

The Word Twins

“For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard”
(Acts 4:20).

What are Twins?

The New Book of Knowledge explains that twins are “two individuals who were born to the same mother at about the same time.” Twins may be either “identical” (look the same) or “fraternal” (may look alike or may look quite different). It is interesting that one of the highest rates for birth of twins is found among the Yoruba people in Nigeria, West Africa. Twins are produced every 22 births.

Twins usually have a special bond that makes them closer than ordinary brothers and sisters. Twins often confuse people and make it difficult to tell them apart.

When it comes to the “Gifts of the Spirit”, each of the gifts are related and some look alike. There are two gifts that stand out as twins. They are alike in so many ways that it is difficult at times to even tell the difference between the two. In fact, sometimes they operate together. The “Gifts of the Spirit” are hard to isolate or dissect in any situation. They work as a team or as a “body” (as the Bible describes it). They blend together like the colors of a rainbow.

Who are the Word Twins?

The “Word Twins” are called the “Word of Wisdom” and the “Word of Knowledge.” They share a special bond and are more closely related than the other “Spirit” children. They confuse people because it is difficult to tell them apart.

“For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit.” (1 Corinthians 12:8) These twins have the same parent.

Why Were the Word Twins Born?

There is a reason why God has allowed these “Word Twins” to be born.

“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth not man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ" (1 Corinthians 2:9-13, 16).

The "Word Twins" reveal to us "what God is thinking" and allow us to know a part of what God knows. They allow us to have a supernatural ability to know something that is in the Mind of God (Mind of Christ). They are revealed at a special time for a special purpose.

The "Word of Knowledge" supernaturally reveals facts from the mind of God. These facts could not be known or revealed to us otherwise. They deal with the past, present, and sometimes the future. This is different from studying or getting the information from someone else. It is not a result of the efforts of the human mind. It is knowledge that is imparted to us by God.

The "Word of Wisdom" allows us to apply the facts to a given situation. It is not wisdom that is received naturally; neither is it the spiritual wisdom referred to throughout Proverbs and that we can request for according to James 1:5. It is supernatural wisdom. It gives God's perspective on a given situation.

Facts About Word Twins

1. They are as their names imply; Words. They are not the Gift of Knowledge or the Gift of Wisdom. God alone has all knowledge and all wisdom. He gives us only a "word" or a portion of His knowledge and/or wisdom that is needed in a given situation.
2. Both of these "Word Twins" are not continuous in operation. They come when there is a special need.
3. Both of these gifts allow us to supernaturally know a portion of what God knows.
4. Both of these gifts can be used in counseling people. The Word of Wisdom would help solve human problems and the Word of Knowledge reveals facts that the person may not be disclosing.
5. Both could be used to guide the church.
6. Neither of these gifts is taught to us by any natural process of education, etc.

Several different vehicles are used to drive the "Word Twins". They are:

1. The "Knowing Gifts" are frequently manifested through the "Speaking Gifts" (prophecy, tongues, and interpretation of tongues).
2. They could come through an audible voice that we hear.
3. Through dreams and visions.
4. An angel could speak to us.
5. They could come through our thought processes, an inner voice.
6. A verse from the Bible could be illuminated to us and give direction.
7. Through prayer and fasting God could speak to us.

8. We may open our mouth to say something and find ourselves saying something quite differently.

David Pytches in *Spiritual Gifts in the Local Church* sums it up as we may “see it, know it, read it, feel it, say it, or hear it.”

Study Questions

1. What are twins? _____

2. What are the two Spiritual Gifts that are called “Word Twins”? _____

3. Who is the parent of the “Word Twins” according to 1 Corinthians 12:8? _____

4. What is the reason why the “Word Twins” were born? _____

5. What do the “Word Twins” reveal to us about the “mind of God”? _____

6. What are six of the different vehicles (ways) that the “Word Twins” are manifested?

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

6) _____
