

# Message Notes

"Spiritual Gifts-part 8 (Order or Anarchy)"

# Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

**Introduction** - "We were made for worship"

*Review of chapter 14:1-25*

Tongues

Prophecy

Intelligibility

Sensitive to those outside the church

"God is really among you!"

**This week: Public Worship of God - Does the Invasion of the Spirit of God produce Order or Anarchy?**

## 1. The Purpose of Order

*1 Corinthians 14:26-28*

## 2. How we all contribute to Order

*1 Corinthians 14:29-33*

*James 3:13-16*

## 3. An example of how Order should rule

*1 Corinthians 14:33b-336*

5 ways people have dealt with this passage

A possible alternative

## 4. A high hard one to the contentious

*1 Corinthians 14:37-38*

## 5. Seek spiritual gifts, but those that will lead to beneficial order

*1 Corinthians 14:39-40*

**Application** - *Take away from 1 Corinthians 14*

## 1 Corinthians 14:26-40

<sup>26</sup>What then shall we say, brothers? When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church. <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 God.

<sup>29</sup>Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said. <sup>30</sup>And if a revelation comes to someone who is sitting down, the first speaker should stop. <sup>31</sup>For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged. <sup>32</sup>The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets. <sup>33</sup>For God is not a God of disorder but of peace.

As in all the congregations of the saints, <sup>34</sup>women should remain silent in the churches. They are not allowed to speak, but must be in submission, as the Law says. <sup>35</sup>If they want to inquire about something, they should ask their own husbands at home; for it is disgraceful for a woman to speak in the church. <sup>36</sup>Did the word of God originate with you? Or are you the only people it has reached?

<sup>37</sup>If anybody thinks he is a prophet or spiritually gifted, let him acknowledge that what I am writing to you is the Lord's command. <sup>38</sup>If he ignores this, he himself will be ignored.

<sup>39</sup>Therefore, my brothers, 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.

## James 3:13-16

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. <sup>16</sup>For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.



...VINTAGE  
CHRISTIANITY  
FOR THE  
NEXT  
GENERATION...



# WHACKED out WORSHIP

HONORING GOD REVERENTLY...

AND RELEVANTLY



SPIRITUAL  
GIFTS



*...an eight week study of 1 Corinthians 12-14  
discovering God's desire for you and the church!*

# What's a Spiritual Gift?

## 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

<sup>4</sup>There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit.

<sup>5</sup>There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.

<sup>6</sup>There are different kinds of working,  
but the same God works all of them in all men.

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

## 1 Corinthians 14:1-4

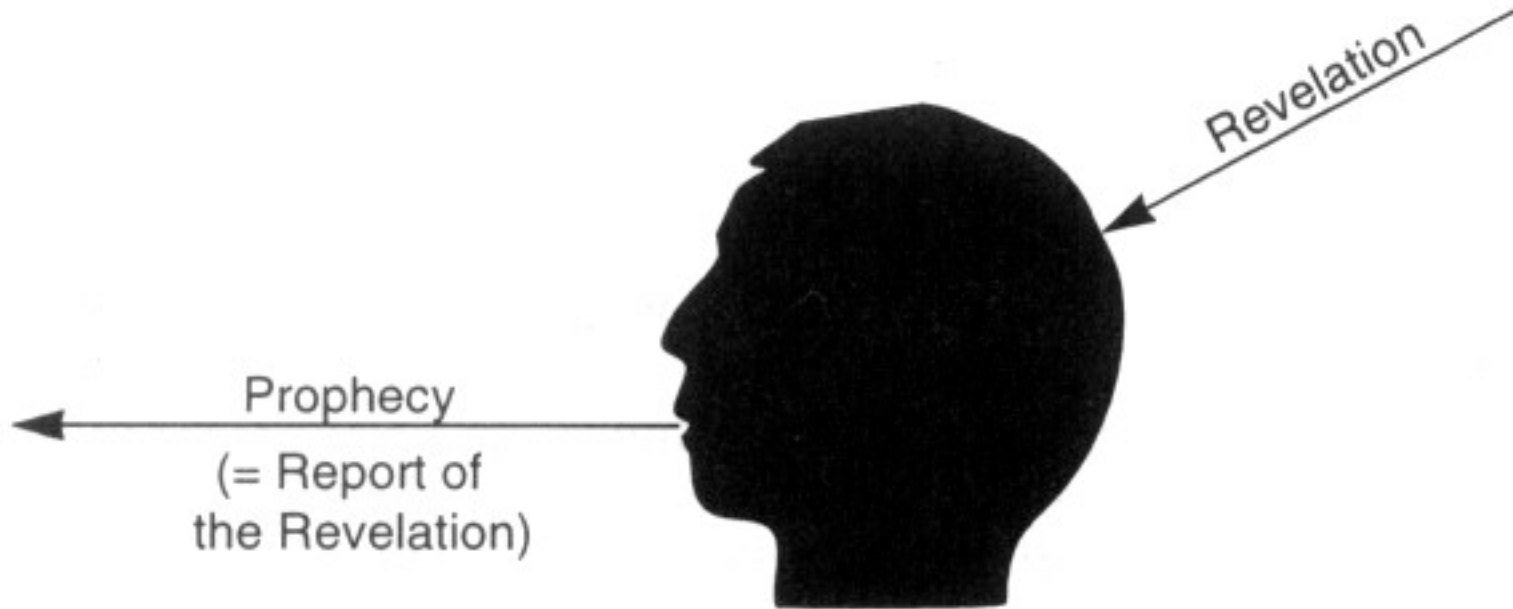
<sup>1</sup>Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy. <sup>2</sup>For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God.

Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries with his spirit. <sup>3</sup>But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort. <sup>4</sup>He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.

# Prophecy is a Revelation of God through a Person

## 1 Corinthians 14:30-31

<sup>30</sup>And if a revelation comes to someone who is sitting down, the first speaker should stop. <sup>31</sup>For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged.



**Figure 53.1: Prophecy Occurs When a Revelation from God Is Reported in the Prophet's Own (Merely) Human Words**



## 1 Corinthians 14:9-12

<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 he is a foreigner to me. <sup>12</sup>So it is with you. Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in gifts that build up the church.

## 1 Corinthians 14:23-25

<sup>23</sup>So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and some who do not understand or some unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind? <sup>24</sup>But if an unbeliever or someone who does not understand comes in while everybody is prophesying, he will be convinced by all that he is a sinner and will be judged by all, <sup>25</sup>and the secrets of his heart will be laid bare. So he will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, “God is really among you!”

**So, bottom line...**

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**Eagerly seek Spiritual Gifts!**



So, bottom line...

Eagerly seek Spiritual Gifts!

**BUT**

**NEVER ELEVATE GIFTS  
ABOVE GIVER!**

**Does the Spirit of God coming in power  
during a worship service result in ORDER  
or ANARCHY?**

# 1. The Purpose of Order

## 1 Corinthians 14:26-28

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## 2. How we all contribute to order

### 1 Corinthians 14:29-33

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[T]his is Paul's meaning. The others are to distinguish between (i) *prophetic speech which is God-given and coheres with the gospel of Christ and the pastoral situation* and (ii) *speech which is merely self-generated rhetoric reflecting the speaker's disguised self-interests, self-deceptions, or errors, albeit under the guise of supposed "prophecy."* ... This includes a claim to communicate *gospel preaching pastorally contextualized*. The authentic is to be sifted from the inauthentic or spurious, in the light of the OT scriptures, the gospel of Christ, the traditions of all the churches, and critical reflections. Nowhere does Paul hint that preaching or "prophecy" achieves a privileged status which places them above critical reflection in the light of the gospel, the Spirit, and the scriptures.

*It is never infallible.*

### 3. An example of order

#### 1 Corinthians 14:33b-35

As in all the congregations of the saints, <sup>34</sup>women should remain silent in the churches. They are not allowed to speak, but must be in submission, as the Law says. <sup>35</sup>If they want to inquire about something, they should ask their own husbands at home; for it is disgraceful for a woman to speak in the church. <sup>36</sup>Did the word of God originate with you? Or are you the only people it has reached?

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2. This is a Corinthian phrase that Paul is rejecting
3. Do what it says! Women should be completely silent in church services
4. 1<sup>st</sup> Century women were uneducated, so they shouldn't be part of the conversation
5. Women were "chattering" in the service

## 1 Corinthians 11:3-12

<sup>3</sup>Now I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God. <sup>4</sup>Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered dishonors his head. <sup>5</sup>And every woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head – it is just as though her head were shaved. <sup>6</sup>If a woman does not cover her head, she should have her hair cut off; and if it is a disgrace for a woman to have her hair cut or shaved off, she should cover her head. <sup>7</sup>A man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God; but the woman is the glory of man. <sup>8</sup>For man did not come from woman, but woman from man; <sup>9</sup>neither was man created for woman, but woman for man. <sup>10</sup>For this reason, and because of the angels, the woman ought to have a sign of authority on her head. <sup>11</sup>In the Lord, however, woman is not independent of man, nor is man independent of woman. <sup>12</sup>For as woman came from man, so also man is born of woman. But everything comes from God.

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“Perhaps the best perspective, therefore, is to take Paul’s commands as prohibiting women from participating in the final church decisions about the legitimacy of any given prophecy.



To being with, “speak,” in twenty of the twenty-one appearances of this verb in this chapter outside of vv 34-35, refers either directly or by analogy to one of four very particular kinds of speech: tongues, their

prophecy or its evaluation. But the first three of these are spiritual gifts, distributed regardless of gender. And authoritative evaluation of prophecy, however, while requiring input from the whole congregation, would ultimately have been the responsibility of the church leadership (what Paul elsewhere calls elders or overseers), who, at least in the first century, seem to have been exclusively male. This interpretation also explains why these verses come where they do. The sequence of topics from verses 27-33 has been precisely: tongues, their interpretation, prophecy, and its evaluation, in that order. The obvious drawback of this approach is that it must infer a meaning for “speaking” which Paul never spells out. But that problem affects all of the views that take Paul’s words as less than absolute at this point, and this seems to have the least number of additional difficulties.”

# 4. A high, hard, inside pitch to those who are contentious...

## 1 Corinthians 14:37-38

<sup>37</sup>If anybody thinks he is a prophet or spiritually gifted, let him acknowledge that what I am writing to you is the Lord's command. <sup>38</sup>If he ignores this, he himself will be ignored.



# 5. Seek Spiritual Gifts, but those that will lead to beneficial order

## 1 Corinthians 14:39-40

<sup>39</sup>Therefore, my brothers, 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.

# Take aways about worship

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**God-Centered, Cross-reliant, Spirit-Driven**

eagerly seeking the Spirit of God