** And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? **9** Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, **10** -- Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, **11** Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues **the wonderful works of God.** **12** And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, **What meaneth this?** *Firstly, everyone at this time also had a common language and some also spoke other languages native to their particular regions. Some of those who spoke other languages, marvelled that those speaking in tongues (who had just received the Holy Spirit), were speaking in valid languages (never naturally learned) and were praising God. Their observations proved that tongues were valid languages. This moved them to ask the question "What meaneth this?" If the languages were provided by God to convert the hearers, why did they need to ask the meaning of the language? It is hard to believe that God spoke directly through tongues to these 'foreigners' and no one understood what God meant: so they had to ask Peter in the common language, (which everyone spoke anyway), of what was happening. If tongues was meant to convert them in their own language, it means that God failed, yet Peter did the job properly in their common language. This does not support the argument of tongues being a language of evangelism, but it does support the argument that tongues were real languages and their content was spiritually positive. At no time do we have a record of people using tongues to evangelise other foreign peoples to conversion.*

False... No other sign except the prophet Jonah. **MAT 16:4** A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. *Jesus was asked to prove he was God's son; a far different question than asking about proof of receiving the Holy Spirit. Let us also keep in mind that he healed thousands, fed thousands and performed countless miracles. The concept of a 'signless' relationship with God is totally against all scriptural wisdom and evidence.*

False... if you don't speak in tongues, you are not saved. *This argument uses the wrong emphasis, assuming that speaking in tongues saves us. That is not so! Receiving the Holy Spirit is what saves us... not tongues. However, God's evidence that we have received the Holy Spirit, is speaking in tongues. If you can't speak in tongues, then you have not received the Holy Spirit as yet.* **ROM 8:9** But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, **he is none of his.** *The emphasis is on the need to receive the Holy Spirit. God will confirm it the way he always has! Speaking in tongues.*

1COR 14:39 Wherefore, brethren, **covet** (*strongly desire*) to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues. **40** Let all things be done decently and in order. *These promises remain consistent for the whole of the N/T age.*