



UTTERANCE  
**GIFTS**

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DIVERSE KINDS OF TONGUES

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INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES & PROPHECY

IFE ADETONA

## **ABOUT THE BOOK**

Of the three utterance gifts, diverse kinds of tongues is more well known. Even unbelievers know what *tongues* is. As well-known as diverse kinds of tongues is, there is a lack of adequate knowledge about that particular gift talk more of other utterance gifts. Some believers don't understand what interpretation of tongues is and some don't know how prophecy operates. This has given rise to a lot of false teachings and misuse of these gifts in the body of Christ.

The author in this book breaks down and explains in simple language the three utterance gifts; Diverse kinds of tongues, Interpretation of tongues and Prophecy. He cited scriptural examples to explain how each gift operates.

A new convert will find this book educating and a mature believer will find it useful as well.

Get set for impartation as you go through the pages of this book.



## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Ife Adetona is an anointed preacher of the gospel. He is the President of the Sons and Daughters of Zion [SADOZ] Global Harvest Ministries. SADOZ is an interdenominational and discipleship ministry which has seen thousands of people baptized in the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues and helped people develop a friend to friend relationship with the Person of the Holy Spirit. SADOZ's daily discipleship and devotional manual called Daily Communion reaches and blesses tens of thousands of people daily to the glory of God.

The author is also the president of the Koinonia Bible Institute [KBI], an online training academy of SADOZ which offers over twenty (25) courses that cut across all facets of life. Some of the courses/schools are: School of Ministry, School of Purpose, School of Leadership, School of Business, School of Prayer, School of Deliverance, School of Healing, Masterclass on Sex Education, Masterclass on Courtship, School of Mental Health, School of Sex for the married and more.

Ife Adetona is an author of over 60 books that is imparting the body of Christ maximally. He is the husband of Elizabeth Ife-Adetona and their home is blessed with godly seeds.

## **Utterance Gifts**

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scriptural quotations in this book are from the King James Version of the Bible.

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# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION TO GIFTS

The simplest way to get imparted with spiritual gifts is through an understanding of what the gifts are and how they operate. I also need to inform you that by His grace, every time I teach this concept, there is impartation takes place. I want you to open your heart for an encounter.

### CATEGORIES OF GIFTS

Basically, there are only 9 spiritual gifts according to 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 but there have been several debates on whether that passage covers all the gifts or not. 2 Timothy 2:15 emphasizes that the word of truth must be rightly divided else there will be a lot of abuse. There are *gifts* mentioned in different parts of the New Testament and we must clearly distinguish them to avoid misconceptions. There are up to four categories of gift in the Bible. They are: Service Gifts, Believers' Gifts, Spiritual Gifts and Ministerial Gifts. I want you to know that these gifts are interwoven. That is, we have some gifts that are spiritual gifts and at the same time service or believers' gifts.

#### **i. Service Gifts: Romans 12:6-8**

*In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well.*

*So if God has given you the ability to prophecy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you.*

*If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility*

*seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.*

Here, the Bible lists up to seven gifts or abilities that are available for believers to serve in different capacities in the body of Christ. These gifts include: prophesying, serving, teaching, encouraging, giving, leadership, showing kindness. Looking at the service abilities, you can testify that some people around you especially those in the house of God are better at certain things than others and that is why we have different departments and units in the church. Furthermore, we must understand that service gifts are limitless. As the church of Christ expands and grows, God gave some other abilities or gifts that are needed. An example is the gift of interpretation. Someone may be good at preaching but may not be good at interpreting a sermon from a language to the other. Today, we have those with service gifts in drama, music, protocol and so on.

## **ii. Believers' Gifts or Signs: Mark 16:17-18**

God expects all believers to manifest all of these gifts. They are four in number:

*And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;*

*They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.*

- a. **Gifts of tongues:** this is different from the gift of diverse kinds of tongues which is one of the spiritual gifts however, they are related. It is this gift of tongues that would give room for the gift of diverse kinds of tongues. God expects His children to be baptized in the

Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in new tongues. If you are yet to have this experience, turn to the last pages of this book and follow the steps to receiving the baptism of the Holy Ghost or contact the source of this book for help.

- b. **Ability to cast out devils:** this has been associated with the gift of working of miracles which is one of the nine spiritual gifts. I told you earlier that these gifts are interwoven. Every time casting of devils is mentioned in the New Testament, it is always associated with miracles. *Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give. Matthew 10:8.* I always say that, if a believer cannot cast out the devil in another person's life, he should at least be able to cast out the devil in his own life.
- c. **Divine Health:** the Scripture gives the assurance that we can drink or hold deadly things and they shall not hurt us. It simply means that even if sickness attacks the body of a believer, he will not fall sick. That is, believers will live in good health. I am a living testimony to this believers' gift and I know of several people who are not even ministers of God who enjoy divine health. So, this gift is not only for great or big men of God; even a day-old believer can have it.
- d. **Gifts of healing:** we also have gifts of healing as one of the spiritual gifts. There is difference between divine health, divine healing and the gifts of healing. Divine health means that your body will always be in health and you will not fall sick. Divine healing means that even if you fall sick, you will be healed without



the use of medication. While gifts of healing is the ability to heal the sick. Here, the Bible says that we shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover. I usually say that if you cannot lay hands on people you should at least be able to lay hands on your children and family members.

### **iii. Spiritual Gifts: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11**

We all know that we have nine spiritual gifts. They are: word of knowledge, word of wisdom, discerning of spirits, gift of faith, gifts of healing, working of miracles, diverse kinds of tongues, interpretation of tongues and prophecy. By God's grace, we shall look at every of these gifts in detail in this book.

### **iv. Ministerial Gifts: 1 Corinthians 12:28-30, Ephesians 4:11**

There are two major passages that detailed what ministerial gifts are:

*And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracle, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, and diversities of tongues.*

*Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? Have all the gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? 1 Corinthians 12:28-30*

*And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; Ephesians 4:11*

The book of Ephesians is clear on what these gifts are: Apostles, Prophets, Pastors, Evangelists and Teachers. Some think that 1 Corinthians 12:28-30 is still talking about spiritual gifts but it is not so.

If you use a Bible that divides the verses with headings or themes, you will realize that the first eleven verses were separated from the rest. The ministerial gifts are offices in the body of Christ and only few people are called into it. While every other category of gifts is for all believers, ministerial gifts are meant for only those who are called into ministerial offices.

I need to clarify that there are specific spiritual gifts that are attached to each of the ministerial offices. For instance, the spiritual gifts attached to the office of an evangelist are workings of miracles and gifts of healings. That is why 1 Corinthians does not specifically mention the office of an evangelist but the gifts attached to it.

1 Corinthians also identifies the Help Ministry. While the five-fold ministerial offices make use of spiritual gifts to function, the Help ministry uses the service gifts. You need to get my book titled *Understanding the Call and the Five-Fold offices* to gain more insight into how the ministerial gifts and each office operate.

## **VEHICLES OF MANIFESTATION**

A major question that seems to confuse people when we discuss spiritual gift is if VISION IS ALSO A SPIRITUAL GIFT. Vision on its own is not a spiritual gift; it only serves as a vehicle or channel through which spiritual gifts are manifested. A vehicle in this context can be likened to a food served on a tray. The tray is not the food but the tray bears the food. Vision is not the only tool in this category, dreams, perception, ability to hear in the spirit, prophecy and many others fall within this category. Prophecy is a spiritual gift and at the same time, a vehicle through which

other gifts are manifested. The book of Joel says that these tools would be made available for all.

*And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: Joel 2:28*

## CHAPTER TWO

### THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS

*Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led.*

*Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.*

*Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.*

*And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.*

*And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.*

*But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.*

*For to one is given by the Spirit word of wisdom; to another word of knowledge by the same Spirit;*

*To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;*

*To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:*

*But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. 1 Corinthians 12:1-11*

In understanding spiritual gifts, you need to be very calm and ready to learn. Someone defined learning as *the ability to learn, unlearn and relearn*. There are a lot of misconceptions we need to straighten out before we begin to discuss this gift. I will have to take you through a

number of fundamental issues. When these stones are carefully laid then impartation would be seamless.

### ***Versions and Translations***

When explaining spiritual gifts, I love to read from the King James Version of the Bible. Anyone who is familiar with me will know how attached I am to the New Living Translation and I also love to compare Bible translations but when it comes to discussion on spiritual gifts, the King James is the most accurate.

I need to explain that having various versions of the Bible especially in the English language is very beneficial and healthy to the body of Christ. As Bible students, you need to understand that the Bible was not originally written in the English language or in your native language; it was written majorly in Hebrew and Greek and some parts were written in Aramaic. These languages are no longer used for regular communication today. The dream of William Tyndale, one of the foremost prominent men to pursue the compulsory translation of the Bible into the English language was to make the poorest and the ordinary men in the society able to read and understand the Bible. This is because as at then, only the elites and educated ones in the society could read the language in which the Bible was written.

Translating from one language to the other is a complex exercise. You can try to translate few words in your local dialect to English. You should especially try to translate some proverbs and see how easy it is. You can carry out further research by asking two to three people to translate the same words in your local dialect to English; you will realize that there will be variations in their presentation even if it still conveys the same

meaning. That is the main reason why we have different translations or versions of the Bible. Everybody cannot translate it the same way. And these old languages: Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic are more complex than any other language spoken on Earth today. Moreover, because they are no longer spoken today, it makes it more complex. Thus, scholars keep researching and looking for better ways to translate the Bible to make it easily understood. I am taking my time to make this clarification because of the discourse sponsored by hell that there are different Bibles. **We don't have different Bibles; we only have different translations or versions of the same Bible** which was originally written in those three specific languages. I must also tell you that there are still ongoing researches on the translation for certain words in today's English thus, the reason why we say that there is no perfect version.

Translating from one language to the other is a complex exercise. You can try to translate few words in your local dialect to English. You should especially try to translate some proverbs and see how easy it is. You can carry out further research by asking two to three people to translate the same words in your local dialect to English; you will realize that there will be variations in their presentation even if it still conveys the same meaning. That is the main reason why we have different translations or versions of the Bible. Everybody cannot translate it the same way. And these old languages: Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic are more complex than any other language spoken on Earth today. Moreover, because they are no longer spoken today, it makes it more complex.

The devil in his cunningness is also trying to produce counterfeit translations but real Christians do not even know about them and those who do; do not use them. Some of these counterfeit translations present

Jesus as a female and some state that Jesus is not the Son of God. You should have nothing to do with such heretic version. Those who say that it is better for believers to read the Scriptures in the original languages lack knowledge and wisdom; today, we have little children who started reading the Bible on their own as soon as they can read the English alphabet and I believe that is God's will.

*....Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise? Mathew 21:16*

### ***Spiritual Gifts***

*Now concerning SPIRITUAL gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.*

There are two issues I wish to explain here. The KJV italicizes the word *gifts* italicized. It is the same with other versions of the Bible. It means that it was included by scholars for easy understanding and comprehension; it was not actually in the original Greek text. That is however not a problem. As much as I don't want to deviate from the main discourse, I am taking my time to point these things out because of various teachings that are going around today making a big deal out of no deal thereby, confusing themselves and others.

*Gifts* as mentioned here, explains that the spiritual gifts are not things that a believer manifests once in a while, it is part and parcel of the individual. It is manifested on a regular basis.

The second point I want to explain is the importance of the word *spiritual* as used in the passage. The word spiritual is from the word *spirit* and the original Greek word used here is "*pneumatikos*". *Pnuema* simply means

*spirit*. So, these gifts are related to the Holy Spirit. They are not carnal, intellectual, psychological, philosophical, environmental or academic. THEY ARE SPIRITUAL. They are given by the Holy Spirit and they only manifest in those who have been baptized in the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues. Many people have tried to explain these gifts in relation to a natural source but that is completely wrong.

### ***Switch***

Another point we must clarify is that these gifts are spiritual, they are not mechanical. That is, they are not controlled by the individual but by the Spirit. Anyone who has these gifts can tune in spiritually but he doesn't determine if it will be in operation or not, it is the Spirit that determines that. I may minister in a place today and have a high unction of a gift and minister in another place tomorrow with lesser or no unction of the same gift. I don't determine the flow, the Holy Spirit does.

### ***Enhancers not Controls***

I have said that anyone who operates in any of these gifts can tune in to the spirit realm but the Holy Spirit holds the control however, there are things we can apply which enhances or reduces the degree of their manifestations. For instance, good music is known to enhance the manifestation of the gift of prophecy. When we take note of and operate these enhancers, we can have a higher manifestation as the Spirit permits.

### ***Potential not Kinetic***

Another question that causes confusion is if every believer has these gifts. If you say that all believers have these gifts, I may agree. If another



person says that not all believers have the gifts, I may also agree but one thing is certain, all believers can have and manifest all of these gifts.

If a woman gives birth to a baby boy and she says “I have given birth to a man”, She is right because the baby boy has the potential to become a man but if what she means is that she has given birth to a full grown man then we know that it is practically impossible. In the same vein every believer has the potential to have and manifest all these gifts but it doesn't mean that we all have it already. To say you have a gift means it does not manifest once in a while or that it has never been in use. It must something that is common with you and easily identified with you.

It is with this same perception that many have misconstrued several Biblical discourses for instance, eternal security. Eternal security is a potential heritage of all believers and it is not unconditional. Just like salvation, every unbeliever including the vilest sinner out there is a potential saint but it doesn't mean that they are saints already even though Christ has died for them long ago. There is a condition before they can become a saint and the condition is that they must accept and confess Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

God expects that all believers are able to manifest all of these spiritual gifts. And I believe that as you read this book, there shall be manifestations of the gifts in your life. However, take note that you must be baptized in the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues before any of the spiritual gifts can be yours.

### ***To Profit Withal***

*But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.*

The spiritual gifts are given to us so that we can help one another in the body of Christ. Even if I manifest all the nine spiritual gifts, it doesn't make me an island. Each of these gifts has degrees and depths; there will always be someone who is higher than you in the manifestation of some gifts. And you may be higher than some in manifesting some gifts. I know of people including my spiritual children who are doing better than me in some gifts. I rejoiced when I saw the fruits of our *School of the Prophetic*. I was the one God used to bring a number of them into the manifestations but I see the Spirit come on many in higher dimensions than it has been on me in some areas. It eventually benefited not only them but me and the ministry at large. These gifts are given to us to help each other.

### ***As the Spirit Wills***

*But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.*

The gifts are given by the Holy Spirit as He wills, they are controlled as He wills and they are operated as He wills.

### **CLASSIFICATION OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

*For to one is given by the Spirit word of wisdom; to another word of knowledge by the same Spirit;*

*To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;*

*To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues.*

Scholars have classified the gifts into three. They are:

- i. Revelational Gifts: these are gifts that reveal things in spiritual or supernatural ways. They are word of knowledge, word of wisdom and discerning of spirits. They are also called the eyes of God.
- ii. Utterance or Inspirational Gifts: these are gifts that have to do with speaking forth as prompted by the Holy Spirit. They are diversities of tongues, interpretation of tongues and prophecy. They are also referred to as the mouth of God because they have to do with speaking.

The revelational and inspirational gifts are also called the prophetic gifts. This implies that when a believer has these gifts, they become prophetic which is the desire of God for all believers. You can apply to our *School of the Prophetic* for more understanding and impartation in this.

- iii. The Power Gifts: these gifts that have to do with performing signs and wonders. They includes, gift of faith, gifts of healings and the working of miracles. These gifts are also called the hand of God because they relate to the DOINGS or ACTS of God.

## ***Covet Earnestly***

*But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way. 1Corinthians 12:31*

The last verse in the book of 1 Corinthians admonishes us to covet earnestly the best gifts. I believe the definition of best gift is relative. It depends on what is best to you or what is most needed in your life or in the local body of Christ that you belong. It is good to desire good things and spiritual gifts are good things. The Apostle also said that there is a best way to desire those gifts and that is the way of LOVE. We must have good intentions for seeking these gifts. It must be for love and to bless the body of Christ.

I need to also emphasize that God wants you to have these gifts and to manifest them in a wonderful depth. It is left for you to reach out and encounter the waiting gifts of God. Can you drop this book for a moment and pray to God about your desired gifts. Tell Him to purify your heart, ask that the love of God that was shed abroad in your heart by the Spirit become dominant in you from today.

*And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. Romans 5:5*

## CHAPTER THREE

### DIVERSE KINDS OF TONGUES & INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES

To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues. 1 Corinthians 12:10

In the previous chapters, we laid the foundation for spiritual gifts. I mentioned that the utterance gifts or inspirational gifts include diverse kinds of tongues, interpretation of tongues and prophecy. I have mentioned that these gifts deal with speaking forth and that is why they are called the mouth of God. They are three and they form the last set of the prophetic gifts.

These three gifts are closely knitted that if you have one, there is a high probability that you will have all. In fact, nothing stops you from having all. Diverse kinds of tongues and interpretation of tongues can be described as a pair and where the two are present, you automatically have prophecy. Of all the nine gifts, these are the gifts that God expects all His children to have and manifest. The book Joel 2:28 says that all young men shall prophesy.

#### **Diverse Kinds of Tongues NOT Gifts of Tongues**

I have seen several people call this gift, *gifts of tongues*. However, it is not gifts of tongues; it is diverse kind of tongues. Those who say that it is the gift of tongues as against diverse kind of tongues say so because they believe that one can have one spiritual gift and not have the other. That is, a man can have the gift of word of knowledge and not have the gift of

tongues but that is not scriptural. The point they are missing is that we have tongues or the gift of tongues under Believers' gifts which I explained in Chapter one. Believers' gifts are for all believers. Jesus said these signs shall follow all that believe. Not some.

*And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. Mark 16:17-18*

It is the gift of tongues that is received when we were baptized in the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues. So, the gift of diverse kinds of tongues is not exactly the same thing as speaking in tongues or let me say that it is not a substitution to speaking in tongues but it is an operational dimension of tongues. **Diverse kinds of tongues is simply the advanced or the spiritual gift dimension of tongues.**

### ***Not the Ability to Speak Different Languages***

Church history has it that there was a period in the United State of America, when God poured out His Spirit and people were baptized in the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues. Then, such occurrence was strange in fact, it was a special miraculous testimony. During that period, many people assumed that the tongues they were speaking were automatically, the languages of the countries God was sending them to as missionaries. Ridiculously, some of them packed their bags and travelled down to those countries. I don't need to tell you that they were stranded.

Till date, some still hold the belief that to have the gift of diverse kinds of tongues simply means you are able to speak a foreign language to someone or in a foreign land. It is one of the ways this gift operates but not entirely so. I would have loved to write more about the gift of tongues and the Holy Ghost baptism in this book but I have written extensively by the Spirit of God in a separate book titled *The Pentecost Volume: Speaking in Tongues*. You should read the book. By God's grace, it answers all questions you may have on tongues.

## **STAGES OF TONGUES**

When you become baptized in the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues, what happens in you is that some words which are not in your day-to-day language are laid in your heart or mind and you begin to speak them out consciously. Many people erroneously believe that tongues are spoken unconsciously. Everyone who speaks in tongues knows that he can decide to speak or not to speak. He holds the key as the Bible says a man's spirit is subject to the man (1 Corinthians 14:32). This means that he can control it. He can even decide to speak in tongues right now because he doesn't forget his tongues. Once you begin to speak, the Holy Spirit will take it from there.

Can you begin to speak in the Holy Ghost right now? Even if you have never spoken in tongues, as you read this, some words will be laid in your heart, speak them out and continue repeating them. You may be distracted with thoughts like: "Am I making this up myself?" "Am I not just speaking rubbish?" and so on. I want you to know that if you are making it up, you won't have doubts about it; you will know. The fact that you have doubts means that it is the real deal. As you speak, you

may or may not have sensations in your body, don't be distracted by the sensations. Focus on the tongues. Continue to speak repeatedly.

If you have been baptized in the Holy Spirit before now, you can move into another realm right now!

- i. **Babbling stage:** the first stage of tongues is called the *babbling stage*. The word "babbling" is used to describe the sound a child who is just learning how to talk makes. At this stage, a speaker of tongues can only speak one or few words in tongues; it may sound strange, funny, and ridiculous to those hearing it or to him. Some people may even seem to be stammering in tongues. It is very biblical.

*For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. Isaiah 28:11 (cf. 1 Corinthians 14:21).*

- ii. **Digging Stage:** we can compare this stage with when you try to dig a well. When you begin to scratch the surface it may seem easy but by the time you continue to dig deeper, it becomes harder and tiring. You may even come across stones and rocks. It may appear as though, you won't find water. People at this stage get tired and bored easily when speaking in tongues. They look at those who can speak it expressly and melodiously and wonder why they can't speak that way. They need to persevere and continue digging in the Spirit. The Bible says praying in tongues requires perseverance.

*Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; Ephesians 6:18*



You have to persevere enough to breakthrough. It is at the breakthrough stage that you speak like those you envy.

iii. **Bubbling Stage:** This is the breakthrough stage when diverse kinds of tongues begins to operation in one's life. This is when your tongues diversify. It is when you can speak different kinds of tongues at a go. It is when your tongues sound melodious and interesting. Jesus says that out of us shall flow rivers of living water. At this point, the utterance bubbles out of you.

*In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.*

*He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.*

*(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)*

*John 7:37-39*

### **What it takes**

The gift of diverse kinds of tongues is the most readily available and easily accessible gift for believers. All it takes is consistency and persistency. I have said earlier that you hold the key. Many are waiting for some kind of push or feelings in the Spirit before they begin to speak in tongues. They are waiting for the feelings and sensation they had the day they were baptized to propel them. You don't need any feeling or propelling. The Apostles saw the cloven tongues as of fire only once but they never stopped speaking in tongues. Apostle Paul said if I wish, I will

pray in tongues and if I wish I will pray in understanding. He also said he spoke in tongues often.

*I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all.*

*1 Corinthians 14:18.*

Some may want to know how long it would take to transit from the babbling stage to the bubbling stage. It all depends on you. It could take few hours or some days or weeks or months or even years. If you are able to pray in tongues in the gathering of believers who encourage it then you can be sure that you may even transit in few minutes but if there is no opportunity for such, use your closet. If you begin to pray in tongues right now for an hour with all your mind and might, I am sure you will transit because the anointing is high.

Anytime I speak about tongues, special angels are present. You may be feeling fire or some bubbling in you right now. If you start to pray, you will have a great experience. Normally, the day you become baptized in the Holy Ghost, at least a gift is released in you and right now as you pray, more gifts shall be released and you will begin to manifest. Pray Now!

### ***Does The Devil Understand Tongues?***

This is a question in the heart of many begging for an answer. Let me explain that tongues is first of all power packed, it comes with fire. To ask if the devil understands tongues is like asking if a child understands cane. The child can even describe what cane is but would not wait to receive some strokes of it on his body.

Tongues is powerful, the devil cannot stand wherever you raise your tongues. He does not even wait to check if he understands it because it is not just about the language. The Bible says ye shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, when you speak in tongues, you are speaking power. When you pray in tongues you are praying power.

*But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:*

*Acts 1:8.*

Jude 20 describes tongues as building up on your most holy faith. This means that when a believer begins to speak in the spirit, he enters the Most Holy room which is the very throne of God. In the Old Testament, no one was permitted to enter this place, not even Moses but the high priest after necessary cleansing must have been done and that happened just once in a year. The devil cannot follow you into the most holy place let alone try to decipher what you are saying. That is why tongues can be used to drive away the presence of evil forces, evil spirits and evil people. Your tongues become very potent when it has diversified, when it has become the gift of diverse kinds of tongues.

### ***Tongues of Men***

*Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels....*

*1 Corinthians 13:1*

This means that when you are speaking in tongues you could be speaking the languages of some tribes which you have never learnt. It may be clear to you that you are speaking the tongues of a particular people and it may not. Let me explain this with an experience I had.

I was in the spirit one day. I had a deep urge to pray in the Holy Ghost even though I used to pray in the spirit all the time. It is the last thing I do before I sleep and the first thing I do when I wake. On that fateful day, I was already awake but I was praying in the spirit. Then I saw myself in a faraway land. I was walking on their streets preaching the gospel of Christ in their native language which was actually the tongues that I was speaking. Then I understood or perceived in my heart that in that land, they kill missionaries and they don't allow evangelists or preachers. As soon as I had that understanding, I heard someone speaking in that language but I could understand the meaning. The person said "*someone is preaching, go and bring him and let's kill him*". At that point, I asked God to please restore me back to my body. Then I was back.

The implication of that experience is that as I was praying in tongues, I was praying in their language, interceding for the land. I was opening up the land and the hearts of the people to the gospel spiritually. If there is enough intercession in the spirit realm, revival will break out in that land physically. Kenneth Hagin used to cite various examples of seeing streets and flags while praying in the spirit and later on, he would read news of revivals breaking out in those places. I have spiritual children who have similar experiences. You can also be part of the Holy Spirit's praying army.

It is safe to conclude that most times, when we speak in tongues especially when the gift of diverse kinds of tongues is in use; we are speaking the tongues of men.

### ***It could be communicating in a Foreign Language***

We have heard of various experiences of people who find themselves speaking mysteriously in a foreign language to someone or some people. This doesn't mean that they will be able to always speak in that foreign language or dialect which they never learnt but at that particular moment God used it both as a sign and to communicate to the individual or people. I will cite two examples here. A church was meeting in a part of Yoruba land in Nigeria (Yoruba is a tribe within the country) and someone was speaking in diverse kinds of tongues and prophesying, at the same time a Hausa man (Hausa is another tribe in Nigeria) was passing by with the intention of committing suicide. Then he had someone call his name from the Church and told him not to kill himself. The man entered the church looking for who had spoken to him only to realize that it was a Yoruba speaking Church and the person who was prophesying could not even speak Hausa language. That was how he was saved.

The other example is that of Kenneth Hagin, he was in a foreign land preaching in English and an interpreter was helping him. But somewhere in the middle of his message, he spoke some words in tongues without even knowing what it meant. After the meeting, a man came to him and started speaking the dialect of the area. He was confused and asked an interpreter to help him. The man was shocked and said that he spoke their language right on the pulpit when he was ministering. The man told Hagin what he said and said those words were for him.

## ***Interceding with Diverse Kinds of Tongues***

The best way to pray especially about the unknown is to pray in the Holy Ghost. The Bible says that we do not know how to pray as we ought.

*Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Romans 8:26*

Anytime you have the urge to pray in the spirit, make sure you respond to it because the Holy Spirit might want you to pray about an important event. One of my recent experiences, on my way to our camp- the Great Zion City- for a meeting, I realized that my spirit was praying in tongues. Whenever I experience such, I knew it was a call to pray in the spirit. It was as though the tongues would jump out of my throat. At times, it could be a slight push or urge but you must always respond to it. Our constant response will save us in the day of trouble. That day, I started praying in tongues within me right in the car while I was in transit. After about 20minutes; the Holy Spirit told me that the time has passed.

I understood or perceived in my spirit that I was praying for someone who was also on the way to the meeting but I could never have imagined that it was my wife! I had gone ahead of her because I needed to visit some other places. When she arrived at the meeting, she told us that she was involved in an accident. The accident could have been fatal but God sent His angel to rescue her. She had a slight strain on her leg but it was not serious. I knew God permitted the slight strain to pass a message to me. Remember that the Holy Spirit told me the time has passed. That

means if I had not prayed at that hour, it would be too late. You can't afford to procrastinate when you have the urge to pray.

### ***Is All Tongues Prayer?***

We are not necessarily praying all the time we speak in tongues. We could be praising, singing psalms, spiritual songs, giving thanks or even communicating or speaking mysteries to God. We may be speaking in tongues and at the same time God speaks back to us in tongues.

### ***It could be Speaking of Mysteries***

*For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries. 1 Corinthians 14:2*

The Bible says he that speaks in an unknown tongue may not even understand what he is saying and no man around him may know but he is speaking codes or mysteries to God.

The Greek word translated as *mysteries* is pronounced as *musterion*. It means hidden things, secret, mysteries, generally mysteries, religious secrets confided only to the initiated and not to ordinary mortals. Secret societies and some other associations often have codes or secret languages that no one understands except the *initiates*. I believe in this same manner, when we put this gift into use, our spirit may be communicating directly with God who is also a Spirit being thereby leaving our mind out of the discussion. I also believe that angels and other spirits may not be able to decipher these mysteries. One of the experiences that may follow this particular experience is you hearing God

speaking back to you in tongues. This experience is different from interpreting your own tongues. This time, it is God exchanging words with your spirit. In most cases, He may be teaching you the Scriptures. You do not even need to stop speaking to hear God right in you and you will understand what he says.

There are more to experience in God. I told you that each of these gifts has depths. You can't come to the end of it. Paul spoke of an encounter he had he said, *I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven. 2 Corinthians 12:2*

### ***Tongues of Angels***

*Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels... 1 Corinthians 13:1*

The gift of diverse kinds of tongues can be in form of language of men or as mysteries and at the same time can come as the tongues of angels. You may be wondering if angels have their languages, the answer is YES and diverse kinds of tongues can give access to it as the Spirit wills. Don't forget it is *as the spirit wills*.

And I also want to tell you that demons have tongues. There are classes and hierarchy of demons. Ephesians 6 verse 12 states the hierarchy of demons.

*For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.*



You should get my book titled *Mocking the Devil* to learn more about this. I believe that all demons may be able to speak their language. I have also seen a person who sought the gift of tongues at a wrong place and she ended up speaking demonic tongues. I will use few examples to illustrate tongues of angels and tongues of demons.

On a particular day, I was praying with a spirit-filled believer but the prayer session turned into a deliverance session. You may be wondering if a spirit-filled believer can have demons manifesting in them. I explained in details in *Mocking the Devil* but let me simply say that a believer cannot be possessed but can be obsessed and oppressed by demons.

Possession means the evil spirit is in the spirit, soul and body region of a person but obsession means the evil spirit is in the soul and body region alone. That lady was only obsessed but by a demon called *ruler of darkness*. At some point the demon started speaking something that sounded like tongues through the lady. This sister could speak in tongues but what I was hearing at that point was strange to me. That was my first time of encountering such. To the glory of God, the demon was casted out.

On another occasion, I was praying with someone and heard the same kind of tongues being spoken. Immediately, I knew it was a demon. It was trying to deceive me and act as the spirit of God but by experience I knew the difference and casted it out to the glory of God.

Then I had another experience and I want you to pay attention. This person was speaking in tongues and it sounded so strange and similar to the tongues those demons I casted out spoke but it had some sort of difference and at the same time it was melodious. That person ended up prophesying and the first thing God said was that, that is the tongues of angels. God usually teach me a lot of things directly especially through the gift of prophecy.

You may be wondering how you can identify the tongues of demons. My answer is that when you hear it, you will know. You may also want to ask how to identify the tongues of angels. My answer is also that when you hear it, you will know.

### ***Diverse Kinds of Tongues is a Gateway***

The gift of diverse kinds of tongues is what leads to interpretation of tongues and where you have the two gifts functioning together, you automatically have the gift of prophecy.

## **GIFT OF INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES**

Interpretation of tongues is the ability to interpret what you are saying in tongues or what another person is saying in tongues into a language you understand.

### ***Not Translation of Tongues or Transliteration of Tongues***

Translation means conversion of words from a language into another language. Transliteration is lifting or converting words from a language into another without paying attention to the rules of the language into which the word is translated into. Interpretation on the other hand is

stating the meaning of the words in another language without necessarily paying attention to details. Let give a clear example. I am a Nigerian and my dialect is Yoruba language. If an elderly man is calling a younger man, it could be represented in the following ways:

- a. Translation: He is calling you
- b. Transliteration: They are calling you
- c. Interpretation: You are called.

When I translated, I was concerned about the rules of English language which I translated into but when it is transliteration, I wasn't concerned with the English rules but the rules of Yoruba language. The Yoruba language uses plural for an elderly person even it is just an individual. And when I interpreted, my focus was the message not necessarily whether it is a "he" or a "she" or an elderly person or a younger person.

### ***Just the Meaning***

In translating and transliteration, the length of the original speech and the translated version may be almost the same thing and every part of the speech or words would be touched but in interpretation, the length could be more or less depending on the vocabulary of the person giving the interpretation.

Bringing that illustration into interpretation of tongues, the tongues could be longer than the interpretation and the interpretation could be longer than the tongues. This depends on a number of factors. The first thing is as the Spirit wills. The second is that the person may not receive an interpretation to all the tongues. Another factor could be the level of the person's faith or how rich the person is in the word of God. I have

seen different people interpreting tongues and I can tell that Biblical knowledge plays a vital role on how rich the meanings are presented.

### ***It could be private or public***

There is actually nobody that speaks in tongues that should not be able to interpret their tongues privately.

*wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret -1Corinthians 14:13.*

Of all the spiritual gifts, the inspirational gifts - most especially the first two- are based on you. You may interpret tongues publicly in a believers' gathering but before you do that, you must be able to interpret your tongues in your personal prayer life. As you grow in this, God can use you publicly. There are meetings where you notice that someone is saying something using the gifts of diverse kinds of tongues but nobody understands what is being said just because the person couldn't interpret it and no other person in the congregation could do that.

### ***It could be intrapersonal or interpersonal***

Anyone who prophesies has the three inspirational gifts in operation already and that is what we often witness in Christian gatherings. The same person who speaks the tongues also gives the interpretation but it is very interesting to see the interpersonal dimension when we have two people; one person speaks and the other interprets. I often get the interpretation to people's tongues even if they can't interpret it themselves but it is more wonderful when it is not me, the preacher that interprets but another believer in the meeting.

### ***How it comes***

The interpretation of tongues comes almost the same way tongues first came to you. Remember I told you that you don't have to get the meaning of every word or alphabet, what you are concerned with is just the meaning as much as the spirit releases to you.

The first time you spoke in tongues, it must have come like a flash of thoughts that remained on your mind for a while. You even felt you were the one thinking or forming those tongues. That is the same way, THE INTERPRETATION WILL FLOAT ON YOUR MIND. You are therefore expected to speak it out in faith or write it down. Do not expect that all the meanings would come to you at once. It is usually the first line that will linger on your mind. It could be as simple as "thus saith the Lord". As soon as you say that, the rest will come forth line by line. Don't say I will try it, you can't try spiritual things, it is already tried and proven. The right reaction is to say, I will do it.

### ***It is a spontaneous inspiration***

Some years ago, I read a beautiful book on tongues and the interpretation of tongues. The author said many good things but made a particular misleading statement. He said if a tongue is recorded and taken to two to three people with the gift of interpretation, they should be able to give the same meaning. That author may not even have this gift to begin with because if he does he would know that it is not some learned skill.

If I record a speech in Yoruba language and I take it to even 100 speakers of both Yoruba and English languages, I am rest assured that

although they may not translate it in the same way but they will give the same meaning. Tongues and the interpretation of tongues on the other hand, do not work that way. Jesus speaking in the John 6:63 said *the word that I speak unto you, they are spirits and they are life*. The Bible says the letter kills but the Spirit gives life (2Corinthians 3:6). If you record the words, will you be able to record the Spirit? Of course not!

When a tongue is spoken, the interpretation is first, inspirational. This means that it is as the Spirit wills or says. It is not logical; you don't try to find meanings to the words or phrases. Second, it is spontaneous that is, the meaning is based on what is needed at that point in time and mainly relevant to the particular audience. **The meaning comes with the tongues, when there is a gap or change in location or time, the meaning may be lost.** So, if a tongue is recorded and replayed to another person with the gift of interpretation of tongues, he is likely not to get any meaning let alone when you expect two or more people to get it.

The only situation where the tongue can have the same interpretation anytime is when the Spirit intentionally gives a tongue that someone around is familiar with. For instance, if I am ministering in Germany and a person speaks in tongues but what he is saying is in Yoruba language, I wouldn't need the gift to interpret such. I would just use my natural senses. The Holy Spirit allows such just for me to be able to decode the meaning. We wouldn't even need any person with the gift to interpret. The Spirit knows that I am there. If such is also recorded and taken to different Yoruba speakers, they would tell the meaning. They will not only be able to tell the meaning but they can also translate and transliterate it.

I should also mention that it is not all tongues that carry a message that should be interpreted. I could discern if a tongue carries a message or not. And a person with the gift of interpretation of tongues may not be able to interpret tongues at all times. Spiritual gifts are not skills or talents that are always there and that can be expressed as you will, they operate as the Spirit wills.

You may be wondering if two people with the gift interpret at the same time would get the same meaning. Once the Spirit releases the interpretation into one person, the other will be shut. He can only confirm if the other is speaking from the Spirit or not. He may also be able to tell if the person added some of his own words. Every spiritual person present can do that anyway. There are times when I am not the one interpreting but I would be made to know part of what is to be said ahead of time. One of the reasons for this is to confirm if the person is speaking from God or not.

However, I need to add that **The Holy Spirit is dynamic in His ways yet consistent in purpose.** He may choose to act out of the usual. Such cases are for signs.

### ***Not by foreknowledge***

Like I have said earlier, if you interpret a tongue or translate it based on your background knowledge of the language spoken it is not the gift in operation.

### ***Drilling in tongues***

If you realize that God wants to use you in bringing forth interpretation or prophecy or you just desire it, you need to train yourself in speaking in tongues regularly. If you get an interpretation, write it down; you are building up yourself or preparing yourself for public prophecy.

### ***Stay within the scope***

That you have been speaking in tongues for 10 minutes and people are quiet waiting to hear what you have to bring forth doesn't mean that that you should add your own if all you got in the spirit is "it is well with you". Stay within all that you received.

## **THE MYSTERY AT THE UPPER ROOM**

While I was teaching the concept of tongues in our *School of the Prophetic*, the Lord opened my eyes to the event in Acts chapter 2. That we are familiar with some passages make us lose their deep meanings. I want you to close your eyes and imagine the event again in few minutes.

There were 120 people at the upper room. God needed to call people's attention to the place and so He caused a sound that came like a rushing mighty wind. That sound attracted people to the scene. The 120 saw cloven tongues as of fire coming down upon them and they all burst out in tongues. If they were all in one room, I want to believe that they came out to the open, probably to the balcony or an open space since they were in an upper room of a building according to Acts 2:13.

My attention was specifically drawn to the kind of tongues they spoke. The Bible says everyone heard them speak in their individual native



dialects. There were thousands of people from about 20 different tribes in Jerusalem at that time and they could all hear whatever the 120 were saying in their own native tongues.

The question is did each of the 120 speak a different language? If that was so, it means that there would be a lot of commotion. Imagine 120 people standing on the pulpit and all speaking different languages! Surely they were not actually speaking the specific languages of those hearing them. We can also conclude that they were speaking tongues of angels because the languages they spoke were not the languages of those people listening to them. I want to believe that they were speaking mysteries in the spirit.

But how could the people have heard them? The Spirit of interpretation of tongues was in force and took the meaning to each person's ear in their own local dialects. God is great. That is the same way the gift of interpretation operates. It just put the meaning right there in your heart. It doesn't mean that those people hearing them automatically have the gifts of interpretation of tongues but on that day, their physical ears were opened to hear it loud and clear. It is the spiritual ear, the inner ear, the ear of the heart that is opened today whenever the gift on interpretation is in force.

In this modern age, we could look at it from the angle of the United Nations General Assembly. At the convention, the presidents and leaders of various countries of the world would be seated. The President of Germany could be sitting beside the President of France but they would both have earplugs in their ears. Whatever a person is saying would be heard in the different languages of all that are seated at the same time

and one would not interfere with the other; there would be no commotion or confusion. That was the same thing that happened on the day of Pentecost. The 120 were speaking mysteries and each ambassador of different nations of the earth could hear the meaning in his own dialect. God did this without any sophisticated technology. They didn't even need earplugs. The same God that scattered the language of the world at Babel united the languages of men again in a split second. I am rest assured that when we get to heaven, we won't need to learn any language or get an interpreter but we will be able to communicate freely with ourselves whether you speak Spanish or Hindu. I am not saying we will speak in tongues in heaven, in fact the Bible says tongues would cease (1 Corinthians 13:8) but when that time comes, I am sure that whatever one says would be understood by the other.

### ***It could be written***

I have said it repeatedly that interpretation of tongues can be written. The person might even finish speaking in tongues but the interpretation would still linger in his heart and he could pick up a pen to write it however, he may lose some of the interpretation unlike if it was written as the person was speaking because the meaning comes spontaneously with the tongues.

### ***Tongues could also be written***

This is a debate that has been on for a while in the body of Christ. Writing tongues does not mean ridiculing or an abuse of tongues. What could lead to abuse is the reason or motive behind the act of writing. One could be having a social media chat with a spiritual brother and decide

to pray together in the Holy Ghost and they type it. There is nothing wrong with that.

It could be done in a believers' group chat as well. There is no crime in that. It can also be recorded as voice notes and sent via social media to people of like minds. They are merely doing what can do if they are seeing each other physically. But it will be childish and immature to send or type tongues in a public space like on Whatsapp status or on a social media group where unbelievers and unspiritual Christians can see it. They are not likeminded brethren so, what is the purpose? Anyone who does that is just like a man who speaks in tongues in a market place or in a commercial bus. Such is an example of those Paul rebuked in 1 Corinthians 14:23:

*...speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad?*

An instance in the Bible was when God wrote on the wall in an unknown language and it took someone with spiritual discernment to translate it (Daniel 5). Some scholars believe that the inscription was some archaic language of the Jews but I disagree. If that was so, the King could have gotten any other Jew in the land to interpret it (there were many Israelites in Babylon). Daniel would not have been needed. What was written were heavenly alphabets.

Let me mention in passing that there are heavenly alphabets and God gave some men access to it. Many that prophesy do see scrolls with words written on them in in strange languages. Some could find themselves in the Spirit reading the alphabets on a board or on scrolls and they would interpret it in regular languages. Take note that, this

heavenly alphabets or language is not necessarily the same with the tongues we speak regularly. Go deeper in Jesus name.

*And when I looked, behold, an hand was sent unto me; and, lo, a roll of a book was therein; And he spread it before me; and it was written within and without... Ezekiel 2:9-10*

Talking of alphabets, when people write tongues, they are only able to write it in the way it sounds in their ears. It doesn't necessarily mean that they write the correct alphabets. Let's take for instance, a man is speaking in tongues and what he's saying is actually Japanese. If the person is an English speaker, the best he could do is representing those sounds in the English alphabets, he can't possibly write in Japanese because tongues is not the same as learning a language.

In summary, there is nothing wrong in writing or recording your tongues if it edifies you and if it done among spiritual and knowledgeable brethren but it is wrong to write it on the public space. I have seen the gift of interpretation manifest in some of those online group chats where someone writes or speaks and another interprets. There is actually nothing like space or gap in the Spirit realm.

## **ACTIVATION**

1. Speak in tongues for 30 minutes with complete concentration; take note of everything that comes to your mind. It could be some words or names of some people or places. Try to write it either spontaneously or after you are done. You can also record it. Do that for three days and compare your progress.

2. If you are yet to have the gift of diverse kinds of tongues, expect it during those three days.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### THE GIFT OF PROPHECY

The Scriptures says as we behold Him, we are changed from glory to glory by the Spirit of the Lord (2 Corinthians 3:18). The word of God is such that transforms men into becoming what it teaches. As you behold it you are being changed! As you behold the spiritual gifts, you begin to manifest those gifts. That's why I said that the first step to manifesting spiritual gifts is understanding what it is all about. I believe so far, the LORD has imparted you.

The gift of prophecy seems to be the most popular of all the spiritual gifts, it is the most discussed and the most controversial in the body of Christ, yet it is the most desired of all gifts. As a Bible teacher, I can that it is the most complex to teach but by the Spirit of God, it would be simplified for you and easily understood by you. I should inform you that every minister of God carries special graces. For me, praying for people to be baptized in the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues and praying for people to be able to manifest the gift of prophecy is my major calling. My mandate is to make all men speak in tongues and prophesy. So, be ready for an impartation.

Like I said, prophecy is actually complex and large. If a whole book is written on it, it deserves it. A whole chapter was dedicated to it in the Bible. In our *School of the Prophetic*, it was largely discussed. For easy comprehension, I will be using key points to explain its nitty-gritty by the unction of the Holy Spirit.

### **1. God wants you to manifest the gift of prophecy**

If there is any of the nine gifts that God wants everyone to manifest, it is the gift of prophecy. Moses who was a prophet confirmed it.

*And Moses said unto him, Enviest thou for my sake? Would God that all the LORD'S people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit upon them! -Numbers 11:29.*

God said it through Prophet Joel:

*And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions  
-Joel 2:28*

Apostle Paul also confirmed it.

*Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy -1 Corinthians 14:1*

### **2. Prophecy simply means to proclaim or to preach**

The Greek word that is translated to prophecy in the Bible means to proclaim or to preach. That doesn't mean that if anybody is preaching, it is equal to prophecy; I'm only saying that, that it is the root word and meaning.

### **3. Prophecy is proclaiming under an unction- impulsively**

In this case under the unction of the Holy Spirit, I hope you know that several religions of the world have prophets that prophesy under the unction of evil spirits. You must have read about prophets of Baal in the Bible. Baal was a famous idol in the Bible times.

The dictionary defines Impulse is as an urge, particularly a sudden one prompting an action.

Impulse buying is defined as making a purchase spontaneously, without planning or thought.

Impulsion is as an influence from (another force) acting unexpectedly or temporarily on the mind.

If you understand what an impulse is, it will be easy for you to understand prophecy. In those definitions, take note of the following words *urge, influence, sudden, another force, mind, spontaneous, temporal and prompting an action*. **Prophecy is when you have an urge from the Holy Spirit to say some things without a prior plan.** Prophet Jeremiah described his experience that even if he didn't want to speak, he found himself just doing it.

*But if I say I'll never mention the Lord or speak in his name, his word burns in my heart like a fire. It's like a fire in my bones! I am worn out trying to hold it in! I can't do it!*

*-Jeremiah 20:9NLT.*

In the New Testament, much force may not be applied from the Spirit, it would come with an urge and it could be mild or severe.

(a) In most cases, it is only the first line of what you are to say that floats on your mind with the urge to say it and as you begin it, others are released.

(b) At other times, you may only have the urge to open your mouth and once you do that, the words would start rolling out one after the other. The Word says *open your mouth wide and I will fill it (Psalms 81:10*



(c) And in some cases you may be saying something else when a word or phrase would jump out in the middle of it as prophecy.

What I describe in the three instances above might have happened to you once or twice but it doesn't become a gift until you manifest it often.

#### **4. X+X=Y**

#### **Diverse Kinds of tongues + Interpretation of tongues= Prophecy**

*I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying*

- 1 Corinthians 14:5

When these two gifts work together, it produces prophecy. When a person speaks in tongues and the same person interprets, it is the gift of prophecy in action. We have had instances where one person speaks the tongues and another person interprets. The person who interprets has the gift of prophecy and the other person may not but such is not far from having it. Paul said such a person should pray that he may also interpret.

*Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret. 1 Corinthians 14:13*

In some cases, God may not grant the interpretation to the person that is speaking even though the person has the gift of diverse kinds of tongues as well as prophecy. And it could also be that it is the person that is not

properly aligned and so the Spirit grants the interpretation to another person. One of the most wonderful sights that I love to behold is when God gives tongues to someone and the interpretation to another. It's like seeing the Holy Spirit doing two things wonderfully simultaneously. Anyone who sees such will be in awe of His glory.

### **5. It may and may not involve tongues.**

The dimension many are familiar with today is that of tongues plus interpretation but it doesn't always follow that dimension. Prophecy may come in the middle of a sermon or of a discussion without necessarily speaking in tongues. And if you observe people that prophesy often, you will realize that some of them speak in tongues and interprets line by line.

That is, they say the tongues and then the interpretation, the tongues again and the interpretation till they finish prophesying. You may have also observed that there are those who only speak few words in tongues and then go ahead to prophesy in regular language for a longer period of time. In the middle, they may speak the tongues for few moments again and then prophesy for a longer time. People in this second category are not necessarily interpreting their tongues; they were just using the tongues to stabilize their self in the spirit.

Let me add that it is the Holy Spirit that chooses the dimension to use at different times as He wills. Meanwhile, one's level of yielding to the Spirit may be a factor. Anyone who can prophesy -either in his private prayer life or publicly- already has the gift of diversities of tongues and

interpretation of tongues. But like I always say, each and every of the spiritual gifts has depths and levels. Always desire and press for more.

### **6. You may remember your prophecy and you may not**

It is ignorance for people to use whether the person remembers what he said or not as a yardstick to judge a prophecy. For long and in many circles, it is believed that if a person can remember what he said after prophesying, the prophecy is fake. That is not correct; there are prophecies you remember and some that you don't remember, it all depends on the dimension. You may not agree with this and that would be because you have never prophesied.

Some people who have the gift of prophecy pretend not to remember so that they will not be condemned by those who heard them but if they will be sincere, they will attest to what I am saying. They may not remember all they said and they may forget most of what they said after some hours but the doctrine that preaches that people shouldn't remember at all is a doctrine formulated by those who have never manifested this gift.

### **7. It may be a direct speech or a reported speech**

A direct speech comes with a first person singular. For example: "*I am the Lord, I am in your midst*". A reported speech takes the form of a third-person singular. For example: "*The Lord is in our midst, He is here to grant our heart desires*". There are a number of factors that could determine what style is used but I believe it lies mostly with the person talking. God often prefer the direct speech but starters may want to use a third person singular because they are shy. Another reason could be that the person fully received it then said it in a reported manner.

Let's examine two examples from Acts.

*Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate **ME** Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto **I** have called them. Acts 13:1-2*

Here, you would notice the words "ME" and "I". That means the prophecy came through one of the prophets present using a first-person singular.

The second example is in Acts 11:28

*And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar.*

This seems more like a reported prophecy and not actually a direct one depending on how you look at it.

### **8. It may and may not contain revelation**

I have said earlier that prophecy could act as a gift or as a vehicle. When it acts as a vehicle it means that it contains revelations and I believe you still remember the three revelational gifts discussed earlier in this book.

*But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all. And thus are the*

*secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth.*

*1 Corinthians 14:24-25.*

*...the secrets of his heart made manifest...* means that the secrets of his heart are revealed. That is, saying something about a person that no other person knows except himself and God. Such a thing can happen during prophecy. The past, present or the future of a person can be revealed through prophecy. It can also reveal hidden things about situations or places. It is not all prophecies that contain revelations but some do. And it is the ones that contain revelations that the devil and people use to unsettle churches and the body of Christ. Even if a prophecy that doesn't contain a revelation is fake, it may not cause any trouble or commotion.

There could be revelations that come from God during a prophecy session but which are not meant to be revealed to the public. I believe that is why God enables us to know what we are to say before saying them in many of these cases. God expects that discretion be used in those instances.

### **9. Some prophecies may contain visions or not**

I stated earlier that visions are also vehicles that bring revelations to. It also happens that when some people prophesy, they see a lot of things; they may see angels, horses or chariots, scrolls, Seraphim, Cherubim and other deep things and in some instances, the person may not see anything but receive the prophecy in their inner ears or minds and say it impulsively. The words may float on their minds or they may have

someone (which is usually an angel) stand by them and say the words into their ears. If you have ever prophesied, you will attest to what I am saying and if haven't, when you begin to experience it, you will confirm it. If you have not been seeing things and you desire to see things, pray to God and at the same time be faithful with the dimension which He has been using you.

### **10. Prophecy does not make a prophet**

All that prophesy are not prophets but all prophets prophesy. Prophecy is a spiritual gift which is freely given to all believers; it also doubles as a service gift which is available to all. The common difference is that the prophecy of those called into the five-fold offices as prophets often come with visions and revelations. It doesn't mean that a believer cannot have visions and revelations and that a prophet will always have visions and revelations. In our *School of Ministry* and in my book titled *Understanding the Call and the Five-fold Offices*, I explain how the five-fold offices including the office of the prophet work.

### **11. Simply prophecy**

Simply prophecy is when the gift only acts as a gift and does not contain revelations but the ones that contain revelations must not contradict the laws of simply prophecy.

*But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort. 1 Corinthians 14:3*

## **12. Laws of Simply prophecy**

*But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort. 1 Corinthians 14:3*

Simple prophecies edify, exhort and comfort and the ones that contain revelations must not go against this law. If a prophecy is unedifying, does not exhort and brings discomfort; that is, if it does not make people feel safe or joyous in the house of God or to feel the flow of the Spirit of God or if it quenches the move of the Spirit of God, be vigilant. The Bible says in the presence of God there is fullness of joy and pleasures forevermore (Psalms 16:11). Beware of any prophecy that condemns the people of God, and even kills their joy in the presence of the Lord. God doesn't use the gift of prophecy to do such in the New Testament. Prophecy, most especially when it is public should not dampen or quench the Spirit.

To exhort, edify and comfort means to make people feel better than they were when they came in but when they begin to feel worse as a result of prophecy, it means that something is wrong. Please don't use your gift of prophecy that way anymore. You have to stop it. If God wants to rebuke, He would do so through the sermon and not prophecy.

## **13. It can be influenced.**

The Bible says in 1 Corinthians 14:32 that; *and the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets*. What does that mean? It means that as a prophet or one who prophesies, your own spirit is subject to you. Not that the spirit of one prophet is subject to another prophet. Please read other versions of the Bible in case you don't agree with me. It means that the spirit which a person is using to entertain God as a channel to speak

is subject to the person and is not under a compulsion as some often assume.

Furthermore, the flow of the Spirit can be influenced by the individual. He can stop the flow, add to it or extend it and when that is done, it is very wrong. We are expected to give ourselves to God willingly. You may see some people who when under the influence of the Spirit, shout or fall to the ground. This can happen at the beginning stages or when there is a higher unction on them but it is still subject to the person's will. If you don't agree, the next time you see a person act that way, slap him and watch if he would react or not. It is demons that possess people outside their will, the Holy Spirit does not.

#### **14. It can be added to**

Watch out for people who add to what God is saying because it can actually be done. Some people do not actually have evil spirits or familiar spirits in them; they just add out of ignorance or to show off. God might only want to bring two or three words through them and they decide to add to it just to make it more.

Meanwhile, you don't need to turn yourself to a prophecy critic or start to condemn people all around. If someone is misusing the gift ignorantly, the person can mature especially by reading this book and becomes better. If you are in a place where the gift is grossly misused, you can take your leave instead of feeling irritated all the time or call the people into order if you are in the position to do so.



Personally, unless a person grossly misuses the gift, I don't go about trying to sieve what people say in prophecy as far as it doesn't affect me. Everybody needs to grow but before then some ignorant mistakes might be made.

### **15. It can be faked**

It is a fact that someone can know what he is about to say in prophecy before saying it and that gives room for people to add, remove or rephrase it. Unless when removing some revelations by discretion, adding and subtracting to it is wrong. But while some do that ignorantly, some do it deliberately. And in fact, some people are into the business of giving fake prophecies. They can easily be believed because people know they have the gift. This is a grievous sin.

### **16. It can be quenched**

The Bible says *quench not the spirit; despise not prophesyings (1 Thessalonians 5:19-20)*. The environment can quench prophecy or the gift of prophecy in a person. The person having this gift can also be guilty of quenching it.

### **17. Personal thoughts collide with prophecy**

Many beginners are scared to prophesy because they feel it could be their thoughts. You will realize that the initial urge to speak was not from you or from your thought. When that happens, you should be free to speak. And as people speak, some have issues with their thoughts coming in. If you step out of the flesh, you won't have this problem for long. The more USE the gift and EXERCISE yourself in it with pure motive, the better you become at it.

## **18. Prophecy requires faith**

*Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophecy according to the proportion of faith*

*-Romans 12:6.*

When we sense the urge, we need to start in faith and continue in faith. Stronger and deeper prophecy requires the spiritual gift of faith.

## **19. The quality of the prophecy depends on the vessel**

I have always said that of the spiritual gifts have depths and dimensions. The Spirit may want to use a person in dimension at a particular period in time. Oftentimes, the quality and depth depends on the individual. I said earlier that prophecy requires faith. Many people do not grow in prophecy or are unable to prophesy because they refuse to grow in faith. The first word that comes out of your mouth especially when you are prophesying for the first time is usually something you are familiar with. It could be a phrase like, *“thus saith the Lord”*. It will come as simple as that. It may not even involve any form of push or extraordinary urge.

When you say the first word, another one would come, followed by another one and it continues that way. As soon as you open your mouth in faith, it keeps coming. Even if you have been prophesying for a long time, it may also be the same with you that as soon as you say the first one; you don't know what goes on anymore; the rest keeps coming on their own but if you don't take the first step of faith, you may not be able to prophesy and if you don't retain your faith level while you are at it, you may become distracted and you will end up quenching what is supposed to come out of you.

Practicing in your private prayer life and in small fellowship groups will really help you. You can record your prophecy with your device during your private prayer sessions and listen to it. You can also write it down. This will build your faith and courage. It is interesting when people write down prophecy or an interpretation. As soon as you write the first word, the rest follows rapidly.

## **20. It depends on the word**

The second factor that determines the quality of a prophecy is the quality of the word of God in the person's life. This is because the word is the language bank or the vocabulary bank that we use to bring out what God is saying. So if you don't know the Scripture or if you are not conversant with the scripture, you may not be used in certain dimensions. I preached a sermon titled *Ministry of the Word* and it is available on Telegram. Just search for @sadozite, you will see the SADOZ family channel then you join and download it from there. One's depth in the word at a particular point in time may also determine how much God will use that person at that point in time. Amen!

## **21. Over to you**

I have always canvassed that the gift of prophecy is for all believers. Let's read 1 Corinthians 14:1;

*follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy.*

Paul didn't tell us to desire what God cannot give to us. Verse 5 says;

*I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesy:  
for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with  
tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.*

## **STEPS TO ACTIVATING THE GIFT OF PROPHECY**

- a. **Start with your private prayer life.** Don't wait for when you will prophesy in public. Start by interpreting your own tongues. This is the easiest way to manifest the gift of prophecy. I could remember a lady who was in my office. I told her I don't have much time to attend to her but if she could observe a thirty minutes' prayer session in tongues with the desire to prophesy just for three days, she would manifest the gift of prophecy. She started prophesying on the second day. I have heard various testimonies like this. All you need is a conducive environment where you can speak out without minding people around.

You can also intercede for people in the Holy Ghost and try to get the meaning in the Spirit as you are allowed. Once you get the meaning, you can write it. By and large, you can begin to interpret the tongues of other people and prophecy will begin to manifest in your life. Paul said "let he that speak in tongues pray that he may interpret" (1 Corinthians 14:13).

- b. **Desire and look forward to it.** Each time you have the opportunity to pray either privately or openly in the Holy Ghost in a

spiritual environment, desire and look forward to the manifestation of the gift of prophecy.

- c. **Bring forth that word with faith.** No one is going to force it out of you. Once it comes into your mind in the form of prophecy, bring it out with faith and it will keep flowing.

### **A BOTTLE OF COKE**

Prophecy works like a bottle of coke. If you shake it rigorously, it will foam. The moment you open up the lid, the content will come gushing out. While you are praying in tongues, you are stirring up your spirit or shaking it up. At that moment, a word or sentence in your natural language will be laid on your mind. It could be as simple and common as “thus saith the Lord”. Once you speak that first line, it is like opening up the lid. The rest would come gushing out. It will be released on your mind and you will be speaking it forth consciously. You may be speaking in tongues intermittently as you speak those words.

At some point you will feel relaxed. That moment, you should stir it up again by speaking in tongues and then go ahead to prophesy in your natural language.

Don't worry if you don't go very far the first day or the first time, just keep doing it. God wants you to prophesy at all times.

The biggest challenge you may have is speaking forth the first sentence that serves as your lid. Remember that you had some struggles when you were to be baptized in the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues the first time too. But you spoke the tongues any way. Devil lied

to you that you were forming it or copying someone else's tongues and all yet, you believed that the tongues on your mind was real and you did speak forth. The same is applicable to prophecy. The first line that would be laid on your mind is likely to be the common phrases such like: "thus saith the Lord". That is your opening lid. Speak it forth and keep speaking as of the LORD. DO THAT NOW!

You feel like praying in the Holy Ghost? Go ahead and prophesy too.

***And when Paul had laid [his] hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied. Acts 19:6***

## CHAPTER FIVE

### PROPHESYING

I must confess that I am glad and I return all glory to God for how simple the gift of prophecy was presented in the previous chapter and I am confident that you will begin manifest from now.

In this chapter, we want to look at *prophesying* from the perspective of the Old Testament and the New Testament.

Prophesying is not actually another spiritual gift; it's just the verb form of the word *prophecy*. *Prophesying* is defined by the dictionary as *to speak or write by divine inspiration; to act as prophets; TO PREDICT OR FORETELL; to foreshow, highlight or prefigure; to speak out on the Bible as an expression of holy inspiration, to preach.*

I want you to take note of *to predict or foretell* because that is what prophecy or prophesying was in the Old Testament but in the New Testament, it means *forth-telling* which is what I also called *simply prophecy* which means to edify, to exhort and to comfort as inspired by the Holy Spirit. What is called *fore-telling* (future telling) in the Old Testament is what we call the gift of *word of wisdom* in the New Testament.

#### ***Declaration not Prophesying***

When someone says, “*I prophesy into your life, go and make it.*” That is a declaration and not a prophecy. It may be grammatically correct to call it prophecy but it is contextually inappropriate. However, there is no sin in

saying it that way but as a Bible student, you should know the difference.

### ***Prophetic hour not Prophecy hour***

Another common misplacement today is when ministers of God or prophets claim that they are holding a prophecy hour. Seeing visions or telling revelations is not prophecy or prophesying, it is only prophetic. Remember that I said we have six prophetic gifts. So, when a minister of God tells people their past, present or future, he is only acting prophetically, he is not prophesying. Meanwhile, when a person is prophesying, it can serve as vehicle for the manifestation of other prophetic gifts including the word or knowledge and the word of wisdom. A person can operate two or more spiritual gifts simultaneously.

### **EXPLAINING 1 CORINTHIANS 14**

We will quickly look at the whole chapter of the Bible dedicated to prophecy and tongues. Going through this passage will help to clarify so many misconceptions.

*v1; Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy.*

- If you desire it; you can have it.

*v2; For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.*



- Speaking in tongues is very good whether you know what you are saying or not, the Bible says you are speaking mysteries and communicating with God.

*v3; But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.*

- Reading verse 2 and 3 together, it means that if you are in the church or in a believers' gathering and you decide to speak in tongues quietly or personally without interfering with the whole congregation, you are not speaking to anyone and no man understands you but it is fine, you are communicating to God in codes and mysteries. But if someone goes beyond speaking in tongues to himself and to God and wants to speak aloud to everyone; he wants everyone to keep quiet and listen then, it has become prophecy and it must edify, exhort and comfort as I have explained earlier.

*v4; He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.*

- Of course, while you are speaking in tongues by yourself, you can even get private interpretations and messages from God and even if you don't get messages for yourself or understand what you are saying, your spirit is built up and you are edified. The Greek words translated into edify means to *charge* as in when you connect your phone to an electrical socket to charge. But he that prophesies do not only charge himself but the whole congregation

*v5; I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.*

- In a meeting in the church or in a fellowship, it is good that people speak in tongues on their own but it is better if we receive a word of prophecy. The point the Apostle is making here is that if you know that you are not going to prophesy for the benefit of the whole congregation, speak in tongues on your own and let others pray or also pray in tongues on their own, don't try to make all of us listen to your tongues or disturb the rest of us. We do not have such a problem today as they had in the Corinthian Church back then but we also have people who overdo it when it comes to speaking in tongues today.

*v6; Now, brethren, if I come unto you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you, except I shall speak to you either by revelation, or knowledge, or by prophesying, or by doctrine?*

- At that time, in the Corinthian Church, some people overdo it when it comes to speaking in tongues. They did it to demonstrate who could speak in tongues best. For instance, a brother may be asked to take opening prayer and all he does would be speak in tongues without even telling the meaning. So, the Apostle was correcting them that it was better to give revelations (word of wisdom) if there is any or a word of knowledge or prophecy or to charge people from

the word (doctrine) rather than shouting and screaming in tongues in front of everyone without communicating.

*v7; And even thing without life giving sound, whether pipe or harp, except they give a distinction in the sounds, how shall it be known what is piped or harped?*

- If I'm playing a piano, a keyboard, a guitar or trumpet it must be well piped; I must string it well for people to understand what I'm playing and it is the same thing with tongues. Paul is saying if you want all of us to keep quiet and listen to only you, then your tongues should come with an interpretation or else, it makes no sense. It is the same point that verse 8-11 explains;

*For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle? So likewise ye, except ye utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken? for ye shall speak into the air. There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification. Therefore if I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be unto him that speaketh a barbarian, and he that speaketh shall be a barbarian unto me.*

*v12; Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church.*

- Here, the Scriptures is saying that if you are passionate about having a spiritual gift, especially if you wish to be used by God to

Speak to the congregation then desire the gift that will edify everyone and that is the gift of prophecy.

*v 13-14; Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret.*

- It is not bad to pray in the spirit in your private prayer time and you don't have to wait for a spiritual feeling or a kind of premonition or urge or push before you speak or pray in tongues. Some people find it difficult to pray in tongues without any urge or push but it is wrong. You can decide to start speaking in tongues right away whether you feel like or not. The Apostle said when we pray in tongues, it is our spirit that prays and we may not know the meaning but we can pray for the gift of interpretation.

*v15; What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.*

- We don't wait for push or urge before we pray in our regular language, why then should we wait for an urge to speak in our heavenly language? And aside praying in tongues, the apostle also spoke about singing in tongues. Thank God that chanting in tongues have become common today but do you know that the songs that you sing in your regular language, can also be sung or mimed in tongues? You will only follow the tune but instead of uttering English or your dialect, you will utter tongues. If you have never done it before, do it now. What has prevented some people

from these encounters and experiences is that they feel that they must be unconscious or lost in the spirit before they manifest but that is not correct.

*v16-17; Else when thou shalt bless with the spirit, how shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he understandeth not what thou sayest? For thou verily givest thanks well, but the other is not edified.*

- Here the Apostle was talking about giving thanks in tongues. It is very good and God loves it but it shouldn't be that when you are asked to come and give testimonies, you start to speak in tongues. How will others especially those who don't have spiritual understanding join you to give thanks to God or say amen to your prayer of thanksgiving? You can give thanks in tongues and praise God in tongues. If you receive a credit bank alert or receive good news, you can shout and scream in tongues. It is quite nice to do so but when you are addressing people, do all in a normal language.

*v18; I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all.*

- Here Paul was saying he speak in tongues often. What about you?

*v19; Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue.*

- When you address people, speak in a language they can understand especially if you are not prophesying. It is better than speaking tongues. It's better to speak few words in your understanding than to speak thousands of words in tongues when talking to people. Remember that Paul was stating these things in order to correct the misuse of tongues during that period.

*v20; Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men.*

- That is, grow up!

*v21; In the law it is written, With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord.*

- Here, the Apostle quoted from Isaiah: *For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. Isaiah 28:11.*

*v22; Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying serveth not for them that believe not, but for them which believe.*

- Verse 22 explains further that if unbelievers hear us speak in tongues, it is a sign to them that God has given us strange utterances but it does not in any way benefit them. But to believers, it is not a sign because all of us can speak it. What we

need for corporate edification is prophecy. If anyone wants to edify all of us, it shouldn't be through tongues, but by prophecy.

*v23; If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad?*

- If all we do when we hold meetings is to allow people speaking in tongues one after the other; for instance, the opening prayer is in tongues, praise and worship is in tongues even the sermon was in tongues, the unbelievers and unspiritual Christians will say everyone is mad. Even the spiritual brethren will not benefit from such a service.

*v24-25; But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all: And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth.*

- If it is prophecy, everyone including unbelievers will benefit even if the prophecy does not contain revelations.

*V26; How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying.*

- One of the things we say in tongues is singing of psalms. It is usually a wonderful experience. These Psalms are received in the

spirit and interpreted for the benefit of all. Whenever you see doctrine in the New Testament, it often means teachings, particularly sound teaching. Here, it means someone might receive a biblical understanding while praying in tongues. I have experiences along these lines; both psalms and doctrine. I know others who have experienced it as well and anybody can have it.

*v27-29; If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at most by three, and that by course, and let one interpret. But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God. Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the others judge.*

- The emphasis here is that in certain meetings where many other things have to be done, too much time should not be spent on prophesying. Two to three prophecies should be enough. When there is time and plan to take many prophecies especially for the benefit of grooming believers in the gift, more people can be allowed.

*V30-33; If anything be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted. And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.*

- The focus here is orderliness. If all that needed to prophesy speak one after the other, they would also benefit from it. What we do today to save time and maintain orderliness at the same time is by



writing or recording the prophecies and it would be read to everyone if necessary. If there are private instructions or revelations, it would be appropriately communicated to those affected.

## **CHAPTER SIX**

### **JUDGING PROPHECY**

This Chapter is not to make you a critic of prophecies but to guide you in the use of the gift of prophecy, for you to help others and watch out for manipulations and misuse.

There are several ways prophecies can be judged:

#### ***1. The Character of the Person***

I always say that the character of a person determines the kind of devil that will use him. The Bible says that the serpent is the most subtle of all the animals on the earth (Genesis 3:1). When Satan was looking for an animal to use, the serpent was open and most fitting. Cain also demonstrated the character that could attract the devil to make him rebel against God. Pigs are dirty, so the demons Jesus chased out on a particular occasion begged to go into them. The same happened with Judas, he was deceived with money because of his greedy nature.

The Scripture says: by their fruits, you shall know them (Mathew 7:20). Prophecy involves speaking words from the Spirit of God. That means if a person is a liar, you may likely find lies in his prophecies. The Bible talks about how certain 400 prophets were all deceived to lie to the king by a lying spirit. Some or all of them were prophets called by God but they easily fell victim because they used to be liars (1Kings22:23). It is best to do away with liars and their prophecies. Jesus says liars have only one father; the devil! (John 8:44)

Such prophecies may not be entirely false; it could just be a part of it. It could take any of the following forms:

- a. Everything the person is saying is a lie and falsehood.
- b. The prophecy sounds good but it is not from God.

Remember the Damsel that followed Paul and Silas in the book of Acts 16:14-16. Everything she said was good and truthful but it was from an evil spirit.

*And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying.*

*The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.*

*And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.*

*And he came out the same hour.*

## **2.Part of it is from God and part of it is from the devil or from the flesh.**

I want you to understand that if the devil wants to say a thing, he usually add some truth or words that sound good to it. If everything is a lie or bad, you will not believe it; it could be 80% or 30% truth and the rest would be lies. After all, his aim is to mislead you. I remember a secondary school fellowship where they reported to me that they had a wonderful move of God on that day but one of the prophecies was that they should stop meeting in the school premises. I told them that, the devil doesn't care if he tells you 99% truth but his aim is that 1% that

will take you into 100% error. Don't forget that the devil also sees things, he knows things, he operates with familiar spirits and familiar spirits are spirits that are familiar with your environment.

Lie is a terrible thing. Jesus said that Satan is the father of all liars. Lies attract lying spirits and anyone that lies can easily fall victim to any wrong spirit. Their prophecies could be hacked by demons at any point in time. They could speak one line from God and the other line from the devil. If you must listen to a prophecy from a liar or any revelation cross check it very well.

*For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works. - 2 Corinthians 11:13-15*

*But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not*

*- 2 Peter 2:1-3*

There are false prophets and there are false prophecies. You have to be careful of both.

### **3.Does it lead to God?**

*He will bring Me glory by telling you whatever he receives from me. John  
16:14 NLT*

Jesus said that when the Holy Spirit comes, He will glorify Him and not speak of Himself. Even Jesus glorified the Father when He was on earth. 1 Corinthians 12:3 says *So I want you to know that no one speaking by the Spirit of God will curse Jesus, and no one can say Jesus is Lord, except by the Holy Spirit.* Even though it is not everyone that says Jesus is Lord that speaks it by the Holy Ghost but at least we know that anybody who is speaking by the Holy Ghost will not say Jesus is accursed or will refuse to glorify Christ.

Be aware of those people who try to draw people to themselves or to some demons and not unto God. 1 John 4:1 says *beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.* Don't try to use your prophecy to attract people to yourself but only to God.

### **4.Does it agree with the scriptures?**

Even if you don't know many Bible passages to judge if a thing is from God or not, when you see or hear things that clearly contradict the Scriptures, you should stay away. I have heard of men of God who impregnated their fiancé with the excuse that God told them to do so. Also, beware of prophets that do not read their Bibles. I have heard of those who boastfully claim not to need the Bible anymore.

*For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of  
God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost- 2 Peter 1:21*

Any prophetic instruction that goes against your conscience should also be discarded! If someone gives you a revelation that contradicts the Bible, stay away from such. I have heard of people who claim to have higher revelations than what is in the Bible. When you see such things, please run for dear life. Peter speaking to Jesus Christ said, “*you will not die*” which was a good thing but Jesus said, “get behind me you devil” (Mathew 16:22-23). Peter said a good thing but it was from the devil.

### **5. Are their prophecies fulfilled?**

*When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him. Deuteronomy 18:22.*

It is a fact that fake prophecies are not fulfilled however some fake prophecies can be fulfilled and some prophecies from God may also not be fulfilled due to many factors. We call such conditional prophecies an example is that of Jonah to Nineveh. The story of Apostle Paul is also a good example. Paul was being transported to Rome as a prisoner at that time. He warned the sailors not to take off but they refused. Along the way, they had trouble and were faced with a great storm. They lost many valuable resources in the process. It got to a point that all of them resorted to fasting. Then, at a point, Apostle Paul told them that the angel of the Lord appeared to him and told him that none of them would die but the whole ship would be lost. He even encouraged them to eat. They all believed him and ate. But just as they were about to get to an Island where they could all escape to, the sailors almost forfeited the word of wisdom given by Paul. The sailors thought that the ship would not get to the Island before it would sink so, they tried to escape with the

small boat (lifeboat). Paul saw what they were trying to do and he told the Soldiers that if they allowed them to escape, all the people left on the ship including the Soldiers would be dead. The commander listened to Paul and cut off the rope that was holding the life boat and that was how they were all saved! That word of wisdom or what many would call prophecy wouldn't have been fulfilled if Paul had not alerted the Soldiers.

*And as the shipmen were about to flee out of the ship, when they had let down the boat into the sea, under colour as though they would have cast anchors out of the foreship, Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved. Then the soldiers cut off the ropes of the boat, and let her fall off. Acts 27:30-32*

When you see someone who prophecies but none of it has ever come to pass, watch out!

**6. Not all prophecies are of God even though they may come to pass.**

Deuteronomy 13:1-5 paints the picture clearly.

*Suppose there are prophets among you or those who dream dreams about the future, and they promise you signs or miracles, and the predicted signs or miracles occur. If they then say, 'Come, let us worship other gods'— gods you have not known before— do not listen to them. The Lord your God is testing you to see if you truly love him with all your heart and soul. Serve only the Lord your God and fear him alone. Obey his commands, listen to his voice, and cling to him. The false prophets or visionaries who try to lead you astray must be put to death, for they encourage rebellion against the Lord your God, who redeemed you from slavery and brought you out of the land of Egypt. Since they try to lead you astray from the*

*way the Lord your God commanded you to live, you must put them to death. In this way you will purge the evil from among you.*

God is saying that some people can indeed give you a sign or prediction and it will come to pass yet, it doesn't mean that it is from the Lord. The question you need to ask is if it leads to God or to other gods? I know of someone who claimed to have had a dream where Jesus told her to convert from Christianity to another religion. I usually caution another young man anytime he speaks about some suspicious gathering. He usually supports his statement by saying "but they have signs, they have wonders, they have moves". If that is what pushes you here and there then, it would push you to occultism.

#### **7. Does it lead to liberty or bondage?**

*For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. Romans 8:15.*

Some people prophecy or give revelations and all they do is to create fear. The Bible says we have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear but the spirit of adoption whereby we cry Abba Father. We have received a Spirit that would make us call God, Baba, My Papa or *Baami* in my native language. There are people who never prophesy positive things. They see deaths, accidents, sicknesses or dryness. The only message many of the so-called prophets in Africa give is that someone has a great glory and some people have snatched it away or the person is bewitched. All they do is to create fear and panic. ...*Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty* – 2 Corinthians 3:17.



Before I got married, I received prophecies about my marital life. Some of the messages simply told me to be watchful not to fall into the devil's trap by marrying the wrong person. But many of them painted it in a fearful manner that it seems as though I was going to marry Satan himself. They made it look as if Satan would transform into a lady and become my wife. At a point, I became sick of hearing it and fear was already finding its way into me. It was then that I decided to ask the Holy Spirit what the problem really was. The Holy Spirit reminded me that when Moses returned to Egypt, he turned water to blood and the Egyptian magicians also did the same thing. The remaining water that would have been available to the people, the magician also turned it into blood. Moses caused frogs to fill everywhere and the magicians caused their own frogs making it more. He said *"when I give a warning or a sign, the devil may add to it and make it look fearful; fear would lead to sin and destruction thereby making the person to fall victim to the very thing he is afraid of"*. The devil can counterfeit what God is saying and so you need to be careful when a message becomes fearful and beware of such people who makes a hill out of a molehill. If God is using you, don't get too emotional with the message or cause panic and fear in the heart of your listeners.

### **8. The Holy Spirit:**

*But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.*

*But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him. 1 John 2:20,27*

One thing that has saved me from wrong doctrines and false prophecies from childhood is the anointing of God, which is the Holy Spirit in me. When I was much younger, I may not have had Bible passages to back up or oppose what a person was saying but if I didn't feel at ease with it within me, I know that something is wrong. If my spirit does not agree with a thing, I will not fight it; I would just stay away from it. God puts His Spirit in even baby Christians so that they will not fall victim but many ignore the caution and fall victim.

Paul told Timothy and Titus to stay away and not to analyze or debate wrong doctrines. Timothy and Titus were Bishops and direct disciples of Apostle Paul yet he cautioned them against debating.

*But foolish and unlearned questions AVOID, knowing that they do gender strifes. 2Timothy 2:23*

*But AVOID foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain.*

*A MAN THAT IS AN HERETICK AFTER THE FIRST AND SECOND ADMONITION REJECT. Titus 3:9-10*

### **9. Your Conscience:**

You can resist the signals the Holy Spirit may send to you against a wrong prophecy or a wrong prophet or a revelation but it will be difficult to claim not know when it doesn't agree with your conscience. The conscience is what God placed in us as a natural brake to caution us. If a word of prophecy is not cleared in your conscience or you are not convinced, wait for the time it would be cleared, that will save you from a lot of mess.

## END NOTE

This book has discussed the three utterance gifts in details. Now, you know what each gift is and how they operate. I expect that by the time you get to this page, you are already baptized in the Holy Ghost and you can prophesy. If you are yet to be baptized in the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues, check the index page on how to get baptized in the Holy Ghost.

This is not just a mere book; it is a book you should revisit and drink from again and again.

There is more to learn about spiritual gifts so, I urge you to get other titles in this spiritual gifts series to learn more about each spiritual gift and their operations. Or you can get the complete book *Impartation for Spiritual Gifts*.

## **INDEX**

### **Receiving Salvation**

You were born a sinner condemned to hell but Jesus Christ died for your sins, gave you power to sin no more and to enjoy life here on earth and hereafter. All you need to do is to believe and accept His works by declaring Him as your LORD and Saviour. Do you believe this? Say: Lord Jesus Christ, I accept that you died and resurrected for the remission of my sins, I declare you as my LORD and Saviour. Amen.

### **Steps to Receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost**

1. You are not to ask or beg God for it, just expect it.
2. Believe He has given you and you will manifest it.
3. Don't hate tongues. That some people misuse it doesn't mean it has lost its power.
4. Don't pretend not to need it. Holy Ghost baptism is not just about tongues, it is about empowerment but tongues is the initial sign that you are baptized.
5. Clear your minds of doubts. God will give you but if you think that any sin can hinder you, ask for forgiveness now and now. (Isa 1:18 *Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool*). And forgive everyone in your heart.
6. As I pray for you, you will be baptized and you will speak in new tongues.

7. As I pray for you, the Holy Spirit will give you utterances and you will speak it out. Note that utterance means any sound produced with the mouth. That means the utterance could be one syllable or two. It could be one word or more. Understand that you are the one that will pronounce the utterance in anyway it comes to your mind as the Holy Spirit gives you utterance.
8. When I pray for you, the utterance would come. Don't think you are the one thinking it, it is not you. Don't think you will be unconscious or lost, it is not so. Don't be bothered if you don't know the meaning just speak it. And keep repeating whatever comes to your mind.
9. Daddy thank you because you are a faithful God, you always hear me and you are eager to give us more than we are eager to ask. I pray for you: receive the Holy Spirit right now in Jesus Name.
10. Open your mouth and began to speak those tongues.

### **Steps to Receive Healing**

1. **1Peter 2:24 says:** *He personally bore our sins in His [own] body on the tree [as on an altar and offered Himself on it], that we might die (cease to exist) to sin and live to righteousness. **By His wounds you have been healed.***
2. You have been healed. You have been healed even before you had that illness, what I'm about to do by praying with you is to proclaim your healing.
3. As I do that, the pains and symptoms will be no more.
4. After I pray for you move that part of your body just as though it was healed already because it is an instant healing.

5. I proclaim you healed and whole right now in Jesus Name. The last time you had that illness is the last you will ever have in Jesus Name.
6. Check it out and share your testimonies.

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