



Part 1: TONGUES: Is that Lady Speaking Gaga?

The 'secular' world has starved us of spirituality, and many are now eager for any kind of 'supernatural' or 'spiritual' manifestation, any sense of a power or life-source beyond the material world.

-- N T Wright

Paul for Everyone, 1 Corinthians

Apparently some Corinthians were so egocentric that all they cared about was self-edification and perhaps self-glorification by showing off their flashy gifts.

-- Ben Witherington III

Paul's Narrative Thought World:

The Tapestry of Tragedy and Triumph

The highest expression of the Spirit is self-sacrificing love (agape).

-- Luke Timothy Johnson

The Writings of the New Testament

... Paul understood speaking in tongues to be an activity of the Spirit in one's life; it is prayer and praise directed toward God in the language of Spirit-inspiration.

-- Gordon D. Fee

The First Epistle to the Corinthians

Tongues is unlike prophesy in that in itself it only has value for the individual involved unless it is interpreted.

-- Ben Witherington III

Paul's Narrative Thought World:

The Tapestry of Tragedy and Triumph

The evidence is considerable that a visible, charismatic dimension of life in the Spirit was the normal experience of Paul's churches.

-- Gordon D. Fee

Paul, the Spirit and the People of God

...tongues, prophecy and the like will not be needed in the age to come, even though they may serve in the present time as messengers from the future world the creator has in mind.

-- N T Wright

The Resurrection of the Son of God

Spiritual maturity is not possessing vast quantities of Bible knowledge or possessing the most powerful spiritual gifts. Carnal people can have both of these things.

-- Jack Deere

Surprised by the Power of the Spirit

The gifts of the Spirit have been part of the experience of the normal Christian life for two thousand years. We have contemporary written accounts of healings, deliverances, miracles, prophecy, words of knowledge, discernment and tongues from virtually every century since apostolic times.

-- Alison Morgan

Doing What Jesus Did

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

-- Jesus, Acts 1:8 NLT