

SIGNS & GIFTS

Dispensationally Considered

The course book and tests for signs and gifts.

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Introduction

Why did Jesus heal every Jewish person he came across while he was ministering for three and a half years to the lost sheep of the house of Israel?

Was it because he was a nice person? Was it because he was moved with compassion when he saw the sick? Why?

Jesus healed every Jewish person he came across because he promised he would make them a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation way back at Mt. Sinai when he gave them the law and God always keeps his promises:

Exodus 19:5 Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: 6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

Notice the children of Israel would become a nation of priests one day. That has not happened yet because Israel has not met the requirements for being a kingdom of priests. They had a tribe of priest only (from Levi) but not a nation yet.

They have not become a holy nation yet because they have not kept his covenant to become that peculiar treasure unto God.

They will become that peculiar treasure unto God in the millennial kingdom and then they will become the kingdom of priests that will bless all the Gentile nations with the word of God,

But when Jesus came preaching about the kingdom being "at hand" he went about healing all manner of sicknesses and diseases among his people (the children of Israel) for a reason.

To keep the promise made at Mt. Sinai that If Israel as a nation would repent at his, and the preaching of the 12 then they would have eventually enter into that kingdom and began to operate as priests to the Gentile world.

What are the requirements for a Jew to become a priest? They could not have any infirmities in the flesh. No illnesses or diseases, so when Jesus saw a blind Jewish man what did he do? He healed him of his blindness, so he could become a priest in that kingdom they were all preaching as at hand.

What did he do with all those that were lame, and deaf, and dumb? What about those with Leprosy, you could not be a priest with any of these infirmities, so Jesus healed them all to prepare them to become priest if they as a nation would accept him as their Christ who would also be their King.

They did not but that didn't stop Jesus from healing them anyway. He even healed many that did not follow him after their healing. Don't take my word on this, check out the requirements for being a priest for yourself:

Leviticus 21:16 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 17 Speak unto Aaron, saying, Whosoever he be of thy seed in their generations that hath any blemish, let him not approach to offer the bread of his God. 18 For whatsoever man he be that hath a blemish, he shall not approach: a blind man, or a lame, or he that hath a flat nose, or any thing superfluous, 19 Or a man that is brokenfooted, or brokenhanded, 20 Or crookbackt, or a dwarf, or that hath a blemish in his eye, or be scurvy, or scabbed, or hath his stones broken; 21 No man that hath a blemish of the seed of Aaron the priest shall come nigh to offer the offerings of the LORD made by fire: he hath a blemish; he shall not come nigh to offer the bread of his God.

A Priest would also have to be washed with water before they could become a priest and Jesus went about with his disciples washing/baptizing all who would repent of their sin in Israel.

Then he promised he would baptize them with the Holy Spirit which was also done in type by the Priest after they had been ceremonially washed in clean water. They would be anointed with Oil which was a type of the Holy Spirit all throughout the Old Testament.

As a Deacon of a Pentecostal Church, I began to question some of the teachings and practices of my Denomination and those of the Charismatic movement as a whole while studying to receive my ministerial license to preach the Gospel.

The following is a scriptural response to the differences between what I was taught by my former Denomination and what I learned from a verse-by-verse study of the Bible.

In order to be fair to this subject and to the millions who are confused about it, we will examine as many scriptures as possible relating to the modern-day signs and wonders controversy.

The first reference to these supernatural signs in the New Testament is found in the book of Mark:

Mark 16:15-20 "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name they shall 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. So then, after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen."

The first thing you should notice concerning the signs were that they followed the word of God to confirm it because Israel required a sign to validate the messenger was from God as they did in Moses' time they still did in Christ's time.

Are these signs for the Body of Christ today or not? In order to answer that I will endeavor first of all to try to speak in biblical terms as I write and not try to add to the confusion by using similar nonbiblical terms to make something say something entirely different.

For example, I could have used the word gifts exclusively, but I chose rather to use the biblical term signs when the bible uses it, and the word gifts only when the scriptures do because while they can be used interchangeably at times they cannot be used interchangeably every time.

They have different meanings depending on the context. Before we understand the gifts controversy better, we must understand the times in which they were introduced in.

In this study we will look at signs and wonders as they were accomplished under the Kingdom Saints ministry to the Nation of Israel and lastly, we will look at the signs that were performed under the dispensation of Grace specifically under the Apostle Paul's ministry as the Apostle of the Gentiles.

Chapter One

Signs and the Kingdom of Heaven

for

Israel's Kingdom Program

In order to determine what position is correct we must go to the scriptures and place this teaching in its proper context to receive the answers we are looking for. In order to do that we must begin in the Old Testament on the very day that the Law was given to Israel at Mount Sinai.

At Sinai God told Israel that they would be a peculiar treasure unto him and a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

He was not just speaking to the tribe of Levi who would serve the other tribes as their priests, but he was speaking of a future time in Israel's Millennial Kingdom with Christ sitting on his throne in Jerusalem that every tribe would be priests to all the world.

In order for that to happen Israel had to be made ready to receive her King, her Kingdom and her Priesthood. She was not ready for any of the three when Christ came the first time, but she will be made ready in the Time of Jacob's Trouble (the seven-year tribulation period that occurs after the rapture).

John the Baptist ministered under the Old Testament program, but what most people don't know is that when Jesus and the Twelve Apostles ministered it was also under the Law. See Galatians 4:4

We need to understand the Kingdom Message that was being preached in Christ's day to Israel and the significance it has to our theology today.

Please bear with me a while and you will see where I am going with this, and I believe the eyes of your understanding will be opened as were mine. In the books of Moses, God had promised Israel a king and a kingdom:

Deuteronomy 17:14 When thou art come unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, and shalt possess it, and shalt dwell therein, and shalt say, I will set a king over me, like as all the nations that are about me;

That kingdom eventually came a little ahead of schedule with the people's demanding a king and God gave them Saul. God then ultimately gave them David establishing the true kingdom that God had promised.

That kingdom seemed in jeopardy when it was divided under Rehoboam, Solomon's son and Israel was eventually taken into captivity by Syria, and Judah by Babylon. Their hopes of re-establishing their kingdom seemed all but lost.

The prophets however told of a kingdom which would never end, which would be ruled by a King who was eternal. Israel drew hope from the prophecies that their deliverer would come and restore Israel to its place of prominence and even supremacy over the Nations of the world.

2nd Samuel 7:12 And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

Before this kingdom could be established its king had to be presented to its subjects and be rejected by them and killed before returning after he made all of his enemies his footstool. Psalms 110:1

In order for this to happen Israel was given many signs that were to be fulfilled by her future king so that Israel would recognize her King. The Jews require a sign because they were born as a nation with signs as they came out of Egypt.

All throughout the Old Testament God promised that the Messiah would come and set up his kingdom and that when he came, signs would follow to authenticate his Kingdom and to prove that he was Israel's King.

The Jews as a whole rejected their king and chose to ignore the signs given to them by the Apostles also. The sign gifts were for Israel and when Israel rejected their king the sign gifts began to cease as the word of God neared its completion and Israel went into partial blindness.

The two reasons why there are so many churches today are:

1. Some churches fail to use the bible as their sole authority for their beliefs and practices.
2. Others don't rightly divide the bible as commanded.

2nd Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

There are two main ways that churches unknowingly fail to rightly divide God's word. The first way is that they take the promises that belong to Israel and apply them unto themselves.

For Example:

One religious group claims that they are the 144,000 servants that proclaim the gospel of the Kingdom to the world in the last days.

But Revelation 7:4 says, **And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.**

Revelation 14:4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins.

The Jehovah's Witnesses are not the literal descendants of the twelve tribes of Israel and most of them are not virgins. They will also tell you that the way to be saved is to endure unto the end, which was a command from Christ to the Nation of Israel during the Tribulation Period, not the Church Age.

The second way churches wrongly divide scripture is that they take truth for another age and apply it too today. God's word promises that there will be a thousand-year kingdom established on earth after the Church Age and after a seven-year Tribulation Period, which will have Christ as its head. This kingdom literally continues on after the thousand years end for all eternity.

This Gospel (Good News) of the Kingdom was offered to the Nation of Israel when Christ appeared the first time to them but was rejected by them.

What is the Gospel of the Kingdom?

From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Matthew 4:17

Definitions

The Gospel: The Good news.

The Kingdom of Heaven: The thousand-year reign of Jesus Christ on Earth just prior to his eternal reign. Daniel prophesied about it:

Daniel 7:13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. 14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

Israel had been waiting for this Kingdom of Heaven to come and be ruled by the Messiah. The Jews were told by Jesus to pray for God's Kingdom to come and for God's will to be done on earth as it already is done in heaven, which is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 6:10 Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.

Those in the dispensation of grace do not pray for the kingdom to come. That was the hope of those under the Law. We pray for the return of Christ, the Rapture. Even so, come Lord Jesus.

References:

Matthew 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the Kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

Matthew 9:35 And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

Mark 1:14 Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God. **15** And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

Matthew 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

From these verses we learn many things:

The good news was that the Kingdom of Heaven was at hand.

Israel was to repent, and to believe the gospel (good news). Israel's leaders however rejected the gospel of the kingdom.

The Gospel of the Kingdom included observing the Law of Moses:

Mark 1:44 And (Jesus) saith unto him, See thou say nothing to any man: but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing those things which Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

The Gospel of the Kingdom was to the Jew only:

Matthew 10:5 These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: **6** But go ye rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. **7** And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

No Gentiles were supposed to hear the gospel of the kingdom because it was not for them. Jesus followed the Law as did his disciples and even went to the Temple:

Galatians 4:4 But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, 5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

The Gospel of the Kingdom was authenticated by miracles:

Matthew 10:8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: free ye have received, freely give.

The Old Testament ended at the Cross of Christ, the kingdom was at hand however during the time of John, Jesus and the Apostles but was rejected by Israel so the Church Age began shortly after the stoning of Steven.

The foundation stone was already laid for the Church at the cross where the Church was purchased with his blood and thousands were added to this Jewish Church, but the Church Age didn't really begin until Paul was saved right after Israel rejected the final offer of the kingdom at the stoning of Stephen.

Matthew 11:13 For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John.

Hebrews 9:16 For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. 17 For a testament is of force after men are dead.

The Gospel of the Kingdom was rejected by the leaders of Israel:

Matthew 8:11 And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. 12 But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

The Kingdom is still yet in the future:

Acts 1:6 When they were come together, they asked of him saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? 7 And he said unto them. It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

If the Kingdom were re-established in Israel today, we would be setting up Kingdom Halls like the Jehovah's Witnesses wrongly do today.

The Gospel of the Kingdom is not the same Gospel we preach today. Today we preach the Gospel of the grace of God which is best described for us by the Apostle of the Gentiles:

1st Corinthians 15:1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; **2** By which ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. **3** For I delivered unto you first of all that which I received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; **4** And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: **5** And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:

The death, burial, and resurrection was hidden (concealed) from the 12 Apostles at the first:

Luke 9:44 Let these sayings sink down into your ears: for the Son of man shall be delivered into the hands of men. **45** But they understood not this saying, and it was hid from them, that they perceived it not: and they feared to ask him of that saying.

The death, burial, and resurrection were partially explained (**revealed**) to his disciples during his forty-day ministry only **after** his resurrection.

Paul received the complete understanding of the results of the resurrection but that would be a few years later and it would deal with what his death meant to the whole world and not just Israel.

After his Resurrection he opened their understanding:

Luke 24:44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. **45** Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, **46** And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: **47** And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. **48** And ye are witnesses of these things. **49** And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

Jesus spent his last forty days teaching the disciples alone about the kingdom they would receive if only Israel would repent and trust their king, but they would not as a nation and they were then blinded in part by God during this present church age.

Acts 1:1 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, **2** Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: **3** To whom also he showed himself alive after his passion by many

infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: 4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. 5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

In Acts 1 the Bible lays the foundation for the purpose of the signs of the Holy Spirit, it says:

Acts 1:4-8 And, being assembled together with them, (Jesus) commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence..., But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

This power that came upon these believers was for boldness in witnessing to those of Jerusalem, Judaea, Samaria, and the uttermost parts of the world, it was not for their own personal pleasure, or self-glorification.

Chapter Two

Signs and Wonders

Signs and wonders are mentioned in the Bible one hundred and nineteen times. Many of them are repetitive relating to the signs that God performed through Moses before the children of Israel.

Later on, Elijah performed signs and wonders along with Elisha as signs to Israel, but we will look to the New Testament signs performed by Christ and his Apostles to validate the Gospel of the Kingdom as well as the Gospel of the grace of God.

1st Corinthians 1:22 For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:

Why were signs given? To confirm that a man was sent from God with a message for a particular time period. For example, Moses was given the Law and grace and truth came by Jesus Christ, but each had signs and wonders associated with them.

These signs and wonders were limited to the introductory period of these new dispensations to confirm the message and the messenger were from God.

In Exodus Moses was given the Law, but he was also given many signs and wonders to authenticate his message as coming from God:

Exodus 4:1 And Moses answered and said, But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The LORD hath not appeared unto thee. 2 And the LORD said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod. 3 And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it. 4 And the LORD said unto Moses, Put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand: 5 That they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee. 6 And the LORD said furthermore unto him, Put now thine hand into thy bosom. And he put his hand into his bosom: and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous as snow.

These Signs were given to prove to Israel that Moses was sent from God. Healing is always used to confirm what God is doing. In Israel's program, healing accompanies a message from God.

Not long after that God tells Moses and all Israel that false prophets would arise and show a sign or a wonder to draw people away from the truth.

Deuteronomy 13:1 If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder, 2 And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them; 3 Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. 4 Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him. 5 And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn you away from the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of, to thrust thee out of the way which the LORD thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee.

Israel would also receive a sign from the Prophet Isaiah unlike any sign it was ever given past, present, and future, second only to the sign of the prophet Jonah, but that would be much later. We will look at both of these here: The sign was that God would become a man through the virgin birth:

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Matthew 12:38 Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee. **39** But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas:

When Christ came on the scene he came with many signs and wonders. John the Baptist who was the first to preach about the Kingdom prepared the people for its King and his message.

John would later become discouraged while in prison and send two of his disciples to ask Jesus if he was really the Messiah.

If Jesus was the soon to be King then he wondered why he was still in Prison, after all he was the King's cousin. John had no idea he would be beheaded. He truly did decrease so that Christ would increase.

Matthew 11:1 And it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and to preach in their cities. **2** Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, **3** And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another? **4** Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and show John again those things which ye do hear and see: **5** The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them.

This is not the gospel that we know today. It is the gospel of the kingdom promised by Isaiah. The Church was hidden to Israel in the Old Testament:

Isaiah 61:1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; **2** To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; **3** To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified. **4** And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations. **5** And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers. **6** But ye shall be named the Priests of the LORD: men shall call

you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.

In Matthew and the other Gospel accounts we see Jesus preaching this gospel (good tidings or news) to none but unto the Jews only, and even though God's Son himself came unto his own, his own received him not. They literally said:

Mark 12:7., This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance shall be ours.

This Jesus said as a prophecy concerning himself and the nation of Israel which would ultimately reject him and the message of the kingdom just as they did while Israel had kings ruling over her.

Matthew 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

These signs and wonders were a fulfillment of the prophet Isaiah for Israel to see to validate the message that the Messiah would be preaching. That message of the kingdom was the only message Israel would be looking for.

Isaiah 61:1 The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; 2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

John now had the answer he was looking for because it was straight from the scriptures. When I tell these truths that I have found to someone that has been involved in this movement it is not to say I am smarter than you.

It is because I was deceived by Satan myself whom the scriptures clearly proclaim will deceive, if possible, the very elect. Please continue to be open to God's word and do not allow a feeling or an emotion or even a sincere family member or friend keep you from finding out the truth.

What is the harm in each one of us looking at the things we have been taught to see if they line up with God's Word? There is no harm, but Satan would have us all stay in darkness.

Don't allow pride to make you say, I am right, and he is wrong. Search the matter out before you make decisions that have eternal consequences.

John 20:30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: 31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

Many other signs could be covered in this study, but these are enough to suffice us for now. Jesus never preached the prosperity gospel that is being preached by many in the signs and wonders camp. He had no place to lay his head.

Chapter Three

Cast out Devils

Mark 16:17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name they shall cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; 18 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.

The first of these signs that was promised was the ability to cast out devils. I have chosen to use the biblical word devils instead of demons as it is when we start to change the words ever so slightly that we begin to lose what the author intended for us to understand when he chose those words in the first place.

The word “devils” is used forty-eight times in the Bible and interestingly enough only four times in the Old Testament, and then it is only used in the context of Israel sacrificing to devils, not the being possessed of devils as we see predominantly in the New.

What was the purpose of this sign? To show everyone, including the Devil that Jesus was going to take back what was lost in the fall, by his victory over death.

During the Kingdom, the Devil and his crowd will be bound for their role in corrupting this world. The casting out of demons by Christ was a sign to the Devil that his days were numbered and to Israel that their deliverance from the grasp of Satan was at hand.

Luke 11:4 And he was casting out a devil, and it was dumb. And it came to pass, when the devil was gone out, the dumb spake; and the people wondered. 15 But some of them said, He casteth out devils through Beelzebub the chief of the devils. 16 And others, tempting him, sought of him a sign from heaven. 17 But he, knowing their thoughts, said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and a house divided against a house falleth. 18 If Satan also be divided against himself, how shall his kingdom stand? because ye say that I cast

out devils through Beelzebub. 19 And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your sons cast them out? therefore shall they be your judges. 20 But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you.

We can clearly see here that Satan has a Kingdom, and that God does so as well. What was Jesus' response? The kingdom of God is come upon you. We see this initial offer of the kingdom being validated with signs to prove Jesus had the power to usher in this new Kingdom.

This sign is obviously not for today because no one is healing anyone that is dumb today. To be Dumb simply means someone has the inability to speak from birth.

Why do you suppose it is that we don't see this type of healings? If you will notice Jesus went and sought out these people, which is contrary to what is happening today.

You must ask yourselves, why are so many people in this movement casting devils out of their own people?

Matthew 8:28 And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way. 29 And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time? 30 And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding. 31 So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine. 32 And he said unto them, Go. And when they were come out, they went into the herd of swine: and, behold, the whole herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and perished in the waters. 33 And they that kept them fled, and went their ways into the city, and told every thing, and what was befallen to the possessed of the devils. 34 And, behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus: and when they saw him, they besought him that he would depart out of their coasts.

Devils crave to possess a body, which is something they do not possess in this material world. They understand their fate and it is also clear that they knew that it wasn't their time yet to be cast into the lake of fire when Jesus confronted them on that day.

Luke 10:17 And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. 18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. 19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. 20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

First the twelve disciples were given power to cast out devils and now the seventy could as well. They also had power not be hurt by serpents or scorpions.

Notice that he did not say that they would go to heaven, but rather that their names were written in heaven. The Jew has an earthly destiny, while the Church which is his body, has a heavenly destiny.

Lastly, remember that these devils mimic their master, Satan, and have the ability to work miracles (signs and wonders) to confirm their false prophets and false gospels.

Revelation 16:14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

Matthew 7:22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Chapter Four

Speak with new Tongues

Mark 16:17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name they shall cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

First of all, it needs to be noted that speaking with new tongues began in the book of Genesis at Babel and not in the book of Acts on the day of Pentecost.

Tongues refer to other languages. It is always important when establishing doctrine that you go back to its first mention, usually found in Genesis, and find the foundational verses to begin to build your doctrine on unless you like building on sinking sand.

Genesis 10:8 And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. 9 He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD. 10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.

Notice the mention of a kingdom here ruled by Nimrod. There is more here than meets the eye. Satan wants to rule in heaven as well as on earth.

He has already stolen through deceit the kingdoms of this earth from Adam at the fall and now he has a man named Nimrod, from which to rule through, but God would divide Satan's kingdom with one simple word, Languages.

Genesis 11:1 And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. 2 And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there. 3 And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them throughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar. 4 And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth. 5 And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. 6 And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. 7 Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. 8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city. 9 Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.

The people were divided by their tongues, or languages and the nation of Israel did not even exist yet. Today, the nations are still divided by different languages.

Imagine the ease of spreading the gospel if the whole world could speak the same language. What if god supernaturally could give all believers the gift of tongues? We could evangelize the world almost overnight. Why don't we?

Jesus never spoke with new tongues because he came only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. While there were many Jews that spoke other languages that lived outside of Israel his message was local.

Jesus disciples would reach out to those Jews of different countries that would come to Jerusalem for the feasts by giving them the ability to speak with new tongues so that the Jews would have a sign to verify the message they were preaching as coming from God.

The Apostle Paul would also speak in tongues but in the dispensation of grace, but it differed from tongues under the Kingdom Saints program because an interpreter would be needed. An interpreter was not needed for the kingdom program.

Notice that verse seventeen does not say that only one of these signs will follow every believer but he uses the plural these **signs** shall follow them that believe. The usual response I hear is, "I spoke in tongues once" or "I can speak in tongues".

I believe that most of these people are sincere when they say that, because they may have had some sort of experience at one time in their life, but can their experience be supported by the scriptures? Just what is their final authority, the Bible, or their experiences?

Unfortunately, a lady once said to me, "I know what I feel, don't confuse me with your doctrines." A key thing to remember is that when mentioning these gifts God called them **signs**.

In Acts 2 we find one of the most abused portions of Scripture in the Bible as far as misinterpreting what the true meaning of a portion of Scripture really is:

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language." Acts 2:1-6

Many today claim that they are experiencing a Holy Ghost Revival like that of the early Church with their speaking in tongues.

Why then do none of them verify their signs like the Apostles did, by using tongues as a tool to preach the Gospel to people from all over the world who speak many languages, and are without Christ?

If everyone who claimed to speak in tongues actually did, and it was a gift for the Church today, then the whole world could easily be evangelized in our lifetime.

Acts 2:7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? 8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? 9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, 10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God. 12 And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this? 13 Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine. 14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all [ye] that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: 15 For these are

not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is [but] the third hour of the day. 16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

They heard them speak **in their own language** the wonderful works of God! Why don't people understand this today?

They heard them speak in their own language! What is going on today is not a repeat of what happened at Pentecost! No one uses their tongues today to preach the gospel, no one! Take off your blinders!

There are no sounds from heaven like a mighty rushing wind unless a TV Evangelist is blowing in his microphone again. There are no cloven tongues of fire appearing at their meetings.

There are no reports of three thousand people getting saved, baptized, and added to the church at these meetings today. No one was taught how to speak in tongues on Pentecost as I have seen personally on many occasions, having been involved in this movement and so have many of you if you are honest.

You don't read about people dancing here or collapsing on the floor at the touch of the speaker. What is happening today bears very little resemblance to what actually happened on Pentecost two thousand years ago.

Why was Pentecost on that day so different? Because thousands of lost Jewish people were there from all over the world, and God used Pentecost to have the Gospel of the Kingdom preached unto them in their own language so the Jews there could be saved and take the message back to their current countries.

In 1st Corinthians 12:8-11 the Bible says that each person in the Church has a different gift, given to the individual by God, as God wills, not as we will. It also says that they used those signs only as the Holy Spirit gave them utterance.

Today you will see someone preaching on Prosperity or Healing and when he has the crowd excited enough you will often hear the preacher say a short barrage of words in tongues, why? What purpose did it serve? None!

No one received edification by it, and it wasn't interpreted either as commanded in Scripture. It was just thrown out there like a bone is to a dog.

It's easy to get a dog to bark when you wave a bone at him. Everyone did not speak in tongues in the early Church, only those who needed the gift.

1st Corinthians 12:8-11 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same

Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

Paul even answered this question at the end of Chapter twelve:

1st Corinthians 12:29-31 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? But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.

In chapter 13 Paul tells us that the sign gifts would fail or vanish away once that which is perfect was come. Notice that Paul used the word "that" and not the word "He", it was not the return of Christ that Paul was referring to, but rather the completion of the word of God, which would soon be complete once Paul received the abundance of revelations concerning the Church.

Some say after John gave us the book of Revelation and that might be correct but since it was through the Apostle to the Gentiles that Paul gave the Church most of its doctrine well after Pentecost.

Notice what Paul says about three of the signs listed in the previous chapter, i.e., prophecy, tongues, and the word of knowledge:

"Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know (The word of Knowledge) in part (For a while), and we prophecy in part (For a while). But when that which is perfect (or complete) is come (The word of God), than that which is in part (or temporary) shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things." 1st Corinthians 13:8-11

The Apostle Paul stated that the signs of Prophecy, and the Word of Knowledge would either fail, or vanish away when that which is perfect is come, and that the gift of tongues would cease in, and of itself.

If tongues were still a gift for the Church today, then they would be used in the same way, and for the same reasons as they were 1900 years ago!

Paul said in 1 Corinthians 14:18 & 19 that:

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

The Apostle Paul had the greatest need of any Christian to have the gift of tongues, because he was a missionary which started churches in numerous countries where different languages were spoken.

There is no need for someone who speaks English to speak in tongues, and someone else who also speaks English, to interpret a message in tongues to a bunch of people who also speak English.

1st Corinthians 14:33 For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace.

Isn't it interesting that God puts this verse at the conclusion of the three chapters that deal with the signs of the Holy Spirit? God also put further restrictions on the use of tongues which are totally ignored by many churches today, and they are:

1. Tongues were to be used only by two or at the most by three people, and there had to always be an interpreter present!

1st Corinthians 14:26-28 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. If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the 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.

2. Tongues were not allowed to be spoken by the women in the church according to God, and Paul also, but today the majority of those who speak in tongues in churches are women:

1st Corinthians 14:34 Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. 35 And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.

Women are usurping the God given role of the man in Churches today, by being in places of spiritual authority over the man. Men are supposed to be the spiritual leaders in the Church.

This confuses our young boys as to their roles as men and promotes homosexuality! Nowhere in the Bible are women ever permitted to be Pastors, Evangelists, or teachers of men, nowhere!

1st Timothy 2:11-13 Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve.

1st Timothy 3:1-5 This is a true saying, If a "man" desire the office of a Bishop (Pastor), "he" desireth a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the "husband" of one wife,, One that ruleth well "his" own house, having "his" children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a "man" know not how to rule "his" own house, how shall "he" take care of the church of God?)

3. Nowhere in the Bible was anyone ever "Slain in the Spirit" except for perhaps Ananias and Sapphira when they lied to the Holy Ghost and were slain in Acts 5:1-11, where did they get this strange new doctrine from, it wasn't from the Bible!

I pray that you will carefully consider these important truths as I did with an open heart, a King James Bible and the Holy Spirit as your teacher and ask God to reveal to you any false teachings that you may have believed.

1st Corinthians 14

Notice the priority in verse one of this chapter, it is not on healing, it is not on tongues, it does however place a premium on the importance of each of us prophesying.

Prophesying is proclamation about a future reward in Heaven, or a punishment in Hell for the person's response to the Gospel of Christ. You can also prophesy to the saved words of edification.

1 Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy. 2 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. 3 But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort. 4 He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church. 5 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.

Verse two states that when a man would speak in unknown tongue (another language) no one would understand him because there was an interpreter needed. But in verse three we see someone prophesying and people being edified by it because they could understand it.

Notice how in verse four the word unknown is mentioned in italics which means it isn't in the original Greek, but it is put there for our admonition to help us understand the context of the passage.

The language was unknown by the speaker. An interpreter was necessary for the others in the crowd who did not speak the same language as the speaker at that moment.

The reason for only having two, or at the most three people to speak in tongues (other languages) was simple.

Could you imagine someone preaching in English and then pausing to allow the Russian translator to translate, and then pausing again for the Hebrew translator as I have done in Israel, only to be followed by the Filipino translator, and then the Indian translator etc.,?

It would be impossible to maintain someone's attention like that, so God in His infinite wisdom places a limit to the amount of tongues that are to be used in a public meeting to help things go decently and in order.

6 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 by knowledge, or by prophesying, or by doctrine? 7 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 by knowledge, or by prophesying, or by doctrine? 8 For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle? 9 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. 10 There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification. 11 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. 13 Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret. 14 For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful.

This is the verse that is used to say that you will not understand what you speak and that no one else will either. But the word unknown is meant that speaker does not understand the language.

This does not mean it is an unknowable language. On the day of Pentecost, those that heard them speak recognized their native language (tongue).

This is not referring to an angelic language. During the infancy stage of the dispensation of Grace there were tongues given and they were all to be interpreted so the people would understand the message.

The Jews witnessing this would say "the Gentiles have the Holy Spirit as well because they are speaking in tongues as well, but not exactly the same. They needed an interpreter that was also gifted with the gift of interpretation.

15 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. 16 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? 17 For thou verily givest thanks well, but the other is not edified 18 I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all: 19 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.

Paul spoke with tongues more than all in Corinth but not in the Church because he tells us he would rather speak words he understood so others could be edified.

20 Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men. 21 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. 22 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.

It makes perfect sense here that God uses other languages as a sign to the unbelieving Jews first and then the Gentiles as well to help them understand the Gospel in their own language.

The Jew gets a double dose of conviction, first from the gospel message itself, and secondly from an added conviction found in Isaiah 28:11 and 12 which is quoted back in verse twenty-one of this chapter.

23 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? 24 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:

I have seen the Tele-evangelists all encourage whole congregations to speak in tongues at the same time. I have seen no interpretation given the vast majority of the times.

I have seen them utter five or six words in tongues in the middle of a sentence or at the end of an emotional part of a message with no thought of whether there is any interpretation.

They don't want someone standing up and taking their glory and translating a deeper bunch of mess than what they just said.

25 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. 26 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.

This is exactly what goes on in carnal churches just like it was in Corinth in Paul's day. This book was a condemnation and a correction of a messed-up church. Most today forget that and they try to model the errors of this crazy church.

27 If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret. 28 But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God. 29 Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge. 30 If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. 31 For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted. 32 And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. 33 For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints. 34 Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. 35 And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church. 36 What? came the word of God out from you? or came it unto you only? 37 If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord. 38 But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant. 39 Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues. 40 Let all things be done decently and in order.

What a way to end four chapters on a tough subject. God says through the Apostle Paul if they want to remain ignorant on this subject, let them. But as for you and how your church should operate let all things be done decently and in order.

1st John 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

Chapter Five

Lay hands on the sick

In the beginning God created Adam and Eve to live forever. When sin entered the picture, our bodies were changed as death passed upon them. **The wages of sin is death., Romans 6:23**

God had told Adam that in the day that Adam was to partake of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil that he would die. Notice that God did not say on the day, but rather in the day.

Genesis 2:17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

Peter tells us what is meant here in his second Epistle:

2nd Peter 3:8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

Ask yourself this one question, how old was the oldest man that ever lived according to Scripture? Methuselah lived to be nine hundred and sixty-nine years old but didn't make it over the thousand-year mark because God said no one would live any longer than a day in his eyes because of sin.

God's calendar and way of thinking are not ours. A spiritual day is literally a thousand years with God. So, mankind had a new problem, disease and eventually death, but God had a remedy.

God made a healing covenant with Israel, which would take place when Israel's promised seed would come and rule in Jerusalem during the millennial kingdom.

Isaiah 35:5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. 6 Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.

This was a promise of the coming kingdom. Israel was aware of what the kingdom was to include.

Matthew 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. 24 And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatic, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them.

Notice it says that Jesus healed all manner of sickness and disease. Why doesn't our televangelist go to the mental wards and clear out all those who are lunatics (mentally challenged)? Because they can't!

If they can't, they do not have the same gift, but something masquerading as a sign from God. Jesus later told His disciples that greater works shall they do. If they would do greater works than Christ, why do the miracles today pale in comparison to Jesus?

The answer is simple, the disciples did do more works than Christ did to validate the Gospel of the kingdom to Israel, but those sign gifts ceased a few years after the offer of the Kingdom was rejected by Israel.

Not only was physical healing a part of the kingdom message but so was spiritual healing which included the forgiveness of sins:

Matthew 9:1 And he entered into a ship, and passed over, and came into his own city. 2 And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee. 3 And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This man blasphemeth. 4 And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts? 5 For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk? 6 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house. 7 And he arose, and departed to his house. 8 But when the multitude saw it, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men.

This was prophesied most memorably by the prophet Jeremiah:

Jeremiah 31:33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

By Jesus saying that the man's sins were forgiven, He was saying that He was God. Jesus was telling them that he could give them physical and spiritual healing. The Physical healing was a sign that he could also grant the forgiveness of sins.

Healing is important to Israel because they will retain a physical body during the millennial kingdom. We as the body of Christ will put on an incorruptible body that will live in the heavenlies forever in God's presence.

1st Corinthians 15:40 There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. ..., 49 And

as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. 50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

Even if we do not die our body will need to be changed. For Israel, if they are alive when the kingdom comes, the curse will need to be taken off because they need the terrestrial body. But members of the Body of Christ need to have a changed body.

Healing also accompanied Paul's message as the Apostle of the gentiles because this new message of the cross and the resurrection was now going to the Gentiles after Israel's blinding due to her rejection of the Gospel of the Kingdom.

Now the dispensation of the Grace of God which was given unto the Apostle Paul would be ushered in until the time of the gentiles be fulfilled.

Acts 15:12 Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them.

The Jewish leaders in chapter fifteen required a sign and that is what God gave them through the miracles that Paul performed which were a sign that his message was from God.

This should have provoked the nation of Israel to jealousy. We in the body of Christ today do not need signs to confirm any new message today, because we have the completed bible.

Signs and wonders will return however during the tribulation period to the two witnesses and also to the hundred and forty-four thousand witnesses and they will need them to validate the gospel of the kingdom as it will be preached again during that time when for the last time the kingdom will be offered to Israel.

Chapter Six

The Baptism with the Holy Ghost

There is one kind of baptism that Jesus performed which took place on the day of Pentecost which is the baptism with the Holy Ghost. That baptism only Jesus Christ could perform, I cannot.

There is another kind that John and Jesus disciples performed which is water baptism, administered to all those in Israel who had repented.

Matthew 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the holy Ghost, and with fire:

The baptism with the Holy Ghost that Jesus performed began on the day of Pentecost. The baptism by the Holy Spirit is received immediately upon salvation by a believer today and it places us into the body of Christ.

These two baptisms are very different. In Ephesians Paul states that there is one baptism. Water baptism is not necessary for salvation today.

The baptism mentioned in Romans chapter six is very clear that the believer in this age is baptized into Christ, no amount of water in a baptistry could ever baptize us into Christ! It is verse four that shows us the method of baptism which pictures what happened to Christ.

Romans 6:3 Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

When we are saved, we receive the baptism by the Holy Spirit instantaneously and the Holy Spirit seals our salvation until the day of redemption, which means we can never lose our salvation.

Ephesians 4:4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Our baptism by the Holy Spirit baptizes us into Christ, and while the filling of the Holy Spirit is a daily occurrence available to us when we "speak to ourselves in Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in our hearts to the Lord. Ephesians 5:19"

The Holy Spirit then can operate more completely with us. It is not a question of how much of the Holy Spirit do we have; rather, how much of us do we allow the Holy Spirit to have?

Walking in the Spirit is simply walking in obedience to God. When I place my faith in the Lord Jesus and Him alone for my salvation, the Holy Spirit seals my eternal destiny from that moment on. But I can be filled with the Holy Spirit on a daily basis as I yield myself to Him.

In Acts chapter nineteen we run across twelve of Apollos' disciples who didn't have the way of God explained unto them yet like Apollos did, so Paul soon rectified that situation:

And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied. And all the men were about twelve. Acts 19:1-7

Once he told them the rest of the story, they gladly received it, and Paul had to lay hands on these Jews to receive the Holy Ghost because of their being the "other sheep" spoken about earlier who did not have the complete Gospel message.

Today, the laying on of hands is not necessary because we are not in a transitional stage between the Old and New Testaments. Today we receive the Holy Ghost at the moment of salvation.

Acts 1:4-8 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

The Baptism of the Holy Ghost was for one purpose only, verse eight above tells us the purpose of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost was to empower us to be bold witnesses,

no one was "ever" smacked on the forehead to receive the Holy Ghost anywhere in the Bible!

Acts 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

The only two people who were ever "slain in the spirit" in the Bible were Ananias and Sapphira and they didn't roll around on the floor in some spiritual state of ecstasy either, they were killed by the Holy Ghost for lying. (Acts 5:1-11)

Acts 8:14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: 15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: 16 For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) 17 Then laid they [their] hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost. 18 And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

There are no Apostles today except self-proclaimed Apostles. Apostles were initially necessary prior to the Canon of Scripture being complete in order to ensure the pureness of the message being preached.

The former qualifications for an Apostle to the Jews are found below and no man alive is able to meet them. Paul, formerly Saul gets saved in the next chapter and becomes the Apostle to the Gentiles because God started something new after Israel rejected the kingdom message.

Acts 1:21 Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, 22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.

Ever since the Azusa Street Revival the Charismatic movement has been carrying on the teachings of the Faith Healers of the 1800s that spawned the likes of Mary Baker Eddy and the Christian Science Cult.

The common link between these groups is their misinterpretation and application of Isaiah 53:5, plus numerous other verses related to the fulfillment of Isaiah.

Isaiah 53:5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

The healing provided at Calvary was a spiritual healing from our sin in regard to the redemption of our sinful bodies. Jesus and his Apostles went about healing people as a proof of their office, but the sign gifts ceased by the end of the first Century as the Word of God was completed.

The words "We and Our" are speaking of Israel not the Body of Christ. Go back and read it and stop reading yourself or the Body of Christ back into Isaiah's day or even Jesus/ day.

You weren't there, and neither was the body of Christ. The body didn't start until after the cross when God saved Saul of Tarsus and made him our Apostle.

The primary meaning of this passage, though, is that we are healed from sin through Christ's death. Peter even applies Isaiah 53:5 to salvation from sin. This verse also deals with Israel's healing as a nation at the onset of the kingdom.

1st Peter 2:24 says: Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

The Signs of Tongues and other sign gifts have not been duplicated or revived, but there is a distorted version of them presented as the real thing, so it is the same with the gift of healing claimed by our modern-day faith healers.

They are in no way the same nor are they even remotely similar in any way shape or form. They differ in the types of illnesses being healed and the methods used in the Healing Crusades.

Jesus healed because he was the Messiah and he healed as a sign to the Jews of who He was. It was not an example for us to follow today, it was proof that he was Christ.

And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name. John 20:30-31

The Bible declares the Jew requires a sign and Jesus gave them plenty with all his healings and many other types of Miracles but the biggest sign He gave them was the sign of the Prophet Jonah.

Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake. Jn. 14:11

**Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
John 14:12**

If this verse is translated by the modern faith healers, he falls woefully short of doing works greater than those of Christ especially in the area of healing. The promise in John 14:12 was fulfilled by the apostles in the book of Acts.

Those who claim to be apostles cannot perform the signs of an apostle nor do they meet the qualifications of an Apostle! They had to be with the other disciples since the baptism of John and they had to see the risen Christ. (Acts 1:21-22)

And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. ..., Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one. Acts 5:12, 15-16

The healings done by the Apostles were to authenticate their office and their message in the eyes of Israel.

2nd Corinthians 12:12 Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.

Mark. 3:14-15 And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils.

Acts 2:43 And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

Acts 5:12, 15 And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people ... Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them.

Acts 19:12 And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.

All Christians could not do the sign miracles of the apostles. The only exceptions were a few men upon whom the apostles laid their hands upon.

Why did they call for Peter to come and raise Dorcas from the dead if all could have performed miracles? (**Acts 9:36-42**).

Because they couldn't perform miracles, and neither can your favorite TV preacher. Stop seeking after signs, a wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign.

Did God heal all those Christians who were sick in the first Century? No! Paul had an infirmity in the flesh which he continually asked for healing from but was denied because it was Gods will for Paul to be ill to keep him humble. So much for your theology Mr. Roberts!

And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong. 2nd Corinthians 12:7-10

Timothy was told by the Apostle Paul to take a little wine for his bacterial stomach problems and his **OFTEN** infirmities.

Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities. 1st Timothy 5:23

And then there is the case of Trophimus being left by the Apostle Paul while he was still sick. What is up with that one Mr. Copeland?

Erastus abode at Corinth: but Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick. 2nd Timothy 4:20

He was not supernaturally healed even though an apostle was with him when he had to be left behind because of illness. Paul and the other Apostles sign gifts began to fall away as the Bible was nearing its completion.

We should pray for healing, but when God does not heal, we must accept that sickness as His will. This is not lack of faith.

The Bible tells us that sign gifts have passed away. Epaphraditus was sick, and Paul wrote to the Philippians and said Epaphraditus was sick nigh unto death, but God had mercy on him, and he got well. Paul does not say, "I healed him!"

Acts 19:11 And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul so that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs for aprons and the diseases departed from them and evil spirits went out of them.

Where was his faith? Where was the Churches faith? Paul wasn't there, but handkerchiefs from Paul were used to heal people, why didn't he leave one with his friend? Because it was not Gods will for him to be healed.

Trophimus was Paul's close friend, but Paul said in 2 Tim. 4:20 Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick.' Why would a man that had the ability that Paul had not send him a handkerchief to heal him? Paul no longer had the power. It ceased as did all the sign gifts before the end of the first century.

In 2 Thess. 2 it says, if they believe not the truth, then God will send them strong delusion that they would believe a lie.

The Bible prophecies apostasy and false signs in the last days but according to Charismatics, their movement is a fulfillment of prophecy. They teach that a revival of sign gifts is prophesied before the coming of Christ.

Just what does the Bible have to say about signs or wonders in the last days? Scripture doesn't prophecy a revival of signs and wonders in the church, but one is prophesied in the one world church of the Anti-Christ.

For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Matt. 24:24

This is a prophecy of increasing apostasy, not of revival. The signs and wonders spoken of for the last days are deceiving signs.

And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast... Revelation 13:13-14

The signs and wonders movement prophesied in Scripture for the hours prior to Christ's return (the Tribulation Period) is of demonic origins, we must ask ourselves the origin of today's signs and wonders movement.

Chapter Seven

God raises up the Apostle Paul

Acts 7:56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

At the stoning of Stephen Israel missed out on the final offer of the kingdom and we see God turn his focus on the Jews and saves Saul of Tarsus to become the Apostle of the Gentiles.

The Prophetic program of Israel was interrupted, and he would now begin what is called the Mystery program through the Apostle Paul, but first the door to the gentiles had to be opened and God would use Peter to do that.

Peter had a vision In Acts chapter ten in which a sheet came down from heaven and Peter was told to sleigh and eat from the sheet of unclean animals. Peter of course refused to eat three times before awaking.

While he thought about the vision three men came from Caesarea to Peter to request to return with them to their master who was a gentile. It was unlawful for a Jew however to keep company with a Gentile prior to this vision.

Acts 10:28 And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath showed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.

Peter obeyed and went to the house of Cornelius. When he began to tell those of Cornelius' household what God had been doing amongst them, the Holy Ghost fell on those Gentiles, and they began to speak with tongues.

This amazed his Jewish companions but served as a sign unto those same Jews that God had put no difference between the Jew and the Gentile.

Acts 10:43 To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins. 44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. 45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. 46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. ...

Peter was called to Jerusalem, were he explained why he went into a Gentile's house and what transpired while he was there.

Acts 11:15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning. **16** Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be

baptized with the Holy Ghost. 17 Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God? **18** When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.

They were all astonished because up until this time the gospel was to the Jews only, but after a few moments they began to rejoice.

Tongues were for a sign to unbelieving Jews to pass judgment on them for their unbelief. Paul told those in Corinth that tongues were for a sign to those Jews that do not believe. God would speak to Israel in another tongue, but Israel would not listen.

1st Corinthians 14:20 Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men. **21** 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. **22** 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.

Tongues were for a sign to the unbelieving Jews. God was now offering salvation to the Gentiles. Paul's testimony to Israel was that the Jew was now cut off (Romans 11).

Paul would be the one who would go to the outermost parts of the earth and preach the gospel while the twelve would remain and minister strictly to the circumcision.

Galatians 2:9 And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision.

When God resumes His plan with Israel it will pick up right where it left off, with the gospel of the kingdom being preached during the tribulation period. Miracles will validate its message that the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Only this time there will be no more delays.

Chapter Eight

My Personal Testimony

I was saved at the age of 21 on Resurrection morning in 1984 at the First Baptist Church of Bridgeport Michigan just three days after my I had finished my first enlistment in the U.S. Army.

I immediately re-enlisted for another three years before I had the opportunity to be disciplined. While serving with the 82nd Airborne Division in Vicenza Italy.

There I was given my first King James New Testament from the Army Chaplain, and I stuck it in my pocket over my heart as a sort of good luck charm to protect me with no intentions of reading it.

I eventually did start reading it when I was alone with nothing to do, and I began to start to learn what all Christ went through on my behalf.

I got discouraged reading it and quit eventually for the next two years because I could not understand some of things Jesus said and did because I did not know at that time how to rightly divide what pertained to Israel and what pertained to a gentile believer two thousand years in the future.

I later was transferred to Ft. Bragg, North Carolina where I eventually met my future wife. Her mother was the godliest person I had ever met, and she would always ask me to come to church with the family and I did but I was going to church not to hear the preaching but to spend more time with my future bride.

I began to have the same problems I was having two years earlier. The questions I had begun to multiply as I was thrust into the middle of the signs movement, and I did know what was going on and no one could give me any answers.

I began to read my bible every day and when my enlistment was up, and I was able to move to my wife's hometown where I began to spend hours each day studying anything and everything I could get my hands on related to the word of God.

I wondered about my own movement's beliefs. Something just didn't add up, but I wasn't sure what it was because I was still young in the faith.

I began to go to healing meetings and other special meetings where people were going forward to be filled with the spirit to speak in tongues.

I would constantly go forward and pray for understanding and pray that God would give me whatever gifts he wanted me to have.

I would pray, God if tongues are for today give me a double portion of your blessing, but if they are not, please protect me from being deceived.

This prayer got me much criticism on a few occasions as I was told that I was putting handcuffs on God because of my unbelief.

On one occasion a well-known evangelist came to a meeting I attended at a big church in town and as the invitation was going on, I went forward with over a hundred other people.

There were so many people there that the choir loft was filled and forty or fifty of us totally covered the platform as well as the altar area and many flowed out into the aisles.

I will never forget that night as the evangelist laid hands on everyone that had come forward that night except for yours truly.

I was praying as I had prayed twenty times before for a double portion of whatever God wanted me to have but also for God to protect me from anything that was not from him.

After what seemed like an eternity, I still remained standing there alone while most of the people had returned to their seats as others were coming out of what looked like trances on the floor.

The preacher closed the service with me still standing there confused and wondering what was wrong with me. Why did everyone else get slain in the spirit and not me?

Why was I the only one who couldn't speak in tongues? I don't even know why I prayed the way that I did because no one had ever told me that tongues were not for today prior to that time.

It wasn't long after that that I was stepping out the door of my Church that God called me to preach. I did not hear an audible voice, but I knew beyond a shadow of a doubt that God had called me to preach.

There was no peer pressure to surrender to full time Christian service as happens with many people. No passionate sermon to help save the world.

I thought that now that God had called me to preach, he would surely give me the gift of speaking in tongues like almost everyone else had and definitely every preacher had.

I then began to study to preach through our local denomination and earned my local license to preach the gospel even though I disagreed with my denomination's position on tongues.

I threw my license in the trash the day I received it because they either didn't read the work that I had done to receive my license, or they didn't care to answer my any of my questions.

I came to understand as I had begun my search for more knowledge and truth on these subjects discussed in this book that God was calling me to come out of this movement.

May God bless you as you search for the truth. Try the spirits and remember the word of the prophet Jeremiah:

Jeremiah 23:31 Behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that use their tongues, and say, He saith. 32 Behold, I am against them that prophesy false dreams, saith the LORD, and do tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies, and by their lightness; yet I sent them not, nor commanded them: therefore they shall not profit this people at all, saith the LORD.

The End

Tests

To submit test for grading simply copy and paste the questions **with the answers in bold font** into the body of an email and send to:

test@schoolofthebible.us

Doctrine Signs and Gifts Tests 2.00 Credit hours

Introduction Test

1. Why did Jesus go about all of Israel healing every Jew he met?
2. Who would be a peculiar treasure unto God if they kept his covenant?
 - A. The children of Israel
 - B. The body of Christ
 - C. Both
3. What could no person have in their body to serve as a priest?

4. Did Israel ever become that nation of priests?
5. Where is the first-place signs are mentioned in the gospels?
6. What did signs confirm?
7. Who required a sign?

Chapter One Test

1. What did God promise the children of Israel at Mt. Sinai that they would be if they kept his word?
2. When Jesus and the 12 ministered to Israel was it under the law or under grace?
3. What verse tells us about Israel's future kingdom?
4. What had to happen before the kingdom could be established?
5. What are the two reasons there are so many different kinds of churches today?
6. What verse teaches us to rightly divide the word of truth?
7. Which cult thinks that their group has the 144,000 in their ranks?
8. When was the gospel of the kingdom first preached?
9. When will it be preached again?
10. What is the gospel of the kingdom?
11. How long will the kingdom of heaven be?
12. What did Jesus tell Israel to pray the kingdom to do in Matthew 6?
13. What followed the preaching of the gospel of the kingdom to confirm it?
14. Did the gospel of the kingdom involve keeping the law?
15. Who was the gospel of the kingdom preached unto?
16. Will Gentiles be able to enter into Israel's kingdom?
17. Are we living in the kingdom today?

18. What was Jesus' response when asked if he was going to set up the kingdom after his resurrection?
19. Was the death, burial and resurrection hidden from the apostles in Luke 9:44-45?
20. When did Jesus open the disciples understanding about the resurrection?
21. What did Jesus spend 40 days teaching about after his resurrection?
22. What did Jesus say believers would be baptized with not many days hence?
23. What was the purpose of that baptism?

Chapter Two Test

1. How many times are signs and wonders mentioned in scripture?
2. Who requires a sign?
3. Who seeks after a sign according to Jesus?
4. Why were signs give to Moses?
5. Could false prophets show signs and wonders according to Deut 13:1-4?
6. What sign did Israel receive from God through Isaiah?
7. Did the gospel of the kingdom come with signs following it?
8. What did Isaiah 61:6 say Israel would be in the kingdom to Gentiles?

Chapter Three Test

1. What was the first sign promised in Mark 16:17?
2. What was the purpose of this sign?
3. Does any tele-evangelist have the power today to heal people who are dumb?
4. What were the 70 able to do in Luke 10 that we cannot do today?
5. What type of protection came with this power that people do not have today?

6. What spirits will work miracles in last days of the tribulation period?
7. What verses tell us that in the tribulation period people will be casting out devils in Jesus' name, but Christ never knew them?

Chapter Four Test

1. What signs does the Bible say will follow believers in Mark 16:17?
2. Where is the first-time languages are mentioned in the Bible, and what was going on at that time?
3. What did God do with man's ability to be understood at that time?
4. Did Jesus ever speak with new tongues?
5. Did Jesus says that a believer would only have one sign gift, or did it say in Mark 16:17 that it was possible to have two sign gifts given to them?
6. When did Jewish people first begin to speak in tongues?
7. What did the hearers on Pentecost say they heard?
8. Is Pentecost a Jewish feast day from the old testament? What is it called if so?
9. How many different groups of Jews heard the gospel of the kingdom preached on Pentecost?
10. Was anyone taught how to speak in tongues on Pentecost as they do today?

Chapter Five Test

1. What did the old testament prophet Isaiah say would happen when the Messiah would come to Israel in Isaiah 35:5-6?
2. Did Jesus heal all manner of sickness and disease or just the easy ones like the tele-evangelists of today?
3. What was the gospel called in Matthew 4:23 that involved healing Israel of their infirmities?

Chapter Six Test

1. What baptism did Jesus perform on the day of Pentecost?
2. Who is able to baptize with this baptism?
3. What type of baptism was performed by John, Jesus, and his disciples? Who was it administered too and for what reason?
4. Was the baptism Jesus performed a one-time event or ongoing?
5. How many baptisms do we have today and what is it, and when does it occur?
6. What do many say baptism picture a picture of?
7. Is the filling of the Holy Spirit a daily occurrence, or a one-time event at salvation?
8. What does walking in the Spirit mean?
9. What baptism were Apollos' disciples baptized with?
10. Were these disciples re-baptized and if they were, how and with what baptism?
11. Is the laying on of hands necessary today? Why or why not?
12. Are believers today baptized with, or by the Holy Ghost?
13. What was the purpose of the baptism of the Holy Ghost?
14. Was the healing provided at Calvary, physical or spiritual and what was it for?
15. What are the qualifications of an apostle?
16. What was the purpose of the healings done by the apostles?
17. What did God give to Paul to keep him humble and keep him relying on Him (God)?
18. Give the scripture reference of a prophecy concerning the revival of signs in the latter days.
19. Is the signs and wonders movement prophesied in scripture for the hours prior to Christ's return from God, or is it demonic in origin?

Chapter Seven Test

1. What was the key event where Israel missed out on the final offer of the kingdom?
2. Which of God's programs is begun at this point?
3. What did Paul tell the people in Corinth, what tongues were for?
4. Which gospel will be preached during the tribulation period?
5. Will there be miracles during the tribulation? Why or why not?