

Holy Spirit, Batman! part 5 - The Universal Translator
3/4/07 - CCFG

- I. Review and where we are going
 - A. The believer's utility belt
 1. The gifts of the HS are the tools on our utility belts. God uses them through us to build others up, and to provide a service in the body.
 2. The gifts of the HS are used to provide opportunities to communicate God's truth to everyone who needs to hear it.
 3. The gifts of the HS come from the HS. They cannot be earned or manipulated from God. Simply ask God for all that He has for you.
 - B. Tackle the big daddy, the one that causes the most confusion and division; tongues.
 - C. What I want all of us to get out of today
 1. For the mature believer; a better understanding of tongues
 2. For the new/younger believer; a Biblical concept of tongues
 3. For the non believer; a demystifying of tongues
 4. For all of us; the info to discern and explain the real and the fake
 5. Truth tester is the Bible, not our experiences.
- II. General, non-Bible-exclusive concepts about language/speech?
 - A. What is language?
 1. A set of agreed upon rules for sounds, symbols, or expressions. Speech, written, braille, sign language, body language. Context is important.
 - a) Gift. In English a present. In German poison.
 - b) V for Victory? Peace? Two? Flipping off in England?
 2. A code system. Encoding and decoding information. Morse. Computers. DNA.
 3. Not random, meaningful. Beyond just ordered. Crystals.
 - B. What is it for?
 1. Communication. To be understood by and understand others
 2. Exchange of information. Information come from intelligence.
 3. Expression of thoughts and feelings
 - C. Where does it come from? God made us this way.
 1. God is intelligent. He created with His intelligence when He spoke creation into existence.
 2. He created us with the ability to learn languages, any language. Best learned when young.
 3. Tower of Babel, [Genesis 11](#)
 - D. Language is a code used to communicate thought, feeling, information. It is meant to be understood.
- III. The Biblical words involved
 - A. Glossa
 1. Tongue - the organ in your mouth
 2. A language spoken by a people group that is distinct from other languages
 - B. Dialektos

3. Conversation, speech, discourse, dialog
 4. A language spoken by a people group that is distinct from other languages. Synonym for Glossa.
- IV. The Biblical usage of these words in their context
- A. **Mark 16:17 new** meaning new to you. A new used car. **Tongues Pl. glossa.** They were speaking in languages known on earth but unknown to the speaker. As if I suddenly started speaking fluent, proper German.
- B. **Acts**
1. **2:4 began to speak with other tongues.** Plural of glossa.
 2. **2:6-8 heard them speak in his own language.** Dialektos. Some say the miracle was in the hearing, not the speaking. Not according to verse 4. They heard their own native language.
 3. **2:11 Speaking what? The wonderful works of God.** They understood what was being communicated.
 4. **8** No mention of tongues when they received the Spirit. Also laying on of hands for the first time.
 5. **9** No mention of Saul/Paul speaking in tongues.
 6. **10:46 heard them speak with tongues.** Plural of glossa
 7. **19:6 they spoke with tongues.** Plural of glossa
- C. **1 Corinthians**
1. The only church which Paul addresses concerning this.
 2. Very culturally relevant thing in that city. Temple of Delphi.
 - a) You go to the temple, make your request for blessing.
 - b) Priestess would speak in an unknown language, another priestess would interpret.
 - c) This means that tongues can be/are counterfeited or faked
 - d) Other interesting observations
 - (1) The church in which the Spirit appeared to be flowing is also the one Paul had to give the most correction concerning things that would seem to be no brainers.
 - (2) The Spirit wasn't flowing, spiritual gifts were being abused and confused.
 - (3) This still happens today. Churches that appear to be alive and happening are filled with all kinds of junk. **Rev 3, Church in Sardis.**
 3. **12:10 different kinds of tongues, interpretation of tongues.** Plural glossa, Known languages in the world, unknown to the speaker.
 4. **12:28-29** Not everyone is supposed to have the same gifts or do the same things.
 5. **Survey 14,** contrasting singular and plural, understanding and spirit, importance of interpretation, their seeking a good thing but also abusing it.
 - a) Kay Smith praying in French.
 - b) Woman knows Hebrew, prays, man incorrectly interprets
 - c) Tongues is not God's radio to people. The direction is upward, not downward. Bill and lady.

6. **13:1 In the case that I did.** The point isn't speaking the language of angels, which he isn't saying he does. It's if he did, but had no love, no agape, then he is just making noise.
 7. **13:8** used by many to say no more tongues. Then no more prophecies or knowledge. Can't pick and choose.
 8. Who is our example of love? What is the point of all of this? The love of God as expressed through His Son Jesus Christ..
 - a) There is nothing wrong with seeking these gifts, the tools. but if its just for yourself, for putting on a show, then it's pointless.
 - b) Following Jesus, being a Christians (on of Christ's) isn't primarily about doing, it's about being. Doing will follow naturally.
- D. The point of tongues is communicating Jesus to others. What if you are in a place where everyone speaks the same language? Tongues probably won't happen very often if at all.
- V. To go points
- A. Language is a code used to communicate thought, feeling, information. It is meant to be understood.
- B. The gift of tongues is the ability to speak in a language that is known on earth but unknown to the speaker, as needed.
- C. The point of this gift/tool is to communicate the love of God as expressed through His Son Jesus Christ. We can do that anytime without tongues.