



# **Why Do We Speak in Tongues in Church?**

## **When the Bible Specifically Tells us Not To?**

**(10/13/24)**

**1 Corinthians 14:12-17 (NKJV)**

**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. **13** Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret. **14** For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.



**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. 16**  
**Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the uninformed (Gr. - “Idiotes”) say Amen at your giving of thanks, since he does not understand what you say? 17 For you indeed give thanks well, but the other is not edified.**

**1 Corinthians 14:16 (KJV)**

**16 Else when thou shalt bless with the spirit, how shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned (Greek - “Idiotes”) say Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he understandeth not what thou sayest?**



## **1 Corinthians 14:20-25 (NKJV)**

**20 Brethren, do not be children in understanding; however, in malice be babes, but in understanding be mature. 21 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.**

**22 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. 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* (“unlearned” –KJV) will they not say that you are out of your mind**



**24 But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an uninformed person comes in, he is convinced by all, he is convicted by all. 25 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.**

**Behold: the Bible Contradicts itself!!!!**

**v. 22 - Tongues are a sign for the Unbeliever.**

**v. 23 - “Therefore” if we do it in front of Unbelievers, they will think we are out of our mind.**

**22 THEREFORE** tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe ('Pisteuo') but to unbelievers; ('Apistos') but prophesying is not for unbelievers ('Apistos') but for those who believe. ('Pisteuo')

**Pisteuo - Greek (G4100)**

**“from 4102; to have faith (in, upon, or with respect to, a person or thing), i.e. credit; by implication, to entrust (especially one's spiritual well-being to Christ):--believe(-r), commit (to trust), put in trust with.**



## **Apistos - Greek (G571)**

**“from 1 (as a negative particle) and 4103;  
(actively) disbelieving, i.e. without Christian  
faith (specially, a heathen); (passively)  
untrustworthy (person), or incredible (thing):--  
that believeth not, faithless, incredible thing,  
infidel, unbeliever(-ing).”**

**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 (“unlearned or  
unbelievers” - KJV) will they not say that you  
are out of your mind?**



**A. Now we already know that tongues are a sign to the ‘Apistos’.**

**1. “Actively Disbelieving, without Christian faith, that believers not, faithless.”**

**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 (‘Idiotes’ ‘Apistos’) will they not say that you are out of your mind?**

**B. Who is being described here?**

**- “Idiotes Apistos”**

**Idiotes - Greek (G2399) - used 5 times in the NT.**

**“from 2398; a private person, i.e. (by implication) an ignoramus (compare “idiot”):--  
ignortant, rude, unlearned.”**



- 1. This is describing a person who may be saved or unsaved.**
- 2. But when it comes to tongues, they are an “Apistos Idiotes”.**
  - a. They are an “Unbeliever” (‘Apistos’)**
  - b. “Ignoramus” (‘Idiotes’)**
    - “Ignorant. Unlearned. Rude.”**

**Idiot - Webster**

**: a very stupid or foolish person**



## **Full Definition - Webster**

- 1 usually offensive : a person affected with extreme mental retardation (dated; now offensive)**
- 2 : a foolish or stupid person**

**Origin:** Middle English, from Anglo-French ydiote, from Latin *idiota* ignorant person, from Greek *idiōtēs* one in a private station, layman, ignorant person, from *idios* one's own, private; akin to Latin *suus* one's own — more at suicide.



## **The Cultural Setting.**

**A. Most churches in that time were smaller, home churches.**

**1. People knew everyone who was there.....**

**B. The Holy Spirit is saying: if you know someone who is in the church service that day is an ‘Unlearned/ unbelieving Ignoramus’ when it comes to tongues - don’t aggravate him/her by speaking in tongues - Prophecy to them so they convicted of their sin and repent. (v. 24-25)**