

What does the Bible have to say about speaking in tongues? Is it for the church today? In this book, Dr. Paino reveals Ten Bible Reasons for speaking in tongues. His clear, concise teaching explains the ministry of tongues and gives a solid, scriptural foundation for this vital ministry of the Holy Spirit.



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With the experience of over 50 years of pastoral ministry, Dr. Paino is recognized as an outstanding preacher and student of the Word. His clear, practical bible teaching will bless and encourage you, as it has thousands of others.

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Tongues



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Introduction

Power from on High

“And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.”

- Luke 24:49

Jesus was interested in preparing His disciples for ministry. The very last admonition Jesus gave was for these believers to return to Jerusalem until they received an enduement of power. This was to be God-given POWER! This was to be heaven-sent POWER! This was to be Holy Ghost POWER!

In these “last days,” the Christian world has been awakened by the lack of spiritual power! Full Gospel people are being used of God to proclaim that Christ has never changed. “Signs and wonders” and “marvels and miracles” are still wrought by Christ through the Holy Spirit to confirm the preaching of the Word of God. (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 4:29-31)

The conviction that all the spiritual gifts — “spirituals” (I Cor. 12:4-11, I Cor. 14) — are for the building up of the Church in these closing days, as they were for the early Church, is predominant in the ministry of Bible believers! We are now face to face with the responsibility of either accepting God’s very best or of rejecting the full ministry of the Holy Spirit for these very last days. It is my earnest

prayer that we will turn to God without hesitation until we have been endued with POWER FROM ON HIGH!

Because Pentecostal believers teach and enjoy these ministry gifts, there has been no little discussion about them in the ranks of others of God's hungry people. Many enthusiastically fight God's power! There are others who are passive in their appraisal of the "gifts of the Spirit." And still others who are hungry and open before God. The "gift of tongues" and the ministry of "other tongues" has caused greater discussion than any other ministry which God has placed in the Church. Since I am a Full Gospel minister, I have been asked more questions on this single subject than any other subject relative to the "spirituals."

The ministry of "gifts" is again arresting the attention of the masses. God's power is being manifest so the Gospel is preached as never before. This is the day of God's visitation! God has promised to pour out His Spirit upon all flesh, and His presence and power is found where people have open hearts and hungry souls! I urge you to stand on God's promises until the glory that characterized the early Church rests upon the Church of these troublesome days!

To those who honestly want to know more about the fullness of God's Spirit in your lives, I submit the following ten Bible reasons why I believe in the ministry of tongues!

Chapter One

Desire Spiritual Gifts

"Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy."

- I Corinthians 14:1

The Apostle Paul begins a thrilling subject in the twelfth chapter of I Corinthians: *"Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant."* (I Cor. 12:1). Throughout the entire twelfth chapter, the thirteenth chapter, and the whole of the fourteenth chapter of this letter, Paul is speaking from the theme: SPIRITUAL GIFTS!

In chapter 12, Paul informs us concerning the special spiritual "gifts." He also instructs believers as to our relationship to Christ. Jesus Christ is the Head of the body, and we — Christian believers — are all members of His body. (I Cor. 12:12-31). The "gifts" are placed in the "body" and,

"...the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another {divers} kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."

- I Corinthians 12:7-11

I Corinthians 12 gives us the list of these "spirituals" — commonly known as the "gifts of the Spirit." Please notice that *"divers kinds of tongues"* is one of the "gifts" mentioned. Also, notice that *"the interpretation of tongues"* is another manifestation of the Spirit!

In I Corinthians 13, we have the control for the "gifts" and the spirit by which the "gifts" are to be manifest. All of the "gifts," all of man's ability, all of our talent is valueless without love! When everything else has passed away, faith, hope, and charity abideth. Paul added: *"...but the greatest of these is charity."*

In I Corinthians 14, we find an entire portion of God's Word devoted to the explanation of the ministry of the "gifts of the Spirit," and particularly does Paul speak relative to "tongues" and the "interpretation of tongues." As we study these three chapters carefully, we are made to realize that God has placed the gifts in the Church for His glory and for our upbuilding and blessing!

You will remember that in I Corinthians 12:1, Paul introduces the subject of spiritual gifts. And not until he closes chapter 14 does Paul conclude this theme. Paul did not want us to be ignorant about them. He closes by saying,

"If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord. But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant. Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues. Let all things be done decently and in order.

- I Corinthians 14:37-40

And so, all three chapters deal with the subject of spiritual GIFTS.

Since the Apostle Paul urges God's Spirit-filled people to desire, to covet, to seek after spiritual gifts; I submit this command of Paul's as the first Bible reason why I believe in the ministry of tongues!

Chapter Two

Speaketh Unto God

"For he that speaketh in an {unknown} tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God:..."

- I Corinthians 14:2

The Apostle Peter had been invited to the house of the Gentile, Cornelius. After a revelation from God, Peter made his way to the home of this devout Roman soldier,

"...one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway."

- Acts 10:2

Upon arriving, Peter began immediately to preach the full Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Peter's sermon was powerful! He proclaimed that:

1. Jesus was preached by John as the Messiah. (Acts 10:37)
2. God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power. (Acts 10:38)
3. Jesus *"...went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him."* (Acts 10:38)
4. Christ was crucified! (Acts 10:39)
5. God raised Him up the third day, and showed Him openly. (Acts 10:40)
6. Salvation was through Christ. (Acts 10:42, 43)

While Peter spoke these things, *"...the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word."* (Acts 10:44) The Scriptures

declare that those men who were with Peter could say nothing against it *"For they heard them speak WITH TONGUES, AND MAGNIFY GOD...."* (Acts 10:46, emphasis added) Notice that these Gentile receivers spoke unto God, and they magnified God!

When the Apostle Paul urged the Corinthian believers to desire spiritual gifts, he was quick to add:

"For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him;..."
- I Corinthians 14:2

The ministry of "tongues" affords the Christian believer the distinct privilege of speaking directly to God, not only with his understanding, but also with his spirit. The Scriptures declare:

"For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful. What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also."
- I Corinthians 14:14, 15

The Apostle Paul is very clear to state that when a believer speaks in an unknown tongue, he speaks unto God. The believer magnifies God with his spirit. His understanding is unfruitful, but in his spirit he worships and praises and adores God!

I will show you a little later in this booklet that tongues are for personal use, for personal edification, and for personal benefit in devotion and worship. However, the

ministry of tongues is also for the Church, when there is an interpretation of tongues.

There are many friends who, because of wrong information and misunderstanding, feel that the ministry of tongues is no longer of value in the Church of Jesus Christ. However, the Apostle Paul says more about this gift than any of the others in his discourse on spiritual gifts here in I Corinthians chapters 12 to 14. The Apostle also tells us that tongues and the interpretation are equal in power, authority, ministry and benefit to prophesy. Paul said,

"I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying."
- I Corinthians 14:5

Please notice the word "except" in the previous verse. The ministry of tongues does not profit the Church unless there is an interpretation so the church can understand what is being said. Prophecy is always beneficial to the Church, because the language of the Church is employed. We must bear in mind that tongues and interpretation are equal with prophecy.

I submit to you, my fellow Christian, a second reason why I believe in the Bible ministry of tongues: *"...he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God."* (I Cor. 14:2) You can never imagine the joy and the blessed communion which this ministry of tongues affords the believer until you have experienced this blessing. When we seek God like Cornelius, our hearts will also

overflow and those about will testify, "We heard them speak with tongues and magnify God."

Chapter Three

Speaketh Mysteries

"...howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries."

- 1 Corinthians 14:2

As we read God's Word carefully, we are happy to learn that the ministry of tongues affords us the privilege of speaking to God with our spirit. Many, many times we feel the need for a better vehicle to express praise and worship to God. We can think of phrases to use to tell God how we feel about His love, His mercy, His grace, His power, and His glory. Over and over again we may feel insufficient because of our inability to express ourselves fully.

However, we learn that the Holy Spirit has provided a means of help in our worship. For, as Paul tells us, we can pray with our understanding, and we can pray with our spirit. He also tells us that we can sing with our understanding — our abilities and our minds — and we can sing with our spirits. When God's child speaks with tongues, he has yielded his spirit to the will of the Holy Ghost, and it is his spirit that sings. So, thank God, we are told to pray with the understanding, and to pray with the spirit. We are informed that we can sing with the understanding, and we can sing with the spirit. 1 Corinthians 14:14 states: *"For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful."*

When a Spirit-filled Christian prays and sings in an unknown tongue, he speaks, NOT TO MEN; but to God, and he speaks "mysteries." Frankly, Christian, this ministry of tongues in our private devotions is not for those about us. We have the joy of speaking secrets in the Spirit to God. This is what Paul means when he tells us that "...in the spirit he speaketh mysteries." Since God has provided a means for His children to speak directly to Him with their spirits as the Holy Ghost directs and inspires, and, since in those glorious times we are permitted to speak mysteries of blessing and joy to God, I submit a third reason from the Bible why I believe in the ministry of tongues!

Chapter Four

Self Edification

"He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself;..."

- I Corinthians 14:4

Verse four of I Corinthians 14 suggests one of the greatest reasons for the ministry of tongues. He that speaks in an unknown tongue builds himself up! He that speaks in an unknown tongue helps himself! He that speaks in an unknown tongue edifies himself! You will readily agree that we all are in need of anything that will cause us to be built up, made stronger, and edified in the Lord.

The Christian who has learned to yield his spirit to the guidance and direction of the Holy Spirit has found a sure way to edify himself. Today, there are so many pressures that are affecting the spirits of God's people. Sin is abounding on every side. We see so very much that depresses and discourages us in our pilgrim walk. But, friend, God's Word assures us that, *"He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself;..."*

I, and thousands like me, have known the joy of building myself up in the Holy Ghost. There is no experience any sweeter. There is nothing in our worship and praise that is any more wonderful; there is nothing that satisfies any more completely than the privilege of building ourselves up with this ministry of tongues.

You will notice that Paul is not condemning this ministry. Never! He is suggesting that tongues affords us all an opportunity to receive something further from God. Until we have sought God with an open and earnest heart for this liberty in the Spirit, we have missed one great means of receiving strength.

The fourth reason which I submit to you for the ministry of tongues today is a very important one. The Bible declares very forcibly that *"He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself;..."* I want to suggest that you converse with one of God's children who has enjoyed such an experience. Everyone, without an exception, will testify that the ministry of tongues in their private life is a sure means of edifying themselves. It is a source of strength; it is a means of full worship, and it is a source of liberty in the Holy Ghost that nothing else can produce! This is another reason why I believe in the ministry of tongues for Christian believers today!

Chapter Five

Paul's Desire for Us

"I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all:"

- I Corinthians 14:18

"I would that ye all spake with tongues,..."

- I Corinthians 14: 5

Many of those who have not enjoyed this ministry of the Holy Spirit have attempted to explain away these blessed "gifts." But, when Paul is called to testify relative to speaking with tongues, he states, *"I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all."* (I Cor. 14:18)

When the Apostle Paul wrote to those at Corinth, he included a special message to them concerning the regulation of tongues in the Church and for private devotion. The careful reader will immediately detect that tongues is to be used to build up the Christian; to grant him liberty in praise and worship; to permit him to speak mysteries to God; and to speak to God directly by his spirit.

The ministry of tongues is also for the edification, exhortation, and comfort of the Church — when it is accompanied by the gift of interpretation. In I Corinthians 14:3-5, Paul does not destroy the privilege of usage for private devotion! In I Corinthians 14:28, after Paul carefully explains how tongues is to be used in the congregation, he concludes by saying,

"But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself and to God."

Notice that Paul gives instruction for the use of tongues in the Church, and if there is no interpretation, the Christian is to speak to himself, and to God. When there are tongues and interpretation, it is for the Church for edification. If there is no interpretation, the ministry edifies only the individual and the whole church should not be disturbed by it.

The Corinthian church had free usage of the ministry of tongues. They needed correction, but certainly Paul never intended to destroy these gifts. After talking at length with the believers in Corinth, Paul was very quick to testify, *"I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all."*

The brethren at Ephesus enjoyed the ministry of tongues. The believers in the household of Cornelius had experienced the ministry *"as they did in the beginning."* And, certainly, the church at Corinth knew the power and the glory of this gift of the Holy Ghost.

The Apostles all had spoken with tongues, and Paul who was not one step behind in the graces of God, was able to state that he enjoyed the ministry of tongues in his life of service, praise, and worship.

We need very little more to cause us to seek God for His fullness. Christian believer, I am hungry for the fullness of God's power. The Holy Spirit wants the Church to enjoy all He has for us. We would see signs and wonders,

and God would work among us in supernatural ways, if we would take His Word and stand upon it until we experience what God has for us. I am convinced that God is pouring out His Spirit in these days to prepare His people for the coming of Christ. Certainly God desires to do something in the Church that will cause her to triumph in her closing hours of ministry. I challenge you, fellow believer, to pray with me until we can see today what the Book of Acts records relative to the ministry of the early Church.

Paul experienced and taught that there was a ministry of tongues for the Church. This is still the Church Age. This is still the dispensation of the Holy Spirit. Since Paul instructs us in this ministry, we have another reason for believing in the ministry of tongues for day! Paul said, *"I would that ye all spake with tongues."* (I Cor. 14:5) This is why I believe in the ministry of tongues!

Chapter Six

My Spirit Prayeth

"For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth,..."

- I Corinthians 14:14a

We learn that there is a decided difference between praying with our spirits and praying "with the understanding." Paul tells us that when we pray with our spirit, our understanding is unfruitful. Actually, the believer who prays with tongues does not understand what he says. And then, praying with tongues is praying with our spirits! We not only have the privilege of praying with our spirits, but we can sing with our spirits. (I Cor. 14:15).

Every child of God has felt the inspiration and anointing of the Holy Ghost upon their spirits. During such times we have had greater liberty in prayer and in worship. When we yield our spirits completely to the Holy Ghost, we enjoy the blessing of praying or singing with tongues. There is no greater thrill to the believer than those times when he is built up — edified — as he worships with his spirit.

We learn from I Corinthians 14:32 that *"...the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets."* A person is not forced to speak with tongues. God does not violate the will of a man! We speak with tongues as we yield our spirit to God. Tongues is a supernatural utterance by the Holy Spirit in languages never learned by the speaker. It is not

understood by the mind of the speaker and usually not understood by the hearer. Tongues has nothing whatever to do with linguistic ability, nor with the mind or intellect of man. Tongues is a manifestation of the mind of the Spirit of God, employing human speech organs. Never is a person forced or coerced to speak! "...the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets."

There are three important reasons for tongues:

1. Tongues are for a SIGN to the unbeliever.

"In the law it is written, With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord. Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not:..."

- I Corinthians 14:21,22

In the record of the Day of Pentecost, it cannot be denied that tongues were used as a SIGN to arrest the attention of the masses. Tongues were not to take the place of preaching, for after the crowds gathered, Peter stood up and preached to them. Tongues were a SIGN! I Corinthians 14 teaches us that the gift of tongues is to be used as a SIGN. If space permitted, I could give many examples of the ways God has used tongues in the Church as a SIGN. (I Cor. 14:22).

2. The second purpose of tongues is for PRAYER in private devotions. *"For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh ... unto God."* (I Cor. 14:2) Paul also states: *"For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful."* (I Cor. 14:14)

In I Corinthians 14:14,15, Paul specifically declares that he will pray with the spirit, and he will also pray with the understanding! R. M. Riggs says: "Tongues are a God-ordained outlet through which the Spirit of Supplications will let His

petitions ascend to the heavenly throne. They are needed in the plan of God."

In Romans 8:26, we find this statement:

"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit himself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."

And so, tongues are also to help us in PRAYER!

3. Another purpose and use of the gift of tongues is as a means to convey MESSAGES to the Church — to edify the Church. Tongues without interpretation in the church are meaningless, because none can understand. Therefore, none can profit by them. Tongues without interpretation are out of order in the church. However, let me be quick to remind you that tongues in private devotion for prayer and worship does not demand an interpretation, because we speak *"...not unto men, but unto God:..."* (I Cor. 14:2, 5-13, 16-20, 23, 27, 28).

The speaker in tongues should pray that he himself might interpret, and if there is no interpreter present, he should by all means keep silent in the church. Paul also regulates the number of messages during a service.

"If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret. But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God."

- I Corinthians 14:27,28.

When there is a message with tongues and an interpretation in the church, the church is edified. Tongues and interpretation are equal to prophesy. (See I Cor. 14:5.)

As we carefully study God's Word, and as we yield our lives completely to the Holy Spirit, we see that God uses us that sinners and unbelievers may witness the supernatural

power of God. The Holy Spirit causes the Church to be edified by tongues and interpretation, and each believer is helped to pray! *"For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful."* (I Cor. 14:14.)

Fellow Christian, this is another reason why I believe in the ministry of other tongues!

Chapter Seven

Thou Givest Thanks Well

"For thou verily givest thanks well,..."

- I Corinthians 14:17

There is no condemnation in Paul's writing when he discusses speaking with tongues. Listen to these statements: *"I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all:"* (I Cor. 14:18); *"...and forbid not to speak with tongues."* (I Cor. 14:39); *"I would that ye all spake with tongues,..."* (I Cor. 14:5); *"He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself;..."* (I Cor. 14:4); *"For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth,..."* (I Cor. 14:14); *"For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh ... unto God:..."* (I Cor. 14:2); *"Wherefore tongues are for a sign,..."* (I Cor. 14:22).

Throughout the entire fourteenth chapter of I Corinthians, Paul makes positive statements for the purpose of encouraging the ministry of tongues for the believer and tongues and interpretation for the Church. No place does Paul suggest that tongues are of the devil. He never even hints that tongues are not for the Church today. When Paul mentions the gift of tongues, it is always with the thought of encouraging its usage!

However, Paul does explain to the Church the purpose of the gift of tongues. Tongues, without interpretation in the church — when such a message disturbs the progress of the service, is certainly out of order. Paul uses such

statements as:

"...except they give a distinction in the sounds, how shall it be known what is piped or harped?"

- I Corinthians 14:7

"Therefore if I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be unto him that speaketh a barbarian, and he that speaketh shall be a barbarian unto me."

- I Corinthians 14:11

In the Church, we are to "...seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church." (I Cor. 14:12) And, if there is a message in tongues and no interpretation, the believer is to keep silent; he is out of order. But, Paul also explains that tongues helps the believer. When he stated to the Church that he who gives thanks with tongues "...verily givest thanks well," (I Cor. 14:17) he said it to encourage its usage — not to destroy it!

And so, I suggest to you another reason why I believe in the ministry of tongues.!

Chapter Eight

A Sign

"Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not:..."

- I Corinthians 14:22

On the Day of Pentecost, the crowds rushed forward and declared,

"...we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God. And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?"

- Acts 2:11-12

Some were "amazed," and the next verse says, "Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine." (Acts 2:13) It is the same today! Some are amazed, and they come with an honest question. It is to this company of people that I am suggesting why I believe in the ministry of tongues. I am fully aware that the mockers are still present! However, the mockers were the losers, because God continued to pour out His Spirit upon every open heart — even a Gentile believer!

God used tongues in a blessed way on the Day of Pentecost, because those Galileans were used to speaking in many various languages, which attracted the foreigners who were assembled in Jerusalem. This manifestation did not take the place of preaching because Peter stood up and answered the question, "What meaneth this?"

Tongues were not given to replace preaching! When Cornelius and his household spoke with tongues, they magnified God! When the brethren at Ephesus spoke with tongues, it was a sign they had received the Holy Spirit. I believe the sign of tongues should still accompany the Pentecostal baptism! When our spirits are yielded to God, we speak with tongues! It is our spirit that is baptized. I can baptize your body in water as a testimony; but, Jesus baptizes our spirits with the Holy Ghost. Tongues were a sign to Peter that the Gentiles had received the infilling of the Holy Ghost.

Paul knew that the Ephesian brethren had received the Holy Ghost because he heard them speak with tongues. We cannot deny that tongues are a sign of a glorious, spiritual experience.

Tongues are also for a sign to the unbeliever. (I Cor. 14:22) God uses tongues as a means to speak to people. People know that God is present when they hear a message in tongues and interpretation. The spiritual manifestation attracts attention, causes people to wonder, makes men search their hearts. God wants unbelievers to be convinced of His power, and He has given the Church the gift of tongues as a sign to the unbeliever. This is another reason why I believe in the ministry of tongues.!

Chapter Nine

Edifies the Church

"Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church. Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret."

- I Corinthians 14:12,13

When Paul began the subject of "spirituals" or spiritual gifts in I Corinthians 12, he was careful to teach that the only purpose of such gifts was for profit. Christian believers are all members of one body. Jesus Christ is the Head, and we all are members of that one body. There is only one true Church! Christ has a spiritual body, and we are all united to Him by the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit has given that Church gifts for edification, for exhortation, and for comfort.

We are told to covet the best gifts and to seek those things that will edify the Church. Everyone will not speak with tongues in the church. Everyone does not have the gifts of healing. Everyone does not interpret, but most assuredly the Holy Spirit wants this ministry to be in the Church today!

Too many critics have persuaded people that these blessings are no longer for us. These ministers have robbed the Church of the full power of the Holy Ghost! It is no wonder we do not have the spiritual services we should. Paul tells us in his writings:

"...when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying."

- I Corinthians 14:26

I am in contact with hundreds of lovely people in the surrounding community who are not satisfied with their spiritual life. They know God has something more. God's power and His Spirit has been moving in His Church and people are coming from the north, the south, the east, and the west to enjoy the outpouring of His Spirit. God wants a praying Church! God wants a powerful Church. He has given manifestations of His Spirit that the Church may be built up. I pray that we will give the Holy Spirit His place in our services in these last days!

All may not have the gift of tongues and interpretation for the general assembly; but, Paul clearly teaches that each and every individual can enjoy the liberty of tongues in their own praying. We can receive edification for ourselves as we pray and sing with the Spirit. Oh, that men would permit God to give them what He desires to give!

Since the gift of tongues and interpretation edifies the Church, it is another reason why I believe in the ministry of tongues.!

Chapter Ten

Members of One Body

"For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ."

- I Corinthians 12: 12

Whether we be Jews or Gentiles, bond or free, we have all been made members of one body. God's Spirit has united all true believers into one spiritual body. The believers of the early Church were members of the body of Christ. Thank God, we are members of that same body. Our nationality or background makes no difference. We have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

Those early believers enjoyed the fullness of the gifts of the Spirit. All of the gifts were prominent in the Church. We cannot read the New Testament without being aware that the Church experienced power and blessing that is sadly lacking today. Yet, we are members of the same body! The Spirit that rested upon the early believers is still present today!

I also want to suggest that we are still in the Church Age! This is still the dispensation of the Holy Ghost. God has not changed His plan for the Church. God's power and blessing have not diminished. What God placed in the Church in its beginning, He intends for the Church to enjoy today. No one can honestly suggest that God does not still want to heal the sick, perform miracles, and

manifest His grace supernaturally. If God cannot and does not do it today, we can conclude that He never did! But, thank God, the Holy Spirit still wants to minister through the people of God today! The gifts of the Spirit are still to be present in the worship and the activity of the Church.

Since these gifts were a part of the early Church, and since we are still in the Church Age (the dispensation of the Holy Spirit) I maintain that God still wants His Church to be graced with these gifts — all of them! The gift of tongues is certainly in the list. The Church of the Lord Jesus Christ should be availing herself of what God has provided by the Holy Spirit. This is another reason why I believe in the ministry of tongues. for today!

In this booklet I have attempted to show you ten Bible reasons why I believe in the ministry of tongues! I am sure that as you consider carefully the gifts of the Spirit, you will discover an increasing hunger in your heart for more of God. There will be a seeking after His will; a cry from your soul! When we seek God's face with all of our hearts, there will be a revival! The Holy Spirit will have free course in our lives and in our services. Sinners will be convicted of their sins. The Church will be restored to the Bible pattern, and we will be prepared to greet our soon coming King, the Lord Jesus Christ!