Do We Seek the Gift of Tongues from the Holy Spirit? Part 2
(Pt. 2)

By Charles Feinberg

A very interesting feature about this whole subject is that the greatest saints known in the history of the church have never exercised this gift. We know it from their life story. There are numerous biographies. There are and autobiographies of these men and yet these scholars spiritual giants never exercised the gift of tongues. Nowhere can you see that with reference to Wycliffe did such a wonderful work of god with reference to the word of god that our Wycliffe bible translators have named their great organization after this great man of god. There’s nowhere any indication that he ever exercised that gift or that john Bunyan did or that great man of god from whom so many of these holiness and tongues group claim to get their basis. John Wesley john Wesley that great man of god. Spiritual giant that no indication in his life story. And it’s been written out to the full. The Methodists have numerous works on Wesley. Nowhere is an indication that he exercised the gift any more than Wycliffe or Bunyan, or martin Luther. Martin Luther was a prolific writer. The details of his life story are well known. Even his table talk tishraida [sp?]. Things that he would discuss at the table. They are written up and had been spread abroad. Martin Luther never according to any record we have exercised that gift. That would be a remarkable thing. And he preached there in Germany and the electorate of Saxony in Wittenberg. Martin Luther never exercised that gift. John Calvin. What a tremendous theologian. Been called the great theologian of the reformation never did. And then George Whitfield. What an evangelist he was. Did a great work not only in England but he came to this country and did it also. And Scofield. Cyrus ingerson Scofield through whose writing and through whose notes in
the Scofield bible many have been blessed from the early part. The first decade of this first
century on. Blessing still goes on. He founded the Philadelphia College of bible. Used to be
called the Philadelphia school of the bible. Philadelphia College of bible. Founded by Scofield.
The Central American mission. Now Central American mission international. Because they have
work in Spain as well. He founded that. There is a Scofield memorial church holding forth the
word of life in Dallas Texas. And we can mention many others. These men and so many others
never exercised the gift of tongues. I repeat it is no mark of advanced spirituality and that’s
where it brings in so much animas [sp?]. So much contention. So much of looking down in a
superior attitude as highly spiritual. Looking down upon pastures. All that’s because it is
wrongly interpreted as advanced spirituality, and that it is not. Those exercising it are not
especially spiritual. And I have had this verse before us before. But I’m going to read it again in
that church in Corinth. Where it’s discussed in that epistle. Of 16 chapters. You remember in the
first chapter of 1 Corinthians we read you’re enriched in wisdom and knowledge and utterance
and oh the spiritual gifts but by the time Paul gets to the third chapter, first verse and I brethren
could not speak to you as to spiritual men. But as to men of flesh, as to babes in Christ. The
Authorized Version has it and I brethren could not speak to you as unto spiritual but as unto
carnal. Fleshly. As to men of flesh. As to babes in Christ. It is never, I repeat it is never stated in
the bible to be an especially clear mark of spirituality. Well someone says if an individual wants
to reveal certain things that are on his mind and heart just as you prepare a sermon, propose he
begins to speak in a foreign language. The trouble with it is there are many many detrimental
effects of tongues. Number one, it first of all manifests in many cases deceit. It ministers to the
flesh and spiritual pride. This use of deceit and ministers to the flesh and spiritual pride. There
was a radio personality in southern California some years ago. He did a lot of reviewing. He
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interviewed on television. In some cases that were somewhat off color and all. But he was very very direct and straightforward, even at times brazen. And on one of these telecasts, he had an episcopal minister come in whose church tongues were being used. And after a certain amount of preliminary speech, introduction. He said now let’s get this thing clear said this gentleman on television. Do I understand, rector, that’s the episcopal minister's name, title. Do I understand rector that you are going to have this lady here speak in a foreign language that she’s never known, and she’s going to do that at your signal. At your command. At your sponsorship. Yes. And then he says, but sir, I would like you after that lady does begin to speak, I would like for you to interpret that to us. Whatever she is saying in that language I would like for you to interpret that for me and for the television audience. So he snapped his finger, the Episcopalian rector did. He snapped his fingers and the lady went into sort of a trance and began uttering sort of gibberish and going along a certain area. Then after she'd be quiet for a moment. He would begin to interpret. Begin to explain. And it was pretty obvious that the lady was just speaking what might be one or two sentences or three at the most, and his interpretation was quite extended. Well that was not lost on the TV interviewer. He was well versed in all these areas. He said minister, sir, I notice that she makes rather shorter statements than your long interpretations. How is that? Well, he says my interpretations really are longer than hers because I am adding material by way of explanation. And of course, just interpreting sure that the material wasn’t quite that abstruse and that abstract and that complex that it had to be explained at great length. Then, and here gave away the entire deceit of it. He said, you say she is speaking and has been speaking in a known language. Yes. Oh do you mind telling us, do you mind telling us what the language she is speaking? What was the language in which she was speaking? You name it to us, you say it’s a known language. He says it’s the language of the near east. What is the language.
He says the language is Arabic. Arabic. He had taken Arabic and Aramaic and brought them together. But the lady speaking was in inflections. High and low as though it were a tonal language. Neither Arabic or Aramaic is tonal. I’ve taught both of them. These are only 2 of the number of Semitic languages that we study in the university and use as a background for the interpretation of the incomparable infallible inerrant word of god. In the Old Testament, and it helps to throw light on the New Testament as well. So here you have deceit in order to minister to the flesh and spiritual pride. And another detrimental effect of tongues, and we’ve seen it happen. Broken homes. Homes where some have not felt they could fellowship at all with those who didn’t have this mark of so called spirituality and cause contention. And there had to be separations. One case where one went into this situation and became so distraught that it was impossible for them to live together. And that has often led on without overdoing it. We’re not making this up as we go along. Mental imbalance has resulted from it. in a certain city in the san wakeen valley some years ago after a meeting where a very prominent individual of the tongues movement had preached, I myself have been told by people who lived in that area preached there more than a few times. Have had annual bible conferences in this area. they told me that after that movement ended, the meetings of that movement ended, the people in the mental institutions, those who were in charge, the superintendents and all indicated that they had more admissions than in any other comparable time in all in all of their existence there. So if there’s deceit which ministers to the flesh and spiritual pride, that’s a tremendously detrimental effect that tongues can have. That is by the fruits you shall know them. That’s not very good fruit. Broken homes, mental imbalance and fanatical displays. One dear man of god has told us, reading from so that I’m not leaving it to my own thinking and memory. He speaks of the fanatical displays that go on. For instance he has studied himself biblical tongues. He said if they
had ever been used by these people who speak in tongues, I would certainly have recognized it somewhere along the line. And wouldn’t it been marvelous, [inaudible]. Wouldn’t it been useful and marvelous if people would get say French or get one of the dialects of Africa or Chinese or Korean language or Japanese or some of the languages of the Indians, the Navajo. These tremendously difficult languages. wouldn’t it have been marvelous for god to give that to numbers of people to go out to the mission field where people spend so much of their lifetime at the beginning and all through, trying to learn the language in some degree of usefulness. He says I never have heard anything that would sound like the biblical languages says this man of god. Instead the seeking worshipper is noisily coached by a team of specialists who gather around him. Or in the majority of cases around her. Stamping their feet. Notice this fanatical display. Dancing, clapping their hands, chanting, shouting advice in their ears, giving them a treatment any psychologist would recognize as designed to leave the victim into releasing cerebral control of his body to the autonomic neural system. This is a form of self-hypnosis. When it happens the body will go into spasms of rapid nervous activity. I’ve seen that even before I was saved, I saw it on the streets of my hometown of Pittsburgh Pennsylvania. They remained kneeling on the floor or fall on their backs twitching, kicking, jerking at fantastic speed. Mouthing one syllable over and over with a jaw jerking at a convulsive rate. This is the key to their tongues. They’re given some one syllable to repeat and urged to repeat it until the borderline of control is crossed. Then they’ll repeat it endlessly until exhausted. Saying not just the word glory but drawing it out. gloooory. And then glo glo glo and you’re off. One woman exhorted one speaker to say something that sounded just like a nursery rhyme. Usually the words are words with some religious meaning that would make the speaking more suitable to a semi Christian context like hallelujah. But oh how they draw it. Hallelulululululujahjahjahjahjah and all. Oh my dear friends. Praise
And then they go into bub bub bub bub. The sheer artificiality is evident if you observe it even closely. This writer said in Atlanta. He said he saw one of the coaches in the side room coming out of the room after her prospect had been success relating to this gibberish. She was still chanting her coaching phrase just as children hum a phrase of a popular song. She caroled it gaily she was able to turn her tongue on and off like water. Although they pretend that the tongues is spoken only while being baptized. Oh my. Tongues existed in bible times. They were languages, not such gibberish as this fanatical displays. And then there’s not only, there not only these detrimental effects. I’m not through. There are improprieties in public. In a tract written by dr. R.A. Torrey. Many feel that he was all in favor of the tongues movement. That’s not so. In this tract I have here. The title is is the present tongues movement of god. The one I just read from is the modern tongues and healing movement. This one is by Dr. Torrey. Is the present tongues movement of god? Notice what he says among the reasons he gives that this is not of god. The fifth one. The tongues movement has been accompanied by the most grievous disorders and grossest immoralities. God plainly declares in his word 1 Corinthians 14:33. God is not a god of confusion disorder. But of peace. At one of the most prominent of gatherings of the tongues people recently held in Los Angeles said Dr. Torrey. There’s been the most indescribable disorder. Disturbance. Confusion. Men and women in large numbers have lain for hours side by side on the ground or on the platform in the most unseemly immodest way in a state of hypnotic unconscionness fought into the night. Subject to shameful disgrace in the eyes of the public. The leader in these meetings, a woman of wide renown through these unfortunate men and women into this condition through methods that were plainly hypnotic precisely the same employed by the heathen in Africa by hypnotic adventures and spiritualistic and other gatherings in this country. A person desiring to be healed or be baptized with the Holy Spirit will
be placed in a chair. Listen to this. Before the audience with their back turned to the audience.

And then a man would grab them by the head, putting one hand on the top of the head. Another on the back of the head violently. Then this women would rub down the bodies. That was an added feature. Sometimes rubbing down the bodies of men in the most immodest way. Later when they arose from the chair their arms would be stuck up from below and they would be told to keep their arms up. They would hold them up until they fell unconscious. In one definite case of which Torrey says he knew one boy held up his arms for at least an hour before he fell under what they call the power. Oh friends. These have no resemblance to what was done in biblical times. But they do resemble, hear it, what is done by the heathen in Africa and the fakirs F A K I R S, the fakirs in India. And by hypnotic adventures in this country. The whole thing is repulsive to anybody who really knows the teachings of the bible. What the real operations of the Holy Spirit are. My dear friends. The grossest immoralities. And Dr. Torrey is not unkind. He says I’m not saying that for a moment that there are no clean minded well-meaning men and women in the movement. But the movement as a whole has apparently developed more immorality. Listen to this. Has developed apparently more immorality than any other modern movement except Spiritism to which it is so closely aligned in many ways. Think of it. Not only fanatical displays but immorality in public. Broken churches. Dishonor to the spirit. He always speaks of Christ and the word and what do these do? They are trying to magnify themselves or claim to magnify the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit doesn’t want to be honored in this way. This is not honoring him. Dishonor to the spirit. As Sir Robert Anderson said in his spirit manifestations in the gift of tongues sir Robert Anderson for a while was chief attorney prosecuting attorney for the Scotland Yard forces. Sir Robert Anderson. He was knighted by the British crown. He said a moment’s thought might satisfy us that the false could never deceive the elect. If it didn’t simulate all the
characteristics of the true but you say they give god the glory, they do this that and the other. They mention scripture. Wait a moment. They wouldn’t be able to deceive if they didn’t imitate the characteristics the true honor paid to Christ. The high tone of spirituality. A beautiful code of morals. You see, they mingle these things sometimes they have the grossest impropriety in public. Other times they put on the other. But my dear friends you remember the case in the New Testament where the demons when they recognize the lord Jesus he said thou art Christ the son of god. He rebuked them so for them not to speak. He knew he was the Christ. And they said hast thou come to torment us before our time? If I were giving them an examination in theology I would have to give them 100%. Absolutely I'd have to give them 100% on Christology. They knew he was the son of god. They knew he was the son of David the most high. And I would have to give them 100% on eschatology. On future things. Because Christ is the one who will judge not only all men but demons and fallen creatures as well. And what did the lord Jesus say? He rebuked them. He suffered them not to speak. Why? Why they were already saying that the lord Jesus was in confederacy. He was aligned with Satan. Then it is at sea his demons are giving a testimony to him. Of course he is in league with Satan. He said no I don’t need even truth that you’re telling. I don’t need it from a filthy source. A fallen source such as you are. No. I will have it from a clean source. Vessels that are cleansed, meat for the master’s use. And he said be muzzled he would not allow them to say any such thing. Oh my friends. Is it not clear beyond all shadow of a doubt that this brings dishonor to the spirit. And it doesn’t bring the type of honor that god wants us to bring to the name of the lord Jesus Christ. And then finally, it is an open door for Satan. Definitely so. An open door for Satan. The scriptures say so. Let’s look at these passages. 2 Corinthians 11:14 and 15. And no wonder that Satan can get away with so much of his devices for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. Remember he was Lucifer
before he fell. He was the angel of light. He disguises himself now as an angel of light. Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Whose end shall be according to their deeds. Oh what an open door for Satan. I’m not saying all these folk are impelled by Satan, but they’re aligning themselves to be put in a place where Satan can use what they’re doing unbiblically to bring dishonor ultimately to the name of Christ. Luke 4:41 and demons also were coming out of many crying out and saying you are the son of god. It’s not just enough that they say that. And rebuking them he would not allow them to speak. He would not allow them to speak, because he knew them to be the Christ. And mark 1:24 they said what do we have to do with you Jesus of Nazareth, have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the holy one of god. Oh Satan can enter in there too. It’s got to be by god’s authority as well as god’s word. And Matthew 8:29 behold they cried out saying what do we have to do with you son of god, have you come here to torment us before the time? Oh these words are so clear. They’re clear beyond any dispute my dear friends. It must be not only the truth of god, it must be from a vessel cleansed by god. It must be from an individual who is obeying the clear mentions and rules of the word of god. Keeping in line, not deviating, and I mean it with all my heart. Not deviating by hairs breath. And we who are preaching the gospel and do not practice the use of tongues. We also have to be careful in our preaching that we do not add other things. It’s so easy to add these things. We dare not. We are neither to add nor to detract. Great responsibility is upon us. Dear friend. If you’ve been ensnared in this, perhaps unknowingly, unwittingly. You’ve been told all this is biblical, it’s correct and all. Search the scriptures to see whether these things are so. Do we seek the gift of tongues from the Holy Spirit? The answer again is very definitely no. we’ve had 4 messages then in this series on truth and error about the Holy Spirit, 4 messages on truth. the personality of the spirit, the deity of the spirit, his work for in relationship to the
world, his work in relation to the church, 2 messages on that. And then a special message on can a believer, does a believer seek to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Should he desire filling of the Holy Spirit. And then 4 messages on error about the Holy Spirit. Whether we should seek the baptism of the spirit. Whether we should seek healing through the spirit. Or whether we should speak in tongues. Seek the gift of tongues from the Holy Spirit. 4 messages then on truth and 4 on error. May god bless your life abundantly and keep you ever. Keep the speaker here as well. Keep us all. May ever keep us in truth and from error to the praise of the glory of god the father and god the son and god the Holy Spirit.