

“THE BEST GIFT”

1 CORINTHIANS 12:8-11 (Part 2)

There are probably more opinions in the church about spiritual gifts than any other area of practical theology.

Spiritual gifts are not:

1. the _____ of the Spirit,
2. _____,
3. _____,
4. _____ of service or _____ of service.

THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS

① _____ (12:9)

Plural denotes different classes of sicknesses and the crossing of borders.

The gift of healing opened up the door for the gift of _____.

This is the gift that was given by the Spirit for the early church to minister to and impact the world around them with the _____ of grace.

② _____ (12:10)

working of miracles → _____ + _____.

This empowered the disciples to turn the world upside down with the _____.

③ _____ (12:10)

They have a Christocentric emphasis. Thus, even the first one in the O.T. points to _____ (Gen. 3:15). So too does the first one in the N.T. (Mt. 1:20-21).

There is no need for another _____ as the charismatics ready their ears, or even for another _____ as the Mormons expand their book. It is finished. God has spoken.

④ _____ (12:10)

It played a huge role in the life of the church as it actually introduced her to the world on the Day of Pentecost.

This speaking of tongues was in a known language and was _____ (14:22).

CONCLUSION

Such gifts have served well their purpose and validated both the message and the messenger for that time when the New Testament was still being lived and the words recorded. Thanks be to God for these amazing miraculous gifts in the life of the early church as the Holy Scripture is finalizing its pages.

But ultimately, we are better served (and others are too) if we major not on _____ about spiritual gifts but _____ our spiritual gifts!