

## SPEAKING IN TONGUES: A COMPARISON

NEW TESTAMENT TIMES	TODAY
1. <i>Languages</i> they had not studied.	1. Generally a collection of <i>sounds</i> called “ecstatic utterances.”
2. <i>Contemporary</i> languages that conveyed meaning.	2. Sometimes bits of modern languages or claims concerning some “forgotten language.”
3. Only one interpretation possible.	3. Often, “interpretations” vary.
4. Emphasis on <i>public</i> demonstration.	4. Emphasis on <i>private</i> devotional use.
5. Nothing to do with <i>maturity</i> or spiritual growth.	5. Stressed as a sign of growing maturity and a source of greater maturity.
6. Did not prove speaker in God’s favor.	6. Considered proof of God’s acceptance.
7. Basically a “sign” to <i>others</i> .	7. Considered a “sign” to <i>self</i> .
8. Used to confirm the Word.	8. Leads men to subjective authority, away from the objective authority of the Bible.
9. A unique sign from God.	9. Can be psychologically induced.
10. Could not be duplicated by non-Christians.	10. “Ecstatic utterances” found in pagan religions, in false sects.
11. No emphasis on all speaking in tongues.	11. <i>All</i> are urged to seek this “gift.”
12. Specific instructions given for use in assembly: only with an interpreter, only a few in order, no women speaking, etc.	12. Often, every New Testament instruction is violated.
13. Given <i>temporarily</i> for a special purpose—to <i>cease</i> .	13. Considered a <i>permanent</i> part of God’s arrangement for the Christian Age.
14. Not emphasized.	14. Greatly emphasized.