

“THROUGH THE BIBLE”

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1 CORINTHIANS 13-14

You can live in Gainesville, Florida, and be a Georgia Bulldog fan. You can consider yourself a Democrat, yet vote for a Republican. You can work at Lowes, and on occasion shop at Home Depot. When this happens it's odd – it's ironic – it's out of character - but it's possible. And you can be Charismatic and filled with the Holy Spirit - yet still be selfish and carnal. Sadly, the Christians in Corinth were living proof...

1 Corinthians 12 is the great chapter on supernatural empowerment and spiritual gifts. 1 Corinthians 14 is the Bible's fullest explanation of the most controversial gifts – *prophecy, speaking in tongues, and interpretation*. And the believers in Corinth seemed to excel in these matters. But sandwiched in between these two chapters, 1 Corinthians 13 addresses what the Corinthians lacked – they were short on love. At the close of chapter 12 Paul encourages us to “*desire the best gifts.*” Spiritual gifts are good. Every believer can benefit from the gifts of the Spirit. But gifts are not the most important issue in the life of the Church. There's “*a more excellent way...*” – *the greatest of God's gifts to the Body is love!*

In the Corinthian Church spiritual gifts had become a substitute for love. Christians were all about flaunting a gift – rattling off in tongues and looking spiritual – more so, than loving a brother. Paul tells them in verse 1.. “*Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.*” We'll get excited about the purpose and value of tongues in Chapter 14, but don't forget Paul's words here – *divine language without divine love is just noise.*

“*And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.*” Special revelation and insight - even mountain moving faith is frail in comparison to the power of love. You can have juiced up faith - strong enough to bench press Stone Mountain, but it's nothing – it's fruitless - unless it's coupled with love.

Verse 3, “*And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.*” You can make tremendous sacrifices - die a martyr's death - in hopes of impressing God and people - but without love all your efforts are in vain. Imagine having a martyr's courage – you travel to Iran, preach Jesus in the streets, end up beheaded... But if your actions weren't motivated by love for Jesus, and love for people - then God would be unimpressed.

“*Love suffers long...*” I'll never forget an interview I heard on Focus on the Family. James Dobson was interviewing a lady diagnosed with cancer. She had a choice... One doctor told her to live out the rest of her days on the beaches of Acapulco - enjoy the life she had left... Another doctor told her she could undergo rounds of grueling, brutal radiation and chemotherapy... with the slight hope of extending her life two to four years. She chose to extend her life, *if only for a day*. She wrote to her three small children, “*I've chosen to survive for you. This has some horrible costs, including pain, loss of my good humor, and moods I won't be able to control. But I must try this, if only on the outside*

chance that I might live one minute longer. And that minute could be the one you might need me when no one else will do. For this I intend to struggle, tooth and nail, so help me God."

"Love suffers long and is kind..." Love isn't harsh or mean. It's tender. "Love does not envy..." Love never wants the blessing that God chooses for someone else. In other words, it reads the name tags on the gifts before it grabs them. And it's happy for the person who gets the nice gift... "Love does not parade itself..." Love doesn't show-off, or attract attention to itself. And it's "not puffed up..." Love is humble. It doesn't mind picking up a towel and washing some dirty feet. *The purer the love the lessor the pride.* As a father of four kids I've picked four noses, wiped four rumps, cleaned the wax out of eight ears - and I can honestly say I never once minded - *at least not the noses and the ears...* Real love doesn't mind the dirty work!

And love "does not behave rudely, does not seek its own..." Love doesn't embarrass anyone. It's always concerned for the feelings of the other guy. A young bride-to-be went to purchase material for her wedding dress. She asked for the noisiest material available. The clerk thought this was an odd request... *until the young girl explained...* "My fiancé' is blind and I want him to hear when I reach the altar so he won't be embarrassed."

Love "is not provoked..." As the NIV puts it, "keeps no record of wrongs." Love doesn't hold a grudge!... Love also "thinks no evil..." Love doesn't jump to negative conclusions. It always gives the benefit of the doubt. Verse 6, Love "does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails." Love is a powder-keg. It's powerful! Never give up on love! Even when you tire of extending love - or get frustrated over love's rejection - just keep on loving. Refuse to resort to lessor methods. Just keep loving them, and loving them, and loving them! For love never fails!

"But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away." In eternity the gifts of the Holy Spirit will no longer be needed. We won't need prophecy... God will speak to us face to face. We won't need tongues... We'll be fluent in all languages. We won't need words of knowledge... We'll know all truth.

Spiritual gifts are for time – when we're faced with limitations - not eternity. Verse 9, "For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away." This is the verse the skeptics like to use to deny the perpetuity - or continuance - of spiritual gifts. They deny that spiritual gifts are for today. The skeptics interpret "*that which is perfect*" to mean the NT. The Greek word translated "*perfect*" means "*complete*." They conclude that when the NT canon was finalized, then God pulled the gifts of the Spirit off the shelf. I couldn't disagree more! For starters the NT was never a complete revelation. 2 Corinthians 12 is Paul's confession that he saw things in heaven that were not lawful for him to discuss, let alone write down. The seven thunders of Revelation 10:4 were heard by John, but he was prohibited from recording them... My point is "*that which is perfect*" isn't a reference not to the NT, but to the perfection we'll all enjoy in heaven. That's when spiritual gifts will cease – we'll no longer need them when we enter God's glory. For now, spiritual gifts are needed big-time!

Verse 11, "When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things." This is the verse I use to quote every time I got ready to mow the lawn, and had to pick up the kid's toys out of the yard, "*when I became a man, I put away childish things.*" And this will be the verse we'll quote in heaven. One day we'll reach full maturity – spiritual

adulthood. But that won't happen until we reach heaven. Then and only then will spiritual gifts cease.

"For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known." This too speaks of heaven. Complete knowledge will never be a characteristic of this life. In the here and now I see dimly. There's no such thing as spiritual high-def. Until we get to heaven the reception will always be a little fuzzy. If we had 20/20 knowledge we wouldn't have to walk by faith... *But we don't... and we do...* And this is why we need all the supernatural help we can get.

The chapter closes, "And now (with dimly lit vision) abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love." As the old song puts it, "Without love you ain't nothing! Without love..." It is the more excellent way!

Chapter 14, "Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts..." The dove flies on two wings - we need **the fruits** and **the gifts** of the Spirit - *gifts* and *graces*! There is a Christian denomination that adopted as its official policy toward spiritual gifts the phrase, "Seek not, forbid not." They should add, "**and get not!**" "*Seek not, forbid not, and get not.*" Paul says, "*Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts.*" If you don't desire them you won't get them. In Luke 11, Jesus told His disciples, "Ask, and it will be given to you, seek and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you... If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" Tonight, as we study the gifts of prophecy and tongues remember these are not just matters we should **believe** - these are gifts we can **receive!**

And Paul adds, "**especially that you may prophesy.**" When legendary football coach, Bear Bryant, directed the Alabama Crimson Tide he observed the practices from a tower overlooking the field. The Bear trusted his coaches and the playbook to direct the team, but when he wanted to address a situation he'd shout down with a bullhorn. **The gift of prophecy is God's bullhorn.** God is in heaven's tower and He watches us live our lives. The on-field instruction is provided by the Bible and the Holy Spirit, but on occasion there's a specific that God wants to address to us personally so He picks up His bullhorn and speaks directly.

Prophecy is "*instant inspiration.*" Its spiritual *texting*. It comes straight from God's keypad to yours. Its not a premeditated or preplanned talk. The Hebrew word translated "*prophecy*" means "*to bubble up like a fountain, or tumble forth.*" The gift of prophecy is a message prompted by the Holy Spirit that flows *from my spirit - to my mind - and out my mouth*. Prophecy is a spontaneous, ecstatic utterance. God puts His words in my mind, and I speak them. *My mouth becomes God' mouthpiece*. Amos 3:8 declares, "*A lion has roared! Who will not fear? The Lord GOD has spoken! Who can but prophesy?*" The Holy Spirit most often speaks to us in a still, small voice - but the gift of prophecy is compared to a lion's roar!

Verse 2, "**For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.**" The rest of Chapter 14 will contrast prophecy and tongues... First, prophecy is a message *from God to man* - whereas tongues is a means by which *man speaks to God*. In hyper-Pentecostal circles often an uttering of tongues is followed by a supposed interpretation - *something like, "Thus says the Lord, listen to me..."* - as if tongues is God speaking to us. But note verse 2, this is not the interpretation of the tongue. It may be a prophecy that followed the tongue, but the tongue remains un-interpreted. Paul is clear, "**He who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God...**" Tongues are never God speaking to man, but man speaking to God.

"But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men." Most people assume prophecy consists of *"foretelling the future,"* but a word of prophecy may or may not contain a predictive element. The purpose of prophecy is *"edification, exhortation, and comfort..."* A prophecy *builds up, stirs up, or cheers up* – whichever we happen to need. For two years Kath and I struggled to have kids. At a pastor's conference on the last weekend of May, 1982 - Kathy requested prayer. In response, one of the ladies prophesied over my wife. The Lord spoke, *"By this time next year you will have a child."* Zach was born on May 29, 1983. One year, to the day, the prophecy was fulfilled. *And what kind of effect do you think the prophecy has had on our family?* It's certainly *built up* our faith. And it's *stirred up* Zach. What a legacy, knowing your birth was foretold directly by God. And when Zach struggles it *cheers us all up* to know that God still has a purpose and plan for His life! Desire gifts - especially prophecy – for *it builds up, stirs up, cheers up!*

Verse 4 explains why Paul prefers prophecy over tongues. *"He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church."* If no one understands the tongue – *or language* - that's spoken; then it only benefits the person who exercises the gift. Whereas, prophecy is God's message to the Church. Everyone gets blessed through prophecy. *"I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies is greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification."* I personally speak in tongues. It's a wonderful way to praise and worship God. Yet I also know that tongues is the least of all the spiritual gifts; since it's the only gift that doesn't encourage or build up the whole church. Paul says the guy who speaks in tongues gets blessed, but it doesn't benefit the hearers unless it's accompanied by the gift of interpretation.

Verse 6, *"But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you unless I speak to you either by revelation, by knowledge, by prophesying, or by teaching?"* Understand, the gift of tongues is communication to God in a language unknown to the speaker. In Acts 2 on the Day of Pentecost people gathered to Jerusalem from all over the world. When the disciples first spoke with the gift of tongues the crowds were amazed to hear God being praised in their native language. But Pentecost was the exception. I doubt if the church of Corinth was a multilingual congregation. They all spoke the same language or languages, so to speak to each other in a foreign language made no sense. *The goal when the church gathers is to conveyance of truth and biblical thought.*

Paul adds in verse 7, *"Even things without life, whether flute or harp, when they make a sound, unless they make a distinction in the sounds, how will it be known what is piped or played?"* Communication is the key! *"For if the trumpet makes an uncertain sound, who will prepare himself for battle?"* Bugles sound off in battle to direct the troops, but if the soldiers can't tell if it's blowing charge or retreat then the army is destined for defeat. *"So likewise you, unless you utter by the tongue words easy to understand, how will it be known what is spoken? For you will be speaking into the air. There are, it may be, so many kinds of languages in the world, and none of them is without significance. Therefore, if I do not know the meaning of the language, I shall be a foreigner to him who speaks, and he who speaks will be a foreigner to me."* Church is all about communication.

Verse 12, *"Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel."* The Corinthians were enamored with spiritual gifts, but they'd forgotten the purpose of those gifts! Like a baby sucking on a set of car keys - they were missing the point! Church isn't for self-centered entertainment, but to build up the saints.

"Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret." If you're in a small group of believers - waiting on God in worship – and the Holy Spirit prompts you to speak in tongues - *and no else in the group interprets what you utter* - then you need to pray for the

interpretation. If the tongue doesn't get interpreted no one can benefit from what's been said. *And the purpose for any church gathering is the mutual benefit of all.*

Verse 14, "For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful." Now we shouldn't be discussing the gift of tongues without understanding what it is we're discussing. *What is this gift?* The word "tongues" means "languages or dialects." The gift of tongues is the Spirit-given capacity to praise God, or to pray to God, in a language other than my native tongue, or any language that I may have learned. Through the gift of tongues the Holy Spirit liberates me to praise God in a free and uninhibited manner. *I become fluent in worship!*

According to Ethnologue there're 6,912 living languages in the world today. Of those 6,912 languages, I know only one - English - and I know very little English. The English language consists of 800,000 words - excluding 500,000 technical terms. *In the average person's lifetime he or she will only get around to using about 60,000 of those 800,000 words.* And worse, the daily working vocabulary of the average person is only 7,000 words. That means I use less than 1% of the one language I know. This isn't a problem until I start to communicate a thought that's very important to me, and I can't find the words to express myself. It's a very frustrating experience to *go groping for words.* There are moments when even the most eloquent person is caught off guard, and at a loss for words! This *awkward articulation* seems to occur most often in emotional moments - at times when our hearts are full of love and joy, or grief and sympathy. You're about to burst with these pent-up emotions, but you can't find the right words to communicate what it is you're feeling deep inside. I feel this toward my wife. I want to express my love, but she's heard, "I love you" so often it's become blasé. *I can't afford diamonds so I'm stuck.* And this is a problem in my relationship with God. At times I'm awed by His presence, amazed by His love, blown-away by His blessing, and suddenly *the speaker becomes speechless.* "I love you" just doesn't cut it!

Humans are like a funnel. The narrow neck is our intellect. The wide base is our spirit. It's on the spiritual level that we're capable of experiencing deep emotions - yet all that our spirit feels has to be channeled through our constricted intellect and very limited vocabulary. The narrowness chokes off the flow of feelings, and bottles up the emotions. Yet the Holy Spirit knows every language that's ever been spoken. According to 13:1 the Holy Spirit is even fluent in the language of angels. I am *linguistically limited*, but the Spirit is not. Therefore He can plant words in my mind - words I don't know, but words that accurately and articulately express the depths of my heart.

As words enter my mind I step out in faith and utter them, believing them to be the Spirit's interpretation of my praise or concern! When I speak in tongues I become *free and fluent* rather than *fumbling and frustrated*. The gift of tongues bypasses my mind and vocabulary. Notice how Paul puts it in verse 14, "My spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful." Harold Horton explains it this way, "The gift of tongues sinks a well into the dumb profundities of the rejoicing spirit, liberating a jet of long-pent ecstasy that gladdens the heart of God and man... Have you never in the presence of Jesus felt inarticulate on the very verge of eloquence?" If you have, you need to ask for the gift of tongues.

Verse 15, "What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding." In other words, Paul has concluded that there is a time and place for both praying in tongues and in one's own language. "Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the uninformed say "Amen" at your giving of thanks, since he does not understand what you say? For you indeed give thanks well, but the other is not edified." Notice the gift of tongues is referred to as "your giving of thanks." Tongues is *prayer* or *praise*. It's never God speaking to us.

But notice the idea Paul interjects – **time and place is important**. Paul is saying that the public gatherings of the church are not the place for the gift of tongues. When the church opens up its meetings to everybody and anybody the *"uninformed"* person may be present. This is either an unbeliever, or it could be a believer who simply doesn't understand the gift. If the point of our meetings is to love and minister to the uninformed person then why use a gift he won't understand and can't really appreciate. At Calvary our public meetings are full of folks just getting started in their Christian life. If I speak in tongues, the novices will either become confused, or think I'm a weirdo and run for their life. This is why Paul writes in verse 18, **"I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all yet in the church (in the public assembly) I would rather speak five words with my understanding, that I may teach others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue."**

Over the years I've been pressured by Pentecostals who would like for the vocal gifts to be exercised in our services. I just tried to be biblical... Here it's obvious, though Paul spoke in tongues often, in the church's public meetings he discouraged tongues. Apparently, he understood tongues to best be practiced in a person's private devotional life, or in a small group of informed people – not in the public gatherings of the church. Verse 20, **"Brethren, do not be children in understanding; however, in malice be babes, but in understanding be mature."** Spiritual gifts and common sense go together. *Being spiritual is being sensitive to the setting*.

Verse 21 is where the text gets tricky. Paul writes, **"In the law it is written: "With men of other tongues and other lips I will speak to this people; and yet, for all that, they will not hear Me," says the Lord."** He quotes Isaiah 28:11... **"Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophesying is not for unbelievers but for those who believe."** At first verse 22 appears to contradict both the verses that have come before and the verses that will come after. *I thought tongues were for informed believers, but here we're told they're a sign to unbelievers?* The key is to understand the context of Isaiah 28. The Prophet Isaiah had predicted an invading army would sack Jerusalem. The invaders would speak a foreign language. Thus, when the Jews heard an unknown tongue being spoken in their streets it would be a sign that judgment had come. Tongues then was a sign to unbelievers, but it was a sign of judgment.

So when an unbeliever comes into the public assembly of the church you don't want to heap God's judgment on him before he's even had an opportunity to hear of God's love. Don't condemn him, before you try to reach him. But that's what you'll be doing if someone speaks in tongues. Their uncomfortable reaction to the tongues is proof of their unfamiliarity with the things of God. It would be a sign of their alienation from God. Verse 23, **"Therefore if the whole church comes together in one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those who are uninformed or unbelievers, will they not say that you are out of your mind?"** The fact they freak out over the tongues is proof they're unfamiliar with the things of the Spirit. But is that the first impression you want to give them – highlight their ignorance – or try to build a bridge to reach out to them with God's love? *Don't scare them off, before you try to bring them in!*

"But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an uninformed person comes in, he is convinced by all, he is convicted by all. And thus the secrets of his heart are revealed; and so, falling down on his face, he will worship God and report that God is truly among you." Though tongues is confusing to an unbeliever, prophecy is *clear*, and *compelling*, and *convicting*. In the public settings of the Church the gift of prophecy is preferable to tongues. This is the reason we stress Bible teaching in our public assemblies. If every one got carried away and spoke in tongues it would bless those with the gift – but everyone else would be either confused or scared silly. Remember, **the Bible is a book of prophecy**. It too *builds up*, and *stirs up*, and *cheers up*. When a service is dominated by tongues a few folks get blessed, but when we teach Scripture everyone walks away encouraged!

Verse 26, "How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification." Apparently the Church at Corinth loved to meet in small groups that held an informal structure. Everyone participated... *It was a kind of a spiritual free for all* - and that would've been okay if it had really been "for all" - rather the meetings were being used by a few haughty people as a platform to show-off spiritually. The meetings in Corinth needed *some structure*, and *some discernment*, and *some restraint*, and *a whole lot of love!*... First the structure, verse 27...

"If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret." I have attended Charismatic meetings where everyone started speaking and singing in tongues simultaneously. It was a concert of tongues. But according to Paul that's not a biblical practice. Paul says those who speak in tongues should each take their own turn. And each use of the gift of tongues should be followed by an interpretation.

"But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God." Notice this, the person with tongues has the on/off switch. When you speak in tongues the Spirit gives you utterance, but you still control the volume, and the reverb, and the mute button. I remember a misguided friend who was standing next to a co-worker at the grocery store where he worked. He said suddenly he got the urge, and just blurted out in tongues. It scared his poor co-worker to death... But then my friend had the audacity to blame his impulsiveness and lack of discretion on the Lord. *"I just couldn't help it! The Holy Spirit made me!"* That's not what Paul says! It's sad, but how often has a beautiful meeting of believers been interrupted by an errant burst of tongues. Jumping ahead to verse 32 Paul says of the gift of prophecy, *"the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets."* Apparently, this also applies to the gift of tongues.

Verse 29, "Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge." The gift of prophecy, as with all the spiritual gifts, is subject to human error. In Jeremiah 14:14 the prophet says, "And the LORD said to me, "The prophets prophesy lies in My name. I have not sent them, commanded them, nor spoken to them; they prophesy to you a false vision, divination, a worthless thing, and the deceit of their heart." Hopefully, no one in our Church would prophecy *deliberate deceit*, but we all can be *self-deceived*. Often well-meaning believers get worked up in an emotional lather, and mistake their own imagination for a message from God. This is why all prophecies should be judged. I've known folks who made major life decisions on what they thought was a word of prophecy. They would've been wise to put it to a test. If they had it would've proved to be false. 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21 provides some balance, "Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies. Test all things; hold fast what is good."

Verse 30, "But if anything is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent. For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged. And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets." Whenever someone speaks in the assembly of the church, or in a small group, it needs to be done in a controlled and orderly manner. "For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints." The very first time we see the Holy Spirit in Scripture, Genesis 1, what is He doing? *He's bringing order out of chaos!* Where there's no order, people get hurt. *You've heard of folks being stampeded at a soccer match. There was no crowd control.* And this can happen in the church. Needs go unmet. People get neglected if there's no structure or organization. God is into order because He loves people.

And speaking of order... Notice verse 34, "Let your women keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak..." Recall Paul

has already qualified this comment. In 1 Corinthians 11:5 he mentioned women praying and prophesying in church. Apparently, this was not an absolute prohibition. This doesn't mean a woman should never open her mouth in church. It could be that in regards to the vocal gifts the ladies in the church were getting carried away, and were usurping the authority of the male leaders. The Corinthian women need to remember that in the church and in the home the men should *lovingly lead* and the women should *faithfully follow*. This is why Paul adds in verse 34, "but they are to be submissive, as the law also says. And if they want to learn something, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is shameful for women to speak in church."

Verse 36, "Or did the word of God come originally from you? Or was it you only that it reached?" Paul figures some of the Corinthians will buck his instructions. Here he backs them down. The Church at Corinth didn't hold an exclusive claim on the truth. Corinth wasn't the birthplace of the Bible. The Church in Corinth, as well as all the churches in Lilburn and Winder, and all over the world, are subject to the truth Jesus passed down to the Apostles – and that's now contained in the NT. This is the truth that applies to all churches in all generations. **No church is exempt from biblical truth!**

"If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord." Paul definitely understood that what he was writing was sacred Scripture. So much so, he doesn't hesitate to put down his detractors... He tells them, "But if anyone is ignorant, let him be ignorant." Finally, Paul sums up in the last two verses what He's said throughout Chapter 14, "Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues. Let all things be done decently and in order."