

Tongues

Gene Warr

I. Introduction.

A. 1 Corinthians 12 and 14 deal mostly with tongues.

B. Extreme positions on tongues:

1. Tongues passed away in the first century.

2. Tongues are a sign of salvation.

C. Three sources of tongues today.

1. God.

2. The Devil.

3. Hyper-emotionalism.

D. Tongues is not unique to Christianity.

II. We should judge spiritual gifts by the way they are exercised: the work of the Holy Spirit witnesses to Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:1-3; 1 John 4; John 16:13; Acts 1:8)

III. The source of all the gifts is God. God chooses sovereignly what to give to whom. Tongues always occurred unsought. (1 Corinthians 12:4ff)

IV. There is only one baptism that believers undergo. (1 Corinthians 12; Ephesians 4; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

V. God decides where each member of the body will be placed so that there will be no sense of inferiority or superiority in the body of Christ. Everybody has at least one gift. (Hebrews 2:4; 1 Corinthians 12:11; Ephesians 4:7)

VI. About tongues... (1 Corinthians 14:1-4)

A. They were spoken unto God not men. (Acts 2:8; 10)

B. Paul preferred words of understanding over tongues.

C. The gift is not seen in any other church outside of 1 Corinthians. It should be kept in balance.

VII. Operate on the basis of love. (Romans 13:10)

Application questions:

1. What are some of the characteristics of tongues?

2. What is your position on tongues? Defend your answer.

3. What problems with the sign gifts do you think are the greatest?
