



Minister Training Course – Class 4 November 14, 2021

I want to do a brief recap of where we've been and what we have talked about in our Classes.

The Manifestation of Spiritual Gifts in the Torah

- **Prophet**
- **Teaching**
- **Prophecy**
- **Pastoring**
- **Wisdom**
- **Understanding**
- **Knowledge**
- **Workmanship**

Previously, we started talking about:

Ministry Gifts to the Body

- **The Gift of Service/Helps**
- **The Gift of Leadership/Ruling**
- **The Gift of Giving**
- **The Gift of Exhortation/Encouragement**
- **The Gift of Administration/Governments**
- **The Gift of Mercy**

And then, last week we began

Spiritual Gifts or Manifestations of the Spirit

- **Word of Wisdom**
- **Word of knowledge**
- **Faith**
- **Gifts of Healing**
- **Working of Miracles**

And today, we are going to try to get through all of these:

- **Prophecy**
- **Discerning of Spirits**
- **Tongues**
- **Interpretation of Tongues**

I also want to touch on the **Ascension Gifts**, specifically I want to touch on the **Apostle** and the **Prophet**.

In our study we looked at and we talked about 1 Corinthians 12. We explained the word **Spiritual** and then the word **Gift** – charisma in that particular passage.

1Co 12:4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

1Co 12:5 And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.

1Co 12:6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same Elohim which worketh all in all.

1Co 12:7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

Spiritual – 4152 πνευματικός pneumatikos {pnyoo-mat-ik-os'}

Meaning: 1) relating to the human spirit, or rational soul, as part of the man which is akin to Elohim and serves as his instrument or organ 1a) that which possesses the nature of the rational soul 2) belonging to a spirit, or a being higher than man but inferior to Elohim 3) belonging to the Divine Spirit 3a) of Elohim the Holy Spirit 3b) one who is filled with and governed by the Spirit of Elohim 4) pertaining to the wind or breath; windy, exposed to the wind, blowing

Usage: AV - spiritual 26; 26

Gifts – 5486 χάρισμα charisma {khar'-is-mah}

Meaning: 1) a favour with which one receives without any merit of his own 2) the gift of divine grace 3) the gift of faith, knowledge, holiness, virtue 4) the economy of divine grace, by which the pardon of sin and eternal salvation is appointed to sinners in consideration of the merits of Christ laid hold of by faith 5) grace or gifts denoting extraordinary powers, distinguishing certain Christians and enabling them to serve the church of Christ, the reception of which is due to the power of divine grace operating on their souls by the Holy Spirit

Usage: AV - gift 15, free gift 2; 17

When we get to the Ascension Gifts, we are going to look at a different word for Gift there.

So, we pick up where we left off last week with the **Gift of Prophecy**. And what we shouldn't do ... we certainly don't want to confuse the Gift of Prophecy with the Office of Prophet. And when we get into the Office of Prophet, we will talk a little bit about that.

The Gift of Prophecy

The Spiritual Gift of Prophecy is an extraordinary and unique Gift. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 14:1 to “Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts,

especially that you may prophesy.” This gift is a blessing to the assembly and should not be quenched or despised (1 Thessalonians 5:20). Those who have the Gift of Prophecy differ from the Old Testament Prophets who spoke the authoritative Word of Elohim directly.

The Gift of Prophecy is the Spiritual Gift which is extraordinary and unique and in 1 Corinthians 14 Paul begins to encourage us as he transitions to pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy. And this gift is a blessing to the assembly and should not be quenched, it should not be despised according to 1 Thessalonians 5:20. Those who have the Gift of Prophecy differ from the Old Testament Prophets who spoke the authoritative Word of Elohim directly.

Now of course the Gift of Prophecy that operated with the Prophets came from the same Holy Spirit.

Their words were recorded as Scripture as they proclaimed, “Thus says YeHoVaH,” whereas the messages from those with the spiritual Gift of Prophecy must be tested (1 Corinthians 14:29-33; 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21; 1 John 4:1-3).

The words of the Prophets were recorded as Scriptures as they proclaimed, “Thus says YeHoVaH,” And when we get into the Prophets today, we are going to see that the authority of the words of the Prophets today are just as important and viable as they were in the days of the Old Testament Prophets. And so, when one who is under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit speaks, “**Thus saith YeHoVaH,**” **the messages from those with the Spiritual Gift of Prophecy must be tested.**

Now we are going to look at the difference between testing and judging. The discernment of spirit is where we are going to actually be testing. When it comes down to judging a Prophet, especially when there are other Prophets present, the judging of the prophecy from a Prophet is best judged by another one who walks in the Office of Prophet. But again, we will get into that.

The Greek word for the Gift of Prophecy is *propheteia*, which is the ability to receive a divinely inspired message and deliver it to others in the assembly. These messages can take the form of exhortation, correction, disclosure of secret sins, prediction of future events, comfort, inspiration, or other revelations given to equip and edify the Body of Messiah (1 Corinthians 14:3-4, 24-25).

The Greek word for the Gift of Prophecy is *propheteia*, which is the ability to receive a divinely inspired message and deliver it to others in the Assembly. And this could be done in a group setting but it also can be done in an individual setting. When a Prophet speaks a message or prophecy, when a person prophesies the message, then the prophecy comes in the form of exhortation, correction, disclosure of secret sins, prediction of future events, comfort, inspiration, or other revelations given to equip and edify the Body.

The main thing that we want to focus on, is what does the Scripture say concerning this particular Gift and the Office because we are going to eventually begin to make the

distinction between how **the church has redefined a lot of what is in Scripture by giving church definitions verses Biblical definitions**. And we are going to have to learn to make the distinctions between those two.

Again, they do not constitute the authoritative Word of Elohim, but are the human interpretation of the revelation that was received. They are spoken in human words through a human mind which is why they must be tested against the Scriptures (1 Thessalonians 5:20-21).

When prophecy goes forth, it does not necessarily constitute the authoritative Word of Elohim, but is the human interpretation of the revelation that was received. And they are spoken in human words through a human mind which is why they must be tested against the Scriptures. And this is why **the Bible teaches us that we have to test the spirit**. We have to test the spirit.

Now in environments where I have been in, just because a person declares, "Thus saith YeHoVaH," does not negate the fact that **what they speak must be tested**. It is important, too many people's lives have been shipwrecked because they received a word by somebody who said, "God said", and then they ran off and started trying to fulfill the prophecy instead of waiting on Father to bring to pass that which was spoken.

Just because somebody speaks into your life does not give you the authority to run and try to make it happen. Or, because it has been spoken, now you are looking to walk in that, when in fact, the Father could speak a word which may not necessarily come to pass for weeks, months, or years.

And we see this happening in the Torah, especially with Abraham. Prophecy goes forth, just like with Abraham. Father spoke a prophecy to him that would take 400 years to come to pass. And so, it's important Brothers and Sisters that when a person speaks, that word has to be tested.

And here's another, there are those out there that try to control other people through prophecy, especially if they know something about a person or if they pick up something about a person. This particular gift, this gift of prophecy, has been exploited by so many people in the financial area where they are prophesying to people. And again, you have to test the spirit. When we get into the discernment of spirits, we are going to talk from that aspect of it. So, when it comes down to prophecy, it's important that we learn how to test.

The Holy Spirit gives the Gift of Prophecy to some believers to make Elohim's heart known and to edify the Assembly. This gift is for the benefit of both believers and unbelievers and is a sign that Elohim is truly among His Assembly (1 Corinthians 14:22-25). Those with this gift are sensitive to both the prompting of the Holy Spirit and the needs of the Assembly Body.

They should be humble and continually study the Scriptures in order to test these revelations before speaking them. When they do speak, they should allow and even expect others to weigh what is said against the Scriptures and interpret the message accordingly. In this way, the Assembly may be

continually built up together in unity (1 Corinthians 14:4, 26). See also Romans 12:6, 1 Corinthians 12:10, 14:1-5, Ephesians 4:11-12, 1 Peter 4:10-11.

Whenever a person stands and speaks, and I have had some challenges, because there have been people who have spoken in our Assembly, and I know that what they are speaking is coming out of their spirit. They have been frustrated by something or they see something, and they feel that they need to speak that, and they will reveal, they will say something like, God told me. Well, Father may have been dealing with them in that area and **just because Father reveals something to a person, a person now has to discern whether or not this is something He is prompting them to speak especially in a public assembly.** It is rare, it is rare, where Father will rebuke people publicly, unless He has already worked with them privately. And so, **when someone gets up to rebuke somebody publicly, you know, that's typically not how Father operates.** It does not mean He won't operate that way, but if you notice when Father raises up a prophet, it's because He is dealing with people who aren't listening to Him, and it's unusual but it's not impossible.

Moving to the Gift of Discernment and this is important, **every believer has access to all that the Spirit has available.** Now you've heard me say that from time to time and I will keep saying that because I truly believe that when we receive the Holy Spirit, we receive all that the Holy Spirit has available. So, all of the Gifts of the Spirit ... and as we get to the end of the Gifts of the Spirit, you will see where Paul will say, "earnestly covet the best gift", we will talk a little bit about that at that point.

We are to earnestly covet the best gift. Well, why would we be coveting the best gift if we are limited in the ability of the gift that is being given? So, you will hear people, "Well, Father will give some people this gift and Father will give some people that gift."

You have the capacity to manifest any gift that the Spirit will allow you or enable you to if you have the Spirit. If you have the Spirit, it's a matter of discerning what is going on amongst you and desiring that gift to manifest so that you can speak by the Spirit. This is where Paul would say for us to covet the gift of the Spirit or earnestly covet.

The Gift of Discernment

The Spiritual Gift of Discernment is also known as the gift of "discernment of spirits" or "distinguishing between spirits." The Greek word for the Gift of Discernment is *diakrisis*. The word describes being able to distinguish, discern, judge or appraise a person, statement, situation, or environment. In the New Testament, it describes the ability to distinguish between spirits as in 1 Corinthians 12:10, and to discern good and evil as in Hebrews 5:14.

So, you will be able to distinguish if you are dealing with a person ... like for instance, and this is a simple example. If a person is angry, it doesn't take much to discern that person is angry. And if a person has a spirit of lust on them, you should be able to discern that. If a person is a liar, then you should be able to discern this person is operating in a spirit, this spirit is not accurate. And so, when it comes down to the Gift of Discernment then you are also discerning the spirit that is manifesting in the midst, in your midst personally or even in the midst of the Body of Messiah. People who operate in witchcraft, people

who operate in control, people who have a spirit on them to correct everybody, you have to be able to determine whether or not this spirit is operating or if there is a mixture going on with that person and some issues they are having where they want to correct some folks. So, discernment of spirit is really important in that it is operating in the midst of the Body.

The Holy Spirit gives the Gift of Discernment to enable certain believers to clearly recognize and distinguish between the influence of Elohim, Satan, the world, and the flesh in a given situation. The Assembly needs those with this gift to warn believers in times of danger or keep them from being led astray by false teaching. See also I Corinthians 12:10, Acts 5:3-6; 16:16-18; 1 John 4:1.

In any given situation where this is manifesting, you can determine whether this is actually the Spirit of the Almighty speaking, if it's coming from a dark place, or it's a worldly or fleshly manifestation. Now **the Assembly needs those with this gift to warn believers in times of danger or keep them from being led astray by false teaching.** And this is one of the reasons why I am extremely cautious about who I allow to come and minister in our Ministry. It is best to keep out a spirit then to have to drive out a spirit once you have let it in.

And so, you know, when people come into House of Israel to preach or to teach, you know they have been vetted. I have no problem correcting someone if they stand and speak something that I discern is not from the Almighty. This is why I am very cautious and limited about who I allow to come and minister. The responsibility of being a Shepherd, Overseer, Apostle, is extremely important when it comes down to protecting the Body of Messiah.

This is why folks may say, "You try to control." I'm not trying to control people, but I have a responsibility to control an environment. And so, there is a big difference. You know, people want to come sometimes and say, "Well, this is the House of God! You shouldn't be trying to control the House of God!" Well, this is the Assembly He has made me Overseer of, and when you become an Overseer of an Assembly, just like a husband who is the covering of his home or a mother who is a single mom and she's the covering of her home, you have every responsibility and right to determine who you allow in and out to speak into the life of your family. You don't allow every Tom, Dick, and Joe, to just speak over your children, or speak over you. No, you are very cautious about who you are allowing or providing access to those you are responsible for. And so, this discernment is very important.

The Gift of Tongues

The Spiritual Gift of Tongues is more accurately called the gift of languages. The Greek word for Tongues is *glossa*, or *glossolalia*, which literally means "tongue." When it is used in the New Testament addressing the subject of Spiritual Gifts, it carries the contextual meaning of "languages." Speaking in Tongues is the utterance of prayer or of a message glorifying Elohim, typically spoken to Elohim (1 Corinthians 14:2), in a language that is unknown to the one speaking it.

Now we are going to get into the controversy of the Gift of Tongues. And you want to pay close attention to this because the spiritual Gift of Tongues is also called the Gift of Languages. **The Greek word for Tongues is *glossa*, or *glossolalia*, which literally means “tongue.” And when it is used in the New Testament addressing the subject of Spiritual Gifts, it carries the contextual meaning of “languages.”** So, you will see in Revelation where it speaks about every tongue, well, it’s talking about every language. And speaking in Tongues is the utterance of prayer or of a message glorifying Elohim, and it’s typically spoken to Him in a language that is unknown to the one speaking it.

So, when I am praying in Tongues, I am not speaking to the Body, I am praying and speaking to the Almighty. When I speak in Tongues in a congregational setting, this is something that requires interpretation because this is not being spoken to the Almighty, this is being spoken to the Body.

To properly understand this gift, we need to begin with a brief history of language in the human race. In the garden, mankind had one language and was in direct communication with Elohim, having perfect communion with Him. Unfortunately, this relationship changed at the fall when Adam sinned against Elohim and he and Eve were cursed and banished from Eden along with their descendants.

So, mankind continued to have one language up to Genesis 11 where Elohim confused their language and people were dispersed throughout the earth. He did this because they had united together in one language and conspired to build a tower at Babel. Their intention was to “make a name” for themselves and thus replace Elohim in their hearts. And of course, pride is the birthplace of the sin and regrettably fallen man has decided to use every advantage, including language, to usurp Elohim’s authority and place himself upon a throne which is not rightfully his.

After Elohim confused their language and scattered them across the earth, He chose one people with one language to bring Him glory and draw mankind back to Himself. Abram, later called Abraham, was the one through whom Elohim promised to bless “all the nations.” Eventually, through the nation of Israel, the Hebrew language would be used to communicate Elohim’s Word to the nations. However, the rest of the world did not speak or understand this language, and for the most part continued to remain ignorant of Elohim’s plan of redemption.

Fast forward to Pentecost and the pouring out of the Holy Spirit on the people of Elohim. Here we see a glimpse of Elohim’s reversal of the curse of divided languages. In Acts 2, people from all over the world hear Elohim’s people proclaiming His mighty works in their own languages. This is the beginning of the redemption of language for its intended purpose: to glorify Elohim and draw all people to Himself.

Now this is important, because they spoke a different language, but they heard by the interpretation of what was being spoken in their language. It wasn’t that they were hearing what was spoken in Hebrew, they were hearing what was being spoken in their language

and for its intended purpose. And the purpose was **to glorify Elohim and then draw all people to Himself.**

In Heaven, an innumerable group from every nation, tribe, people, and tongue will join together to praise Elohim with one language. (See Revelation 7:9-12. This is where Tongues will cease as mentioned in 1 Corinthians 13:8-10.) The intention of the Spiritual Gift Of Tongues is to glorify Elohim now, but also to prepare ourselves as His Assembly to glorify Him forever in Heaven. The gift however is only partial, in that it is not given to all believers, and in the context of the Assembly requires an interpreter in order for it to be edifying.

Now when we look at Heaven, there is according to Revelation, an **innumerable group from every nation, every tribe, and tongue that will join together to praise Elohim** and we will see them praising in one language or interpreted. So, **this is where Tongues will cease as mentioned in 1 Corinthians 13:8-10. The intention of the Spiritual Gift Of Tongues is to glorify Elohim now, but also to prepare ourselves as His Assembly to glorify Him forever in Heaven. The gift however is only partial, in that it is not given to all believers, in the sense and in the context of the Assembly, requires an interpreter in order for it to be edifying.**

There is much more to be said about the Spiritual Gift of Tongues, but here is a summary of a few points:

- **Some would argue that not every believer receives this gift. The Gift of Tongues is not a requirement or a necessary sign of salvation. See 1 Corinthians 12:30.**
- **Tongues can be human languages such as those heard in Acts 2, but often may be languages no one understands. See 1 Corinthians 14:2.**

Now when it says it is not given to all believers, and I say, in a sense all believers have access. Your belief will determine whether or not you desire this gift. Therefore, there is much to be said and what I want to do is give a few summary points.

Some would argue that not every believer receives this gift. The Gift of Tongues is not a requirement or a necessary sign of salvation as some would teach. So, we don't want to get stuck in that trap, to where if you don't speak in tongues, you ain't saved. The bottom line is that there are many manifestations of the Gift of the Holy Spirit. And Tongues according to Paul's writings are the least.

Tongues can be human languages such as those heard in Acts 2, but often may be languages no one understands. So, this is important that a person who speaks a language that is understandable is speaking in Tongues, but it is a known language. However, one that needs to be interpreted is an unknown language.

- **According to Paul's writing, when Tongues are spoken in the congregational gathering, they should be interpreted or the speaker should speak silently. See 1 Corinthians 14:27-28.**

- **Tongues are not “ecstatic speech” only, but are always orderly in the assembly and are able to be controlled by the one speaking.** And of course, there’s some Scripture references there in **1 Corinthians 14:27-28, 33, 39-40.**

According to Paul’s writing, when Tongues are spoken in the congregational setting, they should be interpreted or the speaker should speak silently. It doesn’t say that the speaker should be quiet, but that the speaker should speak unto the Almighty silently and unless there is interpretation that should be what takes place.

- **Tongues should not be forbidden. See 1 Corinthians 14:39.**
- **When Tongues are spoken, the speaker should pray for the interpretation. 1 Corinthians 14:13 Wherefore let him that speaketh in an *unknown* tongue pray that he may interpret.**

Now, when Tongues are spoken, And I put this Scripture here, the speaker should pray for the interpretation. Others can interpret, but what Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 14:13 Wherefore let him that speaketh in an *unknown* tongue pray that he may interpret. And so when you desire Tongues, then also desire the interpretation. I can tell you now, that when I am speaking in Tongues in prayer, praying in the Spirit, I am hearing the words in English or I am thinking the words that I am praying in English, but I am speaking or praying in the Spirit in Tongues. This is not something that should be forbidden, but when it’s done in a public setting, in the Assembly, there should be interpretation.

The Holy Spirit gives some believers the Spiritual Gift of Tongues to glorify Elohim and, with the help of an interpreter, to edify the assembly. This gift is dealt with extensively in the Scriptures and its use should not be discouraged. That said, it should be used properly with pure motives and intentions, of course in the power and prompting of the Holy Spirit. See also 1 Corinthians 12:10, 30, 14:4, 39, Acts 2:4, Acts 19:6.

So, when there is interpretation in the Assembly, one person may speak and a totally different person may interpret, or a person may speak and interpret. This gift is dealt with extensively in the Scriptures and its use should not be discouraged. That said, it should be used properly with pure motives and intentions, of course in the power and prompting of the Holy Spirit.

Now I’ve been in Assemblies ... I’ve been in settings ... the time of intercessory prayer where people are speaking in tongues and there is no interpretation. In those settings, they feel justified because they say something like, “Ok, everybody let’s pray in the Spirit.” Well, if it is a closed setting, you are having a private prayer meeting where everybody is Spirit filled, and there is no person in there who is not Spirit filled, and of course you have the doors locked so that nobody can come in. Because the bottom line is, the moment somebody walks in and they don’t understand what is being said, there is a possibility of confusion. And typically, if you are having a public intercession prayer gathering, if tongues are being spoken, if there is praying in the Spirit, then there should also be the interpretation by the Spirit if it’s in a public setting.

Now I can tell you there will be people who will disagree with me, but they don't have a leg to stand on Biblically. So, they will disagree all day long, but when you show them Scripture and say, "Well, how do you define, how do you explain this?" Then they are going to give you some theology. And here is where people try to redefine Scripture. **We should not try to redefine Scripture by our belief system, our belief system should be defined by what is written.**

So, that's an important aspect for all of us to remember because I am sure many of us have been in settings where the setting gave permission to do something that may not have necessarily been proper Biblically. For us, and me, in our environment, I want to maintain an orderly environment. Because, it takes the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to maintain an orderly environment.

It takes a person who has faith and trust in the Holy Spirit to move in their environment to operate orderly. If somebody wants to willy-nilly start speaking in tongues and talking about, "Well, I can't help myself. You know when the Spirit takes over, I just have to let the Spirit move." Well, according to Scripture, that spirit is subject to the Prophet. **The Spirit is subject to you! Otherwise, how could you grieve or resist the Spirit?**

So again, when you begin to address people from a Biblical point of view, then you are the ones who are standing on what is written and all they have is a doctrine. And I will tell you this, **when you stand on what is written, no doctrine can stand, unless of course, it is found in Scripture.**

Are you all with me so far? Ok, moving right along.

The Gift of Interpretation

The Spiritual Gift of Interpretation of Tongues is found alongside the gift of speaking in Tongues in 1 Corinthians 12:10. The Greek word for interpretation is *hermeneia* and simply means to interpret, explain, or expound some message that is not able to be understood in a natural way. Thus, this Spiritual Gift is the supernatural ability to understand and explain messages uttered in an unknown language.

The Spiritual Gift of Interpretation of Tongues is found alongside the gift of speaking in Tongues in 1 Corinthians 12:10. We looked at what Paul wrote about. Now I keep talking about Paul because when it comes down to the Gifts of the Spirit, Paul is the one who writes on these extensively. So, its important to look at his interpretations, his writings, and to see what he has to say on that matter, and of course, stick with things that have been spoken.

Now you will find people who will go to school and learn languages and become interpreters. That is not supernatural, that's natural. We don't want to confuse that which is natural, with that which is supernatural because **the Gift of Tongues and the Gift of Interpretation of Tongues is a supernatural gift. It's not some thing you learn in school.**

This is a revelatory gift, meaning that Elohim "reveals" the meaning of the words or message being spoken and allows the interpreter to communicate its meaning to those who need to hear it. When this happens in the Assembly two things happen: the assembly is edified and Elohim is glorified.

The spiritual Gift of Interpretation is given by the Holy Spirit to individuals to reveal messages spoken in an unknown tongue to Elohim for the building up of the assembly or the group. Like the gift of prophecy, Tongues that are interpreted have the effect of encouraging and blessing the assembly to love and serve Elohim more deeply and more effectively. And of course, you will see this in 1 Corinthians 12:10, 30; and of course, in 1 Corinthians 14:1-28.

Now when you conclude that Chapter, here is what Paul says,

1 Co 12:31 But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet show I unto you a more excellent way.

1 Co 12:31 But covet earnestly the best gifts:

Covet earnestly the best gifts. If a particular gift is given to a particular individual and there is no other gift given to that person, that person only possesses one particular gift, then how can they covet earnestly the best gift, that would be in violation of Scripture. The fact is we can earnestly covet the best gifts because we have access to all that the Holy Spirit has.

And we should not limit ... and this is one of the things that religion does to us. Religion causes us to limit the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives and we shouldn't do that. Just as in some Pentecostal circles, they tell you that if you don't speak in tongues, you don't have the Holy Spirit. Well, wait a minute Brother, **everybody who was filled with the Holy Spirit, both in the Old Testament and in the New Testament, you will find that whenever the Holy Spirit manifested, the Gift of Prophecy or prophecy manifested.**

Remember in the Torah when Father took the Spirit that was on Moses and put it on the 70? What did they do? Speak in tongues? No, they prophesied!

Paul talked about, he who prophesied is greater than he that speaks in tongues except he interprets. Tongues and Interpretation are equivalent to Prophecy. Why? If a person speaks in Tongues and has the Interpretation of Tongues, then the word that was spoken and the understanding that was given, that's what Prophecy is. So, **Tongues and Interpretation are equal to Prophecy** and don't let anybody tell you anything different. So, he says, earnestly covet the best gift.

Covet earnestly – 2206 ζηλόω zeloo {dzay-lo'-o}

Meaning: 1) to burn with zeal 1a) to be heated or to boil with envy, hatred, anger 1a1) in a good sense, to be zealous in the pursuit of good 1b) to desire earnestly, pursue 1b1) to desire one earnestly, to strive after, busy one's self about him 1b2) to exert one's self for one (that he may not be torn from me)

These are all that are spoken of earnestly, and of course coveting, to be zealous, to envy, to desire. And here you are desiring the best gift because you discern the setting you were in, that there needs to be the manifestation.

Sometimes, when people ask me for prayer, there are times when I am listening and the Holy Spirit is telling me, "Ok, the person is asking for prayer, but they need counsel, and here's where they may need counsel in." A person maybe confused or a person maybe struggling

in a particular area and Father will speak to them in that particular area. Now they know how to pray about a particular area, because Father, based on the Word of Knowledge, or the Word of Wisdom, or the Gift of Prophecy, is manifesting where they may need help in.

1b3) to be the object of the zeal of others, to be zealously sought after 1c) to envy

Usage: AV - zealously affect 2, more with envy 2, envy 1, be zealous 1, affect 1, desire 1, covet 1, covet earnestly 1, misc 2; 12

Best – 2909 κρείττων kreitton {krite'-tohn}

Meaning: 1) more useful, more serviceable, more advantageous 2) more excellent

Usage: AV - better 18, best 1; 19

And so, we have to be mindful of the presence of the Spirit and of course, when it comes down to the best gift, **earnestly covet the best gift, that's the gift that is more useful, more serviceable, more advantageous 2) more excellent**

Gift – 5486 χάρισμα charisma {khar'-is-mah}

Meaning: 1) a favour with which one receives without any merit of his own 2) the gift of divine grace 3) the gift of faith, knowledge, holiness, virtue 4) the economy of divine grace, by which the pardon of sin and eternal salvation is appointed to sinners in consideration of the merits of Messiah laid hold of by faith

And of course, Gift – charisma; we talked about this where it's Father's favor and ability to be able to operate supernaturally based on the Holy Spirit's manifestation.

5) grace or gifts denoting extraordinary powers, distinguishing certain believers and enabling them to serve the church of Messiah, the reception of which is due to the power of divine grace operating on their souls by the Holy Spirit

Usage: AV - gift 15, free gift 2; 17

And now, I want to touch on one of the Ascension Gifts.

Before Yeshua ascended, He met with His disciples/apostles one last time and gave them these instructions.

Mt 28:18 ... All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Mt 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Mt 28:20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

And of course, when we look at that, we find that throughout the Book of Acts when they went to operate in what they understood, there is no example of anybody being baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: of course, that means to be immersed, but He went further and says,

Mt 28:20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

So, when the Apostles would go forth and teach, they would teach what they had been commanded, and of course, that which would be revealed to them by the Holy Spirit. He says,

Mt 28:20 ... and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

**The purpose of the Ascension Gifts is clearly defined in Ephesians 4.
Eph 4:7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift/dorea of Messiah.**

**Gift – 1431 δωρεά dorea {do-reh-ah'}
Meaning: 1) a gift
Usage: AV - gift 11; 11**

Messiah Yeshua is the gift of YeHoVaH.

Ephesians 4:7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift. Now this particular gift or word gift/dorea of Messiah. It is a gift.

I like to think or say, or believe, that what Father did through **Yeshua when He ascended, He gave Himself to men.** And why would I say that? I say that because Yeshua operated as the Chief Apostle, so the gift of Apostle was operational in His Life. He was a Prophet, He was The Prophet, so, you see Apostle and Prophet manifesting. He went throughout the region and outside of the region doing what? Evangelizing. Taking the Gospel, taking the Good News of the Kingdom to various regions outside of Galilee, Samaria, and the land of Judah.

He went into Tyre, the Bible tells us, and to the greater region of Perea. Yeshua went outside of the land of Israel, and what did He do? He went, He taught, He preached, He evangelized. Of course, He shepherded the Disciples, He was their Pastor, He was the one who ministered to them, the one who corrected and instructed them, and He taught them. So, you see all five of the gifts operational, so **Yeshua was a walking, talking, Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor, and Teacher.**

**Gift – 1431 δωρεά dorea {do-reh-ah'}
Meaning: 1) a gift
Usage: AV - gift 11; 11**

Messiah Yeshua is the gift of YeHoVaH. When He ascended, He gave of Himself to individuals, and this is where you get this idea of this dorea, which is He gave a gift. He gave a part of Himself to men as a gift.

Now a person can operate in several of the Gifts, but there are those who believe they operate in all the Gifts which would say that they are a one-man Yeshua, or a one-woman

Yeshua, and they don't need any other Gift operating in the midst of them because they have it all, and that is highly unlikely. But there are those who believe that's what He has given them. So, I am not here to dispute with them, I'm just saying, it's highly unlikely that would be the case.

Eph 4:8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

Messiah Yeshua gave gifts/doma to men.

Gifts – 1390 δόμα doma {dom'-ah}

Meaning: 1) a gift

Usage: AV - gift 4; 4

So, Yeshua Messiah gave Gifts unto men and this doma is of course a Gift. He gave Himself; He gave a Gift to men.

Eph 4:9 (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?)

Eph 4:10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)

Eph 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

And this is why they are referred to as Ascension Gifts because before He ascended, He gave those Gifts. Now here's the purpose, for the perfecting of the Saints. **Every Gift, every Ascension Gift is for the purpose of the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Messiah:** Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Messiah. The gift is there to perfect, to mature, for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the Body.

Eph 4:14 That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

Eph 4:15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Messiah:

Eph 4:16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

And so, all of this is to say that these Gifts are for the purpose of perfecting of the Body of Messiah. The gift is always for the perfecting of the Body of Messiah, not for an individual to try to make a name for him or herself. That is critical, because when it comes down to the Apostles and Prophets, they are the most abused, misunderstood manifestations of the Ascension Gifts. And generally those who are operating in it in an abusive way have not been called or they are manipulating the gift or the calling for the filthy lucre, or to build a name for themselves.

And we have to be aware that we don't allow or hijack, because I am going to tell you, once you begin to flow in a particular anointing or you begin to fully embrace the Calling, there will be people who will look to exploit it. There will be people who will try to benefit from it; there will be people who will try to usurp it and try to bring you underneath them to profit from it. And you just have to be mindful that you are not allowing someone or something to usurp. The enemy will certainly try to take advantage of the Gift that you have been given and use it.

Just like when Yeshua showed up, after the Holy Spirit led Messiah into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil, the Bible says the devil came and began to speak to Him, "If you be the Son of God." You know, "if you be," or tempt Him with all of the things of the earth, "all of this I will give to you, if you bow down and worship me."

And there are people, I can tell you Brothers and Sisters, there have been several individuals, and they ... it's somewhat sad. Just like the sorcerer in Acts thought that he could buy the Holy Spirit, there are people who think that if they give you a big enough offering, they can buy you; if they offer you a large enough sum of money, they can buy a place, they can buy a position, they can become your right hand, they can become your left hand, you are going to elevate them, you are going to promote them. And when they don't get what it is they believe they want from you, then they will turn on you, bad mouth you, close up their purse, take their offering, their tithe, and run. And I've had to tell several people, you can't buy this. You can't buy me, I'm not for sale.

So, the moment you begin to walk in what Father has called you, believe me there are going to be those who will try to use it for their own personal gain, and you have to be careful that you don't allow that to happen by others and that you don't do it yourself.

Anyone who claims to be called by Yeshua to the Office of Apostle; Prophet; Evangelist; Pastor; or Teacher and deny or reject the authority of YeHoVaH's Law or Commands is a FALSE apostle; prophet; evangelist; pastor; or teacher.

The Ascension Gifts of Apostles and Prophets are two of the most abused and misunderstood gifts given by Yeshua to the Body of Messiah for the perfecting of the saints.

Anyone who claims to be called by Yeshua to the Office of Apostle; or Prophet; or Evangelist; Pastor; or Teacher and deny or reject the authority of YeHoVaH's Law or Commands I will boldly call them a FALSE apostle; a FALSE prophet; a FALSE evangelist; a FALSE pastor; a FALSE teacher.

The Ascension Gifts of Apostles and Prophets as I stated, are the most abused and misunderstood gifts given by Yeshua to the Body of Messiah for the perfecting of the Saints.

Any person that claims to have this Gift will:

**Teach what Yeshua taught.
Do what Yeshua did.**

Believe what Yeshua believed.

They won't be separating the Old Testament and the New Testament, and talking about New Testament believers. Now this whole grace ... Listen, look for the Gift of Grace and what you will find is that when it comes down to the Gift of God, the Gift of God is Yeshua. The Gift of God is Yeshua. Then, Yeshua said He would pray for the Father to give the Holy Spirit, which is the Gift from the Father, via prayer by Yeshua, once we accepted faith in Yeshua. And then, you have the Gifts of Yeshua, which is the Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers.

Then, you have the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, which are the Gifts we talked about and it's more than nine. We spoke about that in the second and third Classes. It's important for us to understand that when people begin to talk about, this Gift of Grace, and being under Grace and all of that, they really don't know what they are talking about. They are manipulating the Scriptures to determine or to say that they are not subjected or submitted to the Law of God.

And the question is, how is He going to judge? **How is the Lawgiver going to judge except by the Law He gave!** But that's what happens when you get into Church, and they want to redefine Scripture based on a denominational perspective and you certainly don't want to fall into that trap Brothers and Sisters. It is a trap that so many have fallen into, including me, based on not knowing or fully embracing the Gift that the Almighty gave me.

You know the first thing that happened, the first book I wrote, once I embraced the Call of the Apostle in my life, is **Sunday Is Not the Sabbath?** Now, I taught certain things about the Commandments which I didn't fully grasp, but once I was able to recognize and fully grasp and embrace the Calling on my life, Father began to reveal to me the importance of His Sabbath. He began to reveal to me the importance of His Feasts, His Commands, and how its important for us, as believers, to walk in those Instructions.

And so, when we deal with the Gift the Almighty gave, what we call the Ascension Gifts, then we are going to find ourselves embracing the Commands and the Instructions that the Almighty has given us for the purpose of embracing.

Apostle

The Ascension Gift of the Apostle is a foundational Gift of the Body of Messiah.

The Ascension Gift of an Apostle is given authority by Yeshua to do many different things to establish the assembly, including writing letters and performing miracles (John 14:26, 2 Peter 3:15-16, 2 Corinthians 12:12).

The Ascension Gift of an Apostle is given authority by Yeshua to do many different things to establish the Assembly, including writing letters and performing miracles which is what the Apostles did.

The twelve disciples including Judas were the first to be called Apostles (Mathew 10:1-4). The requirements for the Office of Apostle is being called by Yeshua Himself.

The Apostles chose an Apostle to replace Judas based on their interpretation of Psalms 109:8.

The twelve Disciples including Judas were the first to be called Apostles according to Mathew 10:1-4. Now I know it's tough for people to think that Judas was actually an Apostle but that's what he was addressed as in Matthew 10. "These are the twelve ..."

The Apostles chose an Apostle to replace Judas based on their interpretation of Psalms 109:8 which says,

Ps 109:8 Let his days be few; *and* let another take his [place or his] office.

This is what Peter said in Acts 1:20,

Ac 1:20 For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishopric let another take.

This was Peter's interpretation of what took place with Judas and why he believed that Judas's place needed to be replaced.

Ac 1:24 And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all *men*, show whether of these two thou hast chosen,

Ac 1:25 That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.

Ac 1:26 And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

So, he became number twelve. And so, when we look at this, we know that,

Yeshua gave Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Shepherds and Teachers at His Ascension (Ephesians 4:7-12), and these represent a distinct category of Gifts referred to as Ascension Gifts. Apostles establish Assemblies on the foundation that has already been set by Yeshua.

The Greek word for the Gift of Apostle is apostolos {ap-os'-tol-os} meaning a delegate, messenger, one sent forth with orders. The mission for those with the Gift of Apostleship today is to plant new Ministries and Assemblies, go into places where the Gospel is not preached, reach across cultures to establish Assemblies in challenging environments, raise up and develop leaders, call out and lead Pastors and Shepherds, and much more.

Now, here is what you will find when Paul went into places, he would look for local leadership, elders. The Bible tells us that when Peter, James, and John went, they established elders in the congregations. When I was in the Church environment, as an Apostle going off to do ministry, but at the time I still hadn't fully embraced this Apostolic Calling on my life, but yet I was going forth in it to the best of my ability and that's when I was in the Church.

When I went to Kenya for the first time, what I recognized is that Kenya, from what I was told had 42 different languages and within those languages a variety of dialects. I was in one

location in a place called Lodwar where I had four interpreters. I spoke in English, a person took what I said from the English language, spoke it in Swahili, and somebody interpreted the Swahili into the Kikuyu, then from Kikuyu to the local dialect or the language of the locals and then into another local dialect. Now can you imagine having 4 interpreters? Or 3 interpreters? Or 2 interpreters? It's tough enough when you speak and then you wait on an interpreter to speak your words into that language, but imagine having 3 and then 4, that's a long wait. And what I realize is it was not designed for me to try to reach all those people, but **the ideal situation was to reach and to train a local leader** who could then turn around and train other leaders who spoke the language, who knew the culture, who understood the differences in dialects and differences in people groups. And so, now, instead of me trying to reach all of Kenya, it's a matter of finding a Kenyan!

And the same thing when we went to UK with Brother Marcus being there. You know, the language of the English people in London and the English in America is not the same ... their culture, the food, the different communities. And so, when it comes down to trying to reach people in London, or trying to reach people in the United Kingdom, the best person to reach someone in that country is someone who lives there.

To go to Nigeria and to look at all of the different languages that are there, you know, I'm not a Nigerian, a Nigerian would be better suited to reach Nigerians. That's in any culture. So, when I go to a particular country, for me it's a matter of looking for someone that I can disciple, someone that I can pour into, someone that I can equip. And then they can take, interpret, and begin to move throughout the country. And likewise, the two groups that I dealt with when I was in Nigeria, were the Ibu and the Yoruba. Well, let the Ibu reach the Ibu people and let the Yoruba reach the Yoruba. They understand the culture, they understand the language, they understand the food. The potential of offending someone is a lot less likely because they know the culture, they know the people, they know the language.

And I can tell you, offenses are easy. You go into a place, and it's like, they want to put something in front of you, but yet you can't eat it. And now, for whatever reason, there is an offence. So, whenever I've gone someplace, I made it clear before I got there, "Here's how I eat, here's what I eat, here's what I don't eat, here's how I operate." So the chances of somebody putting something in front of me that is unacceptable and the potential of offending somebody is minimized, but that doesn't cover all of the angles of potential offenses.

With that said I see that my time is up, and I think for the most part there is only a couple more slides. I want to finish up at least the Apostle's Office and then we can pick up on the Prophet next week.

They often have many different gifts that allow them to fulfill their ministry. These are leaders of leaders and ministers of ministers. They are influencers. They are typically entrepreneurial and are able to take risks and perform difficult tasks. Missionaries, assembly planters, certain Messianic scholars, institutional leaders, and those leading multiple ministries or assemblies often, but not always, have the gift of an Apostle.

Some will identify themselves as Apostles, some may not, but the gifting is what tells you who they are and the Calling they have.