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**Gifts - The  
Miraculous Gifts  
Have Ceased, But  
the Spirit Remains**



By Dan Maines

## **The Miraculous Gifts Have Ceased, But the Spirit Remains**

### **Introduction**

Many believers today wonder if miraculous gifts like healing, prophecy, tongues, and signs still operate in the Church. From the fulfilled perspective, we recognize those gifts served a vital role during the transition between covenants. But just because the gifts have ceased, it doesn't mean the Holy Spirit is absent. The Spirit's still present, still active, and still giving life to all who are in Christ.

† The early Church needed divine confirmation. We don't.

We've got the fully revealed kingdom and the completed Word.  
† False teachers still promise miracles to impress the flesh. But the Spirit works inwardly, not for show, but for transformation.

## **The Miraculous Gifts Were for the Apostolic Age**

### **Hebrews 2:3-4**

How will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard, God also testifying with them, both by signs and wonders, and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will.

† These miraculous gifts were signs to confirm the gospel as it spread in the first century. They weren't permanent, but served a foundational purpose for the Church.

† Once the foundation was laid, the signs were no longer needed. The builder doesn't keep the scaffolding once the house is complete.

† We're no longer in the era of transition. That season of signs has closed.

† Miracles in the first century pointed to the final covenant shift. Today, clinging to signs is a form of unbelief in what's already been fulfilled.

## **Prophecy, Tongues, and Knowledge Would Cease**

### **1 Corinthians 13:8-10**

Love never fails, but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away with, if there are tongues, they will cease, if there is knowledge, it will be done away with. For we know in part and prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away with.

† The gifts were partial and incomplete. They were meant to pass away when the full came.

† The perfect isn't Christ's final return. It's the completed covenant, the revealed kingdom, the full maturity of the body.

† The old covenant was being phased out. The gifts were placeholders until the transition finished.

† If the gifts continued today, Paul's statement would be false.

But Paul was right. The gifts ceased when their purpose ended.

## **The Gifts Were to Last Until the Church Reached Maturity Ephesians 4:11-13**

And He gave some as apostles, some as prophets, some as evangelists, some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the building up of the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.

† These gifts were given until the Church reached maturity. Not forever. Not endlessly. Until.

† The Church became mature when the old system fell and the new stood alone.

† That unity came when both Jew and Gentile stood equal in the new creation without the temple, law, or priesthood of the old.

† We're not in a building phase anymore. We're living stones in the finished house. The tools are no longer in use.

† The body of Christ has its full identity now. It doesn't need apostles and prophets to establish it. They finished their work.

## **The Outpouring of the Spirit Was for the Last Days Acts 2:17-18**

And it shall be in the last days, God says, That I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind, And your sons and daughters will prophesy, And your young men will see visions, And your old men will have dreams. And even on My male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days, And they will prophesy.

† Peter said this was happening then. He applied Joel's prophecy to his day, not ours.

† The last days were the end of the old covenant, not the end of the world.

† The outpouring of the Spirit in signs and visions marked the judgment and transition that ended in 70 AD.

† It wasn't a universal promise of perpetual miracles. It was a

covenantal sign for that generation.

## **The Gift of the Holy Spirit Remains**

### **Acts 2:38-39**

Peter said to them, Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far away, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.

† The Spirit Himself is the gift, not the outward miracles.

† The promise remains, but the form it took during the last days has changed.

† We still receive the Spirit by faith, and He dwells in us, but He no longer manifests through tongues, visions, and miracles.

† The indwelling Spirit is our seal, our life, and our identity in the kingdom. That hasn't changed.

## **The Spirit Gives Life and Power Today**

### **Romans 8:9**

However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you.

† The Spirit isn't inactive. He transforms hearts, renews minds, and leads us in truth.

† What ceased were the signs, not the life-giving power of the Spirit.

† If you're in Christ, the Spirit dwells in you fully. That's the true miracle today.

### **2 Corinthians 3:6**

Who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter, but of the Spirit, for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

† The old system was external, legal, and temporary. The Spirit brings inward life, eternal and spiritual.

† The new covenant is Spirit-driven. Not written on tablets, but on hearts.

† We're ministers of that Spirit today. Not with signs and

wonders, but with truth, love, and power.

### **Galatians 5:22-23**

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, against such things there is no law.

† This is what the Spirit produces today. Not outward miracles, but inward transformation.

† These fruits are greater than any sign gift. They're the visible evidence of the Spirit at work.

† When someone claims to have miracles but lacks these fruits, they're false.

### **What About Healing Today?**

† While God certainly can heal, and we can pray in Jesus's name, we don't have the apostolic authority to lay hands on people and expect miraculous recovery.

† That authority was part of the foundation of the Church. It ended with those who laid that foundation.

† Today, healing comes by providence, prayer, and grace, not by signs and wonders.

† The Spirit still comforts, strengthens, and renews. But He doesn't operate through miracle workers today.

† Seeking signs now only distracts from the true work of the Spirit in forming Christ in us.

### **What the Historical Writers Say**

† Origen (c. 185-254 AD) said that Christians have no longer prophets nor miracles except for traces still found among them, implying the gifts had already diminished.

† Cyprian's writings show controversy over visions and dreams, suggesting these experiences had become rare or disputed.

† Chrysostom (c. 347-407 AD) said certain gifts like tongues used to occur but now no longer take place, and found the passages on gifts obscure because they weren't being practiced anymore.

† Augustine (c. 354-430 AD) wrote that signs adapted to the

time had passed away once the Church was established, though he still admitted God could work miracles at His will.

† This pattern shows a clear historical memory of extraordinary gifts fading after the apostolic era, which agrees with scripture's own prediction of their end.

### **How It Applies Today**

† Many are being led astray by emotional experiences, false teachers, and false prophets claiming to perform miracles in Jesus's name. But Jesus warned of these things.

† Matthew 7:22-23 - Many will say to Me on that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles? And then I will declare to them, I never knew you.

† Our faith isn't built on signs, feelings, or performances. It's built on the finished work of Christ and the full arrival of His kingdom.

† The Holy Spirit is still with us, not to wow crowds, but to lead us in truth, produce real fruit, and empower us to walk in love, self-control, and righteousness.

† Let's test everything against the Word, cling to what is good, and boldly teach the truth. The gifts have ceased, but the Spirit remains.

### **† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †**

#### **Source Index**

† Hebrews 2:3-4; 1 Corinthians 13:8-10; Ephesians 4:11-13; Acts 2:17-18, 38-39; Romans 8:9; 2 Corinthians 3:6; Galatians 5:22-23

† Josephus, Wars 6.5.3 - reports signs, omens, and prophetic visions ending at the temple's destruction

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History 3.8 - notes that after the apostolic generation, the miraculous signs decreased and disappeared

† Chrysostom, Homilies on Corinthians - acknowledges that the

miraculous gifts ceased by his time  
† Augustine, On the Trinity 4.8.10 - speaks of signs being for  
the beginning of faith and not continued

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