

Untangling Tongues

Part 3

SLIDE 1

Last week talked about John chapter 7 verses 37-39

SLIDE 2

John 7:37-39

37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." 39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Jesus is in Jerusalem at the Feast of Tabernacles. And on the last day, Jesus stands up and "Cried out":

"If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."

The NIV says the "Heart" But the word there is "*koilia*" or "Belly" as the King James puts it.

The Bible reveals dual significance in the Feast of Tabernacles. Agriculturally, it is Israel's "thanksgiving," a joyous harvest festival to celebrate the ingathering of grain and wine.

Such as the remembrance in communion of the bread and wine.

As an historical feast, it's main characteristic is the requirement to dwell in temporary shelters or booths in remembrance of God's protection, provision and care during their 40 years in the wilderness.

During Sukkot, two important ceremonies took place. The Hebrew people carried torches around the temple, illuminating bright candelabrum along the walls of the temple to demonstrate that the Messiah would be a light to the Gentiles.

Also, the priest would draw water from the pool of Siloam and carry it to the temple where it was poured into a silver basin beside the altar.

The priest would call upon the Lord to provide heavenly water in the form of rain for their supply. During this ceremony the people looked forward to the pouring out of the Holy Spirit. Some records reference the day spoken of by the prophet Joel.

In the New Testament, Jesus attended the Feast of Tabernacles and spoke these amazing words on the last and greatest day of the Feast: "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." From his belly.

The next morning, while the torches were still burning Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12 NIV)

The timing of Jesus is amazing. This was done with the very purpose to make the point. Back to John chapter 7 verse 37. Who stood up? Jesus stood up. And now He says if anyone is thirsty, let them come to me and drink.

And in verse 38, "out of his belly will flow rivers of living water."

For the Jews, they would know exactly what Jesus was saying. He would be claiming that they would now have the living water from their bellies not the water that was collected from the rain or the pool of Siloam. Now you will have this water in you.

The Old Testament Levitical law would tell you that almost everything made you unclean. If you touched a dead body, you were unclean. If you touched a leaper, you were unclean. If it was the woman's time of the month, they were unclean.

What you would have to do is gather this heavenly water to wash yourself to make you clean. It could be rainwater because it was from heaven or from a place like the pool of Siloam.

If you were wealthy, you would have one of these cisterns in your house that would gather the rainwater and then you would pour it on you to be clean.

Remember the leper that Jesus touched? He was “Unclean” Jesus touched him and remember Jesus did not say you are healed, He said you are now clean. Jesus is this living water that makes you clean and in John Chapter 7 He is saying that you will now have this river of heavenly water that makes you clean, Jesus, you will now have this flow like a river from your belly. You will no longer need to wash from the outside in, now Jesus who lives in you makes you clean.

Ok, let’s go through the order of some things here.

In Genesis, we are told about the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and that tree leads to death.

Many Christians today are eating from that tree but Christianity is not the knowledge of good and evil, it is the tree of life.

Jesus said I have come that you would have life and in abundance.

Now, judging good and evil is religion.

Remember when we studied the about “Religion Bytes”?

That was about the first four chapters of Galatians. But when you get to chapter 5 of Galatians, we are told to walk in the Spirit.

So in chapters 1-4 we learn the difference between grace and law, but we are not led by law we are to be led by the spirit. If you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

In Romans, you don't hear the mention of the Holy Spirit except in Romans 5:5, "have the Spirit in your heart but when you finally get to Romans 8 where we are told in verse 1:

8 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

We need that foundation of law and grace so we can then walk in the Spirit.

We need a good foundation so we can discern and put into practice being led by the Spirit.

When Jesus "**Out of your bellies will flow rivers of living water**", all the Jews would have known exactly what Jesus was talking about. "If I have a belly full of this living water all day and night, I will always be clean. I will have no defilement and I will be whole.

SLIDE 3

Proverbs 18:4 (NKJV)

4 The words of a man's mouth are deep waters.

Proverbs 15:4 (NKJV)

4 A wholesome tongue is a tree of life.

How is our tongue made wholesome? By the springs of living water that come from deep in our bellies put there by Jesus with the power of the Holy Spirit.

Pray for a free flow of the Holy Spirit from deep in you.

SLIDE 4

Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

You shall receive **“Power”**.

What is this power?

The word there is “dynamis” - dü'-nä-mēs.

It means “The miracle working power” The power that Jesus has to perform the miraculous signs and wonders.

The Dunames power of God.

We are the ones to receive this power just as the disciples received it.

And what do we need this power for?

We are to “BE” His witnesses not just “DO” the witnessing.

In fact, they were told not to do anything until they received this power.

Let’s read:

SLIDE 5

Acts 2:1-4

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Number 2. How did they receive this “dynamis” - dü'-nä-mēs. Power? The baptism of the Holy Spirit?

I have heard many people say all kinds of things that you are supposed to do, or “works” that, you are supposed to do to receive the Holy Spirit.

Be devoted in your Bible reading.
Worship and sing to God all the time.
Pray all night.
Fast all day.
Cry out to God on your knees for hours.

It's like people think that Holy Spirit is going to come ever, so, slowly.

But, let's look what the Bible says:

Verse 2:

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

The Bible says the Holy Spirit came "Suddenly" Like a Rushing", "Mighty" wind and it filled the whole house!

And what were the disciples doing?

The end of the verse says, "it filled the whole house where they were **sitting**"

Verse 3 and 4:

3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

The Holy Spirit came rushing in while they were doing what? Sitting. Then when the Holy Spirit filled them they did what?

"Began to **speak** with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

Did it say that the Holy Spirit spoke? No! The Bible says that they spoke. What did they speak?

"Other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance"

Number 3. Why do we want this?

Well, for one thing, I want all that God has for me.

But let's look at a few verses here.

SLIDE 6

Mark 14:38

Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Romans 8:26

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Romans 15:30

Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me,

Ephesians 6:18

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—

Jude 1:20

But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,

Just a few of the verses, but enough for me.

So, what is praying in the Spirit?

SLIDE 7

1 Corinthians 14:15 (NKJV)

In 1 Corinthians chapter 14, Paul gives a lot of detail about and essentially “orders” for how we are to pray in tongues in the church. And he is concluding this by saying this verse

15 What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.

The problem with the church in Corinth was that they were all using their tongues to be seen as spiritual in the church. It was like a contest to see who would be in the highest spiritual position in church.

They were missing the purpose of the why God gave this gift.

Let me remind you of what we are talking about when we are talking about the gift here.

There is your spiritual language that the Holy Spirit gives you the utterances as you are baptized in the Holy Spirit – Book of Acts. You are talking to God.

The gift of tongues – Corinthians – God is talking to us. Not everyone has the gift of tongues.

Both by the same Spirit.

Prayer language is after salvation and is for every believer.

When we talked about religion a few weeks ago, out of the book of Galatians, we talked about Peter was at the home of Cornelius. Cornelius was the first gentile mentioned that got saved.

When Peter was preaching, and as Peter was preaching this salvation message he says in **Acts 10:38**:

SLIDE 8

“God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.”

The word for this power is the same word we just talked about: dynamis” - dü'-nä-mēs.

How did Jesus do good and heal? With dynamis” - dü'-nä-mēs.

This is the same dynamis” - dü'-nä-mēs - miracle working power that God gave Jesus, the disciples and also is for us!

But let’s just say, you’ve been saved, you have received Christ as your Lord and Savior and you have been baptized in the Holy Spirit and you can speak in tongues, but you just don’t see the power in your life?

Let’s just confirm that this Baptism of the Holy Spirit comes with speaking in tongues.

In the same message we have been talking about in Acts chapter 10, as Peter is concluding his message to Cornelius and the others in his house, Peter is at the best part, the altar call part, the big finish and in

SLIDE 9

Acts 10:43-46:

43 To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.” 44 **While Peter was still speaking these words**, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. 45 And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, **because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.** 46 **For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.**

How did this happen to them? Those that believed in Him, Jesus, for the remission of sins, that Jesus forgives sins, that is who received the gift of the Holy Spirit and how did they know they had received the Holy Spirit? **Verse 46: “For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.”**

Now, some would say, "That's not enough!" you need to do more than that. You can't just believe. That is so like man to complicate what God has made simple. We want to have people come to an altar, repeat some special prayer, go to the new believers class, just to make sure that the salvation took. We have to make sure.

But that is not what it says here. They believed. Then they spoke in tongues. They didn't even do the special 1, 2, 3-salvation prayer.

We don't have the Holy Spirit because we are good - we have the Holy Spirit because Christ is glorified!

We cannot back away from what is Bible just because it is not religiously correct.

It's ok to ask this quest: Are you saved and are you baptized in the holy spirit and do you speak in tongues?

Now, it has to be in love. You can't make people inferior because they don't speak in tongues. That is what happened in the church of Corinth. You are not more spiritual because you speak in tongues and they are not less spiritual because they don't.

But, we have changed our religious language and I don't know if it is necessarily a good thing entirely.

We have gotten away from the plain terms that the Bible uses and traded them in for more **religiously** correct terms.

And we may have hurt some because of it.

We will call them seekers instead of sinners. We won't ask if they speak in tongues we might just say are you spirit filled or spirit led? We won't talk about hell and damnation we just say they are lost. But God knows where they are. And where they are going.

He Bible says there is a demon of infirmity.

SLIDE 10

Luke 13:10-17 (NKJV)

10 Now He was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. 11 And behold, there was a woman who had a **spirit of infirmity** eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up. 12 But when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him and said to her, “Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity.” 13 And He laid His hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.

14 But the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath; and he said to the crowd, “There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day.”

15 The Lord then answered him and said, “Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or donkey from the stall, and lead it away to water it? 16 So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom **Satan has bound**—think of it—for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?” 17 And when He said these things, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by Him.

If you think in the natural, you will have only natural results.

There are a lot of problems in this world that are spiritual and you and I need the Holy Spirit.

We need the dynamis” - dü'-nä-mēs power in our lives!

So, here it is:

Why do I have this gift inside me and yet I still get the flu? I still have diseases and sickness physical problems in my body?

Or, how come I lay hands on those that are sick and they are still sick?

Now, the answers I give have to come from scripture whether you like it, accept or not it will be truth because it is scripture.

Because at the end of the day, it doesn't matter what I say or what this church or any other church says, what matters is what God says.

These past few weeks that we have been talking about speaking in tongues and some of you might be saying, "Do I have to speak in tongues?"

The answer is no. **You don't HAVE to - YOU GET TO!!!**

When you get married, the pastor doesn't say you have to kiss your bride. Then the groom doesn't say do I have to?

YOU GET TO!

If you don't speak, nothing will happen. The Holy Spirit will not overtake you and you will be out of control.

The Holy Spirit is exactly like Jesus. Calm, gentle, loving, kind and powerful.

People will sometimes react but that is their reaction to the Holy Spirit not the Holy Spirit.

That is why Paul had to address what was happening in the church of Corinth. He was saying this is not some spiritual toy that you can play with. This is a weapon. You need to be trained in what this weapon can do.

You don't play around with the weapons of God.

Paul also did not just take away what God had given.

Don't you think that God would give you a gift that is powerful, useful and beneficial?

Some will still have a problem with this because they can't understand what they are saying.

"I have a mind and an intellect and I need to understand this,"

But God does not tell us to mind or intellectually led. He tells us to be Spirit led.

He doesn't tell us to live an intellectually filled life, He tells us to live a Spirit Filled life.

When you are saved the spirit comes alive in you and now you need to let Him be the king of your life.

In your wisdom, your human wisdom, you are limited to what you can pray. But God wants you to pray bigger than yourself. Bigger than what you can comprehend!

BRING WORSHIP TEAM BACK UP

So, what if you are baptized in the Holy Spirit and why is it that you are not walking in the power?

I believe the answer is found in Paul's exhortation to the young pastor, Timothy.

Tim had been baptized in the Holy Spirit many years before and Paul says to Him in

SLIDE 11

2 Timothy 1:67

6 Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. 7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Fear is a demon in your life. God does not want His people to be fearful.

And if fear is a spirit, which is says it is, we then need a greater spirit to defeat it!

So, Paul says to stir up the Spirit of God.

This is what God has given us: not fear but “power and of love and of a sound mind.”

Paul tells Tim to “Stir up!”

That word for stir up is “Anazopyreo” – a-na-zo-pu-re’-o.

It’s where we get the word pyro.

Fan to flames, kindle up.
Inflame one’s mind, have zeal!

“Stir up the gift of God.”

The word there for gift is Charisma” denoting extraordinary powers.

You don’t stir up the the person of the Holy Spirit. The gifts come from the Holy Spirit. The word for the person of the Holy Spirit is “Nu-ma” this is the word charisma, meaning the gift tha comes from the Holy Spirit.

Out of all the gifts that Paul mentions in Corinthians (9 of them), there is only one that we operate. The other gifts are subject to the will of the Spirit of God.

Tongues are subject to our willingness to operate but the others are subject to the spirits will.

If that were not true and the gift of healing was subject to when I want it to operate, do you think I would look like this?

Don’t laugh; I might make a few adjustments to you as well.

This one gift God gives to us to be the stewards of. The gift of praying in tongues.

So, when Paul was telling Timothy to stir up the gift of God, the only gift he could stir up, fan the flames, Paul was saying “Speak in tongues!”

You speak in tongues, you are building up your foundation, the temple of the Holy Spirit, you are connecting your spirit with God. You begin to fan the embers into flames.

Some of you here today are just barely able to keep that ember going. It is barely a spark. But God wants you to have a bonfire!

The bonfire of dynamis" - dü'-nä-mēs POWER!

So, you have power and love and a sound mind.

Jesus said you would have this flow from your belly. These springs of living water. This power to be His witnesses.

Stir up the gift so you have the power, love, and a sound mind.

You know that sound mind? That word is "Sophonismos". It means **moderation and self-control.**

Many need this power of self-control over their lives.

When you pray in the Spirit, it gives you the God given ability to have self-control over your lives.

We need this power so we can have love and self-control

The sound mind? Speaking in tongues will bring that peace that comes with a sound mind.

Jesus said it would come from all the way down in your belly. Deep inside you.

He said out of your belly will come rivers of living water. Let it loose.

Altars call for salvation.

Altar call for Baptism of the Holy Spirit.