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TO GIVE AND BE GIVEN – LESSON 15

GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT PART 1

The Holy spirit is our gift from the Father, but there are also gifts from the Holy Spirit to “be given” to those who desire the deeper works of Christ to manifest in their life and works.

Jesus told His disciples previous to His crucifixion in John 14:12, ***“He that believeth on Me, the works that I do shall he do also. And greater works than these shall he do because I go to my Father.”***

Jesus healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, restored body parts, cast out demons, and raised the dead. Now how is it that we shall do works greater than those things? By what power are they done?

First of all, Father gave all power in heaven and earth to Jesus. But how do we access such power from Jesus? It is through the Holy Ghost (Holy Spirit) and the gifts He imparts to us. Just before His ascension back to heaven’s throne, He told them in Acts 1:4: ***“Wait for the promise of the Father (The Holy Ghost),”*** after which He said in Acts 1:8, ***“But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost (Holy Spirit) is come upon you...”***

After His ascension, they waited (tarried) in “the upper room” in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit (who was already within them) came upon them in fullness of power as recorded in Acts chapter two. The manifestation of this gift of power was “speaking in other tongues” (languages unknown to the one speaking them) and tongues of fire (representing the power of the Holy Ghost) upon their hands. The “fire” of the Holy Ghost was so strong in them that over those first two days, over eight thousand people were saved through their empowered preaching.

This is what we call the “baptism of the Holy Ghost.” Jesus had already imparted the Holy Ghost (Holy Spirit) into his disciples prior to His ascension (John 20:22) thus they (disciples) were already “born again” through Jesus’ blood and the imparted Holy Spirit. Now at Pentecost, they were “baptized with power” in the Holy Ghost.

Many believers have been saved and have the indwelling Holy Ghost (Holy Spirit) but have never received the baptism of Holy Ghost power. Those who have the “baptism of the Holy Ghost” are eligible to “be given” gifts from the Holy Spirit, although not everyone is given those gifts. I Corinthians 12:11 says, ***“But all these (the nine gifts) worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man as he will.”*** The Holy Spirit (Holy Ghost) decides who will get His gifts and which particular gifts they receive. It is through these gifts that we access Jesus’ power to do the “greater works” of which He spoke in John 14:12.

What are the gifts to “be given” by the Holy Spirit (Holy Ghost)? There are nine specific gifts written about in I Corinthians 12:8-10. They are gifts that come from God as follows:

1. Tongues (unknown languages to the speaker)
2. Interpretation of tongues (interpret supernaturally messages in unknown tongues)
3. Prophecy (messages given in your own language)
4. Word of Knowledge
5. Discerning of spirits (good or evil)
6. Word of wisdom
7. Faith for special purposes
8. Gifts of healings
9. Miracles

These gifts are for the benefit of the body of Christ, (church) and also as a sign to unbelievers to draw them to Christ.

It is through the operation of the gifts from the Holy Ghost (Holy Spirit) that we can do Jesus' greater works.