



Love is ...

1 Corinthians 13

Part 11

Important Questions

- What does the Bible say about speaking in tongues?
- Are there still prophets today, like there were in the Bible?
- What about the gift of supernatural and miraculous healing?





Teaching Lessons

1 Corinthians 13:8-13

1. Supernatural (miraculous) gifts are temporary. (v.8)



Lessons about spiritual gifts:

1. Every Christian has been given one or more spiritual gifts to be exercised in the local church (*the body of Christ*) for the spiritual growth and health of the body (*members*).

Gift Categories

1. Miraculous Gifts (supernatural) ... *healing, performing miracles, speaking in tongues, prophecy*

2. Natural Gifts

- Gifts of Speaking ... *teaching, preaching, exhorting*
- Gifts of Serving ... *giving & generosity, administration, mercy, gift of helps, encouragement, faith*

Teaching Lessons

1 Corinthians 13:8-13

1. Supernatural (miraculous) gifts are temporary.

- Revelatory gifts - specific connection to the revelation of God's Word and God's voice for the people at that time

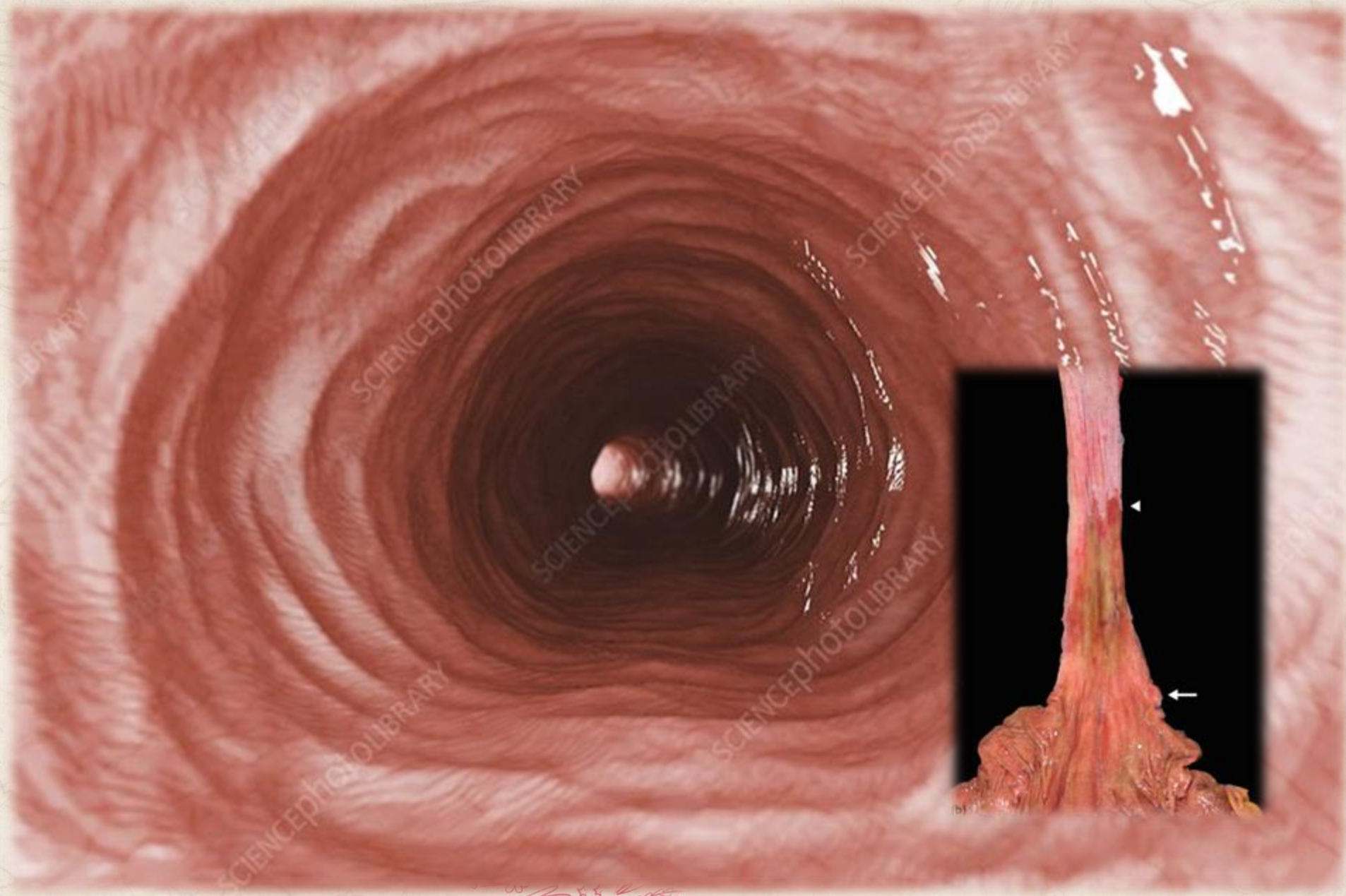


Teaching Lessons

1 Corinthians 13:8-13

1. Supernatural (miraculous) gifts are temporary. (v.8)
2. Supernatural (miraculous) gifts are elementary. (v.11)





What does this mean?

(Acts 2:12)

1. The gift of speaking in tongues was clearly known human languages.
2. The miracle of tongues was not a miracle of hearing. It was that they spoke a language they did not know.



The original gift of tongues was . . .

(1 Cor. 14)

1. They could be understood by the speaker (v.4)
2. They could be controlled by the speaker (v.28, 32)
3. An interpreter must be present (v.27-28)
4. They were meant for a sign, not a gift for edification (v.5-11; 18-19)
5. ****Edification comes through understanding, not experiences** (Rom. 12:2; Phil. 1:9-11; Col. 1:9-11)



Word Driven.

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5. ****Edification comes through understanding, not experiences** (Rom. 12:2; Phil. 1:9-11; Col. 1:9-11)
6. The miracle of tongues was given for a specific purpose (1 Cor. 14:21-22). It was to be a sign to unbelievers.



Teaching Lessons

1 Corinthians 13:8-13

1. Supernatural (miraculous) gifts are temporary. (v.8)
2. Supernatural (miraculous) gifts are elementary. (v.11)
3. Supernatural (miraculous) gifts ended (fulfilled their purpose) at the completion of the New Testament canon (v.9-11)
 - a) The revelatory gifts provided partial knowledge and revelation (v.9)
 - b) These supernatural gifts ***AUTHENTICATED THE NEW REVELATION***



Notes:

1. This doctrine is called cessationism.
2. The supernatural gifts died out as the apostles died.
3. The use of tongues is only mentioned in the earlier NT writings.
4. Tongues does not come up in any of the early church writings of the church fathers and history is almost silent on it for the next 1,800 years.
5. This does not mean that we don't believe in miracles/healing, it means that we don't believe the Bible teaches that God is giving people the gift of doing miracles today.

Take-home Truths

1. Ground your faith in the completed revelation of Scripture.
 - **Edification comes through understanding, not experiences!**
2. Walk in love this week. Don't let your ministry gifts become a substitute or source of pride for you, at the expense of caring for each other in genuine love.



“But if ... an unbeliever or outsider enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all, the secrets of his heart are disclosed, and so, falling on his face, he will worship God and declare that God is really among you.”

1 Cor. 14:24-25