



Spiritual Gifts -3

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| By Bro Rolf Strommen, NORWAY

The Giver of the Spirit

- *"For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him"* (Joh. 3:34-35, KJV).
- The giver of the Spirit is God, the eternal Spirit, and He gives it to His beloved Son, who is the beginning of the creation of God, according to Revelation 3:14.
- The Lord Jesus addressed Himself to John as *"the beginning of the creation of God"*.
- God had Jesus Christ on His agenda and in everything He created.
- Because He was going to create a family, and the leader of the family would be Jesus Christ.
- And at the end of all time, we will be His brothers and sisters.
- For He will be the firstborn among many brethren.

The Purpose of Creation

- In John 3, we see that the Spirit of God is given to Jesus Christ in full measure, and there are no limitations.
- In looking at limitations, we have to understand that Jesus Christ was not the creator but the redeemer, for God created Him because He saw that man would fail.
- He saw this fall in the Garden of Eden and knew that mortality would enter the human family.
- This would then reduce man's life span; it would be so short that none would live up to the old patriarchs like Methuselah, who reached 969 years.
- One would wonder how one could live that long, but remember, if they hadn't sinned, they wouldn't have died.
- Methuselah would have been around for more than 6,000 years now, but because of sin, mortality came in.

God's Plan and Human Choice

- God had all this prefigured, and when He made mankind, He ensured that His Spirit would dwell in Him.
- But the first and the former was the beginning of the creation of God, who is Jesus the Christ.
- When God gave Him the full measure of the Spirit, it means that He had the fullness of the Godhead dwelling bodily in Him.

The Measure of Faith

- *"For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith"* (Rom. 12:3, KJV)

- There is a distinctive difference between John 3:34 and Romans 12:3, for the former points to Christ having the Spirit without limit, and the latter to man having the Spirit in measure.
- Man has, therefore, the measure of faith.
- Faith can be looked at as that spiritual pull that God has instilled in man.
- That is the different spiritual factor that helps man recognize God.

Selfishness and the Limitation of Gifts

- Selfish man tries to make themselves God.
- And that is why God puts a limitation, and even with the limitation, man tries to make themselves a god.
- Romans 4 points out that God doesn't seek man but instead God seeks man.
- Selfish man tries to make themselves God.

Different Gifts

- *"For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness" (Rom. 12:4-8, KJV).*
- Paul is telling us that we have different gifts, and we know that God installed all the gifts in the human soul. Limitation of Human Understanding
- There are things in the spiritual world that are not fully in operation in the human mind because I don't think the human soul can comprehend and live with all the top-measured gifts of God's Spirit working in and through our lives, because we have a weakness in the flesh, and we always long to be important.

The Danger of Selfishness

- If some people have the spirit of healing operating in their lives, they make themselves kings of healers.
- Some ministers brag on what they can do in the name of Jesus Christ, and this is not the right thing to do, because one day Jesus Christ will deny them, and the working of the gifts in them, because it was done in selfishness.

The Right Use of Gifts

If the gift is to operate, it shouldn't be from our volition but from God's. All we do is recognize the gift and desire for it to operate in a situation that needs it.

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