



ZION INTERACTIVE BIBLE STUDY
10 W.Tallmadge Ave., Akron, OH 44310
Zionmedia1@gmail.com
Zionapostolicfaithchurch.com
Facebook: ZION
Phone: 330-253-3650

KEY SPIRITUAL INDICATORS

WHAT SIGNS ARE FOLLOWING WHAT YOU BELIEVE?

Acts 2:14-21

King James Version (KJV)

¹⁵For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.

¹⁶But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

¹⁷And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

¹⁸And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

¹⁹And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

²⁰The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and notable day of the Lord come:

²¹And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Mark 16:15-20 (King James Version)

¹⁵And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

¹⁶He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

¹⁷And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

¹⁸They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

¹⁹So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

²⁰And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

Romans 12:4-9 (King James Version)

⁴For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:

⁵So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

⁶Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

⁷Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

⁸Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

⁹Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

Ephesians 4:9-13 (King James Version)

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

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

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

¹²For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

¹³Till 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 fulness of Christ:

1 Corinthians 12:1-14 (King James Version)

1 Corinthians 12

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.

²Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led.

³Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed:

and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.

⁴Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

⁵And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.

⁶And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

⁷But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

⁸For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

⁹To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

¹⁰To 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:

¹¹But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

¹²For 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.

¹³For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

¹⁴For the body is not one member, but many.

A Performance Indicator or Key

Performance Indicator (KPI) is an industry jargon term for a type of Measure of Performance. KPIs are commonly used by an organization to evaluate its success or the success of a particular activity in which it is engaged. Sometimes success is defined in terms of making progress toward strategic goals^[2], but often, success is simply the repeated achievement of some level of operational goal (zero defects, 10/10 customer satisfaction etc.). Accordingly, choosing the right KPIs is reliant upon having a good understanding of what is important to the organization.

It seems many have come to understand the Apostolic Pentecostal experience through the baptism in Jesus' Name and Speaking in tongues. The question should rightly be, "WHAT SIGNS ARE FOLLOWING WHAT YOU BELIEVE?" What are the Key Performance Indicators that you possess and are operating in the Spirit of God, and the Spirit of God is operating in you?

In order to correctly get the flow of these verses, we need to pick up the context. Note carefully that in verse 15 Jesus commissioned them to go into all the world and be a witness to the gospel of Christ to every creature. This mirrors others scriptures such as Acts 1:7 where the Lord tells them that they should be witnesses to Him to the uttermost parts of the earth. We should also take notice that it continues in verse 16 saying that the witness is to some unto salvation, and to others unto damnation. Those who hear these believers witness, and are baptized into belief, shall be saved, while those who hear these believers witness, and believe not, will be damned. Here we see the diverse aspects of the Word of God. In one sense the Word of God is a two edged sword (i.e., it cuts both coming and going) unto death, and in another sense it is the bread (i.e., that which nourishes the body) unto Life. The Word is as a well spring of Living waters to soothe the thirsty soul, but it is also as fire from the mouth of the witnesses to it, unto damnation. The witness of the Word

brings both. Some are Saved by the Word, while others damned.

And it's in this context that in the next verse Jesus tells them that '*and these signs shall follow them that believe.*' In other words, these are the things which they should expect to be seen when they preach the gospel. In Christ's name those who become believers will cast out devils, they will speak with new languages, they shall take up serpents, there will no deadly drink that can hurt them, and they will lay hands on the sick and the sick will recover. This is what we all should expect to see as a result of the believers going unto the world with the gospel. These are the signs or 'evidences' which will be seen to follow Salvation.

The Greek word translated sign is [*semeion*], meaning a token of, or something as an 'indication' which signifies whatever is in view. When the believers go into the world with the gospel, these are the indications that will be seen as evidence conversions. In Christ's name those who believe will do these things that Jesus lists. If these signs or indicators were to be taken literally, then all of the greatest Christians of our time were not believers, because these signs did not 'literally' follow them in that sense. By contrast, they all did follow them 'if' we understand this Biblically.

What is a Fivefold Minister?

Fivefold ministers (prophets, pastors, evangelists, teachers or apostles) "equip the saints for the work of ministry" and bring the body of Christ to maturity (Ephesians 4:11, 12). They are recognized as having a discernible and functioning anointing—the power and presence of Jesus. Fivefold ministers have been affirmed by their local elders, called by the Lord and commissioned to work alongside local elders to identify, acknowledge and stir up the diverse giftings within the body of Christ.

Spiritual gifts (or charismata), according to Christianity, are gifts that are bestowed on Christians, each having his or her own proper gift (or gifts) to strengthen the Church. They

are described in the New Testament, primarily in 1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12, and Ephesians 4.

Some believe their operation was limited to early Christianity. According to some Protestant denominations gifts like speaking in tongues and interpretation of tongues were enjoyed only for a short time and were suited to the Church's infancy, not to later times. This view is known as **cessationism**. This opinion is held by John F. MacArthur, Jr., Robert L. Thomas and many other conservative mainline Protestants. Some Christian teachers such as Zola Levitt have maintained that the number of gifts cannot be determined.

Other groups, including Pentecostals, and other Holiness denominations of Christianity, take an opposing view, believing that the Spiritual gifts are still given by the Holy Spirit today, and Pentecostal meetings often involve ordinary parishioners displaying the use of these gifts (1 Cor 14). In addition, Catholic charismatics, Eastern Orthodoxy, and many other Protestant denominations also continue to believe in and make use of Spiritual gifts.

Yet others believe that the lists of gifts found in Scripture are representative, not exhaustive. They maintain that any talent or ability that the Holy Spirit uses for the good of the Church is a Spiritual gift.

Emphasis on teaching about the nine gifts of the Spirit originated from Howard Carter, an early Pentecostal evangelist. This is based on the text from 1 Corinthians 12:27-30 giving the gifts and listing them as the "gifts of the Spirit." They were later taught and popularized by Lester Sumrall, who accompanied Carter on many missionary journeys in his youth. Modern Bible teachers and scholars have come to the conclusion that there are other gifts of the Spirit listed in Scripture, as seen in the chart below.

Gifts of the Holy Spirit are clearly distinguished from the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22). Jesus predicted the occurrence of false gifts, particularly in the end time (Matthew 24:24, 7:22,23). Hence while Spiritual gifts are very important for a Christian, the fruit of the Spirit is a better test of the genuineness of a person.

Other Gifts
Romans 12:6-8

1. Prophecy
2. Ministry
3. Teaching
4. Exhortation
5. Giving
6. Leading
7. Showing mercy (compassion)

The 5 Fold Ministry
Ephesians 4:11

8. Apostolic
9. Prophetic
10. Evangelical
11. Pastoral
12. Teaching

The 9 Spiritual Gifts

1 Corinthians 12:1-14

13. Wisdom
14. Knowledge
15. Discerning various spirits
16. Speaking in tongues
17. Interpretation of tongues
18. Prophecy
19. Faith
20. Working of miracles
21. Healing

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12,13 & 14, Ephesians 4

Apostle: One sent by God with a holy mission to fulfill; and the strong powers and Spiritual gifts to fulfill the mission -- (known by the fruit of the Spirit overflowing). Apostolic ministry involves laying foundation(s). In the case of Paul and Barnabas, we see this expressed in 'Church planting' by preaching the Gospel in new areas. Apostles in Scripture worked in teams. An apostolic team shared a 'measure of rule' in churches started through their ministry in regions where they are the first to proclaim the Gospel of Christ. (II Corinthians 10.)

Prophet: One who speaks, or communicates a message, authoritatively, as moved by the Holy Spirit Himself -- (known by their good fruit).

Evangelist: Someone who desires that all should come to know the truth that God loves everyone so much that He sent His Son Jesus Christ to live a perfect life, die, and rise again for their redemption, or someone who is gifted to proclaim this message.

Pastor: A word that means 'shepherd.' Pastors are gifted to lead, guide, and set an example for other Christians.

Teacher: Someone able to understand the more difficult things of God and explain them in a way that is easy to understand and live by in daily life.

Service: The God-given ability to do for others whatever needs to be done. Divine ability to carry the burdens or tasks of others without seeking notice or earthly reward.

Exhortation: the ability to motivate Christians to do the works of Christ.

Giving: being blessed by God with resources or time and being able to give them where and when they are needed with a cheerful heart.

Leadership: God-given insight into when something needs to be done, who can do it, how it can be completed, and how to lead those people to get it accomplished.

Mercy: A heart to care for and encourage those who are not able to care for themselves and whom no one else would care for. Knowing who to help and when to help.

Word of wisdom: A message, concept, or bit of wisdom that God reveals supernaturally to the recipient. It may or may not be shared with others.

Word of knowledge: A message, concept, or bit of knowledge that God reveals supernaturally to the recipient. It may or may not be shared with others.

Tongues: A gift from God and the ability to speak another language not known by the believer speaking it. The Spiritual gift to speak another language not known by the believer speaking it. "So then tongues are for a sign, not for the believer but the unbeliever".^[4] Tongues are not therefore a means of building up the body of Christ. Paul, in speaking of tongues (known languages) as aiding the church, only refers to the gift as a conduit of the blessing of prophesy in 1 Corinthians 14:6.

Interpretation of tongues: The God-given ability to make tongues a clear message to all who are present to edify, exhort and comfort the Body of Christ.

Prophecy: The God-given ability to receive a message from God to edify, exhort and comfort the Body of Christ or a believer. To speak the Truth as moved by the Holy Spirit. Most prophesying statements do not contain predictions about the future.

Working of miracles: The ability to perform supernatural acts by God the Holy Spirit.

Gifts of healing: The God-given ability to bring or release healing to a person in their body or soul.

Ability to distinguish between spirits: The God-given ability to know what is from God and what is not from Him. The Divine ability to reveal an evil spirit or influence and bring God's power (Jesus' blood) and God's love (Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection) in its place.

Faith: Knowing what you hope for, having a conviction about things you cannot see, trusting God, believing God's Word, and obeying Him. (Hebrews 11)

Questions

1. Which of the following are meanings of the word 'Spirit'?
 - a. Power
 - b. Holy
 - c. Breath
 - d. Dust

2. What is the Holy Spirit?
 - a. A person
 - b. Power
 - c. God's power
 - d. Part of a trinity.

3. How was the Bible written?
 - a. Men wrote down their own ideas
 - b. Men wrote what they thought God meant
 - c. Through the inspiration of men, by God's Spirit
 - d. Some of it was inspired, other parts were not.

4. Which of the following are reasons why the miraculous gifts of the Spirit were given?
 - a. To back up the verbal preaching of the Gospel
 - b. To develop the early church
 - c. To force people to be righteous
 - d. To save the apostles from personal difficulties.

5. From where can we learn God's truth?
 - a. Partly from the Bible, partly from our own thinking
 - b. From the Holy Spirit telling us things directly, apart from Bible reading
 - c. From the Bible alone
 - d. From religious ministers/ priests.

6. Name some of the spirit gifts possessed in the first century.

7. When were they withdrawn? Is it possible to have them now?

8. How can the Holy Spirit work in our lives today?