



If you disagree with me, can we still be friends? Some people just can't or won't be civil if they disagree with you. But there's a difference between friendship and civility. God did not call us to be friends with everyone, but he did call us to love everyone. Civility and kindness are essential when we face disagreement. It's important to love and respect people even when we can't agree with them. But that doesn't mean we have to be best buds.

We often disagree with those who reason from a secular mind set.

We often disagree with Christians over biblical issues!

Heresy denies the essentials of the faith and deprives a person of salvation.

Sometimes we may need to go our separate ways. Titus 3:10

Most doctrinal disagreements concern things of lesser importance - Error.

1 Corinthians 12 discusses the dangers of arrogance and spiritual gifts.

1 Corinthians 14 talks about the abuse of the gift of tongues

1 Corinthians 13, talks about something greater; love.

Some Gifts are Going Away 8

1 Cor 13:1 The gift of Tongues without love is empty.

1 Cor 13:2 Prophecy and Knowledge without love is useless.

1 Cor 13:8 begins with THREE GIFTS, and ends with THREE GIFTS.

Prophecy will end.

(καταργεω) "to terminate, to render idle, inactive, inoperative, to cease."

Prophecy proclaimed the Word of God

Until we see Jesus face to face, revelation has ceased.

The word of knowledge will vanish

The Gift of Knowledge confirmed the Word of God. (Verse 2)

Tongues will cease.

(παυω) "to cease, to come to an end, to stop."

It is in the Middle Voice. It will simply cease in and of itself.

Cessationists believe some of the Spiritual Gifts have ceased to operate.

Continuists believe all the New Testament gifts continue to operate.

- The gift of Apostle is not in operation
- The Gift of Prophet (divine revelation) is not active today. Eph 2:20
- The Gift of tongues is generally inoperative.

Three Illustrations 9-12

#1 – Prophecy ended when the perfect Word of God was completed.

#2 – Tongues vanished when the church grew out of the need of it as a sign.

#3 – Knowledge, even the gift was a dim representation like a brass mirror.

Today we have God's completed Word as our mirror. James 1:22-25

The 1 Corinthians 13 "Six" 13

There are 3 (THREE) gifts mentioned in verse 8

There are 3 (THREE) fruits mentioned in verse 13

There are 6 (SIX) subjects - Three Gifts plus three Fruits =!

BUT NOW, according to verse 13 only THREE remain!

Maybe you disagree with me. It's possible. And maybe I disagree with you. But if you love Jesus, if you have trusted Him as your Savior, if you are striving to live your life for the glory of God, then let's agree to disagree. Let's not major on minors. Let's not let something non-essential get in the way of our essential mission; to reach the world for Christ. That's why Paul said, "But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ." Romans 14:7-12