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PRAYING IN TONGUES – LESSON 7

FALSE TEACHINGS AND BELIEFS – PART 3

We have covered the false teachings of the cessationists who say that all the works of Holy Spirit ceased after the first century A.D. Then we covered those who claim the Spirit's workings ended when the Bible, "the perfect," was canonized around the fourth century. Yesterday we looked at those who say that the 120 on the day of Pentecost were not actually speaking in tongues, (unknown languages) but rather that the foreigners present simply "heard" it in their language because the Holy Spirit miraculously caused them to hear it that way.

Today we look at something even more dangerous and diabolical. It is those who claim that all speaking on tongues are of the devil.

I have actually heard pastors I could name who preached over the radio that speaking in tongues is of the devil. I would consider that as pure blasphemy. It is true that Satan has a counterfeit in everything God has, and tongues is no exception. There are witches and Satanists, and cult members who can mimic tongues. It is called glossolalia. It is demonic.

But to call the tongues of utterance from Holy Spirit as being of Satan is careless at best and blasphemy at worst. In 1969 when I was in the U.S. Navy, I attended a Christian conference that was military sponsored. Chaplains and missionaries were the speakers, a couple of whom I personally knew and were true men of God. At the last day of the conference, they had an open panel to field questions that had been submitted by the servicemen. The last question they read was asking about speaking in tongues. One particular army chaplain specifically asked the panel to let him answer the question. I will simply call him "chaplain Bob," not his real name.

Chaplain Bob was a strong soul winner. He had led many to Jesus on the battlefields of Viet Nam, some even as they were dying from wounds. He stood up and began to say how speaking in tongues was not of God. To make things worse, he gave a demonstration of "tongues" as he began to speak in absolute gibberish. He then said "see there, anybody can speak in tongues. It has nothing to do with the Holy Spirit." Yes, he absolutely mocked the Holy Spirit.

I stood up in the congregation to refute him. They immediately sent down a missionary whom I knew to quiet me. But I felt certain he had put himself in jeopardy by mocking Holy Spirit.

About 40 years later, one of the missionaries who had just retired, was visiting former servicemen to whom they ministered. He and his wife visited me. I reminded him of that incident. I inquired as to the status of "chaplain Bob" and found out that he had died at an unusually early age. He had been judged.

Do not ever make the mistake of attributing God's work to Satan.