

**SPIRITUAL GIFTS – Part IV**  
“Spiritual Gifts Descriptions”  
Reference: miscellaneous Scripture  
Pastor Larry Webb

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This is another message in this miniature series on spiritual gifts. Earlier on we mentioned a total of twenty-one different gifts that are divided into five different categories. Let’s go through these five categories together and define and describe each particular gift.

**GROUP ONE...the SPECIAL GIFTS** These gifts are different from the other spiritual gifts and because of that difference, these gifts are referred to as special gifts. These gifts are special and different because these gifts are not just spiritual abilities, but these gifts are \_\_\_\_\_. These gifts are special persons Jesus has gifted to the church and these four persons are each mentioned in **Ephesians chapter four verse eleven**.

Reference: **Ephesians 4:7-8, 11**

**verse seven**, “*But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ’s gift*”.

**verse eight**, “*Therefore He says: ‘when He (Christ) ascended on high, He lead captivity captive, and gave gifts (Greek: doma) to men.’”* and those gifts Christ gave to the church are mentioned in verse eleven, **verse eleven**, “*and He (Christ) Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,*”

There are four gifted persons mentioned in **verse eleven**.

- the APOSTLE  
There are no more apostles today because “no one now can be what the original apostles \_\_\_\_\_ and no one now can do what the original apostles \_\_\_\_\_!” That means no one now can meet the biblical requirements needed to become an apostle.

There were four different criteria someone had to meet in order to become an apostle and one of those nonnegotiable requirements was to have actually seen Jesus after His resurrection.

Reference: **Acts 1:21 and 22**

**verse twenty-one**, “*Therefore, of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,*”

**verse twenty-two**, “*beginning from the baptism of John to that day when he was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection.*”

Since no one now can meet that requirement, no one now can be an apostle in the original first century use of the term. But the **apostolic gift** does exist to a lesser degree and it is:

**Definition:** the Spirit produced ability to \_\_\_\_\_ new ministries and \_\_\_\_\_ their development.

- the PROPHET  
Prophets also do not now exist in the original sense in part because biblical prophets both *received* and *recorded* Scripture and no one now is able to do that.

Both apostles and prophets were assigned to establish the theological and doctrinal foundation of the church  
Reference: **Ephesians 2:19 and 20** (see screen)

The biblical foundation of the church (i.e. invisible universal church) was laid during the first century and once that revelatory biblical foundation had been laid it didn’t need to be laid again so there is no need to have more prophets.

But although there are now no more prophets in the original sense the **prophetic gift** does exist to a lesser degree and it is:

**Definition:** the Spirit produced ability to courageously \_\_\_\_\_ (i.e. preach) what God wants for mankind.

**Important:** it would seem that the apostles and prophets were created for the beginning stages of the church (since those gifted persons no long exist in their original forms) and the evangelist and pastor-teacher were intended to function in the continuation of the church.

- the EVANGELIST  
**Definition:** the Spirit produced ability to \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel of Jesus Christ to non-Christians in a contagious and non-threatening manner.
- the PASTOR-TEACHER (since the word pastor means shepherd, this is a teaching shepherd)  
**Definition:** the Spirit produced ability to \_\_\_\_\_ the church and that means to care for the spiritual needs of a Christian congregation and equip them to minister.