

- 24 But if everyone proclaims God's word clearly, and some unbeliever or uninformed person comes in, he is convicted by all, he is searched out by all,
- 25 he sees himself as he is. And so he will bow down and worship God, confessing, "Truly God is among you!"
- 26 What are the implications of what I have been saying, brothers? When you meet together, each one has (a contribution to make): a hymn, a teaching, a revelation, a discourse in a foreign language, or an interpretation. Let all things be done with a view to (the) upbuilding (of the church).
- 27 If any speak in a foreign language, let only two or at the most three, speak, one at a time, and let someone interpret what is said.
- 28 However if no interpreter is present, let the one who would speak in a foreign language keep silent in the church, and let him speak to himself and to God.
- 29 Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others consider carefully what is said.
- 30 And if anything is revealed to another who is sitting by, let the first speaker yield to him.
- 31 For you can all declare God's message one by one, so that all may learn and be encourage.
- 32 The spirits of inspired men are under the control of the inspired men!
- 33 For God is not (the Author) of disorder but of peace, and (he is) in all churches of the saints.
- 34 Let the women maintain silence in the churches. They are not permitted to disturb the decorum of worship, but are to be submissive even as also the Law says.
- 35 And if they wish to learn about something, let them ask their own husbands at home. For it is a shame for a woman to disturb the decorum of worship.
- 36 Was It with you that the word of God originated? Or are you the only people it has reached?
- 37 If anyone claims to be a prophet or to have any spiritual endowment, let him acknowledge that what I am writing to you is a command of the Lord.
- 38 But if anyone disregards this, he should be disregarded.
- 39 So then, my brothers, be eager to preach persuasively, and do not forbid anyone who has the gift of speaking in foreign languages to exercise it.
- 40 But let everything be done in a proper and orderly manner.

Notes on Chapter 14

² Literally, abut rather that you may prophesy." ³ "No one" is not to be taken in the absolute sense. The speaker would understand and give the interpretation (cf. vv. 5, 6, 13-17). The whole context indicates that anything spoken under the impetus of the Holy Spirit is intelligible. A difficulty might arise because of the languages used, but not because of the absence of meaning. ⁴ Literally, "mysteries."