

Prophecy and Tongues

1) 1Corinthians 14: 1-5 NKJV

Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy. ² For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries. ³ But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men. ⁴ He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. ⁵ I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies *is* greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification.

- a) What are we to pursue, desire and especially seek?
- b) Is it good to speak to God? Why is it important to speak the mysteries of God in the Spirit?
- c) Is it good to edify or “build-up” yourself? What builds up the Church? (See Jude 1:20)
- d) Does the Apostle Paul want us all to speak in tongues? Can we all prophesy? Can every believer speak in tongues and prophesy?
- e) Based on our previous study, can anyone be a prophet? Can anyone prophesy?

2) 1Corinthians 14: 13-19

Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret. ¹⁴ For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. ¹⁵ What is *the conclusion* then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding. ¹⁶ Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the uninformed say “Amen” at your giving of thanks, since he does not understand what you say? ¹⁷ For you indeed give thanks well, but the other is not edified.

¹⁸ I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all; ¹⁹ yet in the church I would rather speak five words with my understanding, that I may teach others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue.

- a) Did the author speak in tongues?
- b) Did the author pray with the spirit?
- c) Did the author ask God for the interpretation of his prayer in tongues?

3) 1Corinthians 14: 20-25

²⁰ Brethren, do not be children in understanding; however, in malice be babes, but in understanding be mature. In the law it is written: "With *men of* other tongues and other lips I will speak to this people; And yet, for all that, they will not hear Me," says the Lord.

²² Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophesying is not for unbelievers but for those who believe. ²³ Therefore if the whole church comes together in one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in *those who are* uninformed or unbelievers, will they not say that you are out of your mind? ²⁴ But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an uninformed person comes in, he is convinced by all, he is convicted by all. ²⁵ And thus^[L] the secrets of his heart are revealed; and so, falling down on *his* face, he will worship God and report that God is truly among you.

a) What does prophecy convince an unbeliever or an uninformed person of?

4) 1Corinthians 14: 26-33

How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification. ²⁷ If anyone speaks in a tongue, *let there be* two or at the most three, *each* in turn, and let one interpret. ²⁸ But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God. ²⁹ Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge. ³⁰ But if *anything* is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent. ³¹ For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged. ³² And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. ³³ For God is not *the author* of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

a) If one is in church and has a tongue but there is no one to interpret what should he do?

b) Prophecy is given so that all may be _____.

c) If you have a prophecy in a meeting do you have to give it? Why?

5) 1Corinthians 4: 36-40

Or did the word of God come *originally* from you? Or *was it* you only that it reached? ³⁷ If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord. ³⁸ But if anyone is ignorant, let him be ignorant. ³⁹ Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues. ⁴⁰ Let all things be done decently and in order.

a) Should we desire to prophesy? How about speaking in tongues?

Additional Bible References on Prophecy

1) Acts 2: 16-18 NKJV: ¹⁶But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: ¹⁷'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy.

2) Romans 12: 5-7 ⁵ so we, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. ⁶ Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; ⁷ or ministry, *let us use it in our* ministering; he who teaches, in teaching;

3) Revelations 19: 10 ¹⁰ And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See *that you do not do that!* I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

4) 2Peter 1: 19-21 KJV We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: ²⁰Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. ²¹For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

5) Hebrews 1: 1-3 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; ³ who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high

6) 1Timothy 4: 13-15 ¹³ Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. ¹⁴ Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. ¹⁵ Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.