

Questions on 1 Corinthians chapter 14

1. Did Paul forbid speaking in tongues? What did he think was more important than speaking in tongues? Verse 1.

2. Why is the word, “unknown.” Printed in italics in the King James Version? Why was prophesying emphasized over tongue speaking? Verse 2.

3. Although the tongue speaker may be speaking the mysteries, or the unrevealed things of God, why was he speaking only to God? Verse 2.

4. What was the threefold function of prophecy? Verse 3.

5. How was it that the tongue speaker edified himself? Why was the church not also edified? Verse 4.

6. Why was he who prophesied greater? How could the church be edified through tongue speaking? Verse 5.

7. If Paul had come to Corinth acting as the tongue speakers were acting, what benefit would it have been to them? Verse 6.

8. What is the point of this illustration? Verse 7.

9. What would be the result in war if soldiers could not tell the sound for retreat from the sound for charge? Verse 8.

10. What is required for people to know what is spoken? Verse 9.

11. Although no language is incapable of conveying a meaning, what if there is no interpreter? Verse 10.

12. What is a barbarian? Why would a tongue speaker without an interpreter be thought a barbarian? Verse 11.

13. What should have been the main consideration of those who were zealous of spiritual gifts? Verse 12.

14. What should have been the prayer of those speaking in tongues? Verse 13.

15. What is required for edification if praying in a tongue? Verse 14.

16. What is Paul's solution to the problem? Verse 15.

17. What is meant by saying "amen" and under what circumstances can it be done? Verse 16.

18. What is necessary for a well delivered prayer to edify the hearers? Verse 17.

19. What shows that Paul was not depreciating the gift of tongues? Verse 18.

20. What would Paul rather do than speak ten thousand words in a tongue? Verse 19.

21. In what way had the Corinthians behaved as children? Verse 20.

Thought Questions (22-25):

22. What did it mean to speak in tongues? What was the difference in the tongues at Corinth and those spoken at Pentecost?

23. If tongues were not languages, how could gibberish (unintelligible sounds) be interpreted?

24. Would services conducted in Latin among those who did not know Latin be a violation of Paul's teaching?

25. If a prayer is spoken so low that it cannot be heard and understood, would it violate Paul's teaching? If a sermon is couched in such big words that it cannot be understood, would it violate Paul's teaching?

26. Where is this quotation found in "the law," and how does it show that the gift of tongues refers to a foreign language? Verse 21.

27. What was the purpose of tongues and what was the purpose of prophesying according to this passage? Verse 22.

28. Why would the unbelieving or the unlearned think the Corinthians who all spoke in tongues were mad (or insane)? Verse 23.

29. What is the difference in the unlearned and the unbeliever? Verse 23.

30. What gift of the Spirit convicts the sinner of his sins and compels the sinner to acknowledge his own lost condition? Verse 24.

31. What is it about prophesying that causes the sinner to fall down on his face and worship God and declare that God is in you of a truth? Verse 25.

32. The apostle now proceeds to lay down rules. When and where are these rules to apply? What is the general rule for using these gifts as stated? Verse 26.

33. Briefly define the five gifts mentioned. Verse 26.

34. What are the rules for tongue speakers? Would several people speaking in tongues at the same time, as in modern Pentecostalism, be a violation of these rules? Verse 27.

35. When must a tongue speaker be silent in the assembly? How does Paul's command here rule out tongue speaking as ecstatic utterances? Verse 27.

36. What is the rule for prophets? Verse 29.

37. If a prophet receives a revelation from God while another prophet is speaking, what rule is to apply? Verse 20.

38. What rule is to apply so that all can learn and be comforted? How many may speak at one time? Is this rule ever ignored in modern religious meetings? Verse 31.

39. Was prophesying under the guidance of the Spirit such as to make it impossible for the prophets to restrain themselves? Verse 32.

40. What conclusion could we reach when tongue speakers and prophets all speak at the same time? Verse 33.

41. Did these rules apply only at Corinth? Could the word rendered “churches” be translated “assemblies”? If so, would these rules apply to all assemblies of the saints? Verse 33.

42. What rule is stated here? What statement in “the law” could Paul have reference to here? Verse 34.

43. What are women to do if they have an important question they want to ask? Verse 35.

44. What is the answer in this verse for those who say that only the prophets' wives, ("your women" in verse 34), are under consideration here? Verse 35.

45. What is the answer to these rhetorical questions that ask: Did the gospel originate with you? Were you the only ones to who the Gospel was sent? Verse 36.

46. What determines whether a man is a prophet or a spiritual man? Was Paul simply giving suggestions about how to conduct and assembly? Verse 37.

47. Some later translations render this verse: "If any one does not recognize this, he is not recognized." Do you think this fits the context better than the King James Version? Why? Verse 38.

48. Did Paul intend to prevent the Corinthians from using their spiritual gifts? Verse 39.

49. What is Paul's demand concerning the conduct of an assembly? Verse 40.