

Faith Christian Fellowship
Sunday, June 23, 2013
A Closet Revival 4
The Devil Hates Tongues.

TEXT: Matt 6:5-8 / Eph 6:18-20 / 1 Cor 14:13-18

We pray for revival in the earth, but what does the Bible say we should be praying for? We have seen that:

- **Closet first, then open reward. Revival begins in the closet long before we see it in the streets.**
 - Motive matters
 - Empty repetitions are heathen prayers
 - God will not move in the earth unless we ask Him
 - God responds to the cry of His own covenant people.
 - Christian prayer is to the Father in the name of the Son.
 - Christian prayer is based on a foundation of righteousness
 - My prayer closet is not primarily for me.
 - Thanksgiving and praise are the catalyst of Christian prayer
 - I give thanks well when I sing with the Spirit
- ❖ Why the controversy over praying with other tongues?
- Too proud to do what they don't control or understand.. Intellectually correct and spiritually dry, Much of what God does for us, in us, and through us is beyond our reason. .
 - In many formerly "Pentecostal" groups, they slowly marginalize it through theological rationalization.
 - Paul doesn't think an unfruitful mind is such a bad thing: 1 Cor 3:18 / 1 Cor 14:14 / 1 Cor 14:37-40 He seems to imply that not to know something about praying with tongues is to be ignorant.
 - Spiritual things are often (usually?) unintelligible. Luke 24:45 / Eph 4:17 / Phil 4:7 / Ephesians 3:19
- ❖ Why does Satan spend such a lot of energy trying to stamp out praying in tongues?
- Singing with the Spirit is always a good way to give thanks. That would be enough if that were all there is, but there is much more.
 - Speaking in tongues allows you to build yourself up on purpose!!!!!!!
 - 1 Cor 14:4 / Jude 20. We are founded in faith, but praying in the Spirit (1 Cor 14:14) builds on that foundation, keeping us in love and focused on the lord's reality and soon return.
 - This is something that can be done in private. 1 Cor 14:2, 18-19, 28 Dr. Gordon Fee: "...it was the common, everyday experience of the early churches to pray in this manner"
- Romans 8:26. Personal prayer in tongues helps overcome our weaknesses and gives us strength.
 - Praying in tongues enables us to pray the unknown will of God.
 - Romans 8:26 God has designed a method for us to give Him permission to work in the earth without us allowing ourselves to foul it up!
 - 1 Cor 14:2. When I pray in tongues, I am exercising my position of authority in the earth by asking God to move in areas I don't understand.
 - I am praying mysteries unto God See Eph 3:3-12
 - Pr 20:27 / 1 Cor 14:14 I turn on lights in the rooms of my heart
 - When I speak in tongues, I am sometimes giving instruction to the ministering spirits: Ps 103:20 / Heb 1:14 / 1 Cor 13:1
 - 1Co 14:39-40 NLT So, my dear brothers and sisters, be eager to prophesy, and don't forbid speaking in tongues. (40) But be sure that everything is done properly and in order.
 - In spite of all the abuses witnessed in Corinth, Paul said do not forbid speaking in tongues. We need it God wants it, the devil hates it. **If God says don't forbid it, then who is the author of the impulse to stop it?**
- ❖ I do not understand people who don't want to speak in tongues.
- God has provided a way to strengthen me and pray for you even when I don't know what you need.
 - We hold to the belief that it is the will of God for all believers to be baptized with the Holy Spirit and speak in other tongues.
 - This experience is received by simple faith.
 - Acts 2:1-4. They all spoke. The Spirit gave the words, they did the speaking. (Review the Book of Acts for other instances)
 - Luke 11:13. The Holy Spirit is a good gift from a loving Father who wants you to receive more than you want your own kids to be fed. 2 requirements: God is your Father (Romans 8:15-16) and you ask Him. (Mat 21:22)
 - Laying on of hands is a Bible method of ministering. Act 8:17 / Act 9:17 / Act 19:6

Come and get it!