

## Speaking in Tongues

### Cessationism vs. Continuationism

#### For only some or for all?

12:30

“Do all speak in tongues?”

12:7-8

<sup>7</sup> Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. <sup>8</sup> To one there is given... to another... to another...

14:5

I would like every one of you to speak in tongues...

#### More than all of you

#### Personal Use

14:18

I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you.

14:4

Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves...

Jude 1:20

But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit...

#### The realm of the Spirit

1 Corinthians 2

1 Corinthians 14:14

For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful.

1 Corinthians 4:20

The kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.

#### Human language or angelic/heavenly language?

- a) Acts 2
- b) “the tongues/languages of men and angels”
- c) “addressed to God”
- d) “no one understands him,” “mysteries”

### **Still a language**

a)

b)

### **Interpretation**

14:13

For this reason the one who speaks in a tongue should pray that they may interpret what they say.

14:27-28

<sup>27</sup> If anyone speaks in a tongue, two—or at the most three—should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret. <sup>28</sup> If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and to God.

### **Eagerly desire to speak in tongues**

12:31

Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

14:1

eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy.

14:39

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues.

14:12

So it is with you. Since you are eager for gifts of the Spirit, try to excel in those that build up the church.

### **Not inferior to prophecy**

### **Foundationally worship and prayer**

14:2

For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit.

14:39

Do not forbid speaking in tongues.

#### Acts 2:1-13

<sup>1</sup> When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. <sup>5</sup> Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup> When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. <sup>7</sup> Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup> Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome <sup>11</sup> (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" <sup>12</sup> Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup> Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

#### 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

<sup>7</sup> Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. <sup>8</sup> To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, <sup>10</sup> to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup> All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

#### 1 Corinthians 12:27-31

<sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. <sup>28</sup> And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup> Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup> Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup> Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

#### 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

<sup>1</sup> If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

#### 1 Corinthians 14:1-40

<sup>1</sup> Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy. <sup>2</sup> For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit. <sup>3</sup> But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort. <sup>4</sup> Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church. <sup>5</sup> I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified.

<sup>6</sup> Now, brothers and sisters, if I come to you and speak in tongues, what good will I be to you, unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or word of instruction? <sup>7</sup> Even in the case of lifeless things that make sounds, such as the pipe or harp, how will anyone know what tune is being played unless there is a distinction in the notes? <sup>8</sup> Again, if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle? <sup>9</sup> So it is with you. Unless you speak intelligible words with your tongue, how will anyone know what you are

saying? You will just be speaking into the air. <sup>10</sup>Undoubtedly there are all sorts of languages in the world, yet none of them is without meaning. <sup>11</sup>If then I do not grasp the meaning of what someone is saying, I am a foreigner to the speaker, and the speaker is a foreigner to me. <sup>12</sup>So it is with you. Since you are eager for gifts of the Spirit, try to excel in those that build up the church.

<sup>13</sup>For this reason the one who speaks in a tongue should pray that they may interpret what they say. <sup>14</sup>For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. <sup>15</sup>So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding. <sup>16</sup>Otherwise when you are praising God in the Spirit, how can someone else, who is now put in the position of an inquirer, say "Amen" to your thanksgiving, since they do not know what you are saying? <sup>17</sup>You are giving thanks well enough, but no one else is edified.

<sup>18</sup>I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. <sup>19</sup>But in the church I would rather speak five intelligible words to instruct others than ten thousand words in a tongue...

<sup>23</sup>So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and inquirers or unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind? <sup>24</sup>But if an unbeliever or an inquirer comes in while everyone is prophesying, they are convicted of sin and are brought under judgment by all, <sup>25</sup>as the secrets of their hearts are laid bare. So they will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, "God is really among you!"

<sup>26</sup>What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up. <sup>27</sup>If anyone speaks in a tongue, two—or at the most three—should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret. <sup>28</sup>If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and to God.

<sup>29</sup>Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said...

<sup>39</sup>Therefore, my brothers and sisters, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. <sup>40</sup>But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.