

Spiritual Gifts

Lesson 10

I Corinthians 12:1 - 13:13

Introduction

Paul begins in chapter 12 and continues through chapter 14 to deal almost exclusively with spiritual gifts. He stresses that the various gifts they possessed were the result of one Spirit. Similarly, he points out that the Corinthians formed one body, albeit a body with various parts, each performing a different function. This basic understanding would not only solve many problems regarding spiritual gifts (cf. ch. 14), but also would prevent their problems of factions and divisions.

Despite the value of spiritual gifts, Paul insists that love is a more important and lasting possession. Just as knowledge without love was worthless (8:1-3) so, too, a spiritual gift without love was without value.

Many Gifts, One Spirit - 12:1-11

1. What types of idols led the Gentiles?
1. How could the Corinthians use the knowledge of vs. 3?
3. Note the similarities in the sentences of vs. 4-6. What does vs. 6 teach about the Godhead?
2. According to vs. 7 what is the purpose of each spiritual gift?
5. List the gifts the Spirit provided.

Many Gifts, One Body - 12:12-31

1. What common introduction did we all have into the body?
2. How can the one body be many members? It is very important to decide what is a member of the body.
3. Explain why the parts of our body are all important.
4. Upon what less honorable parts do we bestow more honor?
5. What is the purpose of the various members of the body (vs. 25,26)?
6. Use vs. 27-30 to answer question 2 above.

Love, The Greater Gift - 13:1-13

1. Compare vs. 1-3 to 8:1-3. Why are both true?
2. Be prepared to discuss each quality of love listed in vs. 4-7.
3. What will happen to spiritual gifts? When? Can you cite other passages that corroborate your belief?
4. What three things now exist? How and when will two of them cease to exist?