

# The Gifts of the Holy Spirit (continued)

# 1 Corinthians 12: 4 - 11 (NAS)

We are going to look at two of these gifts this morning found in verse 8.

- 1) The gift of the 'Word of knowledge' and
- 2) The gift of the 'Word of wisdom'

# Meanings of the words Knowledge and Wisdom

note: This knowledge and wisdom is of man / worldly / fleshly

Knowledge (gk) - 'Gnosis'- Gnosticism, Gnostics

Knowledge as in the Oxford English Dictionary is simply 'the gathering of facts, information and skills acquired through experience or education.'

Wisdom (gk) - 'Sophia'- Sophistes a wise man, master and teacher.

Wisdom as in the Oxford English Dictionary is 'the ability to make sensible decisions and judgements which we acquire through experience, knowledge and understanding.'

# Mankind lives in 2 different worlds

- 1) The Natural Realm - That which we see and live in.
- 2) The Spiritual Realm - That which is unseen and which God wants only experienced (**Born again believers**) to live in.

1 Cor.2:14-15.

However, people who involve themselves in 'occult practices' ( and there are many ) open themselves to what can be described as 'The DARK REALM of the spirit realm!

Which for Gods people are Absolutely forbidden. Deut.18:9-13

When it comes to occult practices, Christians are not immune to opening themselves up to being negatively affected.

Let's see what God thinks of  
Mans Wisdom!

1 Cor.1:19-21

James 3:13-15

So what Defines 'God's Wisdom'?

It is simply His divine knowledge and understanding  
of ALL THINGS!  
which is imparted to us 'IN CHRIST.'

It is given to us to achieve a certain goal(s) in both natural and  
spiritual realms.

Finally we come to the ‘supernatural gifts’ of the ‘Word of Knowledge’ and the ‘Word of Wisdom.’

An old Testament example of Gods wisdom and knowledge being given as and when God ‘willed’ to accomplish his purposes

Exodus 31:1-6

What we need to realise is that these ‘gifts’ are specific gifts, given at specific times, in specific situations, to accomplish Gods specific purposes, as indeed are all these gifts recorded in 1 Cor.12:4-11

The 'word of knowledge' reveals things that exist  
(Gods hidden plans or perhaps secrets of our hearts) past,  
present or future.

In the 'future tense' this of course can be a prophetic word  
of knowledge.

Whereas the 'word of wisdom' goes further to tell us  
what to do with what has been revealed in order to  
solve a particular situation or problem.

So let's look at some examples of the words of  
knowledge and wisdom given by the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 16: 13-17 ( Peter's Confession )

Acts 5: 3-4, 9-10 ( Fate of Ananias and Sapphira )

Acts 9: 10-15. ( Revelation of Sauls calling )

Here we have visions, words of knowledge, words of wisdom and prophetic knowledge all working 'hand in hand' with each other to fulfil the eternal purposes of God.

King Solomon as you will know is probably the 'classic example' of a servant of God, who desired 'Knowledge and wisdom' above anything else in his life at the time he was called to rule God's people.

I would encourage anyone who is unfamiliar with this story of the call on his life to read it in 1 Kings 3:1-28.

Colossians 2:3 reads:

‘In Him are ALL the TREASURES of WISDOM and KNOWLEDGE’

1 Cor.3:21-22 says:

‘All things are yours and you are Christs.

2 Timothy1:6-7 also says “Fan into flame the spiritual gift

God has given to you

Therefore let’s be diligent in service in the Lord, using each and every gift of the Holy Spirit that he gives and empowers us with, to serve the Church ( His Body ) in these ‘last days’ in which we live.’ Amen and Amen.