

21 SCRIPTURAL REASONS FOR SPEAKING IN TONGUES

Adapted from *A Handbook on Holy Spirit Baptism* by Don Basham

It may help to realize that there are strong Biblical reasons for speaking in tongues.

1. Speaking with tongues is the unique New Testament spiritual gift identified with the Church of Jesus Christ. Prior to the day of Pentecost, all other gifts, miracles and spiritual manifestations had been in evidence during the Old Testament times. On the Day of Pentecost, this new phenomenon came into evidence and became uniquely identified with the Church (Acts 2:4 and I Corinthians, chapters 12-14).
2. Speaking with tongues was ordained by God for the Church (I Corinthians 12:28, 14:21).
3. Speaking with tongues is a specific fulfillment of prophecy (Isaiah 28:11, I Corinthians 14:21, Joel 2:28-29, Acts 2:16-18).
4. Speaking with tongues is a sign OF the believer (John 7:38, 39, Mark 16:17).
5. Speaking with tongues is a sign TO the unbeliever (I Corinthians 14:22).
6. Speaking with tongues is a proof of the resurrection and glorification of Jesus Christ (John 16:7, Acts 2:22-24, 32-33).
7. Speaking with tongues is an evidence of the baptism with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4, 10:45-46, 19:6).
8. Speaking with tongues is a means of preaching to men of other languages (Acts 2:6-11).
9. Speaking with tongues is a spiritual gift for building oneself up spiritually (I Corinthians 14:4).
10. Speaking with tongues is a spiritual gift for spiritual edification of the Church (I Corinthians 14:5).
11. One who speaks in a tongue, in his spirit he speaks mysteries to God (1 Corinthians 14:2).
12. Speaking with tongues is a means by which the Holy Spirit intercedes through us in prayer (Romans 8:26, I Corinthians 14:14).
13. Speaking with tongues is a spiritual gift for “singing in the Spirit” (I Corinthians 14:15, Ephesians 5:18-19).
14. The Apostle Paul was thankful to God for the privilege of speaking in tongues (I Corinthians 14:18).
15. The Apostle Paul desired that all would speak with tongues (I Corinthians 14:5).
16. Speaking with tongues is one of the gifts of the Spirit (I Corinthians 12:10).
17. The Apostle Paul ordered that speaking with tongues should not be forbidden (I Corinthians 14:39).
18. Isaiah prophetically declares that speaking with tongues is a “rest” (Isaiah 28:12, I Corinthians 14:21).
19. Isaiah prophetically refers to speaking with tongues as a “refreshing” (Isaiah 28:12, I Corinthians 14:21).
20. Speaking with tongues follows as a confirmation of the Word of God when it is preached (Mark 16:17, 20).
21. You give thanks well to God. (1 Corinthians 14:17).