

you, from then on don't say: "I haven't spoken in tongues yet," but rather: "I'm beginning to speak in tongues!" Remember the manifestations of the Spirit are always God and us working together. "The Lord working with them . . . with signs following" (Mark 16:20 KJV).

Then again you may begin to speak immediately in a beautiful language. That's wonderful, too, but it doesn't mean you're any holier than the others! It just means that you are a little freer in your spirit, and less inhibited. In any case, the thing to do is to keep on speaking -- or keep on trying to speak. . . .

There are some believers who have asked to be baptized in the Holy Spirit, but have been unable to begin to speak in tongues. They consider this to be because God doesn't want them to do so; it isn't for them. We find, however, that with proper explanation, and answering of questions, and instruction, such persons often will break through their inhibitions and begin to speak in the Spirit

...
We are convinced, from the Scriptures and after praying with thousands of people to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit over the past ten years and more, that there is no believer who cannot speak in tongues if he or she is properly prepared and really ready to trust the Lord.

What explanation of the source of this phenomenon can be given? Three major answers to this question have been proposed:

- (a) that it is a gift of God not directly related to the biblical phenomenon of speaking in a foreign language, but a separate gift of the Holy Spirit given as an assurance of salvation, or as a means of power and resiliency to meet the problems of life, or as an evidence of spiritual maturity (as a second distinct work of grace). It is claimed that it is this gift to which I Corinthians 12-14 refers;
- (b) that it arises from hidden, dark forces; i.e., from evil spirits, who are always ready to influence those who unwittingly open themselves to unknown forces that they think are good but which are really evil and Satan-inspired;
- (c) that it arises from the psyche of man, and is triggered by some mechanism in the autonomic nervous system that is common to all human beings; and that it provides an emotional release from tension, frustrations, and fears, and results in feelings of relaxation, peace, joy, and elation.

Conclusions

- (1) In Scripture the phenomenon of supernatural speaking in a foreign language is not regarded as an evidence of regeneration, or of indwelling, or of spiritual maturity, but as an evidence of the filling of the