



aPublished in Kenya, 2019, 73 pages.

Trinity Baptist Church, Nairobi

[trinityboffice@gmail.com](mailto:trinityboffice@gmail.com)

Published in the United States, 2021, 65 pages.

[www.firstlovepublications.org](http://www.firstlovepublications.org)

## WHY IS THIS BOOK SO IMPORTANT?

In the last 100 years there has been a widespread claim that the Lord has restored all the spiritual gifts to His church. Around the world are individuals and churches who are testifying to their possession of such gifts. For example, there are many who are given the title of 'Apostle'. This is a very great claim. Is it true? Will it stand under investigation? If it is true then many Christians are missing out on God's blessings for in their churches they have no apostles, no prophets, no ministry of healing, no speaking in tongues.

We believe that the Bible is the very word of God and is our final authority in all matters of our faith. What the Bible reveals is true and final. We must believe it and reject any other view that opposes or misrepresents it. Someone might say, 'I do not agree with your interpretation'. We reply that no one is free to have any personal interpretation, but only that which is faithful to the text in the context of the whole Bible. Hence, we shall restrict ourselves to a study of that passage of the Bible which has the most extended instruction about spiritual gifts.

May God give us the wisdom and humility to first understand, then believe, and finally to put into practice all that He tells us.

Our method is to examine the specific part of the Scripture that deals with this subject at length, Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, chapters 12 to 14. We shall go verse by verse, examining everything that is written and therefore putting everything in its context. So often well-meaning people have come to the Scriptures and just taken a sentence, or even just a few words, without considering the context. For example, it is written, "Now I wish that you all spoke in tongues", and it is easily concluded that therefore every Christian ought to speak in tongues. By a more careful examination of the Scripture you will see that this is not true, either to the passage, or to Scripture as a whole.

It is not just a matter of having correct doctrine so that we know we are right and others are wrong. Wrong doctrine is dangerous. Doctrine is the basis for godly living. Spiritual gifts are given by the Holy Spirit for the benefit of the whole church. If what we believe about the gifts is correct then the church will greatly benefit. But if it is wrong, the church will be harmed. So for the glory of God and the good of the church we must search out the truth.