

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.



WE HAVE SEEN THE HOLY SPIRITS WORK IN THE CREATION OF THE WORLD.

The Material Universe

In Creation

The Church

Planned. –
Jer 51:15;

The Father

Planned. –
Eph 3:9-11;

Executed. –
Jn 1:1,2; Ep. 3:9;
Heb 1:1-2;

The Son

Executed. –
Mat. 16:18; John
4:34; Acts 2:47;

Organized. –
Gen 1:1-2;
Job 26:13;
Psa 104:30;

**The Holy
Spirit**

Organized. –
John 16:13; Acts 2
1 Cor. 12-14;
2 Tim 3:16;

**WE SAW THE HOLY SPIRITS WORK IN REVEALING
AND CONFIRMING THE GOSPEL MESSAGE.**

The Holy Spirit Organized

**H
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W**

By Revealing The:-

By Confirming The:-

**By Convicting Men Through
The:-**

**By Converting Men through
The:-**

**The GOSPEL revealed the New Covenant
relationship to be found in Jesus Christ.**

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**WE SAW THE HOLY SPIRITS WORK IN REVEALING
AND CONFIRMING THE GOSPEL MESSAGE.**

In Revealing The:

Ephes. 3:3-5 (NKJV)

how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, [4] by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), [5] which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets:-

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**WE SAW THE HOLY SPIRITS WORK IN REVEALING
AND CONFIRMING THE GOSPEL MESSAGE.**

**The mysteries of the Old Testament
are revealed in the New Testament.**

(We ought to allow the Bible to interpret itself.

We simply need to believe it!)

**Revelation means to make known
that which was hidden! Eph. 3:3-5;**

**The mystery (that which was previously hidden)
was made known to Paul. That which was
made known to Paul he wrote down.**

**That which Paul wrote down, the Ephesians
could understand when they read.**

**These things had not been previously revealed.
But **NOW** it is revealed to His holy apostles and prophets.**

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

Purpose Of The Gifts?

**Confirmed
Both
Messenger
&
Message!**

Mark 16:20; (NKJV)

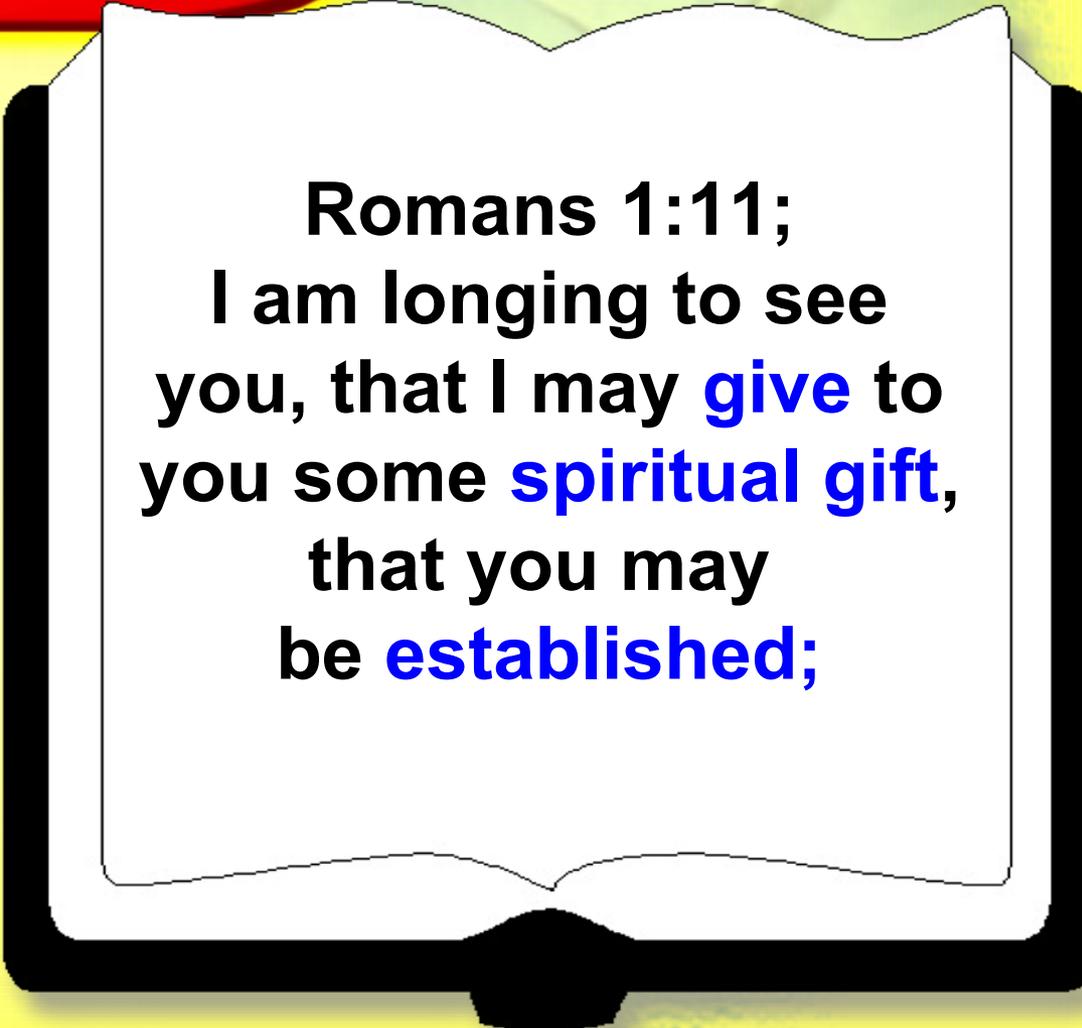
**“And they went out
and preached
everywhere, the Lord
working with them and
confirming the word
through the
accompanying signs.”**

Amen.

Miraculous Spiritual Gifts.

Purpose Of The Gifts?

**Confirmed
Both
Messenger
&
Message!**



Romans 1:11;
I am longing to see
you, that I may **give** to
you some **spiritual gift**,
that you may
be **established**;

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

Purpose Of The Gifts?

Hebrews 2:1-4; (NKJV)

Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. [2] For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, [3] how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, [4] God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

Old Testament.

New Testament.

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

Miraculous Gifts, Gave Confirmation. Heb 2:4,
“**God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?”**”

Gave Inspiration. Acts 2:4; “**They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other languages, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”**”

Provided Edification. 1 Cor 14:26; “**How is it then, brethren? when you come together, every one of you has a psalm, has a doctrine, has a language, has a revelation, has an interpretation.**
Let all things be done to edify.””

THEY WERE TRYING TO OUT DO ONE ANOTHER.

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

“Many other signs therefore did Jesus in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book: but these are written, that ye may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name” (John 20:30-31,

**John said that belief occurs after the miracle, not before, in order to receive a miracle!
The New Testament teaches the very opposite of those who claim that miracles occur today.**

**They often say “a person must have faith before he or she can receive a miracle.”
Or “Miracles are a sign that you believe”**

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

The New Testament teaches that miracles were performed to **authenticate** the **divine origin** of the speaker's **message and/or identity**.

The message, in turn, generated faith in the hearer.
(Romans 10:17;)

Even tongue-speaking was designed **to convince the unbeliever** to give heed to the message.
(1Corinthians 14:22).

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

A good summary passage that pinpoints precisely the purpose of miracles throughout the Bible is seen in the incident concerning the widow of Zarephath to whom Elijah was sent for assistance in Surviving the famine during the reign of King Ahab.

When her son's serious illness culminated in his death, Elijah brought the boy back to life, raising him from the dead. Her subsequent verbal observation summarizes succinctly the function of the miraculous:

“Now by this I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is the truth.”
(1 Kings 17:24).

The miracle fulfilled its intended purpose: to verify that, as a genuine emissary of the one true God, **Elijah was a communicator of God's Word**

MIRACLES CONFIRM THE WORD

PASSAGE	MESSAGE	CONFIRMATION	RESPONSE
Acts 4:29-32	"Speak Your Word with all boldness"	"by stretching out Your hand to heal and that signs and wonders may be done"	"those who believed were of one heart and soul"
Acts 8:5-12	"the things spoken by Philip;" "Philip... preached Christ"	"hearing and seeing the miracles which he did"	"they believed Philip as he preached the things... and were baptized"
Acts 13:7-12	"sought to hear the word of God"	"You shall be blind, not seeing"	"the proconsul believed... being astonished at the doctrine of the Lord"
Acts 14:2-3	"speaking boldly in the Lord"	"The Lord...was bearing witness to the word...granting signs/wonders to be done"	"a great multitude... believed"
Romans 15:18-19	"I have fully preached the gospel of Christ"	"in mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God"	"to make the Gentiles obedient"
1 Corinthians 2:4-5	"my speech and my preaching"	"in demonstration of the Spirit and of power"	"that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God"
1 Thessalonians 1:5-6	"our gospel did not come to you in word only"	"but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance"	"you became followers of us and the Lord, having received the word"
Hebrews 2:1-4	"so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord"	"God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit"	"give the more earnest heed"
Mark 16:15-20	"preach the gospel... they went out and preached...the word"	"the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs"	"he who believes and is baptized will be saved"
John 2:22	"He had said this...the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said"	"when he had risen from the dead"	"they believed"
John 2:23	"in His name"	"they saw the signs which He did"	"many believed"

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

The gifts are all spiritual, but not all are supernatural or miraculous. Such things as apostleship, prophecy, healing, discerning of spirits, tongues, interpretation of tongues, and certain other things cannot be understood apart from supernatural power. **1 Cor 12:8-10, 28;**

As a whole, one can see how these gifts fortified, guarded, and edified the early church in the absence of the completed New Testament.

They enjoyed miraculous knowledge and the wisdom to apply it with understanding. They had the gift of healing. They could confirm the spoken word with “working of miracles” and miraculously teach and foretell the future with the gift of prophecy.

They could determine a **true and false teacher** in the absence of total revealed truth **by the gift of discernment**. They were able to **converse, teach,** and **have the language understood** to all present as a result of the **gift of languages** and the **interpretation of languages**.

However, such things as **faithfulness, mercy, stewardship, ruling, exhortation, etc.** can be **possessed and manifested without any necessary association with the miraculous. Romans 12:6-13;**

The New Testament:- (Covenant / Agreement.)
Is the inspired word of God:- given to man,
by Christ Jesus, through the agency
of the Holy Spirit, through the apostle's writings.

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

Bible readers of the New Testament are aware that many Christians possessed spiritual gifts during the N.T. / N. Covenant, period which began after the Resurrection of Christ with the establishment of the church. (Acts 2;)

Paul listed **nine** such gifts in 1 Corinthians 12:4-11;. He then explained how these gifts functioned in the church at that time. (verse 28)

Then Paul stated that the gifts of "**prophecies,**" "**tongues**" and "**knowledge**" would **cease** or **be done away**. (1 Cor 13:8;) and that this would happen.

"WHEN that which is PERFECT is come." (verse 10).

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

The question we are seeking to answer in this study is whether or not that **"perfect"** thing has already come, consequently, **the spiritual gifts time is past.**

We should realize that the passage we are examining, **1 Cor 13:8-13;** is found in the middle of a section dealing with spiritual gifts. **Paul began the subject in 12:1; and ends with 14:40;**

The **main purpose of chapter 12 is to show that the gifts are diversified among the members.** (see verses 11, 29 and 30). He then moves his subject on to a further point by saying:-

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

"And moreover a most excellent way show I unto you" (verse 31). With those words he introduces the quality of love in chapter 13; as a contrast to spiritual gifts.

In chapter 13:1-3; The inspired writer points out that love in a Christian's life is more important than such spiritual gifts as tongues, prophecy, knowledge and faith.

These are mentioned as representative of the entirety of the gifts listed in the previous chapter.

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

This "knowledge" is not ordinary knowledge but that spiritual gift which Paul listed in 2:8;

Likewise, this "faith" is not that which every Christian must have as a result of hearing the Word of God. (Romans 10:17;)

But that supernatural gift of faith which could enable a person to move mountains.
(Matthew 17:20, 21:21;)

After speaking of the various characteristics of love in verses 1 Cor 13:4-7; Paul then explains that such love is superior to spiritual gifts because "love never fails" (v8) whereas the gifts were to "cease" or "be done away."

1 Cor. 12:4-11; **These Gifts Were to Cease**

1 Corinthians 13:8 **“Love never fails.** But whether

there are **prophecies,** **they will fail** whether there

are **tongues,** **will cease** whether there is

knowledge, **will vanish away**

1Cor. 13:9 “For we know in part and we prophesy in

part. 10. But when **that which is perfect has come**

then that which is in **part** will be done away.”

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

The question then is:- **HOW LONG WERE THE MIRACULOUS POWERS TO LAST? Were they REMOVED BEFORE THE APOSTLES DIED?**

WHY did Paul leave **TROPHIMUS** sick at Miletus, if he still possessed the gift of healing he demonstrated earlier?

WHY was Paul afraid that **EPAPHRODITUS** was going to die, if he could have healed him?

WHY did **TIMOTHY** have 'frequent ailments' and stomach trouble, if the **gift of HEALING** was available? **WHY** did **JAMES** advise the use of a commonly applied remedy along with **PRAYER**, if there were **still people with the gift of healing?**
(Jam 5:14-15;)

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

The ANSWER is that all of these miraculous powers
DID WHAT GOD INTENDED THEM TO DO!

Then power was removed.

**GOD WAS NEVER EXTRAVAGANT
IN HIS USE OF MIRACLES.**

The fact is that, in every age, Miracles
were special demonstrations of Divine power,
at Special times, for Special purposes.

And when God's purpose had been accomplished,
in every case, the power was removed.

THE CREATION OF LIFE commenced with miracles
and then continued according to natural law.

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

The **MIRACLES OF THE EXODUS**
AND THE WILDERNESS JOURNEY,
ceased when the Israelites reached the Promised
Land. And 'they ate the fruit of the land that year'.

The **MIRACLES OF THE TIME**
OF ELIJAH AND ELISHA were performed
at a special time; they were performed to bring
the people back to God, whom they had deserted
to follow the gods introduced by Jezebel.

The **MIRACLES IN THE N.T. DID NOT BEGIN**
**WITH JOHN THE BAPTIZER. 'John did NO miracles'.
THEY BEGAN WITH THE LORD JESUS.**

And there purpose? John 20:30-31;
"These are written that you might believe."

CONFIRMED BOTH MESSENGER & MESSAGE!

Purpose Of The Gifts?

Old Testament.

Exodus. 4:1-8, 28-31;

Exodus. 6:28 - 7:5;

Numbers. 16:28-30;

Deuteronomy 4:32-40;

Joshua. 2:9-11;

1Kings 18:21-24,30-39;

New Testament.

Matthew 9:1-6;

Matthew 11:2-6;

John 2:1-11, 23;

John 3:1-2;

John 5:31-36;

John 10:22-25, 37-38;

John 11:45;

Acts 2:22;

CONFIRMED BOTH MESSENGER & MESSAGE!

Purpose Of The Gifts?

John 20:30-31 (NKJV)

“And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; [31] but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.”

Old

Exodus

Exodus

Numbers

Deuteronomy

Joshua

1 Kings

ent.

3;

7-38;

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

It is worthy of note that **the non-miraculous gifts (graces, fruit, etc.) of the Spirit** will last until return of Christ and the end of the world.

The miraculous powers, those dependent upon supernatural power or gift were temporary.

1 Cor 13:8-11;

The gifts have ceased, because the promised outpouring of the Spirit upon all flesh (the world) was fulfilled, and was never meant to be sought by others.

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS. THE GIFTS HAD DONE THEIR JOB.

Some gifts revealed God's will. (e.g., wisdom; prophecy.)

Other gifts confirmed God's will. (e.g., tongues, miracles.)

Gifts were of little value unless truth was being revealed. 1 Cor 14:6;

Prophecy more highly regarded than tongues. - 1 Co 14:5;

**The Holy Spirit's Primary Work Was
To Reveal The Truth & Have It Recorded.**

To Confirm With Signs & Miracles.

The Claims & Teachings of Those Selected By God.

Through Whom The Holy Spirit Revealed This Truth.

**The Work of Confirming The Word Was Completed
When The Word Was Recorded. Therefore Miracles
and Signs are no longer taking place because
their purpose has been long since completed.**

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

**BUT! SOME MAY ARGUE
MIRACLES DO HAPPEN TODAY
BY THOSE CLAIMING THE SAME GIFTS
AND PROMISES OF THE APOSTLES TIME.**

**IF THEY ARE THE SAME POWER
And the SAME GIFTS THEN,
WHY IS THE MESSAGE THEY PROCLAIM
SO DIFFERENT FROM THAT
WHICH THE HOLY SPIRIT REVEALED?**

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

Sounds like 2 Thess 2:9-12;

“The lawless man will come with Satan's power. He **will use all kinds of false powers, proofs, and miracles.**”

10. “there will be every kind of evil to fool the people who are being destroyed.

Why?

Because **they did not accept the love of the truth, so that they could be saved.**”

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

“11. this is why **God sends them a deceiving power**, so that **they will believe the lie**.

12. then all people who did not believe the truth will be condemned. They enjoyed sin.”

2 Thess 2:15; “With all these things in mind,
dear brothers and sisters,
stand firm and keep a strong grip
on everything we taught you
both in person and by letter.”

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

Limited In Duration!

For the
purpose of
Revelation
&
Confirmation.

1 Cor 13:8-10;

8. Love lasts forever. There are such things as prophecies, but they will disappear. There are such things as languages, but they will stop.

There is such a thing as knowledge, but it will disappear.

9. We only know portions of things .
We prophesy in parts,

10. but when that which is complete comes, the parts will disappear.

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

Limited In Duration!

1 Cor. 13:8-10 (KJV)

Love never fails: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. [9] For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. [10] But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

8. Love never ends; as for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away.

9. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophecy is imperfect;

10. but when the perfect comes, the imperfect will pass away. rsv

Exegesis of 1 Corinthians 13:8-13;

What does Paul mean by the words

"that which is perfect" and

"that which is in part"?

THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

Limited In Duration!

1Cor 13:8-11;

Prophecies, - Shall Fail;

Tongues, Shall Cease;

Knowledge, Shall Vanish Away;

**Miraculous Spiritual Gifts
Would End!**

1 Corinthians 13:8;

Love never fails. But whether *there are* prophecies, they will fail; whether *there are tongues*, they will cease; whether *there is* knowledge, it will *vanish away*.

Speaking in an unlearned language by the power of the Holy Spirit...

Stop. Finish. End.
Come to an end.
Come to a close.
Conclude.

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE / PASS.

13:8 Η ΑΓΑΠΗ ΟΥΔΕΠΟΤΕ ΕΚΠΙΠΤΕΙ ΕΙΤΕ ΔΕ ΠΡΟΦΗΤΕΙΑΙ
 hE agapE oudepote ekpiptei eite de prophEteiai
 THE LOVE NOT-YET-?-when IS-OUT-FALLING IF-BESIDES YET BEFORE-AVERments
 never is-lapsing whether or whether YET BEFORE-AVERments
 prophecies

ΚΑΤΑΡΓΗΘΗΣΟΝΤΑΙ
 katargEthEsontai
 THEY-SHALL-BE-BEING-DOWN-UN-ACTED
 they-shall-be-being-discarded

ΕΙΤΕ ΓΛΩΣΣΑΙ
 eite glOssai
 IF-BESIDES TONGUES
 or languages

ΠΑΥΣΟΝΤΑΙ
 pausontai
 THEY-SHALL-BE-CEASING

ΕΙΤΕ ΓΝΩΣΙΣ
 eite gnOsis
 IF-BESIDES KNOWledge
 or

ΚΑΤΑΡΓΗΘΗΣΕΤΑΙ
 katargEthEsetai
 it-SHALL-BE-BEING-DOWN-UN-ACTED
 it-shall-be-being-discarded

13:9 ΕΚ ΜΕΡΟΥΣ ΓΑΡ ΓΙΝΩΣΚΟΜΕΝ ΚΑΙ ΕΚ ΜΕΡΟΥΣ
 ek merous gar ginOskomen kai ek merous
 OUT OF-PART for WE-ARE-KNOWING AND OUT OF-PART
 of-instalment of-instalment

3588 [e] 26 [e] 3763 [e] 4098 [e] 1535 [e] 1161 [e] 4394 [e] 2673 [e]
 HĒ agapē oudepote piptei ; eite de prophēteiai katargēthēsontai
 8 Ἡ ἀγάπη οὐδέποτε πίπτει ; εἴτε δὲ προφητεῖαι , καταργηθήσονται
 - Love never fails if moreover prophecies they will be done away
 Art-NFS N-NFS Adv V-PIA-3S Conj Conj N-NFP V-FIP-3P

1535 [e] 1100 [e]
 eite glōssai
 εἴτε γλῶσσαι ,
 whether tongues
 Conj N-NFP

3973 [e]
 pausontai
 παύσονται ;
 they will be ceased
 V-FIM-3P

1535 [e] 1108 [e]
 eite gnōsis
 εἴτε γνῶσις
 whether knowledge
 Conj N-NFS

2673 [e]
 katargēthēsetai
 καταργηθήσεται .
 it will pass away
 V-FIP-3S

Cease / Pass away.

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

We should notice the difference between "cease" (Greek: **pauomai**) and "be done away" (**katargeo**).

The King James Version is a bit confusing because its two renderings of "fail" and "vanish away" in connection with prophecies and knowledge are **actually from just one Greek word (katargeo)**, and that word is not the same as the one rendered "fails" (**pipto**) in connection with love.

Be done away. The word **katargeo** is defined (by Kittel's Theological Dictionary of the New Testament) as:- "**to condemn to inactivity,**" "**to destroy,**" "**to remove from the sphere of activity."**

In the religious sense it means "**to make completely inoperative.**" Notice these examples:-

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

- (1) **Death is to be abolished-katargeo.** - (2 Tim 1:10;, 1 Cor 15:26;).
- (2) **We have been discharged-katargeo.- from the law.**
(Rom 7:6;).
- (3) **The old law itself was done away-katargeo:-**
in Christ. (1 Cor 3:14;)
and by Christ. (Eph 2:15;)

The word has to do with the activity of a thing.

For instance, it is **not the stated content**
of the **old law** that was done away.

It could still be read both in Paul's day (1 Cor 3:14;)
and in ours. But **its activity or purpose is gone.**

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

The word "**CEASE**"—**PAUOMAI**—means to "**STOP ONESELF.**" (Arndt-Gingrich Lexicon).

This word is **applied to tongues** but not to **prophecies and knowledge**. **Tongues were to stop by themselves** whereas **prophecies and knowledge had to be done away.**

As an example of this distinction, we read that the **sacrifices of the old law could not cease.** -**pauomai-**
(Heb 10:2;)

They could not complete their task so they had to be done away.—katargeo—(Eph 2:15;), **replaced by Jesus "one sacrifice for sins for ever."**
(Heb 10:12;).

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

We might also say:- In **contrast with** the Old Testament sacrifices, **Jesus' sacrifice has permanent purpose and effectiveness.** Yet His sacrifice does not have to be repeated.

It **"has ceased to be offered"** (Heb 10:2;) because **"this he did once for all, when he offered up himself"** (Heb 7:27;) so that **"there is no more offering for sin."** (Heb 10:18;).

His task of offering himself has been completed —has ceased— while the effect continues on.

Let us summarize this contrast:-

The Old Testament sacrifices could not cease, but were done away; Jesus' sacrifice has ceased, but is not done away because it will not be replaced. Its consequences are forever.

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

Likewise, **languages** had no replacement.

They were a **"sign"** (Mark 16:17;) **to the unbelievers** (1 Cor 14:22;), **accompanying and confirming the prophecies and revealed knowledge.** (Heb 2:3-4;) **while being preached by divine inspiration.**
(Mark 16:20).

They were able to **permanently complete their task and cease.** Yet the **effectiveness of their testimony continues.** Such **"signs...are written that you may believe."** (John 20:30-31;)

Prophecies and knowledge had to be done away by being **replaced with "that which is perfect."**

At the same time **languages,** as an accompanying sign, **would cease.**

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

It is interesting that Corinth was a mainly Gentile congregation, Paul says in 1 Cor 14:21-22;

21 “We are told in the ancient Scriptures that God would send men from other lands to speak in foreign languages to his people, but even then they would not listen.” (Isa 28:11;)

22 “Speaking languages is a proof from God to unbelievers, not to the people who already believe. The ability to prophesy is proof to believers, not to unbelievers.”

Acts 2:5-11; Sign to Jews!

Acts 10:45-46; Sign to the Jews!

Were those Christians in Corinth to use the gift when unbelieving Jews visited the congregation?

Limited In Duration!

1 Cor. 13:8-11

“⁹ for we know in part and we prophesy in part.”

But

“¹⁰ when that which is **perfect** has come, then that which is in part will be done away.”



THREE of the Views of 1 Cor 13;

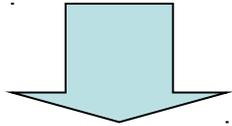
“Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is **perfect** has come, then that which is in part will be done away. 1Cor 13:8-10;”

Is this Jesus?

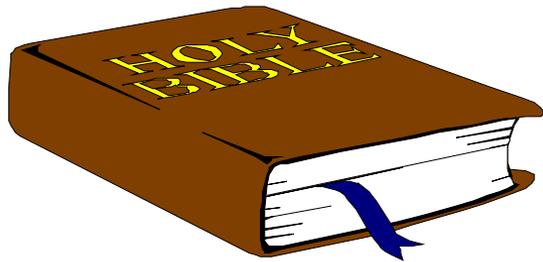
The second Coming? The New Testament?

Three of the Views of 1 Cor 13;

**Miracles Continue
Until**



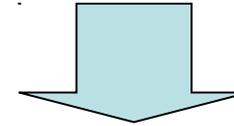
“Perfect”



Comes.

**Completed Revelation
Word of God. Jude 3;**

**Miracles Continue
Until**



“Perfect”



Comes.

**Jesus return, End or
to set up His kingdom.**

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

The answer however lies in the language itself
(as was the case in the previous argument).

Logically TO TELEION must refer to the **SAME** thing
as **TO EK MEROUS**, **perfection or imperfection**
with regard to the **SAME** thing.

If the **subject is spiritual gifts**, then they
must be viewed as **"perfect spiritual gifts"**
and **"imperfect (in part) spiritual gifts."**

If **"the perfect is heaven"** that is referred to,
then what would **"the imperfect heaven"** be?

If **"the perfect One/ Jesus"** is referred to, then
who or what would **"the imperfect one/ Jesus"** be?

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

In verse 9 Paul states the reason why these gifts were to be done away, explaining:-

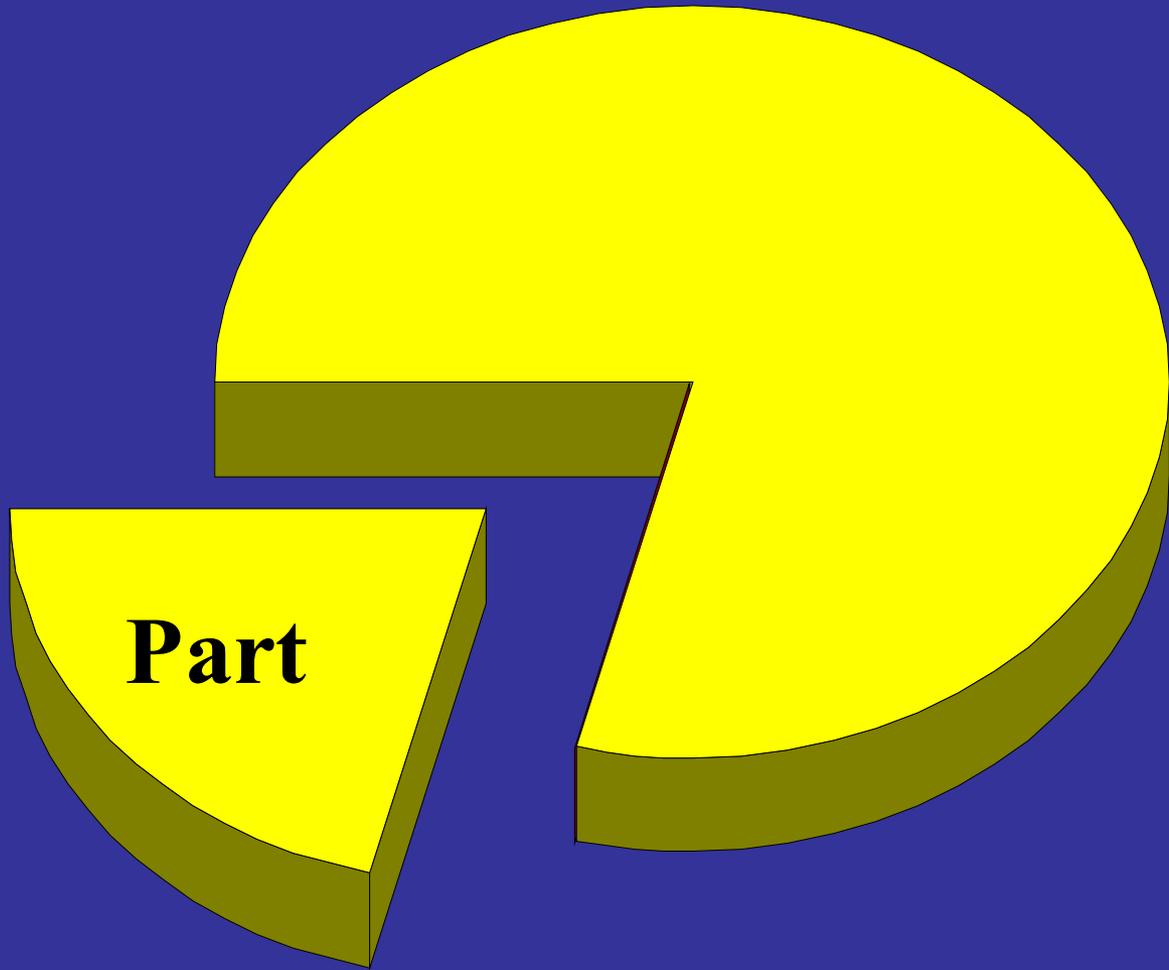
"For we know in part, and we prophesy in part." Paul uses the words **"in part"** three times in this section.

While Paul at that time knew God's will partially through his spiritual gifts, it would later be known fully or completely when all of the parts were put together. A gifted person was still only a member separately or individually.— **EK MEROUS.** —

1 Cor 12:27;.

His gift was not complete in itself. (Eph 4:16;)

"Each several part,"— merous —
worked to build up the body of Christ.



MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

So the **gifts** enabled each gifted person to know and teach only a part of God's intended revelation to man. His revelation had always come "precept upon precept,... line upon line,...here a little, there a little."

(Isaiah 28:10;)

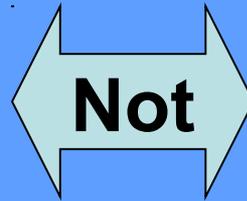
No one man was enabled to reveal it all, but these **gifts** were progressing toward a completion and, because of their partial nature, would cease when the "perfect" comes.

The coming of the "perfect" marks the end of them because they are then no longer necessary.

**The “Perfect” Must Be Of The Same Nature
As That Which Is “In Part.”**



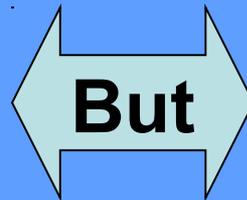
Partial Revelation.



Coming of Christ.

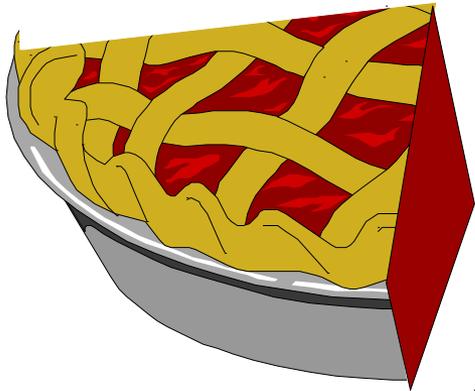


Partial Revelation.

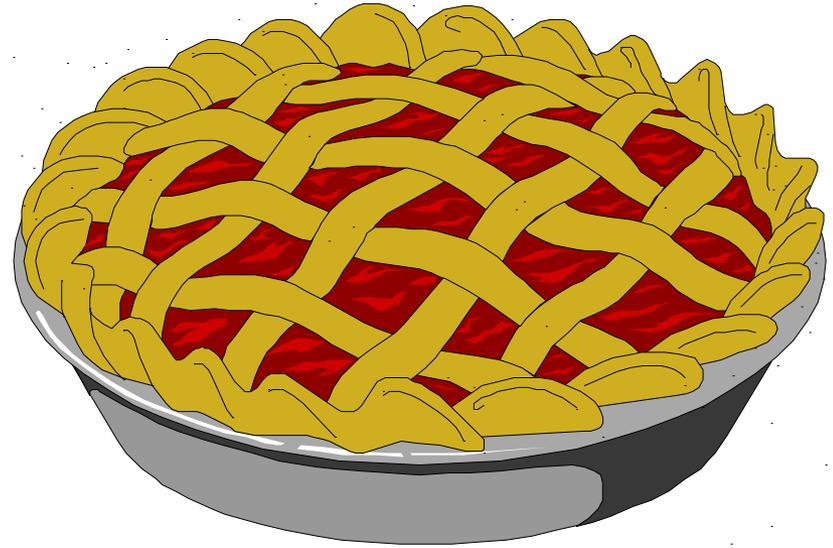


Complete Revelation.

**In Part
Partial.**



**Perfect
Complete.**



THE DURATION OF THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.

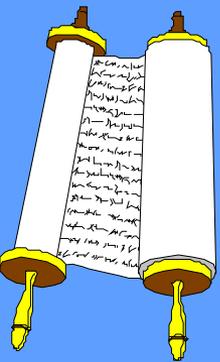
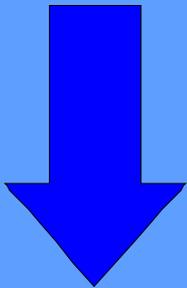
“That which is perfect” and
“that which is in part”
are contrasted with each other.

“That which is in part”
brings about
“that which is perfect.”

In Part

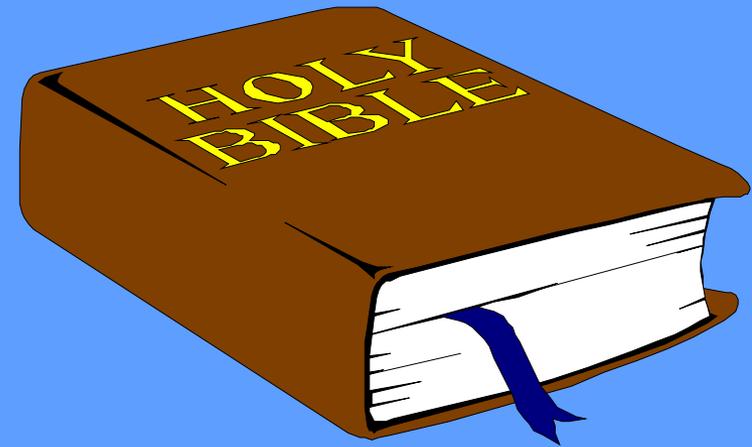
Perfect

Knowledge (v. 9)
Prophecy (v. 9)



**God's
Revelation**

Knowledge
Prophecy



**God's
Revelation**

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

We need to find the proper understanding of Paul's statements in **1 Cor. 13:8-13**, and try to avoid the misunderstandings of the Greek text and any contradiction with other parts of the scripture.

Notice the singular number used in the statement.

When **the perfect form of any thing comes**, then the **imperfect form(s) of that same thing will disappear, cease to be.**

1 Cor 13 :10; “But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.”

3752 [e]	1161 [e]	2064 [e]	3588 [e]	5046 [e]	3588 [e]	1537 [e]	3313 [e]	2673 [e]
hotan	de	elthē	to	teleion	to	ek	merous	katargēthēsetai
10 ὅταν	δὲ	ἔλθῃ	τὸ	τέλειον	, τὸ	ἐκ	μέρους	καταργηθήσεται
when	however	might come	the	perfect	the	in	part	will be done away
Conj	Conj	V-ASA-3S	Art-NNS	Adj-NNS	Art-NNS	Prep	N-GNS	V-FIP-3S

13:10	ΟΤΑΝ	ΔΕ	ΕΛΘΗ	ΤΟ	ΤΕΛΕΙΟΝ	ΤΟΤΕ	ΤΟ	ΕΚ	ΜΕΡΟΥΣ
	hotan	de	elthE	to	teleion	tote	to	ek	merous
	when-EVER	YET	MAY-BE-COMING	THE	mature	then	THE	OUT	OF-PART
	whenever				maturity				of-instalment

ΚΑΤΑΡΓΗΘΗΣΕΤΑΙ

katargEthEsetai

SHALL-BE-BEING-DOWN-UN-ACTED

shall-be-being-discarded

perfect / complete / mature.

1 Cor 13 :10; “But when that which is perfect has come,
then that which is in part will be done away.”

Perfect “TELEIOS” is used **19 times** in the
New Testament and is **defined** as:-

wanting nothing necessary to completeness

When referring **to people** the word means:-

“full grown, adult, of full age, mature.” Arndt- Gingrich

Strong's:- “Complete.” (5046)

Liddel & Scott:- “Complete, perfect, entire.” p.696

Vine:- “signifies having reached its end (**telos**),
finished, complete, perfect.” (Vol 3 pp 174-175)

Thayer :- “brought to its end, finished; wanting
nothing necessary to completeness; perfect...” p. 618

New International Version (©1984)

but when **perfection** comes, the **imperfect** disappears.

New Living Translation (©2007)

But when the time of **perfection** comes, these **partial things** will become useless.

English Standard Version (©2001)

but when the **perfect** comes, the **partial** will pass away.

New American Standard Bible (©1995)

but when the **perfect** comes, the **partial** will be **done away**.

King James Bible (Cambridge Ed.)

But when **that** which is **perfect** is come, then that which is **in part** shall be **done away**.

International Standard Version (©2008)

But when **what** is **complete** comes, then what is **incomplete** will be **done away with**.

Aramaic Bible in Plain English (©2010)

But when **perfection** shall come, then that which is **partial** shall be **nothing**.

GOD'S WORD® Translation (©1995)

But when **what** is **complete** comes, then what is **incomplete** will **no longer be used**.

King James 2000 Bible (©2003)

But when **that** which is **perfect** is come, then **that** which is **in part** shall be **done away**.

American King James Version

But when **that** which is **perfect** is come, then **that** which is **in part** shall be **done away**.

American Standard Version

but when **that** which is **perfect** is come, **that** which is **in part** shall be **done away**.

Bible in Basic English

But when **that** which is **complete** is come, then **that** which is **in part** will be **no longer necessary**.

Douay-Rheims Bible

But when **that** which is **perfect** is come, **that** which is **in part** shall be **done away**.

Darby Bible Translation

but when **that** which is **perfect** has come, **that** which is **in part** shall be **done away**.

English Revised Version

but when **that** which is **perfect** is come, **that** which is **in part** shall be **done away**.

Webster's Bible Translation

But when **that** which is **perfect** is come, then that which is **in part** shall be **done away**.

Weymouth New Testament

but when **the perfect state** of things is come, all that is **imperfect** will be **brought to an end**.

World English Bible

but when **that** which is **complete** has come, then **that** which is **partial** will be **done away** with.

Young's Literal Translation

and when **that** which is **perfect** may come, then **that** which is **in part** shall become **useless**.

Modern Literal Version but whenever **the finished thing** comes, then what is **in part** will be **done-away**.

Amplified Bible

"For our **knowledge** is **fragmentary** (**incomplete** and **imperfect**), and our **prophecy** (our **teaching**) is **fragmentary** (**incomplete** and **imperfect**). But when the **complete** and **perfect** (**total**) comes, the **incomplete** and **imperfect** will **vanish away**, **become antiquated**, **void**, and **superceeded**."

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

The major problem, and the cause of most of the misunderstanding of this passage is the general insistence on identifying **the perfect** and the **in part** and equating them with some **person, thing or condition**.

We will show that this mistake can be avoided.

Some try to make **"that which is perfect"** refer to **Jesus Christ** (who is the only perfect person we know), and **"that which is in part,** refer to the miraculous gifts of the Spirit.

Their argument runs as follows: When the Perfect One (Jesus) comes again, the miraculous gifts will no longer be needed, and will then be taken away. **It may sound good, but it is an impossible interpretation of the passage.**

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

The language of the Greek text is decisive.

The phrase "that which is in part" is **TO EK MEROUS**. The phrase is **singular** in number and **neuter in gender**. It means "the thing in part" or "the imperfect thing."

Therefore, it could not refer to "gifts", plural.

If the plural were intended, it would read **TON EK MERON**, "the things in part."

The other phrase, "that which is perfect" is a translation of **TO TELEION**, also **singular** in number and **neuter in gender**. It means "the perfect thing." **This could NOT be a reference to Jesus Christ, the divine Person. We can never call Jesus a THING.**

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

Some say what about **1 John 1:1-3**; which speaks of Christ as **“that” KJV** is answered by the fact that:-

John is describing **Christ’s reality** as **“the life”** in terms of the **Gnostic Philosophic abstracts** which John was combating.

“The one who existed from the beginning is the one we have heard and seen. We saw him with our own eyes and touched him with our own hands.
He is Jesus Christ, the Word of life.” NLT

There is no reason in **1 Cor 13** to speak of the Christ as **“that which”** instead of **“Him Who”** if Christ were meant

**1 Cor 13 :10; “But when that which is perfect has come,
then that which is in part will be done away.”**

**Jesus Christ is masculine in Greek and
is always referred to by masculine terms.**

**Jesus is never spoken of as a thing
but as a person.**

He is a “He who,” not a “that which.”

**So “that which is perfect”
cannot be Jesus or any other person.**

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

Some realizing that "the perfect" is **not a person**, have suggested that it is **the perfect state of existence in heaven.**

Their argument is that things in this world and in this life **are not perfect** and therefore **it cannot refer to anything this side of judgment day.**

They say "**that which is perfect**" is a reference to the **completion of the Christian age.**

Which is to say, the **end of the world.**

The state of things that will be ushered in at the **return of Christ, = Heaven.**

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

In view of **1 John 3:1-2**; This seems to have some merit:- “My dear friends, we are already God's children, but what we shall be in the future has not yet been revealed. We are well aware that when He appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He really is.”

This means that as everything which now exists is imperfect and incomplete, **but then** everything will be perfect and complete.

If this view were to be true it **would present a great problem** for **those** of us **who believe** that the **miraculous gifts have ceased**.

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

But if the gifts were to last until the perfect state of heaven comes, then **they should all be with us now;**

We should have all the gifts, including apostles and prophets, and inspired men delivering new revelations from God today.

**If any ONE of the gifts has been done away,
That is No Longer Available.**

Why should the OTHERS CONTINUE?

**They are either ALL available today
or NON available today?**

**This presents a great difficulty for those
who believe that the gifts are to continue.**

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

Where today is the real evidence of someone speaking perfectly a language they have not learned?

Where today is the genuine evidence of people being healed by someone with the gifts of an apostle with the same message of the apostles? Heb 2:4;

Where today is the genuine evidence of people with broken Limbs being healed and genuine Blind having their sight restored?
Acts 3:6-11; 4:14, 16, 22;

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

Where today has someone the **ability to strike dead** those who are lying to God? Acts 5:7-10;

Where today is there **genuine evidence** of **ALL people** who come to a healing meeting **being healed** without hearing the excuse it was **their lack of faith rather than the lack of faith of the one with the gift?** Acts 5:15-17;

Where today is the **genuine evidence** of people being **raised from the dead?** Acts 9:36-41; 20:8-12;

Where today is the **genuine evidence** of people having the **ability to strike blind** those who try to turn others away from the Christian faith?
Acts 13:7-11;

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

Heaven? Is also from the idea of knowing as we are known.

Rom 8:24-25; “For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.

This shows heaven cannot be the perfect because when we reach heaven we will not need hope yet Paul says that Hope will remain after the perfect comes.

Heb 11:1 also shows that faith is in that which is not seen, but if "the perfect" is heaven, there will be no faith in the unseen, but rather sight in the seen.

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE

The problem with the idea that the perfect is heaven is that one is arguing from an assumption.

That assumption being a false definition of the word translated "perfect."

It makes no difference how someone today might use the English word "perfect" in their own vocabulary,
What matters is how the word is used in Scripture.

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

"Perfect" meaning "completeness / maturity."

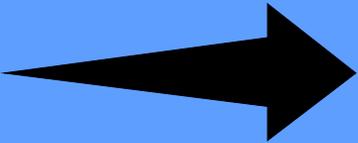
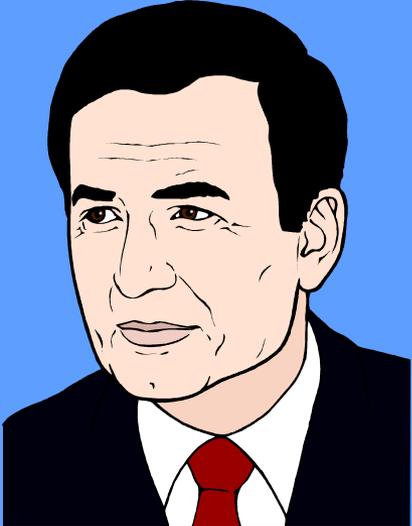
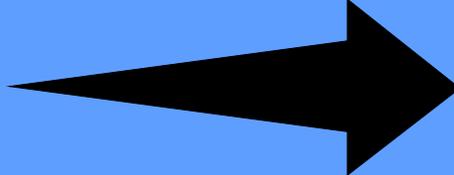
Hence the principle:-when a thing becomes what it was designed to be, **completes the purpose for which it was given, etc.**, various stages of its development and/ or the process by which it was produced **will be done away.**

Illustrations of the principle as set forth by Paul:-

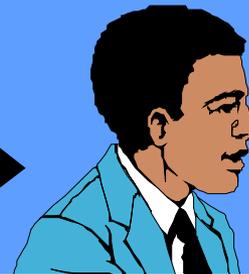
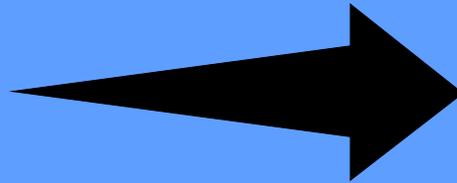
1 Cor 13:11; "When I became a man I have put away childish things."

12. Now we see only reflections in a mirror, but then we shall see face to face. Now I can know only imperfectly; but then I shall know just as fully as I am myself known.

Illustrations Given In The Text



Illustrations Given In The Text



“When we become **mature in our knowledge**, we will be able to grasp perfectly all that God wants us to know about Him, and about ourselves as well.”

The Corinthians were acting childishly in their use of the gifts.

In 1 Corinthians 3:1; we have the word "**sarkinos**"
and in verse 3; we have "**sarkikos**".

The ending "**inos**" tells us what the subject under
consideration is "**made of**" and "**ikos**" as an ending
tells us **what that subject is characterized by**.

To begin with Paul had to speak to these Corinthians
because they were "**fleshy,**"
that is, **they were mere babes**.

In the beginning stages that was understandable
(it wasn't a good thing, or a completely blameless
thing) but as they increased in age **they should have
grown beyond the "fleshy" stage toward maturity**.

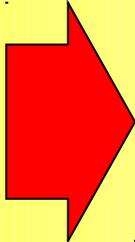
**The Corinthians were acting childishly
in their use of the gifts.**

However since they remained **"babyish"**
they were more open to censure.
In the early stage their infancy was to be (sadly)
expected but **in the later stages their infancy
turns into "fleshliness," or "worldliness".**

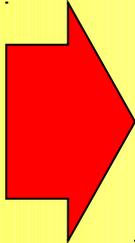
In the first place their limitations
(spiritually speaking) are not without blame,
but in the later stage **their limitations
are due to a more thorough going worldliness.**

They were pitting their gifts one against another
and claiming superiority rather than using
the gifts for what they were intended:-
to build the body up in unity.

Limited In Duration! 1 Cor. 13:8-11



Ek merous = The spiritual gifts God used in revealing His will (*Prophecy, Tongues, Knowledge.*) – As well as the signs used to confirm that revelation.



Teleios = The completed and perfected revelation of God's will to man.

(The Word of God /Bible.)

Jam 1:25; 2 Tim 3:16-17; Jude 1:3;

Perfect –Teleios – (G5056)

Neuter – complete – of full age –man, mature.

Matthew 5:43-48; “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven;”

“for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. If you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?”

“And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so? Therefore you shall be **perfect, just as your Father in heaven is **perfect**.”**

Perfect –Teleios – (G5056)

Neuter – complete – of full age –man, mature.

Matthew 19:16-21; “Now behold, one came and said to Him, “Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?” So He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. **But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.**”

“He said to Him, “**Which ones?**” Jesus said, “ ‘You shall not murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honour your father and your mother, and, You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’”

“20 The young man said to Him, “All these things I have kept from my youth. **What do I still lack?**” Jesus said to him, “**If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.**”

Perfect –Teleios – (G5056)

Neuter – complete – of full age –man, mature.

1 Corinthians 14:20; “Brethren, **do not be children in understanding;** however, in malice be babes, but **in understanding be mature.**”

Philippians 3:13-15: “Brethren, I do not count myself to have achieved; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Therefore let us, **as many as are mature, have this mind;** and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you.”

Colossians 4:12; “Epaphras, who is one of you, a bond servant of Christ, greets you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that **you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.**”

Perfect –Teleios – (G5056)

Neuter – complete – of full age –man, mature.

James 3:2; “For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, **he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.**”

Hebrews 5:12-14; “For though by this time **you ought to be teachers**, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food.”

“For **everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness**, for he is a babe. But **solid food belongs to those who are of FULL GROWN**, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.”

Perfect –Teleios – (G5056)

Neuter – complete – of full age –man, mature.

1 Cor 2:6; “Yet when I am **among mature Christians**, I do speak with words of wisdom, but not the kind of wisdom that belongs to this world, and not the kind that appeals to the rulers of this world, who are being brought to nothing.”

Jam 1:25; “But the person who looks closely into the law (**the perfect law of freedom**) and holds on to it is not the one who hears it and forgets about it. He is the one who really practices the law. He finds happiness in doing it.”

26. “If any of you thinks he serves God, but does not control what he says, then he fools his own heart. His “service” to God is worth nothing.”

Perfect –Teleios – (G5056)

Neuter – complete – of full age –man, mature.

Col 1:28; “It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may **present everyone mature in Christ.**”

Eph 4:13; - “ until we come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will **be mature and full grown in the Lord, measuring up to the full stature of Christ.**

“Then we will **no longer be like children, forever changing our minds about what we believe because someone has told us something different or because someone has cleverly lied to us and made the lie sound like the truth.**”

Perfect –Teleios – (G5056)

Neuter – complete – of full age –man, mature.

All of these examples refer to the here and now. So, some things here are "perfect"— in the Biblical meaning of that word as mature or complete.

We, as Christians, do **not have to wait** until we get to heaven to **be "perfect"** in the Biblical sense of this particular word. In fact, as seen in the examples above, **we are expected to be exactly that!**

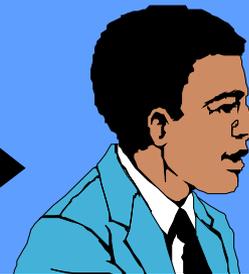
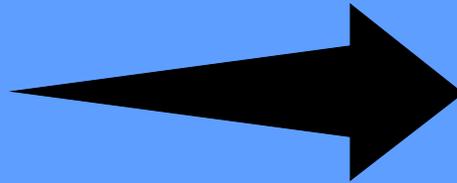
Perfect –Teleios – (G5056)

Neuter – complete – of full age –man, mature.

Therefore, if we are to have a true understanding of the thought in 1 Corinthians 13:10; we must get it out of our minds that the word **teleios** —translated "**perfect**"—means **sinless or the flawless state of heaven.**

We are to rightly divide the word of God and become **mature (perfect)** people in this life adhering to a **mature (perfect)** law of the Spirit in Christ.

Illustrations Given In The Text



“But when we become **mature in our knowledge**, we will be able to grasp **perfectly** all that God wants us to know about Him, and about ourselves as well.”

SUMMARY OF THE PERFECT
meaning “**completeness / maturity.**”

Could be **HEAVEN?**

|

No passage that indicates that we will require
FAITH and **HOPE** in Heaven.

Could be **JESUS?**

|

Jesus is never spoken of as a thing but as a person.
He is a “**He who,**” NOT a “**that which.**”
So “**that which is perfect**” cannot be Jesus

Again no passage that indicates that we will require
FAITH and **HOPE** in Heaven.

SUMMARY OF THE PERFECT

Whatever is in PART the WHOLE must be the same.

Part:-

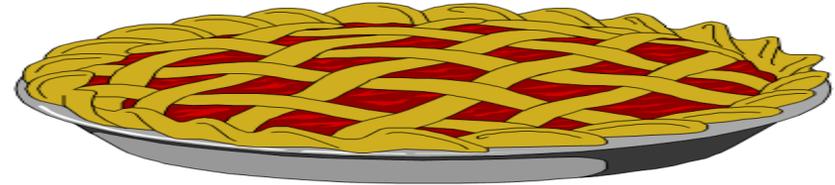
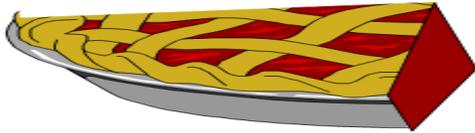
Completed/ Mature:-

(knowledge / Revelation)

(knowledge / Revelation)

**In Part
Partial.**

**Perfect
Complete.**

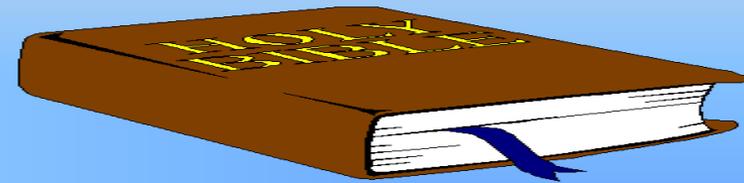


*Knowledge (v. 9)
Prophecy (v. 9)*

*Knowledge
Prophecy*



**God's
Revelation**



**God's
Revelation**

1 Cor 13:12; FACE TO FACE.

1 Cor 13:12; For the present we see things as if in a mirror, and are puzzled; but then we shall see them face to face. For the present **the knowledge I gain is imperfect;** but **then I shall know fully,** even as I am fully known.

13:12 ΒΛΕΠΟΜΕΝ ΓΑΡ ΑΡΤΙ ΔΙ ΕΣΟΠΤΡΟΥ ΕΝ ΑΙΝΙΓΜΑΤΙ
blepomen gar arti di esoptrou en ainigmati
WE-ARE-LOOKING for at-PRESENT THRU INTO-VIEWer IN ENIGMA
we-are-observing through mirror

ΤΟΤΕ ΔΕ ΠΡΟΣΩΠΟΝ ΠΡΟΣ ΠΡΟΣΩΠΟΝ ΑΡΤΙ ΓΙΝΩΣΚΩ ΕΚ
tote de prosOpon pros prosOpon arti ginOsKO ek
then YET face TOWARD face at-PRESENT I-AM-KNOWING OUT

ΜΕΡΟΥΣ ΤΟΤΕ ΔΕ ΕΠΙΓΝΩΣΟΜΑΙ ΚΑΘΩΣ ΚΑΙ ΕΠΕΓΝΩΣΘΗΝ
merous tote de epignOsomai kathOs kai epegnOsthEn
OF-PART then YET I-SHALL-BE-ON-KNOWING according-AS AND I-AM-ON-KNOWN
of-instalment I-shall-be-recognizing also I-am-recognized

13:13 ΝΥΝΙ ΔΕ ΜΕΝΕΙ ΠΙΣΤΙΣ ΕΛΠΙΣ ΑΓΑΠΗ ΤΑ ΤΡΙΑ
nuni de menei pistis elpis agapE ta tria
NOW YET IS-REMAINING BELIEF EXPECTATION LOVE THE THREE
faith

1 Cor 13:12; FACE TO FACE.

Just as in v10 it was easy to jump to the conclusion that the “perfect” was Jesus until we see the Greek is speaking about a “that /a thing” not a person.

So it is easy to jump to the conclusion that “FACE TO FACE” must mean “seeing Jesus.” and “SEEING JESUS” must imply the END OF TIME and heaven. (Unless you are a Premillennialist then the end of time would obviously mean something else.)

1 Cor 13:12; FACE TO FACE.

In the context of the gifts Paul is speaking of
it is **knowledge** that is **partial**
and it is **knowledge** he will be able
to understand more of in the future
knowledge of himself and knowledge of God.

The greater knowledge we have
The more mature we ought to become.
Knowledge = responsibility = accountability.

1 Cor 13:12; FACE TO FACE.

“For now we see in a mirror, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know fully even as also I was fully known.” American Standard Bible

“For now we see in a mirror indirectly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, just as I have been fully known.” Net Bible

“Now we see only an indistinct image in a mirror, but then we will be face to face. Now what I know is incomplete, but then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.”
International Standard Version

“for we see now through a mirror obscurely, and then face to face; now I know in part, and then I shall fully know, as also I was known;” Young’s Literal Translation

1 Cor 13:12; FACE TO FACE.

“For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. I know now in part, but then I will fully know just- as I was also fully known.” Modern Literal Version

“Now we see a blurred image in a mirror.

Then we will see very clearly.

Now my knowledge is incomplete.

Then I will have complete knowledge as God has complete knowledge of me.” God’s Word Translation

Despite **all the gifts** the Corinthian church was about as **immature** as you can imagine a church being!

1 Corinthians, is among the **earliest** of the books to have been written, and it's the book where **miracles** among Christians are **most prominently** featured.

References to miraculous powers decline in the later New Testament writings.

Later we read 2 Pet 1:3; "His divine power has given us **EVERYTHING** we need for life and godliness through the **FULL KNOWLEDGE** of the one who called us by His own glory and excellence.

4. whereby he has granted unto us His precious and exceeding great promises; **that through these you may become PARTAKERS of the DIVINE NATURE**, having escaped from the corruption that is in that world by lust."

1 Cor 13:12; **FACE TO FACE** “has given us everything through **the full knowledge** of the one who called us”

Eph 4:13; “till we all attain unto the **unity of the faith**, and **of the KNOWLEDGE** of the Son of God, to a **FULL GROWN** man, to the measure of the stature of the **FULNESS** of Christ:”

Paul promises “**the whole measure of the fullness of Christ**,” which is equally **hard to imagine happening in this life**. He may be speaking of a **theoretically possible but practically impossible ideal**.

1 Cor 13:12; FACE TO FACE “has given us everything through the full knowledge of the one who called us”

**Paul says earlier in Eph 2:6;
“And God raised us up
with Christ and seated us with Him
in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus.”**

**In one sense, we’re ALREADY in heaven,
sharing Christ’s throne!
It doesn’t always feel that way,
but it’s nonetheless true.**

1 Cor 13:12; FACE TO FACE.

In Paul's mind, **WE CHRISTIANS
SEE GOD FACE TO FACE**
in the **here and now.**

**2 Cor 4:6; “For God, who said, “Let light shine
out of darkness,” made His light shine
in our hearts to give us the light
of the knowledge of the glory of God
in the face of Christ.”**

**“Knowledge” in 1 Cor 13 is not book
or law learning, but knowledge of Jesus.
And that knowledge is available even today.**

1 Cor 13:12; FACE TO FACE.

Paul's argument seems to be that if Moses could see God face to face, then we, in whom God lives through His Spirit, can know Jesus and know Him better than Moses did."

Indeed, we can attain "the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure Of the fullness of Christ" right here on this earth.

1 Cor 13:12; FACE TO FACE.

“Face to face” would be well known to those familiar with the Old Testament to be an allusion to **Moses’** conversation with God on Mt. Sinai.

An event which took place during Moses earthly existence, not at any end times.

The phrase is used several times in reference to **Moses’ special relationship with God.** Consider:-

Deut. 34:10-12; “Since then, no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD KNEW FACE TO FACE,
11 who did all those miraculous signs and wonders the LORD sent him to do in Egypt—to Pharaoh and to all his officials and to his whole land.”

“12 For NO ONE has ever shown the mighty power or performed the awesome deeds that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.”

1 Cor 13:12; FACE TO FACE.

**Here in Deut 34; the Holy Spirit associates
the DOING of great miracles
with KNOWING God FACE TO FACE.**

**Moses never saw God face to face physically
but his relationship with God and
his use of Gods miracles and power meant
that he knew God in very a special way.**

**So Paul's argument is from IRONY– in CONTRAST to Moses,
we will come to see God FACE TO FACE
ONLY when we've OUTGROWN miracles!
The Christian experience is to be even greater than Moses.**

**Luke 7:28; "I tell you, among those born of women there
is no one GREATER than John [the Baptist]; yet the one
who is LEAST in the kingdom of God is GREATER than he."**

1 Cor 13:12; FACE TO FACE.

Luke 10:23-24; “Then he turned to his disciples and said privately, “Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. 24 For I tell you that **many prophets and kings wanted to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.**”

Paul urges us to get to **KNOW the Christ:- 1 Cor 2:2;**
“For I resolved to **know** nothing while I was with you **except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.**”

1 Cor 2:16; “For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?” But **we have the mind of Christ.**”

John 16:14; “He shall glorify me: for he shall take of mine, and shall declare it unto you” **A better knowledge of the word revealed by the Holy Spirit will enable us to KNOW and GLORIFY the Christ and see Him FACE TO FACE.**

1 Cor 13:12; FACE TO FACE.

Perhaps a better sense of Paul's thought is found in:- **2 Cor 3:18**; "And we, who with **unveiled faces** all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed **INTO HIS LIKENESS** with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

Paul's argument is that **the glory** of Moses' face, which came from talking with God "**FACE TO FACE**" (Ex. 33:11), is much less than the **glory** experienced by Christians.

Moses' glory faded after he left the presence of God, but we never leave God's presence, because through His Spirit, **His presence never leaves us!** Hence, **our glory** (the manifestation of God's presence) never fades.

Knowing Jesus doesn't mean knowing all the answers to the philosopher's questions.
It means knowing His heart.

Which is why the path to such knowledge **begins with works of service** in Eph 4;

Which is why Paul **emphasizes love** in 1 Cor 13;
Love is the greatest gift because it brings us nearest to knowing the heart of Jesus.

In John 14:15; Jesus said
“if you love me you will keep my commandments”

Paul is saying to these Corinthians.
If you would only **grow up** and **see** that there will be a time when **we will see all that Christ wants us to see** and at that time **we will see Jesus more clearly.**

1 Cor 13:12; FACE TO FACE.

James 1:21-25; “So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and **humbly accept the message God has planted in your hearts**, for it is strong enough to save your souls.”

“22. And remember, **it is a message to obey**, not just to listen to. **If you don't obey**, you are only fooling yourself.

23. For if you just listen and don't obey, **it is like looking at your face in a mirror but doing nothing to improve your appearance.** 24. **You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like.”**

25. **“But if you keep looking steadily into God's perfect law -the law that sets you free- and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.”**

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE / PASS.

13:8 Η ΑΓΑΠΗ ΟΥΔΕΠΟΤΕ ΕΚΠΙΠΤΕΙ ΕΙΤΕ ΔΕ ΠΡΟΦΗΤΕΙΑΙ
hE agapE oudepote ekpiptei eite de prophEteiai
THE LOVE NOT-YET-?-when IS-OUT-FALLING IF-BESIDES YET BEFORE-AVERments
never is-lapsing whether prophecies

ΚΑΤΑΡΓΗΘΗΣΟΝΤΑΙ
katargEthEsontai
THEY-SHALL-BE-BEING-DOWN-UN-ACTED
they-shall-be-being-discarded

ΕΙΤΕ ΓΛΩΣΣΑΙ
eite glOssai
IF-BESIDES TONGUES
or languages

ΠΑΥΣΟΝΤΑΙ
pausontai
THEY-SHALL-BE-CEASING

ΕΙΤΕ ΓΝΩΣΙΣ
eite gnOsis
IF-BESIDES KNOWledge
or

ΚΑΤΑΡΓΗΘΗΣΕΤΑΙ
katargEthEsetai
it-SHALL-BE-BEING-DOWN-UN-ACTED
it-shall-be-being-discarded

13:9 ΕΚ ΜΕΡΟΥΣ
ek merous
OUT OF-PART
of-instalment

ΓΑΡ ΓΙΝΩΣΚΟΜΕΝ ΚΑΙ
gar ginOskomen kai
for WE-ARE-KNOWING AND

ΕΚ ΜΕΡΟΥΣ
ek merous
OUT OF-PART
of-instalment

What Did
The Things In Part Produce?

Not Jesus.

Not heaven.

But God's completed Revelation!

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

Jesus applies the same principle in Matthew 5:17; 17. "Don't misunderstand why I have come. **I did not come to abolish the law** of Moses or the writings of the prophets. **No, I came to fulfil them.**"

The gospel is the thing which the law of Moses was designed to bring us to. Gal. 3:24;.

When the Law had fulfilled its purpose it was taken out of the way in favour of the new law in Christ to which it had brought us.

It was "nailed to the cross" (Col 2:14; Eph 2:15;)

It was taken away so that the new could be established (Heb 8:13;10:9;). It is no longer in effect.

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

The principle can be applied to gifts either collectively or individually.

They were part of an imperfect system designed to lead to, and produce a perfect system of faith.

They would cease when they had fulfilled their purposes. What were there purposes, and have they been fulfilled?

They were to authenticate the credentials of the apostles.

This function is not needed now, since there are no apostles.

**They were to make known the truth, all of the truth that God intended to reveal
HAS BEEN REVEALED.**

MIRACULOUS GIFTS WILL CEASE.

Jesus promised that the work of revelation was to be completed through the work of the apostles, and necessarily in their own lifetime.

John 14:26; 16:13;

**If that promise was not fulfilled
in their lifetime
it will never be fulfilled.**

But no promise of God ever fails. Num 23:19;

Miraculous Spiritual Gifts.

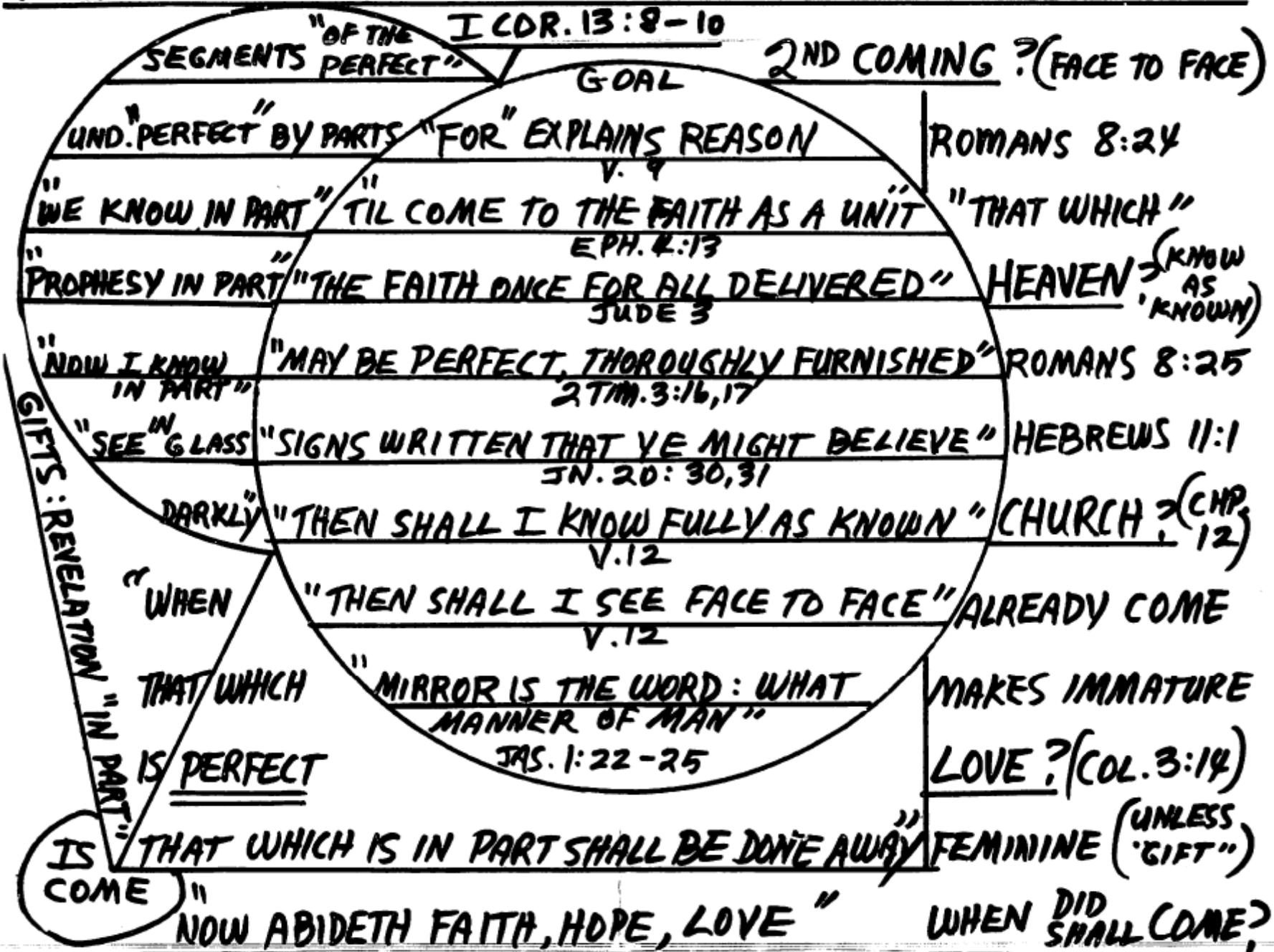
Limited In Duration!

**For the
purpose of
Revelation
&
Confirmation.**

Ephes. 4:11-13 (NKJV)

And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, [12] for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, [13] **till . . .**

PERFECTED SCRIPTURE CAUSED GIFTS OF SPIRIT TO CEASE



WHEN THAT WHICH IS PERFECT IS COME, THAT WHICH IS IN PART
(EPHESIANS 4:8-15) SHALL BE DONE AWAY" (I COR. 13:8-10)

GAVE GIFTS UNTO MEN 4:8
FOR PERFECTING OF THE SAINTS
4:12 { WORK OF MINISTERING
BUILDING UP OF THE BODY

GAVE SOME TO BE : 4:11
{ APOSTLES, PROPHETS,
EVANG., PASTORS (TEACHERS)

TIL COME TO UNITY OF THE FAITH
4:13 { KNOWLEDGE OF THE SON OF GOD
UNTIL A FULL GROWN MAN
MEASURE OF STATURE OF CHRIST
OF FULLNESS

NO LONGER CHILDREN, TOSSED 4:14
BUT SPEAKING TRUTH IN LOVE 4:15
GROW UP IN ALL THINGS INTO CHRIST: 15

GIFT OF PROPHECY, TONGUES 13:1-3
THAT NO SCHISM IN BODY 12:25
{ MEMBERS HAVE SAME CARE : 25
ABOUND UNTO EDIFYING CHURCH 14:2

SET SOME IN CHURCH FIRST 12:28
{ APOSTLES, PROPHETS,
TEACHERS, MIRACLES, GIFTS, TONGUES

WHEN THAT WHICH IS PERFECT COME
13:9 { KNOWLEDGE IN PART DONE AWAY
12 { NOW BECOME MAN, PUT AWAY CHILDISH
DARKLY NOW, THEN FACE TO FACE

PUT AWAY CHILDISH THINGS 13:11
ABIDETH FAITH, HOPE, LOVE 13:13
ABOUND UNTO EDIFYING CHURCH 14:12

Perfected scripture caused miraculous gifts to cease.

In the Charts "The perfect" understood by its context:- Notice that the line which divides the left circle from the right is the coming of "the perfect."

The left circle is imperfect, in the background, producing the right.

Its segments are parts of "the perfect."

The only way to understand "the perfect" is to understand the imperfect parts to which it is contrasted.

"We know in part, we prophesy in part" shows that the miraculous gifts of inspiration are the parts which "the perfect" completes.:-

Perfected scripture caused miraculous gifts to cease.

**Paul Includes even the apostles ("we")
as knowing "in part." 1 Cor 13:9; Eph 4:13;**

**But the perfect whole of God's revelation
will super cede the knowledge of
any one inspired man, including the apostles.**

**Miraculous inspiration was like seeing
"in a glass" compared to
the perfect revelation (face to face).**

**A gift of inspiration was seeing "darkly"
compared to knowing as fully known
which "the perfect" provides.**

Perfected scripture caused miraculous gifts to cease.

How **"the perfect"** completes the **Imperfect parts** to which it is **contrasted**. (centre, completed circle.)

The word **"perfect"** in Greek implies **a goal or purpose being aimed at**. God was **aiming at a completed revelation** using revelations in part.

"For" in v9 explains the reason that the imperfect parts must cease, that is, **they are only imperfect and parts**, planned to **give way to the complete**.

Eph 4:13; says that miraculous gifts of the Spirit were given **"Until we all come to the unity of the faith (or the faith as a unit.)"**

This is another way of describing **the completed N.T.**

Perfected scripture caused miraculous gifts to cease.

Jude 3. describes "the faith which was once for all delivered unto the saints," another description of the permanent unit.

2 Tim3:16-17; says Scripture enables the man of God to be "perfect, thoroughly furnished unto every good work," another reference to the completeness and permanence of Inspired Scripture.

John 20:30-31; shows that signs (or miracles) were written that we might believe.

God planned miracles and miraculous inspiration to be permanently in written form.

1 Cor 13:12; shows that the perfect revelation would enable a man to know as he is fully known.

Perfected scripture caused miraculous gifts to cease.

One great reason **the Bible** must be from God is that **I see myself** completely **described** in it.

I can know myself and all God has revealed **as fully as He knows me.**

"then shall I see face to face" (v12;):

The perfect revelation was to enable man to see clearly and graphically God's revelation of man and of everything.

Jas 1:22-25; uses the illustration of a man's looking in a mirror and seeing what manner of man he is.

This context has "the word" (v22;) as the mirror enabling him to see himself as to what manner of man he really is.

Perfecting scripture caused miraculous gifts to cease.

Here is a Challenge! name one human trait, good or bad, in themselves or in others, that is not revealed in the completed Scripture.

God's completed revelation enables man to know himself as he is fully known and to see God's perfect revelation face to face.

THE TEMPORARY NATURE OF MIRACLES IN CORINTH AND EPHESUS

1 Corinthians 12-14

Ephesians 4

“Gifts” (12:4,9, 28,30,31)

“Gifts” (4:7-8)

“no schism in the body” (12:25)

“joined and knit together” (4:16)

“one body, many members” (12:12,14,18-20,27)

“whole body, every part” (4:16)

“apostles, prophets, teachers” (12:29)

“apostles, prophets, pastor-teachers” (4:11)

“prophecies, knowledge” (13:8)

“prophets, evangelists, pastor-teachers” (4:11)

“fail, cease, vanish, done away” (13:8-10)

“until” (4:13)

“we come to the unity of the faith” (4:13)

“when perfect comes” (13:10)

“the knowledge/the fullness of Christ” (4:13)

“shall know” (13:12)

“the knowledge/the fullness of Christ” (4:13)

“child” (13:11)

“children” (4:14)

“man” (13:11)

“man” (4:13)

“put away childish things” (13:11)

“grow up” (4:15)

“love” (13:1-8)

“love” (4:15-16)

“edification of the church” (14:3-5,12,17)

“edifying the body of Christ” (4:12)

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME.

Exegesis of Ephesians 4:11-16; Here, particularly in verse 12, Paul expressly says that the Lord "gave some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers (to the church) for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ (the church.)"

UNTIL we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God unto a perfect man that we may be no longer children but speaking the truth in love, may grow up!"

**Till or until is an adverb of time;
It marks a duration, sets a limit of time.**

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME.

Until the unity of the faith was reached.

This is not "a unity of faith. (in which everyone believes and does the same thing).

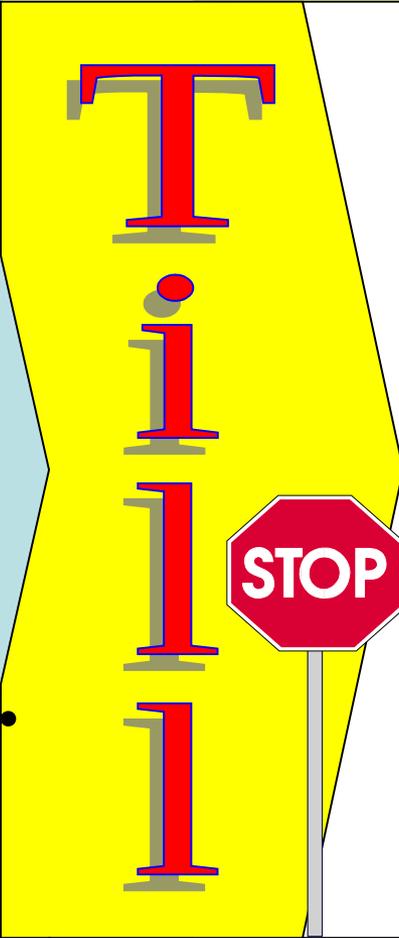
Rather, it is the unity. (fullness, completion, perfection) of the faith. To understand the words "the faith", see Galatians 3:23-25; where Paul contrasts "the faith" with "the law of Moses."

He puts "the faith" for the whole system of things under the gospel. This is certainly the intention of Jude 3 as well.

The faith (the gospel message) which was then being revealed in fragments would soon reach the fullness of God's intended revelation, and then the methods used in that revelation would become unnecessary, and would cease. The gifts would be withdrawn.

Limited In Duration!

**For the
purpose of
Revelation
&
Confirmation.**



Unity of the Faith.
Jude 3; Gal 1:23;
Knowledge of the Son.
2 Peter 1:3;
A Perfect Man.
Col 1:28; 2 Tim 3:16-17;
Full Measure of Christ.
Col. 2:6-10; Gal. 1:7-8;

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME.

Eph 4:13; “till we all come in the unity of the faith & of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;”

Unity of the Faith. Jude 3; “I was always very eager to write you about the salvation we share. But, I felt forced to write you because some men have come in secretly. I am begging you to fight for THE FAITH which God passed on to the holy people once for all time.”

“These men don't want God. Long ago it was written that they would be condemned. They are turning away from the gracious love of our God to orgies, rejecting Jesus Christ, our only Lord and Master.”

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME.

Eph 4:13; “ till we all come in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;”

Unity of the Faith. Galatians 1:23; “They had only heard this about me: `This man used to persecute us, but now he is preaching the same faith he once tried to destroy!”

Knowledge of the Son. 2 Peter 1:3; “God's divine power has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We know God, He called us to His own glory & goodness.”

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME.

Eph 4:13; “ till we all come in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;”

A Perfect Man. Col. 1:28; “Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect (fully equipped) in Christ Jesus.”

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME

Eph 4:13; “ till we all come in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;”

A Perfect Man. 2 Tim. 3:16-17; “The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right.”

“17. It is God's way of making us well prepared at every point, fully equipped (perfect) to do good to everyone.”

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME.

Eph 4:13; “ till we all come in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;”

Measure of Christ. Col. 2:6-10; “And now just as you trusted Christ to save you, trust Him, too, for each day's problems; live in vital union with Him.

**7. “Let your roots grow down into Him and
8. draw up nourishment from Him. See that you go on growing in the Lord, and become strong and vigorous in the truth you were taught.**

**Let your lives overflow
with joy and thanksgiving for all He has done.”**

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME.

Eph 4:13; “ till we all come in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;”

8. “Don't let others spoil your faith and joy with their philosophies, their wrong and shallow answers built on men's thoughts and ideas, instead of on what Christ has said.

9. For in Christ there is all of God in a human body;”

“10. so you have everything when you have Christ, and you are filled with God through your union with Christ. He is the highest Ruler, with authority over every other power.”

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME.

Eph 4:13; “ till we all come in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;”

Gal 1:6-8; “I am amazed that you are turning away so soon from God who, in His love and mercy, invited you to share the eternal life He gives through Christ; you are already following a different “way to heaven,” which really doesn't go to heaven at all.”

7. “For there is no other way than the one we showed you; you are being fooled by those who twist and change the truth concerning Christ.”

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME.

Eph 4:13; “ till we all come in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;”

8. “Let God's curses fall on anyone, including myself, who preaches any other way to be saved than the one we told you about; Yes, if an angel comes from heaven and preaches any other message, let him be forever cursed.”

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME.

Note the similarity of Eph. 4:11-15; to 1 Cor. 13:11;.

**Paul is speaking of the infancy
of the church in both passages.**

**The infant church needed the miraculous revelations
and inspired prophecies and teachings.**

**The church fully grown and fully equipped with
the complete revelation, written and preserved by God's
Holy Spirit, had no further need for childish measures.**

**To desire the earlier inferior stage rather than the mature
would be something like wanting to remain
a caterpillar instead of becoming a butterfly,
or wanting to remain a child instead of assuming
the stature and responsibilities of adulthood.**

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME.

So, we see that Paul does not set a date or specify a time for the end of miraculous gifts.

He simply says that when they had, in the mind of God, **fulfilled the purposes for which they had been given,** God would remove them:-
Whether people still wanted them or not.

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME.
Three questions remain to be asked and answered about the miraculous gifts.

The first calls for a subjective conclusion, based upon what we know of the nature of God.

Would God withhold something from us that we truly needed for growth and development?

Would He then condemn us for not having something which only He can give, but He would not give? Definitely not!

**Did miraculous gifts actually (ever) CEASE?
YES They did.**

Conclusion:-

13:8 Η ΑΓΑΠΗ ΟΥΔΕΠΟΤΕ ΕΚΠΙΠΤΕΙ ΕΙΤΕ ΔΕ ΠΡΟΦΗΤΕΙΑΙ
 hE agapE oudepote ekpiptei eite de propheteiai
 THE LOVE NOT-YET-?-when IS-OUT-FALLING IF-BESIDES YET BEFORE-AVERments
 never is-lapsing whether prophecies

ΚΑΤΑΡΓΗΘΗCONTAI ΕΙΤΕ ΓΛΩCCAI ΠΑΥCONTAI
 katargEthEsontai eite glOssai pausontai
 THEY-SHALL-BE-BEING-DOWN-UN-ACTED IF-BESIDES TONGUES THEY-SHALL-BE-CEASING
 they-shall-be-being-discarded or languages

ΕΙΤΕ ΓΝΩCIC ΚΑΤΑΡΓΗΘΗCΕΤΑΙ
 eite gnOsis katargEthEsetai
 IF-BESIDES KNOWledge it-SHALL-BE-BEING-DOWN-UN-ACTED
 or it-shall-be-being-discarded

13:9 ΕΚ ΜΕΡΟΥC ΓΑΡ ΓΙΝΩCΚΟΜΕΝ ΚΑΙ ΕΚ ΜΕΡΟΥC
 ek merous gar ginOskomen kai ek merous
 OUT OF-PART for WE-ARE-KNOWING AND OUT OF-PART
 of-instalment of-instalment

They **Provided** a full and final revelation of God's word.

They **Confirmed** Both Messenger & the Message!

The spiritual gifts, the miraculous manifestations of the Spirit, were simply a means to an end... and **DID END!**

What Were The Gifts?

1 Cor. 12:28-30; (NKJV)

And God has appointed these in the church:
first apostles, second prophets, third teachers,
after that miracles, then gifts of healings,
helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.

Are all apostles? Are all prophets?

Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? Do

all have gifts of healings? Do all

speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

MIRACULOUS GIFTS DID END.

In the Apostles Age gifts:-

Enabled the speaker to communicate in language (s) he hadn't learned.

Guided them in the execution of penalties upon the wicked.

Protected them from such things as poisonous serpents.

Enabled them to foretell future events.

Empowered them to raise even the dead, and To heal all manner of diseases.

What Were The Gifts?

1 Cor. 12:28-30 (NKJV)

First Apostles,

Second Prophets,

Third Teachers,

After That Miracles,

Then Gifts Of Healings,

Helps,

Administrations,

Varieties Of Tongues.

Not possessed by all

Ephes. 4:11-13 (NKJV)

And He Himself gave

some to Be Apostles,

Some Prophets, Some

Evangelists, And

Some Pastors And

Teachers, for the

equipping of the saints for

the work of ministry, for

the edifying of the body of

Christ.

MIRACULOUS GIFTS DID END.

First apostles. In the first rank or order; or as superior in honour and in office.

He has given them the highest authority in the church; He has more powerfully endowed them and qualified them than He has others.

Teachers. Who taught, for the most part, truths already revealed; whereas **the prophets** made new revelations and spoke all their prophesying under the Spirit's influence.

As the **teachers** had the "**word of knowledge,**" so the **prophets** "**the word of wisdom.**" (1 Cor. 12:8).

MIRACULOUS GIFTS DID END.

Miracles. -literally, "powers." (1 Cor. 12:10):

Ranked **below "teachers,"** as the function of teaching is more edifying, though less dazzling than working miracles.

Gifts Of Healings. - The power of healing those who were sick. 1 Cor 12:9;. Compare James 5:14,16;

MIRACULOUS GIFTS DID END.

Helps, governments. Lower and higher departments of “**service.**” (1 Cor. 12:5;)

Helps:- deacons whose office it was to help in the relief of the poor, and in baptizing and preaching, subordinate to higher opportunities of service.
(Acts 6:1-10; Acts 8:5-17;)

**Also, others who helped with their time and means, in the Lord's cause.
(compare 1 Cor 13:13; Numbers 11:17;).**

MIRACULOUS GIFTS DID END.

“PRESBYTERS, or BISHOPS, or PASTORS

whose office it was to govern the Church.

(1 Tim. 5:17; Hebrews 13:17, 24;).

These officers, though now ordinary and permanent, were originally specially endowed with the Spirit for their office, whence they are here classified with other functions of an inspired character.

Government. (literally, "guiding the helm" of affairs),

as being occupied with external things, notwithstanding the outward status it gives, is ranked by the Spirit with the lower functions.

Compare "He that gives." (answering to "helps")— "he that rules." (answering to "governments.") (Romans 12:8).

Translate, literally, "Helpings, governing's." [Alford].

MIRACULOUS GIFTS DID END.

Diversities of tongues.- (1 Cor. 12:10).

“Different Languages”

Imparted **by Laying on of the apostles hands** .

A lot lower on the list than those today would have them.

Timothy – 1 Tim. 4:14: “Neglect not the gift that is in you, which was given you by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the elders.

“Though the Greek **"with"** implies that the presbyter's laying on hands was the **mere accompaniment** of the conferring of the gift.” (Jamieson, Fausset, Brown.)

"by" (in 2 Tim 1:6;) Implies that **Paul's laying on of his hands** was how the gift was given.

Eph 4:11-16; The basic purpose of all these gifts and inspired individuals in whom the gifts were embodied; and through whom God worked in a supernatural way was in the revelation and confirmation of the New Covenant.

Paul spoke of three things: (1) The perfecting of the saints. (2) The working of ministering. (3) The building up of the body of Christ so that Christians can mature.

The inspired, and miraculously endowed, men revealed and confirmed the word of truth in order that these things might be accomplished. We have the word, which the miracles were designed to reveal and confirm, and with this same word of truth we carry on the work of ministry and build up the body of Christ.

Although the King James does not make a distinction, that word which it translates "for" three times is not the same word.

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME

Over one hundred and fifty years ago, **James MacKnight** translated this verse as follows: "And he appointed some, indeed apostles; and some prophets; and some evangelists; and some pastors and teachers; **for** the sake of fitting the saints **for** the work of the ministry, in **order to** the building of the body of Christ."

Paul's meaning is, that the different orders of inspired teachers which he mentions, were appointed, and supernaturally endowed by God,

For the purpose of giving the believing Jews and Gentiles such a complete knowledge of the gospel, as should qualify them for preaching to unbelievers, and for building the body of Christ, by converting them.

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME

The inspired men perfected or equipped the saints, the church. This conveys the idea of "fitting," as MacKnight pointed out:-

"It properly signifies to place the parts of them in such a manner as to render the machine or body complete. In the metaphorical sense it signifies the fitting of a person, by proper instruction, for discharging any office or duty."

Young's Analytical Concordance shows that the term "perfecting" is also translated "complete adjustment."

G. R. Berry, in The Interlinear Literal Translation of the Greek New Testament, translates it:-

"With a view to the perfecting of the saints."

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME

James Moffatt translates it:-

"in order to fit his people for the work of service."

The International Critical Commentary translates it:-

**"with a view to the perfecting of the saints
unto the work of ministering,
unto the building up of the body of Christ."**

In other words, these inspired gifts, and inspired men, were given in order to perfect or properly equip the church so that it could carry on the work of ministry and build up the body of Christ not only in numbers but also in maturity.

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME

The inspired men accomplished their work through the truth which they revealed and confirmed.

These gifts were exercised to convert unbelievers, and to edify the church.

(1 Cor. 14:3,19,23,24-25,39;).

By delivering, once for all, the faith unto the church (Jude 3), they equipped the church to carry on the work of ministry and the building up of the church.

The important things that remain will be Faith, Hope and Love

3570 [e]	1161 [e]	3306 [e]	4102 [e]	1680 [e]	26 [e]	3588 [e]	5140 [e]	3778 [e]	3173 [e]
nyni	de	menei	pistis	elpis	agapē	ta	tria	tauta	meizōn
13 νυνὶ	δὲ	μένει	πίστις ,	ἐλπίς ,	ἀγάπη ,	τὰ	τρία	ταῦτα ;	μείζων
now	moreover	abide	faith	hope	love	the things	three	these	greatest
Adv	Conj	V-PIA-3S	N-NFS	N-NFS	N-NFS	Art-NNP	Adj-NNP	DPro-NNP	Adj-NFS-C

1161 [e]	3778 [e]	3588 [e]	26 [e]
de	toutōn	hē	agapē
δὲ	τούτων	ἡ	ἀγάπη .
moreover	of these [is]	-	love
Conj	DPro-GNP	Art-NFS	N-NFS

ΝΥΝΙ	ΔΕ	ΜΕΝΕΙ	ΠΙΣΤΙΣ	ΕΛΠΙΣ	ΑΓΑΠΗ	ΤΑ	ΤΡΙΑ	ΤΑΥΤΑ
nuni	de	menei	pistis	elpis	agapE	ta	tria	tauta
NOW	YET	IS-REMAINING	BELIEF	EXPECTATION	LOVE	THE	THREE	these
			faith					

ΜΕΙΖΩΝ	ΔΕ	ΤΟΥΤΩΝ	Η	ΑΓΑΠΗ
meizOn	de	toutOn	hE	agapE
GREATER	YET	OF-these	THE	LOVE
greatest				

The important things that remain will be Faith, Hope and Love. 1 Cor 13:13;

King James “And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.”

Living Bible “There are three things that remain faith, hope, and love and the greatest of these is love.”

New Jerusalem with Apocrypha “As it is, these remain: faith, hope and love, the three of them; and the greatest of them is love.”

New Living Translation “There are three things that will endure-faith, hope, and love-and the greatest of these is love.”

MIRACULOUS GIFTS LIMITED IN TIME

We conclude that the revelation God intended was fully given in the lifetime of the apostles, and spiritual gifts for continued revelations are no longer needed.

To confirm the word.

**It has been confirmed. John 20:30-31; Heb 2:3-4;
There is no need for further confirmation.**

To edify Christians, to build up and strengthen the church. It may appear to some that this need will remain as long as the church itself exists. And that would mean that the gifts must continue.

The answer to this we have seen from the careful exegesis of Eph 4:11-16;

No Holy Spirit Miraculous Gifts Today.

No Purpose. We don't have miraculous gifts today because the Word of Truth has already been confirmed by miracles. (Heb. 2:4;)

No Means. We don't have miraculous gifts today because there is no means by which to receive them from Apostles hands.

No Continuance. We don't have miraculous gifts today because Paul said that they would pass away in 1 Cor.13:8-12; when “**that which is perfect**” is come.

No Holy Spirit Miraculous Gifts Today

No Evidence. We don't have miraculous gifts today because there is no objective proof of their existence.

No Distinctiveness. We don't have miraculous gifts today because the so-called "miracles" performed are the same as those performed by non-believers.

No Truth. We don't have miraculous gifts today because there is a vast difference in doctrine and practice among the churches which allegedly perform "miracles" today.

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Conclusion: **The Holy Spirit continues to work.**

H
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W

Through the **Revealed**

Through the **Confirmed**

By **Convicting** Men through
The:

By **Converting** Men through
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The **GOSPEL** that **HAS** been revealed, the New Covenant relationship is to be found in Jesus Christ.

No Holy Spirit Miraculous Gifts Today.

We do NOT need miraculous gifts Today to understand the Gospel for it has been revealed.

Acts 2:36; “So let it be clearly known by everyone in Israel that **God has made this Jesus whom you crucified to be both Lord and Messiah!**”

1 Cor 15:1-2; “Now let me remind you, dear brothers and sisters, of the **Good News I preached to you** before. You welcomed it then and still do now, for **your faith is built on this wonderful message.**”

“2. And it is **this Good News that saves** you if you firmly believe it, -unless, of course, you believed something that was never true in the first place.”

No Holy Spirit Miraculous Gifts Today.

- “3. I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me - that **Christ died for our sins**, just as the Scriptures said.
4. **He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, as the Scriptures said.**”

Eph 2:8; “Because it is **by grace** that you have been **saved, through faith**; not by anything of your own, but by **a gift** from God;”

The **death burial and Resurrection of Jesus** is the **GRACE of God** demonstrated it is **Gods part** in our salvation because we cannot save our selves.

BUT it then **demands our response** to access the gift of Grace. – Our Part is to:-

No Holy Spirit Miraculous Gifts Today.

Have Faith in the Saving Blood of Christ.

**Rom 10:17; “But it is in that way
faith comes, from hearing, and
that means hearing the word of Christ.”**

**Believing and confessing belief
in the Saving Blood of Christ.**

**Rom 10:10; “It is by believing with the heart
that you are justified, and by making the
declaration with your lips that you are saved.”**

**Obeying the Lords Command to be buried
with Christ in the waters of baptism
to gain access to the Saving Blood of Christ.**

Eph 4:3-6; THE ONE BAPTISM.

“Take every care to **preserve the unity of the Spirit** by the peace that binds you together.

There is **one Body, one Spirit**, just as **one hope** is the goal of your calling by God. There is **one Lord, one faith, one baptism**, and **one God and Father of all**, over all, through all and within all.”

On the day of Pentecost, there were **two baptisms:-**
The **baptism in the Holy Spirit for the apostles.**
(Acts 2:1-4), and **water baptism** for those
who obeyed the gospel. (Acts 2:38, 41;)

Water baptism is necessarily inferred here:-
Acts 8:16; Only Jesus / Holy Spirit could confer
the baptism of / in the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 3:11;)

Jesus commanded Water for baptism

Matt 28:19-20;

Peter commanded water for baptism.

Acts 2:38; Acts 10:47; etc.

**Men can only baptise in water:-
The history book of the church,
the book of Acts:-**

**Shows how people became Christians
and had their sins washed away
by the blood of Christ.**

**Through their obedience
to water baptism as commanded.**

<u>Conversions in Acts.</u>	Heard	Believed	Repented	Confessed	Baptised
Acts 2:36-41; Pentecost.	Yes		Yes		Yes
Acts 4:4; Five thousand.	Yes	Yes			
Acts 8:5-13 Philip in Samaria	Yes	Yes			Yes
Acts 8:26-40; The Eunuch.	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
Acts 9:1-19; Saul to Paul	Yes				Yes
Acts 10:1-48; 1st Gentiles.	Yes	Yes			Yes
Acts 11:19-21; Greeks.		Yes	Yes		
Acts 13:6-12; Proconsul.	Yes	Yes			
Acts 14:1; Jews/Greeks.	Yes	Yes			
Acts 16:12-16; Lydia.	Yes				Yes
Acts 16:16-33; Jailer.	Yes	Yes			Yes
Acts 18:8; Crispus & others.	Yes	Yes			Yes
Acts 19:1-7; Other People.	Yes	Yes			Yes ¹⁵⁷
Acts 22:1-16; Paul's story.	Yes	Yes			Yes

Eph 4:3-6; THE ONE BAPTISM.

In A. D. 64 when Paul wrote the letter to the Ephesians, he said there was **"one baptism."** Eph 4:5;

Holy Spirit baptism was a promise that was administered by Christ.

The (water) baptism of the great commission was a command that was to be administered by men, It was for forgiveness of sins and to receive the gift of the indwelling Holy Spirit and was to last until the end of the world.

Matthew 28:18-20;

THE PURPOSE OF THE GIFTS

The Holy Spirit's Primary Work Was
To Reveal The Truth & Have It Recorded –
To Confirm With Signs & Miracles

The Claims & Teachings of Those Selected By God
Through Whom The Holy Spirit Revealed This Truth. . .

The Work of Confirming The Word Was Completed
When The Word Was Recorded.

When the apostles died there was no further giving
of the spiritual gifts by the laying on of their hands.

Therefore Miracles and Signs are no longer
taking place based on the promise of God
in the N.T. Scriptures, because their purpose
has been long since completed.

MIRACULOUS GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

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Next in the series:-
THE PROBLEM OF SIN!