

Temporary Spiritual Gifts

Three are listed in [I CORINTHIANS 13:1ff](#) (PROPHECY – KNOWLEDGE – TONGUES).

1. PROPHECY was the gift of preaching. The content of this gift came from the gift of knowledge – that is to know before a thing was written in the New Testament – to know doctrines of the Church Age. Doctrines which had not been revealed in the Old Testament.

This Gift was to be withdrawn in AD 96 with the completion of the canon of Scripture. Once the Canon was completed, the gift of prophecy would no longer be needed and a permanent gift, the Pastor Teacher, would be responsible to study the completed canon because the gift of knowledge would also have been removed. The temporary spiritual gifts having fulfilled their purpose are no longer to be considered.

2. The Gift of Knowledge should also be considered more in detail. This gift lasted a little longer since the Canon had to be circulated. We would say AD 96 plus – how much longer, we do not know for certain. It could have been at the end of the reign of the Roman Emperor Marcus U. Trajanus (Trajan) 117 AD. It is believed that the Apostle John lived until that approximate time. So we see here a continuation of the Gift of Knowledge, though without penmanship.
3. Another Temporary Gift – Tongues was a specific gift for a specific purpose. It was to function only during the time when Israel was a client nation to God. This gift was to be used in this manner: A Jew would be evangelized in Gentile languages as presented in [Isaiah 28](#) and quoted in [I Corinthians 14](#). The person who had the gift did not know the language he used but he gave the gospel under this gift – even without knowing what he was saying. It was not an unknown tongue but a known tongue to the recipient. This was the means of evangelizing the Jews and also a warning to them. 600 to 700 years before this, the prophet Isaiah presented the warning of discipline and that the Jews would be evangelized in Gentile languages (times of the Gentiles). The fall of Jerusalem in 70 AD would be the end of Israel as a client nation and there could be no Jewish client nation until the 2nd Advent of the Lord Jesus Christ, at which time Israel would be re-gathered and during the millennial reign of Christ, Israel would be functioning as a client nation to God. In the meantime – we have the times of the Gentiles.

A CLIENT NATION HAS A MAJOR OBJECTIVE – EVANGELISM.