

New Testament Information Provided Before the New Testament

[1 Corinthians 13:9](#) *“For you see we know in part...”* *“For you see”* – This particle is amplifying the manner in which New Testament truth was taught *before the existence of the New Testament*. Since the New Testament truth concept relative to the church was a MYSTERY. It was not known in Old Testament times or by Old Testament writers. *“For you see...”* *“we know”* – This means to know and understand in the light of the fact that Paul did not have a copy of the New Testament to study. THERE WAS NO NEW TESTAMENT TO STUDY! So, God gave him the gift of knowledge. Was it everything recorded eventually in the whole New Testament? NO – it was PARTIAL. Partial means less than the total record when the New Testament would be completed in 96 AD.

Paul is also telling us here that God gave to him the gift of knowledge and in addition to that, he was given the “GIFT TO COMMUNICATE – PREACH – PROCLAIM – called PROPHECY IN PART.” This is showing how New Testament information was given to believers *before* the completion of the New Testament. (Some believers got this information and died before 96 AD.) This shows that they had the same chance you and I have; only they got it through TEMPORARY GIFTS. What Paul got at that time came by divine revelation and not knowledge by studying the completed New Testament. Since 96 AD, each pastor is commanded to STUDY AND TEACH – STUDY AND TEACH!

Repeat: *“For you see, we know in part, and we prophesy in part.”*

CONCLUSIONS:

1. This verse covers two of the temporary gifts mentioned in [1 Corinthians 13:8](#)
2. The temporary gift of knowledge possessed by the Apostle Paul was partial in contrast to the whole – that is, what Paul had (in 55 AD) was partial in contrast to the whole. In 96 AD, it would be the entire New Testament, reduced to writing and in about 20 years or more; it would be completely circulated to the Church.
3. Paul’s contribution to the New Testament would be partial along with Peter (64 – 66), James (45 – 58), John 1, 2, 3 (60 – 65 AD), Luke (58 – 60 AD), Matthew (50 AD), and other human writers of the New Testament.

New Testament Information Provided Before the New Testament (Continued)

4. This emphasized the fact that certain spiritual gifts were temporary – to be replaced by the completion and circulation of the New Testament scriptures.
5. Please note again – certain gifts were temporary and certain gifts were permanent, but whether temporary or permanent, communication gifts were all designed to perpetuate momentum inside the LOVE SYSTEM – which is the Christian Way of Life.
6. The believer is responsible to grow in grace which means PERCEPTION TO GOD AND HIS WORD AND THEN THE APPLICATION OF DOCTRINAL TRUTHS. We must always remember that when we learn a new Biblical concept, we will be tested and it can be either for blessing or suffering.
 - 1) We are to claim truth
 - 2) Reverse consecrate
 - 3) Draw proper Biblical conclusions
7. Before the completion of the New Testament Canon, certain temporary gifts were used to communicate the Word of God, namely:
 - 1) Apostleship
 - 2) Prophecy
 - 3) Knowledge

After the Word of God was consummated in 96 AD, the Pastor is responsible for the communication inside the church and the gift of evangelism is related to the presentation of the Gospel outside the church.

8. The purpose of Communication Gifts is to develop the believer to the point of Spiritual maturity. This is the understanding of and the utilization of the Divine System of Love.