

in Corinth and by implication would be in other churches, but nothing is said of their activity elsewhere in the New Testament. Ephesians 2:20 and Ephesians 3:5 imply that neither apostles nor prophets were present in the Ephesian assembly.

Q. Ruling

Romans 12:6, 8 -- "We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is . . . leadership, let him govern diligently"

Williams (p. 115) writes:

Although Paul's reference here [Romans 12:8] is to a person rather than to a gift, his emphasis is plain. He is stressing the charismatic character of church government. In fact, the apostle uses this word when referring to the domestic qualifications of elders (1 Timothy 3:4-5) and deacons (1 Timothy 3:12) in his pastoral letter to Timothy. When writing of the respect and recognition that should be shown elders, in the churches, he advises: "Let the elders that rule [PROESTOTES] well be counted worthy of double honour, especially those who labour in the word and in teaching (1 Timothy 5:17 RV); "Know them that labour among you and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you: and esteem them exceeding highly in love for their work's sake" (1 Thessalonians 5:12).

Sanders (p. 121) says:

The term "governments" which occurs only here [1 Corinthians 12:28], is the word for the steersman of a ship, who guides it through rocks and shoals to harbour. The word "rulers", means "the one standing in front", or the leader. In any work of God, leadership and a certain amount of administration are necessary, and the Spirit imparts special gifts for this work. It is work that is unspectacular and demanding, and not always appreciated. Nevertheless it is necessary to the smooth functioning of the work of the Kingdom.

R. Speaking with Tongues

1 Corinthians 12:8, 10 -- "To one there is given through the Spirit . . . , to another speaking in different kinds of tongues"

1 Corinthians 13:1 -- "If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal."

1 Corinthians 14:18-26, 39-40 -- "I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. But in the church I would rather speak five intelligible words to instruct others than ten thousand"