

Romans 15:19, 1 Corinthians 2:4, 2 Corinthians 6:7) and shines powerfully through his life (Philippians 3:10, Colossians 1:11, Ephesians 1:19f, 2 Corinthians 12:9f). This is the true *imitatio christi* the impact made by Christ's Spirit when active in the believer's words and deeds.

If, however, the plural DUNAMEON is correct, this swings the balance back towards the interpretation, "working of miracles"; particularly in the light of the plural in 1 Corinthians 12:28, 29, and of the unambiguous miraculous meaning of the word in Romans 15:18 and 2 Corinthians 12:12 where it is joined with "signs and wonders".

O. Pastoring or Shepherding

Ephesians 4:11 -- "It was he [Christ] who gave some . . . to be pastors and teachers"

Edgar (p. 327) states:

The pastor is a leader given to build up the believers (Ephesians 4:11-12). It is erroneous to regard teaching as his main function. His main function is to rule or govern in such a way as to lead and protect the saints. However, teaching is one of the ways he carries this leadership responsibility. A man is not given a gift (in the sense of ability) of pastor, but he is given certain gifts, such as government and ruling, which enable him to function as a pastor. Notice that in the passages setting forth the qualifications for bishop or elder, there are no instructions to look for specific gifts. Some gifts are implied by the characteristics listed, but no gifts are mentioned. There are certain individuals who are pastors just as there are evangelists. The term pastor applies to the individual who performs a certain function. In this sense it refers to an office more than to an ability.

Ryrie (p. 89) writes:

The word "pastor" means to shepherd; therefore, the gift of pastor involves leading, providing and caring for, and protecting the portion of the flock of God committed to one's care. In Ephesians 4:11 the work of teaching is linked with that of pastoring, and in Acts 20:28 the duty of ruling the flock is added. The words "elder", "bishop", and "pastor" (translated "feed" in Acts 20:28) are all used of the same leaders of the Ephesians church (Cf. Acts 20:17 and 28).