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11-20-2021

PRAYING IN TONGUES – LESSON 6

FALSE TEACHINGS AND BELIEFS PART 2

Yesterday we addressed the false teachings of the cessationists and of those who claim the gifts are no longer needed (passed away) because the “perfect” has come in the form of the Bible.

Today we will continue to expose false teachings against speaking in other tongues as the Holy Ghost gives utterance to us.

One such teaching claims that the Holy Ghost outpouring upon the 120 believers at Pentecost did not actually have the seekers speaking in languages unknown to them. They claim that all 120 were speaking the same language as they always did, namely their own native (heart) language. They claim the miracle was in the hearing, not the speaking.

There were thousands of men from many different countries in Jerusalem that day to observe the feast of Pentecost which was one of the three annual feasts they were required to observe. They heard the commotion caused by this exuberant group of 120 people speaking in various languages with tongues of fire upon their heads. It caused quite a stir.

Acts 2:7-8 says (my paraphrase), ***“They were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, ‘aren’t these people who speak all Galileans? How is it then that these poorly educated Galileans are speaking in the languages of our various countries? We are hearing them in our languages.”***

Those who advocate this wrong position take these two verses out of context. They ignore verse 4 that specifically states that they began “to speak with other tongues (languages) as the Spirit gave them utterance (ability to speak).”

There are many other examples where this Holy Spirit outpouring immediately brought forth the sign of speaking in other tongues. One such case was when Peter was preaching to Cornelius (a gentile) and his group. The Holy Spirit fell on them also as at Pentecost, and they all spoke in tongues. It was clearly a difference from the case in Acts 2 where Peter was preaching. Peter did not need a “hearing” miracle to understand them in his own language.

People come up with such far-fetched teaching because they refuse to believe that speaking in tongues is legitimate. They have hardened their hearts towards it.

Why were these foreigners hearing their languages? It was because there were believers that were actually speaking in their languages. It was a sign so that they could believe on Jesus and in the Holy Ghost that He had promised to send. The “sign” worked. Three thousand of those “hearers” got saved that day. Another five thousand got saved the next day.

I Corinthians 14:22 says, “...*tongues are for a sign...to them that believe not (are not yet believers) ...*” Those eight thousand souls saved in two days were a result of that “sign” of tongues.

Tomorrow we will continue to expose other false statements about tongues.