

It Is for Everyone!

The Bible states that speaking in tongues has a number of exclusive benefits for believers. We are told it edifies, builds up, stimulates faith, enables the believer to pray the perfect will of God, and more!

Considering this, the believing reader will agree, it is very unfortunate that many Christians have not taken advantage of this blessing, because they have been taught it is not for everyone! Proof for this teaching is said to be found in the following portion of Scripture:

Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers?
Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing?
Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?

(1 Corinthians 12:29-31)

But here the Apostle Paul is not referring to the speaking in tongues that a believer receives when he is baptized in the Holy Spirit, which is for his personal prayer language and can be utilized anytime he chooses.

Paul is referring to a spiritual gift given to minister to others in public, which must be accompanied with the gift to interpret, if it is to be of any benefit to the hearers.

So, to say a believer can be baptized in the Holy Spirit and not necessarily speak in tongues is error! A meticulous study of the Book of Acts clearly shows that speaking in tongues is actually the Christian's proof that he has received the Promise!

This being established, an even greater and more serious error has long abounded; such error insists what happened at Pentecost has ceased to be!

Do not even Pray for Them

It is a terrifying reality that there is sin a person can never be forgiven, either in this Age or in the Age to come! The Gospel according to Mark explains what it is:

Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin, for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."

(Mark 3:28-31)

These words are self-explanatory. The unpardonable sin, or the sin that is mortal, is knowingly and deliberately attributing the work of the Holy Spirit to the work of the devil! In First Corinthians Paul says:

Brothers and sisters, do not be children in your thinking; rather, be infants in evil, but in thinking be adults.

In the law it is written, “By people of strange tongues and by the lips of foreigners I will speak to this people; yet even then they will not listen to me,” says the Lord.

Tongues, then, are a sign not for believers but for unbelievers, while prophecy is not for unbelievers but for believers.

(1 Corinthians 14:20-23)

Speaking in tongues is a sign for unbelievers not for believers. What exactly does that mean? We are inclined to think a sign is always something positive, but often in Scripture it can have a negative application, intended to be a “stumbling stone” for those who harden their hearts to the truth. A perfect example is where Simeon prophesied over Jesus in the Temple:

This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed.

(Luke 2:34b-36)