


Ecclesiology
Session 26



Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church
President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Areas of Systematic Theology

- Prolegomena – Introduction
- Theology – Study of God
- Christology – Study of Christ
- Pneumatology – Study of the Holy Spirit
- Anthropology – Study of Man
- Hamartiology – Study of sin
- Soteriology – Study of salvation
- Angelology – Study of angels
- **Ecclesiology – Study of the Church**
- Eschatology – Study of the end




Ecclesiology Overview

- I. Definition
- II. Universal vs. local
- III. Word pictures
- IV. Origin
- V. Israel – Church differences
- VI. Intercalation
- VII. **Purposes**
- VIII. Activities
- IX. Government
- X. Officers
- XI. Ordinances
- XII. Purity



VII. Purposes of the Local Church



- Glorify God (Eph 3:21)
- Edify the saints (Eph 4:11-16)
- Fulfill the Great Commission (Matt 28:18-20)

VII. Purposes of the Local Church



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- **Edify the saints (Eph 4:11-16)**
- Fulfill the Great Commission (Matt 28:18-20)

Ephesians 4:11-16

“¹¹ And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;”



Four Questions

- 1. What are some general observations about spiritual gifts?
- 2. Are all the spiritual gifts for today?
- 3. What are the spiritual gifts?
- 4. How do we discover our own unique area of gifting?



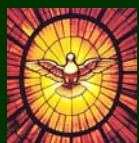
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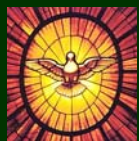
The Case for Selective Cessationism

- I. Preliminary thoughts
- II. Four categories of gifts
 - A. Foundational (Eph 2:20)
 - B. Confirmatory (Heb 2:3-4)
 - C. Revelatory (Jude 3)
 - D. Edificatory gifts continue (Eph. 4:11-16)
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12/12/4/4

- Romans 12
- 1 Corinthians 12
- 1 Peter 4
- Ephesians 4



The 7 Disputed Gifts

1. Apostle
2. Prophet
3. Worker of Miracles
4. Tongues
5. Interpretation of tongues
6. Healing
7. Knowledge



Two Camps

- 1. **Charismatics** – All the spiritual gifts are in operation today
- 2. **Cessationists** (selective)– Most of the spiritual gifts are in operation today



Preamble to Position Statements of SLBC Constitution

“Although agreement with the **POSITION STATEMENTS** is not required for membership, they are taught in this church. The **POSITION STATEMENTS** are **not meant to prohibit** honest and healthy discussions concerning what the Bible teaches about these issues; however, we believe that such discussions must be conducted under the guiding principle that believers are to strive to maintain unity.”

SLBC Position Statement No. 7

“**TEMPORARY SPIRITUAL GIFTS** – This church teaches that the miraculous sign gifts, including the gift of tongues, (always the ability to speak in a previously unlearned, known language) along with the gift of healings were temporal gifts, given by the Holy Spirit solely to authenticate both the apostles and their message before the close of the canon of Scripture (1 Cor. 13:8-10). We do not believe that these are active as gifts today. However, we affirm that God is sovereign and may heal and/or give someone the ability to speak in a tongue (foreign language) today. We believe that the majority of what is termed ‘miraculous’ within the contemporary charismatic movement is something other than the Biblical gifts of tongues or healing.”

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Ephesians 2:20

“having been built on the foundation of the **apostles and prophets**, Christ Jesus Himself being the *corner stone*,”



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Miracle Clusters In Scripture		
NUM.	ERA	AUTHENTICATION
1.	Moses	Law
2.	Joshua	Conquest
3.	Elijah-Elisha	Prophet
4.	Christ	Kingdom offer
5.	Apostles	Church
6.	Tribulation & Millennium	Kingdom establishment


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Acts 2:43

“Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.”



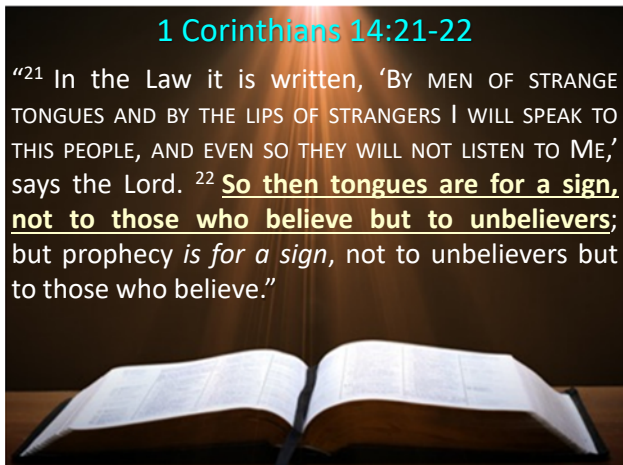
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1 Corinthians 14:21-22

“²¹ In the Law it is written, ‘BY MEN OF STRANGE TONGUES AND BY THE LIPS OF STRANGERS I WILL SPEAK TO THIS PEOPLE, AND EVEN SO THEY WILL NOT LISTEN TO ME,’ says the Lord. ²² **So then tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophecy is for a sign, not to unbelievers but to those who believe.**”



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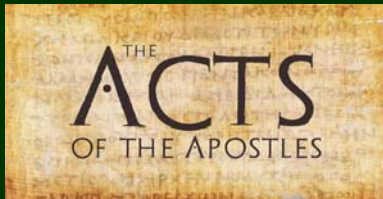
Acts 5:12, 15-16

"¹²At the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were taking place among the people; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's portico...¹⁵ to such an extent that they even carried the sick out into the streets and laid them on cots and pallets, so that when Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on any one of them. ¹⁶Also the people from the cities in the vicinity of Jerusalem were coming together, bringing people who were sick or afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all being healed."



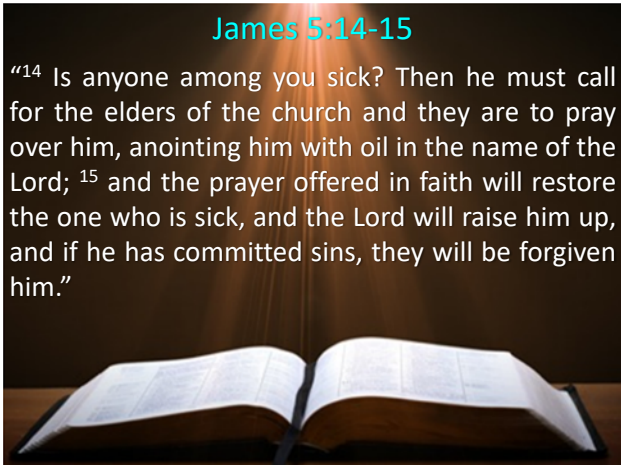
Acts 3:1-10

- 1. No prayer
- 2. No faith
- 3. Indirect
- 4. By an apostle
- 5. Instantaneous
- 6. Automatic
- 7. Undeniable
- 8. No geographical barriers
- 9. Spontaneous
- 10. Common
- 11. Universal



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APOSTOLIC GIFT OF HEALING	HEALING TODAY
No prayer	Prayer
Indirect	Direct
Apostles	Physicians
Instantaneous	Gradual
Common	Less common
Automatic	Non-automatic

- Automatic Healing Today?**
1. Scripture – Gal. 4:13; 2 Cor. 12:7-9; 1 Tim. 5:23; 2 Tim. 4:20
 2. False guilt
 3. False view of God
 4. Sickness is sometimes caused by sin – John 5:14; 1 Cor. 11:30
 5. Sickness is not always caused by sin – Job 1:1-2, 5; 2:7-8; Ps. 34:19
 6. Theology of suffering
 7. Healing is only guaranteed (Isa. 53:4; 1 Pet. 2:24-25) in the Eternal State – Rom. 8:22-23; Isa. 65:20; Rev. 21:4

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Galatians 4:13-14

“¹³ but you know that it was because of a **bodily illness** that I preached the gospel to you the first time; ¹⁴ and that which was a trial to you in **my bodily condition** you did not despise or loathe, but you received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus *Himself*.”

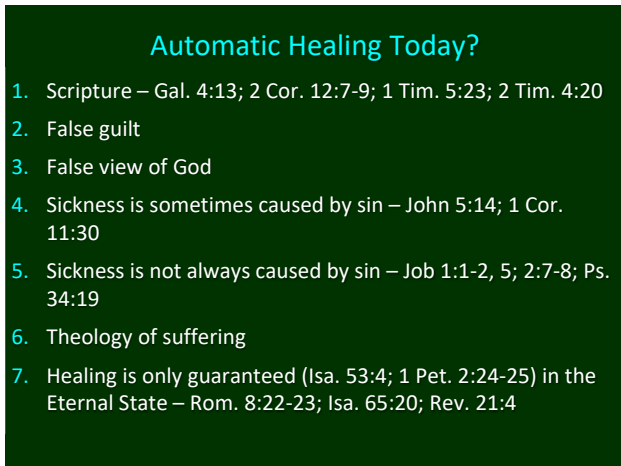


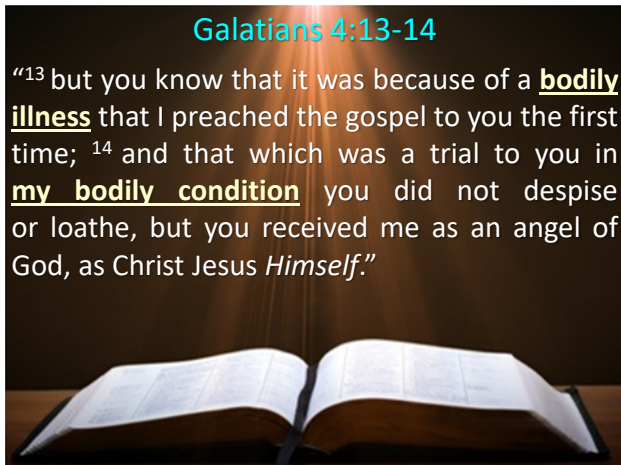
1 Timothy 5:23

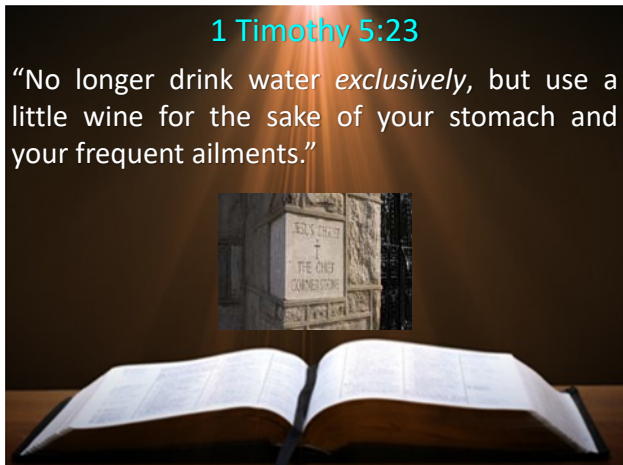
“No longer drink water *exclusively*, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.”

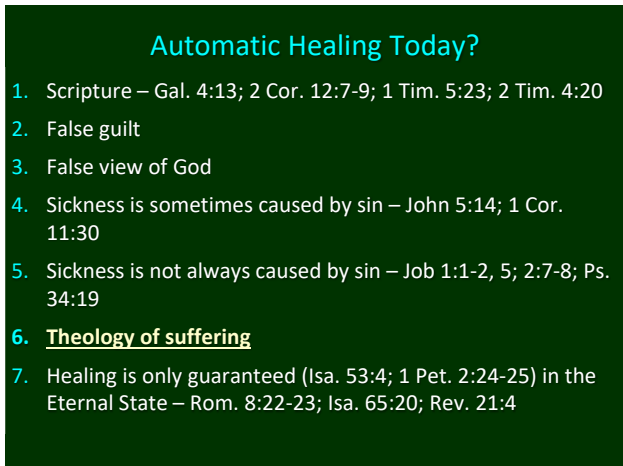


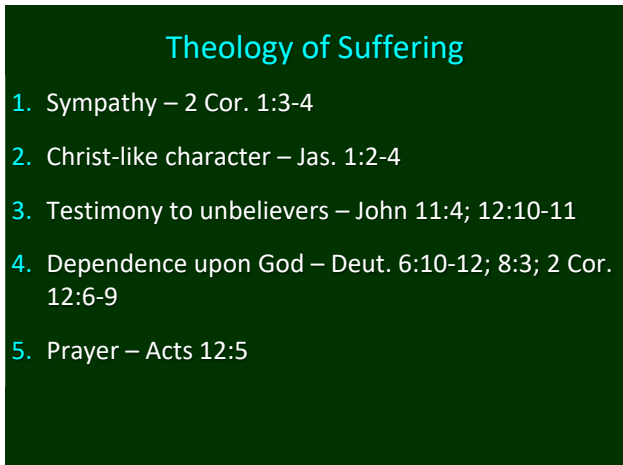












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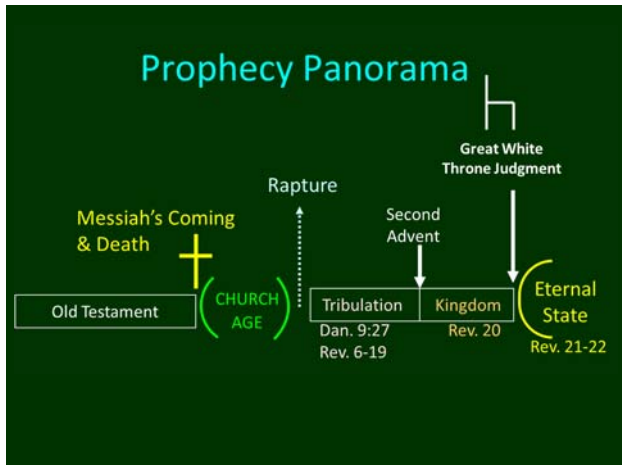
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Romans 8:19-23

¹⁹ “For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. ²³ And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.”





Millennium and Eternal State	
Millennium Rev.20	Eternal State Rev.21-22
Sin restrained	Sin removed
Curse restrained	Curse removed
Death	No death
Mortals / resurrected	Resurrected only
Destinies undecided	Destinies sealed
Renovation	Recreation
Temporary	Eternal
Transitional	Non-transitional

Millennium and Eternal State		
	Millennium	Eternal State
Passage	Rev 20:1-10	Rev 21-22
Time	20:4	22:5
Luminaries	Isa 30:26	21:23; 22:5
Temple	Ezek 40-48	21:22
Death	Isa 65:20	21:4
Satanic activity	20:7	20:10
Rebellion	20:8-9	21:27


Revelation 21:4

“and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”



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The Revelatory Gifts

- 1. Prophet (Deut. 18:18; 2 Pet. 1:20-21; Eph. 3:5; 1 Cor. 14:29-30; Acts 11:28; 21:10-11)
- 2. Knowledge (1 Cor. 13:2, 8-9; 14:6)
- 3. Tongues & Interpretation of tongues (1 Cor. 14:21-22 vs. 26-27)

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1 Corinthians 13:8-10

“⁸ Love never fails; but if there are gifts of **prophecy**, they will be done away; if there are **tongues**, they will cease; if there is **knowledge**, it will be done away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part; ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away.”

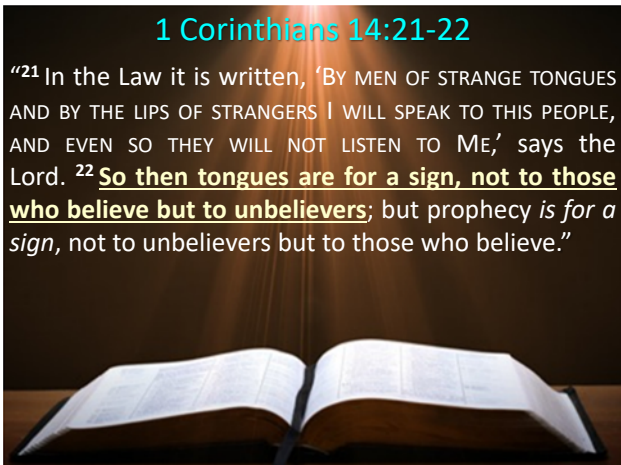


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Spiritual Gifts

(1 Corinthians 12–14)

- 1. Unity (1:11; 3:22; 6; 8–10; 11:18-19; 12:25; 15:12)
- 2. Corinthians 12–14
 - a. Many gifts for use in one Body-1 Cor. 12
 - b. The needed emphasis of Love-1 Cor. 13
 - c. Priority and Order-1 Cor. 14

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B. Love Emphasis (1 Cor. 13)

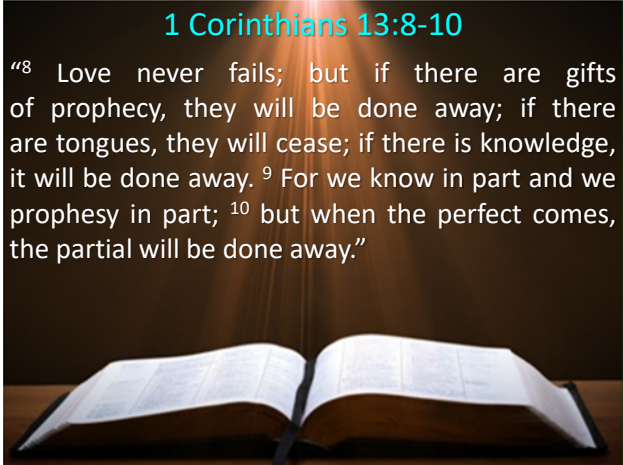
1. Necessity of love (13:1-3)
2. Nature of love (13:4-7)
3. Endurance of love (13:8-13)

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1 Corinthians 13:11-13

"¹¹ When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things. ¹² For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known. ¹³ But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love."



Endurance of Love Emphasis

(1 Cor. 13:8-13)

- a. Unlike Love, the revelatory gifts will cease (8-10)
- b. Two illustrations (11-12)
 - a. Immaturity to maturity (11)
 - b. Limited to full sight (12)
- c. Unlike love, Faith and Hope will cease (13)

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Three Interpretations of "The Perfect" [teleios] in 1 Cor. 13:10


- 1. Eschaton or End
- 2. Maturity of the Church
- 3. Completion of the NT canon

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D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones
 D. Martyn Lloyd Jones, *Prove All Things*, ed. Christopher Catherwood
 (Eastbourne, England: Kingsway, 1985), 32–33.

“It means that you and I, who have the Scriptures open before us, know much more than the apostle Paul of Gods truth...It means that we are altogether superior...even to the apostles themselves, including the apostle Paul! It means that we are now in a position which . . . ‘we know, even as we are known’ by God . . . indeed, there is only one word to describe such a view, it is nonsense.”

Conclusion

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- II. Universal vs. local
- III. Word pictures
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