

Series: Systematic Theology Part 4
Title: Gifts of the Holy Spirit (1)
Purpose: To examine the gifts and whether or not some have ceased.
Date: March 29, 2026

- I. Questions regarding spiritual gifts - any ability that is empowered by the Holy Spirit and used in any ministry of the church - includes talents, abilities, and specific gifts
 - A. Spiritual gifts in the history of redemption
 - B. The purpose of spiritual gifts in the New Testament age
 - C. How many gifts are there (p. 1020) - at least 22
 - D. Gifts may vary in strength
 - E. Do Christians possess gifts temporarily or permanently
 - F. Are gifts miraculous or nonmiraculous
 - G. Discovering and seeking spiritual gifts
 - H. Gifts are tools for ministry and not necessarily related to Christian maturity

- II. Have some gifts ceased? The cessationist debate
 - A. Does 1 Corinthians 13:8-13 tell us when miraculous gifts will cease
 1. Purpose of passage
 2. 13:10 - when Christ returns
 3. Objections to this interpretation
 - B. Would the continuation of prophecy today challenge the sufficiency of scripture
 1. Authority of the gift of prophecy
 2. The question of guidance
 - C. Were miraculous gifts limited to the apostles and their companions
 - D. Did miraculous gifts only accompany the giving of new scripture
 - E. Is it a historical fact that miraculous gifts ceased early in the history of the church
 1. 1 Corinthians 13:10 says nothing about frequency
 2. He is talking about the final abolition of such gifts because they will not be necessary
 - F. Are miraculous gifts today the same as the miraculous gifts in scriptures
 1. Does it really matter?
 2. Does everyone have to be healed for the gift to still be functioning? (Matthew 9:35)
 - G. Is it dangerous for a church to allow for the possibility of miraculous gifts today
 1. We do many dangerous things
 2. It is more dangerous to try to tell God what He can and cannot or will and will not do
 - H. A final note: Cessationists and charismatics need each other