

I Corinthians

(26) About Counterfeit Spiritual Gifts

1 Cor 12:1-11

12 Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant. 2 You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. 3 Therefore I tell you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

4 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. 6 There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.

7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. 8 To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, 10 to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines. NIV

The reality/source of counterfeit ‘gifts’...12:1-2

What is the next topic Paul addresses? 12:1 (Review “[The Church at Corinth \(PDF\)](#)”)

What was their ignorance focused on? 12:3; [IJn.4:1-3](#)

First, of what does Paul remind them about their ‘pre-Christian’ lives? 12:2; [10:20](#)

From Scripture, where/when did this false religion originate? Gen.11:1-9, 10:8-10; Rev.17:1-6

After God intervened at Babel (Babylon), what happened? [Mt.13:24-30](#)

And in the end times (tribulation period), what will happen re these multitudes? [Rev.17:1-18](#)

What are (2) *specific issues* that Paul must deal with at Corinth? [6:9-11, 3:1-4](#)

Two tests for the source of spiritual gifts...12:3

Knowing these (2) issues, what is Paul’s first *emphatic* test? 12:3a; Obvious implication??

What false teaching is this usually associated with? (Note: also- no resurrection! Chapter 15...)

Can this same thing happen today? [IICor.11:14](#) Where is it most likely to occur? [IICor.11:13](#)

And what is his second *emphatic* test? 12:3b Implication??

Are these just ‘words’? Mt.7:21; Acts 2:36; Eph.1:20-21; Phil.2:9-11; [Rev.17:14; 19:6](#)

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The reality/source of counterfeit ‘gifts’...12:1-2

What is the next topic Paul addresses? 12:1 (Review “[The Church at Corinth \(PDF\)](#)”)

It’s about spiritual gifts. And they were ignorant here as in virtually all the other areas!

What was their ignorance focused on? 12:3; [IJn.4:1-3](#)

They couldn’t discern God’s true gifts from the Satanic counterfeits. Trying to use both!

First, of what does Paul remind them about their ‘pre-Christian’ lives? 12:2; [10:20](#)

When you were unsaved you were influenced and led astray to mute idols (false worship).

From Scripture, where/when did this false religion originate? Gen.11:1-9, 10:8-10; Rev.17:1-6

The Mystery Babylon the Great originated in Babel (Babylon) under Nimrod.

After God intervened at Babel (Babylon), what happened? [Mt.13:24-30](#)

Satan caused this Mystery religion to morph into multitudes of false religions, worldwide.

And in the end times (tribulation period), what will happen re these multitudes? [Rev.17:1-18](#)

Satan re-unites them. Then God directs that Satan destroys and replaces them w/ himself.

What are (2) specific issues that Paul must deal with at Corinth? [6:9-11, 3:1-4](#)

They were spiritually immature, babes, and they were immersed in a ‘Babylon’ culture!

Two tests for the source of spiritual gifts...12:3

Knowing these (2) issues, what is Paul’s first *emphatic* test? 12:3a; Obvious implication??

No one speaking by the Spirit of God says “Jesus be cursed”! That was happening!!

What false teaching is this usually associated with? (Note: also- no resurrection! Chapter 15...)

Often Gnosticism. Everything physical is evil, everything spiritual is pure/godly.

Can this same thing happen today? [IICor.11:14](#) Where is it most likely to occur? [IICor.11:13](#)

Absolutely! Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. Most often in the church!

And what is his second *emphatic* test? 12:3b Implication??

No one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit. This is a valid test ([IJn.4:1-3](#))!

Are these just ‘words’? Mt.7:21; Acts 2:36; Eph.1:20-21; Phil.2:9-11; [Rev.17:14; 19:6](#)

NO! This is confessing that Jesus is God, King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Absolute God.