

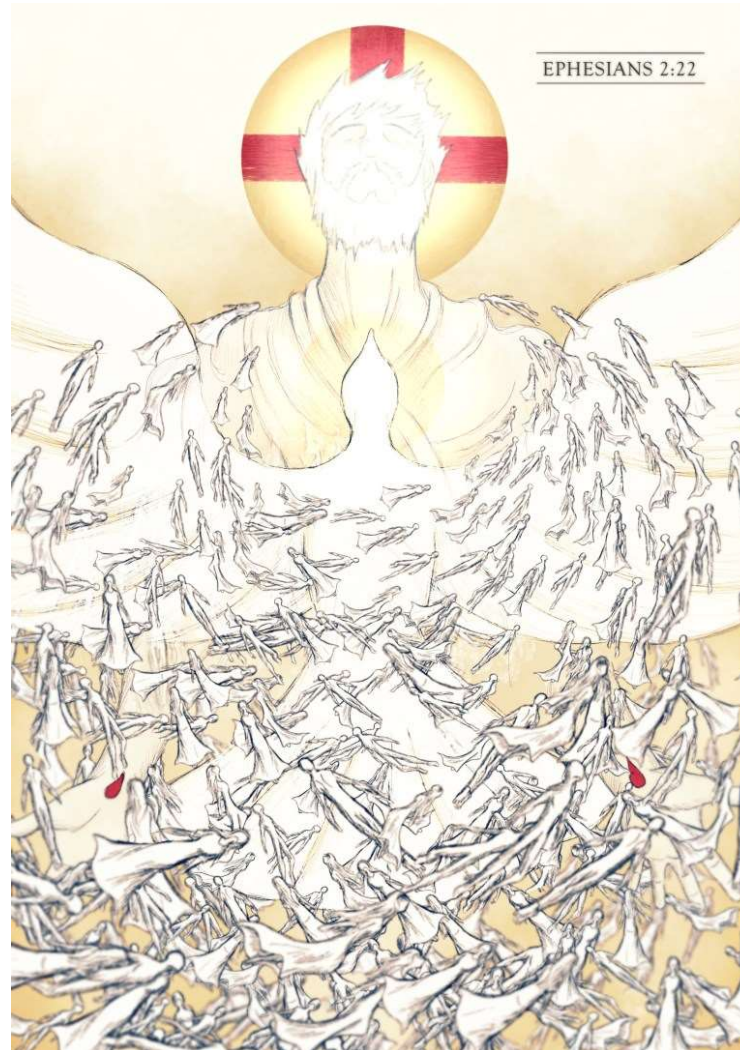
**[1 Corinthians]
Lesson 10**

Spiritual Gifts

(1 Corinthians 12:1-31)



1. The Holy Spirit's Working



(1 Corinthians 12:1) *Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would (want) not have you ignorant (not know). (2) Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away (slaves) unto these dumb (not speaking—dead) idols, even as ye were led (slaves).*

*Idols are nothing. However, Satan's devils controlled the Corinthians same as all Gentiles are controlled by Satan with Satan's lies, fears, and idolatry.

*But now we will learn that the Holy Spirit works a different way. The Holy Spirit controls us when we freely give ourselves to Him.
[Romans 6:12-13; Ephesians 5:18]

(1 Cor 12:3) **Wherefore** (that is explanation) I give you to understand (teach), **that** no man speaking by the Spirit of God **calleth Jesus accursed** (bad): and that no man can say that **Jesus is the Lord** [good], but by the **Holy Ghost**.

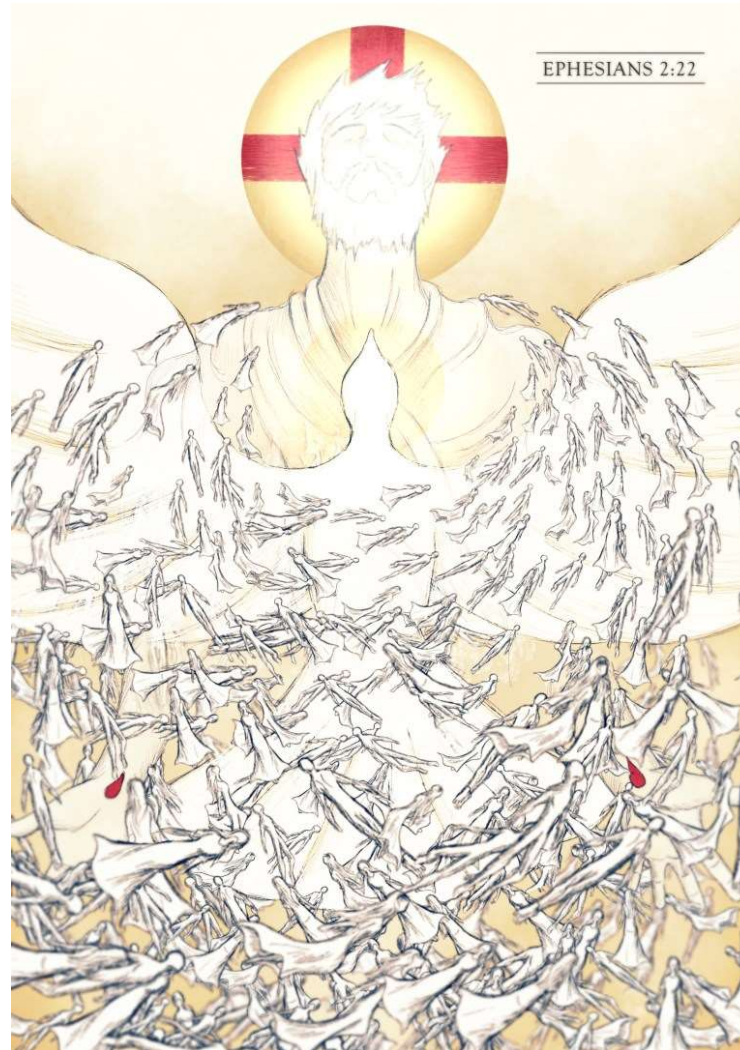
* **Satan** may give powers to people to deceive and lead **against** Jesus and **opposite** the Bible.

* The **Holy Spirit** gave and supported with spiritual gifts the Word of God (**Bible**), so that people can know and say, "**Jesus is Lord!**"

** **Satan's Power = attacks Jesus and Bible;**

** **God's Power = supports Jesus and Bible.**

2. The Holy Spirit Gave Many Spiritual Gifts



(1 Cor 12:4) *Now there are diversities (different) of gifts [work—able], but the same [One] Spirit. (5) And there are differences of administrations (ministry) [work—jobs], but the same [One] Lord. (6) And there are diversities of operations (workings/plans/projects) [work—using of gift and office], but it is the same [One] God which worketh all in all (full control in everything).*

*The One God ([Trinity—Spirit, Son, Father]) gives different abilities, jobs, and missions (works to do). The members should be unified as God is unified. We should not be comparing ourselves to one another—no pride, only faithful service.

(1 Cor 12:7) *But the manifestation (show) of the Spirit is given to every man to profit (help) withal (to help the same—every man).*

The Holy Spirit's work is most clearly seen (manifested) when the members of a church yield themselves to His control thus allowing the gifts, which He has given to each member, to profit the whole church.

(1 Cor 12:8) *For to one (member) is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another (member) the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; (9) To another (member) faith by the same Spirit...*

*[John 16:12-13] Jesus promised that after He ascended, He would send the Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit came, He revealed the Truth to the church until the Bible was completed.

*Before the Bible was completed, the Holy Spirit gave gifts of knowledge, wisdom, and faith to some early church members to guide the early church (**30-100AD**).

*[Eph. 4:11-16] Today, as gifted pastors and teachers teach us the Bible, the Spirit leads all of us. So, no more gifts of "knowledge", "wisdom" or "faith".

(1 Cor 12:9) ...to another (member) the gifts of **healing** by the same Spirit; (10) To another the **working of miracles**...

*(Acts 4:29-31; 9:11-12) These **sign** (**proof**) **gifts** were given to the **early church**—**mainly apostles**— (**30-100AD**) to prove that what they were teaching and writing was truly **God's Word**.

*(Exodus 4:1-9) Same as God gave signs (**proofs**) for Moses before Egypt and Israel, so also God gave these **proofs** to the **early church**, He does **not** give these **proofs** regularly **today**.

*We **now** depend on the power of **God's Word**; we **don't** depend on **miraculous signs**.

(1 Cor 12:10) ...to another (member) **prophecy**...

*This **prophecy** gift allowed members to speak God's exact words to the churches. This gift has ended. We now have all God's exact words in the completed Bible.

*(1 Cor. 2:9-13) Now pastors/teachers do not receive words directly from God. Today, only the Bible—the words God has already revealed to us—is taught.

(1 Cor 12:10) ...to another (member) **discerning of spirits**...

spirits = Teaching (from God or Satan)

discerning = Judging

* **Before** the **Bible** was completed, members had to rely on this **gift** (**discerning of spirits**) to judge if a teaching was right or wrong.

* **Now** we must judge all teaching by the completed **Bible**.

(1 Cor 12:10) ...to another (member) **divers** (different) **kinds of tongues** (languages); to another (member) the **interpretation** (meaning) **of tongues**:

Tongues = the ability to speak languages that a member never learned. This was the same gift given on the day of Pentecost [Acts 2:1-12].

Interpretation of tongues = a different gift where one can tell the meaning of languages that a member never learned.

*Neither of these gifts are given today.

Later in Chapter 14 we will learn more.

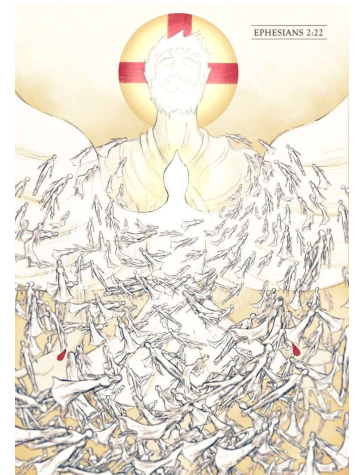
(1 Cor 12:11) *But all these [gifts] worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing (giving) to every man severally (each member) as he (Holy Spirit) will (chooses).*

It was foolish for the Corinthians to focus on speaking in tongues and boast about their gift of tongues because it is the Holy Spirit that gave the gifts as the Holy Spirit decided. And He gave the gifts for the profit of the whole church for the glory of God and not so that the members could boast.

3. All Believers Are Members of One Body in Christ.



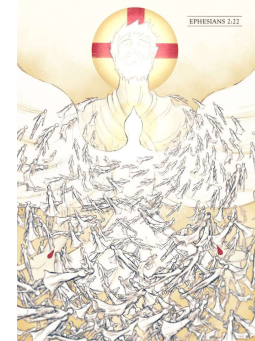
(1 Cor 12:12) *For as the body is one, and hath many members [hands, eyes, feet...], and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also (same) is Christ.*



[Ephesians 4:4-6] Immediately when we believed, the Holy Spirit “baptized” (put into) all believers into Christ.

[Eph 1:13; Romans 6:3-4] Immediately when we believed, the Holy Spirit came to live in each believer.

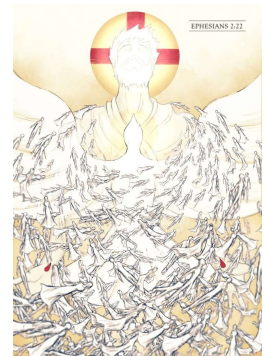
(1 Cor 12:13) *For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit [receive and share fellowship with the same Holy Spirit as the Lord's Supper symbolizes (show example)].*



*Every believer is important in the Body of Christ (**church**). The Holy Spirit put us into the church, and He gives us each spiritual gifts to profit all the church.

*We all have a place and work in the church planned by God.

(1 Cor 12:14) *For the body is not one member (ear, eye, nose, foot, hand...), but many [members]. (15) If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? (16) And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? (17) If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole [body] were hearing, where were the smelling?*

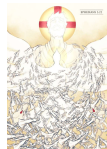


(1 Cor 12:18) *But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him [God chooses our gift and work, not ourselves].*

(19) *And if they were all one member, where were the body? (20) But now are they many members, yet but one body. (21) And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you.*



(1 Cor 12:22) *Nay (no), much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble (weak), are necessary (needed): (23) And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow (give) more abundant (much) honour; and our uncomely (not beautiful) parts (members) have more abundant comeliness (beauty). (24) For our comely parts (members) have no need: but God hath tempered (planned—made) the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part (member) which lacked (less):*

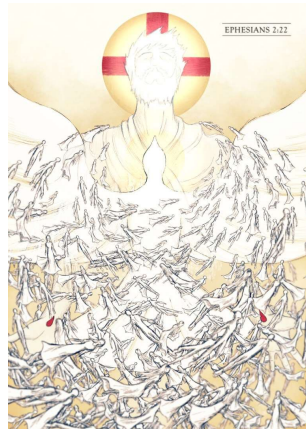


(1 Cor 12:25) *That there should be no schism (separation) in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another [unity is important]. (26) And whether (if) one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.*

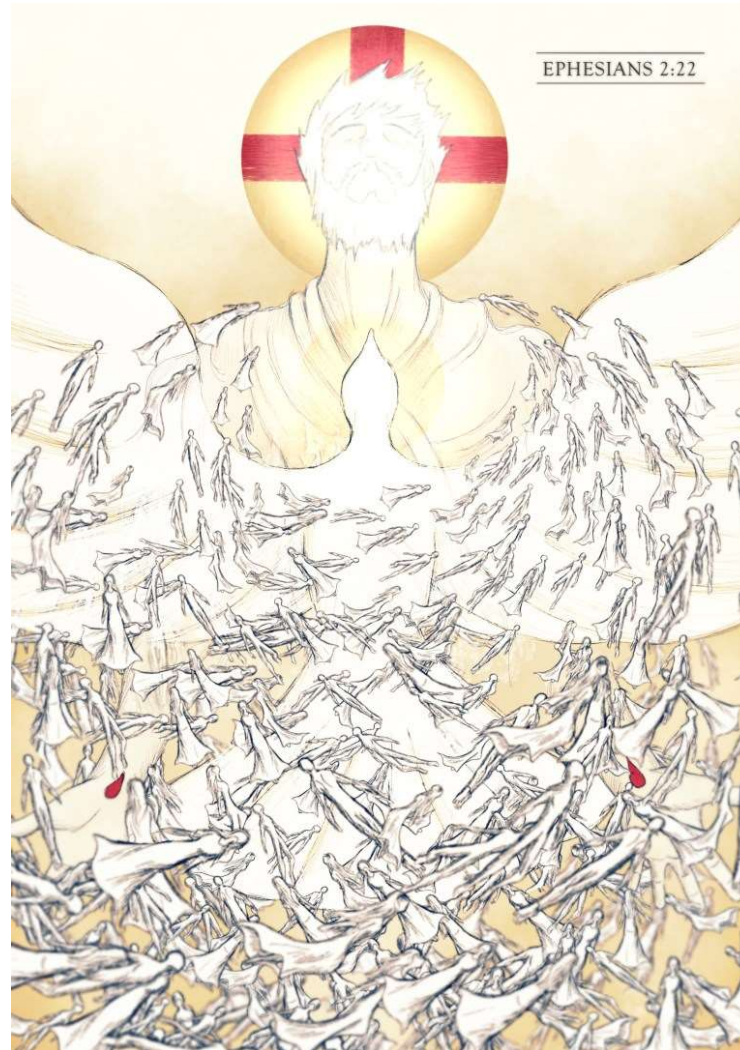
*What happens if your finger, toe, or tooth hurts?

All the body suffers with it.

Members work together, or all the church suffers.



4. God Gifts the Church According to His Plan



(1 Cor 12:27) *Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular (each one). (28) And God hath set some in the church, first (1st) apostles, secondarily (2nd) prophets, thirdly (3rd) teachers, after that (4th) miracles, then (5th) gifts of healings, (6th) helps, (7th) governments (order—ruling), (8th) diversities (different) of tongues (languages).*

*Same God plans—makes bodies to work also God plans—makes His church to work.

*Tongues is given last (8th) to show it is not most important.

(1 Cor 12:28) *And God hath set some in the church, first (1st) apostles, secondarily (2nd) prophets, thirdly (3rd) teachers, after that (4th) miracles, then (5th) gifts of healings, (6th) helps, (7th) governments (order—ruling), (8th) diversities (different) of tongues (languages).*

*These gifts **ended** when the Bible was completed.

*These gifts **continue** today.

(1 Cor 12:28) ... (6th) **helps**, (7th) **governments** (order—**ruling**)...

“helps” = There are many ways we can **help** one another in the church. Everyone can **help**. The more you help then the more others (**Teachers, Pastors, Evangelists and Administrators**) are free to use their gifts to profit the church.

“governments” = (**ordering, or ruling**)

The pastor is often gifted with **“governments”** as the Pastor shepherds the flock (**church**) [**guides the church**].

However, others in the church are gifted with this **to organize** and order the church.

(1 Cor 12:29) Are **all** apostles? [No] are **all** prophets?
[No] are **all** teachers? [No] are **all** workers of miracles?
[No] (30) Have **all** the gifts of healing? [No] do **all**
speak with tongues? [No] do **all** interpret? [No]

*The Holy Spirit does not give the same gift to **all** members.

*The Corinthians would **not all** “*speak tongues*”...

*The Corinthians were wrong to exalt *tongues* and think everyone must have it.

*Today, some Christians exalt “*tongues*” and think all should have it.
Example = Charismatics: Pentecostals, Assembly of God (AG)...

(1 Cor 12:31) *But covet (want) earnestly (much) the best gifts [see chapter 14]: and yet (more) shew (show) I unto you a more excellent (very good) way [see chapter 13].*

*Some gifts are of more importance for the strengthening of the church. Instead of desiring the exciting gifts like *tongues, healings, or miracles*, we should desire those gifts which make spiritually strong the church [see chapter 14].

We will study chapters 13 and 14 in our next lessons.