

“Untangling Tongues Part 1 ”

WATER WITHOUT END

A man found himself trudging one day through the stark, bone-dry desert in the blazing sun. As he walked for hours and hours on end, he became parched and dehydrated because of the blistering sun and unrelenting heat. The miles and miles of sand offered no moisture for him, and, as he crested every sand dune hoping to see even a tiny puddle of water, the desert only offered him more dry sand and more blazing heat to deal with.

Finally, after miles and miles of miserable journey, he was about to drop and give up, but crested a dune and saw a most blessed sight. A few feet away, stuck in the middle of the sand, was an old fashioned, hand operated water pump.

As he staggered over to the old rusty pump, with its long, metal handle and curving spout, he noticed that a message was stuck to it. He reached up and removed the withered paper message that had been browned by years in the hot sun and read it. It said....

"If you are reading this, I assume that you are interested in obtaining water from this pump. At the moment, the pump is not primed and will yield no water to you, no matter how hard you pump it. But, do not fret. If you follow my EXACT directions and trust me, you will obtain an endless supply of water that will fill you until you can drink no more. Please take note of the following. If you dig directly down at that base of the pump for one foot, you will find a pint of water in a glass bottle. DO NOT DRINK THIS WATER. You must use every drop of this water to prime the pump. Once you have dug up the bottle, remove the cork, and pour exactly half of the water over the leather seal that connects the pump handle to the stem of the spout. Currently, this seal will not work because the hot sun has dried it out. Once it is wet again, it will swell and retain its seal. It will take exactly half of the water from the bottle to be poured on the leather seal for it to swell enough to work again. Next,

pour the rest of the water down the front spout of the pump to prime the pipe to the underground well. This will provide the proper suction and will begin the process of drawing water once you start pumping.

Again, do not drink the water in the bottle, but use it for this process!!! Once the water begins to flow again, drink until your heart is content then refill the bottle and bury it back in the sand for the next person to use when their time comes and they are thirsty. Do not be tempted to drink the limited amount of water in the bottle and exclude yourself and everyone else from the **endless supply of water that could be yours if you follow these directions. Trust me.**"

Ask yourself...

What would you do?

Would you trust that the writer of the little message knows what he is talking about and follow his directions and risk wasting the only water that you have seen in days?

Would you drink the water at hand and never find out if there is more water to be had?

The Bible describes curses and lack of closeness to God as "the desert"

The opposite of this desert or wilderness is "Streams of living water".

I believe that a lot of Christians make the wrong decision when it comes to the water of God.

They don't have the faith to believe the instructions that God has written for them to do more than survive but to thrive in life.

They see the little that is there. They accept the little jar of water and settle for just the little that is there.

This is what they can handle. This makes sense, so I'll just drink what I have in my hand. What is contained in this little jar.

But God is not to be contained. His Holy Spirit is not to be placed in some container that limits just what he can and cannot do in our lives.

“But this I can handle. This I can control. I will let Him out in small doses when I need Him and then I just put Him back in the jar where I can control Him.”

This is not the Spirit filled life that God has for us.

God has so much more that we can possibly comprehend and for the next few weeks we are going to allow the Holy Spirit to be all that He is to be in our lives.

We are going to look specifically at speaking in tongues.

So many times I have heard messages that deal with the subject of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues is just thrown in as an after thought or it is saved for an evening service where there won't be any new people there.

So instead, we are going to take in all in. we are going to exhaust the subject as best we can and learn all we can about this amazing gift from God.

Now let's be clear, there are two types or forms of tongues, in Corinthians, Paul spoke of the gift of tongues. That is a gift for the body, for the church and we will talk more about that later.

But in the book of Acts, at Pentecost, we are talking about what Jesus called, in

Acts 1:5

“For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

And just what is this “Baptism of the Holy Spirit?”

Well, everywhere in the Bible when you see baptized with the Holy Spirit, you will see “Speaking in tongues”.

This phenomenon has only existed since Jesus died and rose again. This is only new covenant stuff.

What we are talking about is speaking in tongues, a heavenly prayer language, praying in tongues.

Jewish people will tell you living waters are waters that are moving.

Stagnate water or dead water that has no outlet; no inlet is just dead water. If you leave it stagnate, it breeds mosquitoes and other creatures and it will become undrinkable water.

But living water is always fresh. Always new.

This is the water we want. We want the living water that is flowing in us and then out or through us.

Ephesians 5 tells husbands to love their wives but before it says that in **verse 25** it says in **verse 18** “ be filled with the Spirit”.

In verse 19 tells us to “speak to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord.”

So just what are we talking about when we say this new covenant prayer language?

Mark 16:17

“And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues”

They will speak in “new tongues”.

This word “new” means unprecedented. “Never before known” and “New kind”.

Those that would say that this speaking in tongues is for the old testament or just for the old church, it just not true because the Bible here is saying that this is “new and unprecedented”.

This only came about after the death and resurrection of Jesus.

The Holy Spirit manufactures a language put inside of you to express everything that you want God to do for you but you are not able to put it into words. Things in your future, things that you don't know how to ask for.

Maybe you have a heart for someone. You know you just start thinking about that person and you don't know why. This is a good time to pray for them but what do you pray?

We sometimes just need to pray even if you don't know why. I am sure many of you have experienced something God has called you to do and you don't know why. Right?

There are situations that we don't know how to pray for but we need to pray anyway.

Romans 8:26-27 (NKJV)

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.

27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

The Spirit helps us in our **weaknesses**. The word there in the King James and in Greek is the word **"infirmities"**

This word in the Greek is "astheneia" - ä-sthe'-nā-ä

1) **want of strength**, weakness, infirmity **of the body** and **of the soul**

There is so much more to this word so, let me read it to you with the complete definition of the word there "astheneia" - ä-sthe'-nā-ä.

So let me read it this way:

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weakness and frailty, in our feebleness of health or sickness.

Likewise the Spirit helps in want of strength in our soul, to understand, to do things great and glorious.

Likewise the Spirit helps us to restrain corrupt desires and to bear trials and troubles.

This is what the Holy Spirit does.

Some have heard that if you are speaking in tongues you are edifying your spirit.

Nowhere in the Bible does it say that. The closest you get is that when you pray in the Spirit, it comes from the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 14:1-4 (NKJV)

14 Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy. 2 For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries. 3 But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men. 4 **He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself**, but he who prophesies edifies the church.

The word “edifies” is the word oikodomeō – (oi-ko-do-me'-ō)

It means to build a house, erect a building, to build up from the foundation.

Our bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit. It does not say that your Spirit is the temple of the Holy Spirit.

When you and I speak in tongues, you are building up the temple. You are building up the foundation of the temple of God, which you are.

You may have heard that praying in tongues is to the spirit what lifting weights are to your body.

But according to this verse it is just not true. Speaking in tongues is for your entire self, your whole body.

So, if you are in your everyday life praying in the spirit, you are building yourself up, you are encouraging yourself.

You won't be down all the time, you won't be down in your spirit or down in your mind. You will be built up!

Now, let's take a look at this "Day of Pentecost". Let's look at where this all started.

There are 7 feasts of Israel.

1) Passover (Leviticus 23:5) – Pointed to the Messiah as our Passover lamb whose blood would be shed for our sins.

2) Unleavened Bread (Leviticus 23:6) – Pointed to the Messiah's sinless life (as leaven is a picture of sin in the Bible).

3) First Fruits (Leviticus 23:10) – Pointed to the Messiah's resurrection as the first fruits of the righteous. Jesus was resurrected on this very day.

4) Weeks or Pentecost (Leviticus 23:16) – Occurred fifty days after the beginning of the Feast of Unleavened Bread and pointed to the great harvest of souls and the gift of the Holy Spirit for both Jew and Gentile.

5) Trumpets (Leviticus 23:24) – The first of the fall feasts. Many believe this day points to the Rapture of the Church when Jesus will appear in the heavens as He comes for His bride, the Church.

6) Day of Atonement (Leviticus 23:27) – Many believe this prophetically points to the day of the Second Coming of Jesus when He will return to earth

7) Tabernacles (Leviticus 23:34) – Many scholars believe that this feast day points to the Lord's promise that He will once again "tabernacle" with His people when He returns to reign over all the world.

Notice that the feast of Pentecost is right in the middle here.

Let's take a look at **this 1st Pentecost.**

The first Pentecost was at Mt. Sinai, which the name Sinai means thorns or the region in which they were in that means “Dessert of Sin”.

The second (New Testament) Pentecost was at Mt. Zion (This is where Jerusalem was built).

Zion means “A parched place”

First Pentecost God gave the law.

Second Pentecost God gave His Spirit.

So, the spirit is to the believer today what the law was to the Israelites.

Zion meaning, “parched place is now about to be filled with the living water of the Holy Spirit.

The law was for the Israelites to keep but the Spirit is ours to follow.

I would much rather follow a person than keep an impersonal law.

Many Christians have turned following the Spirit into keeping the law.

But, the Holy Spirit has replaced the law. The Holy Spirit is superior to the law.

The first Pentecost they built a golden calf and destroyed those that built it. 3000 died. God gave the law 3000 died.

Our Pentecost, the second Pentecost, the New Testament Pentecost, God gave the Holy Spirit and what happened? 3000 were saved.

There are so many good Jesus loving Christians that have areas of their lives that need life!

There are areas in good believers lives that are stagnate and there needs to be a refilling of living, flowing waters that can refresh and rebuild!

When you find yourself in a bad situation, the best thing you can first do is go to a great prayer warrior.

We have many great prayer warriors in this church but there is the greatest, perfect prayer warrior that knows you better than you know yourself and knows the perfect prayer for you.

He is the great helper.

Romans 8:26-27 (NKJV)

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.

27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

The Holy Spirit is perfect and we are not.

God accepts us as righteous in His eyes because of Jesus in our hearts and the Holy Spirit is our perfect intercessor.

You are made right with God by faith, by believing, not by the law.

When you believe correctly, you will live correctly. Don't worry about living correctly, worry about believing correctly.

Back to **Romans 8:26-27**

26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought,

There are people in this church that I love and I want to pray for them but I don't know what to pray. Sometimes I just go through the church directory and begin to speak in tongues and pray over them because I don't know what their needs are but God does, the Spirit does.

The verse continues...

, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with Groanings which cannot be uttered.

The word “Groanings” is not just Groanings – in the Greek here Paul is using traditional Greek – This is intimate language, as things spoken intimately, like love secrets between a husband and wife. The Holy Spirit searches our hearts and melts it together with the will of God.

Groanings of the Spirit -

The Apostle Paul writes about three different types of “groaning” in the eighth chapter of the book of Romans.

Romans 8:22,23 says, “22 For we know that the whole **creation groans** and labors with birth pangs together until now. 23 Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even **we ourselves groan** within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

And then, a few verse’s later, in **Romans 8:26**, Paul writes,

“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.

Notice that Paul first talks about the whole of creation groaning; then he speaks of the believer’s groaning within themselves; and finally he teaches about the Holy Spirit’s groanings.

All three words for groaning share the same Greek root; two are verbs and one is a noun.

Creation groans -

The second type of groaning is found in verse 23 “we ourselves groan” -

The Spirit’s Groaning -

The third mention of groaning comes in Romans 8:26, Paul writes, “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. In other words, the first two groanings were verbs; this last groaning is a noun. In the first one, creation is doing the groaning. In the second, we are doing the groaning.

However, in the third mention, we aren’t doing the groaning, we are not the one’s generating or producing these inner sighs and groans. The Holy Spirit is generating them through moments of intercession and we are simply the conduits or the vessels that these spiritual cries are flowing through.

When we pray out of our intellect, in our native language, we are limited by our own personal knowledge and information.

The verse says, “**the Holy Spirit also**” – the word **also** is **ki** (Kai) to connect - in addition

Helps is - “To take hold of”

Put these all together and they mean that the Holy Spirit takes hold, together, with us, to stand against our infirmities.

The Holy Spirit helps us overcome the weaknesses and frailties in our life. And He does His work by producing intercessory groanings and articulations that must be prayed through us.

The next verse,

Romans 8:27 says, “**Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.**”

The Holy Spirit is able to search your heart and to know your innermost needs and your most intimate desires.

He also fully understands God's perfect will for your life and He comprehends secret things that are hidden beyond your finite, earthly knowledge.

The Holy Spirit is able to blend all of this together and articulate the most perfect petition to God, praying on a level that we could never achieve on our own.

This heavenly language, these spiritual groanings, that are prayed **through your lips**, will lift you into God's holy presence and will surround you with a peace and a joy that is beyond your own human understanding. **But you must choose to yield to this aspect of Holy Spirit's ministry.**

Jude 1:20

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

This is how we take care of our house; our temple of the Holy Spirit. This is how we build it up, repair it, and strengthen it.

How can you build others up if you haven't built yourself up?

Only those who have been blessed can be a blessing.

You have to possess it before you can share it.

This is the labor into your rest.

Hebrews 4:11-12 (KJV)

11 Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

Labor in to what rest? The rest you receive in the presence of God.

How do we have this?

12 For **the word of God** is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and

spirit, and of the joints and **marrow**, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

The word of God there is “Logos” - ***a word, uttered by a living voice, the sayings of God.***

Ephesians 6:11

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.

I think most of you have studied or at least heard of the armor of God.

That is another place we see this sword.

We have:

The belt of truth

The breastplate of righteousness

The shoes of the gospel of peace

The shield of faith

The helmet of salvation

And... the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The translation is “the rhēma” of God.

Rhema is “that which is or has been uttered by the living voice”

the sword of the Spirit, which is the Rhema or the “utterances of God.”

Acts chapter 2 verse one says:

Acts 2 (KJV)

1 And when the day of Pentecost was 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 all the house where they were sitting.

3 And there appeared unto them **cloven tongues** like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the **Spirit gave them utterance**.

This is the first thing that God does right after the death and resurrection of Jesus. Jesus has ascended to the Father and He gives all of us the promise of God.

Jesus said -

Acts 1:5

“For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

This is the area in which the Devil will try to attack you hard. The devil does not want you to have the power of God.

So God designed this baptism of the Holy Spirit as the first step in walking into the new covenant the new promise of God.

In Exodus 32:28-28

(the first Pentecost) Moses had 2 tablets (not because he had a headache) when he came to give the law he found the Israelites **unrestrained**. They were worshipping the golden calf. In verse 25 it says “Moses saw that the people were **unrestrained** “

That word for unrestrained means that Moses found them in all kinds of sin. The King James says they were naked. But it means they were in all kinds of sin. There was no morality or moral compass.

3000 men were killed by the sword of the law.

Now in the New Testament, 3000 men saved. How? By the new sword. The sword of the spirit. This sword saves.

When you pray in tongues you are “cutting away” the bondages that the devil and the law has put you in and now you are free in the Jesus.

How do you cut the devil down? By the Rhema the prayin in the spirit.

All the armor of God is defensive but the sword puts you on the offensive to defeat the enemy.

The devil will do anything and say anything to stop you.

“You’re just making it up” “You’re not really speaking in a heavenly language”

“Stop making these strange and embarrassing noises”

“It’s just making sounds like a crazy person”

To ourselves its “logos” - *the sayings of God.*

To the devil it is “Rhema” – it cuts him down.

There is so much in this gift from God. Isn’t it just like God to put so much into just one gift?

When you pray in tongues you align yourself and your heart with the heart of God.

When you pray in tongues, you will have more discernment.

He will guide you.

This might not happen overnight.

You want the mountain to move

But sometimes you are that mountain.

Keep praying. Because in you is the perfect prayer warrior. The Holy Spirit.

Pray against the traps of deceit that will keep you from receiving all that God has for you.

Altar call for salvation.

The worship team is just going to play some music. Let your voice sing what is in your heart. Let your thoughts be on Jesus and let the river flow from your mouth.

The day of Pentecost is still here. This is a gift. don't wait to receive this river of living water.

Don't worry about any wrong in your life. Let God take it. The river that flows carries away any debris.

Let the Holy Spirit loose.

God will refill.

Go ahead pray in tongues, listen to your heart.

Now stop.

I did that so you know that you are in control. You possess the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit does not possess you.

Let it rise in song or just let it sing out without music or just speak it.

The Bible tells us in **Ephesians 5:19 (NKJV)**
19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.

Close in prayer.