

A decorative graphic in the top-left corner consisting of a network of interconnected nodes and lines, rendered in light gray. The nodes are represented by small circles, some of which are larger and have a double-circle effect. The lines are thin and connect the nodes in a complex, web-like pattern.

Spiritual Gifts

God's Plan and Power for Ministry

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Ephesians 4:11	1 Corinthians 12:28	Romans 12:6-8	1 Corinthians 12:8-10
*Apostles	*Apostles		
*Prophets	*Prophets	~Prophecy	~Prophecy
*Evangelists			
*Pastors			
*Teachers	*Teachers	^Teaching	
			~Message of Wisdom
			~Message of Knowledge
			•Faith
	~Miracles		~Miracles
	~Gifts of Healings		~Gifts of Healings
	^Helps	^Service	
		^Exhortation	
		^Contributing	
	^Leadership	^Leadership	
		^Showing mercy	
			•Discernment of spirits
	~Tongues		~Tongues
			~Interpretation of Tongues

*Blue—People Gifts

^Purple—Service Gifts

~Orange—Sign & Revelatory Gifts

•Red—Debated

Signs and revelatory gifts (1 Cor 12)

⊙ Prophecy

⊙ Message of wisdom

⊙ Message of knowledge

⊙ Miracles

⊙ Gifts of Healings

⊙ Tongues

⊙ Interpretation of tongues

Debated

⊙ Faith

⊙ Discernment of spirits

Cessation of sign gifts

- ◎ Purpose and limitations of the sign gifts
 - 2 Corinthians 12:12
 - Hebrews 2:3–4
- ◎ The mention of sign gifts disappears as the early church narrative continues
 - Paul was unable to heal Epaphroditus to save him from dying, but God did through prayer (Philippians 2:25–27)

Tongues in Acts

◎ Acts 2

- Who? The apostles (Jews)
- Why? To show that God was doing a new work in Israel against the established religion
- What? Praising God; real languages
 - Unknown, unlearned by the speakers
 - Known and understood by the listeners

Tongues in Acts

◎ Acts 10

- Who? Cornelius and his family (Gentiles)
- Why? To show that God accepted Gentiles into salvation the same way he accepted the Jews
- What? Praising God

Tongues in Acts

◎ Acts 19

- Who? Disciples of John the Baptizer (Jews)
- Why? To show that Jesus fulfilled John's work and message
- What? Does not say; included prophecy

Tongues in Acts

- ◎ Tongues were not for new revelation
- ◎ Tongues were for giving praise to God for salvation
- ◎ Tongues were a sign that proved the message and messenger were from God
- ◎ Tongues were known, human languages

Tongues in 1 Corinthians

◎ Chapter 12

- Tongues are listed last, the least of the gifts
- Not everyone did or should speak in tongues

◎ Chapter 14

- Tongues are set against prophecy
 - They are inferior and edify only the speaker
- They are a sign for unbelievers, not believers

Cessation of tongues and revelation

*“Love never fails; but if there are gifts of **prophecy**, they **will be done away with**; if there are **tongues**, they **will cease**; if there is **knowledge**, it **will be done away with**.”*

(1 Corinthians 13:8)

- ◎ **“be done away with”** – passive, brought to an abrupt end by an outside force
- ◎ **“cease”** – middle, bring itself to a stop

Cessation of tongues and revelation

When will this happen? “*When the perfect comes*” (vs. 10)

- ◎ “Perfect” can mean “complete” (vs. 9-10)
- ◎ “Perfect” can mean “mature” (vs. 11)
- ◎ “Perfect” can mean “perfection” (vs. 12)

Key thought: Paul did not have full information about this yet, so his vagueness is fitting

Cessation of tongues and revelation

Key thought: Paul did not have full information about this yet, so his vagueness is fitting

However, when it comes to prophecy / knowledge, those are partial, and the partial will be brought to an end when the revelation is complete

Thus, if the NT is the completed revelation for the church age, prophecy / knowledge ended with the NT

Application for today

- ◎ We no longer need signs to authenticate the gospel; they had an important purpose which they fulfilled
- ◎ They were for unbelievers and immature believers; maturity relieves the need for visible signs
- ◎ Experiences can be faked and misunderstood; stay focused on Scripture

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