



**CHRIST**  
REFORMED BAPTIST  
CHURCH

Biblical Preaching & Reverent Worship

www.CRBC.faith • 2630 Woodward Ave. – New Castle, IN

### *The Early and Later Gifts (part 1)*

Cessationism – Proving the Gifts have ceased.

‘Study to show thyself approved unto God..’ – 2 Timothy 2:15  
The importance of reading and learning God’s word is a vital part of both growing and also experiencing the blessing of belonging to God the Father through His Son, Jesus Christ.

This truth is one of the purposes why we wish to offer you these sermon notes which are to be used while listening to the sermon.

For your added benefit, there is also included six daily bible readings that supplement the theme of each sermon. Take time to gather your loved ones to read and discuss the texts.

If you have any further questions relating to the sermon, sermon notes or would like to learn more about the ministry of Christ Reformed Baptist Church, please do not hesitate to contact

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## INTRODUCTION

• It has been the general belief and teaching of the Church that these miraculous gifts or operations of the Holy Spirit were intended to be temporary as God was revealing and confirming His will.

**Hbr 2:3-4:** v.3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard [him]; v.4 God also bearing [them] witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?

• Such extraordinary workings of the Holy Spirit, should be considered 'revelatory gifts of the Spirit' - God Revealing to us His will.

• **PG#775** (back of hymnal) 1689 LBC 1:1 "those former ways of God's revealing His will unto His people being now CEASED."

• Because those things have completed their intended purpose during the early transitional period from that which was before **PROMISED** to things now **FULLFILLED**.

• That the ceasing of revelatory and sign-gifts are very plainly taught in God's Word.

### #1 NEVER AGAIN SINCE THE APOSTLES

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

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

**Act 5:12** And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch.

## CONCLUSION

- Enormous gaps between the Bible and their position (Continuationism) and furthermore to demonstrate it is perfectly possible to prove that our position of Cessationism is biblical.
- Part 2 - There are many wonderful and powerful gifts of the Spirit active in the life of God's people today.

END

Pray and Read the Bible together as a family this week.

## Individual/Family Worship Bible Readings

*Monday* > 1 Samuel 26:6-12 (Honoring God's Anointed)

*Tuesday* > Proverbs 3: 1-12 (Wise Advice)

*Wednesday* > Proverbs 25: 15-22 (How To Treat Others)

*Thursday* > Romans 12:9-21 (Personal Relationships)

*Friday* > 1 Cor. 13:1-13 (The Importance of Love)

*Saturday* > Col. 3:12-17 (Christ-like Conduct)

These resources are never intended to replace the involvement or instruction of your local church where you are a member, only to supplement your continued growth in the truth of God's Word.

If you do not have a home church we encourage you to search out a bible preaching, reverent worshipping assembly of local believers.

- They miss the fact that in the book of Acts there are definitive teachings that healings and other signs and wonders were exclusive to the Apostles.
- The only conclusive and normative pattern we see in the NT of miraculous signs, wonders, etc. are recorded at the hands of the Apostles.
- The idea promoted by the Continuationist that healings took place constantly by Christians by and large is not taught in the Bible.

## #2 THE TEMPORARY PURPOSE OF TONGUES

- That tongue-speaking was given by God for a specific purpose – as a sign for the Jews.

**1Cr 14:21** "In the law it is written, With [men of] other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord. v.22 Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not..."

- Isaiah says they would be addressed by those with 'stammering lips and another tongue'. (Isa. 28:11)

• The Jews were duly called and warned (and this was the intended use of the gift of languages) that is why tongues are not mentioned outside of Acts with only the exception in 1 Cor. 12-14.

- The purpose of tongues had come, served their purpose and has since then been surpassed by the reality they announced.

## #3 TONGUES WERE REAL LANGUAGES

- That is was a gift of real and understandable languages that was given on the day of Pentecost.
- The tongue-speaker was given by the Holy Spirit that ability to speak in a real language which he had never learned.

- Since we understand that the Holy Spirit gifted believers with real languages, the Scriptures then effectively and convincingly warn us that this gift has been withdrawn.

- By virtue of the fact that the very precise description of real languages given in Scripture cannot be applied to anything that has taken place since.

#### #4 NO INSTRUCTION FOR SUCH APPOINTMENTS

- There is no New Testament instructions about appointing apostles, prophets, healers, or anything of the kind.

- 1 Cor. 11:1 and elsewhere Paul commands us repeatedly to be the most careful imitators of him in our church polity and conduct.

- We have been provided instructions that carefully set out how to select our elders and deacons, but strangely the Continuationist doesn't find any instructions concerning the appointment of apostles.

- This is serious lack of instruction, from the otherwise detailed and all-sufficient complete pattern contained in Scripture serves as proof that these offices and functions were simply not continued.

#### #5 REVELATION IS NOW COMPLETE

- There can be no new or added revelation after the time of the apostles.

- After the apostolic era there would be no more revelation to add to the canon of Scripture. The Word of God would be final and complete.

- Just think what a mess it would be if people could simply pop up here, there and everywhere giving us new revelations. How could we know what was right, and what was true?

**Jude 1:3** Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort

[you] that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

- Revelation was virtually complete, and very soon (from Jude's standpoint) there would be no more further revelation needed.

- Scripture themselves warn that nothing must be added or taken away from the words of the book of Revelation, and this clearly applies to the whole Bible, not just the last book.

- It would be this completed revelation during the apostolic era (especially the Gospel) would continue to serve as the faithful witness!

- If the gifts of divine revelation are ended, then also are the authenticating signs and extraordinary miraculous wonders of such inspired spokesmen.

#### # 6 SCRIPTURE WITNESSES THE END OF THE GIFTS

- Scripture itself shows that the revelatory gifts were in the process of being withdrawn during the era of the apostolic church.

- Paul could not in due time heal Trophimus: **2Ti 4:20** "Erastus abode at Corinth: but Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick."

- Nor Timothy **1Ti 5:23** "Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities"

- James 5 is another place where we the Scripture demonstrates the withdrawing of the healing gifts.

- The fact that James does not mention healing gifts shows unmistakably that the gift of healing power was withdrawn quite early in the course of the apostolic era.