

## The Biblical Basis of the Spiritual Sciences (v.1.1, 11/01/2011)

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### Introduction

The Bible is the rightful foundation for every human activity, being it spiritual, mental or physical.

Genetics with Mendel, astronomy with Newton, and microbiology with Pasteur, among others, were initially inspired by the desire to better understand the handiwork of our God.

Paul tells us to “test everything *and* hold fast to what is good” (1 Thess. 5:21)<sup>1</sup> and to “determine the things that are best” (Phil. 1:10a). To do so, we need the spiritual power that only God can provide.

The Bible is a living book, our first connection to God, and it is always useful, always full of novelty.

We need to balance our life between our knowledge of the Scriptures and our spiritual new nature.

I want the readers to be fully aware of, and if possible, according to their free will, that they may be able to manifest the gift of holy spirit from the start. It is the deep desire of God, an act of your free decision.

We need to present ourselves individually approved only unto God, arriving to Him with a pure mind:

“Make a diligent effort to present yourself approved before God, a workman who does not need to be ashamed, straightly cutting the word of truth” (2 Tim. 2:15).

Our minimum common denominator, the key for salvation is clearly summarized in the next Scripture:

“If you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him out from among *the* dead, you will be saved” (Rom. 10:9). Only this belief is what saves you now, nothing else!

But there is a key and practical end product of our salvation, composed by nine attributes of our spirit:

“The fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, self-control. There is no law against such things” (Gal. 5:22-23).

Here we learn of the nine characteristics of the spiritual fruit that we will produce with our salvation:

1. Love
2. Joy
3. Peace

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<sup>1</sup> New Testament REV, translation by John Schoenheit: [http://www.stfonline.org/pdf/rev/REV\\_whole.pdf](http://www.stfonline.org/pdf/rev/REV_whole.pdf), strategy of translation: [http://www.stfonline.org/pdf/rev/commentary\\_whole.pdf](http://www.stfonline.org/pdf/rev/commentary_whole.pdf), unless otherwise stated. In *italics* the words added by the translator. J. Schoenheit is one of the few translators that more or less follows the rule of using capital “**S**” to refer to God as the giver, ‘Holy **S**pirit’, and a small “**s**” to refer to God’s gift as ‘holy **s**pirit’ according to the teaching of Jesus Christ who declared: “that which is born of the **S**pirit is **s**pirit” (Jn. 3:6b).

4. Longsuffering
5. Kindness (Gentleness)
6. Goodness
7. Faithfulness (Faith)
8. Meekness
9. Temperance (Self-Control)

The fruit of the spirit is like one citric fruit with nine segments. But first, the seed needs to be planted in a good ground where leaves and branches grow to finally produce the good fruit. Brandi Brown wrote:

*"The tree will begin to flower in the third year after being planted... This early fruit likely will be small and inedible, but after five to seven years, most orange trees will produce good, edible fruit... As the grower you need to make sure that you are providing the right type of soil and conditions for your tree."*

If we want a good fruit, we need to consider the actions needed between the planting of the seed and the eating of the ripe fruit. Next, I added in brackets the difference between the person and its goods; by its nearest context we learn that it's talking about 9 different profits or goods given to every believer:

"To each one [person] the manifestation of the spirit is given for the common good. For to one [good] is given through the spirit a message [word] of wisdom, and to another [good] a message [word] of knowledge because of the same spirit, to a different one [good] faith by the same spirit, and to another [good] gifts of healings by the one spirit, and to another [good] energizings of miracles, to another [good] prophecy, to another [good] discerning of spirits, to a different one [good] *various* kinds of tongues, and to another [good] the interpretation of tongues" (1 Cor. 12:7-10). All believers need these!

The package received by every human when he is saved are nine potential new actions that we need to eagerly desire to use; the spiritual gift is like a fisherman's Swiss Army Knife with nine different gadgets.

Like the fruit, in singular, containing nine components or segments, the spiritual manifestation is singular, and contains nine components or profitable tools that you can use (or misuse) by your free will.

Three of those tools are activated by the free use of our speech ('of *inspiration*')

1. Speaking in Tongues (S.I.T., Kinds of Tongues)
2. Interpretation of Tongues
3. Prophecy

Three of those tools are activated by the use of our perception ('of *revelation*')

4. Word of Knowledge (Message of Knowledge)

5. Word of Wisdom (Message of Wisdom)

6. Discerning of spirits

Three of those tools are activated by our motion or our actions ('of *ministering*):

7. Faith (Believing)

8. Miracles (Energizings of Miracles)

9. Gifts of Healings

One action of the manifestation of the spirit within us that also appears as a segment of its fruit is faith or believing; once you start acting with all your belief (pistis), the result will also be the growth of its segment in the fruit: Act believing and the fruit will be more believing, with no limit or end, with no law.

This is the basic and minimal introduction related to the spiritual endowment given by God to you thanks of what Jesus Christ did for you when he offered his life for your salvation, and when he poured down the promise of the gift of holy spirit, "being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the holy spirit, he has poured out this that you see and hear" (Acts 2:33).

"Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places*" (Eph. 1:3); if we already have all spiritual blessing that we will ever need, we better start learning diligently about how to use it all. We will need a lot of spiritual discerning in our spiritual life. "I want all of you to speak in tongues" (1 Cor. 14:5a). Why? Because you can do it!

It is vital to take into account that the original manuscripts of the Bible were perfect at the time of their revelation, but have since been diluted through multiple revisions, versions, and even doctrines of men. The faithful believer can approach the original revelation through holy spirit.

God, who is Holy and who is Spirit, at the very moment that we believed and received our salvation by grace, freely provides what He is: His holy spirit, his greatest gift to us; now we have His divine nature!

"His [God's] divine power has granted to us [born-again ones] all things that pertain to life and godliness through the knowledge of him [Jesus] who called us by his [Jesus'] own glory and virtue, through which he [God] has given to us [born-again ones] his [God's] precious and exceedingly great promises, so that through these you [born-again ones] may become partakers of the divine nature" (2 Pe. 1:3-4a).

God is the only one author of the Bible, with multiple writers that were inspired by Him. God gave revelation to many writers throughout history, but "no prophecy ever came by the will of man, but men spoke from God, being moved by holy spirit" (2 Pe. 1:21), the holy spiritual nature of God was on them and now is within us!

The Bible is self-consistently true and accurate, made with symmetry and with structural beauty; the same God that designed the fruits and gave us intelligence to design a Swiss Army Knife, is The One that revealed us His Word that we may live in a total spiritual freedom, without any men's religion bondages.

“But now remains faith, hope, love, these three, and the greatest of these is love”

(1 Cor. 13:13).

The foundation of our studies has to be love,  
to love we add knowledge to believe in,  
sustained by the hope.

### **Bible and the Spiritual Society,**

The Power from on High,

You Now!

After the day of Pentecost, all the first-century believers had everything in common: “And all *those* who believed were together, and had all things *in* common, and they began selling their property and possessions, and were dividing them among all, as anyone had need” (Acts 2:44-45).

Here the inner circle of “society” is the group of believers with which we hang out from time to time, the body of Christ in our neighborhood, the Church of Christ of which Christ is the head, the foundation and cornerstone. If we get spiritually stronger here, the beneficial effects are going to be seen and manifested for all the rest of humanity to see. However, these divine topics are inexhaustible, so this is just a token that will grow in your heart with the direct guidance and counseling of the Word and the revelation of God. Please, read by yourself the whole Bible, carefully acquiring the vocabulary of praise seen in the Psalms, and in the context of this study, the whole Epistles to the Church written by Paul the Apostle, for you to understand every detail related to the new nature of the holy spirit within you!

Jesus told his Apostles to wait until they were endued (dressed from within), with Power: “And take notice!, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you, but you, stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high” (Lk. 24:49). Are you already clothed with power from on high? You will know.

To manifest the promised gift of the power from on high, from God, certainly impacts and transforms our societies, families and communities. The power sent by Christ Jesus from heaven was then the biggest fulfilled promise from God: “...the promise of the Father, which, *he said*, “you heard from me, because John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with holy spirit not many days from now” (Acts 1:4-5), “...you will receive power when the holy spirit has come upon you and you will be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the uttermost part of the earth” (Acts 1:8). Wherever we live now, Merida, Mexico City, Houston, etc., that’s “the uttermost part of the earth”.

The power from on high is so important to God that he used multiple synonyms to refer to it, and is the same as being baptized, not with water but with holy spirit, it is to be born again, the new birth, the washing of regeneration, the new beginning and renewal!, among other things: “For you have been born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, through the living and enduring word of God” (1 Pe. 1:23), “blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy has given us new birth into a living hope by means of the resurrection of Jesus Christ out from among *the dead*” (1 Pe. 1:3), “he [God] saved us, not by works *done* in righteousness that we did ourselves, but

according to his mercy. *He [God] saved us through the washing of a new beginning and renewal by holy spirit, which he [God] poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior*" (Ti. 3:5-6).

And because it is so important, these are only but few equivalent ways in which God underlines His promised gift of holy spirit towards us; lets see the five earliest recorded events of humans receiving the gift of holy spirit in the book of Acts. In scientific research, at least three (3) separate replicates are necessary, while using the same independent variable (receiving the gift of holy spirit), and sufficient to categorically declare that something is what it is, and to confirm one hypothesis. Our accepted hypothesis in this case is that every human that receives the gift of holy spirit is capable to start speaking in tongues immediately after receiving it, so the speaking in tongues is only one of the nine (1/9) dependent variables (the actions that manifest holy spirit): "The love of God has been poured out into our hearts through holy spirit, which was given to us" (Rom. 5:5b); lets briefly go first to the three replicates that expressly mention the speaking in tongues as the immediate action after being born again (after having received holy spirit):

## 1

"And when the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven came a sound like a strong rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which being divided came to rest upon each one of them. And they were all filled with holy spirit, and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance" (Acts 2:1-6), "...Cretans and Arabians, we hear them speaking in our tongues the mighty works of God. And they were all amazed, and were perplexed, saying one to another, "What does this mean?" But others mocking said, "They are filled with sweet new wine" (Acts 2:11-13), "...now when they heard *this* [Rom. 10:9], they were pricked in their heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men *and* brothers, what shall we do?" And Peter *said* to them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the holy spirit" (Acts 2:37-38). Every one of you can today easily receive holy spirit by God's grace!

Here, the 12 Apostles received the gift of holy spirit and the very first thing that they did was that they, by their own free will, started to speak in other tongues, each one a different tongue or tongues that they were not able to understand but that God was giving to them, so that the diaspora's people coming to celebrate the old Pentecost from every nation known at that time, were able to hear in their own tongues: "the mighty works of God"! This was bigger than the effect of 'The Psalms' for the ones able to understand the tongues spoken, because they knew that the Apostles were illiterate people from Galilee, fluently speaking in their own tongues "the mighty works of God"! However, some mocked them saying that they were drunk with something soft like the contemporary "Kool-Aid". Peter then proclaimed the amazing truth encapsulated in Rom. 10:9, and the hearts of his hearers melted to the point that they themselves asked: "what shall we do"! So Peter told them to repent, confessing the name of Jesus Christ for remission of sins, and that then they "will receive the gift of the holy spirit", available to all! And the miracle that others can understand the same words that are unknown tongues for the one speaking them, repeats itself in gatherings of believers of multiple nationalities.

## 2

“While Peter was still speaking these words [Rom. 10:9], the holy spirit fell on all those who were listening to the word. And the believers from the circumcision were amazed, all those who came with Peter, because on the Gentiles also the gift of the holy spirit was poured out. For they heard them speaking in tongues and exalting God” (Acts 10:44-46).

Here, Peter was speaking and expanding the truths that we have condensed in Rom. 10:9 to the gentile house of Cornelius, at Caesarea. While they were listening that, the gift of holy spirit “was poured out” and fell on all of them! And the very thing that convinced the six believers from the circumcision that went with Peter, of the fact that these Gentiles had also been born again, like them, was that they heard them “speaking in tongues and exalting God”! The “exalting God” maybe was that these Gentiles were also giving words of prophecy, as the next pouring out to another group of Gentiles indicates, and/or giving the interpretation of the tongues with which they were “exalting God”, and/or the miracle of that what were unknown tongues for members within this group of gentiles, where clear words in Hebrew.

## 3

“Paul... came to Ephesus and found some disciples. And he said to them, “Did you receive holy spirit when you believed?” And they *said* to him, “No, we have not heard that there is holy spirit.” And he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” And they said, “Into John’s baptism.” And Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on him who was coming after him, that is, on Jesus.” And when they heard *this*, they were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the holy spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues, and prophesied. And there were about twelve men in all”, “...and this continued for two years, so that all those who lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks” (Acts 19:1-7, 10).

Paul told the believers at Ephesus that when they heard the truths of Rom. 10:9, they then received the gift of holy spirit: “When you heard the word of truth, the Good News of your salvation—in whom [Jesus], having also believed, you were sealed with the promised holy spirit” (Eph 1:13), also in Corinth: “[God] sealed us, and put the spirit in our hearts as a deposit [warranty, arrabon], guaranteeing what is to come” (2 Cor. 1:22).

Here, the Ephesians “were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus”, then “the holy spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues, and prophesied”. This clearly indicates that the water baptism of John had already expired!

Two previous events of human beings receiving holy spirit are also described in the book of Acts:

## 4

“Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who, when they had come down, prayed for them in order that they might receive holy spirit, for as yet it was fallen upon none of them, they had only been baptized in the name

of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them, and they received holy spirit. Now when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the holy spirit was given, he offered them money, saying, "Give me also this power, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands, he may receive holy spirit""(Acts 8:14-19).

Here, Philip was doing amazing healings and miracles in Samaria but was unable to bring them to manifest holy spirit, he was, like Apollos at Ephesus before the arrival of Paul in the previous example, stuck on the water baptism of John, so the Apostles Peter and John went to help them to manifest holy spirit, and when the Samaritans received holy spirit, one Simon the sorcerer saw the manifestation of the spirit, and most probably he saw them speaking in tongues, and he wanted to buy with money the free power to impart the gift of holy spirit, so Peter rebuked him for that, and Simon himself received and repented!

## 5

"And Ananias departed, and entered into the house, and laying his hands on him said, "Brother Saul, the Lord has sent me, Jesus who appeared to you on the road on which you came, so that you may receive your sight and be filled with holy spirit" (Acts 9:17).

Paul himself narrated several times his testimony of having received and manifested holy spirit, imparted this time by one disciple called Ananias, and about how frequently Paul did speak in tongues in his personal prayer life, we read: "I [Paul] speak in tongues more than you all" (1 Cor. 14:18b).

Paul declared that by his free will, he was able to speak in tongues more than all the Corinthian believers of his time put together! Paul's way to give thanks to God was by his speaking in tongues; when we speak in tongues, we give perfect thanks to Him; this is the *par excellence*, spiritual way to thank God! "For indeed you are giving thanks well" (1 Cor. 14:17a).

The person who speaks in tongues does not understand the words pronounced by him/her, so the understanding of that person is disregarded, but the inner spiritual nature of that person is edified: "He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself" (1 Cor. 14:4a), because the person speaking in tongues speaks directly, face to face, with God: "he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men, but to God, for no man [speaking in a tongue] understands [what he said], but by *the* spirit he speaks sacred secrets" (1 Cor. 14:2), and because you speak spiritually and directly to God, "indeed you are giving thanks well"! (1 Cor. 14:17a), you are giving thanks well to God, your Father! And you can also interpret your spiritual thanks to God for the benefit and blessing of other believers! You directly reach the heart of God when you speak in tongues! While the adversary and his hosts do not understand what is said while we speak in tongues, nor what you just told God, nor of what God revealed to you! That's why those are "sacred secrets"! Their field is the spiritual, and the ones to whom these things are "secret" are those evil spirits that want to keep humanity blind regarding the infinite advantages of speaking in tongues, "for we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but... against the spiritual *forces* of evil in the heavenly *places*" (Eph. 6:12).

It needs to be clear that each and every one of the born-again believers of the first century were capable of speaking in tongues, and of interpreting tongues: “when you come together, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation” (1 Cor. 14:26a), “if the whole congregation comes together and everyone speaks in tongues...” (1 Cor. 14:23a); the problem was that they were doing it at the same time and with no interpretation, to the point that the new people arriving did not know what was going on, when the purpose of manifesting holy spirit is to “be done for edifying” (1 Cor. 14:26b), and “you are all able to prophesy one by one” (1 Cor. 14:31), again, all these born-again ones were able and were endued with the nine operations of the manifestation of holy spirit to edify themselves and then to be able to edify others.

The next equation is very important to understand the speaking in tongues, our temporary toy:

Praying **in the spirit** = Praying **in an unknown tongue** [unknown for the one who speaks] (1)

This amazing equation originates in the next verse: “if I pray in a **tongue**, my **spirit** prays, but my understanding is unfruitful” (1 Cor. 14:14).

Jesus Christ announced that “these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name will they cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues, they will take up serpents, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will absolutely not hurt them, they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover” (Mk. 16:17-18).

Earlier, Jesus declared that “he who believes on me, the works that I do, he will do also, and greater *works* than these will he do, because I go to the Father” (Jn. 14:12). One greater spiritual work that Jesus Christ could not do, because he was the payment for it, it is the speaking with new tongues, something that we can do today! And of course, we can lead others to speak in tongues as well.

So, let’s explore some scriptures dealing with praying in the spirit, starting with the voice of the Master: “But the hour comes, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such does the Father seek to be his worshippers. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth” (Jn. 4:23-24). Here, through the insight of equation (1), Jesus said that to:

Worship the Father in **spirit** and truth = Worship the Father in **unknown tongues** and truth (2)

The speaking in tongues is worshipping! The figure “hendiadys” conveys one meaning with two words:

To worship with the **spiritually** true, with the truly **spiritual** = To worship with the **unknown tongues** of truth, with truthful **unknown tongues** [for the one speaking them] (3)

By using equation (1), it is also clear that in the apex of the revelation to the Church, the Epistle to the Ephesians, the Epistle of Love, the speaking in tongues appears twice. Speaking in tongues has been established as our token of love towards God, towards His son Jesus Christ, and towards the rest of His



children, the other born again believers. Its first use in Ephesians is: “speaking to yourselves<sup>2</sup> in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord” (Eph. 5:19).

Speaking to yourselves in **spiritual** songs = Speaking to yourselves by songs in **tongues** (4)

The next one in Ephesians appears a little later to corroborate what was previously said: “Be praying at all times in *the* spirit with all *kinds of* prayer and supplication. And to that *end*, keep watching with all perseverance, and supplication for all the holy *ones*” (Eph. 6:18).

Praying at all times in **spirit** for all the holy = Praying at all times in **tongues** for all the holy (5)

Paul told them to pray at all times, and in other of his letters he reiterated: “Pray without ceasing” (1 Thess. 5:17). Because of what we read in Ephesians, we know that the only way for the Christian to pray without ceasing, to pray at all times, is by the use of the spirit, which is by speaking in tongues, as our earlier key Scripture says: “What, then, is *to be done*? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also. I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also” (1 Cor. 14:15).

Why to pray and even to sing in an unknown tongue or tongues? “For we do not know what we need to pray for” with our own understanding (Rom. 8:26); in the same verse, this ignorance about the perfect prayer with our own language of birth is called “our infirmity”, but God already sent His help with the holy spirit of His gift dwelling within us! Yes, we don’t know how to properly pray with our rational brain, but as the same verse says: “the Spirit himself intercedes for *us* along with groans too deep for words”. This groans are the speaking in tongues words that our mind does not understand. However, the starting and the ending of the speaking in tongues are under our total control, not so our understanding of the words spoken!

Another book that uses the equivalence presented in equation (1) is Jude: “beloved, continue building yourselves up in your most holy faith, praying by holy spirit” (Jd. 20); this is another way to say that our spiritual prayer, which is the speaking in tongues, is to edify our inner self, edifying in our most holy faith, which is another evidences that we have indeed holy spirit. Here, the equation is:

Praying by **holy spirit** = Praying by **unknown tongues** (6)

“He [God] would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with power by his spirit in the inner man” (Eph. 3:16). A Christian can even sing while manifesting spirit and interpreting!

“I make known to you that no one speaking by *the* spirit of God says, “Jesus *is* accursed,” and no one is able to say, “Jesus *is* Lord,” except by holy spirit” (1 Cor. 12:3). This is a holy speech! No cursing here.

No one **speaking by *the* spirit of God** says “accursed Jesus!” = No one **speaking in tongues** says “accursed Jesus!” (7)

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<sup>2</sup> Schoenheit translates the Greek word “*jeautois*” as “to one another”, but it can also be translated as “yourselves”, the personal self-talk within ourselves. It flows with the context “with your heart” with precision. I can speak in a tongue to myself or within myself; but if I do it with another person, I should spiritually interpret what I just said audibly in tongues; however, interpretation has not been explicitly included in this particular verse.

No one is able to say “Jesus is Lord,” except by **holy spirit** = No one is able to say “Jesus is Lord,” except by **speaking in tongues** (8)

Why we really make Jesus our living Lord spiritually only by our spiritual speaking in tongues? Because this was the apex of his ministry, this was the promise originated in the heart of God, his Father, poured down by Jesus Christ himself, who received such spiritual trophy and those spiritual medals due to his victory, to the point that Jesus is able to share them with everybody that believes in him! Since the day of Pentecost, and immediately after receiving the gift of holy spirit for us, harvested by Jesus Christ from heaven, due to his unconditional and complete obedience to his Father, every human believer described in the book of Acts did one thing and one predominant thing after having received the new birth and salvation: They did speak in tongues!

Other verses corroborate the fact that the speaking in tongues is evidence that we have the spirit of God; because, how else will we be self-convinced at any moment that we have the holy spirit within us?

“The spirit of truth... will be in you”! (Jn. 14:16-17); “The Spirit himself bears witness together with our spirit, that we are children of God... and co-heirs with Christ” (Rom. 8:16-17), “because you are sons, God sent the spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out, “Abba” (Father)” (Gal. 4:6). Crying in tongues!

Witness together with our **spirit** = Witness together with our **speaking in tongues** (9)

To really say to God, our Father, such intimate expression like if we were the smallest son and daughter telling him: Abba!, Daddy!, this can truly and only be said through our speaking in tongues which is like the first meaningful babblings of a trusting baby: “you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, in *connection with* which we cry, “Abba” (Father)” (Rom. 8:15), “now may the God of patience and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, so that in one accord you may with one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Rom. 15:5-6). The one voice or mouth that all the born-again believers have is the prayer in the spirit, the speaking in tongues, and because this goes beyond the minds and thoughts of the believers, it is the genuine place where we can really have unity, independently of the differences in thought.

The next examples are to be direct reminders by the gift of holy spirit given by God to you: “By this we know that he abides in us, from the spirit that he gave to us” (1 Jn. 3:24), “by this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his spirit” (1 Jn. 4:13), “do not quench the spirit” (1 Thess. 5:19), “the good deposit that was committed to you, guard through holy spirit which dwells in us” (2 Tim. 1:14), “he who sows to the spirit will of the spirit reap life *in the Age to come*” (Gal. 6:8b).

“I will ask the Father, and he will give you another helper (parakletos), that it may be with you forever. *This helper is* the spirit of truth, which the world is not able to receive, for it does not see it, neither knows it. You know it, for it is present with you, and will be in you” (Jn. 14:16-17), “in that day you [future born-again believer] will know that I [Jesus] am in my Father, and you [believer] in me [Jesus], and I [Jesus] in you [believer]” (Jn. 14:20), “I [Jesus] in them [future born-again believers], and you [God] in me [Jesus], that they [believers] may be perfected into one [eis] so that the world may know that you

[God] sent me [Jesus], and loved them [born-again believers] just as you [God] loved me [Jesus]" (Jn. 17:23).

"The one who is believing in me, as the Scripture has said, rivers of living water will continuously flow out of his belly." Now he said this about the spirit, which those who believed on him were going to receive, for as yet there was no spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified" (Jn. 7:38-39). Today, we need to be at the height of his resurrection, we need to be walking based on his resurrection! And how do we do it? By manifesting the gift of holy spirit that we have inside, by speaking in tongues the most we can!

Rivers of living water continuously flowing out of the belly of the believer, that's our continuous prayer:

He said this about the **spirit** ...yet there was no **spirit** = he said this about the **speaking in tongues** ...yet there was no **speaking in tongues** (10 and 11)

"Whenever one turns to the Lord [Jesus], the veil is taken away. Now the Lord [Jesus] is the Spirit [Jesus], and where the spirit<sup>3</sup> of *the* Lord [Jesus] *is*—freedom! And we all, with unveiled faces reflecting as in a mirror the glory of the Lord [Jesus], are being transformed into the same [spiritual] appearance [of Jesus], from glory into glory, even as from the Lord [Jesus] *who is the* Spirit [Jesus]" (2 Cor. 3:16-18), "is Christ in you, the hope of glory"! (Col. 1:27b). We are transformed into the spiritual image of Christ!

**Christ in you = the spirit of the Lord Jesus in you = the gift of holy spirit in you** (12)

Now, how did Jesus Christ knew so many things about the speaking in tongues?, even when he himself knew that he will not be able to speak in tongues, as he was the living word that needed to die and to be raised in order to share his new and resurrected nature with us. Yes, Jesus needed first to receive his spiritual nature, and now we have the need for the resurrected and spiritual nature of Christ to enter inside our own lives, and to remain there until the end!

And Jesus knew it because: "in the law it is written, **By men with other tongues and by the lips of others I will speak to this people, and not even then will they hear me**, says the Lord. So then, tongues are for a sign..." (1 Cor. 14:21-22a). So, based on the parallels of the Old Testament, Christ knew of the coming of the speaking in tongues. Here is the original scripture mentioned by Paul: "[sav lasav sav lasav, kav lakav kav lakav]... a little here, a little there." Very well then, with foreign lips and strange tongues God will speak to this people, to whom he said, "This is the resting place, let the weary rest"; and, "This is the place of repose"— but they would not listen" (Is. 28:10b-12, *NIV*).

It was prophesied that the speaking in tongues will be also a sign to the hard headed Israel which, as a whole, will not believe or listen; also, that the speaking in tongues is the rest and repose to our souls! The speaking in tongues is also a sign to the unbelieving in general when it is done decently and in order.

God Himself is telling us: "...do not forbid *anyone* to speak in tongues. But let all things be done decently and in order" (1 Cor. 14:39b-40), but "seek so that you may abound, with a view to the edification of the

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<sup>3</sup> Schoenheit translates it with capital letter "Spirit", but the flow indicates that it refers to the gift of the spirit of the Lord, which is the gift of holy spirit!

congregation” (1 Cor. 14:12b), because, when you only speak in tongues with no interpretation, you are speaking perfectly with God, not with human beings; this is the act of your free will, you don’t need to do it to be saved; however, this is your great act of love.

The nine actions of the gift of holy spirit inside our lives are also called “operations”. Tim Raub, my brother in Christ and holy attorney of Corpus Christi, Texas, said that the whole Bible is a legal document, using legal terms like “joint-heirs with Christ”, like a contract where you can hold God accountable for His Word. God gives you rights, like a Constitution; for example, to be joint-heir with Christ entitles you to all of his inheritance! Entitles you to everything that Christ is entitled in his inheritance now and forever coming from the living God! Everything that Christ is entitled to (100%), so are you! This is “community property” in the house of God, where you are entitled to go to every room of the house as Christ does; and everywhere where Jesus Christ will go, you can also go, and you will go too! Everything in the Kingdom of Jesus Christ is also yours!, but everything is done by your free will, your spiritual salvation, and its subsequent manifestation for edification!

When you speak in tongues, you speak directly to God, in words that may be words belonging to human past, present or future languages unknown to you, or you could even be speaking in tongues the language of angels: “If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels but do not have love, I have become a sounding brass, or a clanging cymbal” (1 Cor. 13:1). So, how it is more excellent for me to speak in those tongues of humans or of angels? With love! And I do it more and more because I love God and His son Jesus Christ, my Lord, and in acknowledgment for what they have done for me, and because I know that the nine operations of the manifestation of holy spirit within me are like children’s toys, like necessary things while we, the believers, are still in this mortal body before our great and final transformation.

“Love never fails, but where *there are* prophecies, they will be done away; where *there are* tongues, they will cease; where *there is a message of* knowledge, it will be done away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect *one* comes, that which is in part will be done away” (1 Cor. 13:8-10). Once face to face with Christ Jesus, we will finally own our own spiritual and immortal bodies! Then and only then, at the return of Jesus, the speaking in tongues, the manifestation of word of prophecy, the manifestation of word of knowledge, etc., will not be necessary because then, we will also have the perfect spiritual knowledge about everything!

“For now we see in a mirror, darkly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then will I know fully even as also I was fully known. But now remains faith, hope, love, these three, and the greatest of these is love” (1 Cor. 13:12-13). Right now, God knows us clearly and precisely; while we, on the other hand, know only in part, partially, but then we will know everything. But now and then, we can live in love! Love is more enduring than the current use of the gift of holy spirit; then we will have, not this token which is the gift of holy spirit, but we ourselves will be spiritually immortal like Christ! And to whom we are going to offer the living waters of immortality and the fruit of life? To the remaining mortal nations, to the rest of humanity that will have not yet heard about the immediate availability of immortality if they believe in the love of God for them, and if they believe in His living son Jesus Christ, raised by God out from among *the* dead!

Tim Raub concluded his Seminar on speaking in tongues by sharing that God “is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us” (Eph. 3:20); saying that to always obtain your Ephesians 3:20, you need to be speaking in tongues very, but very much more! Why? Because God is the only one able to do “exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think” because “we do not know what we need to pray for” with our own and limited understanding (Rom. 8:26), and because this holy spirit is “the power that works in us”; this power is the power from on high, the gift of holy spirit, our spiritual salvation now and forever, this is the new birth, whose most constant use and application is through our speaking in tongues. Do you want miracles for you, for the ones you love, and for the ones you really want to help? Then, speak in tongues more and more, most constantly every day of your life! Go to the mirror, confess Romans 10:9, and start right now speaking in tongues, the more you speak in tongues, the most confidence you are going to develop!

Now, if you are personally edified, strong in that holy spirit that God gave you, then it will be easy for you to edify others! How to edify others with your speaking in tongues? The equation to do so is shown next, knowing that such is the use only when you speak audibly in tongues in your fellowship, believers meeting or congregation, or when somebody else, at least one other person near or around you wanting to know what did you say in tongues:

Speaking in **tongues with interpretation** = Word of **prophecy** (13)

“Now I want all of you to speak in tongues, but even more that you would prophesy, for greater is he who prophesies than he who speaks in tongues, unless he interpret, that the congregation may receive edification” (1 Cor. 14:5). Where do we prophesy? In the meeting or congregation! Where do we speak in tongues with interpretation? In the congregation! Where do we speak in tongues without interpretation? In our personal prayer life! Where is the word of prophecy and the interpretation of tongues most useful? In the congregation! Where should we be prophesying and speaking in tongues with interpretation? In the congregation! Is that commonly done at the present time? Sadly not, but it seems that we need to start doing it more and more! This is what brings the presence of the living God within each one of our meetings, fellowships or congregations, when we are together. An important clue in this verse is that the same person that did speak in tongues is the one bringing the interpretation.

The interpretation is not a textual or literal translation, it is the sum and substance of what was said while speaking in tongues; the interpretation is not premeditated, it is the immediate thought that comes to your mind immediately at the very same moment that you start opening your mouth to present the interpretation. Speaking in tongues with interpretation is the inspiration of the holy spirit within you! You interpret in your own language (or in the language of most of the hearers, a language that you know), bringing words in the name of God, in third (“thus says God...”) or in first person (“I am your God...”), and it may even be a worship inspired statement (“your God declares...”, reminding me of the Psalms, and the words spoken by Zechariah after the birth of his son John, and of the words of Mary when visiting her cousin Elizabeth). Who are we to condition or to put a leash on the spirit? “For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks” (Mt. 12:34b, Lk. 6:45b). Amen!

You need to keep in mind that nobody, absolutely no one can put limits to the gift of holy spirit and how it has to be expressed or manifested. Things need to be done decently and in order, yes! But without conditioning at all the way the interpretation has to be done, if it is a message from God or in His name, or if it is only an inspired worship, praise, prayer, cry, an inspired giving of thanks, or if it is a new song; that's up only to the believer that is manifesting the gift of holy spirit dwelling within, and to God.

“Diligently pursue love, yet earnestly desire spiritual *things*, but especially that you may prophesy” (1 Cor. 14:1). The operation of prophecy, one of the nine manifestations of the holy spirit, has to bring a message from God, either in the first person (as if God Himself were speaking), or in the third person (about God), and it has to edify, to encourage, to comfort, and it is for the benefit of the hearers, the other believers, so the context is to do things that profit the Church, which is the meetings of the believers, the members of the body of Christ, and of those new ones willing to learn, even when only two or more believers are together, for “if two of you shall agree on earth about anything that they ask, it will be done for them by my Father who is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there in the midst of them” (Mt. 18:19-20), as “the other” also needs to be edified (1 Cor. 14:17).

“He who prophesies speaks to men *for* edification, and encouragement, and comfort” (1 Cor. 14:3). The word of prophecy is easily and clearly understood by the hearers and should edify, motivate or encourage and comfort them. We can clearly see here that word of prophecy is an utterance originated in the heart of God and is expressed by us due to the holy spirit of God that dwells within us; we speak word of prophecy and tongues with interpretation inspired by God.

“He who prophesies edifies *the* congregation” (1 Cor. 14:4b). This is the context of the letters to Corinthians: How will I do things to edify the others? But, before I can be able to edify others, I need first to be edified myself! How? Through my constant speaking in the spirit, which is my speaking in tongues.

“But now, brothers, if I come to you speaking in tongues, how will I benefit you, unless I speak to you either by revelation, or by knowledge, or by prophecy, or by a teaching?” (1 Cor. 14:6). Where does it apply? In the gathering of believers or congregation! There's nothing bad or wrong with our speaking in tongues always in our private life!

“Unless you utter by the tongue a message easy to understand, how will it be known what is being said? For you will be speaking into the air” (1 Cor. 14:9). This statement again only applies to manifesting holy spirit by inspiration in the congregation of believers! Sadly, people demoting the speaking in tongues in the Church, most of the times are the same ones totally unable to give word of prophecy.

“Therefore, let the one speaking in a tongue pray so that he may interpret” (1 Cor. 14:13). The same person that did the speaking in an unknown tongue, as we read it before, is the one that needs to believe that he can interpret it. The body of Christ, the group, is not edified unless he, the individual who previously did speak in tongues, interprets (1 Cor. 14:5). We interpret by speaking in our own language, without premeditation, immediately after we did speak in tongues.

“If you bless with *the* spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the unlearned say “Amen!” at your giving of thanks, seeing he does not know what you are saying?” (1 Cor. 14:16). Where does this statement apply? In the meeting of believers! (and/or when at least one other person is listening to you) Why? “For indeed you are giving thanks well, but the other is not being edified” (1 Cor. 14:17), and because you need to edify the whole congregation or to the individual believer that is listening to you!

If you bless with *the* **spirit** = If you bless with *the* **speaking in tongues** (14)

“In the congregation I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that I might instruct others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue” (1 Cor. 14:19). The context here is self-explanatory: “In the congregation”.

“If any man speaks in a tongue, *let it be* by two, or at the most three, and *that* in turn, and *the same* one must interpret. But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silence in the congregation, and let him speak to himself and to God” (1 Cor. 14:27-28). So, at the most three believers in the congregation need to speak in tongues, each one in his turn, and each of them should interpret as well. If they don’t believe yet that they are also able to interpret, they can continue doing their speaking in tongues to themselves and to God! The next verses indicate that the word of prophecy needs also to be done in the same way: “let the prophets speak *by* two or three, and let the others thoroughly examine *what was said*” (1 Cor. 14:29). This verse is very important because it teaches that the manifestation of the holy spirit in prophecy is an inspired utterance, yes! But, as imperfect and as we humans are, sometimes something wrong out of our own minds can crept-in together to the genuine inspiration given by the gift of holy spirit, so the rest of the congregation needs to “thoroughly examine” what was said; and if it was wrong, then to restore with love and wisdom the believer that uttered such things. If testimonies are shared in your congregation, this is also a good advice of only three per meeting sharing them. So, per meeting: 3 + 3 = 6 provides again an equal ground to the speaking in tongues with interpretation and to the word of prophecy in the congregation:

**3** tongues with interpretation + **3** words of prophecy = **6**, sound upper limit for utterance operations (15)

“And spirits, *spiritual utterances*, from prophets are subject to prophets; for God is not *a God* of confusion, but of peace, as in all the congregations of the holy *ones*” (1 Cor. 14:32-33). This Scripture reiterates that the born-again believer is in 100% control of his manifestation of holy spirit, this Scripture also shows that 100% of the believers, just by having holy spirit within, are 100% holy (saint) or sanctified, such as we are. “Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?” (1 Cor. 12:30b) Yes, all can speak in tongues and interpret, but NOT at the very same time!

“If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, he must fully realize that the things that I write to you—that they are a commandment of the Lord” (1 Cor. 14:37). These amazing things that we have read about the speaking in tongues, about their interpretation by the same ones that did the speaking in tongues, and about the proper use of the word of prophecy as an operation of holy spirit present in the congregation, are “a commandment of the Lord” Jesus; “But let all things be done decently and in order” (1 Cor. 14:40), because no matter how saint the saints at Corinth were they (and all of them had the gift of holy spirit), they were all practicing wrongly the manifestation of the spirit, as of today

multiple Pentecostal groups succumb by letting themselves to the ground, or even worse, by pushing others to fall to the ground, or by one speaking in tongues while another “interprets”, when in reality the second one did utter his own word of prophecy, etc.

Remembering that, no matter how imperfect they and we ourselves are right now, the born-again ones, all of them “are loved by God”! “...in Rome, called *ones*, holy *ones*” (Rom. 1:7a), “to the congregation of God that is at Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, called *ones*, holy *ones*, with all who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—theirs and ours” (1 Cor. 1:2), “...with all the holy *ones* who are in the whole *province* of Achaia” (2 Cor. 1:1b), “to the holy and faithful *ones* in Christ Jesus *in Ephesus*” (Eph. 1:1b), “to all the holy *ones* in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi along with overseers and deacons” (Phil. 1:1b), “to the holy ones and faithful brothers in Christ *who are* at Colossae” (Col. 1:2a), to you holy brother, etc...

Example of three equally valid interpretations of tongues: 1) In first person: “I am God and I have chosen you”; in third person: “Your God has chosen you”; as thanksgiving, praise, and worship: “I thank you God that you did choose us”!, etc., etc.