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TO GIVE AND BE GIVEN – LESSON 19

THE POWER GIFTS

The next three gifts of the Holy Spirit (I Corinthians 12:9-10) can be called “the power gifts” because they demonstrate the miraculous and amazing power of Jesus’ name. They are:

1. The working of miracles.
2. The gifts of healing.
3. The gift of faith.

The working of miracles is a spectacular show of the absolute power of Jesus to do the impossible. They usually occur either instantly or in a very short time frame. It would include such things as the restoration of shriveled arms and legs, creating a missing body part, giving sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, raising the dead, removing an immovable object, or other such “Impossible” feats.

In pagan countries when an evangelist demonstrates such power from God, many of them believe and are converted. Miracles and love are the two most powerful “magnets” to bring in the heathen.

The gifts of healing come to individuals who are sick or diseased. Healings may take a while longer, but it is a gift of God to the sick person. Holy Spirit chooses who the minister (a believer) is that He chooses to operate through in this manner. Such minister is gifted by Holy Spirit to dispense (by faith) these gifts of healing to the people. (Please note, it is not the person that operates in the gifts of healing that heals, it is God working through a person. No one should ever take credit for healing anyone.) A healing that takes place instantly is a “miracle of healing,” not just a “healing,” since it is instantaneous.

The gift of faith is that which is spoken to or action taken in reference to something that could not ordinarily be done. One can “speak” something into being. An example could be when Jesus, with his disciples present, spoke to the fig tree (Matthew 21:18-22) that it would never bear fruit again. When they passed by the next day, the tree was dead. Another instance was when Jesus spoke **“Peace, be still”** to calm the raging sea. It can be faith for special purposes that need a miracle.

These three power gifts do have some similarities. They sometimes work together or may work separately. Nonetheless, they all manifest the supernatural power through Jesus’ name.

Let me clarify one thing. The “gift of faith” is not the same “faith” that we have through Jesus’ name. By faith in Jesus’ name and claiming promises according to the Word of God, we may obtain healings, and even the miraculous simply by believing the Word and claiming it in Jesus’ name. This is the faith that is in every believer. Using (exercising) your faith makes it stronger and stronger so that you can receive or “see” the results of it. However, the “gift” of faith is a different manner of dispensation given by the Holy Spirit. You might not have the “gift of faith,” but you do have “faith” so use it in full confidence that Jesus will honor His word.