



Many spiritual signs and wonders happen all over the world... healing, deliverance, miracles; by people that claim to be Christian or claim that they are acting under God's power.

But is every sign and wonder that comes from a person claiming to be Christian, genuinely a demonstration from the Holy Spirit?

Can the Holy Spirit be counterfeited? Can well-meaning leaders and people be deceived by Holy Spirit counterfeits? Let's see.

Some Christians start out operating in Holy Spirit power, but the Holy Spirit leaves when they become flesh-centered, self-centered (self-idolization), lustful, greedy, prideful, or deliberately sinful. When the Holy Spirit leaves a person or a ministry, evil spirits take over to counterfeit God's power. People are then deceived into thinking signs and wonders continue to be of the Holy Spirit.

Some accept being a counterfeiter of the Holy Spirit in order to be idolized, they're power hungry, and/or for fame and for wealth.

"For false messiahs and false prophets will rise up and perform signs and wonders so as to deceive, if possible, even God's chosen ones." Matthew 24:24; Mark 13:22

There are many testimonies that I can give of counterfeiters of the Holy Spirit and His true manifestations.

*I was with about 20 Christians once when evil spirits spoke fake tongues through a lady. Only 3 of us knew it was an evil manifestation (meaning 17 were deceived). When the pretenders (evil spirits) were kicked out of her, her tongue speech changed and was discerned as holy. Note; this is a Christian who honestly thought she was Holy Spirit filled. She had no idea she was full of Holy Spirit counterfeiters that were deceiving her and others.

*Two sisters in a congregation that worked as a counterfeit team! They conspired together to get the pastor and congregation to do what they wanted and to be popular (worshipped). They decided in advance what they wanted to do, then one sister would stand up in church and gave a word in tongues (false tongues), then the other sister quickly stood up and gave the interpretation they agreed on. They fooled the entire church for a long time which is amazing considering others in the church, especially the pastor, should have discerned they were counterfeiting the Holy Spirit.

"Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world." 1 John 4:1

*There are people that give lovely words of wisdom, knowledge and prophecy from the Holy Spirit, but when the Holy Spirit is done, the person adds in their own message. So it becomes part Holy Spirit and part flesh. This is very common. Unfortunately.

Counterfeits of the Holy Spirit, even in part, needs to be discerned and sorted through like you would wheat from weeds, to separate flesh messages that are attached to God's messages.

*There are counterfeit healings and deliverance also. A person might ask, "How can a person be healed or an evil spirit leave unless by Jesus and the Holy Spirit"? Countless people all over the world go to church on Sunday and then the rest of the week go to their horoscope, psychic, shaman, witch, or medium for prophecies, charms, and potions and voodoo. Such people promise healing, freedom and protection from evil, love connections and curses against enemies. These counterfeiters do have power in the evil realm and achieve seemingly good results at times, even signs and wonders. The problem is that one problem can leave a person while another takes its place. One affliction, sickness or pain goes, but the door has been opened into them for another worse one (evil spirits) to enter that will cause something else. The worst result for these "seekers" of course is loss of their salvation as they've become an abomination to God!

"There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. For all who do these things are an abomination to the LORD" Deuteronomy 18:10-12

Here's some additional truth from God that was given to those who already accepted Christ..

"Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God." Galatians 5:19-21

Take heed to this warning those who think going to a psychic or witch is innocent fun or there's no harm in having your children read Harry Potter novels and then practice to be wizards and witches. God promises in Galatians 5:19-21 what the reward will be.

For as soon as pride intervenes in a person, who has received the Gift of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God vanishes and in its place will dwell the spirit of darkness

*Counterfeit interpretations of messages given in tongues, and counterfeit prophecies are also quite common. Many, many times people have given me what they said was a word from God, when I knew it was from their own mind and in some cases from evil spirits in them. Usually they don't believe me when I tell them they've given me a false message. This usually comes from well-meaning people, but these deceived are still dangerous in the body of Christ none-the-less, when they wander around spouting out counterfeit messages. It's especially dangerous for that person as we see here... **"But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."** Deuteronomy 18:20

Just saying you're a Christian doesn't make it so, as we see with Paul's warning to the Galatians.

Performing signs and wonders doesn't make you a Christian either as we see from **Matthew 24:24** and **Mark 13:22**.

How can signs and wonders not be from God? Remember Moses and the magicians?

"And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and they did so as the LORD had commanded: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent. Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments. For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents: but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods." Exodus 7:10-12

"Then the LORD spoke to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Stretch out your hand with your rod over the streams, over the rivers, and over the ponds, and cause frogs to come up on the land of Egypt.'" So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and the frogs came up and covered the land of Egypt. And the magicians did so with their enchantments, and brought up frogs on the land of Egypt." Exodus 8:5-7

We see in **2 Corinthians 11** that Paul warns about apostles that are false, deceitful, and greedy of income, seeking glory, are boastful and self-exalting. They are counterfeits, pretending to be like him and ministers of righteousness... **"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works."**

*I remember when Todd Bentley fooled even the elect with his counterfeit signs and wonders. Those who are still called "apostles" today, by many in the world, publicly praised this man and his ministry. At the time, I personally knew ministry leaders that expressed the same praise. When he was still popular, a telephone caller asked me one day what I thought of him (I'd heard of him and seen his picture but had never listened to him). I said, "Well, hang on and I'll go to his website". I watched and listened to a video teaching by him for less than 1 minute. I then said to the person on the phone that Bentley's full of evil spirits and needs deliverance. The caller said, "But apostles say he's anointed". I said, "Well, they're being fooled, as this guy's obviously full of evil spirits" and I pointed out why. It was very obvious to discern. It came out later that I was right (details of this scandal, his lifestyle and "violent" practices in ministry are on the internet for any interested). This counterfeiter was exposed. The apostles that were fooled and had endorsed him removed their endorsement and admitted they were duped. Bentley refused leadership counsel. Unbelievably, he's back in ministry today living in sin (adultery), accepted and "restored" again by certain "apostles" (their standards, not God's).

Never blindly accept what "looks" acceptable or what others say is acceptable, even if coming from well known apostles! Always personally check with the Word of God and with the Holy Spirit! Don't allow counterfeits into your life!

Don't be fooled into accepting every tongue speech, every interpretation, and every word as a "word from God"; every prophecy, every sign and wonder, every healing and deliverance, as the work of the Holy Spirit. Yet, don't dismiss all spiritual manifestations as "best-to-be-avoided" or as demonic, as many denominations do, saying the Holy Spirit doesn't operate through Christians anymore. I know pastors that were kicked out of their positions, kicked out of their church, divorced and disowned by their children and friends because they became Holy Spirit baptized and started operating in the Holy Spirit's gifts, signs and wonders. I know one very popular USA nation-wide radio program, claiming to be Christian, state on air and in their website that tongue speech is demonic. Beware of blasphemy against the Holy Spirit...

Jesus says, **"Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come."** Matthew 12:31-32 and **"but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin."** Mark 3:29

So how do we move through this difficult area to absolutely know what's of the Holy Spirit and what's counterfeit (of man or devils)?

Jesus said, **"Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore by their fruits you will know them."** Matthew 7:15-20

"Two or three who are given God's message should speak, while the others judge what they say." 1 Corinthians 14:29

"These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things (that Paul said) were so." Acts 17:11

We see a few scriptures here of how to tell right from wrong, wolves from sheep, the Holy Spirit from counterfeits. My experience has shown that the majority of people (those calling themselves Christian) lean on several standards... emotions; charismatic speakers; "feel-good gospels" (accepting of deliberate sin amongst themselves and others); if it has a Christian or "church" label on it, it must be holy and/or what the majority accepts must be true. Such people (those calling themselves Christian) are usually ignorant of God's Word and even when God's truth is pointed out to them exposing counterfeits, they reject it if it conflicts with their life. Such people will always be duped by counterfeits of the Holy Spirit. True seekers of God that surrender to Him, that always look to and lean on Him and His Word will not be fooled. Your choice!

Let the Holy Spirit be your guide. And make sure you're always walking in The Light to avoid being a counterfeit yourself! Jesus said, **"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"** Matthew 7: 21-23. Expose counterfeiters when you find them so others can be warned!

See additional teaching in the archive of our website called "Christian Witchcraft" and also Xtreme Rabid Game Sector 19 of the eTextbook. Good Hunting!