

THE MANIFESTATION OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES “Tongues and the Tabernacle of David”

I. A House of Prayer for all People –

1. Jesus in the Temple

Mark 11:15-17

15 On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple area and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves,

16 and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts.

17 And as he taught them, he said, "Is it not written: **"My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations"?** But you have made it 'a den of robbers.'" NIV

Israel was to have been a priest nation making intercession for all the other nations on earth. Instead, they were making a profit [P-R-O-F-I-T] on them instead of being prophetic toward them. The Lord Jesus quoted the prophet Isaiah on this occasion.

Isa 56:6-8

6 **And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD to serve him**, to love the name of the LORD, and to worship him, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my covenant--

7 these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations."

8 The Sovereign LORD declares-- he who gathers the exiles of Israel: **"I will gather still others** to them besides those already gathered." NIV

*The Gentile implications of these verses are hard to miss. "I will gather others" reminds us of Jesus' words in the gospel of John "I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen." (John 10:16). Jesus came for the whole world **through** Israel. Their history was such at it was because of this truth. The problem is that they had forgotten the purpose of the blessing. They simply thought they were blessed and the world was outcast. But the point was to bring the world to God.*

2. The Apostles in the Temple

Acts 1:4-9

4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about.

5 For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

6 So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

7 He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority.

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
9 After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. NIV

The departing word to the apostles from Jesus was simple and clear, "Wait in Jerusalem – receive power!"

Luke 24:52-53

52 Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.
53 And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God. NIV

Where did they go when they obeyed his command? The Upper Room? Well, yes, they had to sleep somewhere. But they hung out at the temple, the house of prayer for all peoples.

Acts 2:1-4

1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.
2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.
3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.
4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. NIV

Tradition holds for this happening in the upper room of chapter 1. Internal, circumstantial, and logical evidence points to the Temple (a theory which even the NIV Study Bible espouses). How is a multitude going to hear twelve men locked up in an upper room? But in the temple on a feast day, this miracle would be clearly evident to many.

3. Jews and Gentiles

Acts 2:5-11

5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven.
6 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language.
7 Utterly amazed, they asked: "Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans?
8 Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language?
9 Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,
10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome
11 (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" NIV

In the crowd present were not only Jews of natural descent, but proselytes as well. That means Gentile converts to Judaism. Jesus meant it when he said that his house would be

a house of prayer for all people. They all heard them speak the wonderful works of God [used only elsewhere in Luke 1:49].

Acts 2:33

Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. NIV

This outpouring of the Holy Spirit was accompanied by evidence that the people both saw (tongues like as fire) and heard (mighty rushing wind and tongues).

Acts 8:18

When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money NIV

In like manner, the outpouring of the Spirit in Samaria was accompanied by a evidence that "Simon saw" (one can see someone speaking as well as hear them).

Acts 10:44-46

44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.

45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles.

46 For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, NIV

Acts 10:46 "For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God." KJV

Finally, the Holy Spirit spills out to the Gentiles because one of the apostles to whom Jesus said "go and make disciples of all nations" finally got a revelation that God is no respecter of persons and was obedient to take the Gospel to them!

This event (and the early experience and ministry of Paul) where put into prophetic perspective by the Apostle James the Less during the Jerusalem Council in Acts 15.

Acts 15:14-18

14 Simon has described to us how God at first showed his concern by taking from the Gentiles a people for himself.

15 The words of the prophets are in agreement with this, as it is written:

16 "After this I will return and rebuild David's fallen tent. Its ruins I will rebuild, and I will restore it,

17 that the remnant of men may seek the Lord, and all the Gentiles who bear my name, says the Lord, who does these things'

18 that have been known for ages. NIV

Since God said that He would speak to his people in strange tongues and they would not understand; and since His house was to be a prayer for all people; and since Gentiles heard the manifestations of tongues and did understand and eventually came to the faith

and manifested themselves; and since this was a fulfillment of Amos 9:11-12 with regard to the tabernacle of David, we are going to look at tongues in the tabernacle of David.

II. The Tabernacle of David –

1. The Sweet Psalmist of Israel

2 Sam 23:1-2

1 Now these be the last words of David. David the son of Jesse said, and the man who was raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel, said,

2 The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word was in my tongue. KJV

*The above describes **how** David spoke by the Spirit of God. Let us look at some of his psalms to see if we can get some more insight into the process.*

Ps 39:1-3

1 I said, "I will watch my ways and keep my tongue from sin; I will put a muzzle on my mouth as long as the wicked are in my presence."

2 But when I was silent and still, not even saying anything good, my anguish increased.

3 My heart grew hot within me, and as I meditated, the fire burned; then I spoke with my tongue: NIV

Without getting caught up in an interpretation/application mind trap, let's examine the above verses. They describe the feeling many have in experiencing the baptism of the Holy Spirit as manifested by tongues. Their hearts are hot within them and as they were meditating on the Lord and His promises, they spoke with their tongues.

And what was it they spoke?

Ps 35:28

My tongue will speak of your righteousness and of your praises all day long. NIV

This sounds like "speaking the wonderful works of God" and "magnify God" all over again! The Psalms, of course, are replete with praise from the mouth.

Ps 63:5

My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods; **with singing lips my mouth will praise you.** NIV

Ps 145:21

My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever. NIV

Ps 34:1 I will extol the LORD at all times; **his praise will always be on my lips.** NIV

Ps 63:3 Because your love is better than life, **my lips will glorify you.** NIV

I think we get the picture! Praising and singing with the voice were the order of the day in the Tabernacle of David.

Ps 40:1-3

- 1 I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry.
- 2 He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.
- 3 He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the LORD. NIV

If we have been saved from the slimy pit, then God has put a new song in our mouths, amen?

1 Cor 14:15

So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind. NIV

Eph 5:19

Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, NIV

Col 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. NIV

2. Repentance and Tongues

Acts 2:37-38

- 37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"
- 38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. NIV

Peter said, "Repent and receive." Without repentance there is no receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Ps 51:1-4, 14-15

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.
 - 2 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.
 - 3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.
 - 4 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.
- 14 Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. NIV

What was David's prayer after repentance? Open my lips and my mouth will declare your praise! This is not only something God does, but something we cooperate in.

Job 29:23

And they waited for me as for the rain; and they opened their mouth wide as for the latter rain. KJV

Job, as a type of Christ, speaks about how men used to behave around him. He said that they opened their mouths as for the latter rain. The spring rain is a symbol of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. So God opens our mouth to praise, but we open our mouths to receive as well.

3. Prophecy and Tongues

1 Chron 25:1

David, together with the commanders of the army, set apart some of the sons of Asaph, Heman and Jeduthun for the ministry of **prophesying**, accompanied by harps, lyres and cymbals. Here is the list of the men who performed this service: NIV

*The word translated "prophesying" is in the Septuagint (the Greek OT) the word **apophtheggomai**. It means "to enunciate plainly."*

This word is used only three times in the New Testament, all of them in Acts. Two of the uses happen in Acts 2. We will look at one of them.

Acts 2:4

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them **utterance**. KJV

Strong's definition-

NT:669 – **apophtheggomai**² (ap-of-theng'-om-ahee); from NT:575 and NT:5350; to enunciate plainly, i.e. declare: KJV - say, speak forth, utterance.

NT:575 - apo (apo'); a primary particle; "off," i.e. away (from something near), in various senses (of place, time, or relation; literal or figurative): KJV - (X here-) after, ago, at, because of, before, by (the space of), for (-th), from, in, (out) of, off, (up-) on (-ce), since, with. In composition (as a prefix) it usually denotes separation, departure, cessation, completion, reversal, etc.

NT:5350 - phtheggomai (ftheng'-gom-ahee); probably akin to NT:5338 and thus to NT:5346; to **utter a clear sound**, i.e. (generally) to proclaim: KJV - speak.

NT:5338 - pheggos (feng'-gos); probably akin to the base of NT:5457 [compare NT:5350]; **brilliancy: KJV - light.**

NT:5457 - phos (foce); from an obsolete phao (to shine or make manifest, especially by rays; compare NT:5316, NT:5346); **luminousness** (in the widest application, nat. or artificial, abstract or concrete, literal or figurative): KJV - fire, light.

The word tree above connects the utterance of the Spirit filled apostles to the broadcasting of light. In Isaiah 32:4 it is stated that the stammering tongue will speak fluently and clearly, which is the Hebrew tsach – dazzling, glowing, clear, and bright.

Isa 32:4

The mind of the rash will know and understand, and the stammering tongue will be fluent and clear. NIV

The idea in the New and Old Testament is clear. The speech is light and by implication fire, thus the cloven tongues like as of fire that sat upon each of them.

The connection of these words allows us to see that the prophecy experience by those anointed by the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament is an analogous experience to the tongues manifested by those in the New Testament.

Narrative Examples:

Saul-

1 Sam 10:5-6

5 "After that you will go to Gibeah of God, where there is a Philistine outpost. As you approach the town, you will meet a procession of prophets coming down from the high place with lyres, tambourines, flutes and harps being played before them, and they will be prophesying.

6 The Spirit of the LORD will come upon you in power, and you will prophesy with them; and you will be changed into a different person. NIV

1 Sam 10:10-13

10 When they arrived at Gibeah, a procession of prophets met him; the Spirit of God came upon him in power, and he joined in their prophesying.

11 When all those who had formerly known him saw him prophesying with the prophets, they asked each other, "What is this that has happened to the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?"

12 A man who lived there answered, "And who is their father?" So it became a saying: "Is Saul also among the prophets?"

13 After Saul stopped prophesying, he went to the high place. NIV

Moses-

Num 11:25-29

- 25 Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke with him, and he took of the Spirit that was on him and put the Spirit on the seventy elders. When the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied, but they did not do so again.
- 26 However, two men, whose names were Eldad and Medad, had remained in the camp. They were listed among the elders, but did not go out to the Tent. Yet the Spirit also rested on them, and they prophesied in the camp.
- 27 A young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp."
- 28 Joshua son of Nun, who had been Moses' aide since youth, spoke up and said, "Moses, my lord, stop them!"
- 29 But Moses replied, "Are you jealous for my sake? I wish that all the LORD's people were prophets and that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!" NIV

Joel 2:28

'And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. NIV

Acts 2:16-17

16 No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

17 "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. NIV

The prophecy was of prophecy, but the fulfillment was tongues.

III. Fountains of Living Water –

1. Tongues and Fountains

Prov 18:21

Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof. KJV

If life and death are in the power of the tongue, we'd better watch what we say, right?

James 3:6-12

6 The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

7 All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and creatures of the sea are being tamed and have been tamed by man,

8 but no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

9 With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness.

10 Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be.

11 Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring?

12 My brothers, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water. NIV

We only want fresh water coming out of our fountain, but no man can tame the tongue.

John 7:37-39

37 On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink.

38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, **streams of living water will flow from within him.**"

39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified. NIV

To make our fountains sweet, we have to get the water from Him!

2. Opening the Fountain

Ps 105:41 He opened the rock, and water gushed out; like a river it flowed in the desert. NIV

1 Cor 10:4

and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. NIV

Isa 41:18

I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water. KJV

Zech 13:1

"On that day a fountain will be opened to the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and impurity. NIV

He opens the fountain. We need to open our mouths to let it flow.

3. Lordship of the Lips

We've already read in James 3:8 that no man can tame the tongue.

Ps 12:3-4

3 May the LORD cut off all flattering lips, And the tongue that speaks proud things,
4 Who have said, "With our tongue we will prevail; Our lips are our own; Who is lord over us?" NKJV

The Lord will cut off all lips that will not allow His Lordship.

1 Cor 12:3

Therefore I tell you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. NIV

Will you let Jesus be Lord of your tongue? Will you allow the Holy Spirit to say "Jesus is Lord" through your mouth?